Calcitonin and parathyrin are antagonists concerning to the regulation of glucose metabolism

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Abstract

Materials about calcium-regulating hormones (calcitonin and parathyrin) effect on carbohydrate regulation are represented. It is showed calcitonin hyperglycemic effect, its contra-insulin effect to insulin. It is ascertainment the impairment of glucose metabolism under calcitonin-hyperglycemia, insulin resistance and glucose intolerance. It is established the opposite to calcitonin action of parathyrin on glucose metabolism: decreasing the glucose level and increasing glucose tolerance. It is concluded that calcitonin and parathyrin are antagonists not only concerning to the regulation of calcium metabolism, but and glucose.

Introduction

Calcium-regulating hormones – calcitonin (calcium-decreasing, CT) and parathyrin (calcium-increasing, PTH) are well-known ones for its effects on calcium metabolism. However, there are a lot of facts about CT hyperglycemic, contra-insular effect and it participate in the development of insulin resistance [1-6] have studied now. More less facts are known about PTH effects on glucose metabolism [7,8]. We thought it appropriate to compare the effects of CT and PTH on glucose metabolism and its interaction to analyze possible mechanisms underlying of its effects on glucose metabolism. We'll consider effect of CT and PTH on glucose and calcium level, the type of alimentary underlying of its effects on glucose metabolism. We'll estimate the glycemic curves, hyperglycemic index (blood glucose ratio before and after insulin injection and the rats were decapitated 1 h after insulin administration. In in vitro experiments (group 8), 0.1 U/ml CT, 0.1 U/ml PT, 0.5 U/ml insulin were added to the Krebs—Ringer medium (1 ml). For evaluation of the combined effects of preparations, they were simultaneously added to the medium. Cooled muscle and adipose tissue fragments (100-120 mg) were placed in Krebs—Ringer solution containing 11.1 mmol/liter glucose and incubated in Warburg apparatus at 37.7°C and 60-80 shakes per minute. Tissue glucose consumption was estimated by the difference between its content in the medium before and after incubation. Glucose consumption by the muscle and adipose tissue of intact rats was used as the control. Glucose concentration in the blood was measured by Frank—Kirberger method [9], the amount of total calcium was evaluated by complexometry [10]. The data were statistically processed by methods of variation statistics (Student—Fisher test).

Results and discussion

The maximum increase in blood glucose concentration was observed 60 min after CT injection (from 5.2±0.2 to 6.2±0.1 mmol/liter, p<0.001). Under these conditions, total calcium concentration decreased from 2.03±0.1 to 1.68±0.03 mmol/liter (p<0.001). Glucose

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content practically returned to the initial level (5.7±0.3 mmol/liter) 240 min after the injection. Total calcium content at this term was 1.83±0.05 mmol/liter (p<0.01). The dynamics of hyperglycemia induced by CT injection and CT-induced decrease in blood calcium concentration coincided. Strong correlation was observed between the concentrations of glucose and total calcium (r=-0.834, p<0.02). Maximum increment in blood glucose level after CT administration was 19±2%, the concentration of total calcium decreased to 1.58±0.03 mmol/liter (83±2% of initial level). These data suggest that CT reduces total calcium content in the blood and produces a pronounced hyperglycemic effect (Figure 1).

Thus, CT administration reduced the content of total calcium in the blood plasma and in addition increased glucose blood levels with subsequent normalization of these parameters after 240 min.

The initial glucose concentration in rats corresponded to normal (Figure 2). After glucose load, glucose concentration peaked after 60 min increasing to 6.2±0.3 mmol/liter (p<0.001); in 240 min it returned to the initial level (4.8±0.2 mmol/liter). A significant increase in glucose concentration was observed 30 min after glucose load and preliminary CT injection. This level remained high at the end of experiment: glucose level (7.9±0.4 mmol/liter, p<0.001) peaked on the 120-th minute and remained high to the 240-th minute (7.2±0.4 mmol/liter, p<0.01). Hyperglycemic and hypoglycemic indices were significant increased. Thus, CT administration induced impaired glucose tolerance.

