Acknowledgements

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Detection of Replication-Competent Adenoviruses Spiked into Recombinant Adenovirus Vector Products by Infectivity PCR

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The presence of replication-competent adenovirus (RCA) in clinical lots of adenovirus vectors raises a variety of safety concerns. To detect RCA in adenovirus vector products, the cell culture/cytopathic effect (CPE) method has generally been preferred. However, it is difficult to evaluate the amount of RCA clearly and quantitatively by this method. In addition, the cell culture/CPE method requires large-scale cell culturing and a substantial amount of time. For the purpose of establishing a method to detect RCA more sensitively and rapidly, we developed the infectivity PCR, a hybrid method that combines the infectivity assay and quantitative PCR. This method allows RCA to be quantified by real-time quantitative PCR using primers and a probe designed for E1 DNA. By infectivity PCR, 1 pfu of RCA spiked into 10° particles of adenovirus vectors could be detected. In contrast, CPE was observed in the cells infected with 10⁴ pfu of RCA spiked into 10° particles of adenovirus vectors. The glass-beads method was suitable for extracting DNA rapidly from the RCA-infected cells. These results showed that infectivity PCR combined with the glass-beads-based DNA extraction method was useful for the detection of RCA in adenovirus vector products.

Key Words: replication-competent adenovirus, adenovirus vector, infectivity PCR

Introduction

Recombinant adenovirus vector is one of the most promising vectors available for human gene therapy. In fact, adenovirus vector-based gene therapies now account for 26.9% of all clinical gene-therapy protocols [1]. Considerable efforts have been made to improve the potency of adenovirus vectors to make them more useful for gene therapy, e.g., regulation of target-cell specificity by modifying fiber protein [2–7], application of cassettes that enable the regulation of gene expression [8,9], and reduction of immunogenicity by deleting all viral genome sequences [10]. However, there have been few studies investigating the establishment of a system to ensure the safety of these vectors.

The vast majority of adenovirus vectors are constructed by inserting the therapeutic genes in place of the essential viral E1 sequence in the adenovirus. The generation of E1-deleted adenovirus vectors relies on the complementation functions present in HEK293 cells into whose genome E1 DNA has been inserted. However, HEK293 cells are prone to the generation of replication-competent adenovirus (RCA) as a result of recombination events between the vector DNA and the integrated adenovirus sequences present in the cells [11]. The presence of RCA in adenovirus vector products raises the possibilities of adenovirus infection, unintended vector replication due to the presence of wild-type helper function, and exacerbation of host inflammation response [12]. Because it is extremely difficult to avoid completely the emergence of RCA in adenovirus vector products by means of the current production technique, examining the level of RCA in each lot of adenovirus vector products is important [12]. In addition, examining for the presence of RCA in the patients who have been administrated adenovirus vectors

is important to test for viral shedding during the clinical study.

As a method to detect RCA in adenovirus vector products, the cell culture/cytopathic effect (CPE) assay has generally been used [13,14]. In the cell culture/CPE assay, the vector products are infected into cells, the RCA are amplified, and the CPE induced by the RCA is observed. By this method, the presence of RCA is judged by microscopic observation, and thus the results may not always be accurate and quantitative. In addition, this method requires large-scale cell culturing and a substantial amount of time. As a sensitive method to detect viral DNA, PCR is thought to be useful [11,15]. However, because the infectivity of the viral DNA cannot be measured by PCR, the cell culture/CPE assay is still recommended by the FDA [12]. For all of the above reasons, there is need for a more sensitive, quantitative, and rapid method for the detection of RCA.

In the present study, we established an infectivity PCR method for detecting RCA. Infectivity PCR is a hybrid method that combines the best features of the infectivity assay and PCR. By this method, the virus is allowed to replicate in the cell culture, as in the traditional cell culture/CPE assay, and the amount of virus replicated in the cells is determined by quantitative PCR rather than by observing CPE. For efficient extraction of the DNA from RCA-infected cells, a novel glass-bead method was developed. Our results demonstrated that the infectivity PCR method combined with glass-beads-based DNA extraction was superior to the classical cell culture/CPE method for detecting RCA.

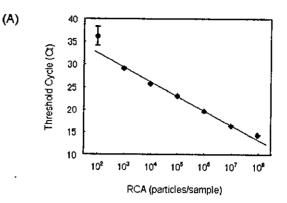
RESULTS

Quantification of RCA by Real-Time Quantitative PCR

As a first step in establishing an infectivity PCR method, we developed a real-time quantitative PCR that can quantify the copy number of the RCA genome. We designed four pairs of primers and probes for the detection of E1 DNA, which is included in the RCA genome but not in the adenovirus vectors. Among them, the Ad5dE1-1035F and Ad5dE1-1105R primers and the Ad5dE1-1058TM probe worked well for quantifying the RCA genome. Fig. 1A shows the standard curve with the starting quantity of RCA on the x axis and the threshold cycle (Ct denotes the PCR cycle at which the threshold line intercepts the amplification curve) on the y axis. The threshold cycle and the log-transformed concentration showed a high, inverse correlation in a linear fusion from 10^8 to 10^3 particles.

Detection of RCA by Nested PCR

Since the nested PCR method is known to be suitable for detecting low concentrations of DNA, we applied it here to detect the DNA extracted from 10¹, 10^{0.5}, or 10⁰ parti-



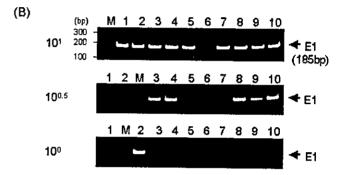


FIG. 1. Detection of RCA by PCR. Viral genome DNA was extracted from serial log dilutions of RCA and amplification of each sample was performed by (A) real-time quantitative PCR or (B) nested PCR. (A) Standard curve for the determination of RCA quantity generated from the amplification plot of real-time quantitative PCR. Data are the means \pm SD of triplicate amplifications. (B) Detection of a low copy number of RCA by nested PCR (n=10). The particle numbers in the samples were 10^1 , $10^{0.5}$, and 10^0 . M, molecular weight marker.

cle(s)/tube of RCA. When nested PCR was performed in 10 tubes, the amplification succeeded in the ratios of 9/10 for 10^1 particles, 5/10 for $10^{0.5}$ particles, and 1/10 for 10^0 particles (Fig. 1B). Although DNA concentration cannot be quantitatively determined by nested PCR, it can be estimated from the hit rate of the amplification. This estimation assumes that, when low concentrations of samples are transferred from a stock tube to PCR tubes, viral particles will not necessarily be present in all the reaction tubes. If the PCR is optimized, then as little as one copy of DNA can be amplified, and the relationship between the hit rate in the PCR and the average copy number in the PCR tubes can be calculated as follows: 1/10 for 0.105, 2/10 for 0.233, 3/10 for 0.357, 4/10 for 0.511, 5/10 for 0.693, 6/10 for 0.916, 7/10 for 1.20, 8/10 for 1.61, and 9/10 for 2.30 [16,17]. In our experiments, half of the extracted DNA was subjected to the nested PCR; therefore, the hit rate of the PCR and the RCA copy number were 1/10 for 0.5, 5/10 for 1.58, and 9/10 for 5. Although the hit rate in this experiment seemed to be slightly lower than the theoretical values, this does not

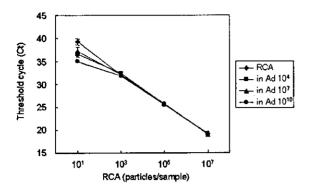


FIG. 2. Detection of RCA spiked into adenovirus vectors by real-time quantitative PCR. 10^1 , 10^3 , 10^5 , or 10^7 particles of RCA were spiked into 0, 10^4 , 10^7 , or 10^{10} particles of adenovirus vectors (AdHM4LacZ). Viral DNA was extracted from each sample, and E1 DNA was detected by real-time quantitative PCR. Data are the means \pm SD of triplicate amplifications. The background Ct (Ad without any RCA) was 39.1 for 10^4 particles of adenovirus vectors, 39.2 ± 1.6 for 10^7 particles, and 35.2 ± 0.04 for 10^{10} particles.

necessarily invalidate the results, since DNA may have been lost during the DNA extraction, and the detection limit may have been higher than one copy. These results demonstrated that the nested PCR could be used for the detection of lower concentrations of RCA and that the detection limit might be fewer than 10¹ particles.

