氧化膽固醇於血管內皮細胞誘發 COX-2 蛋白表現:氧化膽固醇與癌

症形成的關係

Cholesterol-3-beta,5-alpha,6-beta-triol induced cyclooxygenase-2 expression in endothelial cells:implication for carcinogenesis

中文摘要

氧化性的低密度脂蛋白(oxLDL)已被證實在粥狀動脈硬化的病理過程中扮演重要的角色。近年來的研究中,發現氧化性膽固醇(Oxysterols)為氧化性的低密度脂蛋白中主要的毒性成分。有關膽固醇氧化物會造成癌症的論點近年來也逐漸受到重視。然而,其確切的機轉到目前為止並不清楚。

氧化性膽固醇存在著許多不同的結構異構物以及擁有不同的生理活性。在許多不同形態的細胞上,許多氧化性膽固醇皆會產生顯著的毒性。我們已初步發現某些氧化性膽固醇 cholesterol-3 β ,5 α ,6 β -triol (α -Triol)會經由自由基的生成而誘導基因突變。許多證據顯示,致基因突變與致癌反應之間有著密不可分的關係。然而,有關於氧化性膽固醇與致基因突變與致癌作用相關性的研究,至今仍不明瞭。我們的初步研究發現,讓我們很有興趣地想接下去探討 cholesterol-3 β ,5 α ,6 β -triol (α -Triol)與致癌作用的相關性。

許多的證據支持了 COX-2 蛋白與癌化的相關性,多種惡性腫瘤細胞比正常細胞分泌過多的前列腺素(PGs),而此前列腺素(PGs)的增加則來自於 COX-2 蛋白的過度表現。

在人類的疾病中,氧化性膽固醇存在著許多不同的生理活性。因此,在我們的研究中,嘗試著去探討 α -Triol 在內皮細胞是否會誘發 COX-2 蛋白表現,首先,我們同時利用人類臍靜脈內皮細胞(HUVECs)與血管內皮細胞株(ECV-304 cells),來觀察 α -Triol 是否會誘發 COX-2 蛋白表現。在實驗結果中,我們發現 α -Triol 在人類臍靜脈內皮細胞(HUVECs)能誘發 COX-2 的蛋白表現,且呈現時間-效應與濃度-效應關係。在血管內皮細胞株(ECV-304 cells)上,同樣也發現COX-2 蛋白表現呈現濃度-效應關係。除了會誘發 COX-2 蛋白表現量增加,我們發現 α -Triol也會增加PGE2的生成。而由 α -Triol所造成PGE2的生成增加,可藉由前處理專一性的COX-2抑制劑,而減少生成量。 α -Triol在血管內皮細胞株(ECV-304 cells)上,會同時活化 p42/44,JNK,和 p38 MAPK的特異性蛋白抑制劑皆可有效地降低 COX-2 蛋白的生成。證實了 MAP kinase 磷酸化反應,包括 p-ERK、 p-JNK 和 p-p38 三條路徑,皆會對 COX-2 蛋白表現有調控的作用。此外,我們也發現了 α -Triol會活化 NF- κ B,藉由增加轉錄能力而調控 COX-2 蛋白表現。 α -Triol 在血管內皮細胞株(ECV-304 cells)上,會磷酸化 p-eNOS 1177 蛋白而造成 NO 生成量呈現濃度-效應反應的增加。專一性的 eNOS and AKT 抑制劑可減緩由 α -Triol 在血管內皮細胞株(ECV-304 cells)上,所誘發 COX-2 蛋白的過度表現。

總結,在我們的實驗結果中發現, α -Triol 在內皮細胞中所誘發 COX-2 蛋白的表現,需同時經由 MAPK 和 NF- κ B 的活化,以及牽涉到在訊息傳遞中扮演重要角色之 NO 的生成。這是過去

對於氧化膽固醇的研究中,從來沒有被發現以及探討的部份。希望藉由我們的研究發現,可提供關於氧化性膽固醇在人類可能誘發癌化作用的一個新的論點,以及開啓另一條對於氧化膽固醇的研究領域。

英文摘要

Oxidized low-density lipoproteins (oxLDL) are now believed to play an important role in the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis. Oxysterols, found in oxLDL particularly in LDL-, appear to account for most of the cytotoxicity produced by oxLDL in recent investigations. The contribution of cholesterol oxidation products to carcinogensis has been noticed for the past few years, however, the precise mechanisms still remain unclear.

Oxysterols have many different structures and possess diverse biological properties. Many oxysterols alone produce significant toxicity in a variety of cell types. In our preliminary study,we found that reactive oxygen species (ROS) were involved in cholesterol- 3β , 5α , 6β -triol (α -Triol)-induced genotoxicity. It was known that many mutagens also exert the effect of carcinogenesis. Studies on the role of oxygenated derivatives of cholesterol (oxysterols) in carcinogenesis and mutagenesis, which listed, are largely inconclusive. Our findings have raised the interest to further investigate the effect of α -Triol on carcinogenesis.

Multiple lines of compelling evidence supports that the enzyme of cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) plays a crucial role in carcinogenesis. Many human malignancies produce more prostaglandin (PGs) than normal tissues from which they arise. Increased synthesis of PGs in transformed cells and tumors can be a consequence of enhanced expression of cyclooxygenase-2.

In human diseases, oxysterols possess diverse biological properties. Therefore , in our study, we aimed to investigate if α -Triol can modulate COX-2 expression in endothelial cells. First , the effect of α -Triol on COX-2 expression in both human umbilical vein endothelial cells (HUVECs) and ECV-304 cell line was examined. We found a-Triol dose- and time-dependently enhanced COX-2 protein expression in HUVECs and ECV-304 cells. In addition,a-Triol increased the production of PGE2. Thea-Triol-dependent accumulation of PGE2 was attenuated by preincubation with COX-2 inhibitor(SC-791). The oxysterol activated p42/44 , JNK , and p38 MAPK in ECV-304 cells . The inhibitor of p42/44 , JNK , and p38 MAPK could effectively attenuate COX-2 induction, suggesting that MAPK pathway was involved in α -Triol-induced COX-2 expression. We also found that α -Triol may participate in NF- κ B activation , which in turn activates transcription of COX-2 production , α -Triol upregulated p-eNOS 1177 protein phosphorylation and dose-dependently increase nitric oxide expression in ECV-304 cells. The eNOS and AKT inhibitors abrogated

thea-Triol-induced COX-2 expression in ECV304 cells.

In conclusion, the results demonstrate that α -Triol can increase COX-2 protein expression in endothelial cells, this effect requires co-operation with MAPK and NF- κ B, and NO might play an important role in transducing the signal. Our findings also provide a new insight of oxysterols induced carcinogenesis in humans.