Hypersensitivity to Thromboxane Receptor Mediated Cerebral Vasomotion and CBF Oscillations during Acute NO-Deficiency in Rats

Béla Horváth1,2,*, Gábor Lenzsér1,3,*, Balázs Benyó4, Tamás Németh1, Rita Benkő1, András Iring1, Péter Hermán1,5, Katalin Komjáti1, Zsombor Lacza1, Péter Sándor1, Zoltán Benyó1

1 Institute of Human Physiology and Clinical Experimental Research, Semmelweis University, Budapest, Hungary, 2 National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, United States of America, 3 Department of Neurosurgery, University of Pécs, Pécs, Hungary, 4 Department of Control Engineering and Information Technology, Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Budapest, Hungary, 5 Department of Diagnostic Radiology, Magnetic Resonance Research Center, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, United States of America

Abstract

Background: Low frequency (4–12 cpm) spontaneous fluctuations of the cerebrovascular tone (vasomotion) and oscillations of the cerebral blood flow (CBF) have been reported in diseases associated with endothelial dysfunction. Since endothelium-derived nitric oxide (NO) suppresses constitutively the release and vascular effects of thromboxane A2 (TXA2), NO-deficiency is often associated with activation of thromboxane receptors (TP). In the present study we hypothesized that in the absence of NO, overactivation of the TP-receptor mediated cerebrovascular signaling pathway contributes to the development of vasomotion and CBF oscillations.

Methodology/Principal Findings: Effects of pharmacological modulation of TP-receptor activation and its downstream signaling pathway have been investigated on CBF oscillations (measured by laser-Doppler flowmetry in anesthetized rats) and vasomotion (measured by isometric tension recording in isolated rat middle cerebral arteries, MCAs) both under physiological conditions and after acute inhibition of NO synthesis. Administration of the TP-receptor agonist U-46619 (1 μg/kg iv.) to control animals failed to induce any changes of the systemic or cerebral circulatory parameters. Inhibition of the NO synthesis by nitro-L-arginine methyl ester (L-NAME, 100 mg/kg iv.) resulted in increased mean arterial blood pressure and a decreased CBF accompanied by appearance of CBF-oscillations with a dominant frequency of 148 ± 2 mHz. U-46619 significantly augmented the CBF-oscillations induced by L-NAME while inhibition of endogenous TXA2 synthesis by ozaqrel (10 mg/kg iv.) attenuated it. In isolated MCAs U-46619 in a concentration of 100 nM, which induced weak and stable contraction under physiological conditions and after acute inhibition of NO, evoked sustained vasomotion in the absence of NO, which effect could be completely reversed by inhibition of Rho-kinase by 10 μM Y-27632.

Conclusion/Significance: These results suggest that hypersensitivity of the TP-receptor – Rho-kinase signaling pathway contributes to the development of low frequency cerebral vasomotion which may propagate to vasospasm in pathophysiological states associated with NO-deficiency.

Introduction

Low frequency (4–12 cpm) fluctuations of the cerebral oxygen availability in mammals were reported for the first time by Davis and Bronk in 1957 [1] and confirmed later in primates including humans (for review see: [2]). These fluctuations are termed “spontaneous” to indicate their independence of cardiac or respiratory cycles. In 1981 Dóra and Kováč [3] observed similar oscillations in cerebrocortical NADH fluorescence, which lagged by 2 sec behind the cortical vascular volume suggesting that the vascular event initiated the metabolic one. The concept that the low frequency metabolic oscillations of the brain are induced primarily by vascular changes and consequent variations of the cerebral blood flow (CBF) is also supported by observations on isolated cerebral vessels showing vasomotion in vitro [4–5]. Renewed interest in CBF oscillations was generated by human studies using laser-Doppler flowmetry [6–7], transcranial Doppler sonography [8], functional MRI [9] and near infrared spectroscopy [10].
Increased vasomotional activity, reflected by enhanced CBF oscillations has been reported in subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH) before the onset of cerebral vasospasm and during the recovery from it [11]. This may indicate that overactivation of the mechanism(s) responsible for vasomotion may also participate in the pathogenesis of spastic vascular smooth muscle contractions and, consequently, increased vasomotional activity may predict the development of acute vasospasm. Contrary to this process, vasodilation (induced by hypercapnia or volatile anesthetics) promptly and reversibly suspends low frequency CBF oscillations [12–13] and the cerebrovascular endothelium also suppresses vasomotion by releasing nitric oxide (NO) [2]. In accordance, enhanced CBF oscillations have been reported in pathophysiological states associated with decreased bioavailability of NO, such as SAH [11], traumatic brain injury [14] and hypertension [15].