Measurement of RCA in Adenovirus Vector Products

Because, in practice, it is often necessary to detect very slight amounts of RCA in high concentrations of adenovirus vectors, we next tried to quantitate the amount of RCA spiked into adenovirus vectors. We extracted viral genome DNA from 101, 103, 105, or 107 particles of RCA spiked into 104, 107, or 1010 particles of adenovirus vectors and then measured the amount of RCA by real-time quantitative PCR. As shown in Fig. 2, when the RCA concentration was higher than 103 particles/sample, the amount of RCA could be measured without major interference by coexisting adenovirus vectors. However, when the spiked RCA concentration was 101 particles, the Ct value seemed to be lowered by the presence of adenovirus vectors. From these results, although RCA was thought to be detectable even in the presence of adenovirus vectors, the adenovirus vectors used in this experiment might have contained a certain amount of E1 DNA. We therefore examined several lots of adenovirus vectors for the presence of E1 DNA by nested PCR. When 1010 particles of adenovirus vectors were subjected to the nested PCR, E1 DNA was detected in all seven lots tested. When 109 particles of adenovirus vectors were tested, E1 DNA was detected in four of the seven lots tested (data not shown).

Because we could not distinguish whether the E1 DNA detected in adenovirus vectors was derived from RCA or HEK293 cells, we tested for the presence of HEK293 cell-derived DNA in the vector products by PCR. For this

purpose, we used primers designed for the sequence of the pregnancy-specific glycoprotein (PSG) gene, in which the adenovirus E1 gene is inserted into the HEK293 cell genome [18]. In all lots examined, PSG DNA was detected in 10¹⁰ particles of adenovirus vectors, meaning that the adenovirus vector products contained HEK293 cell-derived DNA as impurities (Fig. 3A). E1 DNA was barely detected in 1010 particles of adenovirus vectors (Fig. 3B). These results showed that adenovirus vectors can be subjected to the direct measurement of RCA by PCR, although the results are complicated by the presence of residual HEK293 cell DNA. To separate RCA from HEK293 cell-derived DNA, we attempted to establish an infectivity PCR method for the measurement of RCA in adenovirus vectors. In the infectivity PCR assay, RCAs are expected to be selectively amplified in the cells that support their

Comparison of the Amount of RCA in Cells and Cultured Medium from RCA-Infected Cell Culture

To determine a suitable source for the PCR template in infectivity PCR, we compared the amounts of E1 DNA in the cells and cultured medium from the RCA-infected cell culture. We infected HeLa cells with serially diluted RCA and cultured them. We extracted DNA from the cells and cultured media and then subjected it to real-time quantitative PCR. In this experiment, we used one-third of the cells or one-hundredth of the supernatant from each dish for DNA extraction. A 100-fold higher amount of RCA was

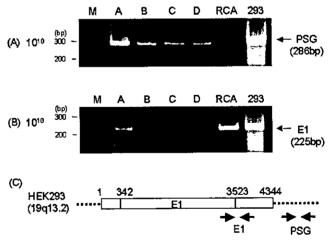
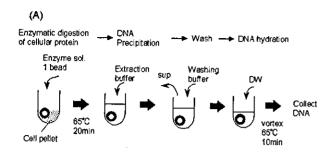


FIG. 3. Detection of pregnancy-specific glycoprotein (PSG) or E1 DNA in adenovirus vectors by PCR. Viral DNA was extracted from 10¹⁰ particles of adenovirus vectors and then (A) 293 cell-derived pregnancy-specific glycoprotein DNA or (B) E1 DNA was detected by PCR. DNA from HEK293 cells was used as a positive control. Lane A, AdHM4LacZ (Lot 0516); lane B, AdHM10LacZ-3 (Lot 0529); lane C, AdHM10LacZ-4 (Lot 0529); lane D, AdHM10LacZ-5 (Lot 0529), lane RCA, replication-competent adenoviruses; lane 293, genomic DNA extracted from HEK293 cells; lane M, molecular weight marker. (C) E1 DNA inserted into the chromosome of HEK293 cells and the positions of the PCR primers used are shown.



3)			
-	Method	EX R&D	Glass Beads
_	Raw data	8.9 x 10 ⁸	4.5 x 10 ⁸
	naw data	3.4×10^8	4.9 × 10 ⁹
	Average	6 15 x 108	47×108

FIG. 4. DNA extraction using glass beads. (A) Procedure of DNA extraction from cell pellets using glass beads. (B) Comparison of the efficiency of DNA extraction. DNA was extracted from RCA-infected HeLa cell lysate by the EX-R&D reagent or glass-beads method. The copy number of E1 DNA in each sample was determined by real-time quantitative PCR.

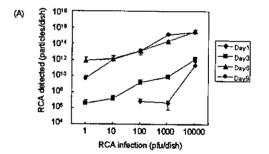
detected in the DNA extracted from the cells compared with that from the cultured medium (data not shown). Therefore, we considered the cells to be a suitable source for further examination of the propagation of RCA.

In the preparation of DNA from RCA-infected cells, cellular genomic DNA caused high viscosity and disturbed the subsequent PCR. However, cellular genomic DNA could be digested by nuclease after freezing and thawing without damaging the viral DNA, because the viral DNA is protected by capsid proteins. By this procedure, we could extract viral DNA from more than 1×10^6 cells and use it as a template for the PCR, although this procedure was laborious. We considered that glass beads, which were initially developed for extracting cellular DNA, might be used to simplify this step, and therefore we examined a glass-beads-based DNA extraction method (Fig. 4A). The protocol for the glass-beads method is simple and less time-consuming than extracting DNA after freezing and thawing followed by nuclease treatment. For comparing the efficiency of DNA extraction using glass beads to that using the SMI TEST EX-R&D, we extracted DNA from cells that contain the same amount of RCA. We used the SMI TEST EX-R&D as an example of a method that can extract DNA with high efficiency [19]. As shown in Fig. 4B, we detected equal amounts of RCA in DNA extracted by these two methods, meaning that glass beads are useful for extracting DNA rapidly, with an efficiency similar to that of the previous method.

Infectivity PCR for the Detection of RCA

For examining the infectivity PCR, we used RCA in the absence of adenovirus vectors as a preliminary experi-

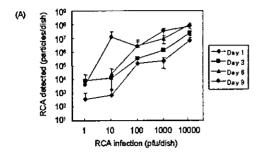
ment. HeLa cells were infected with serial log-diluted RCA (0, 0.1, 1, 10, 100, 1000, 10,000 pfu) in triplicate and cultured. After culturing them for 1, 3, 6, or 9 days, we harvested the cells and extracted the DNA using glass beads. We then measured the amount of RCA in each sample by real-time quantitative PCR. As shown in Figs. 5A and 5B, we detected RCA in all of the triplicate samples that had been infected with more than 1 pfu of RCA. RCA was not detected in the samples that had been infected with 0.1 pfu of RCA. Therefore, we concluded that at least 1 pfu of RCA was detectable by this assay. In parallel with this infectivity PCR assay, we observed the cells by microscopy and tested for CPE (Fig. 5C). On day 6, we observed weak signs of CPE in the cells that had been infected with 1000 pfu of RCA, and we clearly observed CPE in the cells that had been infected with 10,000 pfu of RCA. On day 9, we observed slight CPE in the cells that had been infected with 100 pfu of RCA, and we clearly observed CPE in the cells that had been infected with 1000 or 10,000 pfu of RCA. These results showed that the sensitivity of infectivity PCR was 100 or 1000 times higher than that of the CPE assay. In addition, by the infectivity PCR method, RCA could be detected at an earlier time point than by the CPE assay. Since A549 cells are often used for CPE assay, we also examined infectivity PCR using A549 cells. The viability of the cells decreased later than day 6, and it was difficult to test the CPE. The amount of RCA amplified in A549 cells tended to be lower than that in HeLa cells(data not shown). Therefore, we used HeLa cells for further examination.



