This result may indicate that AA is metabolized to GA in vivo [38]. Tests that use rat liver S9 for metabolic activation may not be appropriate for in vitro investigations of AA genotoxicity and metabolism. Transgenic cells expressing CYP2E1, however, would be useful for demonstrating the in vitro genotoxicity of AA [39].

In conclusion, AA is weakly genotoxic, causing chromosome aberrations and a type of genomic instability. GA, its epoxide metabolite, is highly reactive with DNA. GA is a strong mutagen, inducing predominantly point mutations, and it may contribute to human cancers.

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Identification of 4-Oxo-2-hexenal and Other Direct Mutagens Formed in Model Lipid Peroxidation Reactions as dGuo Adducts

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We searched for mutagens that react with 2'-deoxyguanosine (dGuo) in model systems of lipid peroxidation. To autoxidation systems of methyl linoleate (model of ω -6 fat), methyl α -linolenate (MLN) (model of ω -3 fat), and commercial salad oil, dGuo was added. The reaction mixtures were analyzed by HPLC. Six adducts were detected, and their structures were determined by ¹H and ¹³C NMR, UV, and mass spectra and by comparison with synthetic authentic samples. The mutagens that reacted with dGuo to form these adducts were proposed as glyoxal, glyoxylic acid, ethylglyoxal, and 4-oxo-2-hexenal (4-OHE). The formation of 8-hydroxy-dGuo, an oxidized product of dGuo, was also detected in the model reaction mixtures. Among them, glyoxal and glyoxylic acid are known mutagens, while ethylglyoxal and 4-OHE, produced from MLN, have not been reported as mutagens thus far. We confirmed the mutagenic activity of 4-OHE with *Salmonella* strains, TA100 and TA104, without S9 mix. These compounds may be involved in lipid peroxide-related cancers.

Introduction

As diet is one of the main causes of human cancer, it is important to identify mutagens in food to prevent cancer. Epidemiological studies suggest that a high-fat diet is a risk factor for various cancers, such as breast and prostate cancer (1, 2). On the other hand, it is known that an elevated risk of colon cancer is associated with red meat intake (3), while the role of total fat and specific fatty acids in colon carcinogenesis is not clear (4). Brink et al. suggested that a high-intake diet of polyunsaturated fatty acids is associated with an increased risk of mutated K-ras colon tumors, based on a cohort study (5). We have been interested in the mutagens produced by lipid peroxidation, because foods contain various polyunsaturated fatty acids and heme iron (Fe), a catalyzer of lipid peroxidation (6). Lipid peroxidation may occur during the cooking or storage of foods. After red meat ingestion, heme (ferroprotoporphyrin) is released by hemoglobin digestion and may enter the colon (7), while some of the ingested fat may also pass through the colon as triglycerides or as free fatty acids (8). Therefore, autoxidation systems of various unsaturated fatty acids with hemin are interesting models of lipid peroxidation reactions, to clarify the combined effect of a high-fat and red meat diet. Although aldehyde type mutagens, such as malondialdehyde, acrolein, crotonaldehyde, and 4-hydroxynonenal, have been identified (9-11), there have been no detailed studies on other mutagens, particularly those formed from ω -3 polyunsaturated fatty acids. In this report, we describe our identification of four mutagens, including new mutagens, as 2'-deoxyguanosine

 $(dGuo)^1$ adducts in model lipid peroxidation reaction mixtures containing hemin and methyl linoleate (MLA), methyl α -linolenate (MLN), and salad oil.

Experimental Procedures

Chemicals. dGuo and hemin were purchased from Sigma Chemical Co. (St. Louis, MO). MLA (purity > 99%) and MLN (purity > 99%) were obtained from Fluka (Buchs, Switzerland) and MP Biomedicals, LLC (Aurora, OH), respectively.

Reaction of dGuo with Products Formed in Lipid Peroxidation Model Systems and Analysis of the Adducts. dGuo (20 mg) and hemin (2.5 mg) were mixed in 50 mM phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) (10 mL) and were vigorously shaken with 1 mL of MLA. MLN, or commercial salad oil (rapeseed oil + soybean oil) in an open plastic tube (50 mL) to form a homogeneous emulsion. Occasionally, deionized water was added to maintain the volume of each reaction mixture. The reaction was continued for 3 days at room temperature. After centrifugation to separate the oil layer, 100 μ L of the aqueous layer was injected into an HPLC column (CAPCELL PAK C18 MG, 5 μ m, 4.6 mm \times 250 mm, Shiseido Fine Chemicals, Japan) connected with a photodiode array UV detector (Hewlett-Packard 1100 HPLC Detection System). Used were the following linear gradients of acetonitrile concentrations in 0.1% acetic acid: 0-15 min, linear gradient of acetonitrile (0-5%); 15-28 min, linear gradient of acetonitrile (5-20%). Adduct samples for structure determination were isolated by repeated (about 50 times) rounds of HPLC, by injecting 1 mL of the reaction mixture into a wider column (10 mm × 250 mm).

Spectra Measurements. The mass spectrum (EI) of synthetic 4-OHE was measured on a JEOL JMS-BU20 spectrometer. The mass spectra (FAB) of the adducts were recorded with a JEOL

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 $^{^1}$ Abbreviations: dGuo, 2'-deoxyguanosine; DHA, docosahexaenoic acid; EPA, eicosapentaenoic acid; MLA, methyl linoleate; MLN, methyl a-linolenate; 4-OHE, 4-oxo-2-hexenal; 4-ONE, 4-oxo-2-nonenal.

JMS-DX303 spectrometer and a JEOL JMS-T100LC. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were measured with JEOL JNM-A500 and JEOL JNM-ECA600 spectrometers, using DMSO-d₆ as the solvent and TMS as an internal reference.

X-ray Crystallography. X-ray crystallographic measurements were performed on a Rigaku AFC7R diffractometer, with graphite monochromated Cu Ka radiation and a rotating anode generator. Calculations of the measurements were performed using the teXan crystallographic software package (Molecular Structure Corporation).

Preparation of 10-Hydroxyl-11-oxo-1,N2-ethano-dGuo, dGuo (27 mg, 0.1 mmol) and glyoxylic acid monohydrate (9 mg, 0.1 mmol) were dissolved in 1 mL of DMSO and incubated at 45 °C for 4 days. The reaction mixture was diluted 10-fold with water, and the major product was purified by repeated rounds of HPLC (CAPCELL PAK C18, 10 mm × 250 mm; elution, 4% acetonitrile in water), to yield 8.8 mg (27%) of the objective compound.

Synthesis of (E)-4-Oxo-2-hexenal(4-OHE). (E)-4-Hydroxy-2hexenal diethylacetal (19.7 g, 104 mmol), prepared by the method of Esterbauer and Weger (12), was dissolved in dry dichloromethane (500 mL), and then, activated MnO2 (240 g, Aldrich) was added to the solution. After a 72 h incubation at room temperature, the reaction mixture was filtered, washed with dichloromethane (500 mL), and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was fractionated by silica gel column chromatograpy [column volume, 450 mL; elution, first with hexane and then with hexane:ethyl acetate (9:1, v/v)] to yield 13.9 g (71%) of the pale yellow product of 4-OHE diethylacetal. It was dissolved in a mixture of 70 mL of 1% citric acid and 30 mL of methanol and was stirred for 24 h at room temperature. The methanol was evaporated under reduced pressure, and then, the solution was saturated with NaCl and extracted with ether. The ether layer was washed with a saturated NaCl solution and dried with anhydrous MgSO4. The ether layer was concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 5.7 g (68%) of 4-OHE. Mass (EI), m/z 112. NMR (δCDCl₃, J) 9.79 ppm (d, 6.9 Hz), 6.90 ppm (d, 16.2 Hz), 6.79 ppm (dd, 6.9, 16.2 Hz), 2.74 ppm (q, 7.2 Hz), 1.17 ppm (t, 7.2 Hz).

