ポリプロピレン繊維を用いた筋芽細胞の三次元培養 〇奈良雅尚¹、山崎健一¹、寺田堂彦¹、澤田和也²、 近藤英雄¹、橋本成広¹、藤里俊也¹ 1大阪工業大学工学研究科生体医工学専攻 2大阪成蹊短期大学総合生活学科

1. 緒言

生体の筋組織は出力対重量比が大きく、アクチュエータとして優れた特性を有する。培養した筋細胞をアクチュエータ化するためには、筋組織と同様に細胞を高密度に集積させ、一方向に配向させる必要がある。これまでゲルや繊維を用いた培養筋の作製が試みられているが、ゲルを用いた場合には培養筋中の細胞は低密度となり、初期の強度が弱く、バイオアクチュエータとして用いるには難しい。一方、繊維を用いた場合には培養筋中の細胞は高密度となり、繊維そのものが強度を有しているため、バイオアクチュエータ用スキャフォールドとして有用であると考えられる。繊維を用いた培養筋の研究では、初期の細胞接着数が少なく、培養筋の収縮動態の評価はなされていない。本研究では、コラーゲンゲルをコートした繊維を用いて筋芽細胞の三次元培養を行い、繊維-コラーゲンゲル複合体の有用性と培養筋の収縮動態を評価することを目的とした。

2. 実験方法

スキャフォールドとなる繊維には直径 20 µm のポリプロピレン繊維を用いた。繊維を等間隔に配列させ、その上に Type-I コラーゲンゲルを薄くシート状にコートした。得られたスキャフォールドに、マウス横紋筋由来の株化細胞である C2C12 細胞を播種した。10%ウシ胎児血清と抗生物質を含む High-glucose Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium で 6 日間培養した。6 日後、10%ウシ胎児血清を 7% 馬血清に変更し。C2C12 細胞の筋管細胞への分化を促進させた。培養液の交換は 2 日毎に行い、その際に位相差顕微鏡で細胞の形態を観察した。分化誘導してから 1 週間後に電気パルス刺激を行い、培養筋の収縮動態を調べた。

3. 結果

作製したスキャフォールド上では C2C12 細胞が増殖し、6 日目にはコンフルエントになった。馬血清に変更してから 4 日後には筋管細胞に分化している様子が見られた。培養日数の経過に伴い、培養筋が繊維の中央部分に縮む様子が見られた。入力電圧 30 V_{PP}, 周波数 1 Hz から 3 Hz. パルス幅 20 msec の電気パルスを培養液中に印加したところ、筋管細胞が周波数に同期して収縮する様子が観察された。コラーゲンゲルをコートしていない繊維と比較したところ、コートすることによって初期の細胞接着数が増加することがわかった。電気パルスによって収縮弛緩したことから、ポリプロピレン繊維-コラーゲンゲル複合体は培養筋のスキャフォールドとして有用であることが示唆された。

Three dimension culture of C2C12 cells on polypropylene fiber scaffold.

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超高静水圧印加処理による脱細胞神経グラフトの作製

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1. 緒言

顔面や四肢の神経麻痺を引き起こす神経障害やがん切除による神経損傷において、創部が大きい時には、神経 切断部の両端を縫合することは難しい。このような場合の治療法は、患者自身の腓腹神経などを摘出して移植する 自家移植が主流であるが、正常な神経を新たに傷害することが問題となっている。そこで、生体吸収性の神経誘導 管や、生体由来神経を酵素や化学薬品で処理して作製した脱細胞化神経を用いた治療法が検討されている。

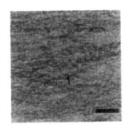
われわれは、脱細胞化神経に残った神経構成タンパク質の組成や構造が、神経の再生を促進すると考え、本研究 グループで開発された超高静水圧印加処理による脱細胞化処理法を用いて、脱細胞神経グラフトを作製した。

2. 実験方法

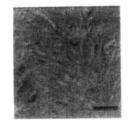
ラットから坐骨神経を採取し、PBS とともに袋に封入して、超高静水圧印加装置を用いて 980 MPa の圧力を 10°C で 10 分間加えた。この操作により組織の細胞を破壊したのち、細胞残渣を除くため、所定の洗浄液にて洗浄した。この洗浄のみでは、細胞成分のリン脂質を完全には取り除けないので、次に、3 日間エタノール処理を行い、その後 PBS に置換した。ラットの正常坐骨神経と脱細胞処理後の坐骨神経の H&E 染色と免疫染色を比較し、処理後の神経が神経再生のための足場材料として適しているかを検討した。

3. 結果と考察

H&E 染色切片観察の結果、超高静水圧脱細胞処理により、 坐骨神経組織から細胞成分がほぼ完全に取り除かれていることが 確認された(図1)。また処理後の神経には、構造タンパク等の神 経構成成分が残っていた。これらのことから、本研究で作製した脱 細胞組織は、神経を再構築するための足場として適しており、脱細 胞神経グラフトとして利用できる可能性が考えられた。この脱細 胞神経グラフトを、ラット坐骨神経切断部位に移植した後の神 経組織と機能の回復についても報告する。







(2) fresh nerve

Fig1. H&E staining of (1) acellular and (2) fresh nerve tissue. Bars; 50 micrometers.

Acellular nerve graft prepared by ultra high pressure treatment

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O-156 Tissue-derived Scaffold for Aortic Root Reconstruction

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OBJECTIVES Biodegradable materials such as polylactide and/or polyglycolide are commonly used for the scaffolds for tissue engineering. whereas it is not easy to have enough mechanical strength especially in the aortic tissue. In this study, tissue-derived scaffold has been developed by an elimination of cellular components by the ultra-high pressure from porcine aortas. METHODS Porcine aortas were treated by the ultra-high pressure of 980 MPa followed by rinsing residual cellular components away by PBS-based washing solution and alcohol. This treatment does not include any processes using detergent. The scaffolds were substituted for descending aorta of miniature pigs through left thoracotomy in the surgery carried out with single clamp technique. Postoperative anticoagulation or anti-platelet therapy was not instigated. They were explanted 3, 6, and 12 months after the implantation and examined histologically and immunohistologically, RESULTS There were no cellular components observed in the tissues treated. The amounts of DNA and phospholipids were lower than 5% of the native. The explanted grafts showed no macroscopical abnormality and no dilatation and aneurysmal changes. The inner surface was completely covered with endothelial cells and the inside was infiltrated by smooth muscle cells and fibroblasts after 6 months. The grafts followed host tissue growth about 1.5 times in diameter and length after 12 months. There were calcium deposits slightly observed in the graft especially at the anastomosis. CONCLUSIONS This process eliminates cellular components completely and may be useful for having regenerative scaffolds for the vascular tissue regeneration.

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P-047 Preparation of Condensed Plasmid DNA Using High Pressure Technology for Gene Delivery

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We investigated the effect of pressure on tertiary structure of plasmid DNA in order to develop a novel method for condensing plasmid DNA. The solution of plasmid DNA was hydrostatically pressurized at various atmospheres for different time. After pressure removal, the obtained solutions of plasmid DNA were analyzed by dynamic light scattering measurement. For non-pressurized plasmid DNA, the super-coiled and relaxed plasmid DNA was individually detected. Their hydrodynamic sizes were decreased with increasing pressure strength and period of pressurization. Previously, it was reported that high pressure induced super-coiling of a relaxed plasmid DNA. So, the decrease in the size of super-coiled plasmid DNA was regarded as the condensation of super-coiled plasmid DNA. For AFM observation of the dried plasmid DNA without pressurization, the fibril and circular structures, which were super-coiled and relaxed forms of plasmid DNA, were observed, whereas the spherical structure of the condensed plasmid DNA was observed. From these results, it was found that the condensation of plasmid DNA could be controlled using high pressure technology. Also, the condensed plasmid DNA was significantly transcribed and translated in cell-free transcription/ translation system. These results suggest that the condensed plasmid DNA by high pressurization could be utilized for gene delivery.

