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ABSTRACTS

17th Annual Congress on
Neuroscience

July 18-19, 2022 | Webinar

J Alzheimers Dis Parkinsonism 2022, Volume 11



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Serum amyloid A (SAA) proteins increase dramatically in the blood following ischemic injury. The impact of SAAs in the pathogenesis of stroke was addressed in this study. Wildtype and SAA deficient mice were exposed to transient intraluminal middle cerebral artery occlusion (MCAo), examined for infarct volumes, behavioral changes, inflammatory markers, TUNEL staining, and BBBs. In addition, over expression of SAA via transgene or viral vectors were examined in the SAA deficient mice. SAA levels were significantly increase following ischemia and reperfusion injury (IRI) and mice deficient in SAAs showed reduced infarct volumes and improved behavioral outcomes. SAA deficient mice showed a reduction in TUNEL staining, inflammation and decreased glial activation. Mice lacking both acute phase SAAs demonstrated a reduction in expression of the NLRP3 inflammasome protein and SAA/NLRP3 KO mice showed a slight improvement. Restoration of SAA expression via SAA tg mice or adenoviral expression reestablished the detrimental effects of SAA on infarct volume. A reduction in BBB permeability was seen in the SAA KO mice and anti-SAA antibody treatment reduced the effects on ischemic injury. The data suggest that acute phase SAAs play an injurious role in stroke outcomes. Therefore, therapeutics that target elevated SAA levels following stroke might help to reduce the harmful effects and improve long-term consequences.

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Shahram Naderi

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One of the effects of oxytocin is to create relaxation in animals. Furthermore, dance and music are two tools for relaxation. On the other hand, dance and music enhance the effects of oxytocin. Music can encourage social interactions and promote trust and cooperation in culturally (not genetically) compatible individuals, stimulating reward and motivation and enhancing learning and memory capacities. These effects of music on trust, empathy, reciprocal behaviors, group harmony, anxiety, and social decision-making resemble those of oxytocin. Psychological processes might induce the release of oxytocin, meaning that positive interactions, including friendly relationships, can promote health. The social interactions of daily life, along with a positive atmosphere, continuously activate the oxytocin system. Because both oxytocin and beta-endorphin are endogenous brain peptides, the data suggest that endogenous oxytocin might modulate the sensitivity of the CNS to repetitive or long-term stimulation by opioids, hindering tolerance to endorphins. The brain opioid theory of social attachment has been proposed to explain the neural basis of social bonding. Brain endorphins are activated by a variety of social activities, including social touch, laughter, singing, dancing, and partying. Morphological evidence indicates the influence of oxytocin on the activity of the brain beta-endorphin system in the hypothalamus. According to these pieces of evidence, endogenous oxytocin rises if individuals are involved in-group games and enter an empathetic and supportive environment. Oxytocin is released through a variety of nonharmful sensory stimuli such as touch and heat. Nature reduces anxiety and stress, shortens the hospitalization period, lowers the heart rate, and augments guided focus. In addition to nonharmful sensory stimuli, oxytocin can also be released by the stimulation of other senses, such as the olfactory and visual, and by certain types of sounds and lights. Therefore, all the benefits of being in untouched and wonderful nature can be mediated by oxytocin. A combination of targeted non-drug group therapies throughout the day (such as Listen to music in groups, group dancing, group

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Despite tremendous unmet medical needs, there is no effective pharmacological treatment to promote functional recovery after spinal cord injury (SCI). Although multiple pathological events have been implicated in SCI, the development of a noninvasive pharmacological approach to simultaneously target the different mechanisms involved in SCI remains a formidable challenge. In this study, we report the development of a noninvasive nanodrug delivery system that consists of ROS-responsive amphiphilic copolymers and an encapsulated neurotransmitter-conjugated KCC2 agonist^{1,2}. We show that upon intravenous administration the nanodrugs were able to enter the injured spinal cord due to blood spinal cord barrier disruption and ROS-responsive disassembly. Remarkably, once in the injured spinal cord the nanodrugs exhibited dual functions: scavenging ROS accumulated in the lesion to protect spared connections and increasing neuronal excitability in the injured spinal cord through targeted delivery of the KCC2 agonist to inhibitory neurons. Thus, the noninvasive treatment led to significant functional recovery in the rats with contusive SCI³. Together, these findings provide a much-needed translational pharmacological approach for treating severe SCI.