**Supporting information**

**S1 Table.**

Components of rats’ standard diet

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Components** | **g/kg diet** |
| Corn flour | 529.5 |
| Casein | 200 |
| Sucrose | 100 |
| Soybean oil | 70 |
| Cellulose | 50 |
| Mineral mix | 35 |
| Vitamin mix | 10 |
| L-cystine | 3 |
| Choline | 2.5 |

**S2 Table**

Values of the histopathological scoring of the parotid and submandibular glands in H&E-stained sections as median and interquartile range.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Parameter** | **Gland** | **Group** | | | | **F Value** | ***P* Value** |
| **Control** | **AA** | **STZ** | **STZ+AA** |
| Degenerated acini | Parotid | 1(0.5-2.5)a | 2(1.5-3.5)a | 42(41-46.5)c | 14(11-16)b | 336.202 | 0.000 |
| Submandibular | 3(2-4.5)a | 3(2.5-5)a | 70(68.5-73)c | 14(12-16.5)b | 1536.573 | 0.000 |
| Vacuolated cells | Parotid | 2(0.5-3.5)a | 2(0.5-3)a | 113(106-120.5)c | 42(39.5-44.5)b | 676.923 | 0.000 |
| Submandibular | 5(2-6.5)a | 5(3- 8)a | 145(141.5-149.5)c | 54(51.5-56.5)b | 2145.806 | 0.000 |
| Leukocytic Infiltration | Parotid | 2(0.5-4.5)a | 3(1-5.5)a | 90(81-99.5)c | 40(34-48)b | 220.303 | 0.000 |
| Submandibular | 6(3.5-8.5)a | 4(1-7.5)a | 62(59.5-67.5)c | 25(21-28.5)b | 277.524 | 0.000 |
| Congested vessels | Parotid | 0(0-0.5)a | 0(0-1)a | 14(12.5-16)c | 7(6.5-8)b | 180.517 | 0.000 |
| Submandibular | 1(0-1)a | 1(0-1.5)a | 18(16-19.5)c | 8(6.5- 9)b | 204.615 | 0.000 |

\*Different superscripts indicate significant difference at *p* ≤ 0.05.

**S3 Table**

Effect of STZ injection on blood glucose levels (mg/dl) as mean ± SD.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Group | Time 0 | Day 1 | Day 4 | Day 7 | After 8 weeks |
| STZ group  Mean ± SD | (97-132)  110 ± 22 | (257-540)  320 ± 33 | (242-476)  331 ± 24 | (276-534)  363 ± 22 | (254-530)  324 ± 33 |
| STZ+AA group  Mean ± SD | (84-125)  105 ± 21 | (285-487)  315 ± 32 | (264-528)  344 ± 22 | (284-460)  351 ± 31 | (287-510)  320 ± 24 |

**S4 Table**

Means ± SD of area % of Masson’s trichrome stain, PAS reaction, and Bcl-2 expression in all groups.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Group | Masson’s Trichrome | | PAS | | Bcl-2 | |
| Control | Parotid | Submandibular | Parotid | Submandibular | Parotid | Submandibular |
| 3.71783  ± 1.281860a | 1.13817  ± 0.477215a | 50.09983  ± 1.578850c | 51.52883  ± 2.872598c | 53.17683  ± 0.902547d | 30.11083  ± 1.202382d |
| AA | 3.44400  ± 0.675710a | 1.75633  ± 0.617998a | 50.68633  ± 0.828040c | 49.60633  ± 1.612164c | 50.49800  ± 1.827726d | 27.21650  ± 1.602338d |
| STZ | 39.50150  ± 1.961770c | 34.48950  ± 1.789599c | 24.12683  ± 1.835171a | 24.71983  ± 1.581080a | 13.94967  ± 1.324206a | 7.18300  ± 0.930391a |
| STZ+AA | 21.58017  ± 1.532463b | 15.33500  ± 0.784477b | 37.03567  ± 1.364598b | 34.78867  ± 1.331696b | 39.31667  ± 2.087186b | 17.72150  ± 1.091832b |

Different superscripts indicate significant difference at *p* ≤ 0.05.

For Masson’s trichrome stain: c significant to control and AA groups, b significant to STZ group

For PAS and Bcl-2 stains: a significant to control and AA groups, b significant to STZ group