Poster Presentations

P-089 Characterization of Acellular Porcine Cornea Prepared by Ultra-high Pressurization as Artificial Cornea

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We investigated the deceilularization of porcine cornea by ultra-high hydrostatical pressurization (UHP) method. The UHP method consists of the disruption of cells by hydrostatical pressurization and the removal of components of the disrupted cells by washing process. Porcine corneas were hydrostatically pressed at 4,000 or 10,000 atmospheres and 10 or 30°C for 10 min and immersed in medium for 72 hours. Semitransparent cornea was obtained by pressurization at 4.000 atm and 10°C. The transparency of cornea was decreased under the high pressure and temperature condition. By H-E staining, the complete removal of epithelial and stromal cells and the maintenance of the superstructure of collagen fibrils were confirmed in all of the pressurized corneas. Furthermore, the transmission of the pressurized corneas was recovered by the immersion of them in glycerol and the mechanical property similar to native cornea was shown. Also, there was no change in the conformation of collagen in solution by UHP treatment. These results indicate that the decellularized cornea by UHP method would be useful as corneal scaffold for regeneration. Also, these results suggest the possibility of the acellular cornea prepared by the UHP method as artificial bio-cornea.

Evaluation of Acellular Scaffolds for Heart Valve Regeneration

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Introduction

The artificial heart valve is a one of the most successful implantable medical devices. The xenograft valves made of the chemically crosslinked porcine valve or bovine pericardium have good biocompatibility, hemodynamics, and resistant to infections compared with the mechanical valves. However, the durability of the xenograft valve is relatively short in about 15 to 20 years in elderly and 5 to 10 years in pediatric patients by the calcification of the fixed tissue. The regeneration of heart valves using acellular xenogeneic scaffolds has been studied to have more durability with growth potential. It is very important to evaluate acellular xenogeneic scaffolds before clinical application to avoid severe failures such as transfer of unknown animal related infectious diseases. Our tissue processing for decellularization by ultrahigh pressure treatment for the safe valvular tissue regeneration was reported.

Materials and Methods

Porcine heart valves were isolated under the sterile condition from the Clawn miniature pigs (Japan Farm Co., Ltd.). They are then decellularized by our PowerGraft technology. Briefly, the tissues were treated by a cold isostatic pressing (CIP, Kobe Steel Co., Ltd.) of 980 MPa (10,000 atm) at 4°C for demolition of the cells inside followed by rinsing in PBS-based washing solution and ethanol solution at 4°C for 2 weeks with gentle stirring. The tissues treated were subjected to histological study, detection of residual DNA, phospholipids, alpha-galactose, and porcine endogeneous retrovirus (PERV), and biomechanical study. The acellualr scaffolds were transplanted into the allogeneic miniature pigs. The aortic root was implanted at descending aorta through left thoracotomy in the surgery carried out with single clamp technique. They were explanted 3, 6, and 12 months after the transplantation and examined histologically. All animals were carefully reared in compliance with the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals published by the National Institute of Health (NIH publication No.85-23, revised in 1985).

Results and Discussion

The tissues were cell free in the HE stained sections by the PowerGraft technology. The amounts of DNA and phospholipids in the tissue treated were almost 0 and about 5% of that in the native tissue, respectively. There was no alpha-galactose (Flg.1) and PERV detected from the acellular tissue by the immunostaining and PCR assay, respectively. It has been reported that the most of viruses including HIV are inactivated by the CIP more than 600 MPa. There were no significant changes in biomechanical properties of the breaking strength and elastic modulus.

The animals survived after the transplantation in the all cases. The explanted grafts showed no macroscopical abnormality and no dilatation and aneurysmal changes including their anastomosis. The inner surface was smooth and had no thrombus formation. From the immunohistological observation, infiltrations of smooth muscle cells and fibroblasts were identified in the all areas of the grafts at 6 months. The luminal surfaces were completely covered with endothelial cells. Calcium deposits were observed slightly. The sizes of the grafts after 12 months of transplantation were about 1.5 times of those at transplantation.

Conclusions

Porcine cells were removed from the tissue without changing its biomechanical property in a short time by the PowerGraft technology. There was no DNA, alpha-galactose, and PERV detected in the porcine acellular tissues and this indicates the tissues are very safe even for the xenogeneic transplantation. The results in porcine model were encouraging to have durable and safe acellular scaffolds for the valvular tissue regeneration.

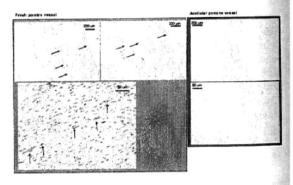


Fig.1 Immunostaining of anti-alpha-galactose in the native (left) and acellular (right) tissues.

Acknowledgements

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Reconstruction of small diameter arteries using acellular vessel scaffold

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Introduction

The patency of artificial vessels of small diameter is low and their clinical application has not yet succeeded. However, their development is clinically demanding, since presently available peripheral vascular autografts and allografts have many drawbacks. Accellular scaffolds are recently developed tissue engineering scaffolds which are made from living tissues through the acellularized process and comprised of extracellular matrix alone. These scaffolds had been reported to successfully reconstruct the heart valves and aorta and demonstrated good patency and migration of cells. Hence in this study, we investigated the possibility of the reconstruction of small diameter artery with this kind of grafts. Accelular scaffolds were prepared from the arteries of rats, and their mechanical characteristics were examined and transplantation experiments were performed.

Materials and Methods

Fabrication of the acellular vessel scaffold.

Arterial segments were obtained from Sprague-Dawley rats. Vessels were acellularized by ultra-high pressure process. The tissue was treated by the cold isostatic pressing of 10 k atm for 10 min, and washing for one day. The silicone tubes were chosen as the control.

Mechanical test.

In order to examine the mechanical characteristics of the accelluar scaffolds, we performed mechanical testing of the scaffolds in which pressure was applied to the scaffolds intraluminally and their diameter was measured. The control of this experiment was freshly retrieved abdominal aorta of rat.

Animal experiment.

The common carotid arteries of SD rat were implanted with the scaffold with 10 mm in length. The implantation period was scheduled to be 4 weeks. Scaffolds patency was evaluated with direct observation of blood flow through the scaffold at the time of its retrieval.

Histological examination.

The samples were fixed with formalin, dehydrated, embedded in paraffin; and their thin sections were prepared. The sections were stained with HE stain and immunologically stained with factor VIII-related antigen (for EPCs) and anti-smooth muscle a-actin (for to identify the cell types smooth muscle cells) migrated into arterial walls of the grafts.

Results and Discussion

Mechanical measurements.

The overall results of the pressure-diameter relations of scaffolds and vessels are summarized in Fig. 1.

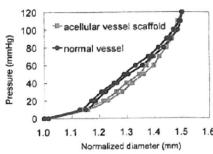


Fig. 1 Pressure-diameter relations of scaffolds and vessels

Patency.