(B) Infec	(B) Infactivity PCR			(C) CPE method				
pfu/dish	Day!	DayS	Day6	Day9] [pfu/dish	Day!	
10000	3/3	3/3		3/3		10000	0/3	
1000_	3/3	. 3/3	3/3	3/3		1000	0/3	
1,00	3/3	3/3	3/3	3/3		100	0/3	
10	0/3	2/3	3/3	3/3		10	0/3	
1	0/3	1/3	2/3	2/3			0/3	
0.1	0/3	0/3	0/3	0/3		01	0/3	
0	0/3	0/3	0/3	0/3		0	0/3	

(0) 0. 2		٠		
pfu/dish	Day!	Day3	Day6	Day9
10000	0/3		3/3	3/3
1000	0/3	0/3	3/3	3/3
100	0/3	0/3	0/3	3/3
. 10	0/3	0/3	0/3	0/3
1 .	0/3	0/3	0/3	0/3
. 01	0/3	0/3	0/3	0/3
0	0/3	0/3	0/3	0/3

FIG. 5. Comparison of RCA detection by CPE assay and infectivity PCR. HeLa cells were infected with serial dilutions of RCA in medium. CPE was observed and cells were harvested on days 1, 3, 6, and 9. The viral DNA was extracted by glass beads and then the amount of RCA was determined by real-time quantitative PCR. (A) RCA growth curve in HeLa cells. Data are the means \pm 5D (n = 3). (B) The ratio of E1 DNA-positive samples is indicated (n = 3). (C) The number of CPE-positive samples is indicated (n = 3).



(B) Infectivity PCR (TagMan PCR)

pfu/dish	Day1	Day3	Day6	Day9
10000	3/3	3/3	3/3	3/3
1000	3/3	3/3	3/3	3/3
100	3/3	3/3	3/3	3/3
10	1/3	2/3	3/3 _	3/3
. 1	1/3	1/3	0/3	2/3
0.1	0/3	0/3	0/3	0/3
· n	0/2	0/2	0/2	0/2

pfu/dish	Dayl	Day8	Day6	Day9
			0/3	
1000	0/3	0/3	0/3	0/3
100_	0/3	0/3	0/3	0/3
<u>_1</u> 0	0/3	0/3	0/3	0/3
1	0/3	0/3	0/3	0/3
0.1	0/3	0/3	0/3	0/3
l o "	0/3	0/3	0/3	0.73

(D) CPE method

(C) Infectivity PCR (Nested PCR) pfu/dish Dey1 Dey3 Dey6 Day9

FIG. 6. Comparison of the detection of RCA spiked into adenovirus vectors by CPE assay and infectivity PCR. HeLa cells were infected with serial dilutions of RCA spiked into 109 particles of adenovirus vectors. CPE was observed and cells were harvested on days 1, 3, 6, and 9. The viral DNA was extracted by glass beads, and then the amount of RCA was determined by real-time quantitative PCR or nested PCR. (A) RCA growth curve in HeLa cells. Data are the means \pm SD (n = 3). (B and C) The ratio of E1 DNA-positive samples is indicated (n =3). (D) The number of CPE-positive samples is indicated (n = 3).

Infectivity PCR for the Detection of RCA Spiked into **Adenovirus Vector Products**

Finally, we applied the infectivity PCR method for detecting RCA spiked into adenovirus vectors (Fig. 6). We infected 1.5×10^6 HeLa cells with 0, 0.1, 1, 10, 100, 1000, or 10,000 pfu of RCA spiked into 109 particles of adenovirus vectors (AdHM10LacZ-3). Because 109 particles of the adenovirus vector were equivalent to 5×10^7 infectious units, the multiplicity of infection (m.o.i.) was about 33 in this assay. We harvested the cells on days 1, 3, 6, and 9, and then we extracted the DNA using glass beads. By real-time quantitative PCR, we detected RCA in the samples that had been infected with more than 1 pfu of RCA (Figs. 6A and 6B). We detected no RCA in the samples infected with 0.1 pfu of RCA. Therefore we concluded the detection limit of this assay to be 1 pfu. This result was the same as that in the assay performed in the absence of adenovirus vectors. The absolute value of the amplified RCA was lower than in the assay without adenovirus vectors. When we also examined the presence of RCA by nested PCR (Fig. 6C), we detected E1 DNA in the samples infected with 1 pfu of RCA, but we did not detect it in those infected with 0.1 pfu of RCA, meaning that the detection limit was still 1 pfu. We observed a slight sign of CPE on day 9 in only one of the three dishes that had been infected with 10,000 pfu of RCA (Fig. 6D). CPE appeared to be suppressed by the presence of adenovirus vectors. From these results, when we measured RCA spiked into adenovirus vectors, the sensitivity of the assay was almost 10,000 times higher by infectivity PCR than by CPE assay. Thus the RCA contamination in adenovirus vectors could be detected with high sensitivity and shortterm cell culture by the infectivity PCR method reported here.

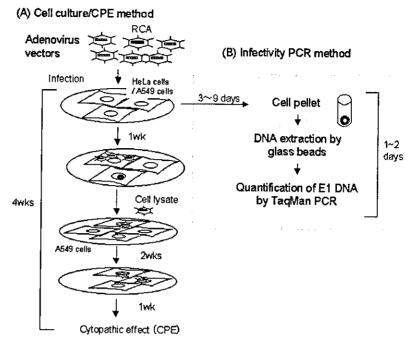
DISCUSSION

The infectivity PCR assay was developed for detecting RCA in adenovirus vectors (Fig. 7). The cell culture/CPE method in common use involves an infection of HeLa or A549 cells, harvesting, blind passage on fresh cells, and the search for CPE (Fig. 7A). It usually takes more than 4 weeks. In the method we reported here, HeLa cells are infected with adenovirus vector products and cultured for 3 or more days. The cells are harvested and viral DNA is extracted using glass beads, and then the amount of E1 DNA is measured by real-time quantitative PCR. At least 1 pfu of RCA spiked into adenovirus vectors can be detected by this method. The infectivity PCR method thus provides a more sensitive, rapid, and simple means of testing the quality of adenovirus vectors than the traditional CPE assay.

As a sensitive method for the detection of viral genome, PCR has been widely used. Real-time quantitative PCR is sensitive and highly reproducible over a wide dynamic range in addition to having high-throughput capacity. In our study, 103 to 108 particles of RCA could be detected quantitatively by real-time quantitative PCR. Nested PCR is known to be suitable for the detection of smaller amounts of DNA. By nested PCR, fewer than 101 particles of RCA could be detected. While the PCR method has advantages in terms of sensitivity, it has a disadvantage in that not only infectious virus but also uninfectious viral particles or DNA fragments are detected. In our experiments, we used primers and a probe for the E1 sequence that is present in RCA but not in adenovirus vectors. However, in addition to RCA, HEK293 cells in which the adenovirus vectors had been propagated had the E1 sequence in their genome. Although the adenovirus vectors had been purified by CsCl ultracentrifugation after treating the HEK293 cell lysate with nuclease, HEK293 cell-derived E1 DNA was detected in adenovirus vector products, and thus if the E1 DNA was detected in adenovirus vector products by PCR, it is not clear whether the origin is RCA or HEK293 cells. The presence of cellular E1 DNA in adenovirus vector products might not be limited to our sample, because purification by CsCl ultracentrifugation is the method used for the adenovirus vectors for clinical studies [20], and cellular DNA has been detected in adenovirus reference materials [21]. On the other hand, the fact that the ratio of infectious titer to particle concentration was 1:8.6 (see Materials and Methods) means that not all of the RCA particles



FIG. 7. (A) The cell culture/CPE method in common use involves an infection of HeLa or A549 cells, harvesting, blind passage on fresh cells, and the search for CPE. It usually takes more than four weeks. (B) In infectivity PCR method, HeLa cell are infected with adenovirus vector products, and cultured for three or more days. The cells are harvested and viral DNA is extracted using glass beads, and then the amount of E1 DNA is measured by real-time quantitative PCR.



were infectious. Therefore, infection of the adenovirus vectors into cells was thought to be indispensable for the selective amplification of the infectious RCA particles.