Previous studies on isolated cerebral arteries implicated the thromboxane pathway in the changes of vascular functions following NO synthase (NOS) inhibition [5,16–17]. This interaction is particularly interesting in the light of recent observations indicating that in NO-deficiency other prostanoids (e.g. prostacyclin) may also induce vascular smooth muscle effects via activation of the thromboxane (TP) receptor [18] and cerebrovascular expression of TP-receptors is enhanced after SAH [19]. In the present study we hypothesized that in the absence of NO hypersensitivity of the cerebrovascular TP-receptor mediated signaling pathway contributes to the enhanced vasomotion and blood flow oscillations in the cerebral cortex.

Methods

The experiments were performed in adult male Wistar rats (300–400 g) according to the guidelines of the Hungarian Law of Animal Protection (243/1988) and all procedures were approved by the Semmelweis University Committee on the Ethical Use of Experimental Animals (590/99 Rh). The animals were anesthetized with urethane (1.5 g/kg intraperitoneally), the depth of anesthesia was regularly controlled during the experiments by checking the corneal or plantar nociception reflex and additional anesthesia was administered intravenously (iv.) as necessary. The animals were spontaneously breathing through an intra-tracheal cannula. Catheters were inserted into both femoral arteries (for systemic arterial blood pressure measurement and for blood sampling) and into the left femoral vein (for drug administration). Body temperature was kept constant between 36–38°C with a controlled heating pad.

Systemic arterial pressure was recorded continuously on a polygraph (Model 7E, Grass, Quincy, MA, USA). Measurement of cerebrocortical blood flow (CoBF) has been performed by laser-Doppler (LD) flowmetry as described in detail elsewhere [20]. The head of the animals was fixed in a stereotaxic head holder with the nose 5 mm down from the interaural line. The skull of the parietal region was exposed and the bone was thinned over the parietal cortex on both sides with a microdrill, so that the lamina interna of the region was exposed and the bone was thinned over the parietal head of the animals was fixed in a stereotaxic head holder with the midline. CoBF was measured with a two-channel blood flow monitor (MBF3D, Moor Instruments, UK) and was recorded continuously. The LD monitor was calibrated before each individual experiment with a constant movement latex emulsion. The laser light was in the infrared range (780 nm) and penetrated about 1 mm into the brain covering approximately 7 mm² of the parietal region, so that the data acquired mostly represented the characteristics of the blood flow in the parietal cortex [20].

Animals were randomly assigned to four in vivo experimental groups. In the control Group I. systemic and cerebral circulatory parameters, as well as blood gas and acid-base values were determined before as well as for 75 minutes after an iv. bolus injection of 1 ml/kg vehicle (saline). Thereafter the animals received the thromboxane receptor agonist U-46619 in a dose of 1 µg/kg iv., which in preliminary experiments was below the threshold of inducing any systemic or cerebral circulatory changes. Groups IIa., IIb. and IIc. received intravenously first N³-nitro-L-arginine methyl ester (L-NAME) in a dose of 100 mg/kg for the inhibition of NO synthesis and 75 minutes later 1 µg/kg U-46619 (Group IIa.), saline (Group IIb.) or 10 mg/kg of the thromboxane synthase inhibitor ozagrel (Group IIc.). Previous studies have verified that L-NAME and ozagrel in the doses used in our present study effectively inhibit the activity of cerebral NO synthase and thromboxane synthase, respectively [21,22]. The final measurements were performed in all experimental groups 50 minutes after the administration of U-46619, saline or ozagrel.

