

行政院國家科學委員會專題研究計畫 期中進度報告

過度糖化最終產物對胰島素訊息傳遞的影響(2/3)

計畫類別：個別型計畫

計畫編號：NSC92-2314-B-038-039-

執行期間：92年08月01日至93年07月31日

執行單位：臺北醫學大學醫事技術學系

計畫主持人：李宏謨

報告類型：精簡報告

處理方式：本計畫可公開查詢

中 華 民 國 93 年 5 月 26 日

行政院國家科學委員會補助專題研究計畫成果報告

過度糖化最終產物對 胰島素訊息傳遞的影響

計畫類別： 個別型計畫 整合型計畫

計畫編號：NSC92-2314-B-038-039

執行期間：92年8月1日至93年7月31日

計畫主持人：李宏謨/台北醫學大學醫事技術學系

執行單位：台北醫學大學醫事技術學系

中 華 民 國 9 3 年 5 月 3 1 日

一、中文摘要

本研究以分化之3T3-L1脂肪細胞，研究AGEs對胰島素所引發的訊息傳遞路徑和葡萄糖運送的影響。過去二年我們以BSA-AGEs(300 μ g/ml)處理分化過之3T3-L1脂肪細胞24小時後，可發現胰島素所刺激的 $[^3\text{H}]2$ -去氧葡萄糖之運送受到抑制。以AGEs處理3T3-L1脂肪細胞二小時後IRS-1出現doublet，同時大幅誘導IRS-2的蛋白表現。由於AGEs亦可增加PPAR- γ 的表現，而PPAR- γ 的活化亦可以增加IRS-2的蛋白表現，我們推測IRS-2的upregulation可能導因於AGEs誘導PPAR- γ 的表現所致。除此之外， ϵ -carboxyl-methyllysine (CML)亦可抑制胰島素所刺激的 $[^3\text{H}]2$ -去氧葡萄糖之運送約40%。以CML處理3T3-L1細胞二十四小時後，可以發現Akt/PKB的磷酸化和Akt/PKB的酵素活性均有明顯的減低。因為對胰島素敏感的葡萄糖輸送者(insulin-sensitive glucose transporter)，GLUT-4，即在Akt/PKB的下游；很可能AGEs是透過抑制Akt/PKB的活性而影響glucose transporter的表現及轉位，並進一步影響 $[^3\text{H}]2$ -去氧葡萄糖之運送。為了進一步了解Akt/PKB在AGEs之抑制作用中所扮演的角色，我們製備了過度表現Akt/PKB及kinase dead的Akt/PKB突變基因，送入細胞後Akt/PKB的蛋白表現和磷酸化情形都能依照預期的增減。但過度表現Akt/PKB的3T3-L1細胞並無法逆轉AGEs的作用。我們目前的結論是AGEs可以透過調節IRS-1及IRS-2的訊息傳遞來影響 $[^3\text{H}]2$ -去氧葡萄糖之運送，但和PI 3-kinase的訊息傳遞無關。最近的研究報告顯示protein phosphatase-2C (PP2-C)可以造成PI 3-kinase的p85之去磷酸化並活化 $[^3\text{H}]2$ -去氧葡萄糖之運送(J Biol Chem, 279: 22715-22726)，因此或許AGEs並非調控PI 3-kinase的下游，我們正針對AGEs是否調控PP-2C進一步的研究。除了上述計畫，過去一年我們還執行了一個成果相當promising的計畫，其中有數項重要的新發現，僅將此計畫部分成果摘要於後：

