



Mechanism of Action of Nerve Growth Factor Induced Histamine Release from Mast Cells during the Inflammation Process

Ferjan I*

Institute of Pharmacology and Experimental Toxicology, Medical faculty of Ljubljana, Slovenia

*Corresponding author: Ilonka Ferjan, Institute of Pharmacology and Experimental Toxicology, Medical faculty of Ljubljana, Korytkova ulica 2, 1000, Ljubljana, Slovenia, Email: ilonka.ferjan@mf.uni-lj.si

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Abstract

Mast cells and the biogenic amine, histamine, play a central role in inflammatory reactions. Nerve growth factor (NGF) is essential for the survival of neurones and has significant role in inflammation and repair of tissues. It has been shown, that NGF induces degranulation of mast cells by interacting with tropomyosine-receptor kinase A (TrkA receptor). NGF can induce release of histamine and other mediators from mast cells or enhance secretion induced by different stimuli. The results of our and others previous studies show, that histamine release from mast cells induced by NGF is strongly dependent on the concentration of extracellular Na^+ , Ca^{2+} ions. The extracellular Na^+ ions can affect the activity of $\text{Na}^+/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ exchanger of mast cells. Na^+ , Ca^{2+} exchange mechanisms could be important in secretory process of mast cells. The studies of different signaling molecules in NGF induced histamine release have shown that tyrosine kinase, phosphatidylinositol-3-kinase, protein kinase C and phospholipase C are also involved in the signal transduction process responsible for NGF induced histamine secretion from mast cells. These data indicate that NGF may contribute in allergic reactions and many other inflammatory states.

Keywords: Nerve Growth Factor; Mast Cells; Histamine Release; Mechanism of Action

Abbreviations: NGF: Nerve Growth Factor; TrkA Receptor: Tyrosine Kinase A receptor.

Introduction

In the inflammation process, mast cells have a very important role. After the activation of mast cells, they release many mediators involved in the inflammation [1]. Biogenic amine, histamine, is one of the essential inflammatory mediator [2]. Nerve growth factor (NGF) is essential for the survival of neurones and has a significant role in inflammation and repair of tissues [3-5]. It has been shown, that the extracellular ionic composition influences the secretion process of mast cells [6]. The existence of $\text{Na}^+/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ exchanger on rat mast cell membrane has been demonstrated [7]. The action of Na^+ /

Ca^{2+} exchanger depends on the concentration of extracellular Na^+ and Ca^{2+} ions. $\text{Na}^+/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ exchanger of mast cells has been shown to be involved in the secretion of the inflammatory mediators [8]. Our previous studies have further shown that many enzymes (Tyrosine kinase, phosphatidylinositol-3-kinase, protein kinase C and phospholipase C and phosphatidylinositol-3-kinase) could also play a significant role in the secretory process [8].

The Role of Extracellular Na^+ and Ca^{2+} Ions in Histamine Release Process Induced by NGF

Extracellular Na^+ and Ca^{2+} ions play a crucial role in the secretion process of histamine induced by NGF [6,8]. The response is dependent on the presence of extracellular Ca^{2+}

ions and is enhanced with increasing concentration of Ca^{2+} ions in the medium. However, lowering extracellular Na^+ ions increases histamine release induced by NGF. In the medium containing low concentration of Ca^{2+} ions, removal of Na^+ ions from the medium further potentiates histamine release induced by NGF [6].

The Involvement of $\text{Na}^+/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ Exchanger in the Degranulation Process of Mast Cell

On mast cell membrane $\text{Na}^+\text{Ca}^{2+}$ exchanger has been demonstrated [7]. The extracellular Na^+ ions can affect the activity of $\text{Na}^+\text{Ca}^{2+}$ exchanger of mast cells. In physiological conditions the exchanger exchanges Ca^{2+} ions from the cell for Na^+ ions from the medium [9]. In the medium containing low concentrations of Na^+ ions, the reverse action of the exchanger can be activated, resulting in influx of Ca^{2+} ions from the medium into the cell [9]. The increased concentration of intracellular free Ca^{2+} ions leads to enhanced histamine release.

Inhibitor of $\text{Na}^+/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ exchanger, amiloride, reduces the potentiated histamine release under these conditions [8]. These data further shows the involvement of $\text{Na}^+/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ exchanger in the secretion process of histamine from mast cells [7,8].

The Regulation of Histamine Release from Mast Cells by Tyrosine Kinase, Phosphatidylinositol-3-kinase, Protein Kinase C and Phospholipase C

Our previous results have shown that tyrosine kinase, phosphatidylinositol-3-kinase, protein kinase C, phospholipase C and phosphatidylinositol-3-kinase are involved in the regulation of the mechanism of histamine release from mast cells [8]. These enzymes play a significant role in the signal transduction pathway involved in the NGF induced histamine release [10]. These data indicate the importance of NGF in many states that are involved in mast cell activation. NGF may contribute in asthma and many other allergic reactions [11].

Conclusion

- Histamine release induced by NGF is dependent on the presence of extracellular Na^+ and Ca^{2+} ions [6,13].
- Extracellular Na^+ and Ca^{2+} ions regulate the activity of $\text{Na}^+/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ exchanger of mast cells [7,8]. The influx of Ca^{2+} ions from the medium into the cell leads to the increased concentration of intracellular free Ca^{2+} ions which enhances histamine release from mast cells.
- Many enzymes (tyrosine kinase, phosphatidylinositol-3-kinase, protein kinase C, phospholipase C and phosphatidylinositol-3-kinase) are involved in the

mechanism of histamine release induced by NGF [8,14].

- In addition to neurotrophic activity of NGF, it plays a crucial role in stimulation of various inflammatory cells [12], including mast cells [14]. Therefore it can contribute to many allergic reactions and various other inflammatory states.

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