The overall results on the patency of the implanted scaffolds are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. Patency rate of transplantation for 4 weeks

	persistence	occlusion	Patency rate
Acellular vessel scaffold	5	1	83%
Silicone	0	5	0%

Histological findings.

The histological observations were presented in Figs. 2 and 3. Monolayered cells on the luminal surface of the graft were positive with the factor VIII related antigen for EPCs, as shown in Fig. 2. And cells positively stained with smooth muscle cell-spesific a-actin, were observed in the tissue beneath the luminal surface, as shown in Fig. 3.

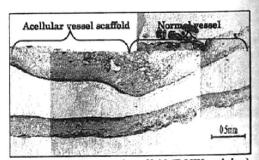
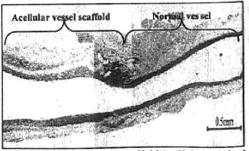


Fig. 3 Acellular vessel scaffold (F VIII staining)



Acellular vessel scaffold (α-SMA staining)



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Development of Acellular Cornea as an Artificial Cornea

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Introduction

The success rate of cornea transplantation is high compared to other form of tissue transplantation, but many complications still occur. Also, an absolute shortage of donor corneas has been an important problem in many countries. Artificial corneas have been studied as alternative in order to overcome these problems. Although various synthetic biocompatible polymer materials have been tested, some of which were recently approved by the FDA and clinical test data is accumulating. However, it has often been reported that such implants fail to significantly connect to corneal tissue and the recipient corneal cells do not expand on or in these materials, resulting in the extrusion of them through melting around the prosthetic rim.

In this study, we investigated the chemical and physical decellularization methods of corneas, in which the cells and antigens are removed to diminish the host immune reaction but the biological structure is remained, in order to utilize the decellularized cornea as a novel artificial bio-cornea. Decellularization of cornea was carried out by chemical and physical methods using various detergents and ultra-high hydrostatical pressurization (UHP), respectively.

Materials and methods

Tissues.

Corneas were dissected out of oculars of freshly killed mature pigs and washed in phosphate-buffer saline (PBS) containing antibiotics and 3.5 % w/v dextran. Decellularization of corneas by chemical method.

1% w/v solutions of Triton X-100 and of SDS were prepared. The cornea was immersed in one of these at 37 °C for 24 hours, washed with PBS containing penicillin and streptomycin for 48 hours, and subject to histological study (hematoxylin-eosin (H-E) staining). Decellularization of corneas by UHP method.

The corneas were pressurized at 10,000 atm at 10 °C for 10 min using a high-pressure machine (Kobe Steel Ltd.), washed with EGM-2 medium containing DNase I (0.2 mg/ml), antibiotics and 3.5 % w/v dextran at 37°C for 3 days, and then subjected to histological study. Biochemistry.

Decellularized corneas were analyzed quantitatively by biochemical assays for residual DNA and GAG. Characterization of decellularized cornea.

Decellularized corneas were investigated characteristics such as the transmittance, swelling ratio, strength

Preliminary animal implantation study.

To examine the biocompatibility of decellularized cornea, they were implanted in rabbit corneal stroma. The animals were sacrificed at 8 weeks after implantation.

Results and Discussion

Decellularized corneas by chemical method were cloudy and swollen after immersion in a detergent solution. For H-E staining of a section of the decellularized cornea, loosing of the collagen fibrils in the corneal stroma and shrinking of the epithelium layer were observed. Although the disruption of cells was confirmed histologically, the nuclear materials of the disrupted cells remained.

By H-E staining, the complete removal of epithelial and stromal cells was confirmed in all of the pressurized corneas. The super-structure of collagen fibrils were relatively maintained after the UHP decellularization. Also, when the decellularized porcine cornea was implanted in a rabbit cornea, vascularization and inflammatory reaction were not observed, suggesting the decellularized cornea obtained through the UHP method could be useful as a corneal scaffold for tissue regeneration. From these result, it suggested that this method could be used as one of decellularization method of the other tissues or organs.



Figure.1 H-E staining of native (upper) and decellularized cornea (lower) by UHP method.

Conclusion

We have successfully developed a corneal decellularization method that uses UHP technology. The superstructure of the acellular cornea was relatively preserved. This decellularization method appears to be a promising contribution with regard to corneal replacement and tissue engineering of the cornea.

Acellular skeletal muscle scaffold as an inducer of muscular differentiation

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Introduction

Soft tissue-replacement therapies for trauma, tumor, and congenital anomaries are still challenging area in plastic and reconstructive surgeries. In some cases, autologous normal skeletal muscle tissue is transplanted as a surgical flap and this treatment may cause decreasing of patient's quality of life.

Recently, tissue-engineered skeletal muscles using scaffold for treatment of tissue defects have been investigated. In these studies, some kinds of scaffolds including synthetic materials and acellular tissues have been applied as the substrates. Among these scaffolds, acellular skeletal muscles may be a hopeful substratum for skeletal muscle reconstruction both in vivo and in vitro because the remaining extracellular matrices and paths of nerves in the scaffolds help cellular invasion and reconstruction of tissues. For example, after the acellular tissue transplantation to the tissue defects in animal experiments, proliferated satellite cells may migrate in the scaffold, differentiate into the myoblasts, and form new skeletal muscle. Besides, it is reported that myoblasts have developed into contractile skeletal muscle tissues in vitro using acellular tissues.

On the other hands, many resarchers reported that stretch-cultured myoblasts on the silicone surface have formed myotubes. Satellite cells or myoblasts therefore are considered to differentiate and be matured by stretch stimulations.

In this study, we cultured myoblasts or mesenchymal stem cells in the acellular skeletal muscle tissue prepared by ultra-high pressure treatment. As a stimulation factor for differentiation or maturation of the cells into the skeletal muscle cells, stretch stimulation was applied. The effects of our acellular scaffold as a substrate in the stretch culture on the cell differentiation and morphology were investigated.

Materials and Methods

Porcine femoral skeletal muscles were sliced into the 3-mm thickness and packed with PBS. These tissues were applied ultra-high pressure at 980 MPa for 10 min to destroy cells, and washed with PBS-based buffer for 3 weeks to remove cell debris in the tissue.

Rat mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs) were isolated from femoral bone and cultured on the collagen-coated dishes over one month to expand cells.

The MSCs or myoblast cells were seeded into the acellular skeletal muscle scaffold at the density of 1 x 10⁶ cells/scaffold and were cultured statically for 3 days. On the third day, scaffolds with cells were clumped at the both edges, and elongated to 110% of initial length, and kept that length for 3 days (elongation group). In the stretch culture, scaffolds were stretcht intermittently for 3 days (stretch group). Non-stretched cultures were made as control groups. The RNAs were extracted from cultured cells and expression of skeletal muscle

differentiation markers were investigated using real time PCR. The cellular morphologies were compared between stimulated and control groups.

Results and Discussion

From the histological observation, no nuclei were observed and DNA amount in the scaffold were dramatically decreased. Extracellular matrices and skeletal muscle cellular skeletons were remained in the scaffolds. These components in the scaffold are thought to maintain elastic modulus of the scaffold after decellularization treatment.

Cultured rat MSCs and myoblasts showed their differentiation ability into the skeletal muscle cells by stimulating factors. MSCs formed myotube 3 weeks after 5-azacytidine stimulation that is generally used. On the other hands, myoblasts changed cell morphology and formed myotube after confluent in the dish culture.