The in vitro experiments were performed in middle cerebral arteries (MCAs) supplying the parietal cortex, the site of the in vivo CoBF measurements. MCAs were prepared from adult male Wistar rats and studied in a conventional myograph system (610M, Danish Myo Technology A/S, Aarhus, Denmark) as described previously [5,23]. First, each segment was exposed to 124 mmol/L K⁺ Krebs solution to elicit a reference contraction. After a 30-minute resting period, the functional integrity of the endothelium was tested by application of bradykinin (0.01 to 10 µM) after precontraction induced by 100 µM UTP. Segments that did not exhibit at least 20% relaxation of the precontraction were considered to have damaged endothelium and were excluded from the study. After a 30-minute resting period, during which the baths were washed several times, the vessels received either 100 µM L-NAME in order to block NO synthesis or saline, the vehicle of L-NAME. Fifteen minutes later the effects of 100 nM U-46619 or 10 nM endothelin-1 (ET-1) were determined on the vascular tension both in intact and NO synthase blocked vessels. The role of Rho – Rho-kinase signaling pathway was tested by administration of 10 µM Y-27632, a specific Rho-kinase inhibitor [24], to NO synthase blocked vessels showing stable vasomotion after administration of U-46619 or ET-1. In additional control experiments intact MCA segments were precontracted with 25 mmol/L K⁺ Krebs prior to administration of 100 nM U-46619.

The Discrete Fourier transform (spectrum) of the time series obtained in vivo (CoBF) or in vitro (vascular tone) was calculated by Fast Fourier Algorithm (FFT) [25]. The calculations were executed in the Matlab environment which uses an adaptive version of the FFT, called FFTW [26]. The DC (zero frequency) component was eliminated from the spectrum by subtracting the mean value of time series from the samples and this way generating zero-mean time series. In order to identify the largest frequency component of the spectrum the region of interest was gated by an appropriate frequency window.

Since CoBF oscillations could also be induced by simultaneous changes of the blood pressure, we have performed the spectral analysis of the blood pressure recordings with the same method as described above. However, there was no difference in this parameter either between or within the experimental groups.

All chemicals were obtained from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO, USA). Values are presented as mean ± SEM; n represents the number of experiments. Statistical analysis was performed using repeated measures ANOVA followed by a Tukey post-hoc test. A P value of less than 0.05 was considered to be statistically significant.
Results

Baseline physiological parameters were within the normal range in all in vivo experimental groups (Table 1). Neither iv. administration of saline nor that of the TP-receptor agonist U-46619 in a dose of 1 μg/kg induced any significant changes in acid-base, blood gas or systemic circulatory parameters in the control Group I. (data not shown). Furthermore, neither the average CoBF nor its Fourier spectrum changed after the administration of saline or U-46619 in this experimental group (data not shown). These observations confirmed that 1 μg/kg U-46619 has no significant effect on the systemic and cerebrocortical circulation under physiological conditions.

In the “NOS-blocked” Groups IIA, IIB, and IIC. iv. administration of L-NAME had no significant effect on acid base or blood gas parameters but increased systemic blood pressure and decreased heart rate (Figure 1.). These changes developed within 25 minutes after L-NAME and remained unaltered later even after the intravenous administration of 1 μg/kg U-46619 (in Group Ia.), 1 ml/kg saline (in Group Ib.) or 10 μg/kg ozagrel (in Group Ic.) (data not shown). The CoBF reduced by more than 25% within the first 25 min after L-NAME administration (Figure 1.) but did not change further until the completion of the experiments in any of these experimental groups (data not shown). Low frequency CoBF oscillations, which were absent under resting conditions, developed after the administration of L-NAME with a dominant frequency of 148±2 mHz and peak magnitude of 5.6±0.5 AU (n = 46). U-46619 significantly increased while ozagrel decreased the magnitude of these oscillations without changing the dominant frequency (Figure 2.). In contrast, saline, the vehicle of U-46619 and ozagrel, failed to induce any changes in the magnitude or frequency of CoBF oscillations (Figure 2.).