In the infectivity PCR assay, RCA could be detected with a detection limit of 1 pfu irrespective of the presence of adenovirus vectors. On the other hand, CPE was observed in the cells that had been infected with 10² to 10⁴ pfu of RCA without adenovirus vectors or 10⁴ pfu of RCA spiked into adenovirus vectors. Therefore, for the detection of RCA spiked into adenovirus vectors, the infectivity PCR was shown to be almost 10,000 times more sensitive than the CPE assay.

Since nested PCR was able to detect smaller amounts of DNA than real-time quantitative PCR, nested PCR was expected to contribute to an increase in the sensitivity of the infectivity PCR assay. However, the detection limit of the assay was still 1 pfu even when nested PCR was used. This might have been because, at lower concentrations of RCA, there was a threshold in the steps of infection or amplification in the cells, and thus the RCA was not linearly amplified.

The infectivity PCR was also shown to have the advantage of requiring fewer cells than the CPE assay. It is known that too high an input m.o.i. may lead to suppression of RCA outgrowth by the vector [12,22]. Because adenovirus vectors are prepared as high-titer stocks, a large-scale cell culturing, e.g., roller-bottle culture, is required to test the presence of RCA at a low m.o.i. Although the presence of adenovirus vectors seemed to interfere with the CPE, RCA could be detected by realtime quantitative PCR with the same detection limit of 1

pfu even in the presence of adenovirus vectors. This means that infectivity PCR can be performed at a higher m.o.i. than the CPE assay and therefore may contribute to a decrease in the number of the cells required for the assay.

The FDA currently recommends that adenovirus vector preparations contain $<1~\rm RCA$ in 3×10^{10} particles. Since, in our method, 10^9 particles of adenovirus vectors can be tested using one 10-cm-diameter plate, 3×10^{10} particles of adenovirus vectors can be tested using 30 plates. If 3×10^{10} particles are tested in the standard culture method with blind passage and come out positive, the only possible conclusion would be that there was $>1~\rm pfu$ in 3×10^{10} particles. Our method has the potential to be much more effective and quantitative than the standard culture method, because each plate can be tested separately, and then the actual level of RCA contamination can be estimated using the Poisson distribution.

With a goal of ensuring the safety of gene therapy, official guidelines have been published for the testing of replication-competent retroviruses (RCR) [23]. These guidelines, entitled Supplemental Guidance on Testing for Replication-Competent Retrovirus in Retroviral Vector-Based Gene Therapy Products and During Follow-Up of Patients in Clinical Trials Using Retroviral Vectors, provide information on RCR testing during manufacture (including timing), amount of material to be tested, and general testing methods. However, with respect to RCA in adenovirus vectors, the only available guidelines are the descriptions included within the Guidance for Human Somatic Cell Therapy and Gene Therapy [12]. In these guidelines, the cell culture/



CPE method is recommended for testing the presence of RCA. Although it is recommended that the assay sensitivity should be validated by spiking the test inocula with increasingly smaller numbers of wild-type adenovirus particles, there are currently no detailed guidelines for the RCA test. With regard to the safety concerns of adenovirus vector-based gene therapy, most research has focused on the immune response against capsid proteins [24]. In addition, preclinical safety studies are inherently limited in their assessment of RCA-related risks, since there are no animal models that support extensive replication of human wild-type adenovirus. This fact may have limited the attention paid to establishing an RCA detection method. Our method reported here could be used to test the RCA contamination in clinical lots of adenovirus vectors or to detect RCA in patients undergoing adenovirus vectorbased gene therapy. Together with the recent efforts to develop cell lines that can propagate adenovirus vectors without emergence of RCA [25-27], this method might improve the safety of adenovirus vector-based gene therapy.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Cells. HeLa cells were obtained from the Japanese Cancer Research Resource Bank (Tokyo, Japan) and maintained in minimum essential medium (MEM) supplemented with 10% fetal calf serum (FCS). HEK293 cells were obtained from Clontech (Palo Alto, CA) and maintained in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium supplemented with 10% FCS.

Replication-competent adenovirus. The seed RCA (adenovirus type 5) was purchased from ATCC (Manassas, VA). For the amplification of the RCA, HeLa cells were infected with the RCA and harvested when CPE was observed. The cell lysate was prepared by four cycles of freezing and thawing and then was added to another dish of HeLa cells. After the amplification was repeated, the cell lysate from five 150-mm-diameter dishes was subjected to RCA purification by CsCl ultracentrifugation. The particle concentration and infectious titer of RCA were measured according to the standard operating procedure for adenovirus reference material (ATCC VR1516). For determining the particle concentration, RCA was diluted with the excipient solution (20 mM Tris, 25 mM NaCl, 2.5% glycerol (w/v), pH 8.0). After incubation for 15 min at room temperature, the absorbance value at 260 nm was measured. The particle concentration was determined as 5.826×10^{11} particles/ml. For determining the infectious titer, HEK293 cells were seeded in 96-well plates at 4×10^4 cells/well. After culturing for 1 day, medium was replaced with 200 μl of medium containing 5×10^7 to 1.28×10^{10} times diluted RCA stock. The plates were incubated for 60 min, and then the medium was replaced with 200 µl of fresh medium. On day 10, each well was examined for signs of CPE using a light microscope. The infectious titer was calculated as the normalized adjusted standard titer [28] and determined to be 6.767×10^{10} NIU/ml. The ratio of infectious titer to particle concentration was 1:8.6.

After we had prepared our in-house RCA standard, the Adenovirus Reference Material (ATCC VR-1516) developed under the guidance of the Adenovirus Reference Material Working Group and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration was distributed [21]. The ratio of infectious titer to particle concentration of the reference material is 1:8.3. The ratio of our in-house RCA was 1:8.9 (5.8 \times 10¹¹ particles/ml vs 6.5 \times 10¹⁰ IU/ml) when these values were measured using the Adenovirus Reference Material as a reference. Since the ratios for our in-house standard and the reference material were similar, our in-house RCA standard was considered to have qualities similar to those of the reference material.

Adenovirus vector. Adenovirus vectors were prepared as described previously [29]. In brief, the plasmid harboring β -galactosidase in the E1-deleted region of the adenovirus, pAdHM10LacZ, was digested with Pacl. The linearized plasmid was transfected into subconfluent HEK293 cells plated in a 60-mm dish using SuperFect (Qiagen, Valencia, CA) according to the manufacturer's protocol. Ten days later, cells were harvested and adenovirus vectors were released by four cycles of freezing and thawing. The vectors were amplified by further infecting into HEK293 cells and then purified by CsCl step gradient ultracentrifugation followed by CsCl linear gradient ultracentrifugation.

Real-time quantitative PCR. The ABI Prism 7000 sequence detection system (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA) was used for detecting realtime quantitative PCR products. The DNA extracted from RCA standard or RCA-infected cells was dissolved in 20 µl of distilled H2O. Ten microliters of the DNA sample was used as template in a subsequent real-time quantitative PCR with 0.5 µM each primer, 0.16 µM TaqMan probe, and 25 µI of TaqMan universal PCR master mix (Applied Biosystems). The PCR was initially denatured at 95°C for 10 min and then subjected to cycles of 95°C for 15 s and 60°C for 1 min. The reaction was carried out for 50 cycles. A calibration curve was generated for the DNA extracted from purified RCA and validated using linear regression analysis. The sequences of the primers and probe used were as follows: Ad5dE1-1035F, TCCGGTCCTTCTAA-CACACCTC; Ad5dE1-1105R, ACGGCAACTGGTTTAATGGG; and Ad5dE1-1058TM probe, FAM-TGAGATACACCCGGTGGTCCCGC-TAMRA. These sequences were designed using Primer Express software version 1.0 (Applied Biosystems), and it was confirmed that they amplified the products of desired molecular weight.

