食品生理学研究室ニュース 1

New of Laboratory of Food and Physiological Sciences:

Vol 1. 2-DEC-2015

★当研究室の食品生命科学科4年竹鼻志織さんの研究成果が

"Brain Research Bulletin120(2016)117-122"



論文内容は"オープンアクセスジャーナル形式"で掲載されており Pub Medよりフリーでダウンロードできます。



Brain Research Bulletin 120 (2016) 117-122



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Brain Research Bulletin

journal homepage; www.elsevier.com/locate/brainresbull



Research report

Systemic administration of resveratrol suppress the nociceptive neuronal activity of spinal trigeminal nucleus caudalis in rats



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ARTICLE INFO

Article history: Received 5 October 2015 Received in revised form 12 November 2015 Accepted 16 November 2015

Keywords:
Nociception
Polyphenol
Resveratrol
Spinal trigeminal nucleus caudalis
Single unit recording
Alternative medicine

ABSTRACT

Although a modulatory role has been reported for the red wine polyphenol resveratrol on several types of ion channels and excitatory synaptic transmission in the nervous system, the acute effects of resveratrol in vivo, particularly on nociceptive transmission of the trigeminal system, remain to be determined. The aim of the present study was to investigate whether acute intravenous resveratrol administration to rats attenuates the excitability of wide dynamic range (WDR) spinal trigeminal nucleus caudalis (SpVc) neurons in response to nociceptive and non-nociceptive mechanical stimulation in vivo. Extracellular single unit recordings were made from 18 SpVc neurons in response to orofacial mechanical stimulation of pentobarbital-anesthetized rats. Responses to both non-noxious and noxious mechanical stimuli were analyzed in the present study. The mean firing frequency of SpVc WDR neurons in response to both non-noxious and noxious mechanical stimuli was inhibited by resveratrol (0.5-2 mg/kg, i.v.) and maximum inhibition of the discharge frequency of both non-noxious and noxious mechanical stimuli was seen within 10 min. These inhibitory effects were reversed after approximately 20 min. The relative magnitude of inhibition by resveratrol of SpVc WDR neuronal discharge frequency was significantly greater for noxious than non-noxious stimulation. These results suggest that, in the absence of inflammatory or neuropathic pain, acute intravenous resveratrol administration suppresses trigeminal sensory transmission, including nociception, and so resveratrol may be used as a complementary and alternative medicine therapeutic agent for the treatment of trigeminal nociceptive pain, including hyperalgesia.

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ハイライト: 赤ワインの成分で知られるレスベラトロールは長寿遺伝子の活性化などの有名な生理作用の他に中枢神経系の興奮伝達などに関わるシナプス伝達やイオンチャネルの機能を調節することが知られていた。今回、著者らは関連痛などの疼痛伝達に重要な役割を果たす広作動域ニューロンの興奮がレスベラトロールの静脈内投与により濃度依存性・可逆的に抑制されることを明らかとした。本研究の成果は、レスベラトロールが臨床の場において新たな副作用のない鎮痛薬となる可能性と代替医療に貢献することを示唆している!