In vitro experiments in isolated MCAs showed similar results to the in vivo observations. In control vessels administration of saline had no effect on the mean vascular tension while subsequent administration of 100 nM U-46619 induced weak (10.9±5.3%) vasoconstriction. In these vessels no vasomotion could be detected before or after saline or U-46619, indicating that U-46619 in this concentration fails to induce any vasomotorial activity under physiological conditions (data not shown). Inhibition of the NO synthesis by L-NAME slightly increased the vascular tone (by 9.5±2.2%) but did not induce vasomotion, except in 3 vessels out of 32 in which the frequency of tension oscillations was 67.2±15.3 mHz. Subsequent stimulation of the TP-receptors with 100 nM U-46619 induced significantly (P<0.001) stronger elevation of the mean vascular tone (by 77.2±6.2%) as compared to the control vessels. Furthermore, U-46619 which failed to induce any vasomotional activity in control vessels, induced strong vasomotion in 16 out of 19 NOS-blocked MCAs with a dominant frequency of 56.1±4.7 mHz. (The lower frequency of these oscillations compared to those of the CoBF in vivo is probably due to the larger diameter of MCAs as compared to cerebral arterioles the resistance of which determines CoBF, to cerebral arterioles the resistance of which determines CoBF, and to the absence of NO. In order to test this hypothesis in 13 control vessels the vascular tone was increased by 25 mM K+ prior to the administration 100 nM U-46619. No vasomotion has been observed in any of these vessels although their mean tension (62.3±8.1%) was similar to that of the L-NAME+U-46619 treated ones.

Table 1. Baseline physiological parameters in the different in vivo experimental groups.

| MEASURED VARIABLE            | EXPERIMENTAL GROUP |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
|                              | I. | IIA | IIB | IIC |
| Mean Arterial Pressure (mmHg)| 97.9±2.4 | 100.0±2.9 | 97.7±3.5 | 107.7±4.0 |
| Heart Rate (bpm)             | 410±9 | 408±15 | 413±8 | 435±20 |
| PaCO2 (mmHg)                 | 41.0±2.6 | 43.7±1.5 | 38.2±1.6 | 40.0±2.0 |
| O2 Sat (%)                   | 96.5±0.5 | 96.5±0.5 | 96.6±0.3 | 96.2±0.3 |
| pH                           | 7.34±0.01 | 7.32±0.02 | 7.38±0.01 | 7.37±0.01 |
| Standard Base Excess (mmol/l)| -3.7±1.1 | -2.2±0.7 | -2.6±0.4 | -1.7±1.1 |

Values are mean ± SEM (n = 7, 10, 6 and 7 in Groups I, IIA, IIB and IIC, respectively). No significant difference was found between the experimental groups.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0014477.t001

As mentioned earlier the mean vascular tension after L-NAME+U-46619 treatment was significantly higher as compared to the tension after saline+U-46619 (see above). Therefore, it could be possible that the vasomotion-inducing effect of U-46619 in the former vessels was due to the higher vascular tension and not due to the absence of NO. In order to test this hypothesis in 13 control vessels the vascular tone was increased by 25 mM K+ prior to the administration 100 nM U-46619. No vasomotion has been observed in any of these vessels although their mean tension (62.3±8.1%) was similar to that of the L-NAME+U-46619 treated ones.

