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## against $\sigma_1 P$ -induced dopamineergic toxicology

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**KEY WORDS** selegiline; dopa-decarboxylase; COQ10; striatal; high pressure liquid chromatography; kynurenic acid; quinolinic acid; 1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine; inbred C57BL mice

### ABSTRACT

**Abstract:** A study on the neuroprotective effect of selegiline (Sel) on MPTP-induced nigrostriatal dopaminergic neuronal system and its inhibition of brain monoamine oxidase B (MAO-B). The striatal levels of dopamine and its metabolites were measured using HPLC with electrochemical detection (HPLC-EC). The inhibition of MAO-B was tested by an improved fluorimetric assay.

**RESULTS:** 1-Methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine (MPP<sup>+</sup>) (100  $\mu$ M) induced the striatal dopamine level by 13% in mice. Selegiline (SB1, 10 mg  $\cdot$  kg<sup>-1</sup> ip) before but not after MPTP treatment protected against MPTP-induced nigrostriatal dopaminergic neuron loss. There were no differential effects between Sel and saline treatments on the recovery of striatal dopamine levels which partially restored during 8 weeks. 1-Methyl-4-phenylpyridinium (MPP<sup>+</sup>) (5 mg/kg) introduced monoaminergic neurotoxicity. Furthermore, Sel selectively and reversibly inhibited mouse brain MAO-B *in vitro* ( $K_{i} = 17 \text{ nM}$ ,  $K_{m} = 95 \text{ nM}$ ). The Michaelis-Menten limits = 14 – 20 nmol/L.

**CONCLUSION:** Selegiline has neuroprotective

rather than neurorescue or neurorestorative effect; it can reverse MPTP-induced nigrostriatal dopa-decarboxylase degeneration which is due to selective and irreversible inhibition of brain MAO-B activity.

### INTRODUCTION

Selegiline (Sel) is a selective irreversible inhibitor of monoamine oxidase B (MAO-B) was used as an important adjuvant L-dopa in the treatment of Parkinson's disease (PD) and also used done as a pulmonary treatment in early phase of PD<sup>[1]</sup>. In preclinical research MPTP lesion was used to establish a suitable animal model for investigating the disease. Sel could antagonize the damage caused by neurotoxicity of 1-methyl-phenylpyridine (MPP<sup>+</sup>) which had to be metabolized to its active toxic metabolite 1-methyl-4-phenylpyridinium (MPP<sup>+</sup>) by MAO-B to induce the neurotoxicity<sup>[2]</sup>. However whether the neuroprotective effect of Sel was mainly due to its inhibition of MAO-B had become a hot topic of controversy<sup>[3,4]</sup>. The present study was designed to clarify whether Sel had neuroprotective, neurorescue or neurorestorative actions against the neurotoxicity of MPTP<sup>[4]</sup>, and whether its actions were predominantly induced by inhibition of brain MAO-B.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

**Drugs** and chemicals Sel, MPTP and MPP<sup>+</sup> were purchased from RBI (Natick, MA, USA). Kynurenic acid and 4-hydroxyquinoline were from Sigma (USA). These compounds

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selegiline

were dissolved 'eshly in line. DAOPAC and HVA were from Fluka (Switzerland) and were dissolved in HCl04 0.1 mol/L containing sodium edetate (1%) and NaOH 5 (0.5%).

Mice and ea rents CS7BL/6J m<sup>c</sup>r (weighing 20 g ± 2 g) were supplied by Shanghai Experimental Animal Center (Shanghai Management Committee of the Chinese Academy of Sciences). Mice were randomly assigned to 12 treatment groups (n = 6). Drugs of each group was given ip as shown in Tab 1. Mice of the last 4 groups were injected with Sel (10 mg/kg - t) 30 min before or after another injection of MPTP (30 mg/kg - t) 0<sup>1</sup> MPP<sup>+</sup> (5 mg/kg - t) on d 1 and d 7 (on d 3 and d 9, respectively). Mice of the 5th and 6th groups were decapitated on d 17, and the 7th and 8th on d 24. Mice of the other groups were killed on d 10.