After 3 days of static culture of both cells, all scaffolds were shrinked by the cellular contractile forces. Cells were existed not only the surface but inside of the scaffold. All cells in the scaffolds showed round shape at that time. In the myoblast stretch culture group, cells kept round shape after 3 days of culture. However, in the static culture as a control group, some cells demonstrated giant cytoplasm with the cell nuclei existed near cell membrane similar to the skeletal muscle fiber in vivo (Figure). There was no particular change by the stretch stimulation on the myoblasts in the acellular scaffolds. In the elongation culture, MSCs in the scaffolds extended along with elongated direction of the scaffolds. In some areas, cells were fused and showed myotube-like morphology in spite of keeping round shape in the control group.

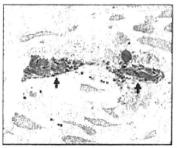


Figure. In the acellular skeletal muscle scaffold, myoblast cells demonstrated skeletal fiber-like morphologies after 6 days of static culture (arrows).

Conclusions

Our acellular skeletal muscle scaffold is thought to affect on myoblast differentiation and maturation. And more, elongating stimulation has possibility to act on the MSCs as an inducer of differentiation into the skeletal muscle cells.

DNA condensation using hydrostatic pressurization for gene delivery

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Introduction

Plasmid DNA was utilized for gene transfection into mammalian cells in vitro and in vivo. Mainly, plasmid DNA was condensed by various cationic compounds, which can interact with plasmid DNA electrostatically, in order to be stable for nuclease degradation and to be effectively delivered into cells. Although the transfection efficiency was enhanced using these methods in vitro, their cytotoxicity is one of essential problems. On the other hands, it was reported that when plasmid DNA was directly injected into muscle, liver, and hart in vivo, called as naked plasmid DNA method, the transgene was transiently expressed. Although this method is simple and safe, the level of transgene expression resulting from such local regional administration is relatively low and restricted to the injection site due to its low stability. Therefore, for safer, more stable and efficient gene delivery, it is necessary to condense plasmid DNA with a less cationic material or without one. In our previous study, it was reported that nanoparticles of poly(vinyl alcohol) (PVA) itself or its mixture with plasmid DNA were prepared via hydrogen bonds by ultra-high hydrostatic pressurization, in which the hydrogen bond is strengthen, and were delivered into mammalian cells with low cytotoxicity. In the present study, we hypothesized that the pressure induces the compaction of plasmid DNA itself because DNA is one of typical hydrogen bonding polymers as well as PVA, and then we investigated the effect of pressure on the tertiary structure of plasmid DNA having the super-coiled and relaxed forms. Kunugi et al previously reported that the elevated pressure to 160 MPa induced the super-coiling of relaxed plasmid DNA.

Materials and Methods

1kbp ladder DNA (Takara, Co. Ltd) was used as a linear DNA. Plasmid DNA encoding luciferase under T7 promoter (pT7-luc, Promega Co.) was also used. Aqueous solution of them (20 μg/ml) was prepared and hydrostatically pressurized at various atmospheres and 40 °C for different times using high pressure machine (Dr.chef, Kobe Steel Co. Ltd). After pressure removal, the obtained solution was analyzed by agarose gel electrophoresis, DLS (Nano-Zs, Malvern Instruments Ltd), CD (J-820, JASCO Co. Ltd) and melting temperature (Tm) at 260 nm (V-560, JASCO Co. Ltd) measurements.

Results and Discussion

For 1kbp ladder DNA, when the DNA solution was hydrostatically pressurized at 10,000 atm (980MPa) and 40 °C for 10 min, there was no change for the agarose gel electrophoresis of the ladder DNA with/without the pressurization, whereas the decrease in the size of the pressurized DNA was confirmed by DLS measurement compared to that of the non-pressurized DNA. Also, there were differences between the ladder

DNA with and without the pressurization for CD and Tm measurements. These results suggest that the condensation of DNA was induced by the pressurization.

Secondary, plasmid DNA was used in order to examine the effect of pressure on the conformational structure of DNA in detail. The aqueous solution of pT7-luc at the concentration of 20 µg/ml was hydrostatically pressurized at 10,000 atm and 40 °C for 20 min and analyzed by DLS measurement. Before the pressurization, the hydrodynamic diameter of pT7-Luc solution was detected at approximately 95 nm and 625 nm, which were assigned to the super-coiled and relaxed (open-circled) form of pT7-luc plasmid DNA, respectively. After the pressurization, the hydrodynamic diameters of the pT7-luc were measured at approximately 27 nm and 127 nm. It was previously reported that super-coiling of plasmid DNA was induced by elevated pressure to a relaxed plasmid DNA at 160 MPa. Thus, the pT7-luc having the diameter of 127 nm obtained by the pressurization at 10,000 atm was regarded as super-coiling of relaxed pT7-luc plasmid DNA. It is also considered that the super-coiled pT7-luc was effectively condensed by the high pressurization, resulting that the compacted super-coiled pT7-luc was detected at approximately 27 nm. To investigate whether the pressurizing strength and time affect the compaction of plasmid DNA, the pT7-luc solution was pressurized at different atmospheres and 40°C for various times. For DLS measurement after pressure removal, the hydrodynamic diameters of the super-coiled and relaxed plasmid DNA were decreased with increasing pressure. Also, at constant pressure at 10,000 atm, a long period of pressure treatment effectively induced the compaction of pT7-luc. These results suggest that the hydrostatic pressurization could regulate the tertiary structure of plasmid DNA. To investigate the function of the pressure-condensed plasmid DNA, the activity of luciferase expressed from the pT7-luc pressurized at various atmospheres for 5min in cell-free translation and translation system was evaluated. The luciferase activity of the pressurized pT7-luc at 5,000 atm was increased about 1.8 times compared to the non-pressurized one. Although more increasing of pressure decreased the luciferase activity, indicating that the pressurized plasmid DNA was applicable for gene delivery. Conclusions

It was found that the high pressurization induced the super-coiling of relaxed plasmid DNA and the compaction of super-coiled plasmid DNA. The extent of the tertiary structural changes of them was depended on the pressurizing strength and time. The high hydrostatic pressurization is considered as a potential tool for

preparing the compacted plasmid DNA.

505 電気インピーダンス法による骨格筋損傷度の評価の試み

Basic study for evaluation of skeletal muscle injury with electric impedance method

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Key Words: Skeletal muscle, Electric impedance, Enzymatic treatment, Injury model, Quontitative evaluation

1. 緒言

スポーツ傷害や事故によって筋屑膜や筋線維の断裂が生じた場合、骨格筋の損傷状態を調べる方法として血清クレアチンキナーゼによる生化学的検査や MRI による画像診断が行なわれている。 臨床における筋損傷の診断方法として大変有用であるが、検査・診断時間が長く煩雑な操作や熟練した技術が要求される。筋損傷から回復までの期間を短縮するためには受傷後の適切な処置が重要であり、患者のQOLの向上のために損傷した筋組織の状態を迅速かつ詳細に調べる技術が必要である。

そこで我々は生体組織の内部情報を非破壊的に調べることが可能な電気インピーダンス法(1)に着目した. 骨格筋量の推定や患者の浮腫の診断などに用いられており、骨格筋の損傷度を定量的に評価することが可能ではないかと考えた. しかし、骨格筋の構造と電気インピーダンスとの関係は明確になされていない. 従って本研究の目的は、骨格筋の組織構造と電気インピーダンスとの関係を調べ、電気インピーダンス法の筋損傷の評価方法における有用性を検討することである.

