

## Involvement of intracellular $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ stores in 3, 4-diaminopyridine-evoked [ $^3\text{H}$ ]norepinephrine release<sup>1</sup>

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**KEY WORDS** norepinephrine; hippocampus; 3, 4-diaminopyridine; reserpine; BAPTA; dantrolene; desipramine

**AIM:** To study the mechanism for 3, 4-diaminopyridine (DAP) evoking external  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -independent release of [ $^3\text{H}$ ]norepinephrine ([ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE). **METHODS:** Rat hippocampal slices were preincubated with [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE and superfused with medium. [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE release was determined. **RESULTS:** Under  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -free conditions, DAP evoked [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE release. In rats pretreated by reserpine, the effect of DAP was no longer detectable.  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  chelator BAPTA-AM potently inhibited DAP-evoked [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE release. Desipramine  $100 - 500 \mu\text{mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$  strongly induced [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE release in a concentration-dependent manner, whereas caffeine  $30 - 70 \text{mmol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$  was slightly effective on [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE release. The blocker of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  releasable stores, dantrolene sodium did not attenuate DAP-evoked [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE release. **CONCLUSION:** In the absence of extracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , DAP evokes exocytotic release of [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE from synaptic vesicles through liberation of internal  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  from inositol 1, 4, 5-trisphosphate-sensitive  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  stores.

Our previous study found that 3, 4-diaminopyridine (DAP) exhibited particularly potent facilitatory effects on the spontaneous  $^3\text{H}$  outflow from rabbit hippocampal slices preincubated with [ $^3\text{H}$ ]norepinephrine ([ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE)<sup>(1)</sup>. This effect was tetrodotoxin (TTX) sensitive and modulated by presynaptic  $\alpha_2$ -adrenoceptors,  $\kappa$ -opioid and adenosine  $\text{A}_1$  receptors; It was strongly enhanced after activation of protein kinase C (PKC) with phorbol ester, or reduced by various PKC inhibitors. These observations indicate the

involvement of action potential-evoked exocytotic release of [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE following DAP application. In the absence of extracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , DAP also induced [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE release from rabbit and rat hippocampal slices preincubated with [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE<sup>(2)</sup> and phorbol ester enhanced this evoked [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE release<sup>(3)</sup>. The aim of this study was to study the mechanism of DAP-induced external  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -independent [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE release from rat hippocampal slices.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

**Chemicals** 1-(7, 8- $^3\text{H}$ )norepinephrine ([ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE, Amersham, UK); DAP, desipramine, caffeine, dantrolene sodium (Sigma, USA); Tetraacetoxy methyl ester of 1, 2-bis(2-aminophenoxy) ethane- $N, N, N', N'$ -tetraacetic acid (BAPTA-AM, Molecular Probes Inc, USA). Stock solutions of the drugs were prepared in water except BAPTA-AM dissolved in  $\text{Me}_2\text{SO}$ .

**Procedure** Hippocampal slices (0.35 mm thick), prepared from Sprague-Dawley rats ( $\delta$ , certificate number 02-35-2,  $n = 25$ ), were preincubated with [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE  $0.1 \mu\text{mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$  and then superfused with medium  $0.7 \text{mL} \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$ . Samples were collected every 5 min. After 60 min of superfusion the slices were exposed to drugs to induce transmitter release. At the end of superfusion, the slices were solubilized in 0.5 mL Soluene-350 (Packard). The  $^3\text{H}$  content of the solubilized slices and the superfusion samples was determined with a liquid scintillation counter. The preincubation medium: NaCl 118, KCl 4.8,  $\text{CaCl}_2$  1.3,  $\text{MgSO}_4$  1.2,  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  25,  $\text{KH}_2\text{PO}_4$  1.2, glucose 11, ascorbic acid 0.57, disodium edetate  $0.03 \text{mmol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$  (saturated with 5 %  $\text{CO}_2$  in  $\text{O}_2$ ; pH 7.4). In  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -free superfusion medium,  $\text{CaCl}_2$  was replaced by egtazic acid  $1 \text{mmol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ . In the experiment with BAPTA-AM, the slices were preincubated with BAPTA-AM  $0.4 \text{mmol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$  for 2 h (controls with 0.5 %  $\text{Me}_2\text{SO}$ ) before incubation with [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE. Desipramine  $1 \mu\text{mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$  was present throughout the superfusion to block reuptake system of NE<sup>(2)</sup>.

