

Session 2: Lipid metabolism

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Suggestions for the future

Digestive secretions have been extensively described. It is now time for looking at the neurohumoral regulation especially around birth.

The extrinsic and intrinsic interactions at the secretory cell level must be emphasized in the future.

The morphological and histological characteristics of the mucosal cell must be related to their neuropeptidergic contents as well as their surface receptors.

The secretory events must be related to other physiological events in an integrative form such as the work described by Dr Lesniewska.

A clear distinction must be performed between pharmacology and physiology especially for the relationship between CCK activity and CCK receptor expression.

The experiments dealing with mechanisms at the cell level must take into account the in vivo physiological reality.

If possible, each species must be treated separately and interspecies comparisons must be performed with great care.

Session 2: Lipid metabolism

(Dr D. Bauchart, Dr J.F. Hocquette and Dr A. Orzechowski)

There are interspecies-, interbreed-, foodand age-related differences in lipid metabolism in terms of activities of the enzymes regulating lipogenesis and lipolysis, as well as fatty acid oxidation.

Among them, carnitine palmitoyltransferase I (CPT I) controls the transfer of fatty acids (FA) into mitochondria. The lower sensitivity of CPT I to metabolites derived from FA in piglet than in rat muscle is an example.

The levels of activity of several enzymes such as lipoprotein lipase (LPL) and CPT I are considered in most situations, but not all, as rate-limiting steps for FA uptake and catabolism in muscles.

To some extent, utilization and distribution of lipids result from variations in verylow density lipoprotein (VLDL) formation in the liver, which depends on dietary and physiological conditions.

Phytoestrogens exert a significant effect on lipid metabolism since they enhance lipolysis and suppress lipogenesis.

Lipids are vulnerable to the action of radicals. TBARS, CD, and more recently found isoprostanes were therefore elected as markers of oxidative stress. Some antioxidants (tocopherols) as well as unknown substances of plant origin (evening primrose) limit the extent of lipid peroxidation

Session 3: Tissue growth

(Dr J. Simon and Professor T. Motyl)

The maintenance of a dynamic equilibrium between cell replication and apoptosis at the physiological level is crucial for proper tissue growth and remodelling, and thereby for the development and health of each multicellular organism. Bcl-2-related proteins establish an important checkpoint in the regulation of programmed cell death in normal, transformed and neoplastic cells. They are also involved in the regulation of mammary gland remodelling.

Endo-, para- and autocrine regulation of tissue growth occurs:

- throughout the expression of early response genes and the activation of enzymes involved in the signal transduction pathway (ODC, MAP, p90RSK and p70S6 kinases);