2. 実験方法

2-1. 酵素モデル

基質構造の変化が電気インピーダンスに及ぼす影響を調べるため、酵素処理により物理化学的に構造を変化させた酵素モデルを作製した.

2-1-1. 試験片

試験片には、生後約6ヶ月、体重約100kgの食用豚の大腰 筋より採取した骨格筋を用いた、脂肪組織をピンセットで 取り除き、外科用メスにより10×25×5 mm の板状に成形し たものを試験片とした。

2-1-2. 酵素処理

基底膜の構成成分であるコラーゲン線維を分解する酵素溶液としてコラゲナーゼ溶液を用いた。コラゲナーゼ溶液は、リン酸緩衝生理食塩水(以下PBSと略す)(SIGMA, pH6.8)にType-IVコラゲナーゼ粉末(Worthington, 280 unit/mg)を50 unit/ml の濃度で溶解することによって調整した。

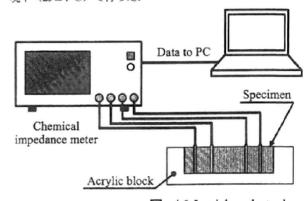
酵素溶液10 ml中に試験片を入れ、37℃の恒温槽にて8時 間酵素処理を行なった.酵素処理を施していない試験片を Control群、コラゲナーゼ処理を施した試験片をCollagenase 群とした。取り出した試験片をPBSに1時間浸し十分平衡に達した後、各実験を行った。

2-2. 含水率測定

酵素処理に伴う骨格筋の含水率の変化を調べた。湿潤状態にある試験片重量と、凍結乾燥を24時間行い十分に乾燥させた後の試験片重量とを電子天秤を用いて測定した。それぞれの重量を湿重量、および乾燥重量として含水率を算出した。

2-3. 電気インピーダンス測定

図1に測定システムの概略図を示す、電気インピーダンスの測定にはケミカルインピーダンスメータ(3532-80, HIOKI)を使用した。試験片を自作のアクリルブロックに設置し、 ϕ 0.5 のステンレス電極を筋線維方向に対して平行になる様試験片に刺入した。電圧検出電極両端の電圧を $10~\mathrm{mVrms}$ 一定のもと,4 Hzから $1~\mathrm{MHz}$ の交流電流を与えて各周波数における電気インピーダンスを測定した。得られた測定データは PC に保存された後、データ解析を行った。測定は室温環境下($25\pm1~\mathrm{C}$)で行った。



2-4. 引張試験

酵素処理に伴う骨格筋の引張方向の力学特性の変化を調べるために引張試験を行った、万能試験機(EZgraph, SHIMADZU)の治具に試験片を固定し、変位速度 10 mm/min でクロスヘッドを移動させ、試験片が破断するまで

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試験を行った. 得られた応力-ひずみ曲線より破断時の応 力およびひずみを求め評価指標とした.

3. 結果

図 2 に含水率の測定結果を示す. Control 群に比べて Collagenase 群の含水率は高かった.

図3に1 kHz 時の電気インピーダンスの測定結果を示す. Control 群に比べて Collagenase 群の電気インピーダンスは低かった。全ての測定周波数において同様の傾向が見られた.

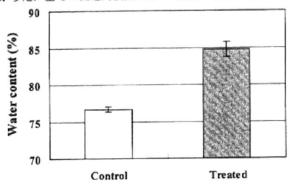


Fig.2 Results from water content measurement (Data represents average value \pm standard division, n = 3).

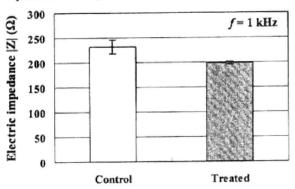


Fig.3 Results from electric impedance measurement (Data represents average value \pm standard division, n = 3).

図4に引張試験の結果を示す、Control 群に比べ、 Collagenase 群の接線剛性は低い傾向がみられた、処理後の 酵素溶液中に沈殿物が見られ、位相差顕微鏡で観察した所、 分解された筋繊維が確認された(図5).

4. 考察

骨格筋は筋細胞である筋線維が集まり、筋周膜や筋上膜など深筋膜由来の結合組織が筋線維を束ねることによって構成されている。Control 群に比べて Collagenase 群の合水率が高い値を示したのは、酵素処理により結合組織や筋繊維を充分解された結果、筋組織が膨潤したためだと考えられるの一般的に、生体組織においては組織内の水分量が高くなるにつれて電気インピーダンスが低くなると報告されているにつれて電気インピーダンスが低かったことより、骨格筋の電気インピーダンスが低かったことより、骨格筋の電気インピーダンスが低かったことより、骨格筋の電気インピーダンスは基質構造の変化に伴う水分状態の変化を捉えていることが示唆された。よって、電気インピーダンスの測定によって骨格筋の水分状態を調べることで、骨格筋の構造の変化を定量的に評価することが可能であると考えられる。

また、Control 群に比べて Collagenase 群の接線剛性が低い傾向を示したことは、基質成分の分解によるものと予想される。従って、本研究における骨格筋の電気インピーダンス測定では、基質構造の変化に伴う力学特性の変化も予測できると考えられる。

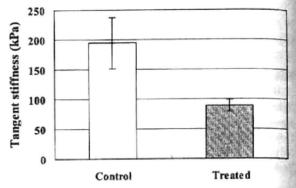


Fig.4 Results from tensile test (Data represents average value \pm standard division, n = 3).

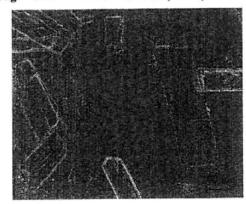


Fig.5 Phase-contrast image of digested muscle fiber.

5. 結言

酵素処理を施した骨格筋の電気インピーダンスを測定し、 以下の結言を得た.

- 1. 基質構造の分解に伴い骨格筋の電気インピーダンスは 低下する.
- 2. 骨格筋の電気インピーダンスは基質構造の変化に伴う 水分状態の変化を捉えていることが示唆され、電気インピーダンス法により骨格筋の構造の変化を定量的に 評価可能であることが示唆された。

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230 培養筋管細胞の収縮動態の定量評価

Quantitative evaluation of dynamic state of cultured myotube contraction

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Key Words: C2C12, Contraction, Electrical pulse, Chronaxie, Actuator

1. 緒言

近年、医療分野でマイクロマシンが使用されつつある. マイクロマシンを駆動させるためにはアクチュエータが必 要となるが,従来の機械式アクチュエータは大きく,電源 が必要であることから、小型、小電力で駆動するアクチュ エータの開発が望まれている.生体筋は機械的アクチュエ ータとは異なり、アクチン、ミオシンの働きにより主に化 学エネルギーを機械エネルギーに変換して駆動するため, 小型化および省電力化が可能となる。このことから、我々 は筋芽細胞を培養することによって作製した培養筋をアク チュエータとして利用する試みを進めている.培養筋をア クチュエータとして利用するためには、培養筋の収縮弛緩 を制御する必要がある. これまで筋管細胞や培養筋の収縮 弛緩を電気バルスで制御する試み⁽¹⁾が報告されているが, その刺激条件と筋管細胞の収縮弛緩との関係は未だ明らか でない.そこで本研究では,培養筋の収縮を制御するため の刺激の大きさ、周波数、パルス幅および筋管細胞に対す る刺激の方向性について検討し、筋管細胞収縮の動態変化 を定量的に評価した.

