

非特異性多発性小腸潰瘍症の臨床徴候についての調査研究

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研究要旨:非特異性多発性小腸潰瘍症(CEAS)は、小腸に多発潰瘍を来す難治性の遺伝性疾患である。SLCO2A1 遺伝子変異を有することが確認された CEAS 患者 69 例(男性 24 例, 女性 45 例)を対象とし、消化管および消化管外の臨床徴候の頻度を調査した。蛋白の機能異常をもたらすと推測される 19 種類の SLCO2A1 遺伝子変異が確認された。貧血はほぼ全例にみられたが、肉眼的血便を認めたのは 2 例のみであった。37 例(54%)に小腸切除などの外科的手術が施行されていた。消化管における潰瘍性病変の部位別罹患率は、胃 22%, 十二指腸 43%, 空腸 26%, 回腸(終末回腸を除く) 94%, 終末回腸 4%であった。消化管外徴候として、ばち指を 24%, 骨膜炎を 24%, 皮膚肥厚所見を 20%に認めた。臨床徴候を性別で比較したところ、胃病変は女性に多くみられ、ばち指、骨膜炎および皮膚肥厚性変化は男性で高頻度に見られた。消化管病変の特徴的所見に加え、腸管外徴候を有する場合があることや臨床徴候に性差があることも CEAS の重要な特徴と考えられる。

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ソーム解析によって本症がプロスタグランジン輸送体をコードする SLCO2A1 遺伝子の変異を原因とする常染色体劣性遺伝病であることを明らかにし、"chronic enteropathy associated with SLCO2A1 gene"(CEAS)という新たな呼称を提唱した¹⁾。SLCO2A1 は肥厚性皮膚骨膜炎の原因遺伝子としても知られており、一部の CEAS 患者には消化管病変だけでなく、ばち指、骨膜炎や皮膚肥厚性変化などの消化管外徴候がみられることが報告されている²⁾。CEAS 患者の臨床徴候の特徴を明らかにすることを目的として全国調査を行った。

B. 研究方法

2011-2020 年の期間中に研究協力施設に通院中かつ SLCO2A1 遺伝子変異を有することが確認された CEAS 患者を対象とし、消化管および消化管外の臨床徴候の頻度を調査した。

(倫理面への配慮)

本研究は九州大学病院および研究協力施設の倫理委員会の承認を得たうえで行った。全ての試

A. 研究目的

非特異性多発性小腸潰瘍症は、病理学的に肉芽腫等の特異的炎症所見を伴わない小腸潰瘍が多発する稀な疾患である。近年我々は全エク

料についてはインフォームド・コンセントを行い、文書での同意を得た上で採取または使用した。また「ヒトゲノム・遺伝子解析研究に関する倫理指針」に沿って遺伝子解析を行った。

C. 研究結果

遺伝学的に CEAS であることが確認されたのは 69 例(男性 24 例, 女性 45 例)であり, 蛋白の機能異常をもたらすと推測される 19 種類の *SLCO2A1* 遺伝子変異が確認された。臨床情報が利用可能な 67 例について検討を行った。発症時年齢の中央値は 19 歳(1-69 歳)であり, 血族結婚は 19 例(28%)に認めた。貧血はほぼ全例にみられたが, 肉眼的血便を認めたのは 2 例のみであった。37 例(54%)において小腸切除など外科的手術が施行されていた。ほぼ全例で終末回腸を除く回腸に潰瘍性病変があり, 43%に十二指腸病変が見られた(図 1)。

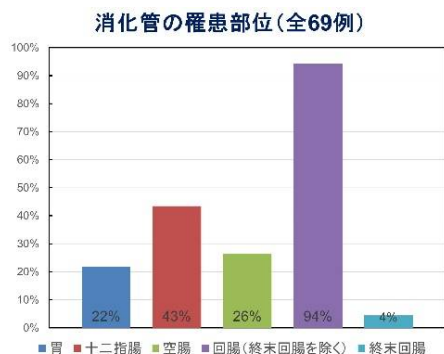


図 1.