Preparation of 10-(2-Oxobutyl)-1,N2-etheno-dGuo. dGuo (40.9 mg, 0.15 mmol) and 4-OHE (25.8 mg, 0.23 mmol) were dissolved in 8.2 mL of 50 mM sodium phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) containing 10% ethanol and incubated for 5 days at room temperature. The major product was purified by repeated rounds of HPLC (CAPCELL PAK C18, 10 mm × 250 mm; elution, 10% acetonitrile in water) to yield 28.8 mg (63%) of the objective compound.

Preparation of 9-Ethyl-10-(2-oxobutyl)-1,N2-ethenoguanine. 9-Ethylguanine (30 mg, 0.17 mmol) and 4-OHE (28.2 mg, 0.25 mmol) were dissolved in 8.2 mL of 50 mM sodium phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) containing 10% ethanol and incubated for 5 days at room temperature. The major product was purified by repeated rounds of HPLC (the same conditions as above) to yield 31.5 mg (57%) of the objective compound. Mass spectrum (FAB), $(M - H)^{-}$, m/z272.1145 (272.1148, calcd for C₁₃H₁₄N₅O₂).

X-ray Crystallographic Analysis of 9-Ethyl-10-(2-oxobutyl)-1,N2-ethenoguanine (7). A colorless plate crystal, with approximate dimensions of 0.02 mm × 0.13 mm × 0.40 mm, was chosen for X-ray crystallography. The crystal data are as follows: empirical formula, C₁₃H₁₅N₅O₂; crystal system, monoclinic; lattice parameters, a = 13.996(1) Å, b = 7.401(1) Å, c = 14.643(1) Å, $\beta =$ 114.756(6)°, V = 1377.4(3) Å³; Z value, 4; D_{calcd} , 1.32 g/cm³. μ (Cu Kα): 7.71 cm⁻¹. Of the 4914 reflections that were collected, 2352 were unique. The intensities of three representative reflections were measured after every 150 reflections. No decay correction was applied. The structure was solved by direct methods (SIR92) (13) and was expanded using Fourier techniques (DIRDIF94) (14). Nonhydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. Hydrogen atoms were included but not refined. The final cycle of full matrix leastsquares refinement was based on 2047 observed reflections and 181 variable parameters and was converged with unweighted and weighted agreement factors of R = 0.082 and Rw = 0.159. The maximum and minimum peaks on the final difference Fourier map corresponded to 0.34 and -0.17e⁻/Å³, respectively.

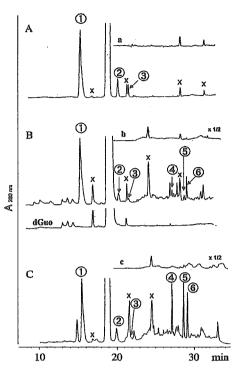


Figure 1. HPLC analyses of dGuo adducts formed by model lipid peroxidation reactions. (A) dGuo + MLA + hemin, (a) control reaction of MLA + hemin; (B) dGuo + salad oil + hemin, (b) control reaction of salad oil + hemin (attenuation, 1/2), (dGuo) control reaction of dGuo; (C) dGuo + MLN + hemin, (c) control reaction of MLN + hemin (attenuation, 1/2). The peaks labeled with x were also detected in the control reaction mixtures.

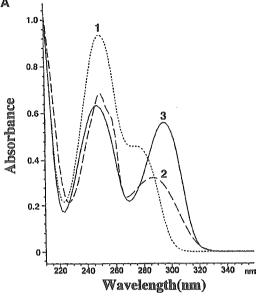
Mutagenicity Test. The bacterial mutagenicity test was carried out according to the method of Maron and Ames (15). In our experiments, we used a longer preincubation time, 60 min, and the plates were sealed with paraffin film (Parafilm, American National Can, United States) to prevent the evaporation of 4-OHE.

Results

Identification of Mutagens as dGuo Adducts Formed in Lipid Peroxidation Model Reactions. The method generally used to identify lipid peroxide-derived mutagens is to isolate them by HPLC, based on their mutagenic activity, before their structure determination. However, in the initial studies, we were not able to isolate unstable lipid peroxide-derived mutagens by HPLC. An alternative method to identify unstable mutagens is to trap them as stable dGuo adducts, because many mutagens and carcinogens react with DNA and nucleosides, particularly dGuo (16).

Using this method, the products formed in the model lipid peroxidation reaction mixtures (MLA + hemin, MLN + hemin, and salad oil + hemin), which are models of high-fat and red meat diets, were reacted with dGuo by vigorous shaking to form a homogeneous emulsion at a physiological pH (7.4). The reaction mixture was fractionated by HPLC coupled to a photodiode array UV detector. Six dGuo adducts, which were not produced from the control reaction mixtures of dGuo only or lipid peroxidation only (-dGuo), were detected by HPLC, as shown in Figure 1.

Adducts 1 and 2 were produced in both the MLA and the MLN reactions (Figure 1), while adducts 4-6 were detected in the MLN reaction mixture (Figure 1C). The amounts and the numbers of different adducts were higher in the MLN reaction mixture (Figure 1C) than the MLA reaction mixture (Figure



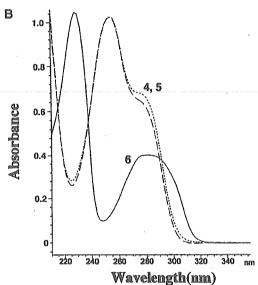


Figure 2. UV spectra of dGuo adducts. (A) Adducts 1 ($\cdot \cdot \cdot$), 2 (---), and 3 (-); (B) adducts 4 (---), 5 ($\cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot$), and 6 (-).

1A). Adduct 3 (8-OH-dGuo) was produced with a higher yield in the MLA reaction (Figure 1A) than in the MLN reaction (Figure 1C). The salad oil reaction generated an HPLC profile (Figure 1B) including some adducts also generated in the MLA (Figure 1A) and MLN reactions (Figure 1C).

Structure Determinations of Adducts. Adduct 1 was easily identified as glyoxal-dGuo (Figure 3, structure 1), based on its characteristic UV spectrum (λ_{max} , 249 nm, shoulder at 275 nm) (Figure 2A-1). This identification was confirmed by a comparison with the synthetic compound prepared from glyoxal and dGuo (18-20).

The mass spectrum, $(M-H)^-$, m/z 322.0787 (322.0788, calcd for $C_{12}H_{12}N_5O_6$) of adduct 2 showed an increase of 56 mass units (C_2O_2) from dGuo. One of the possible structures was a cyclic adduct formed from glyoxylic acid and dGuo. Thus, compound 2 was prepared as a major reaction product of glyoxylic acid and dGuo. The retention time in HPLC and the 1H NMR, UV, and mass spectral data of adduct 2 were identical to those of the synthetic 2. The ^{13}C and 1H NMR data of

Table 1. 13C and 1H NMR Assignments for Compound 2a

	δC (ppm)	δH (ppm)	multiplicity	J (Hz)
1N				
2	151.47			
3N				
4	147.88, 147.91			
5	120.32, 120.38			
6	154.24			
7N				
8	136.67, 136.70	8.14	S	
9N				
10	77.61	5.71	d	9.0
		5.72	d	9.0
11	171.25			
12N				
1'	83.12	6.17	dd	6.4, 6.0
2'	39.84	2.27	dddd	13.4, 6.0, 3.0, 3.0
		2.55	br. dd	13.4, 6.4
3′	70.55	4.35	m	
4'	87.84	3.83	m	
5′	61.51	3.52	m	
10 OH		7.81	d	9.0
		7.83	d	9.0
3'OH		5.31	br d	
5'OH		4.92	br t	

^a 1'-5', numbering of sugar carbons.