Nested PCR for E1 DNA. The primers used for the first PCR were Jzp5-Ad3473F, CGCTGAGTITGGCTCTAGCGAT, and Jzp6-Ad3698R, CATCA-CATTCTGACGCACCC. The primers for the second PCR were Jzp5-2-Ad3483F, GGCTCTAGCGATGAAGATACAG, and Jzp6-2-Ad3668R, GG-GCATGCGCGTTGTCAAAT. The amplification conditions for the PCR consisted of 35 cycles of denaturation at 94°C for 30 s, annealing at 55°C for 30 s, and extension at 72°C for 1 min, followed by a final incubation at 72°C for 7 min. Two microliters of the 50-µl reaction mixture from the first PCR was subjected to a second PCR. For the second PCR, the number of amplifications was set to 25.

PCR for pregnancy-specific glycoprotein gene. To detect the DNA derived from HEK293 cells, a pregnancy-specific glycoprotein gene adjacent to the E1 gene in HEK293 cells was selected as a target. The primers used for the PCR were PSG3-293-5281F, CTCATGCCTGCCTCTTTCACT, and PSG4-293-5567R, AGAGCCATCCA CACAATGTGC.

Nucleic acid extraction using SMI TEST EX-R&D. Cells were harvested and centrifuged at 2000 rpm for 5 min and then suspended in PBS(-). After four cycles of freezing and thawing, the nucleic acids derived from the cells were digested by incubating with DNase I (0.2 mg/ml), RNase A (0.2 mg/ml), and MgCl₂ (10 mM) at 37°C for 30 min. Then DNA was extracted using SMI TEST EX-R&D (Genome Science Laboratories, Fukushima, Japan) according to the manufacturer's instructions. When DNA was extracted from purified RCA or adenovirus vectors, the samples were subjected directly to DNA extraction using SMI TEST EX-R&D reagents.

Nucleic acid extraction using glass beads. Glass beads (GSB 07) approximately 7 mm in diameter were obtained from Nippon Rikagaku Kikai Co. (Tokyo, Japan). The glass beads were treated with 30% hydrogen fluoride (HF) solution for 1 h and then extensively washed with distilled water. The HF-treated glass beads were used for the extraction of viral genome.

For nucleic acid extraction, cells were harvested in 10-ml tubes and centrifuged at 2000 rpm for 5 min. After the medium was removed, one glass bead and 250 μl of extraction solution (200 mM Tris–HCl (pH 8.0), 200 mM NaCl, 1% *N*-lauroylsarcosinate, 1% SDS, 2% 2-mercaptoethanol, and 1 mg/ml proteinase K) were added to each tube, and then the samples were stirred for 10 s. After incubation at 65°C for 20 min, 2 ml of 70% isopropyl alcohol was added. The samples were incubated at room temperature for 1 min with gentle stirring. The solution was removed, and the beads were washed with 2 ml of 75% ethanol twice. Then the beads were



dried at room temperature. DNA was eluted from each bead by adding 50 μ l of distilled H_2O and incubating at 65°C for 5 min. Twenty microliters of the sample was assayed for E1 DNA.

Infectivity PCR using HeLa cells. HeLa cells (1.5×10^6) were seeded in 100-mm-diameter dishes. One day later (day 0), the cells were infected with 1 to 10^4 pfu of RCA spiked into 10^9 particles of adenovirus vectors by incubating at 37° C for 2 h in 1 ml of MEM containing 1% FCS. After infection, the medium was replaced with MEM containing 10% FCS. On days 1, 3, 6, and 9, the cells and supernatant were harvested. DNA was extracted, and the amount of E1 DNA was measured by real-time quantitative PCR. The experiments were done in triplicate.

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品質に関わるトピックの動向***

—Q5E: バイオ医薬品のコンパラビリティー —

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品質に関わるトピックの動向***

--Q5E: バイオ医薬品のコンパラビリティー --

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1. 東京会議までの経過

1.1 ブリュッセル会議 (2002年2月)

ブリュッセル会議で作成されたコンセプト・ペーパーの概略を Table 1に示します。

1. 製造工程に変更を加えたバイオテクノロジー 応用医薬品/生物起源由来医薬品のコンパラビリテ ィーに関するガイドラインを作成する。2. 適用範 囲は Q6B (バイオテクノロジー応用医薬品/生物起 源由来医薬品の規格及び試験方法の設定につい て)1) と同じ。3. 製造工程変更後の製品の申請資料 として、製造工程変更前の製品について得られたデ 一夕を用いる場合を対象とする。4. コンパラビリ ティーを確立するために必要な, 科学的な考え方に 焦点を絞って議論する. 5. 製品の品質と製造工程 の両方の観点から議論する。6. まず品質分野のエ キスパートが一次案を作成し、必要であれば安全性 分野及び有効性分野のグループの参加を求め、非臨 床,臨床分野の問題を議論する。7. FDA は内部事 情によりドラフト作成作業に入れないので、当面ワ シントン会議に向けて PhRMA が調整役, JPMA が事務局としてプレドラフト作成を行うこととされ ました.

1.2 ワシントン会議 (2002年9月)

前回ワシントン会議の内容を Table 2にまとめました。後発品の取り扱いについて議論しましたが、運営委員会により後発品を適用範囲に含まないことが確認されました。ガイドラインに盛り込むアイテムを挙げた PhRMA 原案のアウトラインの各項目について JPMA の position paper 等を参考にして議論しました。また、極によってはコンセプト・ペ

ーパーの作成に関わったメンバーの交代があったこともあり、共通認識を深める目的で非公式のワークショップも開催されました。

また、EWGが正式に発足し PhRMA と JPMA 両者がラポーターとしてドラフト作成を進めることになりました。

1.3 前回ワシントン会議以降

ワシントン会議以降の経過をTable 3に示します。 まずガイドライン案の作成を本格的に進めるために、 基本になるドラフトはラポーターが作成することに なって、各極のガイドラインや position paper の比 較表、更にガイドラインのたたき台として Draft 0 を 2002 年 11 月に示しました。続いて三極 6 団体か らコメントを収集し、そのコメントを踏まえて、 2003 年 2 月の東京会議で用いるガイドライン案と して Draft 1 をラポーターが提示しました。

2. 東京会議の内容

東京会議での検討内容を Table 4 にまとめました。まず、三極 6 団体と Canada からそれぞれの考え方が表明されました。その後に東京会議の前に提示されたガイドライン案の Draft 1 について詳細に検討しました。この検討の各段階で議論された項目の中で、今後調和に向けて議論すべき主な検討項目を特定化しました。そして、次回ブリュッセル会議に向けて Draft 作成の日程について検討しました。

2.1 三極から考え方の表明 (Table 5)

三極いずれの団体からも Draft 1の内容は Draft 0に対して大きく改善されたことが表明されました。 日本からはコンパラビリティーのガイドラインに

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^{***} 当協会主催の第8回 ICH 即時報告会 (平成 15年3月6日:東京, 3月11日:大阪) における講演による.

Table 1 2002年2月コンセプト・ペーパー概略

- 1. 製造工程に変更を加えたバイオテクノロジー 応用医薬品/生物起源由来医薬品のコンパラビ リティーに関するガイドラインを作成する.
- 2. 適用範囲は Q6B と同じ.
- 3. 製造工程変更後の製品の申請資料として,変更前の製品のデータを用いる場合が対象.
- 4. 科学的な考え方に焦点を絞って議論する.
- 5. 製品の品質と製造工程の観点から議論する.
- 6. Quality のエキスパートが一次案を作成する.
- 7. ワシントン会議に向け PhRMA を調整役,JP MA を事務局としてプレドラフト作成を行う.

Table 2 2002年9月ワシントン会議討議内容

- 1. 運営委員会で後発品は適用範囲に含まない事が確認された.
- 2. PhRMA 原案の Outline を基に、JPMA posit ion paper 等を参考にして、用語の定義、ガイドラインに入れるべき項目等について討議
- 3. PhRMA 主催非公開ワークショップ (トピック:(1)製造方法の変更に伴う製品の抗原性評価に関する考察;(2)製薬企業によるコンパラビリティー評価例の報告)
- 4. EWG が正式に発足し、PhRMA と JPMA が ラポーターとなることとされた.