Preparation of samples for HPLC Mouse brain striata were immediately dissected, weighed and homogenized in ice-cold HClO<sub>4</sub> 0.1 mol/L containing sodium edetate (1%) and NaOH 5 (0.5%). After centrifugation (20,000 × g for 15 min) the supernatants were collected for HPLC.

HPLC conditions A modified method was used with HPLC-EC (BAS West Lafayette,

IN 11SA). Alpha-2 Ofs 3 mm column (1 nunx 3.2 nun BAS), was used with a flow rate of 1 mL/min. The full scale on the detector was set to 10 nA, the operating potential was 750 mV, and the temperature was 25 °C. The mobile phase (0.05 mol/L NaOH 0.17 mM L-DOPA, 0.15 mM L-dopa, 1 mM sodium octyl sulfate, 1 mM methionine, 0.1% (v/v) acetonitrile, 0.1% (v/v) TFA) was pumped at a flow rate of 1 mL/min. The detection wavelength was 280 nm.

**Preparation of brain supernatant** Mice were homogenized in 10 mM potassium phosphate buffer (containing NaCl 10 mM, KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> 10 mM, • L-1 pH 7.2). The homogenate was centrifuged at 3600 × g for 10 min twice and then the supernatant was stored at -20 °C. Protein concentrations were adjusted to 5 g/L.

**Assay of MAO-B inhibition** An improved method was used. The fluorimetric method uses loline as the substrate for conversion of MAO-B to 4-hydroxy loline which requires alkaline media. The standard curve was established by adding 4-hydroxy loline (10 µL, 0.1 nmol) to brain supernatant (1 mL, 0.1 g/L) in 10 mM potassium phosphate buffer (1 mL, pH 7.2) 2 µL. To detect MAO-B inhibition, Sel (2.79–358

Table 1. Dose of adrenergic drugs.

	d1	d2	d3	cl4-6	d7	(11)8	d9	cl0-16	d17 – 23
Jine	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sel	10	10	10	—	10	10	10	—	—
MPrP	30	30	30	—	30	30	30	—	—
MPP <sup>+</sup>	5	5	5	—	5	5	5	—	—
MPTP + Saline	30	30	30	—	30	30	30	—	—
MPP <sup>+</sup> + Sel	30	30	30	—	30	30	30	10	—
MPTP + loline	30	30	30	—	30	30	30	—	—
MVI <sup>1</sup> I + Selegiline	30	30	30	—	30	30	30	10	10
Selegiline + rP	10+30	30	30	—	10+30	30	30	—	—
rP + Sel + line	30	30	30+10	—	30	30	30+10	—	—
Sel + me + MPP <sup>+</sup>	10+5	5	5	—	10+5	5	5	—	—
M + + Selegiline	5	5	5+10	—	5	5	5	10	—

111nol. L-1 100 μL was n1 xcd wilh buffer 1α)μL and 11pC11unanal 50μL. and i1cubnled nt 37 °C for 15 tni. n. 'fhf l'(actioll was farled 1η ndf'lng kyuununInc 3.07 nULLol + L-1 10 f.t1 LltH I ineubated af. 37 °C finn thtJr 15 Inin. aetion wus tenllinated 1))' HCH). 0.6 110 f. I

J{ μL. Hud lhen 1-aOH 1 11101.L 2 1111 I 'CI fu1xed. Ole tluot Scell(.)<sup>c</sup> illlf 11 ity H 4-hydn \ quillOHIC w\ w rllcnSlll i ut 315 Ihtl and n\ 380 111H 1η H flUO1 1d sp< cl ro(uol Hl( h ( Hit:ch1n50-10

S tistical aEMINis item1181WIPt xpress-ed \ : t s tUld analyzed using one-way ANOVA 10110" by DtUllleU"8 test. IC<sub>50</sub> ad 95 % corūdence mirnts ve caløla d hy og t nleth< .

## RE JLTS

Efects of Sel pre eatment on 1\1PfP induced depletion of DA Six injections of do n Ileric neurotoXIn 1\TP (30 mg. kg-1 ip) decreased sutatdlevels of DA and its uelabolites ( p < 0.01). .Pfetrea le:nt willib Sel (IO mg·kg-lip)on dIand d7amEagommd e i\WIP-induced deple on of DA eVes. BMSb1 treatment on d 3 and d 9 did not rescüe dae()Ss of DA DOPAC and HVA (Tab 2).

