

Comparison of Nitric Oxide (NO) Production in the Tissue Following Hemorrhagic Invasion and Endotoxin Administration in Rats in Relation to the Pathogenesis of Traumatic DIC

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Previously we confirmed the onset of DIC following hemorrhagic invasion in the rat, and at that time we noticed that nitric oxide (NO) production in the tissue increased rapidly and reached a peak in the early stage. This suggested that the increase in NO production would serve as an indicator for diagnosis of DIC. In the present study, we investigated the NO production in the tissue following hemorrhagic invasion in the rat, in comparison with the rat following endotoxin administration.

Rats under pentobarbital anesthesia were used. After laparotomy, NO-selective electrode was placed in the kidney for real time recording of NO production in the tissue. The onset of DIC following both hemorrhagic invasion (bleeding of 30% of the predetermined total blood volume) and endotoxin administration (LPS, *E. coli*, 10 mg/kg iv) was confirmed from the changes in the coagulation-fibrinolytic system, cytokine levels in the blood and histopathological findings. NO production in the tissue following hemorrhagic invasion increased rapidly and reached a peak within 1 hr after bleeding. On the contrary, NO production following endotoxin administration was not observed entirely at an early stage, but it began to increase gradually 2 to 3 hr after the administration and reached a peak after 4 to 6 hr. The electron spin resonance (ESR) analysis was performed on the kidney tissues from rats underwent hemorrhagic invasion or endotoxin administrations using N-(dithiocarboxy) sarcosine, disodium salt, hydrate (DTCS Na) as a NO trapping agent. These tissues showed typical ESR signal of NO-Fe-DTCS. NO production following hemorrhagic invasion was not affected by the selective iNOS inhibitor, S-methylisothiourea (SMT, 5 mg/kg iv), and inhibited by the non-selective NOS inhibitor, N^G-monomethyl-L-arginine (L-NMMA, 50 mg/kg iv), which strongly suggested that it was due to cNOS. On the contrary, NO production following endotoxin administration was inhibited clearly by SMT and L-NMMA, which strongly suggested that it was mainly due to iNOS. Thus, the difference in the processes of NO production in the tissue following hemorrhagic invasion and endotoxin administration were confirmed, while their correlation to pathological manifestations of DIC in detail is remained to investigate further.

Introduction

Patients with a serious trauma frequently exhibit coagulation-fibrinolytic system abnormalities and occasionally develop disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC). The pathological manifestations of DIC vary according to the primary diseases on the basis of very complicated pathophysiology¹⁾. Although early diagnosis and early treatment are desirable particularly for DIC following a trauma, the mechanism of development of DIC still includes many unknown pathogenic factors, such as the time when the pathological state of trauma changes to DIC.

To investigate the pathogenesis of DIC experimentally, rats were first subjected to hemorrhagic invasion, i.e., the main pathological state following trauma, and the onset of DIC was identified in terms of changes in the coagulation-fibrinolytic system, serum cytokine levels, and histopathological findings in those rats²⁾. At that time, it was noticed that nitric oxide (NO) production in the tissue increased obviously in the early stage and the increase lasted for hours. This suggested that the increase in NO production could serve as an indicator for early diagnosis of DIC²⁾.

In the present study, we investigated the progress of NO production in the tissue following hemorrhagic invasion and analyzed the mechanism of NO production using NO synthetase (NOS) inhibitors in rats, comparing with rats following endotoxin administration, which has been used as an experimental animal model of DIC.

Materials and Methods

The control and treatment of experimental animals for this study was approved by the Institutional Committee of Fukui Medical University.

1. Effects of hemorrhagic invasion

Male Sprague-Dawley rats weighing from 350 to 450 g were purchased from Japan Claer (Jcl: SD Retire, Nihon Kurea Inc., Shiga, Japan). The animals were anesthetized with sodium pento-

barbital (50 mg/kg ip). A polyethylene tube (SP 45, Natsume Co., Tokyo, Japan) was inserted in the carotid artery for bleeding and blood sampling. For hemorrhagic invasion, 30% of the predetermined total blood volume (equivalent to 8 % of the body weight) was bled through the carotid artery catheter over 15 min³⁾. Blood was sampled at 4 to 6 hr and 24 hr following hemorrhagic invasion, and the blood coagulation-fibrinolytic system activity and cytokine levels were determined.

