

## 고포도당으로 자극한 족세포 및 당뇨병성 사구체에서 알도스테론이 세포사멸에 미치는 영향

연세대학교 의과대학 내과학교실, BK 21 의과학 사업단

이정은 · 한승혁 · 이금희 · 이순하 · 정동섭 · 곽승재 · 박제현 · 김승혜 · 유태현 · 한대석 · 강신욱

### Aldosterone Induces Apoptosis in High Glucose-stimulated Podocytes and in Diabetic Glomeruli

Jung Eun Lee, Seung Hyeok Han, Jin-Ji Li, Sun Ha Lee, Dong Sub Jung, Seung Jae Kwak  
Jehyun Park, Seung Hye Kim, Tae-Hyun Yoo, Dae Suk Han and Shin-Wook Kang

Department of Internal Medicine Yonsei University College of Medicine, Brain Korea 21 Yonsei University

**Background:** Even though aldosterone induces apoptosis in cardiac myocytes and skeletal muscle cells, and apoptosis is implicated as a potential mechanism of podocyte loss characterized in diabetic nephropathy, the effect of aldosterone on podocyte apoptosis has not been explored. Purpose: This study was performed to investigate whether local aldosterone system within podocyte is involved in the development of apoptosis in podocytes under diabetic conditions.

**Methods:** In vivo, 32 Sprague-Dawley rats were injected either with diluent (n=16, C) or with STZ intraperitoneally (n=16, DM) and 8 rats from each group were treated with spironolactone (SPR, 20 mg/kg/day) for 6 weeks. In vitro, immortalized mouse podocytes were exposed to media containing 5.6 mM glucose (NG), NG+24.4 mM mannitol, NG+10<sup>-8</sup>M (SPR), NG+10<sup>-8</sup>M aldosterone, 30 mM glucose (HG), or HG+10<sup>-8</sup>M SPR for 24 hours. At the time of sacrifice, 24-hour urinary albumin excretion (UAE) was determined by ELISA. For the assessment of apoptosis, Western blotting for Bax, Bcl-2, and active caspase-3 were performed with sieved glomeruli and cell lysates. TUNEL assay and Hoechst 33258 staining and were also performed with renal tissue and cultured podocytes, respectively.

**Results:** UAE was significantly higher in DM (1.89±0.35 mg/day) compared to C rats (0.41±0.05 mg/day) (p<0.05) and this increase in UAE in DM rats was inhibited by SPR treatment (1.08±0.22 mg/day) (p<0.05). The ratios of Bax/Bcl-2 protein expression were significantly increased in diabetic glomeruli and in podocytes exposed to HG by 124.0% and 113.0%, respectively (p<0.05), and these increases were ameliorated by the administration of SPR (p<0.05). Western blot for active caspase-3 showed a similar pattern to the ratio of Bax/Bcl-2 protein expression. TUNEL positive-stained nuclei were also significantly increased in DM (2.7±1.5) relative to C glomeruli (0.6±0.4) (p<0.05), which were inhibited by SPR (1.3±0.8) (p<0.05). In addition, apoptotic cells were significantly increased in HG compared to NG cells, and this increase was abrogated with SPR pretreatment. On the other hand, aldosterone significantly increased the ratio of Bax/Bcl-2 and active caspase-3 protein expression and induced apoptosis in cultured podocytes.

**Conclusion:** Local aldosterone system seems to be involved in podocyte apoptosis and aldosterone blockade may be beneficial in preventing podocyte loss under diabetic conditions.

**Key Words:** 고포도당, 족세포, 알도스테론

High glucose, Podocytes, Aldosterone