**Calculation** The fractional rate of  $^3\text{H}$  outflow was calculated as  $^3\text{H}$  outflow per 5 min divided by the  $^3\text{H}$  content in the slices at the start of the respective 5 min period. The drug-evoked  $^3\text{H}$  outflow was estimated by subtracting the basal outflow from the total outflow of the 50

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min after the onset of the drug. The basal outflow of  $^3\text{H}$  was assumed to decline linearly from the fraction 55 - 60 min, to the fraction 110 - 115 min of superfusion. The evoked outflow of  $^3\text{H}$  was expressed as % of the  $^3\text{H}$  content of the slices at the onset of the drug. Results were shown as  $\bar{x} \pm s$ . The significance of differences between the groups were determined by *t* test<sup>(4)</sup>.

## RESULTS

**Effects of reserpine and BAPTA-AM on DAP-evoked [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE release in the absence of extracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$**  To test whether DAP-evoked external  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -independent release of [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE is exocytosis from synaptic vesicles, the rats were injected sc with reserpine  $10 \text{ mg} \cdot \text{kg}^{-1}$  12 h before death. When NE stored in synaptic vesicles was depleted by reserpine, DAP-evoked [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE release was no longer detectable (Tab 1).

Tab 1. Effects of reserpine and BAPTA-AM on DAP-evoked [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE release in the absence of extracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . Hippocampal slices were preincubated with [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE and superfused continuously. After 60 min of superfusion the slices were exposed to DAP to induce [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE release.  $n = 4 - 6$  slices from 2 rats,  $\bar{x} \pm s$ . \* $P < 0.01$ .

Drug/ $\mu\text{mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$	Evoked outflow of $^3\text{H}$ / % of tissue $^3\text{H}$
DAP 300 + reserpine	$9.6 \pm 0.4$ $0.13 \pm 0.10^c$
DAP 200 + BAPTA-AM	$4.10 \pm 0.22$ $0.41 \pm 0.05^c$

The effects of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  chelator BAPTA-AM were studied to examine the necessity of elevation of cytosol free  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  for the induction of DAP-evoked [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE release. BAPTA-AM  $0.4 \text{ mmol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$  inhibited the DAP-evoked release of [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE by 90 % of controls (Tab 1).

**Effects of desipramine and caffeine on [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE release in the absence of extracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$**  At 60 min of superfusion, addition of desipramine  $100 \mu\text{mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$  for 10 min to the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -free superfusion medium (with egtazic acid  $1 \text{ mmol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ ) enhanced  $^3\text{H}$  outflow over basal values. The outflow reached the maximum at 65 - 70 min. Subsequently the  $^3\text{H}$  outflow slowly returned to basal values within 50 min after the addition of

desipramine (Fig 1).

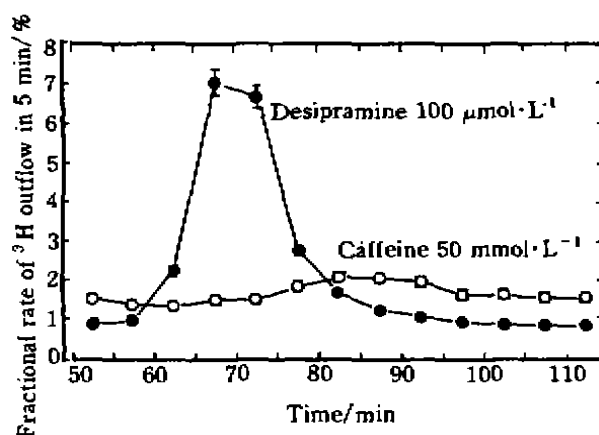


Fig 1. Desipramine- and caffeine-induced release of [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE from rat hippocampal slices preincubated with [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE and superfused continuously. After 60 min of superfusion the slices were exposed to desipramine  $100 \mu\text{mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$  or caffeine  $50 \text{ mmol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$  in  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -free medium containing egtazic acid  $1 \text{ mmol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ .  $n = 4$  slices from 2 rats,  $\bar{x} \pm s$ .