消化管外徴候として, ばち指を 16 例(24%), 骨膜症を 15/63 例(24%), 皮膚肥厚所見を 13 例(20%)に認めた。臨床徴候を性別に分け比較したところ, 胃病変は女性に多くみられ, ばち指, 骨膜症および皮膚肥厚性変化は男性において有意に多くみられた(図 2)。

	男(23例)	女(44例)	P値*
診断時年齢(歳, 中央値)	42	41	NS
発症時年齢(歳, 中央値)	18	19	NS
血族結婚	5(22%)	13(30%)	NS
家族内発症	8(35%)	11(25%)	NS
症状 腹痛	10(43%)	18(41%)	NS
罹患部位			
胃	1(4%)	14(32%)	0.013
十二指腸	11(47%)	17(39%)	NS
空腸	7(30%)	11(25%)	NS
回腸(終末回腸を除く)	21(91%)	41(93%)	NS
Hb(g/dl, 中央値)	10.9	9.6	NS
血清蛋白(g/dl, 中央値)	5.6	5	0.019
CRP(mg/dl, 中央値)	0.29	0.20	0.009
外科手術(小腸切除など)	9(39%)	26(60%)	NS
<i>SLCO2A1</i> 遺伝子c.840+1G>Aのホモ変異	9(39%)	11(25%)	NS
消化管外徴候			
ばち指	12(52%)	4(9%)	0.0002
骨膜症	11(50%)	4(10%)	0.0012
皮膚肥厚	4(17%)	7(16%)	NS
皮膚肥厚	13(62%)	0	<0.0001

*Fisherの正確確率検定もしくはMann-Whitney U検定。発症年齢でなかった69例, 163例での検討。

図 2.

D. 考察

遺伝学的に確定診断された CEAS 67 例を対象とした本検討から, 既報³⁾と同様に本症は女性に多いこと(男女比 1:2), 貧血は必発するが肉眼的血便はほぼみられないこと, CRP は比較的低値であることが確認された。従来, 本症は若年で発症するとされており, 本検討における発症時年齢の中央値も 19 歳と若年であったが, その範囲は 1~69 歳と幅広く症例毎に発症時期が大きく異なることが示唆された。

ばち指, 骨膜症や皮膚肥厚といった肥厚性皮膚骨膜症の所見が約 30%の CEAS 患者において確認され, そのうち男性 5 例では肥厚性皮膚骨膜症の 3 主徴を全て有していた。つまり, CEAS と肥厚性皮膚骨膜症はいずれも *SLCO2A1* 遺伝子変異を原因とした疾患であり, 一部の症例では両疾患の臨床徴候を併せ持つことが確認された。また, 両疾患は通常性差のない常染色体劣性遺伝形式を示す遺伝病であるにも関わらず, CEAS は女性に多く, 肥厚性皮膚骨膜症は男性に多くみられること, さらに今回の検討において胃病変は女性に多く, ばち指, 骨膜症, 皮膚肥厚などの肥厚性皮膚骨膜症の臨床徴候は男性に多くみられたことを考慮すると, 両疾患の臨床徴候の発現には, 性染色体や性関連ホルモンなど *SLCO2A1* 遺伝子変異以外の修飾因子が強く関与する可能性が推測された。

E. 結論

消化管病変の特徴的所見に加え, 腸管外徴候を有する場合があることや臨床徴候に性差があることも CEAS の重要な特徴と考えられる。

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F. 健康危険情報
なし

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H. 知的財産権の出願・登録状況
(予定を含む)

1. 特許取得

なし

2. 実用新案登録

なし

3. その他

なし

Nakanishi T, Nakamura Y, Umeno J. Recent advances in studies of *SLCO2A1* as a key regulator of the delivery of prostaglandins to their sites of action. *Pharmacol Ther.* 223:107803, 2021.