For assessment of the coagulation-fibrinolytic activity, the platelet count (electric resistance method), fibrin/fibrinogen-degradation product (FDP; FDP-E, MBL Co., Nagoya, Japan), plasma fibrinogen (cyanmethemoglobin method) and antithrombin III (ATIII; spectrophotometry with coupler, SATIII, Daiichi-Kagaku Yakuhin, Tokyo, Japan) were determined. As for cytokines, interleukin-8 (IL-8; EIA method PRF081, Panapharm Laboratories Co., Kumamoto, Japan) and tumor necrosis factor (TNF; rat TNF- α ELISA kit, Biosource International Inc. Camarillo, Cal., USA) levels were determined.

After the end of the experiment, the kidneys, lung, liver and intestines were isolated, fixed in 10 % formalin solution and stored. Thin tissue sections were stained by hematoxylin-eosin (HE) and by phosphotungstic acid hematoxylin (PTAH) for fibrin and then examined histopathologically.

2. Effects of endotoxin administration

Rats administered with endotoxin (LPS, *E. coli*, 10 mg/kg iv; DIFCO Laboratories, Detroit, Mich., USA) have been frequently used as an experimental animal model for DIC⁴⁾, and were used as the controls for the hemorrhagic invasion animals in the present experiment. Blood sampling was carried out at time intervals, and the coagulation-fibrinolytic system activity and cytokines levels were measured, as done for the hemorrhagic invasion group. Isolation of the organs and histopa-

thological examination after the experiment were also conducted in a similar manner.

3. Comparison of NO production in the kidney tissue and the mechanism of NO production following hemorrhagic invasion and endotoxin administration

1) Measurement with an NO-selective electrode (ϕ 200 μ m, Intermedical Inc., Nagoya, Japan)⁵⁾

Under anesthesia with pentobarbital, the rats underwent a laparotomy and polyethylene tube was inserted in the carotid artery. An NO-selective electrode was introduced into the outer capsule of the kidney and fixed. The NO electrode was connected to an NO measuring instrument (NO-501, Intermedical Inc., Nagoya, Japan)⁵⁾ and real-time measurement of NO production was conducted.

The chronological changes in NO production over a period of 4 to 6 hr after the hemorrhagic invasion were continuously measured, using the records prior to hemorrhagic invasion and endotoxin administration as the controls.

2) Examination using electron spin resonance (ESR)

After the sampling of blood at 4 to 6 hr following the hemorrhagic invasion or endotoxin administration, the kidney was isolated and immediately stored in a refrigerator at -70°C . The samples (0.25 g) were homogenized in 500 μ l of 14 mM FeSO_4 , 40 mM N-(dithiocarboxy) sarcosine (DTCS, DOJIN Chem. Inst. Co., Kumamoto, Japan) for the subsequent ESR analysis. ESR was measured within 5 min. ESR spectra of the spin-trapped radicals were recorded on a X-band spectrometer (RE3XR model, JEOL Co. Ltd., Tokyo, Japan) at a modulation amplitude; 0.079 mT, time constant; 0.01 sec, scan speed; 0.083 mT/s⁵⁾.

3) Analysis of the mechanism of NO production with NOS inhibitors

There are two NOS isoforms: constitutive NOS

(cNOS), which exists in the endothelial cells and nerve tissues and is Ca^{2+} -dependent⁷⁾ and inducible NOS (iNOS) which is induced in the macrophages, neutrophils, endothelial cells, liver, lungs, etc by proinflammatory cytokines and endotoxin and is Ca^{2+} -independent⁷⁾. The mechanism of NO production in the rat tissue following hemorrhagic invasion and endotoxin administration was investigated using a selective iNOS inhibitor S-methylisothiourea (SMT) and a non-selective NOS inhibitor N^G -monomethyl-L-arginine (L-NMMA).

4. Statistical analysis

All measurement values are expressed as mean \pm SEM (standard error of the mean). For testing of a significance of differences between the groups, analysis of variance (ANOVA) was first carried out using the F-test. After the uniformity was confirmed, the difference in the mean value was tested using Student's t-test with no correspondence. $p < 0.05$ was considered to indicate a significant difference.

Results

1. Onset of DIC in the rats following hemorrhagic invasion and endotoxin administration

The changes in the coagulation-fibrinolytic system activity and blood cytokine concentrations following hemorrhagic invasion are shown in Tables 1 and 2. Significantly decreased platelet count, significantly increased FDP, and significantly increased IL-8 and TNF levels strongly suggested the onset of DIC⁸⁾. Histopathological examinations at 4 to 6 hr after treatment revealed fibrin thrombus in the kidney and lung tissues, tubular necrosis in the kidneys, intra-alveolar hemorrhage, and hemorrhage in the hepatic parenchymal cells (Fig. 1). The onset of DIC was identified based on these findings¹⁾⁹⁾.