Addition of caffeine  $50 \text{ mmol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$  to the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -free medium containing egtazic acid  $1 \text{ mmol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$  after 60 min of superfusion very slowly and slightly increased  $^3\text{H}$  outflow, which reached the maximum at 85 - 90 min and gradually returned to basal level after the drug was withdrawn (Fig 1).

Both the enhancements of  $^3\text{H}$  outflow by desipramine and caffeine were concentration-dependent and increased linearly from 100 to 500  $\mu\text{mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ , and from 30 to 70  $\text{mmol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$  respectively (Tab 2).

Tab 2. Desipramine- and caffeine-induced [ $^3\text{H}$ ]NE release from rat hippocampal slices. After 60 min of superfusion the slices were exposed to various concentrations of desipramine or caffeine.  $n = 4 - 10$  slices from 3 rats,  $\bar{x} \pm s$ .

Drug	Evoked outflow of $^3\text{H}$ / % of tissue $^3\text{H}$
Desipramine/ $\mu\text{mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$	
100	$22.6 \pm 1.0$
200	$40.2 \pm 5.1$
300	$52.3 \pm 2.3$
400	$61.4 \pm 5.0$
500	$74.4 \pm 1.3$
Caffeine/ $\text{mmol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$	
30	$0.45 \pm 0.20$
50	$2.44 \pm 0.21$
70	$6.0 \pm 1.0$

**Effects of dantrolene sodium on DAP-evoked external  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -independent release of  $[^3\text{H}]\text{NE}$**  We used dantrolene  $\text{Na}^+$  (saturated in medium) to block  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  release. In the absence of extracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , DAP-evoked  $^3\text{H}$  outflow was unchanged ( $4.8 \pm 0.4$  % in dantrolene  $\text{Na}^+$  group and  $4.6 \pm 0.4$  % in control group).

## DISCUSSION

We have previously shown<sup>11</sup> that  $[^3\text{H}]\text{NE}$  release was evoked by DAP from rabbit hippocampal slices preincubated with  $[^3\text{H}]\text{NE}$ . We proposed that in the presence of extracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , DAP by blocking  $\text{K}^+$  currents, depolarizes the neuronal membrane, induces  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  influx and exocytosis of NE storage vesicles.

In the present investigation, it was observed that in the absence of extracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , DAP significantly evoked  $[^3\text{H}]\text{NE}$  release, but became ineffective when NE stored in synaptic vesicles was depleted by reserpine pretreated<sup>6</sup>. This indicates that under  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -free conditions, DAP-evoked  $[^3\text{H}]\text{NE}$  release was also a vesicular component. Any possible involvement of extracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  in the process of DAP-evoked  $[^3\text{H}]\text{NE}$  release can be excluded by egtazic acid  $1 \text{ mmol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$  contained in medium<sup>6</sup>. The question arises, by which mechanisms DAP evoked exocytotic release of  $[^3\text{H}]\text{NE}$ , whether it is dependent from liberation of intracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  stores? This speculation is supported by the experiment with BAPTA-AM.

BAPTA-AM is hydrolyzed after crossing the membrane and dissociates  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  chelator BAPTA. The  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  liberated from intracellular stores was rapidly buffered by BAPTA, so that no appreciable accumulation of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  occurred during repetitive stimulation<sup>7</sup>. As shown in Tab 1, the release of  $[^3\text{H}]\text{NE}$  induced by DAP was significantly inhibited in the slices pretreated with BAPTA-AM, indicating an involvement of liberation of intracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  stores in the process of DAP-evoked release of  $[^3\text{H}]\text{NE}$ .