Umeno J, Matsumoto T, Fuyuno Y, Esaki M, Torisu T. *SLCO2A1* gene is the causal gene for both primary hypertrophic osteoarthropathy and hereditary chronic enteropathy. *J Orthop Translat.* 28:10-11,



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SLCO2A1 gene is the causal gene for both primary hypertrophic osteoarthropathy and hereditary chronic enteropathy



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To the editor

We read with great interest the article by Yuan L et al. [1] regarding the safety and efficacy of a selective cyclooxygenase (COX)-2 inhibitor for the treatment of primary hypertrophic osteoarthropathy (PHO). In this study, a total of 27 patients including 7 patients with *HPGD* (15-hydroxyprostaglandin dehydrogenase) gene mutations and 20 patients with *SLCO2A1* (solute carrier organic anion transporter family member 2A1) gene mutations were treated with etoricoxib and followed up for nine months. The authors stated that the major symptoms such as joint swelling, digital clubbing, and pachydermia were improved in most patients. They also reported that no severe adverse event occurred throughout the study period.

PHO is classified into two subtypes by causal gene: *HPGD* gene relevant PHO type I [PHOAR1 (PHO autosomal recessive 1)] and *SLCO2A1* gene relevant PHO type II [PHOAR2 (PHO autosomal recessive 2)]. Because urinary levels of prostaglandin E2 (PGE2) are characteristics in patients with either subtype [1,2], the major symptoms of digital clubbing, periostosis, and pachydermia in PHO are explained by excessive PGE2 caused by its impaired degradation. On the other hand, PHOAR1 and PHOAR2 have some differences in clinical features. For example, PHOAR2 has a marked male predominance and sometimes shows severe anemia [3]. Moreover, urinary levels of PGE2 metabolites in PHOAR2 were significantly higher than those in PHOAR1 [1].

We have recently shown that loss-of-function mutations in the *SLCO2A1* gene cause hereditary enteropathy referred to as “chronic enteropathy associated with *SLCO2A1* gene” (CEAS) [4]. CEAS is characterized by persistent blood and protein loss due to the development of multiple small intestinal ulcers. It is inherited by an autosomal recessive manner, but it has female predominance [5]. We also reported that as well as PHOAR2, the urine levels of PGE metabolites in CEAS patients are significantly higher than those of healthy control [4]. Although PGE2 has

been known to play a protective role against gastrointestinal mucosal damage [6], multiple intestinal ulcers occur in CEAS. Moreover, the gastrointestinal lesions of CEAS are endoscopically similar to those of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID)-induced enteropathy. Furthermore, the lesions mimic those of cryptogenic multifocal ulcerous stenosing enteritis (CMUSE) caused by the *PLA2G4A* gene mutations, in which a decrease in intracellular PGE2 production results in multiple ulcers of the small intestine. We thus hypothesize that decrease in intracellular PGE2 by impaired PGE2 transport is causative of small intestinal ulcers of CEAS.

As described above, CEAS and PHOAR2 share a causative gene and their clinical features are profoundly influenced by other modifiers. Taken together with the facts that CEAS predominantly occurs in females and PHOAR2 occurs in males, sex-related modifier genes or hormones should be considered.

To date, we found five Japanese male patients with CEAS, who manifested all three major symptoms of PHO [5]. Wang Q et al. [7] also reported two male patients with PHO, who presented anaemia and hypoalbuminemia presumably due to small intestinal ulcers. Since CEAS and PHOAR2 share a common causal gene, we presume that patients with PHOAR2 are prone to intestinal ulcerations. Yuan L et al. [1] reported that five patients (18.5%) showed a positive faecal occult blood test and these patients were suspected to have gastrointestinal ulcers. In our previous prospective trial with the use of capsule endoscopy, 16.7% of the healthy volunteers showed some small intestinal mucosal injuries after two weeks of a selective COX-2 inhibitor administration [8]. Therefore, we recommend small intestinal scrutiny by capsule endoscopy and scheduled blood tests when patients with PHOAR2 were treated by selective COX-2 inhibitors. Otherwise, the patients may not be candidates for the treatment by the medication.