Dipyridamole是一個核甘運送的抑制劑，也是一個非選擇性的phosphodiesterase的抑制劑，因此能夠藉由抑制phosphodiesterase的機制來增加細胞內cAMP以及cGMP的濃度。第四型的phosphodiesterase已經在許多實驗中被證實具有抗發炎的功能，本研究所要探討的主題就是，在RAW 264.7巨噬細胞中Dipyridamole是否可以抑制Lipopolysaccharide (LPS) 誘導的iNOS以及COX-2的表現。以LPS處理RAW 264.7巨噬細胞會造成iNOS以及COX-2以劑量依存性及時間依存性表現。若以Dipyridamole前處理細胞則可以阻斷LPS所誘導的iNOS及COX-2表現。藉由抑制I κ B phosphorylation、degradation、p65 NF- κ B translocation以及reporter gene的轉錄作用的方式來證明Dipyridamole會抑制NF- κ B路徑的活化。另外，Dipyridamole也可以抑制LPS在RAW 264.7細胞中所造成的p38 MAPK以及IKK- β 的活化。若進一步以p38 MAPK的抑制劑SB203580前處理細胞，則能抑制LPS誘導的iNOS表現以及IKK- β 活化，所以LPS是先活化了p38 MAPK，再活化NF- κ B的訊息傳遞路徑。另外，Dipyridamole能夠刺激mitogen-activated protein kinase phosphatase 1 (MKP-1) 的磷酸化及活化而使得p38 MAPK去磷酸化及去活化而失去功能。總而言之，本研究證明在RAW 264.7巨噬細胞中，Dipyridamole會先藉由活化MKP-1的方式使得p38 MAPK去磷酸化而失去功能。然而p38 MAPK去活化後，接著就會抑制IKK- β 的活化以及後續由NF- κ B所調控的訊息傳遞路徑，因而抑制LPS所誘導的iNOS及COX-2表現。本研究的結果支持 dipyridamole具抗發炎作用的假說。

Abstract

Dipyridamole is a nucleoside transport inhibitor and a non-selective phosphodiesterase inhibitor that increases intracellular level of cAMP and cGMP through phosphodiesterase inhibition. Type 4 phosphodiesterase has been demonstrated to have anti-inflammatory effects in many experimental systems. This study investigates whether dipyridamole inhibits lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced inducible nitric oxide (iNOS) and cyclooxygenase (COX-2) expression in RAW 264.7 macrophages. Treatment of RAW 264.7 macrophages with LPS caused dose- and time-dependent increases in iNOS and COX-2 expression. Treatment of cells with dipyridamole blocked the LPS-induced iNOS and COX-2 expression. Dipyridamole inhibited NF- κ B activation as demonstrated by inhibition of I κ B phosphorylation, I κ B degradation, p65 NF- κ B translocation and the transcription of reporter gene. Dipyridamole also inhibited LPS-stimulated p38 MAPK and IKK- β activities in RAW 264.7 cells. A p38 mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAPK) inhibitor, SB203580, inhibited LPS-stimulated iNOS expression and IKK- β activation suggesting LPS may activate NF- κ B signaling pathway via upstream p38 MAPK activation. Furthermore, dipyridamole stimulated a transient activation of mitogen-activated protein kinase phosphatase 1 (MKP-1), a potent inhibitor of p38 MAPK. Taken together, these data suggest that dipyridamole exerts anti-inflammatory effect via activation of MKP-1, which dephosphorylates and inactivates p38 MAPK. Inactivation of p38 MAPK in turn inhibits IKK- β activation and subsequent NF- κ B signaling pathway that mediates LPS-induced iNOS and COX-2 expression in RAW 264.7 cells. These results support the notion that dipyridamole may have anti-inflammatory effects.

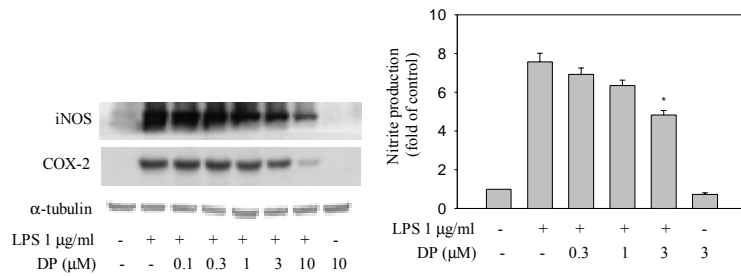
Keywords: Dipyridamole, NOS, LPS, NF-kappa B, RAW 264.7 macrophages.