Figure 3. Structures of dGuo adducts formed by model lipid peroxidation reactions and their causative mutagens.

synthetic 2 are shown in Table 1. The proposed structure 2 was confirmed by ${}^{1}H^{-1}H$ two-dimensional (2D) correlation spectroscopy (COSY) and ${}^{1}H^{-1}C$ 2D heteronuclear multiple-bond correlation (HMBC) NMR studies using synthetic 2 (Figures 4 and 5). The three-bond correlation between H-10, C-10, N-1, and C-6 observed in the HMBC spectrum (Figure 5) clearly shows that adduct 2 is an 11-oxo-10-hydroxy compound, and the possibility of the regioisomer, the 11-hydroxy-10-oxo compound, should be ruled out.

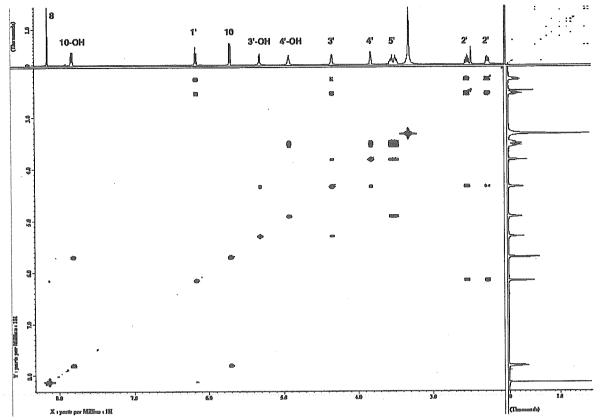


Figure 4. ${}^{1}H-{}^{1}H$ 2D COSY NMR spectrum of compound 2.

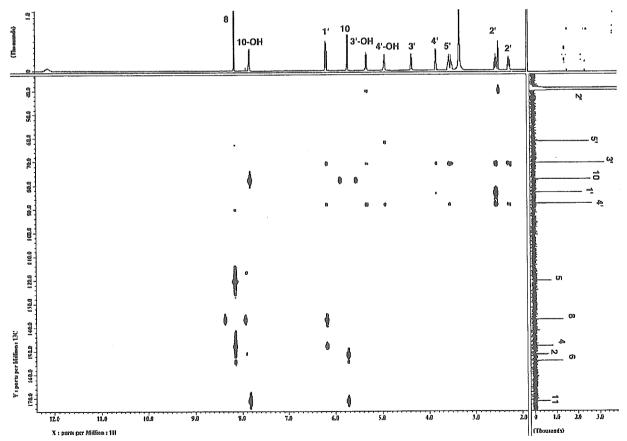


Figure 5. $^{1}H-^{13}C$ 2D HMBC NMR spectrum of compound 2.

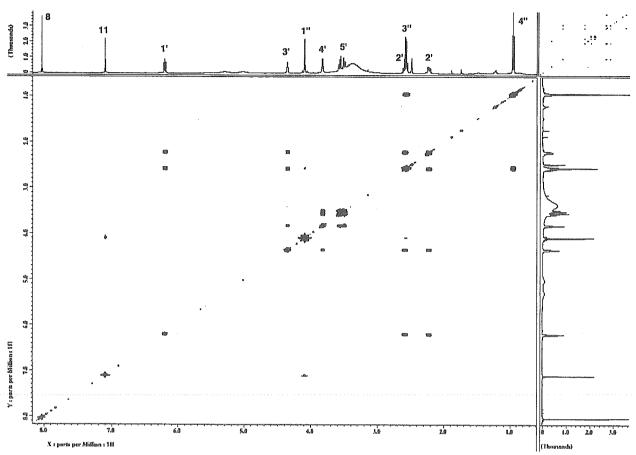


Figure 6. ¹H-¹H 2D COSY NMR spectrum of compound 6.

Adduct 3 was characterized as 8-OH-dGuo, based on its two unique maxima (245 and 293 nm) in the UV spectrum (Figure 2A-3) and a comparison of its retention time in HPLC with that of authentic 8-OH-dGuo (16, 17).

The mass spectra of adducts 4 and 5, $(M-H)^-$, m/z 352.1248 and 352.1258 (352.1257 calcd for $C_{14}H_{18}N_5O_6$), revealed an increase of 86 mass units ($C_4H_6O_2$) from dGuo. In the ¹H NMR spectrum, the presence of an ethyl group and a hemiaminal proton was observed, suggesting that they are 1,N2-cyclic ethylglyoxal-dGuo adducts. Their UV spectra (Figure 2B-4,5) are similar to those of methylglyoxal-dGuo adducts (21). They may be stereoisomers, because their mass, ¹H NMR, and UV spectra (Figure 2B-4,5) are identical. However, the structures of 4 and 5 were not confirmed unambiguously in the present study, because ethylglyoxal was not available.

The mass spectra of adduct 6 showed a $(M - H)^-$ ion at m/z360.1308 (360.1308 calcd for C₁₆H₁₈N₅O₅), which corresponds to an increase of 94 mass units (C_6H_6O) from dGuo. In the 1H NMR spectrum, the presence of an ethyl group (0.96 and 2.57 ppm), a low field methylene group (4.09 ppm), and an extra olefinic proton (7.11 ppm) was observed, in addition to the signals of the dGuo moiety. The UV spectrum of adduct 6 [λ_{max} (pH 7), 228 and 282 nm] was similar to that of 1,N2-ethenodGuo [λ_{max} (pH 7), 228 and 283 nm], but different from that of 3,N2-ethenoguanosine [λ_{max} (pH 7), 225 and 258 nm] (22, 23). The stability of the glycosyl bond of adduct 6, under conditions of 0.1% acetic acid (pH 3.2), 37 °C, and 1 h, also ruled out the possibility of the 3,N2-etheno-dGuo derivative, which is known to be rapidly hydrolyzed (half-life of 1 h) under conditions of pH 5.5, 37 °C, and 1 h (24). The structure of adduct 6 was proposed as a 4-oxo-2-hexenal (4-OHE)-1,N2-cyclic-dGuo

Table 2. ¹³C and ¹H NMR Assignments for Compound 6^a

	δC (ppm)	δΗ (ррт)	multiplicity	J (Hz)
1N				
2	146.94			
3N				
4	149.79			
4 5	115.83			
6	153.74			
7N				
8	136.83	8.04	S	
9N				
10	117.67			
11	116.05	7.11	S	
12N				
1'	83.01	6.21	dd	7.6, 6.1
2'	39.42	2.23	ddd	13.1, 6.1, 3.1
		2.59	m	
3'	70.74	4.36	ddd	5.6, 3.1, 2.8
4'	87.64	3.83	ddd	4.7, 4.4, 2.8
5′	61.72	3.51	dd	11.7, 4.4
		3.57	dd	11.7, 4.7
3'OH				
5'OH				
1"	39.3	4.08	d	8.0
		4.11	d	8.0
2"	206.14			
3"	34.35	2.57	q	7.3
4"	7.58	0.96	t	7.3

^a 1'-5', numbering of sugar carbons.

adduct (structure 6), based on these spectral data. The ¹H NMR and UV data of compound 6, as well as the retention time in HPLC, were completely identical to those of the sole reaction product of dGuo and 4-OHE. The structure of compound 6 was confirmed by extensive NMR experiments, including COSY

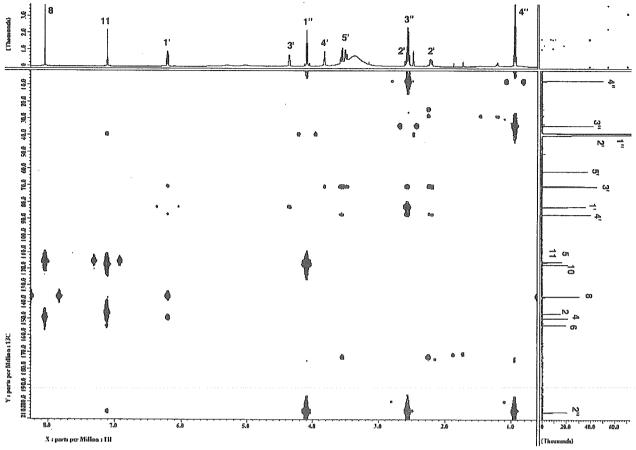


Figure 7. ${}^{1}H^{-13}C$ 2D HMBC NMR spectrum of compound 6.

and HMBC, using the synthetic 6 (Table 2 and Figures 6 and 7).

