Inflammation and reactive oxygen species generation at the peripheral and coronary atherosclerosis, comparative evaluation of its intensity and grade

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Received: October 06, 2016; Accepted: October 14, 2016; Published: October 24, 2016

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Abstract

The inflammation and oxidative stress are a basis of pathogenesis of an atherosclerosis and vulnerability of the atherosclerotic plaque, triggered by risk factors, including the expression of adhesion molecules, the proliferation and migration of smooth muscle cells, the apoptosis of endothelial cells, the oxidation of lipids, the activation of metalloproteinase and the alteration of vasomotor activity. Heterogeneity of initiation of the system inflammatory answer at an atherosclerosis causes necessity of studying factors of an inflammation and its correlation with traditional metabolic disorders at an atherosclerosis of various localizations.

Materials and methods: C-reactive Protein (CRP), interleukin-6 (IL-6), tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF-alpha), fibrinogen, general blood count, markers of Oxidative Stress (OS) – Malondialdehyde (MDA) and catalyze activity, marker of endothelial proliferation and migration – Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor (VEGF) were analyzed at 30 patients with a peripheral (in iliac-femoral arterial pool) atherosclerosis (PA) and at 43 patients with Coronary Atherosclerosis (CA). CRP and routine biochemical tests (lipidomic panel, total protein, albumin, glucose, uric acid) were made in automatic biochemical analyzer "VITROS-350" (Germany). IL-6, TNF-alpha, VEGFs levels were measured in the blood serum using enzyme-linked immunoassay method in analyzer ST-360, (China). General blood count was made by automatic hematological analyzer BC 5800 (Mindray, China), immature granulocytes were identified in blood smears by manual examination.

Results: It is established, that all patients with atherosclerosis had high level of CRP, IL-6, FNO-alpha and MDA in comparison with control group. There was increasing of WBC, neutrophils and the left shift at the PA patients. High CRP level was accompanied with increasing of immature granulocytes up to 6,9±0,4%, increasing of fibrinogen on 16%, decreasing of albumin on 25% concerning group of the control; high number of WBC correlated with CRP (r=0,62, p<0,05) at PA patients. In contrast, at CA patients increasing of CRP was associated with metabolic disorders such as increasing of glucose concentration up to 6,4 ± 0,5 mmol/L and body mass index (BMI) = 30,3±1,6 kg/m². Proinflammatory cytokine IL-6 level was increased both at PA and CA patient in 12, 2 and 9,1 times in comparison with the control respectively. There was no significant difference in FNO-alpha concentration between PA and CA patients (p > 0,05), but FNO-a level was increased in 1,6 and 2,3 times respectively at PA at CA patients. There were correlative links between CRP and glucose (r=0,9, p < 0,05), CRP and triglycerides (r=0,8, p < 0,05), CRP and MDA (r=0,6, p < 0,05) at CA patients. Comparative analyses of PA and CA patients demonstrate that VEGF and IL-6 levels were increased at PA patients relatively to the CA patients in 2,2 and 2,7 times respectively. So, PA characterizes by increasing of pro-inflammatory cytokines IL-6 and high level of VEGF, which can stimulated collateral blood stream and endothelial proliferation. CA characterizes by low grade inflammation. This data suggests that inflammation at PA is acute, due to local inflammatory reaction of peripheral tissues after chronic ischemia. At CA inflammation is low grade, closely connected with metabolic disorders and Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) generation.

Conclusion: Studying of factors of an inflammation and ROS generation at a peripheral and coronary atherosclerosis has allowed revealing characteristic distinctions. Prevalence of acute inflammation with WBS, LSI, CRP, fibrinogen increasing and partly compensated oxidative stress accompanied with VEGF increasing observed at PA patients. CA is associated with decompensate OS and low grade inflammatory reaction, correlating with metabolic disorders such as increasing of body mass index and glucose concentration.

Introduction

The inflammation is a pathogenesis basis of an atherosclerosis from the beginning up to a final stage – vulnerable atherosclerotic plaque formation [2, 23, 24]. The data of recent researches have proved an essential role of CRP, interleukins (IL)-6, 8,- 1,-10, 12, tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF-a) in progressing an atherosclerosis, in an estimation of risk of sudden death, development of acute coronary events and its complications [7,12,29]. In research GISSI among 11 324 patients with a acute heart attack of a myocardium and the contents of WBC less than 6000 mortality during 4 years has made 6,9 %, and at the
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It is surveyed 73 patients with an atherosclerosis, middle age 60,1 ± 1,9; 16 women (22%) and 57 men (78%). There were 30 patients with an atherosclerosis in the iliaco-femoral arterial pool - the Peripheral Atherosclerosis (PA), accompanying with chronic limb ischemia and 43 patients with coronary atherosclerosis (CA). The diagnosis established on the basis of clinical, ultrasound and Doppler data, multi scanning computer tomography, percutaneous coronary angiography. As a control group, we accessed 15 volunteers of same age (11 men, 3 women) without atherosclerosis. Laboratory tests included C-reactive protein (CRP) and routine biochemical tests (lipidomic panel, total protein, albumin, glucose, uric acid), which were made by automatic hematological analyzer BC 5800 (Mindray, China), qualitative white cell-associated signs; such as immature granulocytes and blasts to mature neutrophils ratio. Studies support a decision threshold of 0,069 for LSI.