二、緣由與目的

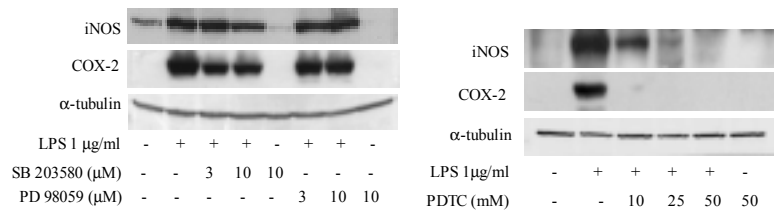
由於原計畫已接近完成，去年度開始我們開始探討糖尿病併發症另一個層面的問題。去年我們發現一種新型口服降血糖藥 rosiglitazone，除降血糖外還可以有抑制 iNOS 基因表現的抗發炎作用，並發表於今年四月 *Kidney International* (65) 1664-1675。這項研究成果鼓舞我們繼續探討常用來治療腎絲球體腎炎，並能成功的控制血尿和蛋白尿的藥物-dipyridamole 是否也具抗發炎作用。我們發現 dipyridamole 可以抑制 LPS 在 Raw 264.7 巨噬細胞誘導的 iNOS 和 COX-2 表現；我們接著研究其分子機制，發現 dipyridamole 可以活化一種 phosphatase, MKP-1，並造成 p38MAPK 的去磷酸化而抑制其活性。由於 p38MAPK 在 IKK 的上游，此一抑制作用可以間接影響 I κ B 的磷酸化、抑制 I κ B 的降解及後續 NF κ B 的活化及 NF κ B 所調控的 reporter 基因表現。我們證實了 dipyridamole 可以和 glucocorticosteroid 一樣經由 MKP-1 達到免疫抑制的效果，我們認為此一發現將有助於解釋 dipyridamole 的臨床藥效，具臨床和學術的價值，因此將試圖投稿 *J. Immunol.*

三、結果與討論

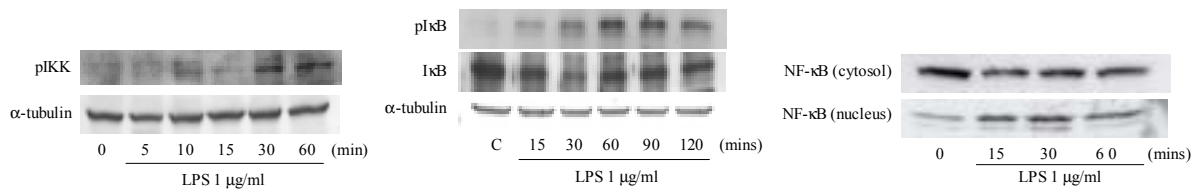
3.1. Dipyridamole inhibits LPS-induced iNOS and COX-2 expression and nitrite accumulation in RAW 264.7 cells.



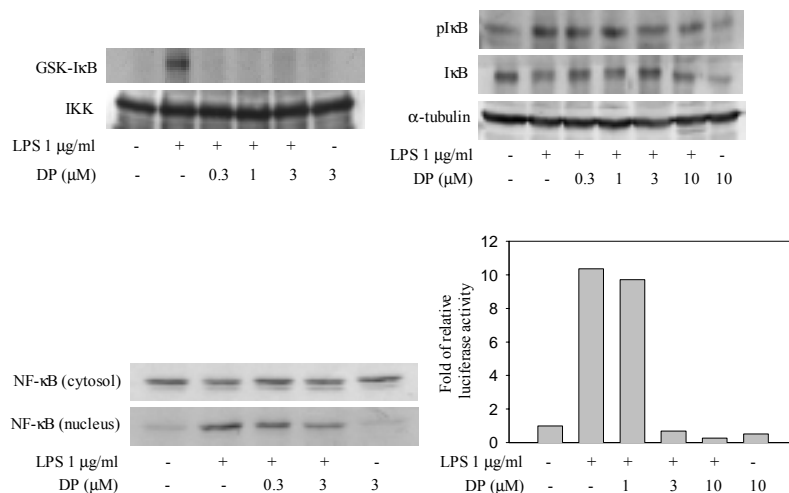
3.2. LPS-induced iNOS and COX-2 expression is mediated through p38MAPK and NF κ B pathways.



3.3. Effect of LPS on IKK phosphorylation, I κ B phosphorylation, I κ B degradation and NF- κ B translocation in RAW 264.7 cells.