To further confirm its structure, a highly crystalline product, 9-ethyl-10-(2-oxobutyl)-1,N2-ethenoguanine (structure 7), was prepared from 9-ethylguanine and 4-OHE, under the same reaction conditions used for the preparation of 10-(2-oxobutyl)-1,N2-etheno-dGuo (compound 6). Structure 7 was analyzed by X-ray crystallography (Figure 8). Because the UV spectra and the low-field ¹H NMR data of 6 and 7 (Tables 2 and 3) are similar, the structure of 6 is presumed to have the same ring system and substitution pattern as those of 7.

Mutagenic Activity of 4-OHE in Salmonella Strains, TA100 and TA104. The mutagenicity of 4-OHE was tested at concentrations of 1.25, 2.5, 5, 7.5, and 10 μ g/plate. At concentrations above 10 μ g/plate, 4-OHE was quite toxic to the bacteria. 4-OHE showed mutagenic activity in the TA100 and TA104 strains, without S9 mix (Figure 9A,B, respectively). The specific mutagenic activities of 4-OHE to TA100

Figure 8. Crystal structure of compound 7.

and TA104 were 78 and 67 revertants/ μ g, calculated from the data at the concentrations of 10 and 2.5 μ g/plate, respectively. The mutagenicity of 4-OHE is also shown as the mutation frequency (revertants/ survivals) in Figure 9. 4-OHE caused a dose-dependent increase in mutation frequency in TA100 and TA104.

Table 3. 13C and 1H NMR Assignments for Compound 7

	δC (ppm)	δH (ppm)	multiplicity	$J(\mathrm{Hz})$
1N				
2	147.1			
3N				
4	150.0			
5	115.7			
6	153.8			
7N				
8	138.4	7.84	S	
9N				
10	117.5			
11	115.8	7.09	S	
12N				
1'	37.8	4.05	q	7.2
2′	15.1	1.36	t	7.2
1"	39.3	4.09	S	
2"	206.1			
3"	34.3	2.57	q	7.2
4"	7.5	0.96	ť	7.2

Discussion

It is important to identify mutagens in the diet, as a prelude to cancer prevention. However, few mutagens have been identified in the human diet. It is difficult to isolate very small amounts of mutagens by HPLC from a complex mixture of chemicals, such as food, by monitoring the mutagenic activity of each fraction. For this purpose, it is more efficient to study model systems of lipid peroxidation, which may be related to high-fat and red meat diets.

In our study, the unstable mutagens present in minor amounts in the complicated mixtures of the model reactions were trapped as dGuo adducts (16). This method allowed us to identify mutagens, such as glyoxal, glyoxylic acid, ethylglyoxal, and 4-OHE, in the mixture. Among them, ethylglyoxal and 4-OHE have not previously been reported as mutagens.

The mutagenicity of glyoxal and methylglyoxal and their detection in various foods has been reported (25, 26). Although the tumor promotion activity of glyoxal has been observed in an MNNG plus NaCl-induced stomach carcinogenesis model, glyoxal and methylglyoxal do not seem to be carcinogenic in F344 rat liver, based on a medium-term liver bioassay measuring the induction of glutathione S-transferase placental form (GST-P)-positive foci (27).

The mutagenicity of glyoxylic acid has also been reported as a component of an ozonated humic substance (28, 29). However, its formation by lipid peroxidation has not been described. Further studies on its detection in unsaturated fatty acid-containing foods and its carcinogenicity are needed.

We detected 8-OH-dGuo in the dGuo-lipid peroxidation reaction mixture. This result is compatible with the previous observation that 8-OH-dGuo is formed from dGuo or in DNA after a reaction with autoxidized polyunsaturated fatty acids (30, 31). The reason for the higher formation of 8-OH-dGuo in the MLA reaction as compared to the MLN reaction in the present study is not clear.

4-OHE may be produced via 16-hydroperoxy compound formed from MLN, followed by heme Fe-mediated decomposition, as shown in Scheme 1, by a mechanism similar to that for the formation of 4-oxo-2-nonenal (4-ONE) from 13-hydroperoxy-9,11-octadecadienoic acid (32). The yields of 4-OHE in the salad oil reaction (Figure 1B) and the MLN reaction (Figure 1C) from 1 mL of the corresponding oils were estimated as 12.4 and 25.8 μ g, respectively, based on the peak areas of adduct 6.

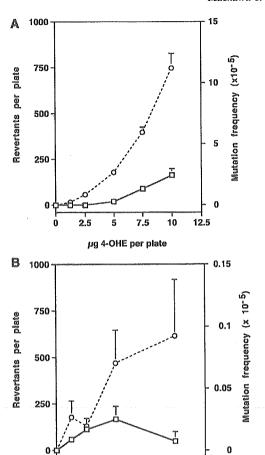


Figure 9. Mutagenicity of 4-OHE in TA100 (A) and TA104 (B). Mutagenicity (revertants/plate, -) and mutation frequency (revertants/survivals, ---) are shown. Values represent means \pm SE; n=4. The number of spontaneous revertants per plate was subtracted.

μg 4-OHE per plate

10

12.5

Scheme 1. Mechanism for the Formation of 4-OHE from MLN

4-Hydroxy-2-nonenal and 4-ONE have been extensively studied by many researchers as the lipid peroxidation products of ω -6 fatty acids, such as linoleic acid (32). The structure of a 4-ONE-dGuo adduct and its detection in liver DNA from oxidative stress-induced rats have been reported (33, 34). On the other hand, ω -3 fatty acids, such as α -linolenic acid,

docosahexaenoic acid (DHA), and eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA), are known as important fatty acids recommended for cancer prevention, but their lipid peroxidation products, such as 4-hydroxy-2-hexenal (35) and 4-OHE, have not been well-studied.

The autoxidation reaction mixture (dGuo + MLN + hemin) produced more kinds and higher amounts of dGuo adducts (Figure 1C) than the (dGuo + MLA + hemin) reaction mixture (Figure 1A). This is compatible with the fact that the autoxidation rate of unsaturated fatty acids is dependent on the number of active methylene groups between the two double bonds (36). Therefore, more mutagens are expected to be produced by autoxidation, in the order linoleic acid < α-linolenic acid < DHA < EPA, which have two, three, four, and five active methylene groups, respectively. The different affinities of these unsaturated fatty acids for the hemin molecule may also influence the autoxidation rate. Our data are compatible with the observation that the mutagenicity of heated cooking oils correlates with the α-linolenic acid content as reported by Harris and his collaborators (37). We also detected a considerable amount of 4-OHE in heat-processed ω -3 fat-containing foods, such as broiled fish and perilla oil, while the amounts of 4-ONE were much lower than those of 4-OHE (Kawai et al., to be published elsewhere). In the HPLC profile of the MLA reaction mixture (Figure 1A), we could not detect an etheno-dGuo type adduct derived from 4-ONE, even after prolonged elution with an increasing acetonitrile gradient. However, we cannot rule out the possiblity that the formation of 4-ONE-dGuo adduct has not been detected, because it may be present in oil layer in the model reaction mixtures, due to its hydrophobicity.

In addition to DNA components, 4-OHE may also react with Arg, His, and Lys residues in proteins, as 4-ONE does (38). These modifications may exert epigenetic effects, such as modulation of transcriptional activation (38) or other deleterious biological phenomena. Finally, it is worth mentioning that 4-OHE has been detected as a major constituent of insect defensive secretions, which function as nonspecific irritants, toxins, or olfactory repellents of arthropods (39). Our results raise the concern that ω -3 fats are more toxic than ω -6 fats, in that ω -3 fats produce larger amounts of mutagens by lipid peroxidation, even if ω -3 fats themselves in the diet inhibit carcinogenesis. Further studies on the detection of glyoxylic acid, ethylglyoxal, and 4-OHE in various foods and on the carcinogenic activity of 4-OHE are now in progress in our laboratory.