Table 3 前回ワシントン会議以降の経過

- 1. ラポーターが各極のガイドライン, あるいは Position Paper の比較表を作成, さらに, ガ イドラインのたたき台として"Draft 0"(各 国の主張をほぼすべて取り入れたバージョ ン)を提示(2002年11月)
- 2. "Draft 0" について三極からコメント収集 (2002年12月~2003年1月)
- 3. 東京会議に用いる "Draft 1" をラポーターが 提示. (2003 年 1 月)

Table 4 東京会議の内容のまとめ

- 1. 三極から考え方の表明
- 2. ガイドライン案(Draft 1)の検討
- 3. 調和に向け今後の主要な検討項目の特定化
- 4. ブリュッセル会議への日程の検討

Table 5 三極から考え方の表明

- 日本: Draft 1 は大きく改善した. 製品の品質 によるコンパラビリティー評価を重視 すべき. 詳細な製造工程関連の記述は 現行審査システムでは適用が難しい.
- 欧州: Draft 1 は大きく改善した. 製造工程の 記述, 非臨床, 臨床の取り扱いの検討 を要請.
- 米国: Draft 1 は大きく改善した. リスク評価, コンパラビリティー評価手順, 開発段階のコンパラビリティーについて検討を要請. 品質の改善を目的とした場合についても盛り込むべき.

おいては基本的に製品の品質の比較による評価を重視すべきであること, 更に日本の現行の審査システムにおいては詳細な製造工程関連の記述は難しいことが主張されました.

欧州からは反対に製造プロセスを詳細に盛り込む べきであると共に、非臨床及び臨床分野の取り扱い についての記述が要請されました。

米国からは製造工程を変更したときのリスク評価やコンパラビリティー評価を行う際の手順及び開発 段階でのコンパラビリティー評価の検討が要請されました。更に品質の改善を目的とした製造工程の変 更についても考え方を整理すべきであると要請されました。

2.2 ガイドライン案 (Draft 1) の検討 (Table 6)

今回の東京会議では多くの時間をかけてガイドライン案である Draft 1 の内容について詳細に検討しました。その結果、ガイドラインを作成する上で調和に向けて障害になるような大きな問題はないことを確認しました。

討議の結果については、現段階でガイドラインに 盛り込むべきとされた項目について説明します。た だし、まだ案の段階であり、今後調和の過程におい て大きな変更も考えられますので、不確定なもので あることをご承知おき下さい。

1番の Introduction ではそれぞれ目的,背景,適用範囲,基本原則が述べられています。

2番の Guidelines からコンパラビリティーの検 討作業にあたっての具体的な指針が述べられていま す。その最初にコンパラビリティーを検討するため

Table 6 ガイドライン TOC 案

ICH Q5E: Comparability of Biotechnological/Biological Products Subject to Changes in their Manufacturing Process

1	Introduction
1.1	Objectives
1.2	Background
1.3	Scope of the Guideline
1.4	General Principles
2	Guidelines
2.1	Considerations for Establishing Comparability
2.2	Key Quality Criteria
2.2.1	Analytical Techniques
2.2.2	Characterisation
2.2.3	Specifications
2.2.4	Stability
2.3	The Manufacturing Process
2.3.1	Drug Substance and Drug Product
2.3.2	Description of the Manufacturing process and controls
2.3.3	Assessing Impact of Manufacturing Changes
2.3.4	Process Evaluation / Validation: Consistency of Batches before and
	after manufacturing change
2.4	The Comparability exercise (Study)
2.4.1	Overall Strategy
2.4.2	Post marketing
2.4.3	Drug Substance
2.4.4	Drug Product
2.5	Development
2.6	Nonclinical and clinical data
3	Glossary

に考慮すべきポイントについての総論,次に品質関係でコンパラビリティーを検討する上での要素を述べます.これには分析法の適格性,物理的化学的,生物学的あるいは免疫学的な特性解析,製品規格,製品の安定性に関する比較が含まれます.

次に製造工程について順番に述べます。最初に原薬と製剤の製造工程、製造工程と工程管理の記述、製造工程変更によるインパクトの評価、製造工程の変更前後のロットの恒常性を確認するための工程評価/検証と続きます。後ほど述べますが、この製造工程の内容については、どのような順番・構成で記述するか今後大きな議論になると考えています。

続いてコンパラビリティー評価研究の具体的な流れについての説明です。まず全体の方策, 市販後の場合, 原薬・製剤の場合, 開発段階でのコンパラビリティー, そして非臨床・臨床のデータという流れになり, 最後に用語集となる予定です。

2.3 今後の検討課題 (Table 7)

今回の東京会議ではガイドライン案である Draft

1を詳細に検討し、その結果、調和ガイドラインの作成をめざす上で、調和を阻む大きな問題点はないことを確認しました。しかし、今後調整が必要と考えられる主要な検討課題がいくつか浮かび上がりました。

まず製造工程の記述です。これは欧州が強く主張している点ですが、このガイドラインに製造工程関係の要素を詳細に記述し、CPMPのガイドラインのような工程管理の規格値及び適否の判定基準やインプロセスコントロールもコンパラビリティー評価の重要な要素として記述しようという主張です。これには日米が反対していますから相当な議論になる

Table 7 今後の検討課題

- 1. 製造工程の記述
- 2. コンパラビリティーを評価する手順
- 3. 開発段階のコンパラビリティー評価
- 4. 試験方法の分析能力の検討
- 5. 非臨床及び臨床研究について

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と思います.

次にコンパラビリティー評価の手順です。コンパラビリティーを成立させるための評価は幾つかのステップを踏んで段階的に進めますが、その順番はケースにより異なります。そこで、基本的な考え方をどのようにガイドラインに記述するかという課題があります。

開発段階では製造工程を改良するために様々な変更が行われますが、多種多様なケースをどのようにまとめ、ガイドラインに盛り込むべきかが問題です。またコンパラビリティーを成立させるために用いる試験方法の分析能力についてどのように評価して使用すれば良いのかといった課題もあります。

そして、これも大きな問題ですが、非臨床及び臨床研究についてはどのような内容を盛り込むべきかという課題があります。非臨床及び臨床研究関連の記述は、最初に述べたようにコンセプト・ペーパー(Table 1)では、まず品質分野のエキスパートが一次案を作成し、必要であれば安全性分野及び有効性分野のグループの参加を求めて前臨床及び臨床分野の問題を議論することになっていました。

今回の東京会議において、非臨床及び臨床研究の 具体的な手順について EWG の考え方をまとめました (Table 8). その結果、まず品質分野のエキスパートが集まってガイドラインを作成し、Step 2 とします。それから非臨床及び臨床分野の専門家の意見を聞き、Step 4 の前にその内容を品質分野のエキスパートが検討することとしました。

2.4 ブリュッセル会議までの日程 (Table 9)

EWG では 2003 年 11 月の大阪での ICH6 で Step 2 にしようと議論を進めていますが、正式に EWG メンバーが直接顔を合わせて討論できる機会は 7 月に予定されているブリュッセル会議しかありません。先ほど述べた問題点を解決するには、EWG 会議が

Table 8 非臨床及び臨床研究

- 1. 品質分野の専門家が討議してガイドラインを 作成し、Step 2 とする.
- 2. 非臨床及び臨床分野の専門家にはその後に意見を聞く.
- 3. Step 4 に先立ち、非臨床及び臨床分野の専門 家からのコメントについて、品質分野の専門 家が検討する.