Significantly decreased platelet count, significantly increased FDP, and significantly increased IL-8 and TNF levels were also noted in the endo-

Table 1 Changes in the platelet count and coagulation-fibrinolytic system

Coagulofibrinolytic system	Control	Hemorrhage			Endotoxin	
		4 ~ 6h	24h	n	4 ~ 6h	n
Plt ($10^3/\mu\text{l}$)	90.30 ± 1.55	$70.22 \pm 2.34^{**}$	$71.21 \pm 4.47^*$	21	$21.16 \pm 5.99^{**}$	14
FDP ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	< 5	> 40 ^{**}	> 40 ^{**}	21	> 40 ^{**}	11
Fibr (mg/dl)	134.89 ± 4.09	$182.00 \pm 19.44^*$	$215.33 \pm 29.88^*$	16	$38.81 \pm 12.89^*$	11
AT III (mg/dl)	103.68 ± 3.04	111.87 ± 8.59	134.44 ± 11.51	16	$62.09 \pm 4.56^{**}$	11

Changes in the platelet count and coagulation-fibrinolytic system after hemorrhagic invasion and endotoxin administration in the rat. Plt : platelet, FDP : fibrin/fibrinogen degradation products, Fibr : fibrinogen, AT III : antithrombin III, n : number of experimental animals. The values are expressed as the mean \pm SEM, * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, significantly different from the control.

Table 2 Changes in the blood cytokine levels

Cytokine	Control	Hemorrhage			Endotoxin	
		4 ~ 6h	24h	n	4 ~ 6h	n
IL8 (ng/ml)	0.22 ± 0.88	$0.78 \pm 0.84^*$	$0.09 \pm 0.01^{**}$	8	$1.52 \pm 0.69^*$	8
TNF (pg/ml)	< 16.0	$21.14 \pm 3.38^*$	$20.14 \pm 3.03^*$	8	$536.56 \pm 5.64^{**}$	11

Changes in the blood levels of interleukin-8 (IL-8) and tumor necrosis factor (TNF), after hemorrhagic invasion and endotoxin administration in the rat. n : number of experimental animals. The values are expressed as the mean \pm SEM, * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, significantly different from the control.

toxin administration group, which strongly suggested the onset of DIC (Tables 1 and 2). Furthermore, histopathological examinations at 4 to 6 hr after treatment also revealed fibrin thrombus in kidney and lung tissues, tubular necrosis in the kidneys, intra-alveolar hemorrhage, and hemorrhage in the hepatic parenchymal cells (Fig. 2). These findings together with the above-mentioned findings demonstrated the onset of DIC.

2. NO production in the kidney tissue

1) Measurement with an NO-selective electrode

Figure 3 shows the chronological changes in NO production with an NO-selective electrode placed in the renal tissue in the hemorrhagic invasion and endotoxin administration groups. NO production following hemorrhagic invasion increased early, reaching a peak within 1 hr after bleeding, and this increased state was maintained. On the contrary, no NO production was observed at the early stage following endotoxin administration, but NO production increased

slowly at approximately 2 to 3 hr after treatment and attained a peak at 4 to 6 hr, and this state was maintained (Fig. 3). When the NO spin trapping agent DTCS (40 mM 0.3 ml/animal ip) was administered at the peak of NO production, NO production decreased quickly in both the hemorrhagic invasion and endotoxin administration groups, thus, NO production being identified (Fig. 3).

2) Examination of ESR signals

The renal tissue isolated at 4 to 6 hr after the hemorrhagic invasion or endotoxin administration was homogenized with 70 mM FeSO_4 solution, and the supernatant was examined for ESR signal using the NO radical spin trapping agent DTCS. An ESR signal (three peaks) of NO-Fe-DTCS radical complex ($g = 2.040$; $a_N = 1.27$ mT) was detected in the sample solution of the kidney tissues in both the hemorrhagic invasion and endotoxin administration groups (Fig. 4). In the control without hemorrhagic invasion and endotoxin administration, the ESR signal of NO-Fe-DTCS