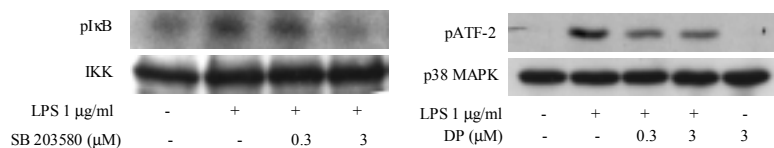


3.4. Dipyridamole inhibits LPS-induced IKK activity, I κ B phosphorylation, I κ B degradation, NF- κ B translocation and NF- κ B responsive luciferase reporter gene expression in RAW 264.7 cells.

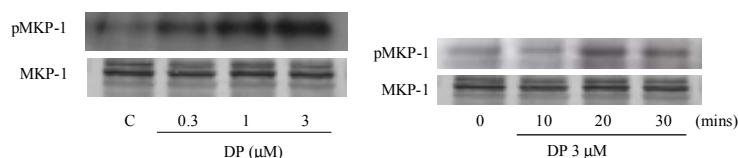


3.6. Effect of SB203580 on LPS-stimulated on IKK- β activity in RAW 264.7 cells.

Dipyridamole inhibits LPS-activated p38 MAPK in RAW 264.7 cells.



3.7. Dipyridamole increases MKP-1 phosphorylation in RAW 264.7 cells.



討論 :

Dipyridamole is a non-selective phosphodiesterase inhibitor, which has been shown to improve proteinuria in membranous glomerulonephritis, mesangial IgA glomerulonephritis, and segmentary and focal hyalinosis glomerulonephritis (Harmankaya et al., 2001). Inhibition of proteinuria in glomerulonephritis has been attributed to platelet response (Camara et al., 1991). However, there is no consistent evidence supporting dipyridamole as an effective antithrombotic agent in cardiovascular and renal diseases. Because many PDE inhibitors suppress the LPS-stimulated cytokine production (Yoshigawa et al., 1999), we have sought to resolve the question of whether dipyridamole exerts an anti-inflammatory effect. LPS is a bacterial endotoxin, which induces the expression of a number of proteins associated with inflammation. LPS-induced iNOS and COX-2 expression are key mediators in inflammatory responses. In the present study, we investigate whether dipyridamole has an effect on LPS-induced iNOS and COX-2 expression. We present evidences showing that dipyridamole inhibits iNOS and COX-2 expression in LPS-stimulated RAW 264.7 cells. Because inhibition of p38 MAPK by a pharmacological specific inhibitor, SB203580, is enough to suppress the IKK- β activity, these data suggest that dipyridamole inhibits p38 MAPK activation leading to an inhibition of IKK- β and the NF- κB signaling pathway, and subsequently suppresses LPS-induced iNOS and COX-2 expression in RAW 264.7 macrophages. In addition to these novel findings, we demonstrated that dipyridamole stimulates MKP-1 activation, which lead to p38 MAPK and IKK- β inactivation and NF- κB specific transcription.

Our data agree with many other reports showing phosphodiesterase inhibitors are immunoregulators and can be used as an anti-inflammatory agent (Bielekova et al., 2000; Burnouf et al., 2002). Dipyridamole exerts beneficial effects on glomerulonephritis (Camara et al., 1991) and blocks the lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced increase in monocyte-associated tissue factor activity (Brozna et al., 1990). LPS-activation of p38MAPK and NF- κB signal transduction pathways may contribute to inflammatory responses and disease progression. In

this study, we demonstrated that dipyridamole activates MKP-1, which in turn inactivates these proinflammatory signaling pathways. Our results support the notion, that dipyridamole can serve as an anti-inflammatory agent as well.

