SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

**METHODS** 

**Study Population** 

The exclusion criteria of the study were: patients under 6 years of age, patients in

treatment with antihistamine that could not be interrupted, patients in treatment with

topical corticosteroids on their arm, patients in treatment with omalizumab in the previous

3 months, patients receiving immunotherapy against peach, patients allergic to placebo

components, pregnant women or patients with a physical or mental disability to

participate.

**Open Oral Food Challenge with Kiwifruit** 

An open oral food challenge (OFC) with kiwifruit (var. Actidinia deliciosa, Zespri®, New

Zealand) was performed in 17/36 patients. Oral food challenge was not performed in 15

patients with previous history of anaphylaxis and four patients who had suffered a clear

kiwifruit ingestion-related systemic symptom within the previous two years and had

positive tests (SPT or specific immunoglobulin E [sIgE] against kiwifruit as determined

by an ImmunoCAP assay). The OFC was performed progressively administering the

following doses: 2.7 gr, 5.7, 11 gr, 23 gr, and 46 gr, every 15-30 minutes (1). The

challenge was positive when objective symptoms of an IgE-mediated reaction or

subjective symptoms developed following at least two consecutive doses as assessed by

the visual analog scale (VAS  $\geq$ 2).

2

**Skin Prick Test** 

Cow milk (Leti) and banana (Leti) used for the SBOFC recipe were evaluated with a SPT

in the 36 cases and fresh lemon, chia seeds, and green food coloring (Dr. Oetker,

Bielefeld, Germany) were assessed with a p-p test.

**Preparation of Homemade Kiwifruit Extracts (Pulp and Seed)** 

Briefly, kiwifruit seeds were manually separated from the kiwifruit (A. deliciosa) pulp

and lyophilized. Powder of the kiwifruit seeds was then suspended in sodium borate

buffer, pH 8.0, at a 10% (w/v) ratio and gently stirred for 1 h. After centrifugation at 4 °C,

the supernatant was collected, and the pellet was re-extracted twice using the same buffer

and under the same conditions. The collected supernatants were lyophilized, and the

resulting material was then extracted 3 times with 10% (w/v) acetone to remove the lipid

components. The resulting pellets containing the extracted proteins were air desiccated

and dissolved in ammonium bicarbonate 0.15 mol/L, pH 8. After centrifugation at

8500 rpm and 4 °C, the supernatants were lyophilized, quantified using the method

described by Lowry et al. (2), and stored at -20 °C until their use. Pulp kiwifruit extract

was prepared as starting material using seedless kiwifruit pulp that was homogenized in

10% (w/v) ammonium bicarbonate (50 mmol/L) and phenylmethylsulphonyl fluoride

(1 mmol/L) in a blender. After 1 h of mixing at 4 °C, the homogenate was centrifuged for

30 minutes at 8500 rpm and 4 °C. The pellet was extracted once again using the same

solvent and the supernatants were collected, lyophilized, and stored at -20 °C until their

use. The lyophilized protein extracts were resuspended in ammonium bicarbonate

0.15 mol/L, pH 8.0, and quantified using the method described by Lowry et al. (2)

3

Simple Blind Oral Food Challenge with Kiwifruit Seeds

Ingredients used to prepare the active smoothie included natural yogurt, banana, lemon,

green food coloring, and the isolated seeds of one whole kiwifruit (approximately

1.2-1.5 g). In the case of the inactive smoothie, chia seeds (0.9 g) were used instead of

kiwifruit seeds.

**Immunoblotting** 

Sodium dodecyl sulfate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis was performed with kiwifruit

seed extract (20 µg/strip) in 17% polyacrylamide gels. Proteins were visualized by means

of Coomassie blue staining or, alternatively, transferred to nitrocellulose membranes

(Amersham, Piscataway, NJ). The protein concentration was determined using the

bicinchoninic acid method (Pierce Chemical, Rockford, Ill). Immunodetection of

allergenic proteins was performed with patient sera (n = 36) diluted at a ratio of 1:5. The

binding of human IgE was detected using anti-human mouse IgE antibodies diluted at a

ratio of 1:5000 (ALK-Abello, Hørsholm, Denmark), followed by horseradish

peroxidase-labeled goat anti-mouse IgG antibodies diluted at a ratio of 1:5000 (Pierce).

The signal was developed with the ECL-Western blotting reagent (Amersham).

Sensitization to the kiwifruit storage proteins Act d 12 and Act d 13 corresponded to

bands immunodetected at 51 and/or 12 kDa, respectively, in the kiwifruit extract

immunoblotting.

**Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA)** 

Allergens Act d 1, Act d 2, and Act d 5 were purified from *Actinidia deliciosa* fruits using

the method published by Palacin *et al.*.(3) Briefly, polystyrene 96-well microtiter plates

(Costar 3590, Corning) were coated with 50 µl of purified Act d 1, Act d 2, or Act d 5 at

4

a concentration of 5 µg/ml as a solid phase and each individual serum sample at a dilution

of 1:6. After washing them with 0.1% phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) with Tween-20,

the wells were incubated with a peroxidase-labeled anti-human IgE (FisherScientific;

1:3000 dilution) for 1 hour at 25 °C. The plates were washed again and developed with

50 µl of peroxidase substrate buffer (ThermoScientific). After 30 minutes, the reaction

was stopped with 50 µl of 2N HCl, and the optical density was measured at 492 nm. PBS

with 1% bovine serum albumin (BSA) was used as a negative control. All assays were

performed in triplicate (3,4).

ImmunoCAP Inhibition with Purified Act d 1

Specific IgE inhibition studies with ImmunoCAP were performed using ImmunoCAP

FEIA 250 (Thermofisher Scientific, Uppsala, Sweden). Sera from patients showing high

levels of sIgE against Act d 1 as detected by ImmunoCAP ISAC or ELISA assays were

inhibited with Act d 1 (purified as previously described)(3) at room temperature, for 2 h,

at 100 µg/ml and with 5 sequential concentrations diluted at a ratio of 1:10. The inhibitor

mixtures (including sera with no inhibitor used as a control) were analyzed to detect sIgE

against kiwifruit (f84) in the ImmunoCAP assays. The assays were performed following

the manufacturer's protocol. The percentage of inhibitory IgE binding was calculated

using the following formula: ([kUA/L non-inhibited control - kUA/L inhibited sample]/

non-inhibited control kUA/L) x 100.

J Investig Allergol Clin Immunol 2022; Vol. 32(3): 206-212 doi: 10.18176/jiaci.0691

RESULTS

Results of the Kiwifruit Extract Immunoblotting with 40 µg/Strip

Immunoblotting of kiwifruit extract at 40 µg/strip (following the same method described

above) was performed in patients with a positive SPT against kiwifruit seed extract

(n = 17) (Supplement Figure 2). Eleven out of 17 patients (64.7%) had a protein of 51 kDa

(expected for Act d 12; patients 6, 10, 13, 14, 15, 24, 25, 26, 28, 34, and 36), 3 out of 17

(17.6%) had a protein of 12 kDa (expected for Act d 13; patients 11, 15, and 24), and 10

out of 17 (58.8%) had a protein of 25 kDa (patients 6, 11, 13, 15, 16, 26, 28, 30, 33, and

34), which, identified by mass spectrometry, corresponded to a thaumatin-like protein of

the kiwifruit seed (Supplement Figure 3). This seed thaumatin-like protein was different

from the pulp Act d 2, as one patient (patient 34) had it in the seed extract IB but not in

the pulp extract IB. Sequence coverage between both proteins was 44%. This seed

thaumatin-like protein was not previously described in the literature; nevertheless, further

studies are needed to determine its clinical importance. In the literature, sensitization

against a 7S-globulin protein of kiwifruit seeds was found in sera from kiwifruit-allergic

pediatric patients (5) but, again, we are unaware of its clinical relevance.

Comparison of the Diagnostic Performance of the Different Available In Vitro

**Techniques** 

In order to increase the sample size for the comparative analysis of the *in vitro* techniques,

sera from the 36 prospectively recruited subjects and from 33 kiwifruit-allergic patients

of a previous multicenter study (FIS PI 11/01634) were used together. The 35 controls of

the retrospective study were also used in this analysis. The 33 patients who had been retrospectively selected experienced allergy symptoms after ingesting kiwifruit on at least two occasions (14 developed local or systemic symptoms, a positive SPT against kiwifruit [ALK-Abelló], and positivity for sIgE to kiwifruit [ImmunoCAP, Uppsala, Sweden]; 10 developed local or systemic symptoms, had a positive SPT against kiwifruit, and negativity for sIgE against kiwifruit; and 9 developed systemic symptoms or anaphylaxis and had negative tests). In sera of these 33 patients, the presence of sIgE was determined by the ISAC and FABER assays, ImmunoCAP (kiwifruit extract and Act d 8), and an ELISA (Act d 1 and Act d 2). The diagnostic yield of the CAP and FABER assays did not differ significantly in the detection of kiwifruit extract (p = 0.118). The ISAC microarray had a better diagnostic performance than the FABER assay in the detection of Act d 1 (p < 0.001) and Act d 2 (p = 0.031). The ISAC and CAP assays did not differ in terms of the detection of Act d 8 (p = 0.5) (Supplement Table II).