The above described results indicated that weak pharmacological stimulation of TP-receptors, which induced negligible effects under physiological conditions, evoked vasomotion and CoBF oscillations in NO-deficiency. However, CoBF oscillation which developed after inhibition of NO synthesis could not be reversed completely by inhibition of TXA2 synthesis, raising the possibility that other mediators may also be involved in this process. Therefore, in further experiments we aimed to analyze if endothelin-1, which reportedly also activates the Rho-kinase signaling pathway in the cerebrovascular smooth muscle [28], may also induce vasomotorial activity in NOS-blocked MCAs. In

Figure 1. NO synthase blockade increases mean arterial pressure (MAP), while decreases heart rate (HR) and cerebro-cortical blood flow (CoBF). Mean ± SEM percentual changes are shown after NO synthase inhibition by 100 mg/kg of L-NAME, compared to the steady state pre-injection values presented on Table 1 (n = 10, 6 and 7 in the case of MAP and HR, and n = 20, 12 and 14 in the case of CoBF in Groups IIA, IIB, and IIC, respectively).

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0014477.g001
10 out of 13 L-NAME pretreated vessels 10 nM endothelin-1 induced strong vasomotion with a dominant frequency of 48.8 ± 7.3 mHz and it was reversible by Y-27632. Quantitatively, the magnitude of the Fourier spectra showed a more than 5-fold increase after administration of endothelin-1 which effect was completely reversed by Y-27632 (Figure 3.). In contrast, administration of 10 nM (or even 100 nM) endothelin-1 to 9 control vessels failed to induce any vasomotional activity (data not shown).

**Discussion**

Our results indicate that activation of TP-receptors increases cerebral vasomotion and CBF oscillations in NO-deficiency. This observation is particularly interesting in the light of the high prevalence of pathologic conditions associated with diminished release and/or biological effectiveness of NO, such as atherosclerosis, diabetes, hypertension, ischemia/reperfusion and SAH. Since NO suppresses platelet aggregation as well as vascular release of TXA2, NO-deficiency is often associated with activation of TP-receptors. Therefore, experimental conditions of the present study mimicked features of several cerebrovascular diseases. Vasomotion is often enhanced in these pathophysiological states although it is still a question of debate whether CBF oscillations precede the onset of vasospasm in SAH [11].

NO reportedly suppresses the synthesis of TXA2 [29] and inhibition of NOS was recently reported to enhance TXA2 release and/or biological effectiveness of NO.
effects of weak TP-receptor stimulation, like those applied in the present study, are primarily induced by the G_{12/13}-mediated activation of the small G protein RhoA and Rho-kinase (Németh and Benyó, unpublished observations), the main signaling pathway of calcium-sensitization. Since vasomotion is induced by calcium waves in the smooth muscle [31], TP-receptor mediated calcium-sensitization can enhance the resultant changes of the vascular tension, which is the most plausible explanation of our findings.

Why is this TP-receptor mediated mechanism enhanced in NO-deficiency? As noted above, the increased release of endogenous TXA2 can only partly explain our observations. In the cerebral circulation constitutive NO-synthesis maintains a basal vasodilator tone, partly by inhibition of the vasoconstrictor TXA2-pathway [16]. TP-receptors are targets of cyclic GMP-dependent kinase (PKG) which induce desensitization by phosphorylation at Ser^{695} of the C-tail domain of the receptor [32–33]. Furthermore, NO also interferes with the signaling pathway coupling TP-receptor activation to vascular smooth muscle contraction. For instance, NO reportedly inhibits calcium sensitization by PKG-mediated inhibition of RhoA [34–35] and telokin [36], as well as by inhibition of RhoA activation through protein kinase A (PKA)-dependent phosphorylation of G_{12} [37]. PKG can also inhibit calcium sensitization by phosphorylating directly the myosin phosphatase targeting subunit (MYPT1) at Ser^{695}, resulting in the reduction of phosphorylation at the adjacent inhibitory Thr^{696} site [30–40], the target of Rho-kinase [41]. Therefore, in the absence of NO not only the TP-receptors but also these downstream signaling pathways will be released from the tonic inhibitory influence of NO resulting in a sensitized smooth muscle contractile machinery to fluctuations induced by calcium waves. Indeed, in our present study, inhibition of Rho-kinase by Y-27632 completely reversed the vasomotion induced by U-46619 in NO syntheze blocked MCAs.