The results of our inhibitor studies suggest that the LPS-induced iNOS and COX-2 expressions is a consequence of the activation of p38 MAPK, IKK, and NF- κ B in RAW 264.7 cells. Activation of the transcription factor, NF- κ B, is responsible for the altered transcription of iNOS and COX-2 in macrophages and many other cell types (Huttunen et al., 1999; Mohamed et al., 1999; Li et al., 2000). Consistently, we have found that NF- κ B activation plays an important role in LPS-induced iNOS expression. This notion is supported by the data herein: 1) Pretreatment of cells with PDTC inhibited LPS-mediated iNOS induction; 2) Treatment of RAW cells with LPS increased p65 NF- κ B translocation from the cytosol to the nucleus; 3) LPS treatment phosphorylated and degraded I κ B in the cytosol; and 4) Treatment of RAW cells with LPS enhanced NF- κ B-specific transcription as demonstrated by the expression of reporter gene, luciferase activity.

NF- κ B can be activated in response to a broad range of stimuli and conditions, including interleukin-1 (IL-1) and tumor necrosis factor- α (TNF- α) (Bowie and O'Neill, 2000). LPS triggers a signaling pathway resulting in the production of inflammatory cytokines, which include TNF α and IL-1. Thus, LPS activation of NF- κ B may well be an indirect effect due to the release of cytokines. Indeed, LPS induces TNF α secretion through nuclear factor kappa B in human vascular muscle cells.

The intracellular signaling mechanisms by which LPS induce NF- κ B remain to be determined. LPS may activate protein tyrosine kinase, p21 Ras, protein kinase C- β II (PKC β II), or p42/44MAPK. In agreement, we previously found that protein tyrosine kinase, p21 Ras, and p38 MAPK are involved in LPS-induced iNOS expression in A549 cells (Lin et al., 2001). LPS stimulation of human monocytes activates several intracellular signaling pathways that include the p38 mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAPK) pathway (Guha and Mackman, 2001). Lipoteichoic acid activation of NF- κ B is mediated through protein tyrosine kinase (Kengatharan et al., 1996). Activation of NF- κ B in human monocytes involves PKC and PI-3K (D'Addario et al., 1999; Diaz-Guerra et al., 1999). Thus, LPS may activate tyrosine kinase, PI-3K, PKC, and p38 MAPK, which in turn activate I κ B kinase (IKK), resulting in NF-kappaB (p50/p65) translocation and the induction of many genes encoding inflammatory mediators including iNOS. However, given the addition of MEK-specific inhibitor, PD 98059, fails to normalize the LPS-induced iNOS expression, and the facts that many other pathways could contribute to the activation of NF- κ B, which may play a role in the NF- κ B dependent induction of iNOS expression. It is possible that other signaling pathways other than those highlighted in the present study may also contribute to the activation of LPS in RAW264.7 cells.

In conclusion, our results suggest that dipyridamole may have anti-inflammatory effects. Our results clearly demonstrated that dipyridamole inhibits LPS-induced inflammatory

mediator expression in RAW 264.7 macrophages through p38 MAPK, IKK, and NF- κ B dependent mechanisms. Whether dipyrindamole exerts these effects in clinical treatment warrant further investigation.

四、計畫成果自評

我們以過度糖化最終產物研究糖尿病併發症的細胞及分子機轉。過去三年我們發現 AGEs 可以又發 iNOS 及 COX-2 的表現這些發現分別發表於 *Life Science* (69): 2503-2515 (SCI)。及 *European Journal of Pharmacology* 438(3): 143-52. (2002) (SCI)。PI-3 Kinase、NF κ B 的研究結果則也已發表於 *Molecular Cellular Endocrinology* (194) 9-17 (2002) (SCI)。另外有關 PI-PLC, PC-PLC、PKC 亞型的研究，已發表於 *Biochem. Pharmacol.* (66)203-212 (2003) (SCI)；除此之外，我們也研發出的血中 AGEs 自動分析法發表於 *Journal of Clinical Biochemistry* 35, (3): 189-195 (2002) (SCI)。今年(2004)我們也在腎臟學門排名第二的 *Kidney International* (65) 1664-1675 發表了 rosiglitazone，一種 PPAR- γ 的 ligand, 可以抑制 AGEs 所誘導的 iNOS 表現。總計過去三年多我們共已發表十四篇文章於 SCI 期刊，除此之外，我們還有三篇文章已經投稿，另外本篇報告的內容將試圖投稿於 *J. Immunol.* (SCI)。另外，今年四月本計畫主持人並擔任由國科會魏處長和本校許校長共同主辦的第二屆粒線體醫學暨研究研討會之秘書長，共吸引了二百多名國內外的學者參加，大會圓滿成功。