Another dynamics of glycemia level was observed under PTH administration. PTH injection increased the content of total calcium in blood plasma (from 2.1±0.2 to 2.6±0.3 mmol/l, P<0.001) and in addition decreased the blood glucose level from 4.7±0.02 to 4.0±0.1 mmol/l (P<0.001). The normalization of investigating parameters occurred to the 90-th min (Figure 3a). The decreasing of glycemia induced by PTH injection coincides with the increasing of the total calcium level induced by hormone. There is a close negative correlation between the glucose levels and total calcium content (r=-0.813, P<0.02). Thus, PTH increased the content of total calcium in the blood plasma and besides induced the reliable decreasing of the blood glucose level.

For elucidation of hypercalcaemia role in decreasing of the blood glucose level under PTH administration we were carried out the tests with the calcium lactate load. The calcium lactate load provoked the similar alterations of glucose and calcium levels as PTH administration – the increasing of calcium level and decreasing of the blood glucose level (Figure 3b). Thus, the total calcium content in blood serum increased from 2.2±0.03 to 2.58±0.1 mmol/l, P<0.001, and glucose level decreased from 5.2±0.01 to 4.3±0.02 mmol/l, P<0.001. The total calcium content returned to the initial level in 90 min and glucose level – in 120 min after the calcium lactate load. There is a functional negative correlation was established between glucose levels and total calcium content (r=-0.997, P<0.01).

The findings testify to the effect that the decreasing of glucose level after PTH injection caused by hypercalcaemia. In previous data under PTH administration the decreasing of glucose level in 30 and 60 min with gradually normalization in 90 min was established in addition the increasing of the total calcium content. It was logically supposed that in the increasing of glucose level to the initial values the endogenous CT takes part, as it is known that CT reveals hyperglycemic effect [4,8] and the increasing of the blood calcium content stimulates it secretion. There is a reciprocal interconnection between CT and PTH secretion.

Of particular interest was to study PTH effect on the dynamics of hyperglycemia under glucose-tolerance test. Unlike CT, provoking glucose intolerance, PTH, on the contrary, decreasing the blood glucose level, reduced the degree of hyperglycemia. Maximal rise of glucose level after the glucose load reached on 30-th min and consisted 7.4±0.2 in comparison with 5.3±0.2 mmol/l, P<0.001 of the initial level. Glucose level was reliable higher the initial level over to 120 min, then the gradually decreasing with the normalization in 180 min occurred, in 210 min it was reliable below the initial level, and in 240 min returned to the initial value again (Figure 4).

Against the background of PTH injection the glucose load provoked the reliable hyperglycemia over to 150 min, then normalization of glucose level occurred in 180 min, in 210 min glucose level was below the initial value too and returned to norm in 240 min. However, the expression degree of hyperglycemia was essential lower than under only glucose load. Thus, maximal rise of glucose level also occurred in 30 min but it was reliable lower than under only glucose load –6,2±0,2 in comparison with 7,4±0,2 mmol/l, P<0.001, responsively. Normalization of glucose level also came in 180 min, it reduced lower the initial level in 210 min and returned to norm in 240 min. It should be noted that under PTH injection the expression of hyperglycemia was reliable less throughout all over intervals of the investigation (Figure 4). The improving of tolerance to hyperglycemia found its expression in values of hyperglycemic and hypoglycemic coefficients. Thus, hyperglycemic coefficient was reliable lower: 1.24±0.03 in comparison with 1.39±0.04 against the background of only glucose load (P<0.001).

Thus, PTH injection provoked the decreasing of hyperglycemia induced by the glucose load, i.e. PTH increased glucose tolerance.
Thus, PTH didn't effect on glucose consumption by muscle and adipose tissue, didn't change insulin-stimulated effect on this process. CT completely inhibited insulin-stimulating glucose consumption by tissues, reduced tissue sensitivity to insulin, i.e. CT provoked insulin resistance.

Mechanism of hyperglycemic effect of the preparations of CT is studied not enough. The results of our previous investigations allow consider that it is mediated both due to the inhibitory effect of CT on insulin secretion [11,12], the decreasing of glucose consumption by peripheral tissues [13] and due to the intensification of glycosgenolysis process [14,15]. These changes result in hyperglycemia, insulin resistance, and impaired glucose tolerance. Hence, CT can be considered as a contra-insular hormone [2,5]. It can be hypothesized that CT takes part in neuroendocrine regulation of glucose metabolism, especially during hypercalcitoninemia. We consider, that CT, inhibiting insulin secretion, inducing insulin resistance and glucose intolerance, and as a matter of fact, being, in our opinion, contra-insular hormone can promote to the development of the disturbances of carbohydrate metabolism [6].