Activation of the RhoA–Rho-kinase pathway has been recently implicated as a key signaling mechanism in the development of several cerebrovascular disorders [42]. TXA2 is one but not the only activator of this signaling pathway in the cerebrovascular smooth muscle which conclusion is also supported by our observations that inhibition of the thromboxane-synthesis could only partially reverse the CoBF oscillations after NO synthase blockade while Y-27632 completely abolished vasomotion in vitro. It has been recently demonstrated that endothelin-1, already at low concentrations, activates the RhoA–Rho-kinase pathway in the cerebrovascular smooth muscle [28]. Although we didn’t provide direct evidence for its involvement in the generation of CoBF oscillations in vivo, our in vitro data that in NO-deficiency endothelin-1 enhances Y-27632 reversible vasomotion supports this hypothesis.

In conclusion, our results indicate that both endogenous TXA2 production and hypersensitivity of the TP-receptors and/or the Rho-kinase signaling pathway in the cerebrovascular smooth muscle contribute to the development of CBF oscillations after NO synthase blockade. Pharmacological inhibition of this enhanced reactivity may be beneficial to prevent vasospasm in cerebrovascular disorders associated with NO-deficiency.

**Acknowledgments**

The authors thank for Robert N. S. Sachdev for his useful remarks and suggestions in the preparation of the manuscript and for József Homlok for expert technical assistance in power spectra analysis.

Dedicated to the memories of Eörs Dóra (1943–1992) and Arisztid G. B. Kovács (1920–1996).
Author Contributions
Conceived and designed the experiments: BH GL KK PS ZB. Performed the experiments: BH GL TN RB AI. Analyzed the data: BH GL BB PH ZL ZB. Contributed reagents/materials/analysis tools: KK ZL PS. Wrote the paper: BH GL BB PH ZB.