Table 9 ブリュッセル会議迄の日程

- 1. Draft 2(ラポーターが作成): 3月上旬
- 2. 各極からのコメントの収集: 4月中旬
- 3. 臨時 EWG 会議: 5月上旬 製造工程の記述等について検討する予定.
- 4. Draft 3 作成及びコメント収集: 6 月

大阪 ICH 6までに一回では、Step 2 に進むのは困難ということが EWG 内での共通認識でした。そこで、ブリュッセル会議までの5月上旬に臨時 EWG会議の開催を提案することとしました。

2.5 臨時 EWG 会議 (Table 10)

臨時 EWG 会議では、先ほど述べた問題点の中で 最も大きな問題点と思われる製造工程の記述につい て検討する予定です。先ほど述べたように三極の考 え方が大きく異なっています。特に欧州から詳細に 盛り込むべきであるとの意見が出されていますので、 その記述内容については、かなり突っ込んだ話し合 いをすることになりそうです。

その他の課題も検討する予定ですが、このトピックが Q5 シリーズと Q6B ガイドラインを踏まえて、その応用によって成立するコンパラビリティー評価法についての調和を目指したガイドラインであることから、各課題について相当詳細かつ念入りな議論を行うことが調和のための必須要件であると思っています。

2.6 臨時 EWG 会議 (Table 11)

今回の東京会議で予想以上に検討が進みましたことから、11月の大阪 ICH6 で Step 2に到達できる可能性が出て来ました。大阪で Step 2に達するためには5月の臨時会議と7月のブリュッセル会議で十分な検討を行い、確実にドラフト作成を進めるこ

Table 10 臨時EWG会議 - 製造工程の記述 -

- 1. 製造工程の記述について、考え方が三極間に おいて大きく異なっている.
- 2. 欧州から詳細に盛り込むべきとの意見.
- 3. 製造工程の記述内容について検討する.

Table 11 今後の予定

2003年5月	臨時 EWG
2003年7月	ブリュッセル EWG
2003年11月	ICH 6 (Step 2?)

とが必要であると思っています。

文 献

1) 厚生労働省医薬局審査管理課長:生物薬品 (バ

イオテクノロジー応用医薬品/生物起源由来医薬品)の規格及び試験方法の設定について, 医薬審発第 571 号, 平成 13 年 5 月 1 日.

知っておきたいゲノムの知識



バイオ医薬品とは、生命現象の分子的解明を基にバイオテクノロジーなどの先端技術を応用して製造される医薬品を指す。具体的には、①組換え細胞や培養細胞などの細胞基材より生産されるタンパク質性医薬品(ホルモン、酵素、サイトカイン、血液凝固因子、ワクチン、抗体など)、②遺伝子治療薬、③細胞治療薬・医療機器、④トランスジェニック(Tg)動物/植物由来タンパク質性医薬品、⑤ Tg 動物由来細胞治療薬など、⑥核酸医薬品(アンチセンス、リボザイム、siRNA、デコイ、DNA ワクチン)などがあげられる。

1980 年代以降,まず,遺伝子組換え技術などを応用して,従来の手法では入手困難であったヒト型のタンパク質や微量活性タンパク質が組換え大腸菌や動物細胞から生産され,医薬品として臨床

に供された。その後さらに、ヒト型のモノクローナル抗体、遺伝子治療薬や細胞治療薬などがバイオ医薬品として開発されてきた(表 1) 11 .

ポストゲノム時代を迎えて、生命現象の維持に 関与し、あるいは疾患に関連する新たな遺伝子や タンパク質の探索および機能解明が熾烈な国際競 争となっている。機能が明らかにされた新たな遺 伝子やタンパク質に医療上の有用性が期待される 場合には、それ自体あるいは誘導体を有効成分と する遺伝子治療薬やタンパク質性医薬品が開発される。また、新機能遺伝子で改変された細胞が細 胞治療や再生医療に活用されることも考えられ る。さらに、疾患関連タンパク質などを分子標的 として制御する抗体医薬品や、特定の遺伝子発現 を制御する塩基配列を有する各種核酸医薬品など

表1 わが国で臨床応用されているバイオ医薬品など(分類と代表的な効能・効果)

● 細胞基材由来タンパク質性医薬品

酵素:t-PA/ウロキナーゼ(急性心筋梗塞),グルコセレブロシダーゼ(ゴーシェ病)

血液凝固因子:血液凝固第VI/VI因子(血友病)

ホルモン: インスリン(糖尿病),成長ホルモン(下垂体性小人症),ソマトメジン C(高インスリン血症,成長障害).

ナトリウム利尿ペプチド(急性心不全)、グルカゴン(低血糖時の救急処置)

ワクチン: A / B 型肝炎ワクチン(A / B 型肝炎の予防)

サイトカイン: インターフェロン α (8 / C型慢性肝炎, 腎癌), インターフェロン β (多発性硬化症), インターフェロン γ (腎癌, 菌状息肉症),エリスロポエチン(腎性貧血),G-CSF(癌化学療法による好中球減少),インターロイキン-2 (血管肉腫, 腎癌), bFGF(褥瘡, 皮膚潰瘍)

モノクローナル 抗体: 抗 HER2 抗体(転移性乳癌), 抗 CD20 抗体(リンパ腫), 抗 RS ウイルス抗体(RS ウイルス感染), 抗 TNF α 抗体(関節リウマチ, クローン病), 抗 CD25 抗体(腎移植後の急性拒絶反応)

● 遺伝子治療薬(臨床研究および計画段階のもの:20 プロトコール)

ベクター(件数): アデノウイルス(9), レトロウイルス(6), センダイウイルス(1), プラスミド(2), リボソーム(2) 対象疾患(件数): 癌(14), 遺伝性疾患(3), 血管関連疾患(3)

●細胞治療薬など(治験および臨床研究段階のもの)

培養皮膚(皮膚潰瘍,熱傷など). 樹状細胞(多発性骨髄腫,前立腺癌),軟骨細胞(軟骨損傷など),リンパ球から細胞傷害性 T 細胞(CTL)を誘導し癌治療など、骨髄細胞より軟骨/骨芽細胞/血管/皮膚などに分化させ適用、角膜の再生

の開発も期待される.

一方,幹細胞などを基にした細胞治療や再生医療のための各種細胞・組織製品,バイオ製品(たとえば細胞)と医療機器あるいは異なるバイオ製品を組み合わせた複合型の製品,癌ワクチン,異なるタンパク質の機能ドメインを組み合わせた製品,糖鎖改変タンパク質,新規担体の利用などによる製剤学的工夫を施された製品なども開発されると想定される。

新規バイオ医薬品の開発・臨床応用においては、急速な学問と技術の進歩に応じた品質・安全性確保策という科学面での課題はもとより、適正な規制・基準の設定、ヒトの遺伝子や細胞・組織を操作し、個人の遺伝情報を扱ううえでの社会的理解や認知、および倫理的妥当性の確保という課題があり、関係者の英知を結集して解決していく必要がある^{2,3)}。

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●臨尿医。研究者:教育者として生きた才久ラー博士の講演集

平静の心

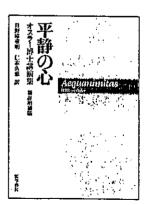
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臨床医・研究者・教育者として生きたウィリアム・オスラー博士の講演集。「平静の心」の新訂版発行後に判明した新知見などをもとに、訳・註を全面的に見直した。





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OPINION

DDS 19 巻 2 号。平成 16 年

バイオ創薬の新たな展開と 効果的な推進に向けて

早川堯夫

現在は創薬史上に類のない時機で ある.ゲノム解読後のゲノム科学を ベースにした創薬、幹細胞学の発展 などをベースにした細胞治療や再生 医療用の製品開発、その他の生命科 学や先端技術の進展を背景にした創 薬など,いずれも熾烈な国際的競争 が展開されている。医薬品などが疾 病の予防、診断、治療を通して保健 衛生の向上に寄与するものであり、 それゆえに人類に恩恵をもたらす共 通の資産であるという本質を考えれ ば、創薬が国際競争により推進され ることは、当然望ましいことである. わが国としては、科学技術立国を目 指すということも含めて、米・欧に 伍して、産・官・学あげてこの課題 に取り組む必要がある.