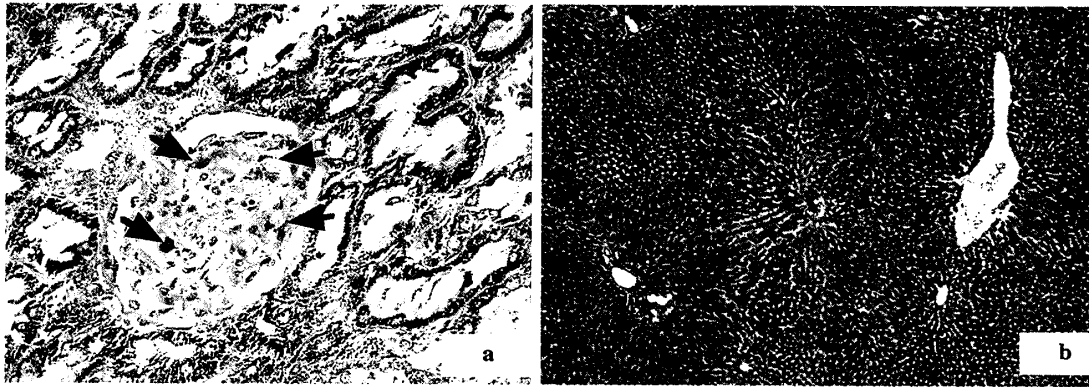


Fig. 1

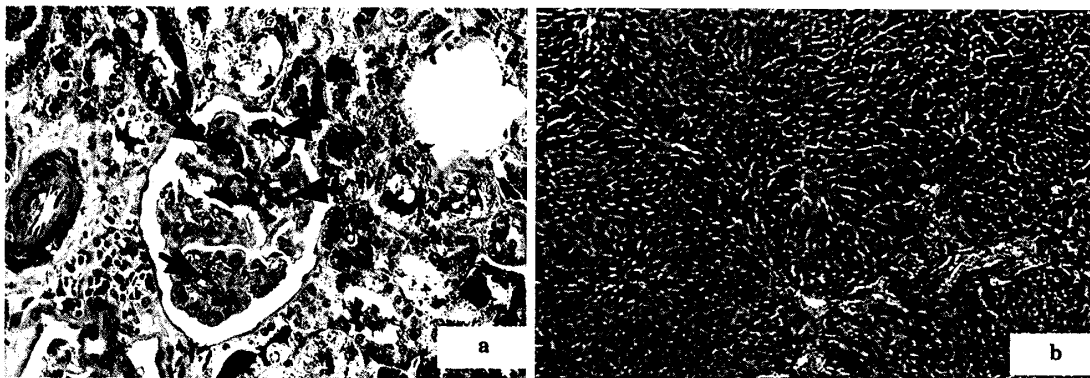
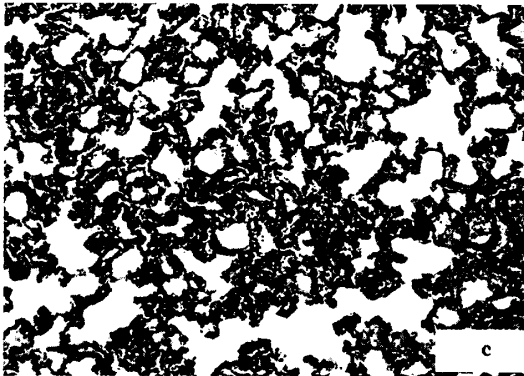


Fig. 2

Fig. 1 The histopathological findings at 6 hr after hemorrhage
a: kidney (PTAH stain $\times 80$), b: liver (HE stain $\times 20$), c: lung (HE stain $\times 40$). Arrows indicate fibrin thrombi.

Fig. 2 The histopathological findings at 6 hr after endotoxin administration
a: kidney (PTAH stain $\times 80$), b: liver (HE stain $\times 20$), c: lung (HE stain $\times 40$). Arrows indicate fibrin thrombi.

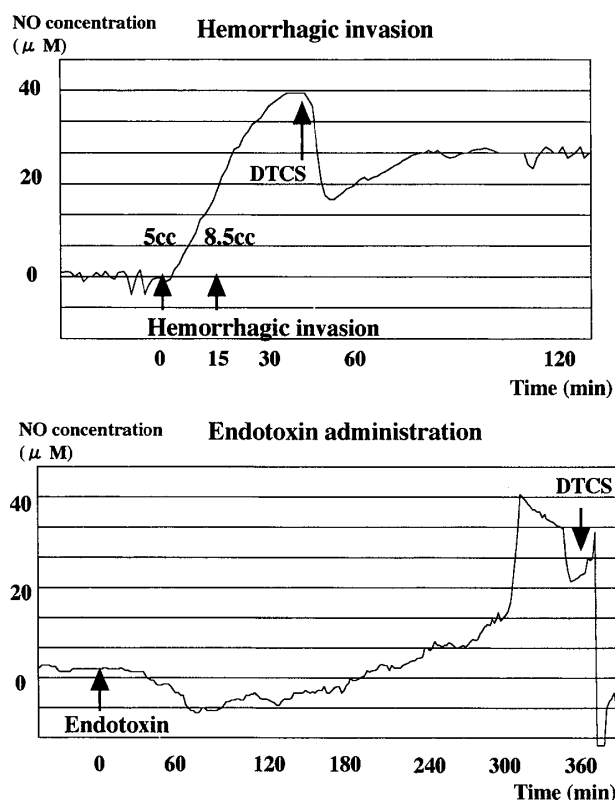


Fig. 3 Measurement of NO production in the renal tissue with NO-selective electrode

A difference in time course of NO production between hemorrhagic invasion and endotoxin administration was observed. The increased NO production recordings exhibited a drop promptly after administration of NO trapping agent DTCS (a typical recording).

was not detected (Fig. 4).