2. 実験方法

2-1. 細胞培養

筋芽細胞としてマウス横紋筋由来株化細胞 C2C12 細胞を使用した、C2C12 細胞を 1.0×10⁴ cells/cm²の密度で 60 mm コラーゲンコートディッシュに播種した、培養液には 10 %ウシ胎児血清, 抗生物質を含む High-glucose Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium (HG-DMEM) を用い、37℃、CO₂ 5 %の環境下でコンフルエントになるまで培養した、その後、筋芽細胞の融合を促進させるため、培養液を 7 %ウマ血清、抗生物質を含む HG-DMEM (DM) に変更し、引き続き培養した、培養液の交換は 2 日毎に行い、その際に位相差顕微鏡にて細胞の形態を観察した。

2-2. 筋管細胞収縮の周波数応答性の評価

電気パルスに対する筋管細胞収縮の周波数応答性を調べた。図 1 に実験システムの概要図を示す。分化誘導から 6 日後に、ディッシュに白金平板電極を互いに向き合うように設置し、Waveform generator を用いて培養液中にパルス電圧を印加した。電界方向は筋管細胞の長軸に対して平行 (Parallel)、および垂直 (Vertical) とした。入力電圧を 20

 V_{pp} , バルス幅 10~msec とし、周波数を 0.5~Hz から 10~Hz まで変化させたときの筋管細胞の収縮の動態を位相差顕微鏡画像で観察し、コンピュータに動画を取り込んだ。取り込んだ動画をフレームごとの静止画に変換し、画像をGrayscale に変換した、収縮弛緩が見られる細胞の輪郭付近を選択し、その領域の Grayscale の平均値を求めた。さらに、Grayscale の平均値の時間変化をフーリエ変換し、周波数スペクトルを求めた。

2-3. 基電流およびクロナキシー測定

分化誘導から 6 日後に周波数を 1 Hz とし、入力電圧およびパルス幅を変化させ、筋管細胞が収縮弛緩するときのそれぞれの値を調べた。ディッシュと直列に 100 Ω の抵抗を接続し、その両端の電圧を測定することによって回路中に流れる電流を算出した。筋管細胞が収縮弛緩し始めるときの電流とパルス幅との関係(Strength-Duration curve)を求めた後、最小二乗法によって Weiss の近似式⁽²⁾に近似し、基電流とクロナキシーを求めた。実験は 37℃、大気中で行った。また周囲溶液には 10 %ウシ胎児血清、抗生物質、25mM HEPES を含む HG-DMEM を使用した。

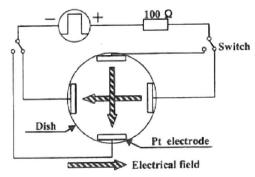


Fig.1 Shematic drawing of experimental system

3. 結果

図 2 にコンフルエント時と分化誘導から 6 日後の C2C12 細胞の位相差顕微鏡画像を示す. コンフルエントに達した後に、培養液を DM に変更することで、単核の筋芽細胞が細長い筋管細胞に変化している様子が観察された.

電気パルスを加えた結果、Parallel では Grayscale の平均値が周期的に変化したが、Vertical では周期的な変化は見られなかった。また、ここには示していないが 10 Hz では入力開始時に Grayscale の平均値が上昇し入力停止時に減少した。図3に Grayscale の平均値の時間変化をフーリエ変換した結果を示す。Parallel の0.5 Hz、1 Hz、3 Hz において入力信号と同様の周波数でスペクトルのビークが見られた。しかし、5 Hz においてはピークは確認できなかった。

図 4 に Parallel および Vertical の基電流およびクロナキシーの結果を示した。 Parallel の基電流は Vertical に比べて有意に小さかった。また Parallel のクロナキシーは Vertical に比べて小さい傾向を示していた。

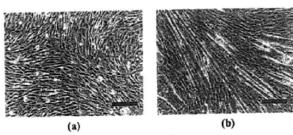


Fig.2 Phase-contrast images of C2C12 cells.

- (a) Confluence,
- (b) 6 days after differentiation induction, bar=100 μm

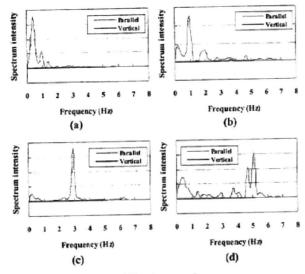


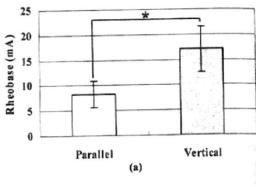
Fig.3 Results of Fourier transform.

(a) 0.5 H, (b) 1 Hz, (c) 3 Hz, (d) 5 Hz

4. 考察

本実験において筋管細胞の収縮は 0.5 Hz から 3 Hz まで周期的に変化した.フーリエ変換の結果,入力信号と同様の周波数でスペクトルのピークが見られたが,5 Hz ではスペクトルのピークは確認できなかった.また 10 Hz では入力開始時に Grayscale の平均値が上昇し入力停止時に減少した.このことより,周波数 5 Hz 以上では生体筋で見られる強縮が生じていたと考えられる.生体の運動においては強縮が用いられており,これにより大きな力を発生することができる.よって,培養筋をアクチュエータとして利用する場合,周波数による強縮が重要であると考えられる.

バルス電気刺激により、筋を収縮弛緩させるために必要な電流値を基電流といい、最小の電気エネルギーで筋を収縮弛緩させるために必要なパルス幅をクロナキシーという⁽²⁾ . Parallel は Vertical に比べて基電流およびクロナキシーが小さかった。このことは筋管細胞の長軸に対して平行に電界を生じさせることにより、低い電気エネルギーで筋管細胞を収縮弛緩させることが可能であることを示唆している。



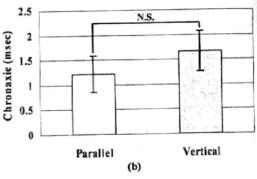


Fig.4 Results of Rheobase and Chronaxie.

- (a) Rheobase (*p<0.01, Parallel :n=9, Vertical:n=4),
- (b) Chronaxie (p =0.081, Parallel:n=9, Vertical:n=4)

5. 結言

本実験より、以下の結言を得た.

- 電気パルス刺激の周波数により筋管細胞の収縮動態が 変化することがわかった。
- 筋管細胞には電界に対する異方性があり、筋管細胞の 長軸に対して平行に電界を生じさせることにより、低い電気エネルギーで筋管細胞を収縮弛緩させることが 可能であることが示唆された。

謝辞

本研究は文部科学省学術フロンティア「培養筋の医工学応用」の助成により行われた.

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Development of bio-actuator using acellular tissue scaffold.