五、參考文獻

- Baeuerle, P.A., and Baltimore, D., 1996. NF- κ B: Ten years after. *Cell* 87,13-20.
- Baldwin, J.A.S., 1996. The NF- κ B and I κ B proteins: new discoveries and insights. *Annu. Rev. Immunol.* 14, 649-681.
- Bielekova B. Lincoln A. McFarland H. Martin R. 2000, Therapeutic potential of phosphodiesterase-4 and -3 inhibitors in Th1-mediated autoimmune diseases. *J Immunol* 164(2):1117-24,
- Bowie, A., and O'Neill, L.A.J., 2000. Oxidative stress and nuclear factor κ B activation. *Biochem. Pharmacol.* 59, 13-23.
- Brozna JP. Horan M. Carson SD. , 1990. Dipyrindamole inhibits O₂- release and expression of tissue factor activity by peripheral blood monocytes stimulated with lipopolysaccharide. *Thrombosis Research.* 60(2):141-56.
- Brown, K., Gerstberger, S., Carlson, L., Franzoso, G., and Siebenlist, U., 1995. Control of I κ -B proteolysis by site specific signal induced phosphorylation. *Science* 267, 1485-1488.
- Burnouf C. Pruniaux MP. , 2002. Recent advances in PDE4 inhibitors as immunoregulators and anti-inflammatory drugs. *Current Pharmaceutical Design.* 8(14):1255-96
- Camara S. de la Cruz JP. Frutos MA. Sanchez P. Lopez de Novales E. Sanchez E. Sanchez de la Cuesta F. , 1991 Effects of dipyrindamole on the short-term evolution of glomerulonephritis. *Nephron.* 58(1):13-6

- Chen, Z., 1995. Signal-induced site-specific phosphorylation targets I κ B α to the ubiquitin-proteasome pathway. *Gene. Dev.* 9, 1586-1597.
- Chen P. Li J. Barnes J. Kokkonen GC. Lee JC. Liu Y. , 2002 Restraint of proinflammatory cytokine biosynthesis by mitogen-activated protein kinase phosphatase-1 in lipopolysaccharide-stimulated macrophages. *J Immunol* 169(11):6408-16
- Clark AR. , 2003 MAP kinase phosphatase 1: a novel mediator of biological effects of glucocorticoids? *J. Endocrinol.* 178(1):5-12
- D'Addario, M., Ahmad, A., Xu, J.W., Menezes, J., 1999. Epstein-Barr virus envelope glycoprotein gp350 induces NF-kappaB activation and IL-1beta synthesis in human monocytes-macrophages involving PKC and PI3-K. *FASEB J.* 13, 2203-2213.
- Diaz-Guerra, M.J., Castrillo, A., Martin-Sanz, P., Bosca, L., 1999. Negative regulation by phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase of inducible nitric oxide synthase expression in macrophages. *J. Immunol.* 162, 6184-6190.
- Engelbrecht Y. de Wet H. Horsch K. Langeveldt CR. Hough FS. Hulley PA. , 2003 Glucocorticoids induce rapid up-regulation of mitogen-activated protein kinase phosphatase-1 and dephosphorylation of extracellular signal-regulated kinase and impair proliferation in human and mouse osteoblast cell lines. *Endocrinol* 144(2):412-22
- Gibbs CR. Lip GY. , 1998 Do we still need dipyridamole? *Brit J Clin Pharmacol.* 45(4):323-8
- Guha, M., Mackman, N., 2001. LPS induction of gene expression in human monocytes. *Cellular Signalling* 13, 85-94.
- Haddad JJ. Land SC. Tarnow-Mordi WO. Zembala M. Kowalczyk D. Lauterbach R. , 2002 Immunopharmacological potential of selective phosphodiesterase inhibition. II. Evidence for the involvement of an inhibitory-kappaB/nuclear factor-kappaB-sensitive pathway in alveolar epithelial cells. *J Pharmacol Exp Therap* 300(2):567-76
- Harmankaya O. Baturk T. Ozturk Y. Karabiber N. Obek A. , 2001. Effect of acetylsalicylic acid and dipyridamole in primary membranoproliferative glomerulonephritis type I. *International Urology & Nephrology.* 33(3):583-7
- Hatzelmann A. Schudt C. Anti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory potential of the novel PDE4 inhibitor roflumilast in vitro. *J Pharmacol Exp Therap* 297(1):267-79, 2001
- Hewitson TD. Tait MG. Kelynack KJ. Martic M. Becker GJ. , 2002 Dipyridamole inhibits in vitro renal fibroblast proliferation and collagen synthesis. *J Lab Clin Med* 140:199-208
- Hori, O., Yan, S.D., Ogawa, S., Kuwabara, K., Matsumoto, M., Stern, D., and Schmidt, A. M., 1996. The receptor for advanced glycation end-products has a central role in mediating the effects of advanced glycation end-products on the development of vascular disease in diabetes mellitus. *Nephrol. Dial. Transplant.* 11, 13-16.
- Hung KY. Shyu RS. Fang CC. Tsai CC. Lee PH. Tsai TJ. Hsieh BS. Dipyridamole inhibits human peritoneal mesothelial cell proliferation in vitro and attenuates rat peritoneal