Changes of plasma lipidomic profile were similar at the patients with PA and CA. Table 2 shows that plasma lipidomic profile was higher in both groups, then control in 2,3 times, and it was associated with metabolic disorders such as increasing of glucose concentration and barrier dysfunction. As shown in Table 2, fibrinogen at PA patients was in reference value, but it was higher, in 2,5 times concerning the control at CA patients. Mon at PA patients was in reference value [5], but it was higher, in 1,4 times in compare with control at CA patients. Amount of CRP in 2,5 times, fibrinogen on 16%, decreasing of albumin on 25% concerning the control at PA patients. At CA patients CRP was higher, than control in 1,4 times. Our study supports a decision threshold of 0,069 and the reference value 0,050 - 0,070 for LSI. LSI characterizes the intensity of inflammation, the intensity of inflammation is middle if LSI is 0,080 – 0,099 and is high if LSI is more 0,100 [16]. Our data shows, that LSI was increased in 1,6 and 1,4 times concerning the control at PA and CA patients respectively. This data shows that intensity of inflammation, according to LSI, is middle at the CA patients and is high at the PA patients.

High LSI and WBC amount was accompanied with increasing of CRP in 2,5 times, fibrinogen on 16%, decreasing of albumin on 25% concerning the control at PA patients. At CA patients CRP was higher, then control in 2,3 times, and it was associated with metabolic disorders such as increasing of glucose concentration up to 6,4±0,5 mmol/L and Body Mass Index (BMI) up to 30,3 ± 1,6 kg/m² (Table 2).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Groups of patients</th>
<th>WBC, 10^9/L</th>
<th>Neu, %</th>
<th>NEu, %</th>
<th>Mon, %</th>
<th>Baz, %</th>
<th>Eoz, %</th>
<th>Limph %</th>
<th>LSI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The control, n=15</td>
<td>4,9±0,4</td>
<td>56,7±3,7</td>
<td>3,9±0,4</td>
<td>3,5±0,3</td>
<td>0,4±0,01</td>
<td>1,6±0,4</td>
<td>30,7±0,6</td>
<td>0,068±0,003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 group - PA, n=30</td>
<td>8,2±0,4</td>
<td>62,3±1,9</td>
<td>6,9±0,4</td>
<td>6,7±0,4</td>
<td>0,5±0,10</td>
<td>3,4±0,7</td>
<td>28,2±2,0</td>
<td>0,112±0,007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 group - CA, n=43</td>
<td>6,9±0,5</td>
<td>54,2±2,9</td>
<td>5,3±0,6</td>
<td>2,9±0,6</td>
<td>0,5±0,08</td>
<td>2,2±0,3</td>
<td>32,2±3,1</td>
<td>0,094±0,005</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* - significant difference at p < 0,05 concerning the control; ** - significant difference at p < 0,05 concerning 1 group.

Citation: Nazirov FG, Khaybullina ZR, Kosnikova IV, Kim VH (2016) Inflammation and reactive oxygen species generation at the peripheral and coronary atherosclerosis, comparative evaluation of its intensity and grade. J Cardiovascular Thoracic Surgery 1(1):5. DOI: 10.15226/2573-864X/1/1/00102
PA and CA patients and included increasing of the triglycerides (TG) with decreasing of High Density Lipoproteins (HDL), but at PA patients TG concentration was significantly higher, than at CA patients (p < 0.05); glucose level was 1.3 time higher at CA patients in contrast to the PA patients (p < 0.05).

There were no significant difference in CRP and FNO-a levels between PA and CA groups (p > 0.05), but CRP was increased in contrast with control in 2.5 at PA and in 2.3 times at CA patients; FNO-a concentration was increased in 1.6 and 2.3 times respectively. Fibrinogen concentration was statistically significant increased at PA patients, while at CA patients it does not differ from the control. The high level of fibrinogen at PA patients specifies not only activation of an inflammation, but also predisposition for thrombosis and microcirculation disturbances [4, 13]. It has established, that a change of coagulation at PA patients in contrast to the PA patients (p < 0.05).