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無機および有機ヒ素化合物の in vitro 遺伝子突然変異誘発性と,その食物摂取から の遺伝毒性リスク

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In vitro genotoxicity of inorganic and organic arsenics and their genotoxic risk through food intake

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Summary

Arsenic compounds contained in sea foods have raised public health concerns, because their chronic exposure through dietary intake may increase cancer risk. In the present study, we investigated the in vitro genotoxicity of two inorganic arsenics (arsenite; As[III], arsenate; As[V]) and three organic arsenics (monomethylarsonic acid; MMAA, dimethylarsenic acid; DMAA, trimethylarsine oxide; TMAO) using mouse lymphoma Th assay (MLA). In the standard MLA with 3 h treatment, exposure to As[III] and As[V] significantly induced Th-mutants. The genotoxicity of As[III] was over 50-times greater than that of As[V]. Among organic arsenics, on the other hand, only DMAA showed weak genotoxicity with 3 h treatment at high doses. In the 24 h treatment MLA, DMAA and TMAO weakly induced Th-mutants. These results indicate that inorganic arsenics rather than organic arsenics should be considered for genotoxic risk. We discussed the genotoxic risk of arsenic compounds through dietary intake.

Keywords: arsenite[III], arsenate[V], organic arsenics, mouse lymphoma Th assay (MLA), genotoxic risk

緒 言

ヒ素およびその化合物は、かつては毒薬として用いられた経緯もあり、人体に非常に有害であることはよく知られている(ATSDR, 2000). 飲み込んだ際の急性症状は、吐き気、嘔吐、下痢、激しい腹痛などが見られ、場

合によってショック状態から死に至る. 我が国には 1955年に粉ミルクの製造過程にヒ素が混入し, それを 飲んだ1万人以上の乳幼児が中毒を起こし, 138名の死者を出した痛ましい事件がある (森永ヒ素ミルク事件). 慢性症状としては, 剥離性の皮膚炎や色素沈着, 骨髄障害, 末梢性神経炎, 黄疸, 腎不全などがあげられる. 疫学的研究からヒ素およびヒ素化合物は, 発がん性も指摘されており, WHO のがん研究機構 (IARC) ではヒ素を Group I (人に対して発がん性あり) に分類している (IARC, 1987).

ヒ素は自然にも存在しており、その管理が難しい、水

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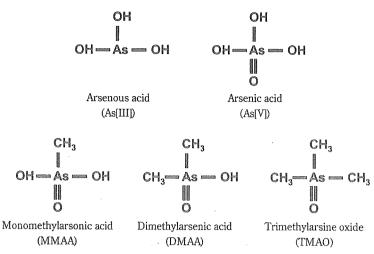


Fig. 1 Inorganic and organic arsenic compounds in marine organisms

道水中のヒ素濃度はWHOの飲料水水質ガイドラインに従い、発がんリスクをできるだけ低くするように管理されている(WHO, 2004). また、ヒ素化合物は、生体内にごく微量が存在しており、人体にとって微量必須元素であると考えられている。ただし、生体内のヒ素の大部分は代謝により毒性の低い有機ヒ素化合物として存在している(ATSDR, 2000).

2004年7月28日,英国食糧規格庁(Food Standard Agency)は、海草のひじき(Hijiki)に無機ヒ素(Inorganic arsenic)が大量に含まれているという調査結果に基づき、国民に対してひじきを食べないように勧告した(FSA, 2004)。海産食品にはこれまでヒ素化合物が多く含まれていることが報告されている。特に、ひじき、こんぶなどの海草類、えびなどの甲殻類、カレイなどの魚類は、ヒ素含有量が高いことが知られている(Fukui et al., 1981)。これら食品中からのヒ素化合物の摂取をできるだけ低レベルに抑えることが、水道水の管理と同様に、一般市民の発がんリスクを減らすことになるのかもしれない。

海産物中に含まれるヒ素化合物には、最も毒性が高いとされている三価の無機ヒ素(As[III])だけでなく、五価の無機ヒ素(As[V])や、有機ヒ素化合物などがある。そして、これらの含有量は海産物の種類によって異なることが知られている(Fukui et al., 1981)。また、これらヒ素化合物の毒性はその化学形態によって大きく異なる(ATSDR, 2000)。本研究では、2つの無機ヒ素化合物(As[III]、As[V])と、比較的海産物に多く含まれている3つの有機ヒ素化合物(モノメチルアルソン酸:monomethylarsonic acid(MMAA)、ジメチルアルシン酸:dimethylarsenic acid(DMAA)、トリメチルアルシンオキシド:trimethylarsine oxide(TMAO))(Fig. 1)の遺伝毒性誘発性をマウスリンフォーマ Tk試験(MLA)によって評価した。また、これらヒ素化合物の摂取量と、遺伝毒性の程度を、他の食品中から摂取する可能性のあ

る化学物質のそれらと比較し、食品中からのヒ素化合物 の遺伝毒性リスクを考察した。

実験材料および方法

1. 試験検体

亜ヒ酸ナトリウム (sodium arsenite (As[III]); Cas. No. 7784-46-5, MW130) は、関東化学工業製、ヒ酸二ナトリウム (sodium arsenate (As[V]); CAS. No. 7778-43-0, MW186) は、和光純薬工業製、特級試薬を用いた、モノメチルアルソン酸 (monomethylarsonic acid (MMAA); CAS. No. 124-58-3, MW140), ジメチルアルシン酸 (dimethylarsenic acid (DMAA); CAS. No. 75-60-5, MW138), トリメチルアルシンオキシド (trimethylarsine oxide (TMAO); CAS. No. 4964-14-1, MW136)は、トリケミカル研究所製の純度99.9%のものを用いた。

2. 用量設定試験

細胞を試験検体で一定時間処理し、その後の48時間における細胞増殖性を、細胞数を計測して求め、陰性対照と比較した(Relative Suspension Growth; RSG). 陰性対照の10~20%になる濃度を最高用量として設定した.

3. マウスリンフォーマ Tk試験 (MLA)

MLAはマイクロウェル法で行い、プロトコールは Honma らの方法に従った(Honma et al., 1999a). S9 非存在下で、細胞を試験検体で3時間処理し、48時間の発現時間をおいて、Tk 突然変異検出のために細胞をプレーティングした。細胞毒性の指標としては処理直後の相対生存率(Relative Survival; RS)と、処理後の増殖性と生存率を考慮した値(Relative Total Growth; RTG)を用いた。有機ヒ素化合物に関しては、24時間処理を実施した。24時間処理のプロトコールは、Honma らの方法に従った(Honma et al., 1999b).

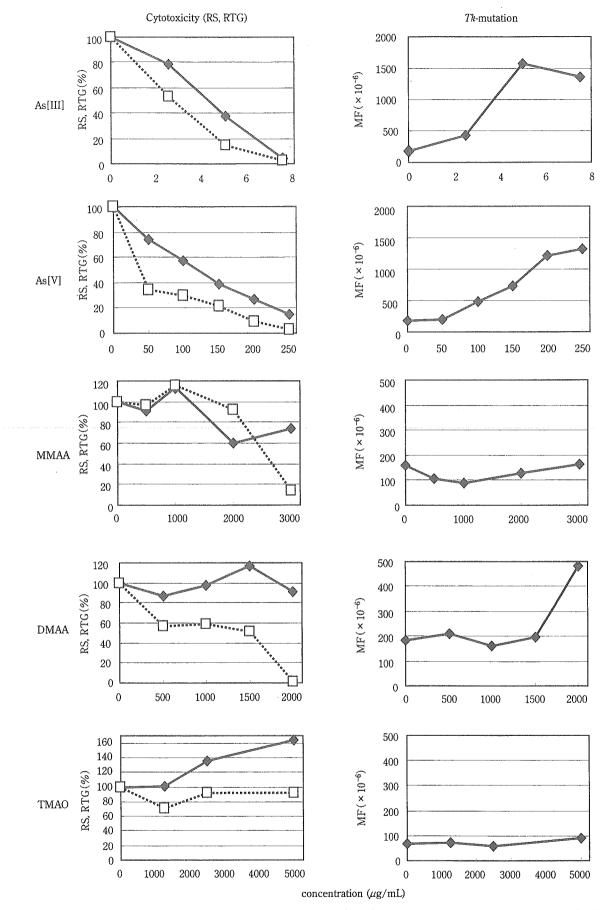


Fig. 2 Cytotoxicity (relative survival; RS, relative total growth; RTG) and Tk-mutation frequency (MF) in MLA treated with As[III], As[V], MMAA, DMAA, and TMAO for 3 h. In cytotoxicity, closed symbol is RS, and open symbol is RTG.

