

学位論文の内容の要旨

Summary of the Substance of Dissertation

専攻 Major Field	Medicine	部門 Department	
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論文題目 Thesis Subject	Formation of <i>N</i> -acyl-phosphatidylethanolamines by cytosolic phospholipase A ₂ ε in an <i>ex vivo</i> murine model of brain ischemia		
(論文要旨)			
Summary			
<p>Background: <i>N</i>-Acyl-phosphatidylethanolamines (NAPEs) are a minor class of membrane glycerophospholipids and accumulate along with their bioactive metabolites, <i>N</i>-acylethanolamines (NAEs), during brain ischemia. NAPEs can be formed through <i>N</i>-acylation of phosphatidylethanolamine, which is catalyzed Ca²⁺-dependently by cytosolic phospholipase A₂ε (cPLA₂ε, also known as PLA2G4E) or Ca²⁺-independently by members of the phospholipase A and acyltransferase (PLAAT) family. However, the enzyme responsible for the NAPE production in brain ischemia has not yet been clarified.</p>			
<p>Purpose: The purpose of the present study was to evaluate the contribution of cPLA₂ε to the NAPE formation in brain using cPLA₂ε gene-disrupted (Pla2g4e^{-/-}) mice. In particular, I analyzed the accumulation of NAPEs and NAEs in a post-decapitative brain ischemic model.</p>			
<p>Methods: The enzyme activity and expression levels of cPLA₂ε were examined by the measurement of Ca²⁺-dependent NAPE formation and quantitative PCR, respectively. Endogenous brain levels of NAPEs and NAEs were analyzed by liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS). In the post-decapitative brain ischemic model, decapitated mouse brains were incubated at 37 °C for 6 h.</p>			
<p>Results and discussion: As analyzed with brain homogenates of wild-type mice, the age dependency of Ca²⁺-dependent NAPE-forming enzyme activity showed a bell-shape pattern being the highest at the first week of postnatal life. The expression level of cPLA₂ε mRNA was also higher in neonatal brain. In contrast, the enzyme activity was completely abolished in Pla2g4e^{-/-} mice, showing that cPLA₂ε is responsible for the Ca²⁺-dependent NAPE formation in brain. However, LC-MS/MS analysis revealed that endogenous brain levels of NAPEs were similar between wild-type and Pla2g4e^{-/-} mice, suggesting</p>			

the involvement of other enzyme(s). I next focused on the post-decapitative brain ischemic model. In the decapitated brain of wild-type mice, NAPes and NAEs were remarkably accumulated, while these brain levels were only slightly increased in *Pla2g4e^{-/-}* mice. These results suggested that cPLA₂ε is principally responsible for the formation of NAPes during brain ischemia. Since NAEs were reported to show anti-inflammatory and cytoprotective effects, the NAEs produced during ischemia may be beneficial to the improvement of symptom.

Conclusion: By using *Pla2g4e^{-/-}* mice, I showed that cPLA₂ε is principally responsible for the postmortem production of NAPes and NAEs in the brain for the first time. However, other enzyme(s) appeared to be involved in the maintenance of basal NAPE levels in non-damaged brain tissues.

掲 載 誌 名 Magazine to publish the thesis	Biochimica et Biophysica Acta-Molecular and Cell Biology of Lipids 第 1867 卷 第 12 号 Vol.____No.____		
(公表予定) 掲 載 年 月 Estimated Date of Publication	2022年 12月 year____ month____	出版社(等)名 Name of the Publisher	Elsevier
Peer Review	有 With	無 Without	

(備考) 論文要旨は、日本語で1,500字以内にまとめてください。
(Recital) Sum up the within 1500 letters.