Tab 2. Efects of Sel pretreatment on 1\1PfP indua depletions in s iatal dopamine and its ?euboii g-) (wet sue). n='. . i s. Dp < 0.05 cp < 0.01 te. ep < 0.05r P<0.01 EP.

Trl lmt	:DA	XPA	HVA
Sal0f'	9.6 0.7 <sup>f</sup>	0.8 0.1 <sup>f</sup>	0.9 0.2f
Sd	10.8 .6 <sup>f</sup>	0.6 0.1 <sup>f</sup>	0.6 0.2bt
P	2.7 0.6 <sup>f</sup>	0.3 0.1 <sup>f</sup>	0.3 0.1 <sup>f</sup>
Sel+MJin2	8.3 0.gf	0.6 0.JM	0.6 0.llc
M 1>+ Sel	3.9 1.5 <sup>c</sup>	0.3 0.1 <sup>f</sup>	0.4 0.J <sup>f</sup>

Effi ts of Sel on naFaI recoveηofDA When the MPTP-Iesioned nHce we aflowed

tore Jèr j wk 01' 2 - saline or Sel (10 rmg. kg- t. ip) were given daily. No di ere 4 drtl wr fotlhd On the cove d aω d b mnl t off ul 'P we oMiaty t d {tab 3).

Tab 3. Effects of I on e natural reoveηof striaowl DA in 1PTP-lesioned mice and em s of PP"" on the striatal Jevel of DA. n = 6. X s. op > 0.05 bp < 0.05 cp < 0.01 vs line.

rrm INWRTOfp	Vl .g-1(wet tissue)
SaJin(' se	9.8 0.9 9.9% 0.7 <sup>a</sup>
MJfP	2.5 0.6 <sup>"</sup>
MJPrP+ saline	4.3 0.5 <sup>c</sup>
MYr >+ Sel	4.2 0.5 <sup>c</sup>
MPIP + saline	6.4 0.7 <sup>b</sup>
MYfP+ Sel	6.6 0.7 <sup>b</sup>
MPP+	9.9 0.5 <sup>s</sup>
Sel+ MPP+	10.6 0.8 <sup>11</sup>
MPP+ + Sel	10.5 0.

Elfoots of MPP+ on s iatal DA level - 1 5 mg. kg-1 ip) inducno neurotoxi- The striatal oof DA were n. changed levels by hpr and were not dected by Sel either (Tab :;).

(hMbi6on Of MAO-B by sel selegiime 2.79 – 358μg · L-1) inhibited mouse brain MAO-β activity En vUro at a concentration as low as 2.79 mnol. L-1. IC<sub>50</sub> = 17 mnol. L-1. and 95%confidene 1izmts=14-20mol · U1 (Fig ).

## DISCUSSION

Basic and clinical studies indicate oxidative meChanlsns mHElate n180SMaul degenemuon of iconiItblite to the eme e c nce and progression of PD(4 8)

Although selhas been used Crimeatiy asa selective and imeverable inhibitor of MAOhB how the m dmed814ts etfee