For elucidation of Ca²⁺ role in biological effect of insulin on glucose consumption by muscle and adipose tissue we were carried out the investigation on the studying of CT and PTH effect on glucose consumption by muscle and adipose tissue in vivo and in vitro.

Injections of CT to rats (Table 1) had no effect on glucose consumption by diaphragmatic and adipose tissue compared to the control (p1>0.5). Insulin injection provoked a considerable increasing of glucose consumption by muscle and adipose tissue (P<0.001). CT completely blocked the stimulating effect of insulin on glucose consumption by the muscle and adipose tissues (p<0.001). PTH injection didn't change glucose consumption by diaphragm and adipose tissue in comparison with control (P>0.5). Against the background of PTH administration insulin-stimulated glucose consumption by diaphragm and epididymal didn't change reliably (P>0.5). Analogous data were also received in investigations in vitro (Table 2). Thus, CT and PTH did not alter glucose consumption, PTH did not affect, while CT completely abolished the stimulating effect of insulin in vivo and in vitro.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experimental conditions</th>
<th>Number of experiments</th>
<th>Glucose consumption by muscle and adipose tissues during 2-h incubation, μg/100 mg</th>
<th>P₁</th>
<th>P₂</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Muscle tissue</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>140 ± 5</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insulin</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>203 ± 3</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>148 ± 10</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT + insulin</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>143 ± 7</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTH</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>150 ± 7</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTH + insulin</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>206 ± 4</td>
<td>&lt;0.01</td>
<td>&gt;0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adipose tissue</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>100 ± 4</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insulin</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>163 ± 8</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>101 ± 3</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT + insulin</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>101 ± 9</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTH</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>110 ± 8</td>
<td>&lt;0.05</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTH + insulin</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>175 ± 6</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
<td>&gt;0.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note. Here and in Table 2: p₁ - compared to the control; p₂ - compared to the effect observed against the background of insulin administration.
Under the investigation of PTH effect on glucose homeostasis was established the decreasing of glucose level after hormone injection, the decreasing of hyperglycemic degree under the glucose load. Besides that it is exposed that PTH doesn't change of tissue insulin resistance. Unlike CT, induced glucose intolerance, PTH, on the contrary, decreasing the blood glucose level, decreased the degree of hyperglycemia, i.e. it increased glucose tolerance. Thus, it is established the opposite to CT action of PTH on glucose metabolism. In this connection, it is acceptable to consider, that PTH is CT antagonist not only concerning to the regulation of calcium metabolism, but and glucose metabolism.

Therefore, it can consider that PTH takes part in neuro-endocrine regulation of glucose metabolism being CT antagonist, i.e. PTH as CT [1] is a gluco-regulating hormone.

So, CT and PTH take part in the regulation of calcium and glucose metabolism, receiving data are an additional confirmation of the functional correlation of calcium and carbohydrate metabolism [16]. The establishment of a functional negative correlation between glucose level and the total calcium content after CT and PTH injections testifies about the close interconnection of calcium and glucose metabolism. With respect to interconnection of calcium-regulating hormones and their effect on glucose and calcium metabolism it can consider that under in vivo the effects of CT and PTH can be, in the known degree, the result of changing of circulating Ca^{2+}, in vitro indeed they must consider as the result of direct hormone effect. In other words, in the different cells not having a specialized receptors of CT and PTH occur Ca^{2+}-as the result of direct hormone effect. In other words, in the different cells not having a specialized receptors of CT and PTH occur Ca^{2+}-as the result of direct hormone effect. In other words, in the different cells not having a specialized receptors of CT and PTH occur Ca^{2+}-as the result of direct hormone effect.

Hypoglycemia
Insulin secretion
↑
calcitonin level→Hypocalcemia→
↑
PTH secretion
↓
Parathormone secretion→Hypercalcemia→↑Insulin secretion↓
Hypoglycemia

Beyond all doubt, neuro-endocrine mechanisms of their interconnection require the further investigation. However, findings on this stage enlarge the conceptions about physiologic role of CT and PTH, testify about the involving of Ca^{2+}-mechanisms and give the basis to consider them as the important modulators of secret and metabolic processes.

References
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