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J Investig Allergol Clin Immunol 2022; Vol. 32(3): 206-212 doi: 10.18176/jiaci.0691

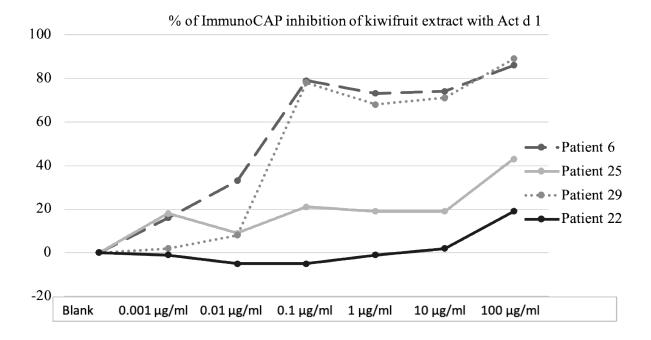
Supplement Table 1. Prick test with purified Act d 1 extract in ten patients with positivity for Act d 1 in the ELISA

ISAC Act d 1	ELISA Act d 1	Prick test with purified	
(ISU)	(positive cut point	Act d 1 extract (mm)	
	>0.235 units)		
0.00	0.406	0	
12.62	0.434	5.5	
6.07	0.472	5.5	
0.00	0.401	0	
0.00	0.366	0	
0.00	0.443	0	
0.00	0.38	0	
0.00	0.37	0	
0.3	0.459	3.5	
0.00	0.449	0	
	(ISU)  0.00  12.62  6.07  0.00  0.00  0.00  0.00  0.00  0.3	(ISU)       (positive cut point >0.235 units)         0.00       0.406         12.62       0.434         6.07       0.472         0.00       0.401         0.00       0.366         0.00       0.443         0.00       0.38         0.00       0.37         0.3       0.459	

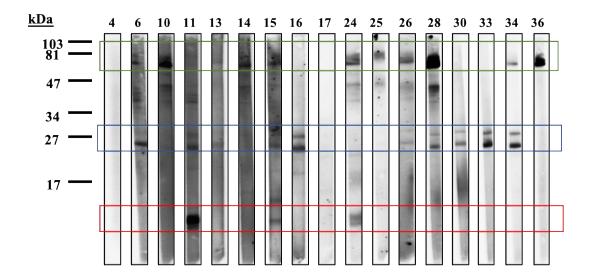
Supplement Table 2. Concordance between the ImmunoCAP, ISAC, and FABER assays in the detection of kiwifruit components using McNemar's comparative test

	Kiwifruit extract	Act d 1	Act d 2	Act d 5	Act d 8
	ImmunoCAP:	ISAC: 24/62	ISAC: 6/62	ISAC: 2/62	ISAC: 3/69
Patients:	34/62 (54.8)	(38.7)	(9.7)	(3.2)	(43.5)
[Positive	FABER: 41/62	FABER: 5/62	FABER:	FABER: 2/62	ImmunoCAP:
rate, n	(66.1)	(8.1)	0/62	(3.2)	5/69 (72.5)
(%)]	McNemar	McNemar	McNemar	McNemar	McNemar
	p = 0.118	p = 0.000	p = 0.031	p = 1	p = 0.5
Controls:  [falls  positive  rate, n  (%)]	ImmunoCAP:  2/16 (12.5)  FABER: 1/35  (2.9)  McNemar $p = 0.5$	ISAC: 1/35 (2.9)  FABER: 0/35  McNemar  p = 1	ISAC: 0/35  FABER:  0/35  McNemar  p = 1	ISAC: $0/35$ FABER: $0/35$ McNemar $p = 1$	

Supplement Figure 1. ImmunoCAP inhibition of kiwifruit extract with Act d 1. Patients 6 and 29, who were positive for Act d 1 in the ISAC assay, showed a high inhibition with purified Act d 1, and patients 25 and 22, who were negative for Act d 1 in the ISAC assay, showed poor inhibition with purified Act d 1.



Supplement Figure 2. Immunoblot of kiwifruit seed extract (40 µg/strip) in sera of the 17 patients with a positive skin prick test against kiwifruit seed extract. A band of 25 kDa is identified as a seed-specific thaumatin-like protein.



Supplement Figure 3. Identification of the 25-kDa kiwifruit seed protein by MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry

## Thaumatin-like protein $OS = Actinidia\ deliciosa\ OX = 3627\ GN = TLP1\ PE = 2\ SV\ = 1$

Database: UP-Viridiplantae\_191001 Score: 107 Expect: 0.00017

Monoisotopic mass (Mr): 25175 Da Calculated pI: 8.29

**Protein sequence coverage**: 44% Matched peptides shown in **bold.** 

1	MSTFKSLSLS	ALLFIAFLFT	CARGATFNI	NNCPFTVWAA	AVPGGGKR <b>LD</b>
51	RGQNWIINPG	<b>AGTK</b> GARVWP	RTGCNFDGAG	<b>RGK</b> CQTGDCN	GLLQCQAFGQ
101	PPNTLAEYAL	NQFNNLDFFD	ISLVDGFNVA	MEFSPTSGGC	TRGIK <b>CTADI</b>
151	NGQCPNELRA	PGGCNNPCTV	FKTDQYCCNS	GNCGLTNFSK	FFKDRCPDAY
201	SYPKDDQTST	FTCPAGTNYK	VVFCP		

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