

334

RADIOLIGAND BINDING STUDIES OF RENAL DOPAMINERGIC RECEPTORS BY THE USE OF H-3-SPIPERONE.

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In order to clarify the existence of dopaminergic receptors in renal plasma membrane and the effect of sodium load on these receptors, radioligand binding studies using H-3-spiroperone were performed. Renal cortex and medulla dissected from rat kidneys perfused with 0.85 % NaCl were homogenized in 4 volumes of 200 mM sucrose, 30 mM d,l-histidine, 5 mM EDTA-2Na, 18 mM tris buffer, pH 7.4 with Potter-Elvehjem homogenizer. The homogenates were centrifuged at 10,000 g for 30 min, and then the supernatants were re-centrifuged at 48,000 g for 60 min. Next the sediments were re-suspended with 50 mM tris buffer containing 10 mM MgCl₂. Plasma membranes prepared in this way were incubated with H-3-spiroperone at 37°C for 15 min, and the binding fraction were separated with Whatman GF/C glass fiber filters. Maximal binding capacity (B_{max}) of dopaminergic receptor was 540 ± 41 fmol/mg protein in cortex and 373 ± 30 fmol/mg protein in medulla, respectively. Dissociation constant (K_d) was 7.2 ± 0.4 nM in cortex and 8.2 ± 2.2 nM in medulla, respectively. K_d in both cortex and medulla increased after sodium load, but the increment of B_{max} in cortex and medulla was not significant. Conclusion: Dopaminergic receptor exists in renal plasma membrane.

335

COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ADRENAL SCINTIGRAPHY AND COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY IN CUSHING'S SYNDROME, PRIMARY ALDOSTERONISM AND PHEOCHROMOCYTOMA.

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We made a comparative study between adrenal scintigraphy and CT in the diagnosis of functioning adrenal lesions. Materials included 10 cases of Cushing's syndrome (six with adenoma, and four with hyperplasia), 8 cases of primary aldosteronism (all with adenoma) and 5 cases of pheochromocytoma.

Adrenal adenomas causing Cushing's syndrome were all detected by both scintigram and CT. Adrenal hyperplasia causing Cushing's syndrome showed normal adrenal gland on CT, and bilateral high activity on scintigram. CT identified all of eight cases of primary aldosteronism, but scintigraphy failed to identify two aldosteronism. CT and venous sampling were useful in detection of aldosteronism.

Five pheochromocytomas (4 adrenal and one extraadrenal) were all detected by both CT and scintigraphy using I-131-MIBG (metaiodobenzylguanidine). The latter was particularly useful in detecting extraadrenal pheochromocytoma.

336

SCINTIGRAPHY OF PHEOCHROMOCYTOMA USING I-131 METAIODOBENZYLGUANIDINE (I-131 MIBG). M. Izumi, N. Yokoyama, S. Morita, S. Yamashita, S. Ohtakara, I. Kubo, S. Okamoto, S. Nagataki, M. Kozima*, M. Nakazyo**. The First Department of Internal Medicine, Nagasaki University School of Medicine, Nagasaki. The Department of Pharmacology, Kyushu University*, Fukuoka. The Department of Radiology, Kagoshima University**, School of Medicine, Kagoshima.

The purpose of this study is to analyze the results of scintigraphy of I-131 MIBG which were carried out at various places. Total number of the patients, in whom scintigraphy of I-131 MIBG was performed up to Sept. 1984, was 143. Forty three out of 143 patients were diagnosed pheochromocytoma on the basis of increased catecholamine in serum and urine and abnormal mass on CT or histological finding of mass. The accumulation of I-131 MIBG by pheochromocytoma were observed in 40 out of 43 patients with pheochromocytoma. Five out of 143 patients were neuroblastoma and all of them showed the clear accumulation of I-131 MIBG by neuroblastoma on the scintigrams. Eight out of 143 patients were medullary carcinoma and 5 of them showed the clear accumulation of I-131 MIBG on the scintigrams.

These results indicate that the scintigraphy of I-131 MIBG is excellent imaging of pheochromocytoma as well as of neuroblastoma and medullary carcinoma.

337

CLINICAL STUDIES OF META-(I-131)-IODO-BENZYLGUANIDINE SCANS IN PHEOCHROMOCYTOMAS AND THYROID MEDULLARY CANCERS. M. Koizumi, K. Shiomi, T. Nakajima, H. Sakahara, K. Endo, J. Konishi, M. Nakao*, S. Matsukura*, H. Imura*, and K. Torizuka. Department of Nuclear Medicine and Internal Medicine* Kyoto University, Kyoto.

I-131 MIBG scans have been recently reported to be useful in diagnosis of pheochromocytomas. We have performed I-131 MIBG scans in 9 patients with pheochromocytomas in whom 3 cases were associated with thyroid medullary cancers (Sipple's syndrome). Seven cases were adrenal type and 2 cases were extra-adrenal type. The size of pheochromocytomas, which were measured by surgery, were ranged from 1.5cm to 10cm in diameter.

I-131 MIBG scans revealed all pheochromocytomas (sensitivity: 100%), including two ectopic type. One of which was not found by X-CT or angiography, but demonstrated at para-urinary bladder by I-131 MIBG scan.

Thyroid medullary cancers, in which 3 cases were associated with pheochromocytoma and one was sporadic type, were also imaged by I-131 MIBG. The uptake was also seen with normal catecholamine levels, which indicated that mechanism of uptake in the thyroid medullary cancer was independent of catecholamine levels.

In summary; I-131 MIBG scans were useful not only in pheochromocytomas but also in thyroid medullary cancers with elevated or normal catecholamine levels.