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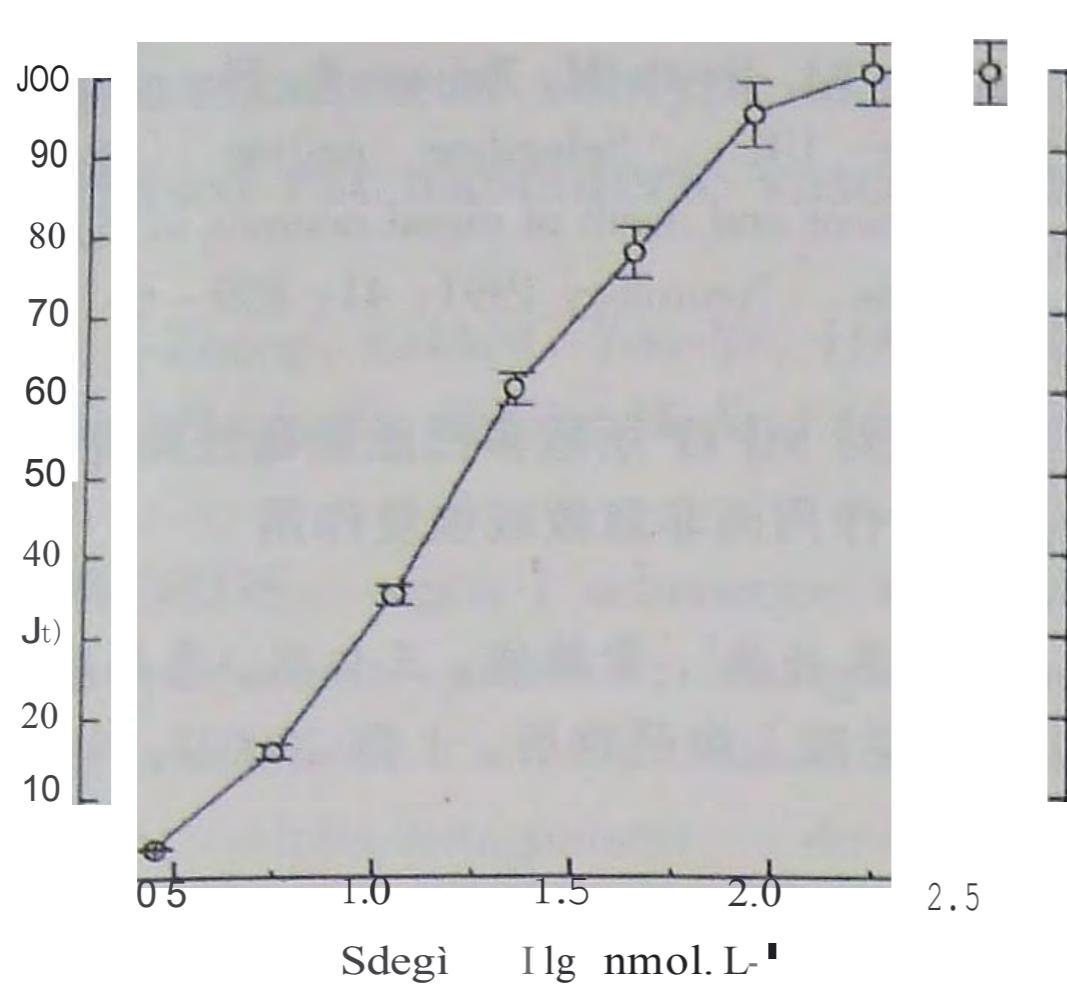


Fig 1. Inhibition of mouse brain MAO-B activity by selenite.  $n=4$ .  $x \pm S.E.$

unclear).

The present study used MPTP-lesioned mice as a model of PD(2) to investigate the anti-neurodegenerative action of Sel. Pretreatment of Sel on d 1 and d 7 successfully reduced the neurotoxicity of MPTP which suggested its neuroprotective action. But injections of Sel on d 3 and d 9 which closely followed the 3 consecutive injections of MPTP did not block the depletions of striatal levels of DA, DOPAC and HVA. It indicated that Sel was lack of neurorestorative action. Further there were no differential effect between Sel and saline on the recovery of MPTP-lesioned mice which suggested Sel might not exert neurorestorative action. Our results also underpinned that the depletion of striatal dopamine caused by MPTP in mice appeared to be reversible and the partial restoration might be due to the species-specific neuronal plasticity in mice [1].

When systematically treated MPP<sup>+</sup>, the most active toxic metabolite of MPTP induced no neurotoxicity suggested that MPP<sup>+</sup> could not penetrate the blood-brain barrier and MPTP was metabolized by brain MAO-B[12, 13] which converted MPP<sup>+</sup> to PP<sup>+</sup>. Therefore, it

is likely that Sel examined whether the neuroprotective effect of Sel was primarily induced by MAO-B blocking and improving the function of MAO-B in vitro which substantially explained the action of Sel previously reported. The results are in accordance with the data of clinical research indicating relatively little in vivo studies [14] which confirmed the neuroprotective effects of Sel.

In summary, it is neuroprotective effect rather than neurorestorative effect of Sel which is directly pertinent to the inhibition of brain MAO-B that contributes to its anti-MPTP-induced neurodegenerative toxicity.

The possible neuroprotective strategies including MAO-B inhibitors should be used in the early phase of PD to retard its progression and extend the lifespan.

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