References
1. Davies PW, Bronk DW (1957) Oxygen tension in mammalian brain. Fed Proc 16(3): 689-692.
2. Hudetz AG, Biswal BB, Shen H, Lauer KK, Kampine JP (1998) Spontaneous fluctuations in cerebral oxygen supply: An introduction. Adv Exp Med Biol 454: 551–559.
3. Döra E, Kovács AG (1981) Metabolic and vascular volume oscillations in the cat brain cortex. Acta Physiol Acad Sci Hung 57(3): 261–275.
4. Oos G, Halpern W (1980) Spontaneous vasomotion in pressurized cerebral arteries from genetically hypertensive rats. Am J Physiol 234(1P2): H28–33.
5. Lacza Z, Hermán P, Görlach C, Hortobágyi T, Sándor P, et al. (2001) NO synthase blockade induces chaotic cerebral vasomotion via activation of thromboxane receptors. Stroke 32(11): 2609–2614.
6. Rosenblum BR, Bonner RF, Oldfield EH (1987) Intraoperative measurement of cortical blood flow adjacent to cerebral AVM using laser Doppler velocimetry. J Neurosurg 66(3): 396–399.
7. Fassano VA, Ursurolli R, Bolognese P, Mostert M (1988) Intraoperative use of laser Doppler in the study of cerebral microvascular circulation. Acta Neurochir 95(1–2): 40–48.
8. Diehl RK, Linden D, Lücke D, Berlin P (1995) Phase relationship between cerebral blood flow velocity and blood pressure. A clinical test of autoregulation. Stroke 26(10): 1801–1804.
9. Biwali B, Hudetz AG, Yetkin FZ, Haughton VM, Hyde JS (1997) Hypercapnia reversibly suppresses low-frequency fluctuations in the human motor cortex during rest using echo-planar MRI. J Cereb Blood Flow Metab 17(3): 301–308.
10. Obirigh T, Neufang M, Wenzel R, Kohl M, Steinbrink J, et al. (2000) Spontaneous low frequency oscillations of cerebral hemodynamics and metabolism in human subjects. Neuronale 63: 625–639.
11. Westerman T, Jann A, Erikst J, Kunze F, Rosemen K (2009). Acute vasocostriction: decrease and recovery of cerebral blood flow after various intensities of experimental subarachnoid hemorrhage in rats. J Neurosurg 110(5): 896–902.
12. Hudetz AG, Roman RJ, Harder DR (1992) Spontaneous flow oscillations in the cerebral cortex during acute changes in mean arterial pressure. J Cereb Blood Flow Metab 12(3): 491–499.
13. Morita-Tsuzuki Y, Bouskela E, Hardebro JE (1992) Vasomotion in the rat cerebral microcirculation recorded by laser-Doppler flowmetry. Acta Physiol Scand 146(4): 431–439.
14. Turakula M, Litka M, Czosnyka M, Pierzchala K, West BJ (2000) Generation of very low frequency cerebral blood flow fluctuations in humans. Acta Neurochir Suppl 83: 47–52.
15. Lefer DJ, Lynch CD, Lapinski KC, Hutchins PM, Beach JS (1990) Enhanced vasomotion of cerebral arterial spasm and reperfusion. Microvasc Res 39(2): 129–139.
16. Benyo Z, Görlach C, Wahl M (1998) Involvement of thromboxane A2 in the modulation of the cerebral arterioles in spontaneously hypertensive rats. Microvasc Res 39(2): 65–72.
17. Miyanoto A, Hashiuchi Y, Oh T, Ishiguro S, Nishio A (1997) BP reopen or ozagrel increases NO release and nitro-arginine induces TXA2 release from cultured porcine basilar arterial endothehial cells. Vascul Pharmacol 46(2): 83–90.
18. Xavier FE, Blanco-Rivero J, Ferrer M, Ballagion G (2009). Endothelial modulasevasoconstritor response to prostaglandin I3 in rat mesenteric resistance arteries: interaction between EP1 and TP-receptors. Br J Pharmacol 157(7): 1787–1795.
19. Amsar S, Larsen C, Maddah A, Edvinsson L (2010) Subarachnoid hemorrhage induces enhanced expression of thromboxane A2 receptors in rat cerebral arteries. Brain Res 1316: 163–172.
20. Lacza Z, Erdös B, Görlach C, Wahl M, Sándor P, et al. (2000) The cerebrocortical microcirculatory effect of nitric oxide synthase blockade is dependent upon baseline red blood cell flow in the rat. Neurosci Lett 291: 63–68.
21. Benyo Z, Szabó C, Stuiver BT, Bohus B, Sándor P (1995) Hypothalamic blood flow remains unaltered following chronic nitric oxide synthase block in rats. Neurosci Lett 180(2): 127–130.