In the present study, using high concentration desipramine<sup>8</sup> to stimulate the inositol 1, 4, 5-trisphosphate ( $\text{IP}_3$ )-sensitive  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  stores<sup>9</sup>, we observed a strong external  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -independent release

of  $[^3\text{H}]\text{NE}$  from the slices, whereas the effect of caffeine<sup>10</sup> by stimulating  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  releasable stores<sup>11</sup> on inducing  $[^3\text{H}]\text{NE}$  release was very slight even in very high concentration of the drug. This suggests that in the absence of external  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , the elevation of cytosol free  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , which is necessary for stimulation-evoked  $[^3\text{H}]\text{NE}$  release from adrenergic terminals of hippocampal slices, is mostly from the  $\text{IP}_3$ -sensitive  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  stores. It has been reported that dantrolene sodium blocked  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  release from endoplasmic reticulum in neurons<sup>12</sup>. In the present investigation, dantrolene  $\text{Na}^+$  did not show any inhibitory effect on DAP-evoked release of  $[^3\text{H}]\text{NE}$ , suggesting that in the absence of extracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  release might not be involved in the mechanism of DAP-evoked  $[^3\text{H}]\text{NE}$  release. Conclusion, in the absence of extracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , DAP by liberation of intracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  from  $\text{IP}_3$ -sensitive  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  stores evokes exocytotic release of  $[^3\text{H}]\text{NE}$  from synaptic vesicles.

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### 胞内储备钙参与 3, 4-二氨基吡啶 诱发去甲肾上腺素释放<sup>1</sup>

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关键词 去甲肾上腺素; 海马; 3, 4-二氨基吡啶;  
利血平; BAPTA; 丹曲林; 地昔帕明

目的: 用大鼠海马脑片研究 3, 4-二氨基吡啶 (DAP) 诱发去甲肾上腺素胞外钙-不依赖释放的机制 方法: 大鼠海马脑片用 [ $^3H$ ]NE 孵育后, 进行表面灌流, 测 [ $^3H$ ]NE 释放. 结果: 在胞外无钙条件下, DAP 能显著加强 [ $^3H$ ]NE 释放, 当用利血平使囊泡 [ $^3H$ ]NE 排空, 则 DAP 作用消失, 用高浓度地昔帕明刺激  $IP_3$ -敏感的胞内  $Ca^{2+}$  储备库, 能有力地增强 [ $^3H$ ]NE 释放, 而高浓度咖啡因对 [ $^3H$ ]NE 释放只有很微弱的作用, 丹曲林钠对 DAP 诱发 [ $^3H$ ]NE 释放无任何抑制作用. 结论: 在胞外无钙条件下, DAP 通过  $IP_3$ -敏感的  $Ca^{2+}$  储备库释放  $Ca^{2+}$ , 从而诱发囊泡内的去甲肾上腺素释放.

R 964

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## Effects of methylflavonolamine on free intracellular calcium in isolated embryonic rat brain cells

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**KEY WORDS** methylflavonolamine; Fura-2; calcium; flunarizine; glutamate; brain; cultured cells

**AIM:** To observe the effects of methylflavonolamine (MFA) on free intracellular calcium concentration ( $[Ca^{2+}]_i$ ) of isolated embryonic rat brain cells in presence and absence of high extracellular potassium and *L*-glutamate. **METHODS:**  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$  was measured in a spectrofluorophotometer by preloading the cells with calcium sensitive fluorescent indicator Fura 2-AM. **RESULTS:** Resting  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$  was  $197 \pm 20$  nmol  $\cdot L^{-1}$  ( $n = 44$ ) in the presence of  $Ca^{2+}$  1.3 mmol

$\cdot L^{-1}$  in Hanks' solution. MFA  $0.15$  mmol  $\cdot L^{-1}$  had no effect on the resting  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$ . When extracellular  $Ca^{2+}$  was  $1.3$  mmol  $\cdot L^{-1}$ , MFA ( $0.03 - 0.3$  mmol  $\cdot L^{-1}$ ) concentration-dependently inhibited the  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$  elevation induced by high extracellular potassium, with an  $IC_{50}$  value of  $0.14$  (95 % confidence limits:  $0.05 - 0.42$ ) mmol  $\cdot L^{-1}$ . At higher concentration ( $0.15 - 0.30$  mmol  $\cdot L^{-1}$ ), MFA decreased *L*-glutamate-induced  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$  elevation, with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $0.20$  (95 % confidence limits:  $0.01 - 3.40$ ) mmol  $\cdot L^{-1}$ . **CONCLUSION:** MFA inhibited  $Ca^{2+}$  influx through voltage-dependent calcium channel and, at higher concentration, through receptor-operated calcium channel in the embryonic rat brain cells.