Supporting Information to:

Involvement of p38 MAPK Phosphorylation and Nitrate

Formation in Aristolochic Acid-Mediated Antiplatelet Activity

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Materials and Methods

Measurement of free radicals by electron spin resonance (ESR) spectrometry

For the ESR method, we used a Bruker EMX ESR spectrometer as described previously [1]. In brief, washed platelets $(3.6 \times 10^8/\text{mL})$ were preincubated with AsA (115 and 150 μ M) or an isovolumetric solvent control (0.5% DMSO) for 3 min before the addition of collagen (1 μ g/mL). The reaction was allowed to proceed for 5 min, followed by the addition of DMPO (100 μ M) for the ESR study. The rate of free radical-scavenging activity is defined by the following equation: inhibition rate = 1 – [signal height (AsA)/signal height (control)] [1].

Results

In this study, a typical ESR signal of hydroxyl radical (OH[•]) formation was induced by collagen (1 μ g/mL) in platelets compared with resting platelets (Fig. **1S, A, B**); pretreatment with AsA (115 and 150 μ M) did not significantly reduce hydroxyl radical formation stimulated by collagen (1 μ g/mL) (Fig. **1S, C, D**). The antioxidant, catalase (1000 U/mL), markedly suppressed hydroxyl radical formation by about 79% (data not shown).

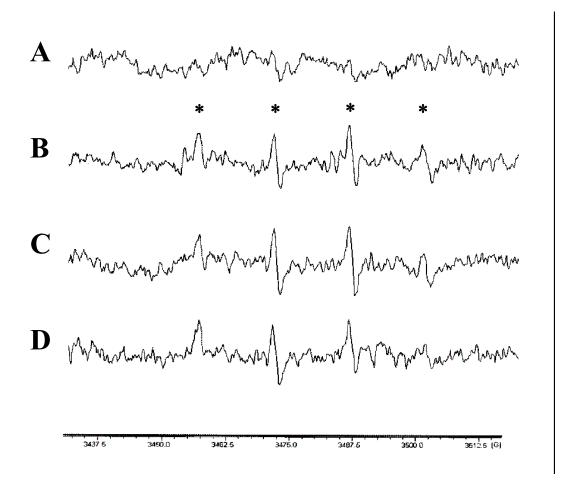


Fig. 1S. Electron spin resonance (ESR) spectra of aristolochic acid in hydroxyl radical (OH[•]) formation in collagen-activated platelets. Washed platelets $(3.6 \times 10^8/\text{mL})$ were preincubated with (**A**) Tyrode's solution (resting group), or (**B**) the solvent control (0.5% DMSO) and aristolochic acid (**C**) (115 µM) and (**D**) (150 µM), followed by the addition of collagen (1 µg/mL) to trigger hydroxyl radical formation. Spectra are representative examples of four similar experiments.

References

1 *Chou DS, Hsiao G, Shen MY, Tsai YJ, Chen TF, Sheu JR*. ESR spin-trapping of a carbon-centered free radical from agonist-stimulated human platelets. Free Radic Biol Med 2005; 39: 237-48.