創薬は、シーズ探索・発見と、およびそれをもとにした医薬品候補の 探索・選択・最適化、製法の検討、 品質・有効性・安全性評価という二 つのステージに大別される。

ゲノム科学をベースにした創薬の場合、第1のステージは、疾患関や薬物の作用、生体の恒常性維持に関係する新規遺伝子や蛋白質のために入ったが、各種ゲインフォマティクスを、だけ、各種ゲインフォマティクスを、だが、各種ゲインフォマティクスを、だが、各種が必要とされる。しかし、おりにより変が必要とされる。しかし、キーとなる"機能の実証的解析・確認"は、

適切な技術基盤が必ずしも十分に開発,整備されておらず律速段階となっている。したがって、この点をブレークスルーすれば、米・欧に匹敵する"新規日の丸遺伝子や蛋白質"を見いだすことも可能であり、わが国独自の技術開発や研究の進展に期待したい。

第2のステージは、明らかにした 遺伝子や蛋白質の機能に基づく創薬 である。その際、機能が明らかにさ れた新たな遺伝子、蛋白質、関連機 能分子自体が医薬品候補(有効成分) となるケースや、新たに機能解明さ れた遺伝子や蛋白質を分子標的とし てこれらを制御できるもの、たとえ ば、アンチセンスや siRNA などの 核酸、抗体類、分子標的化学合成品、



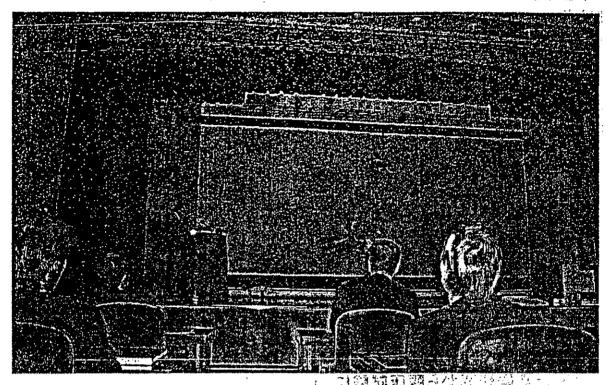
はやかわ たかお 国立医薬品食品衛生研究所副所長

テーラーメード型製品などが医薬品候補となるケースが考えられる. 第2ステージで最も重要なことは, 有効性・安全性確保の観点から最終的にあるべき薬剤の姿を想定しながら開発を進めることであり, そこでDDS 研究の果たす役割は大きい.

医薬品は有効成分によって第1の 特性を与えられるが、DDS技術に よって第2の特性を与えられる。そ れは、臨床目的に応じた薬物治療の 最適化, 究極的には, 必要な場で, 必要な時間、必要な濃度で有効成分 が作用するという特性の賦与であ る. 蛋白質性医薬品,核酸医薬品, 遺伝子治療薬、分子標的薬などは有 効成分において画期的なものである とともに、DDS 研究による適切な特 性の賦与により最も有効に活用され る先端的医薬品となるものが多い. また、細胞をベースにした製品のあ るものは, 適用された生体側とのコ ミュニケーションにより効能効果を 示すという理想的な薬剤を目指すも のである。 最適な DDS は集学的に 統合化して達成されるが、わが国に は充実した研究基盤があり、世界を リードできる潜在力がある.

新規遺伝子・蛋白質機能解明や再生医学・細胞治療に有用な細胞の開発と、DDS研究の推進・統合により、わが国のバイオ創薬が効果的に推進され、国益に適うとともに、平和的で素晴らしい国際貢献にもなることを心から期待したい。

創薬基盤技術の開発に関するシンポジウム



米国における新薬開発の動向 (インタビュー・報告)



国立医薬品食品衛生研究所 副所長 草 川 義 夫

はじめに

ご紹介頂きました早川です。本来ならば、FDAのランプキン副長官がこの場で講演される予定であったようでございますが、日程の都合で出来ないということで、私がインタビューして、その内容について講演、ご報告するということでございます。初めにお断りしなければいけないのは、ここに「米国における新薬開発の動向」ということになっておりますが、実はやはりFDAは、新薬開発そのものを行うところではなくて、審査を行うところです。そういう意味で動向そのものがずばり聞けたかどうかということに関してはそうではない、むしろ審査状況といったことでお話をお聞きしています。

もう一つはインタビューは2時間余り行って

おります。一方、本日の講演時間は30分という ことで、突貫工事で30分程度にまとめましたの で、かなり荒っぱい原稿になっております。そ の点についてはご容赦頂きたいと思います。



21世紀というのは生命の世紀といわれていて、 創薬に関してこれから非常に大きな期待がもた れているところであります。創薬の中核産業の 一つとしてバイオテクノロジーが位置づけられ ました。そのバイオ産業の発展に必要なクラス ターとして、北大阪に本格的なバイオクラクタ ーを形成する、それが彩都ライフサイエンスパ

一ク構想であるということであります。特にこれる。FDAが対象にじ関与しているのは民間企業や の彩都周辺には我が国有数の大学であります大・ に代表されるような医薬品産業の基盤があると いうことですに国のレベルでも非常にこの地域 に対して大きな期待を抱いています。いろいろ な形でそういう事業を発展させるような後押し が現在あるわけであります。その一つといたし まじて、厚生労働省の医薬基盤研究所 (仮称) をごこに設けて、産官学で共に良い薬の開発に 役に立つような、基盤になるような仕事をしよ うという計画をもっているところであります。

1. FDAの医薬品開発への関わり スライド1をご覧下さい。

スライド1

質問 1

米国FDAでは、医薬品開発を目 指した基礎研究から臨床試験に 至るまで、どのような対象に、ど のような形でガイド、コンサルティ ングを行っていますか?

一応、インタビューの趣旨をご紹介いたしま して、アメリカのFDAでは医薬品開発を目指 した基礎研究から臨床研究に至るまでどういうよ うな機関や、人を対象にどういうような形でコミ ットをしているかということを伺いました。

スライド2をご覧下さい。 スライド2

回答1-1

- ・民間企業でも、政府が資金を提供している 大学での研究でも、またNIHのクリニカルセ ンターでなされている研究でも全く法律上 の扱いに違いはなく対象となる。
- ・方法的には、ガイドラインの提示、さまざま 一な会合『シンポジウム、コンサルテーシ ドッ**ョンなどがある**殺の子できょう人は

。也。此人的信服格的改善学才及身本交

· 44.50 人。 42. 你还会写真是 10.50

大学の研究であっても一或いはNLHのクリニカ 阪大学をはじめとしてで研究所で或いは道修町でジルセンターでなされている研究であっても、要す るに医薬品開発を目指じて人を対象にして行うこ とに関しては全て対象にしているということです。

具体的な方法としてはガイドラインの提示で あるとか、シンポジウム、コンサルデーション などがあるということです。

スライド3をご覧下さい。 スライド3

回答1-2

- ・コンサルテーションは義務付けによって ではなく、あくまで自主的な申し出によ 3.
- ・民間企業であれ、NIHの開発担当であ れ、このようなコンサルテーションの機 会を持つことは、彼らにとってベネフィッ トがあると考えているようである。

このコンサルテーションは義務としてではな く、あくまで自主的な申し出によって行ってい る。しかしながら民間企業であってもNIHの 開発担当であっても、このようなコンサルテー ションの機会を持つことは、彼らにとってベネ フィットがあると考えているようです。

もちろん、これはFDAが最終的に人に対す る医薬品についてゴーサイン出すか、出さない かという立場にあるわけですから、それを目指 すあらゆる関係者にとってコンサルテーション の機会を持つことはベネフィットがあるのは当 然のことです。

スライド4をご覧下さい。

ちなみに昨年 (平成14年、2002年) の数字と して約1,200件のこの種のコンサルテーションが 民間企業やNIH内の研究者との間で、非臨床、 或いは臨床試験の段階に関してなされたという ことです。ドラジュもの行法経路、ブラジン

NIHのなかに任例えばNC(II)(米国がん研 究所)、というものがあります。PNCIでは実際 に医療に役立つ医薬品の開発も含めて行ってい るわけですが。EDAとこうした国立機関であ