

INDICATORS OF THE ANTIOXIDANT SYSTEM OF THE RED BLOOD CELLS IN PATIENTS WITH LUNG CANCER

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Summary

This paper presents the results of glutathione study in the patients with lung cancer. 40 patients with lung cancer admitted to the Yakut Republican Oncology dispensary with lung cancer diagnosis were examined. The control group of 60 patients was matched for age, sex and ethnicity. The main criterion for the selection of control group was absence of oncologic diseases. Research material was venous blood taken from the ulnar veins.

The intensity of free radical oxidation of lipids was determined by the spectrophotometric methods on accumulation TBA – active products (TBA-AP). The antioxidant defense quotients were determined by the activity of glutathione peroxidase, glutathione reductase, glutathione transferase, concentration of reduced glutathione.

The results show the intensification of free radical oxidation of lipids and depletion of glutathione system in the organism.

Keywords: glutathione, glutathione peroxidase, glutathione reductase, glutathione transferase, reduced glutathione.

Introduction

Special attention in the pathogenesis of cancer has been given to the role of oxidative stress in the body. Nowadays it is regarded as the universal unspecific mechanism of initiation of tumoral stature [1,13,7]. Active oxygens' molecules and reactions of peroxide lipid oxidation can be

regarded as universal mechanism of tumoral transformation denotating spontaneous or induced carcinogenesis [6,11,4,5].

As long as free-radical reactions generate numerous pathologic changes there must be a system deterring excessive formation of radicals. Antioxidant system controls intensity of free-radical reactions in intracellular and extracellular space of organism [1,2,3]. System of glutathione can give the significant information about condition of antioxidant system in organism of patients with lung cancer [6].

The objective of research is the studying of level of reduced glutathione, glutathione transferase, glutathione peroxidase, glutathione reductase in patients with lung cancer.

Research material and methods

40 patients with lung cancer admitted to the Yakut Republican Oncology dispensary with lung cancer diagnosis were examined. The control group of 60 patients was matched for age, sex and ethnicity. The main criterion for the selection of control group was absence of oncologic diseases. Research material was venous blood which was taken from the ulnar veins.

The intensity of free radical oxidation of lipids was determined by the spectrophotometric methods on accumulation TBA – active products (TBA-AP) [8]. The antioxidant defense quotients were determined by the activity of glutathione peroxidase [8], glutathione reductase [8], glutathione transferase [10], concentration of reduced glutathione [9].

Statistical analysis of the data was performed using statistical software application package SPSS for Windows 10.0. There were used standart methods of variation statistic: calculation of average values, standart errors, 95% confidential interval. The reliability of differences between means were evaluated using the criterion Student's t-distribution for independent samples.

Results and discussion

We observed an increase in the intensity of free radical oxidation in examined group of lung cancer patients. So in the body of patients the average content of TBA-AP in the blood was 1.5 higher than reference value (1.61 ± 0.10 mmol/l) and equal to 2.39 ± 0.32 mmol/l.

System status was evaluated by the concentration of reduced glutathione and enzyme activity: glutathione transferase, glutathione peroxidase, glutathione reductase.

It is known that in conditions of oxidative stress the erythrocytes are strengthened, hydrogen peroxide and other lipoperoxidase are compounded. Glutathione peroxidase provides the destruction of peroxidase in erythrocytes. The value of the activity of glutathione peroxidase in blood erythrocyte of patients was 3.2 times (0.19 ± 0.001 mmol/min*gHb) lower than the same period in control group (0.61 ± 0.005 mmol/min*gHb) ($p=0.025$).

Except of glutathione peroxidase, a family of glutathione transferase present in the cells, the

main function is – to protect cells against xenobiotics and lipid peroxidation products through their recovery, compounding to substrate of molecule glutathione or nucleophilic substitution of hydrophobic groups [3,14]. Unlike glutathione for which the best substrates are hydrophilic hydroperoxide, glutathione transferase do not react with hydrogen peroxide, but effectively reduced hydroperoxide polyunsaturated fatty acids (linoleic and arachidonic) phospholipid hydroperoxide and mononucleotide and DNA, participating in their repair. In addition glutathione transferase conjugate with reduced glutathione toxic products of lipid peroxidation (nonene, dotsenali) facilitating their removal from the body. The significance of a multigene family of glutathione transferase in cell protection in the development of different types of cancer is confirmed in many studies [16,15,12].

In our study, the average activity of glutathione transferase in cancer patients actually did not differ from controls. So in the body of patients with a tumor activity of glutathione transferase was 2.42 ± 0.01 mol/min*gHb, in control group – 2.44 ± 0.07 mol/min*gHb.

In studying of reduced glutathione's content we have found its concentration in tumor patients significantly ($p=0.042$) decreased by 1.4 times compared with the control group (2.32 ± 0.09 mmol/gHb) and equal to 1.65 ± 0.01 mmol/gHb. Decrease in the erythrocytes of reduced glutathione in patients with lung cancer can probably be caused by the high consumption rate and its low rate of recovery. The maintenance of high level of reduced glutathione due to the recovery of his disulfide form is provided by the glutathione reductase. In the studied group of patients the activity of glutathione reductase was ($p=0.038$) lower than the control significance (6.8 ± 0.30 mol/min*gHb) 1.6 times and amounted to 4.30 ± 0.05 mol/min*gHb. There is no regeneration of glutathione in blood erythrocytes in patients with oncopathology. The reason of this phenomenon is insufficient regeneration of NADPH in the pentose phosphate pathway

Thus, the results of our study showed patients with lung cancer have depletion of glutathione, as evidenced by reduction in the concentration of reduced glutathione, glutathione peroxidase enzymes activity and glutathione reductase. But the level of activity of glutathione transferase did not differ from the average significance of this indicator in the control group.

Conclusions

1. It was found an increase in the concentration of TBA-AP in the blood of patients with lung cancer by 1.5 times as compared with those without cancer pathology that tells about intensification of free radical oxidation.

2. The depletion of glutathione as evidenced by decreased activity of enzymes of glutathione reductase and decrease in the concentration of reduced glutathione were observed in the body of patients with lung cancer.



3. The activity of glutathione do not differ from the significance of this indicator in the control group while depletion of glutathione in patients oncopathology.

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