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Key Words: Bio-actuator, acellular tissue, C2C12 cell, Elastin, Electrical pulse,

1. 緒言

生体筋は出力対重量比が大きく、柔軟かつ軽量なアクチ ュエータであることから義肢としての応用が期待される. 我々は生体筋の代わりとして、培養筋をバイオアクチュエ ータとして利用する試みを行っている.培養筋をアクチュ エータとして使用するには,外部制御可能な培養筋組織を in vitro で構築する必要がある.これまで in vitro における培 養筋の再生については,コラーゲンゲル "やポリプロピレ ン繊維 2)をスキャフォールドとして用いた方法やスキャフ ォールドを用いない方法 3が報告されている. しかし, ゲ ルやスキャフォールドを用いない方法は培養筋の大きさの 制御が困難で,強度が低い問題点がある.また,ファイバ - を用いた方法では培養に時間がかかるなどの問題がある. そこで,新たなスキャフォールドとして機械的強度があ り、形状の制御が比較的容易な脱細胞化した生体由来組織 に着目した. 本研究の目的は, 脱細胞化した生体由来組織 を足場として筋芽細胞を 3 次元培養し、パイオアクチュエ - 夕としての機能を評価することである.

2. 実験方法

2-1. スキャフォールドの作製

本研究では無細胞生体由来組織として、脱エラスチン化 したクラウン系ミニブタの大動脈を使用した.大動脈を熱 架橋したのち,エラスターゼにてエラスチンを分解した. エラスターゼ処理後にエラスチン阻害剤を用いてエラスチ ンの活性を失活化させた.その後,アルコール及び PBS に て試験片を洗浄し、脱エラスチン化生体由来組織(以下 Scaffold) を作製した. スキャフォールドを 5mm×15mm の 大きさに成形し、図 1 に示すようにポリカーポネート製の ジグに直径 0.7 mm のキルシュナー鋼線で固定した.

2-2. 細胞培養

筋芽細胞として、マウス横紋筋由来株化細胞C2C12細胞 を使用した.脱エラスチンスキャフォールド表面に濃度 1.0×10⁶ cells/mlのC2C12細胞懸濁液を50 μl播種した. 培養液 には10%ウシ胎児血清,抗生物質を含むHigh-glucose Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (HG-DMEM)を用いた、2日 間培養した後,筋管細胞の形成を促進させるため,培養液 を7%ウマ血清,抗生物質を含むHG-DMEMに変更し,さら に6日間培養した. 培養は37°C, 5%CO2, 湿度100%の環境 下で行い、培養液の交換は2日毎に行った.

2-3. 培養筋収縮弛緩の周波数特性

培養8日目にパルス電圧に対する培養筋の周波数応答性を 調べた.信号源としてWaveform generatorを使用し,Scaffold

を固定しているキルシュナー鋼線に電圧を印加した. パル ス幅を10 msec. 入力電圧を30 Vp-p,周波数を0.5 Hzから10 Hzまで変化させたときの筋管細胞の動態変化をコンピュ 夕に取り込んだ、さらに取り込んだ動画をフレーム毎の静 止画に分割し,Grayscale (Black: 0-White: 255)に変換した. 収縮弛緩するScaffoldの一部(25 pixel×25 pixel)を選択し、 その領域の平均値を求めた、さらにGrayscalの時間変化をフ 一リエ変換し、周波数スペクトルを求めた.

2-4. 組織観察

実験後の Scaffold の断面を観察するために固定および脱 水した後にバラフィン包埋し,HE 染色を行った.また,バ ラホルムアルデヒドとグルタールアルデヒドの混合液で固 定した後に脱水および乾燥させ、走査型電子顕微鏡 (SEM) で Scaffold 表面を観察した.

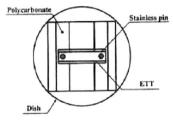




Fig.1 Fixation method of Scaffold.

3. 結果

培養8日目に電気パルス刺激を行ったところ、Scaffold が 収縮弛緩した.図2に周波数1Hz および3Hz における画像 解析の結果を示す. 1 Hz および 3 Hz ともに時間経過に伴い, Grayscal が周期的に変化した. 10 Hz における Grayscale の 時間変化を図3に示す.10 Hz では,周期的な Grayscal の変 化は見られず、入力開始時に Grayscal の平均値が上昇し、 刺激の間その値が維持されていた.

図4にフーリエ変換の結果を示す. 1 Hz および 3 Hz では それぞれの周波数において最も高いピークが見られたのに 対し、10 Hzでは見られなかった.

図 5 に HE 染色の結果を示す。 ほとんどの細胞が Scaffold 表面に接着しており,Scaffold 内部への侵入は見られなかっ

図 6 に SEM 観察の結果を示す。細胞は細長い形態を示し ており、Scaffold の長軸と平行に配向している様子が見られ

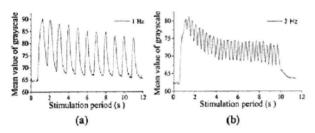


Fig.2 Time-dependent variety of the Grayscale with electrical pulse. (a) 1 Hz, (b) 3 Hz

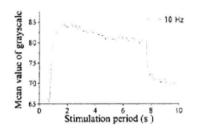


Fig.3 Time-dependent variety of the Grayscale with electrical pulse at 10 Hz.

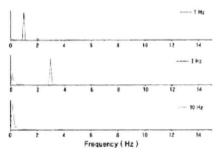


Fig.4 Result of Fourier transform.

4. 考察

外部からの電気パルス刺激によって筋管細胞や培養筋組織が収縮することに関するいくつかの報告がなされている、本研究においても、電気パルス刺激により Scaffold が収縮弛緩する様子が見られた。Grayscal の平均値をフーリエ変換した結果、1 Hz および 3Hz において電気パルスの周波数と同様の周波数に最大ピークが見られたことから、Scaffold はパルス電気刺激と同期して収縮弛緩していることがわかる。一方、10 Hz の電気パルスを印加した場合には、10 Hz に最大ピークが見られなかった。しかし、図 3 に示すように電気パルス入力開始時に Grayscal の平均値が上昇し、刺激の間維持されていた。今回用いた Grayscal の平均値は Scaffoldの動きを示しており、10 Hz では電気パルス刺激により収縮し、刺激の間その状態を維持していることを示している。これらのことから、周波数 10 Hz では Scaffold の強縮が生じていたと考えられる。

SEM 観察の結果、細胞が Scaffold の長軸方向に配向する様子が見られた。ここには示していないが、Scaffold 両端を固定せずに本研究と同様の方法で培養した場合、培養に伴って Scaffold が縮む様子が観察された。このことから、Scaffold の収縮を固定によって妨げたため、Scaffold 表面の細胞に負荷が加り、一方向に配向したと考えられる。

組織観察の結果、細胞は Scaffold 表面のみに接着しており、内部にはほとんど細胞が侵入しなかった、Terada⁴⁾らは Scaffold をブタの大動脈に移植して1ヶ月後に取り出した際、細胞が十分に Scaffold 内部まで侵入していたと報告している。このことから、Scaffold は内部に細胞が侵入しうる空間を有していると考えられる。このことから、細胞を内部まで侵入させる方法について検討していく必要があると考えられる。さらに、培養筋をアクチュエータとして利用するには、その収縮力や変位量を測定する必要があるため、今後それらを測定していく予定である。

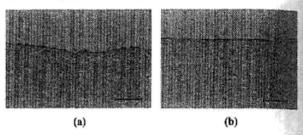


Fig.5 Histrogical stain of Scaffold (HE stain).
(a) Transverse section (b) Longitudinal section

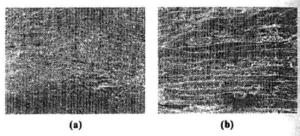


Fig.6 SEM image of the Scaffold surface. (a) \times 100 (b) \times 500

5. 結論

本実験より以下の結論を得た。

- C2C12 を播種した Scaffold は電気パルスにより収縮弛 緩し、周波数により Scaffold の収縮弛緩動態が変化することが示された。
- 2. Scaffold を固定して培養すると、その長軸方向に筋管細胞が配向することが示された.