3) Investigation of the mechanism of NO production using NOS inhibitors

We investigated the effects of selective iNOS inhibitor, SMT (5 mg/kg iv), and non-selective NOS inhibitor for iNOS and cNOS, L-NMMA (50 mg/kg iv), on NO production in the tissue. Application of SMT at the time of increased NO level with the NO-selective electrode in the hemorrhagic invasion group had little effect on NO production. Application of L-NMMA, however, led to a clear decline in NO level (decrease rate = decrease in NO level induced by NOS inhibitor / NO level before NOS inhibitor application, $28.87 \pm 6.85\%$, $n = 6$, Fig. 5). NO level decreased follow-

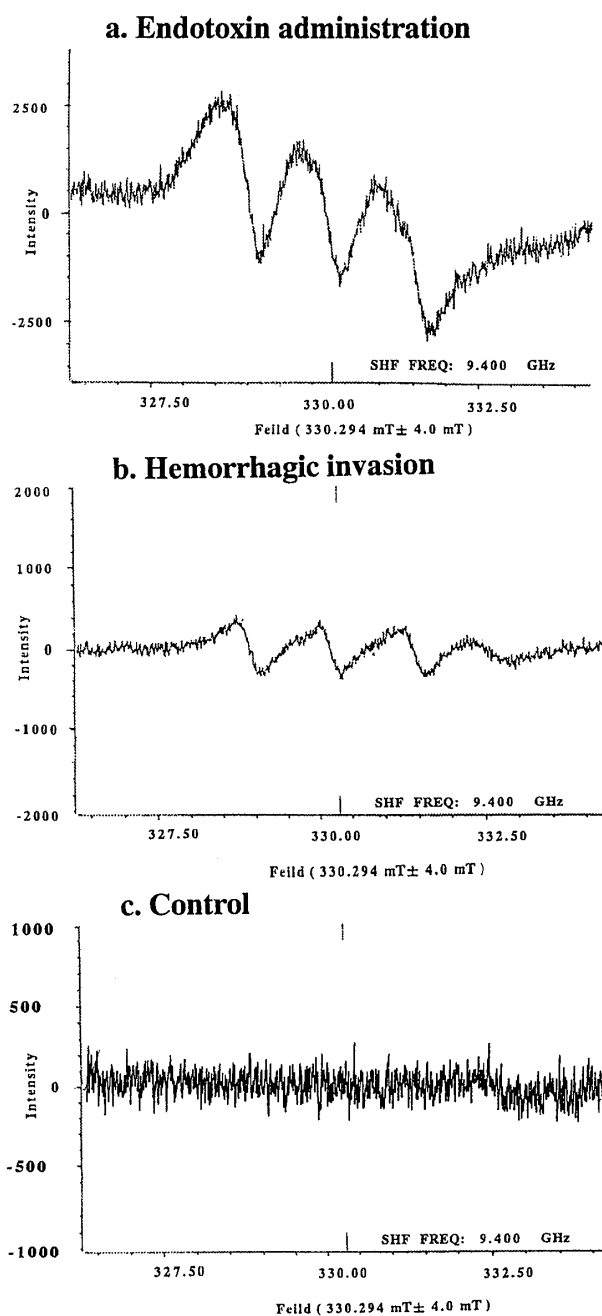


Fig. 4 ESR signal in the renal tissue

An ESR signal (three peaks) of NO-Fe-DTCS radical complex was demonstrated in the sample solutions of renal tissues after endotoxin administration and hemorrhagic invasion (a and b). In the control without endotoxin administration and hemorrhagic invasion, the ESR signal was not detected (c). Moduration width: 0.79×0.1 mT, Modulation frequency: 100 kHz, Time constant: 0.01 sec.

ing application of SMT in the endotoxin administration group (decreas rate = $18.80 \pm 5.66\%$, $n = 4$) with further decrease following application of