22. Ichikawa K, Tazawa S, Hamano S, Kojima M, Hirakura S (1999) Effect of ozagrel on locomotor and motor coordination after transient cerebral ischemia in experimental animal models. Pharmacology 59(5): 257–265.
23. Leszl-Ishiguro M, Horváth B, Johnson RA, Johnson FK, Lenzlinger G, et al. (2007) Influence of the heme-oxygenase pathway on cerebrocortical blood flow. NeuroReport 18(11): 1193–1197.
24. Uchita M, Ishizaki T, Satoshi H, Ono T, Kawahara T, Morishita T, Yamakawa H, Yamagami K, Inui J, Maekawa M, Narumiya S (1997) Calcium sensitization of smooth muscle mediated by a Rho-associated protein kinase in hypertension. Nature 389(6634): 990–994.
25. Duhamel P, Vetterli M (1998) Fast Fourier Transformers: a tutorial review and a state of the art. Signal Processing 19: 259–290.
26. Frigo M, Johnson SG (1998) FFTW: an adaptive software architecture for the FFT. Proceedings of the International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing 3: 1381–1384.
27. Funk W, Endrich B, Messmer K, Intaglia M (1983) Spontaneous arterial vasomotion as a determinant of peripheral vascular resistance. Int J Microcirc Clin Exp 2(1): 11–25.
28. Lan C, Das D, Włosikowicz A, Wellrath B (2004) Endothelin-1 modulates hemoglobin-mediated signaling in cerebrovascular smooth muscle via RhoA/Rho kinase and protein kinase C. Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol 289(1): H165–H173.
29. Sisola, H., Kukla, V., Pospisil, J., Kuklová, A., et al. (2000) Cyclo-oxygenase blockade induces chaotic cerebral vasomotion via activation of thromboxane receptors. Stroke 32(11): 2609–2614.
30. Rosemen K (2009). Acute vasocostriction: decrease and recovery of cerebral blood flow after various intensities of experimental subarachnoid hemorrhage in rats. J Neurosurg 110(5): 896–902.
31. Hudetz AG, Roman RJ, Harder DR (1992) Spontaneous flow oscillations in the cerebral cortex during acute changes in mean arterial pressure. J Cereb Blood Flow Metab 12(3): 491–499.
32. Morita-Tsuzuki Y, Bouskela E, Hardebro JE (1992) Vasomotion in the rat cerebral microcirculation recorded by laser-Doppler flowmetry. Acta Physiol Scand 146(4): 431–439.
33. Turakula M, Litka M, Czosnyka M, Pierzchala K, West BJ (2000) Generation of very low frequency cerebral blood flow fluctuations in humans. Acta Neurochir Suppl 83: 47–52.
34. Lefer DJ, Lynch CD, Lapinski KC, Hutchins PM, Beach JS (1990) Enhanced vasomotion of cerebral arterial spasm and reperfusion. Microvasc Res 39(2): 129–139.
35. Benyo Z, Görlach C, Wahl M (1998). Involvement of thromboxane A2 in the modulation of the cerebral contractile effect induced by inhibition of nitric oxide synthesis in isolated rat middle cerebral arteries. J Cereb Blood Flow Metab 18(6): 616–618.
36. Miyanoto A, Hashiuchi Y, Oh T, Ishiguro S, Nishio A (1997) BP reopen or ozagrel increases NO release and nitro-arginine induces TXA2 release from cultured porcine basilar arterial endothelial cells. Vascul Pharmacol 46(2): 83–90.
37. Xavier FE, Blanco-Rivero J, Ferrer M, Ballagion G (2009). Endothelial modulasevasoconstritor response to prostaglandin I3 in rat mesenteric resistance arteries: interaction between EP1 and TP-receptors. Br J Pharmacol 157(7): 1787–1795.
38. Amsar S, Larsen C, Maddah A, Edvinsson L (2010) Subarachnoid hemorrhage induces enhanced expression of thromboxane A2 receptors in rat cerebral arteries. Brain Res 1316: 163–172.
39. Lacza Z, Erdös B, Görlach C, Wahl M, Sándor P, et al. (2000) The cerebrocortical microcirculatory effect of nitric oxide synthase blockade is dependent upon baseline red blood cell flow in the rat. Neurosci Lett 291: 63–68.
40. Benyo Z, Szabó C, Stuiver BT, Bohus B, Sándor P (1995) Hypothalamic blood flow remains unaltered following chronic nitric oxide synthase blockade in rats. Neurosci Lett 180(2): 127–130.
41. Ichikawa K, Tazawa S, Hamano S, Kojima M, Hirakura S (1999) Effect of ozagrel on locomotor and motor coordination after transient cerebral ischemia in experimental animal models. Pharmacology 59(5): 257–265.