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Recent advances in studies of SLCO2A1 as a key regulator of the delivery of prostaglandins to their sites of action



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ABSTRACT

Solute carrier organic anion transporter family member 2A1 (SLCO2A1, also known as PGT, OATP2A1, PHOAR2, or SLC21A2) is a plasma membrane transporter consisting of 12 transmembrane domains. It is ubiquitously expressed in tissues, and mediates the membrane transport of prostaglandins (PGs, mainly PGE₂, PGF_{2α}, PGD₂) and thromboxanes (e.g., TxB₂). SLCO2A1-mediated transport is electrogenic and is facilitated by an outwardly directed gradient of lactate. PGs imported by SLCO2A1 are rapidly oxidized by cytoplasmic 15-hydroxyprostaglandin dehydrogenase (15-PGDH, encoded by *HPGD*). Accumulated evidence suggests that SLCO2A1 plays critical roles in many physiological processes in mammals, and it is considered a potential pharmacological target for diabetic foot ulcer treatment, antipyresis, and non-hormonal contraception. Furthermore, whole-exome analyses suggest that recessive inheritance of *SLCO2A1* mutations is associated with two refractory diseases, primary hypertrophic osteoarthropathy (PHO) and chronic enteropathy associated with *SLCO2A1* (CEAS). Intriguingly, SLCO2A1 is also a key component of the Maxi-Cl channel, which regulates fluxes of inorganic and organic anions, including ATP. Further study of the bimodal function of SLCO2A1 as a transporter and ion channel is expected to throw new light on the complex pathology of human diseases. Here, we review and summarize recent information on the molecular functions of SLCO2A1, and we discuss its pathophysiological significance.

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Contents

1. Introduction	2
2. Tissue expression of SLCO2A1	2
3. SLCO2A1-mediated PG transport	2
4. Substrates and inhibitors of SLCO2A1	3
5. A putative mechanism of substrate recognition by SLCO2A1	5
6. Influence of SLCO2A1-mediated transport on PGE signaling	5
7. Possible role of SLCO2A1 in PGE ₂ release	6
8. Molecular mechanisms regulating <i>SLCO2A1</i> gene expression.	6
9. Contribution of SLCO2A1 to PG membrane transport	8

Abbreviations: AEC, alveolar epithelial cell(s); AVP, arginine-vasopressin; CD, collecting duct; CEAS, chronic enteropathy associated with *SLCO2A1*; C. hetero, compound heterozygous; CL, corpus luteum; CNS, central nervous system; CNSU, chronic non-specific ulcers of the small intestine; COX, cyclooxygenase; CP, choroid plexus; CrD, Crohn's diseases; DA, ductus arteriosus; DEL, deletion; DFU, diabetic foot ulcer; DP, PGD₂ receptor; DUP, duplicate; EP, prostaglandin E₂ receptor; EX, exon; FP, PGF_{2α} receptor; FS, frameshift; GC, granulosa cell; GFP, green fluorescent protein; hCG, human chorionic gonadotrophin; Hetero, heterozygous or heterozygous state; Homo, homozygous or homozygous state; HPGD, hydroxyprostaglandin dehydrogenase; hSLCO2A1, human SLCO2A1; INT, intron; LPS, lipopolysaccharide; MIS, missense; MRP, multidrug resistance-associated protein; mSLCO2A1, mouse SLCO2A1; NON, non-sense; NSAID, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug(s); OCT, organic cation transporter; OAT, organic anion transporter; OATP, organic anion transporting polypeptide; P4, progesterone; PDA, patent DA; PDP, pachydermoperiostosis; PG, prostaglandin; PGE-M, PGE metabolites; PGE-MUM, PGE-major urinary metabolite; PGT, prostaglandin transporter; PGR, progesterone receptor; PHO, primary hypertrophic osteoarthropathy; PHOAR, PHO autosomal recessive; PGES, PGE synthetase; PPAR, peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor; rSLCO2A1, rat SLCO2A1; SLC, solute carrier; SLCO, solute carrier organic anion transporter; SS, splice site mutation; TMD, transmembrane domain; TSS, transcription starting site; Tx, thromboxane; wt, wild type.

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