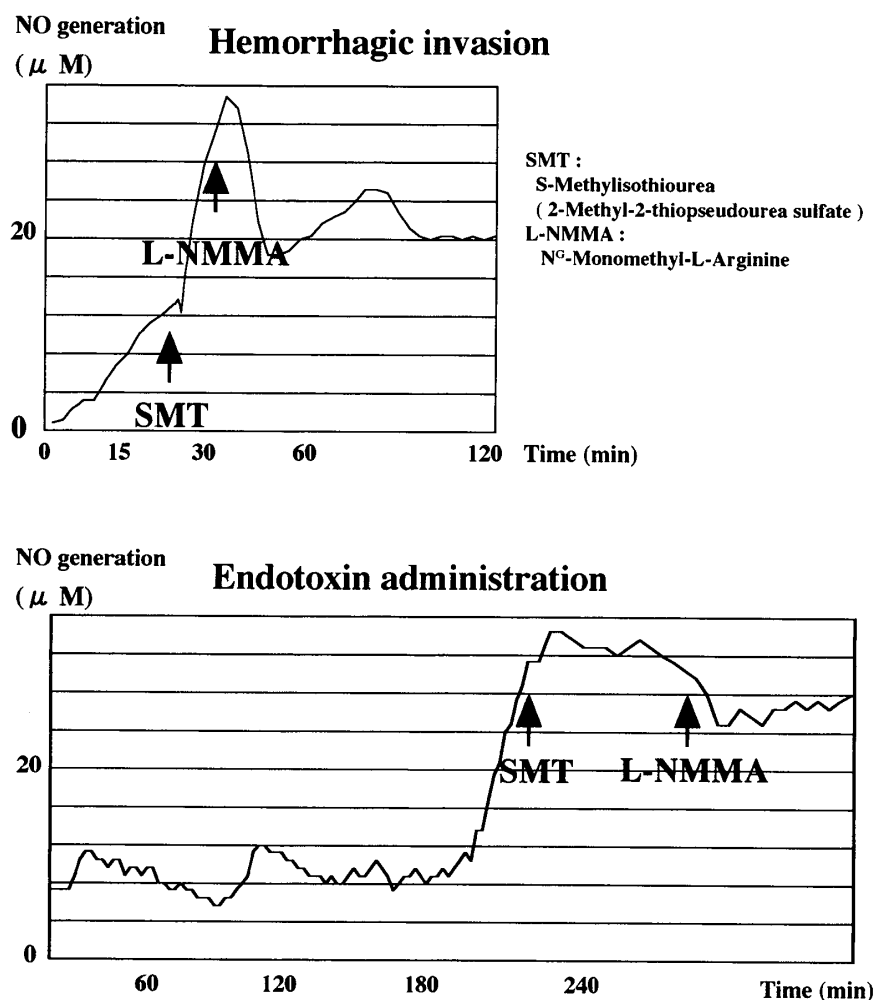


Fig. 5 Effects of application of NOS inhibitors on NO production in the renal tissue
The early increase of NO production after hemorrhagic invasion and the late increase after endotoxin administration are thought to be due to cNOS and iNOS, respectively.
SMT: S-methylisothiurea, L-NMMA: N^G -monomethyl-L-arginine

L-NMMA (decrease rate = $11.39 \pm 2.21\%$, $n = 4$, Fig. 5).

Discussion

1. Onset of DIC and NO production in the tissue under various invasions

It was possible to identify the onset of DIC from the findings, such as the increased coagulation-fibrinolytic system activity⁸⁾ and the resultant histopathological findings⁹⁾ in the hemorrhagic invasion and endotoxin administration rat groups. Increased inflammatory cytokine levels were also identified. The cytokines released from the monocytes activated by various invasions act on the endothelial cells to release tissue factor

and induce activation of the exogenous coagulation system, and moreover, inhibit the protein C-protein S coagulation inhibition system via down regulation of thrombomodulin production as well as production and release of plasminogen activator inhibitor type 1, leading to amplification of coagulation^{10)~13)}. The cytokines further activate the neutrophils and macrophages to induce the release of esterase and free radicals including active oxygen, NO, etc, and these result in tissue injuries and affect the coagulation-fibrinolytic system^{11)~16)}. In the present experiment, the time course of NO production was recorded with an NO-selective electrode placed in the tissue.

