ABSTRACTS

135 The phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase, inhibited by low dose of wortmannin, affects radiation sensitivity
Kumio OKAICHI, Satoshi TAKESHITA, Naoko MORITA, Megumi IKEDA, Makoto IHARA and Yutaka OKUMURA, Department of Radiation Biophysics, Atomic Bomb Disease Institute, Nagasaki University School of Medicine, Nagasaki 852-8523

It was already reported that high dose of wortmannin (10-100 μM) inhibits DNA-PK or ATM and sensitizes to X ray irradiation. But there is no report about the intrinsic phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase, inhibited by low dose wortmannin, may affect radiation sensitivity or not. We investigated about the role of phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase for radiation sensitivity using low dose of wortmannin (lower than 1 μM). Low dose of wortmannin enhanced radioresistance in A172 cells (human glioblastoma, wild-type p53) but did not show significant enhancement of radioresistance in T98G cells (human glioblastoma, mutant p53). This indicates that the phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase may affect radiosensitivity through p53 pathway.

136 Possible involvement of DNA-PK in restoration of mutant p53 to normal p53 activity by glycerol after X-ray irradiation
Ken OHNISHI, Akihisa TAKAHASHI and Takeo OHNISHI, Nara Med. Univ.

We previously reported that glycerol was effective in restoring mutant p53 (mp53) to normal p53 function leading to normal WAF1 expression after heat or X-ray stress in human glioblastoma cells. We report whether DNA-PK contributes to restoration of mp53 to normal p53 activity by glycerol after X-ray irradiation. WAF1 expression was hardly induced after treatment by X-ray or glycerol alone treatment in mp53-transfected A-172 cells but the combined treatment of X-ray and glycerol apparently induced WAF1 expression. By the addition of wortmannin (20 μM), the WAF1 accumulation was suppressed after the combined treatment. Gel mobility-shift assay showed DNA binding activity of p53 increased in vivo system of cultured cells treated with X-ray and glycerol, but not in in vitro system of nuclear extracted from intact cells. These results suggested that DNA-PK involved in X-ray-induced p53-dependent signal transduction pathway plays an important role in restoration of mp53 to normal p53 by glycerol after X-ray irradiation.

137 Cyclin-Dependent Kinase 2 Activity after X-irradiation of Apoptosis-Sensitive and -Resistant Mouse Lymphoma Cell Lines
Masaaki TATSUKA, Hidetaka KAWAI, Fumio SUZUKI, Tomohisa Jr. KATO and Mituo IKENAGA; 1Hiroshima University and 2Kyoto University

Previous reports have indicated that X-rays cause apoptotic cell death of thymus-derived cells in vitro and in vivo. It is important to understand the signaling events that control this process. In X-irradiated mammalian cells, certain checkpoint pathways are activated via certain cell cycle molecules and these signals may play an important role in cellular responses evoked by X-rays. Therefore, we examined whether cyclin-dependent kinase 2 (Cdk2), an important checkpoint regulator for cell cycle progression through interphases, is activated during thymic apoptotic processes after X-irradiation. Apoptotic cell death was observed in apoptosis-sensitive thymic lymphoma cells (p53+/- cells) when exposed to over 0.5 Gy of X-rays and concomitantly Cdk2 kinase activity increased. In contrast, such a post-irradiated increment of Cdk2 activity was not observed in apoptosis-resistant thymic lymphoma cells (p53-/- cells). These results suggest that thymic cells may utilize Cdk2 to mediate death signaling resulting from X-irradiation.