- fibrosis in vivo. *Kidney International*. 59(6):2316-24, 2001
- Huttunen, H. J., Fages, C., and Rauvala, H., 1999. Receptor for advanced glycation end products (RAGE)-mediated neurite outgrowth and activation of NF-kappaB require the cytoplasmic domain of the receptor but different downstream signaling pathways. *J. Biol. Chem.* 274, 19919-19924.
- Ichiyama T. Hasegawa S. Matsubara T. Hayashi T. Furukawa S., 2001 Theophylline inhibits NF-kappa B activation and I kappa B alpha degradation in human pulmonary epithelial cells. *Naunyn-Schmiedeberg's Archives of Pharmacology*. 364(6):558-61
- Imasato A. Desbois-Mouthon C. Han J. Kai H. Cato AC. Akira S. Li JD. , 2002 Inhibition of p38 MAPK by glucocorticoids via induction of MAPK phosphatase-1 enhances nontypeable Haemophilus influenzae-induced expression of toll-like receptor 2. *J Biol Chem* . 277(49):47444-50
- Jacob A. Molkenin JD. Smolenski A. Lohmann SM. Begum N. , 2002 Insulin inhibits PDGF-directed VSMC migration via NO/ cGMP increase of MKP-1 and its inactivation of MAPKs. *Am J Physiol - Cell Physiol*. 283(3):C704-13
- Kassel O. Sancono A. Kratzschmar J. Kreft B. Stassen M. Cato AC. Glucocorticoids inhibit MAP kinase via increased expression and decreased degradation of MKP-1. *EMBO J* 20(24):7108-16, 2001
- Kengatharan, M., De Kimpe, S.J., Thiemermann, C., 1996. Analysis of the signal transduction in the induction of nitric oxide synthase by lipoteichoic acid in macrophages. *Bri. J. Pharmacol.* 117, 1163-1170.
- Khechai, F., Ollivier, V., Bridey, F., Amar, M., Hakim, J., and de Prost, D., 1997. Effect of advanced glycation end product-modified albumin on tissue factor expression by monocytes. Role of oxidant stress and protein tyrosine kinase activation. *Arterioscler. Thromb. Vasc. Biol.*, 17, 2885-2890.
- Lander, H.M., Tauras, J.M., Ogiste, J.S., Hori, O., Moss, R.A., and Schmidt, A.M., 1997. Activation of the receptor for advanced glycation end products triggers a p21(ras)-dependent mitogen-activated protein kinase pathway regulated by oxidant stress. *J. Biol. Chem.* 272, 17810-17814.
- Lasa M. Abraham SM. Boucheron C. Saklatvala J. Clark AR. Dexamethasone causes sustained expression of mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAPK) phosphatase 1 and phosphatase-mediated inhibition of MAPK p38. *Molecular & Cellular Biology*. 22(22):7802-11, 2002
- Lenz TL. Hilleman DE. Aggrenox: a fixed-dose combination of aspirin and dipyridamole. *Annals of Pharmacotherapy*. 34(11):1283-90, 2000.
- Li, Y.M., Mitsuhashi, T., Wojciechowicz, D., Shimizu, N., Li, J., Stitt, A., He, C., Banerjee, D., Vlassara, H., 1996. Molecular identity and cellular distribution of advanced glycation endproduct receptors: relationship of p60 to OST-48 and p90 to 80K-H membrane