2. NO production under invasions

NO production in the tissue was observed in both the hemorrhagic invasion and endotoxin administration groups, but there was a marked difference in the chronological change of NO production between the two groups. Records with an NO-selective electrode placed in the kidney tissue showed that NO production increased early following hemorrhagic invasion, reaching a peak at 30 to 60 min after invasion with a gradual decrease thereafter, but this increased NO production was maintained until a few hours later. For the endotoxin administration group, however, NO production showed no increase at the early stage, with a tendency to increase slowly at 2 to 3 hr after treatment. This tendency to increase gradually continued until NO production reached a peak at 4 to 6 hr, showing a great increase. Application of NO radical spin trapping agent DTCS at the peak in the respective groups led to a rapid decline in NO level, and consequently, NO production was ascertained. In ESR on the renal tissue using DTCS as well, ESR signal typical of NO was detected (Fig. 4). We attributed the aforementioned difference in the chronological changes of NO production between the hemorrhagic invasion and endotoxin administration groups to the different mechanisms of NO production. NO production was investigated using NOS inhibitors.

1) NO production following hemorrhagic invasion

The increased NO production early following hemorrhagic invasion was little affected by the selective iNOS inhibitor SMT but was clearly inhibited by L-NMMA, an inhibitor having almost equal affinities for iNOS and cNOS (Fig. 5). Consequently it was strongly suggested that this early NO production was attributed mainly to activation of cNOS, while iNOS does not participate in it.

It has been demonstrated that iNOS was induced by cytokines released at the invasion, and that peripheral circulatory failure was caused by this NO production because this peripheral circulatory failure was improved following administration of cytokine antagonists^{17)~19)}. There have been some reports on NO production observed in the early stages of hemorrhagic invasion as well²⁰⁾²¹⁾. Early NO production was attributed to cNOS for the following reasons: a) complete recovery from vascular hyporeactivity to catecholamines at the early stages of hemorrhagic shock was achieved following administration of non-selective NOS inhibitor L-NMMA, but the vascular hyporeactivity was not affected by dexamethasone which inhibits iNOS induction²⁰⁾, b) no iNOS can be demonstrated in various organs, including the lung, liver, aorta, etc, at 60 min after the hemorrhage, a time when near-maximal vascular hyporeactivity is already present²¹⁾.

The mechanism of early NO production was assumed to be as follows: catecholamines, vasopressin, angiotensin II, platelet agglutinating factor (PAF) released into the blood at an early stage of hemorrhagic shock were transferred by blood and activated cNOS via intimal receptors to produce NO²¹⁾. Another opinion proposed that ischemia induced in the local microcirculation by some invasions provoke Ca^{2+} influx in the cell membrane, thus increasing the intracellular Ca^{2+} , activate cNOS in the endothelial cells, and produce NO²²⁾.

In any case, however, we consider this report to be the first to demonstrate that early NO production in the tissue following hemorrhagic invasion was attributed to cNOS by the real-time recording of the progress of NO production in the tissue.

2) NO production following endotoxin administration

NO production was not observed at the early

stage following endotoxin administration in the present experiment. NO production increased gradually 2 to 3 hr after treatment and markedly at 4 to 6 hr, reaching a peak, and tended to decrease gradually thereafter. Application of SMT at this peak led to a clear reduction in NO level; and NO level then further decreased following application of L-NMMA (Fig. 5). These findings suggested that NO production was ascribable to iNOS.

Induction of iNOS following endotoxin administration has been reported to take several hours after administration²³⁾, but there have been a few reports on NO production by cNOS activation early after administration. That is, it has been reported that administration of endotoxin to rats under anesthesia led to hypotension at 5 to 20 min after treatment, which was prevented or reversed by NOS inhibitors²⁴⁾²⁵⁾. Dexamethasone, which blocks iNOS induction by endotoxin in vitro and in vivo, did not change the vascular hyporeactivity to norepinephrine early (at 60 min) after endotoxin administration²⁶⁾. Since recovery from this vascular hyporeactivity early after endotoxin administration was achieved with L-NMMA application, the vascular hyporeactivity has been reported to be due to NO production resulting from cNOS activation²⁷⁾²⁸⁾. Regarding these findings, a theory that several mediators released by endotoxin were involved in the mechanism of early cNOS activation has been proposed. That is, it has been assumed that endotoxin released bradykinin²⁹⁾, PAF³⁰⁾, catecholamines, 5-hydroxytryptamine, angiotensin II, and histamine³¹⁾, which stimulated the endothelium to release NO²¹⁾.

On the other hand, it has been described that early hypotension following administration of endotoxin to rats was not inhibited by NOS inhibitor but was attributed to a mechanism other than NO production³²⁾. Another argument went that

PAF released by endotoxin activated cNOS in the endothelial cells to produce NO³³⁾. However, inhibition of PAF increase by dexamethasone was inconsistent with that cNOS activation was not inhibited by dexamethasone³⁴⁾. Moreover, depression of the vascular reactivity induced by endotoxin was not prevented by a PAF antagonist³⁵⁾. Arachidonic acid metabolites such as prostacycline is released by endotoxin and induces depression of the vascular reactivity, and the vascular reactivity induced by endotoxin was prevented by an inhibitor of cyclooxygenase or arachidonic acid metabolite synthetase. These findings suggested the involvement of arachidonic acid metabolites as well³⁶⁾.