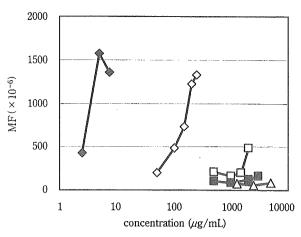


Fig. 3 Comparison of *Th*-mutation frequencies (MF) in 3 h treatment test treated with As[III] →, As[V] ⋄, MMAA---, DMAA---, and TMAO--...

4. 統計的解析

MIAのデータはOmoriらの統計的手法により、陽性、陰性を判定した(Omori et al., 2002). この方法はDunnett法による陰性対照との比較検定、Simpson-Margolin法による用量依存的な傾向性検定を組み合わせた方法である.

結 果

1. 用量設定試験

細胞を試験検体で3時間処理し、陰性対照の $10\sim20\%$ のRSGを示す濃度を本試験における最高用量として設定した (data not shown). この試験より、As[III]: $10~\mu g/mL$ 、As[V]: $250~\mu g/mL$ 、MMAA: $3000~\mu g/mL$ 、DMAA: $2500~\mu g/mL$ 、TMAO: $5000~\mu g/mL$ を最高用量として設定した。TMAO は $5000~\mu g/mL$ においてもほとんど細胞毒性を示さなかったがMLAの試験ガイドラインに従い、 $5000~\mu g/mL$ を最高用量とした。

2. 3時間処理試験

3時間処理による MLA の結果を Fig. 2 に示す.無機と素化合物の As [III],As [V] は用量依存的に細胞毒性(RS,RTG)を示し,それに伴い高い突然変異の誘発が認められた.統計学的にも突然変異頻度の増加は有意であった(有意水準 1%).As [III]の 5μ g/mL,As [V]の 250μ g/mLで陰性対照の 15倍の突然変異の誘発が観察された.MLAでは,2種類の変異体(small colony mutant; SC,large colony mutant; LC)が観察されるが,これらヒ素化合物によって誘発された変異体の SC/LC 比は特に陰性対照との違いは認められなかった(data not shown).As [III]の最高用量の 10μ g/mLでは RS,RTG とも毒性が高すぎたため突然変異のデータは得られなかった.突然変異頻度を 2倍増加させる用量(Double Mutation Frequency Dose; DMFD)は As [III]では 0.78μ g/mL,

As[V]では $39.5 \mu g/mL$ と計算できた。このことから As[III]はAs[V]に比べて,用量当たり約50倍程度の遺伝 毒性を持つ。

一方,有機ヒ素化合物である MMAA,TMAO は試験 濃度では全く突然変異の誘発を示さなかった.特に TMAO は細胞毒性も全く示さなかったことから,極めて毒性の低い化合物であることが予想された.DMAA は 2000 μ g/mLの高濃度で突然変異の増加が見られ,統計学的には有意に陽性であったが(有意水準 5%),RTG が 1%であり,強い細胞毒性による非特異的反応とも考えられる.2500 μ g/mLでは,毒性が高すぎたため突然変異のデータは得られなかった.5つのヒ素化合物の突然変異誘発頻度の比較を Fig. 3 に示した.

DMAAは細胞毒性の指標であるRTGとRSに大きな差が見られた。RTGがRSに比べて低いことは強い細胞増殖阻害が起きていることを予想させる。

3. 24 時間処理試験

3種類の有機ヒ素化合物は短時間処理において、無機ヒ素化合物と比較して、強い突然変異誘発性を示さなかったことから、24時間処理を実施した。3時間処理と同様に用量設定試験を実施し、最高用量を設定し、本試験を行った。本試験の結果をFig. 4に示す。全ての有機ヒ素化合物は用量依存的に細胞毒性を示した。一方、突然変異誘発性に関して、MMAAは陰性であったが、DMAA、TMAOは統計学的には陽性を示した(有意水準5%)。ただし、これら陽性反応も、RTG 5%以下の強い毒性下での反応であり、非特異的な影響であるのかもしれない。3つの有機ヒ素化合物の突然変異誘発頻度の比較をFig. 5に示した。

考察

1. 遺伝毒性ハザードとしてのヒ素化合物

無機ヒ素化合物の中でも毒性の高いAs[III]に関し ては,多くの遺伝毒性の報告がある(Gradecka et al., 2001). In vitro遺伝毒性においては、As[III]はエームス 試験陰性を示すのに対して, 培養細胞を用いた染色体異 常試験、姉妹染色分体交換試験、コメット試験では陽性 を示す(Basu et al., 2001; Gebel, 2001). マウスを用いた in vivo 試験では、染色体異常、小核の誘発が報告されて いる (Gebel, 2001). このように、染色体レベルの強い 遺伝毒性や、DNA損傷性が多数報告されているにもか かわらず, エームス試験では陰性であることから, As[III]は点突然変異を誘発するような mutagen ではな く、染色体レベルの損傷を引き起こす clastogen である とされている (Gebel, 2001). MLAは常染色体劣性型の 遺伝子突然変異試験であり, 点突然変異から, 染色体レ ベルの変異までを検出できる広域スペクトルを持つ突然 変異検出系である(Honma et al., 2001). 今回の我々の

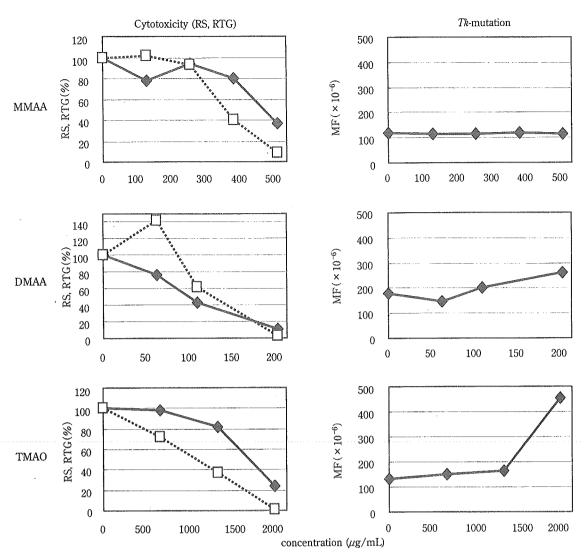


Fig. 4 Cytotoxicity (relative survival; RS, relative total growth; RTG) and *Tk*-mutation frequency (MF) in MLA treated with As MMAA, DMAA, and TMAO for 24 h. In cytotoxicity, closed symbol is RS, and open symbol is RTG.

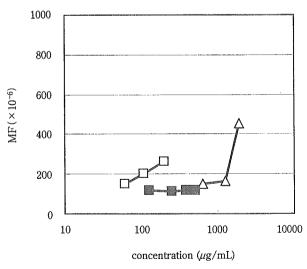


Fig. 5 Comparison of *Tk*-mutation frequencies (MF) in 24 h treatment test treated with MMAA--, DMAA--, and TMAO--.