It is known that IL-6 is mediator of the cell damages, produced by monocytes, macrophages, endothelioocytes; its high level triggers synthesis of fibrinogen, CRP, haptoglobin, amyloid A and inhibits the FNO-alpha production. Also IL-6 can induce increasing of the glucose concentrations due to hypothalamic-pituitary stimulation [2, 12]. We assume, that high concentrations of CRP and fibrinogen at PA patients are linked with exactly increasing of IL-6, which triggered synthesis of those proinflammatory proteins in the liver. High level of IL-6 occurs together with high FNO-alpha concentration, hyperglycemia and BMI increasing at the CA patients. This allows to expect the contribution of visceral adipose tissue in IL-6 and FNO-a production. There is indeed evidence that obesity is associated with macrophage accumulation in adipose tissue and it is directly linked with inflammatory response. Obesity associated TNF-a is primarily secreted from macrophages, accumulated in adipose tissue, whereas the adipocytes, predominantly produce unsecreted, membrane-bound TNF-a [28]. Obesity leads insulin resistance too [24].

For searching of the typical particularities of metabolic disorders and inflammation at an atherosclerosis of various localization correlative analyses has done. There was established, that at CA patients correlative link between CRP and some of the components of metabolic syndrome is strong (CRP/Glucose, CRP/TG, CRP/BMI), correlative link between CRP and MDA is middle (Figure 1).

This data shows that at CA inflammation is closely connected with metabolic disorders and oxidative stress.

Markers of oxidative stress (OS) –MDA and catalase were changed greater at CA patients. There were high MDA level (increased in 2.1 times compare with control) with increasing of catalase activity in the blood on 52% (p < 0.05) at CA patients. At PA patients MDA level was increased in 1.5 time, catalase activity in the blood on 52% (p < 0.05) at CA patients. At PA patients MDA level was increased in 1.5 time, catalase activity in the blood on 52% (p < 0.05) at CA patients. At PA patients MDA level was increased in 1.5 time, catalase activity in the blood on 52% (p < 0.05) at CA patients. At PA patients MDA level was increased in 1.5 time, catalase activity in the blood on 52% (p < 0.05) at CA patients.

Concentration of the uric acid (UA) was increased concerning to the control at 1.4 times both at PA and CA patients, but it was in the reference value 360 mmol/L, determined by EULAR [16].

Increasing of the UA level may be explained controversial. Several mechanisms have been postulated for explaining perceived endothelial abnormalities induced by UA. Incubation of vascular smooth muscle cells with UA has been found to...
The effects of UA in atherosclerosis, comparative evaluation of its intensity and grade. Inflammation and reactive oxygen species generation at the peripheral and coronary atherosclerosis, comparative evaluation of its intensity and grade.  On different models has shown that conception development, because high level of VEGF is associated with CA patients due to VEGF concentration increasing. VEGF inflammation at PA patients leads endothelial proliferation and closely connected at atherosclerosis. ROS generation, in turn, induces endothelial dysfunction [28]. So, atherosclerotic vessels are macrophages and smooth muscle cell.

The main sources of oxidative substances and ROS in atherosclerotic vessels are macrophages and smooth muscle cell. ROS production, in turn, induces endothelial dysfunction [28]. So, ROS generation, endothelial dysfunction and inflammation are closely connected in atherosclerosis.

Our data confirm that ischemia of peripheral muscles at acute inflammation at PA patients leads endothelial proliferation and collateral bloodstream, which are more intensive in contrast with CA patients due to VEGF concentration increasing. VEGF level was increased at PA patients at 2,2 times concerning the CA patients. This data can be used in therapeutic angiogenesis conception development, because high level of VEGF is associated with stimulation of collateral bloodstream and endothelial proliferation [4,6,8]. On different models has shown that administration of vascular endothelial growth factor induced dose-dependent collateral artery augmentation of persistent ischemia [18,30].

As have shown our researches, the peripheral atherosclerosis is closely accompanied by inflammatory reaction, and a coronary atherosclerosis is closely connected with metabolic disorders and oxidative stress. The certain contribution to it development can bring co morbidity, in particular presence of metabolic syndrome [24]. This data suggests that inflammation at PA is acute, due to local inflammatory reaction of peripheral tissues after chronic ischemia. At CA inflammation is low grade, closely connected with metabolic disorders and ROS generation.

**Conclusion**

Thus, studying of factors of an inflammation and ROS generation at a peripheral and coronary atherosclerosis has allowed revealing characteristic distinctions. Prevalence of acute inflammation with WBS, LSI, CRP, fibrinogen increasing and partly compensated oxidative stress accompanied with VEGF increasing observed at PA patients. CA is associated with decompensate OS and low grade inflammatory reaction, correlating with metabolic disorders such as increasing of body mass index and glucose concentration.

**References**


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