

Effetcs of ovarian hormones on intestinal mast cell reactivity to substance P and compound 48/80 in rats

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ABSTRACTS

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contraction amplitude in group A was due to a very low values (~ -10%) obtained in two pts, which indicate a lack of responsiveness to S. obtained in two pts, which indicate a lack of responsiveness to 5. CONCLUSION. Sildenafil, a specific inhibitor of corpus cavernosum PD-5, acts also on esophageal smooth muscle of patients with achalasia, markedly decreasing LES pressure and contraction amplitude with the exception of 2 out of 7 cases.

EFFECT OF OVARIAN HORMONES ON INTESTINAL MAST CELL.
REACTIVITY TO SUBSTANCE P AND COMPOUND 48/80 IN RATS.
S Bradesi, H Eutamene*, V Theodorou, R Garcia-Villar,
J Fioramonti, L Buéno. INRA Neuro-Gastroenterology & Nutrition
Unit, Toulouse; *IRI/PARKE-DAVIS, Fresnes, France.

lleal hypermastocytosis has been described in IBS patients. Recently we showed a constitutive difference between male and female rats in mucosal mast cell (MMC) numbers and amount of histamine released after substance P (SP) stimulation in vitro. Therefore, the hormonal environment may play an important role in mast cell regulated events. AIM: The aim of our study was to evaluate the influence of progesterone (P) in female rats on in vitro histamine released by jejunal and colonic MMC degranulated by SP or by a nonspecific mast cell degranulator (compound 48/80).

METHODS: 3 groups of 8 female Wistar rats (200-250 g) were used. Under anaesthesia, rats in groups 1 and 2 were ovariectomized (OVX). Those of the 3rd group were sham operated (sham OVX). A daily treatment of P (10 mg/kg s.c.) was performed for 6 days in the first group (OVX + P). At the end of P treatment, rats were exsanguinated. Segments of jejunum and proximal colon were collected from each animal for evaluation of both MMC numbers after Alcian bluesafranin staining and potency to release histamine after SP (1.3 mg/ml) and compound 48/80 (1.5 mg/ml) stimulation in vitro.

RESULTS: There was no difference in jejunal and colonic MMC numbers between the 3 groups. Histamine release at jejunal and colonic levels after compound 48/80 in vitro stimulation was similar in the 3 groups. In contrast, histamine release elicited by SP from jejunal strips was reduced (p<0.05) in OVX compared with sham OVX rats, and restored in OVX rats treated with P. In the colon, OVX resulted in a significant increase in histamine release after SP stimulation and treatment with P did not restore a normal histamine release. CONCLUSION: Ovarian steroid hormones do not affect mast cell numbers in both jejunum and colon of female rats. However, the reproductive hormonal status differently influences jejunal and colonic MMC sensitivity to SP but not to compound 48/80. Ileal hypermastocytosis has been described in IBS patients. Recently we showed a constitutive difference between male and female rats in

DESCENDING EXCITATORY PATHWAYS TO THE CIRCULAR MUSCLE OF THE GUINEA-PIG ILEUM

SJH Brookes, M Costa and CM Humphreys. Dept of Physiology, Centre for Neuroscience, Flinders University, South Australia 5042.

Ascending excitatory and descending inhibitory pathways to the circular muscle of the intestine have been widely studied over many years, however several studies have also reported descending excitation, evoked by stretch. We aimed to determine requirements for the occurrence of descending excitation and its role in peristaltic propagation. Two microprocessor-controlled stepper-motors, with inseries force transducers were used to deliver controlled stretches to isolated flat sheets of guinea pig ileum while recording their circumferential tension responses (Brookes et al 1999). Rapid circumferential stretch orally (5mm/s) evoked, above a threshold length, a large, neurogenic contraction with a latency ranging from 0.15s for a supramaximal stretch, to 8.25s for a just-suprathreshold stimulus (mean = 1.84 ± 0.20s, n=6). Recordings 12mm aboral to the stretched region, revealed descending excitatory contractions occurring 0.16 - 7.26s after the onset revealed descending excitatory contractions occurring 0.16 - 1.26s after the onset of stretch, but only when a contraction occurred orally. Descending excitatory contractions followed oral contractions with a mean latency of 0.42 ± 0.18s, corresponding to a propagation velocity of 28.6mm/s. We then stretched 50mm long, flat-sheet preparations slowly (100µm/s) to mimic fluid distension and recorded contractions at six points along their length. Contractions started first at the oral end and propagated aborally without decrement for at least 30mm but declined significantly in the last 10mm of the preparation. This demonstrated that declined significantly in the last 10mm of the preparation. This demonstrated that peristaltic contractions do not require propulsion of fluid, or shortening of the muscle to propagate aborally and suggest that descending excitation plays a muscie to propagate aboratiy and suggest that descending excitation plays a significant role in this coordinated propulsive motor activity. The failure of propagating contractions to invade the aboral end of preparations suggests, (somewhat surprisingly) an involvement of ascending excitatory pathways in aboral propagation. However, descending excitation is not a simple reflex aboral propagation. However, descending excitation is not a simple fellex response to stretch; it is an integrated component of the peristaltic motor pattern which is triggered abruptly, with a sharp threshold.

Brookes, SJH, Chen BN, Costa M and Humphreys CMS (1999). Initiation of peristalsis by circumferential stretch in flat sheets of guinea pig ileum. J Physiol

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EFFECT OF OVARIAN HORMONES ON INTESTINAL MAST CELL REACTIVITY TO SUBSTANCE P AND COMPOUND 48/80 IN RATS S Bradesi, H Eutamene*, V Theodorou, R Garcia-Villar, J Fioramonti, L Buéno. INRA Neuro-Gastroenterology & Nutrition Unit, Toulouse; *IRJ/PARKE-DAVIS, Fresnes, France.

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CONCLUSION: Ovarian steroid hormones do not affect mast cell numbers in both jejunum and colon of female rats. However, the reproductive hormonal status differently influences jejunal and colonic MMC sensitivity to SP but not to compound 48/80.

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