- proteins. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. (USA)*. 93, 11047-11052.
- Li, Y.H., Yan, Z.Q., Jensen, J.S., Tullus, K., Brauner, A., 2000. Activation of nuclear factor kappaB and induction of inducible nitric oxide synthase by *Ureaplasma urealyticum* in macrophages. *Infect. Immun.* 68, 7087-7093.
- Lin, C.H., Lin, Y.F., Chang, M.C., Wu, C.H., Ho, Y.S., Lee, H.M., 2001. Advanced glycosylation end products induced iNOS expression in C6 glioma cells: Involvement of a p38 MAP kinase-dependent mechanism. *Life Sci.* 69, 2503-15.
- Loher F. Schmall K. Freytag P. Landauer N. Hallwachs R. Bauer C. Siegmund B. Rieder F. Lehr HA. Dauer M. Kapp JF. Endres S. Eigler A. The specific type-4 phosphodiesterase inhibitor mesopram alleviates experimental colitis in mice. *J Pharmacol. Exp. Therap.* 305(2):549-56, 2003
- Loske, C., Neumann, A., Cunningham, A.M., Nichol, K., Schinzel, R., Riederer, P., and Munch, G., 1998. Cytotoxicity of advanced glycation end products is mediated by oxidative stress. *J. Neural Transm. (Budapest)* 105, 1005-1015.
- Matsumori A. Nunokawa Y. Sasayama S. Pimobendan inhibits the activation of transcription factor NF-kappaB: a mechanism which explains its inhibition of cytokine production and inducible nitric oxide synthase. *Life Sci.* 67(20):2513-9, 2000
- Malinin, N.L., Boldin, M.P., Kovalenko, A.V., and Wallach, D., 1997. MAPK-related kinase involved in NF- κ B induction by TNF, CD95 and IL-1. *Nature* 385, 540-544.
- Mohamed, A.K., Bierhaus, A., Schiekofe, S., Tritschler, H., Ziegler, R., Nawroth, P.P., 1999. The role of oxidative stress and NF-kappa B activation in late diabetic complications. *Biofactor* 10, 157-167.
- Simm, A., Munch, G., Seif, F., Schenk, O., Heidland, A., Richter, H., Vamvakas, S., and Schinzel, R., 1997. Advanced glycation end products stimulate the MAP-kinase pathway in tubulus cell line LLC-PK1. *FEBS Lett.* 410, 481-484.
- Stawowy P. Goetze S. Margeta C. Fleck E. Graf K. LPS regulate ERK1/2-dependent signaling in cardiac fibroblasts via PKC-mediated MKP-1 induction. *Biochem Biophys Res Commun* 303(1):74-80, 2003
- Yoshizaki T., Maegawa H., Egawa K., Ugi S., Nihio Y., et al (2004). Proteinphosphatase 2C as a positive regulator of insulin sensitivity through direct activation of phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase in 3T3-L1 adipocytes. *J. Bio. Chem.* 279:22715-22726.
- Teixeira MM. Gristwood RW. Cooper N. Hellewell PG. Phosphodiesterase (PDE)4 inhibitors: anti-inflammatory drugs of the future?. *Trends in Pharmacol Sc.* 18(5):164-71, 1997
- Yin, M.J., 1998. HTLV-1 Tax protein binds to MEKK1 to stimulate I κ B kinase activity and NF- κ B activation. *Cell* 93, 875-884.
- Yoshikawa M. Suzumura A. Tamaru T. Takayanagi T. Sawada M. Effects of phosphodiesterase inhibitors on cytokine production by microglia. *Multiple Sclerosis.* 5(2):126-33, 1999