NO production induced by iNOS at the late stages following endotoxin administration has been established. Concerning early NO production resulting from cNOS activation, however, there have been some negative views as mentioned above, and the differences in the experimental conditions had something to do with these discrepancies.

It was shown in the present study that there was no early NO production following endotoxin administration and that NO production in the late stage was mainly due to induction of iNOS based on the real time NO recording obtained through the NO-selective electrode set in the kidney tissue.

Thus, the differences in the processes of NO production in the tissue following hemorrhagic invasion and endotoxin administration were confirmed. Pathological manifestations of DIC vary according to the primary diseases. The correlation of these differences in the NO production following invasions with pathological manifestations of DIC in detail is remained to investigate further.

Conclusions

1. Assessment of changes in the coagulation-fibrinolytic system activity and blood cytokine

levels and histopathological findings following hemorrhagic invasion in rats made it possible to identify the onset of DIC. NO production in the kidney tissue following hemorrhagic invasion was examined with the NO-selective electrode, in comparison with the endotoxin administration rat group.

2. NO production in the tissue following hemorrhagic invasion increased early and attained a peak in the early stage. Following endotoxin administration, however, NO production showed no increase at the early stages, and gradually increased at 2 to 3 hr, reaching a peak at 4 to 6 hr. The NO production following both invasions was confirmed by ESR investigation of kidney tissue using trapping agent DTCS.

3. Early NO production following hemorrhagic invasion was not affected by the selective iNOS inhibitor, SMT, but was inhibited by the non-selective NOS inhibitor, L-NMMA. This strongly suggested that mainly cNOS induced the increased NO production. As for the endotoxin administration group, however, NO production was clearly inhibited by SMT and by L-NMMA. It was also strongly suggested that the increased NO production was induced mainly by iNOS.

4. Thus, the differences in the processes of NO production in the tissue following hemorrhagic invasion and endotoxin administration were confirmed. However, their correlation with pathological manifestations of DIC in detail is remained to investigate further.

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外傷性 DIC の病態発生との関連におけるラットの出血性侵襲 およびエンドトキシン適用後の組織 NO 産生の比較

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先に、ラットにおいて出血性侵襲後の DIC の発症を確認し、その際組織一酸化窒素 (NO) 産生の早期の増加を認めた。これは、NO 産生の増加は DIC の早期診断の指標としての可能性を示唆した。今回の研究では、ラットにおける出血性侵襲後の組織 NO 産生を、エンドトキシン適用後のラットと比較しながら検討した。Pentobarbital 麻酔下のラットを用いた。開腹の後、腎に NO 選択性電極を設置して組織 NO 産生をリアルタイムで記録した。ラットにおいて出血性侵襲 (推定全血量の 30% 量の放血) およびエンドトキシン投与 (LPS, *E. coli*, 10 mg/kg iv) により、凝固線溶系、血中サイトカインレベルおよび組織病理学的所見から、DIC の発症を確認した。出血性侵襲後の NO 産生は、早期 (侵襲後 1 hr 以内) に速やかに増加してピークに達した。これに対し、エンドトキシン投与後の NO 産生は、早期には全く認められず、2~3 hr 後より緩徐な増加が認められるようになり、4~6 hr 後にピークに達した。出血性侵襲およびエンドトキシン投与後の N-(dithiocarboxy)sarcosine, disodium salt, dihydrate (DTCS Na) を用いた電子スピン共鳴スペクトラム分析 (ESR) により NO-Fe-DTCS のシグナルを検出した。出血性侵襲による早期の NO 産生は選択的 iNOS 阻害剤 S-methylisothiourea (SMT, 5 mg/kg iv) では殆ど影響をうけず、非選択的 NOS 阻害剤 N^G-monomethyl-L-arginine (L-NMMA, 50 mg/kg iv) により抑制され、cNOS の活性化によるものであり、iNOS の関与のないことが強く示唆された。これに対し、エンドトキシン投与による後期の NO 産生は SMT および L-NMMA の添加により抑制され、主として iNOS の誘導によることが強く示唆された。かくして、出血性侵襲およびエンドトキシン適用後の組織 NO 産生の過程の差異が確認された。これらと DIC の病態との詳細な関連性は今後の検討に残されている。