研究でAs[III]がMLAで強い遺伝子突然変異誘発性を示したことは,As[III]が染色体レベルの遺伝子突然変異を引き起こすことを示唆している。Moore らもMLA で As[III] と As[V] の突然変異誘発性を報告している (Moore et al., 1997).我々の結果と同様に,As[III] は,As[V]の1/10以下の試験用量で高い突然変異誘発性を示すことを報告している。

有機ヒ素化合物の遺伝毒性についての報告は多くない (Gebel, 2001; Kaise et al., 1996). 今回試験した3つの有機ヒ素化合物 MMAA, DMAA, TMAO は, 無機ヒ素化合物が生体内に取り込まれた後の主たる代謝産物であり, 人体や,多くの食物中に存在が確認されている. 解毒経路の代謝産物であり,その毒性は無機ヒ素化合物に比べて極めて低い. In vivo遺伝毒性試験において,これら有機ヒ素化合物の突然変異誘発性は陰性と報告されている (Noda et al., 2002). 今回の MLAでは,有機ヒ素化合物3種の中で3時間処理,24時間処理とも突然変異

Table 1 Human Exposure/Rodent Potency (HERP) and Human Exposure/Genotoxic Potency (HEGEP)

Compounds		Average daily intake (μg/day) *	HERP*	Genotoxicity			
(Major origin)	IARC			DMFD (μg/mL)	HEGEP	Cell, Cond.	Ref
Saccharin	3	95000	0.06	12000	7.9	MLA	Clive et al., 1979
(Artificial sweetener)							
Dimehtylnitrosamine	2A	0.646	0.01	0.07	9.2	MLA, rat S9	McGregor et al.,
(Beer)							1988
Acrylamide	2A	40	0.01	100	0.4	WTK-1	Unpublished data
(Potato chips et al.)							
Aflatoxin B1	1	0.018	0.008	0.0075	2.4	MLA, rat S9	Preisler et al.,
(Peanut et al.)							2000
AF-2	2B	4.8	0.0002	2.5	1.92	WTK-1	Unpublished data
(Preservative, -1975)							
IQ	2A	0.0064	0.00001	7.2	0.89	WTK-1	Unpublished data
(Burnt foods)							
Kojic acid	2B	0.2	0.0000005	2500	80000.0	WTK-1, rat S9	Unpublished data
(Miso, soy source)							
As[III]	1	1.6	_	0.78	2.05	MLA	Present study
(Hijiki, cooked)							
As[V]	1	4.4	_	39.5	0.11	MLA	Present study
(Hijiki, cooked)							·
As[III]	1	107	-	0.78	137.2	MLA	Present study
(Tap water and							
other natural sources, Ma	ax)						

^{*} Data from Gold et al. (2002)

誘発性が認められたのはDMAAのみであった。また、3 時間処理試験での細胞毒性試験からDMAAは強い細胞 増殖阻害作用を持つことが示唆された. Kashiwada らは マウスに DMAA を腹腔内投与後, 骨髄細胞において, M期での細胞周期の停止,および異数染色体細胞の増 加が観察されたことを報告している(Kashiwada et al., 1998). このような現象はコルヒチンなどの細胞分裂毒 の投与で、高頻度に観察されることから、DMAAは細 胞分裂毒様の作用を持つことを予想させる. MLA は細 胞分裂毒による染色体の異数化を介した, 染色体の脱落 による突然変異も検出することができる(Honma et al., 2001). DMAAの持つ弱い遺伝子突然変異誘発性は、こ のような細胞分裂毒様の作用が関係しているのかもしれ ない、TMAOでもRSとRTGに差が見られた。24時間 処理でTMAO がわずかに突然変異誘発性を示したのは, TMAOも弱い細胞分裂毒様の作用を持つことを示して いるのかもしれない.

Moore らは、MMAA、DMAA についても MLA を実施し、両化合物とも $3000~\mu g/m$ L以上の高濃度で、弱い突然変異誘発性を認めている(Moore et al., 1997)、MMAA の結果は我々の今回の結果と異なるものであるが、試験用量や、誘発性を考慮すると、その強さは大きくはない。

これらの結果から、無機化合物であるAs[III]とAs[V] は遺伝毒性物質であるが、有機ヒ素化合物である MMAA、DMAA、TMAOの遺伝毒性はないか、あった としても極めて弱いものと判断できる.

2. 遺伝毒性リスクとしてのヒ素化合物

ヒ素は齧歯類を用いた発がん性試験では陰性を示すが、疫学的研究から発がん性が明らかであるため、IARCではGroup I(人に対して発がん性あり)に分類されている(IARC、1987). ヒ素は我々の環境中に普遍的に存在する. そのため水道水中のヒ素濃度は、発がんリスクをできるだけ低減化させるため管理されている. 現在、水道水中のヒ素濃度の基準は 0.01 mg/Lである(WHO、2004). この濃度の発がん率は 10万人中60人であり、他の環境発がん物質の基準の 10 倍以上も高い.これは、ヒ素が自然由来であり、その管理が困難であるためのやむを得ない措置と言える.

2004年7月28日に英国食糧規格庁(Food Standard Agency)は,海草のひじき(Hijiki)に無機ヒ素化合物が大量に含まれている理由で,国民に対してひじきを食べないように勧告した(FSA, 2004). ひじきには乾燥重量当たり総ヒ素量として $36\sim80~\mu g/g$ のヒ素化合物が含まれており(鴨志田ら,2005),水抽出物からの成分分析により,その83%が無機ヒ素化合物と報告されている(As[III];22%,As[V];61%)(Fukui et al., 1981).他の多くの海産物にもヒ素が含まれるが,無機ヒ素の含有量はひじきが圧倒的に高い.しかし,ひじきは通常の調理過程(水戻し,加熱)で,約90%のヒ素が流出することが知られている(鴨志田ら,2005).日本人のひ

じきの1日平均消費量は0.9 gであり(MHLW, 2004)、仮に80 μ g/gのヒ素を含むひじきを調理し、食したとすると、1日当たり約6 μ g の無機ヒ素を摂取する計算になる(As[III];1.6 μ g, As[V];4.4 μ g). WHOが定めた無機ヒ素のPTWI(暫定的耐用週間摂取量)は15 μ g/kg/weekであるが、これは体重50 kgの人で、1日当たり107 μ gのヒ素に相当する。このことから、日本人平均の18倍以上のひじきを食さない限り、PTWIを超えることはない。従って、バランスのよい食生活を心がければ、ひじきによる健康上のリスクは高まることがないと考えられる。

日常生活において摂取が避けられない発がん物質のリ スク評価として、GoldらはHuman Exposure/Rodent Potency Index; HERPの利用を提唱している(Gold et al., 1990). これは,人がその発がん物質暴露する体重当 たりの平均暴露量を, その物質が齧歯類を用いた発がん 性試験において動物の半数にがんを引き起こす量 (TD50) で割ったものである. 従って, 前者が大きけれ ば大きいほど、後者が小さければ小さいほど、HERPの 値は大きくなり、そのリスクも高いと判断される.いく つかの例をTable 1に示した. HERP値の絶対量は1を 基準として、それより高いものは、人での暴露が、動物 実験でのTD50を引き起こす暴露量を超えることを示唆 しており、また、相対的な数値は日常生活における発が んリスクのランキングを示す. しかしながら、HERP値 はTD50を基礎としているため、齧歯類発がん性試験に おいて陰性を示す物質については適用できない、実際に 海産物から摂取されるヒ素のHERP値は計算されていな い. この場合, 齧歯類発がん性試験に替わる定量的デー タとして, 遺伝毒性試験データを使い, HERPと同様に Human Exposure/Genotoxic Potency; HEGEPを算出す ることを提案したい. ここでは, 人がその発がん物質暴 露する平均1日暴露量 (μg/day) を, MLA, もしくは それに準ずる遺伝子突然変異試験において、その発がん 物質暴露が2倍の突然変異誘発率を引き起こす濃度 (Double Mutation Frequency Dose; DMFD ($\mu g/mL$)) で割ったものである. HEGEP値はHERPと異なり, そ の絶対値は生物学的な意味を持たない. また, in vitro 試験データと、人の平均1日暴露量(µg/day)を組み合 わせることは、個々の物質の遺伝毒性の発現メカニズム を無視した方法である. しかしながら, 多くの遺伝毒性 物質のHEGEPを、HERPと同様にランキングすること により、他の遺伝毒性物質との相対的リスクをある程度 理解することには有効であると考えられる. HEGEPの 計算には、定量的な遺伝毒性試験パラメータであれば何 でも利用でき、たとえば、染色体異常試験のD20値を基 礎としたHEGEPも算出可能である. HEGEPの計算例 も Table 1 に示した. ここでは、MLA、もしくはそれと 同程度の検出感度を持つWTK-1細胞によるTh突然変異 試験での DMFD を定量パラメータとして HEGEP を計算した。