謝辞

本研究は文部科学省学術フロンティア「培養筋の医工学 応用」の助成より行われた.

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TISSUE REGENERATION BY DECELLULATIZATED BIOLOGICAL SCAFFOLDS PREPARED BY DETERGENT-FREE TREATMENT

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INTRODUCTORY REMARKS: Decellularized tissues and those recellularization are widely studied to give more durability with potential growth and invisible immunogenicity to the conventional bioprostheses like glutaraldehyde-treated heart valves. Detergents are commonly used for removal of the cells, whereas they are generally cytotoxic and may prevent repopulation after the transplantation. We are investigating efficient processes of decellularization and recellularization of biological tissues to have bioscaffolds with excellent repopulationability after their implantation.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: Porcine pulmonary valves, aortas, connective tissues and other tissues were excised and treated by an ultra-high pressure treatment of 980 MPa at the room temperature. They were then washed with buffer and alcohol with gentle stirring. No detergents were used in the processes. The acellular scaffolds of heart valves and aortas were transplanted to orthotopic positions of miniature pigs. Postoperative anticoagulation or anti-platelet therapy was not instigated. They were explanted 3, 6 or 12 months after the transplantation and examined histologically and immunohistologically.

RESULTS: The leaflet, aorta, and some connective tissues were completely cell free after the treatment. There were no significant changes in biomechanical properties of the breaking strength and elastic modulus of the leaflets treated. The explanted grafts showed no macroscopical abnormality and no dilatation and aneurysmal changes. The inner surface was completely covered with endothelial cells and the inside was infiltrated by cells from both sides of endothelium and outer tissue after 3 months. It was dominant in the latter. Almost of the tissue including cusps were filled by the cells after 6 months, mainly by smooth muscle cells. The grafts followed the growth of their hosts after 12 months.

DISCUSSIONS: The acellular scaffolds prepared by detergent-free treatment may have a potential for remarkable repopulation after their transplantation.

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PREPARATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF DECELLULARIZED PORCINE CORENEA FOR THE CORNEAL TISSUE ENGINEERING

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INTRODUCTORY REMARKS: Corneal transplantation is one of the most effective treatment for serious corneal diseases, however, shortage of supply (except USA), rejection and inflammatory reaction are serious problems. We have been studying the preparation of the biological scaffold using ultra-high pressure to develop a novel tissue engineering. In the present study, we studied the preparation and characterization of decellularized cornea.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: Porcine comeas were pressurized at 4,000 to 10,000 atm at 10 or 30 °C for 10 min, and then washed by culture medium containing DNase I, antibiotics for 72 hours to remove the cellular components (UHP method). The characterization of the decellularized cornea were done by histological study (H-E staining), transparency measurement, and mechanical strength measurement.

RESULTS: UHP treatment affected the transparency of cornea. The transparency of cornea was decreased under the higher pressure and temperature condition, however, the transparency of the decellularized comea was recovered by the immersion of them in glycerol. It shows that the superstructure of collagen fibrils was well maintained after UHP treatment. In other decellularized methods (detergent treatment), comea was swelled, dissolved and damaged in all cases. By histological study, the complete removal of epithelial and stromal cells was confirmed in all of the pressurized corneas. Pilot study of implantation of the decellularized porcine comea into rabbit eye showed an excellent recovery of transparency and very low inflammatory responses.

DISCUSSION: Only the UHP treatment could give the decellualized cornea. UHP treatment is also known as a sterilizing method, so the UHP method is one of the ideal decellularing methods. It will be suggested that the decellularized porcine cornea by UHP method would be useful as corneal scaffold for corneal tissue regeneration.

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一般演題13

異種組織をテンプレートとする組織再生技術の開発

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われわれは、異種組織から細胞成分等を除去し、マトリックス成分のみが残存した多孔 質構造体を組織再生のテンプレートとして用いる再生医療技術を開発している。移植後に 自己組織化され、患者の成長に伴う組織の成長が期待できる。血管、心臓弁の他、角膜や 筋肉、神経、皮膚等のテンプレート作成について報告する。

ミニブタやラットから各種組織を採取した。洗浄後、冷間等方圧加圧装置を用いた980MPa の超高圧印加による細胞破壊処理、及び残渣成分の洗浄除去処理を行うことで細胞成分を除去した。血管、心臓弁では、組織内のエラスチン線維も酵素によって除去した。得られたテンプレートを、同種あるいは異種動物に同所性に移植した。また、テンプレートへの細胞組み込みについても検討した。

下行大動脈の同種移植では、移植12ヶ月後に移植時の約1.5~2倍の大きさとなり、グラフト前後の血管と完全に一体化していた。内腔は内皮細胞によって覆われ、組織内は平滑筋及び線維芽細胞の浸潤を認めた。角膜実質部ミニブタ組織のウサギへの異種移植では、軽微な炎症反応を認めたものの、透明性を維持しつつ周囲組織に定着していた。筋組織では、筋芽細胞を播種した後で筋管細胞へと分化させることによって、生体外で電気刺激にて収縮挙動を示すことを確認した。

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生体由来祭材スキャフォールドを用いた臓組織再生

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われわれは、生物由来素材を臓組織再生用のスキャフォールドとして用いる再生医療技 術を開発している。プラスチックや金属などとは異なり、本スキャフォールドは移植後に リモデリングされることによって、患者の成長に伴う臓組織の成長が期待できる。本報告 では、血管、心臓弁、筋肉、角膜、皮膚等のスキャフォールド作成と、その細胞ハイブリ ッド化について述べる。

ミニブタやラットから各種組織を採取した。洗浄後、冷間等方圧加圧装置を用いた980MPa の超高圧印加による細胞破壊処理、及び残渣成分の洗浄除去処理を行うことで生物由来素 材スキャフォールドを作成した。さらに、血管、心臓弁では、組織内のエラスチン線維も酵素によって除去した。また、市販のコラーゲン溶液から再構成したコラーゲン多孔質体もスキャフォールドとした。スキャフォールドの細胞ハイブリッド化は、回転培養法を用いた表面播種の他、組織内への細胞注入も検討した。

血管、心臓弁では細胞ハイブリッド化せずにスキャフォールドのみの同種移植を行ったところ、移植12ヶ月後に移植時の約1.5~2倍の大きさとなり、スキャフォールド前後の血管と完全に一体化していた。内腔は内皮細胞によって覆われ、組織内は平滑筋及び線維芽細胞の浸潤を認めた。角膜実質部ミニブタ組織のウサギへの異種移植では、軽微な炎症反応を認めたものの、透明性を維持しつつ周囲組織に定着していた。筋組織では、筋芽細胞をハイブリッド化した後で筋管細胞へと分化させると、生体外で電気刺激に応じた収縮挙動を示し、その収縮力を測定することができた。スキャフォールド内部への細胞ハイブリッド化方法として、薬物インジェクタを使用したところ、スキャフォールド内へ注入された細胞の生着が認められた。

生物由来素材スキャフォールドは、種々の臓組織再生のための基材として有効であること考えられる。

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