調理されたひじきから摂取される無機ヒ素量は先の計算から As[III]が $1.6~\mu g$, As[V]が $4.4~\mu g$ と算出できる. 毒性が高い As[III]の HEGEP は 2.05 であり,この遺伝毒性リスクはピーナッツ等からの aflatoxin B1 (2.4) や,焦げた食品からの IQ (0.89) とほぼ同程度であり,日常生活において特に際立って遺伝毒性のリスクを増加させるとは考えられない。また,水道水等から日常生活において,別に 70 倍近くもの As[III] を摂取している可能性があり,それを考慮しても,ひじきから摂取しうる As[III]の遺伝毒性リスクは,日常生活を極端に脅かすものではないと考えられる。

このように、日常生活中に受ける可能性のある遺伝毒性リスクをHEGEPとして算出し、他の物質と相対的に評価することは、そのリスクを理解しやすい。HERPとHEGEPの値を考慮し、発がん性、遺伝毒性リスクを総合的に評価することは極めて現実的な手法と考えられる。

結 論

ヒ素化合物の中で、無機化合物であるAs[III]、As[V]は、明らかに遺伝毒性物質である。ひじき中にはこれら無機ヒ素化合物が比較的多く含まれているが、その平均摂取量、および水道水等の他の摂取要因のレベルを考慮すると、ひじき食を介して摂取するヒ素化合物の遺伝毒性リスクは大きくないものと考えられる。

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3-Chloro-4-(dichloromethyl)-5-hydroxy-2(5H)-furanone [MX] shows initiating and promoting activities in a two-stage BALB/c 3T3 cell transformation assay

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A transformation assay using BALB/c 3T3 cells was conducted on 3-chloro-4-(dichloromethyl)-5-hydroxy-2(5H)furanone (MX) to assess initiation and promotion activities of MX carcinogenesis. Statistically significant positive responses were obtained compared with the corresponding solvent controls in both the initiation assay post-treated with 12-O-tetradecanoylphorbol 13-acetate (TPA) and the promotion assay pretreated with 3-methylcholanthrene (MCA). Both TPA and MX inhibited metabolic cooperation in an assay using co-culture of V79 6-thioguanine (6-TG) sensitive and insensitive cells. However, cells isolated from transformed foci in the initiation assay did not induce any nodules after inoculation to BALB/c mice, the strain of mouse from which the transformation assay cells were derived. Although the study was carried out for 2-3 weeks, this might have been too short to develop nodules under the conditions of this experiment. This in vitro cell transformation study with MX adds supportive information to studies showing MX carcinogenicity and tumour promoter activity, and adds mechanistic understanding of the action of MX.

Introduction

3-Chloro-4-(dichloromethyl)-5-hydroxy-2(5H)-furanone(MX), an organic chlorinated contaminant commonly found in tap water as a disinfection by-product (1), induces malignant tumours in the rat thyroid and mammary glands (2) and shows promoting activity in the rat stomach (3). Concerning mutagenicity, MX shows positive results in several in vitro assays, including the bacterial reverse mutation assay (Ames test) and the cultured cell mutation assay regardless of the presence of an exogenous metabolic activation system. Therefore, MX is classified as a direct acting mutagen (4-9). However, conflicting results have been reported for MX activity in in vivo genotoxicity assays (4,5,10-12). We have also performed several in vivo assays, namely, detection of 8-hydroxy-deoxyguanosine formation, gene mutation assay using transgenic mice (MutaTMMouse), and the comet assay, and almost all of the assays gave negative responses (M. Nakajima, S. Masumori, M. Kikuchi, S. Inagaki, J. Tanaka,

Y. Furuya, M. Hayashi and N. Kinae, manuscript in preparation). Thus, the genotoxicity findings have not provided a conclusive mechanism for MX carcinogenicity.

Among the several types of cell transformation assays, we selected the focus assay using the BALB/c 3T3 established cell line for the present study because of its good reproducibility (13) and because the assay has been widely used in the elucidation of carcinogenicity mechanisms. We used A31-1-1 clone, isolated by Kakunaga and Crow (14) and thought to be sensitive to many chemicals, and employed a protocol with modified culture medium and shortened exposure period (15). The modified method can assess the potential initiation and promotion activities of test chemicals.

Many tumour promoters inhibit gap junctional intercellular communication (GJIC). For example, phorbol esters such as the strong promoter 12-O-tetradecanoylphorbol 13-acetate (TPA) inhibit GJIC in metabolic cooperation assays (16–18). As such, the metabolic cooperation assay has been widely used as a tool for detection of promoters and for providing information about the mechanism of carcinogenicity. Therefore, we applied the assay using V79 cells to assess the promoting potential of MX.

Materials and methods

Test compounds and positive control substance

MX (CAS No. 77439-76-0, purity: 99.2%) was synthesized at the Laboratory of Food Hygiene, University of Shizuoka according to a modified method (19). It was dissolved in physiological saline, Japanese Pharmacopoeia (Otsuka Pharmaceutical Factory, Inc.). 3-Methylcholanthrene (CAS No. 56-49-5; MCA; Wako Pure Chemical Industries Ltd, Osaka, Japan), the initiator, was dissolved in dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO; purity: 99.7% or higher: Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany) and used at a concentration of 0.2 μg/ml. TPA (CAS No. 16561-29-8; Wako Pure Chemical Industries Ltd), the promoter, was dissolved in DMSO and used at 0.1 μg/ml.

Preparation of test cells and culture medium

BALB/c 3T3 A31-1-1 cells were supplied by Showa Denko K.K. Cells were cultured in a CO2 incubator (FORMA and SANYO Electric Medica Systems Co. Ltd) under 5% CO₂ atmosphere at 37°C. Eagles-MEM liquid medium (Asahi Techno Glass Corporation, Funabashi, Chiba) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS; Moregate BioTech, Bulimba, Australia) and 60 mg/ml Kanamycin sulfate (Invitrogen Corp., NY) (MEM) was used throughout the experiment unless otherwise indicated. Low serum concentration medium (DMEM:F12) used was DMEM:HAM's F-12 liquid medium (Asahi Techno Glass Corporation) supplemented with 5.2 ml Daigo's ITES (insulin, transferrin, ethanolamine, sodium selenite; Wako Pure Chemical Industries Ltd) per 500 ml and 2% FBS. The 500 ml extracting medium for absorption measurement was composed of 4.48 g sodium citrate dihydrate, 97.5 ml of 0.1 mol/l HCl, and 250 ml ethanol made to 500 ml with distilled water. For the metabolic cooperation assay using V79 cells, the medium used was Eagles-MEM liquid medium supplemented with 3% fetal bovine serum, 0.1% Eagle's non-essential amino acids (Invitrogen Corp.), 0.1% pyruvic acid and 0.1% glutamic acid.

Dose range-finding cytotoxicity test

For cytotoxicity testing with the initiation assay protocol, 1×10^3 cells were seeded into 24-well plates and treated 24 h later with MX at 1.42, 1.90, 2.53,

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