

Autacoids in Inflammatory Bowel Diseases

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¹School of Pharmacy with the Division of Laboratory Medicine in Sosnowiec, The Medical University of Silesia in Katowice, Department of Basic Biomedical Sciences in Sosnowiec, Poland

²Multidisciplinary Hospital, Jaworzno, Poland

†7cfffYgdcX]b[Uih\cf. Antoni Stadnicki, Department of Basic Biomedical Sciences, Ul. Kasztanowa 341 – 200 Sosnowiec, Poland, Tel: 4832 2917825; Fax: 4832 2699833; E-mail: astadnic@wp.pl

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Editorial

Inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD), including Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis (UC), are complex disorders characterized by chronic, local and systemic inflammatory and spontaneously relapsing course.

Etiology of these diseases are unknown, however they display genetic and environmental components. IBD are immunologically mediated in part by enteric microbiota [1]. Immune system cells activation may lead to activation of proteolytic cascades [1,2], as well as to release of inflammatory mediators in the intestine. There are convincing evidences that IBD are diseases of immunological hyperresponsiveness within the mucosa. Immunological reactions may be directed against luminal bacteria and their products normally present in the intestine [2]. Both innate and adaptive immune response play a role in IBD pathogenesis and possibly in etiology. Autacoids, a local hormones e.g., histamine, serotonin, kinins, angiotensin, eicosanoids, neurotensin, nitric oxide, endothelins, may be produced and act locally in IBD – inflammatory intestine. They display a role in the immune response, and progression in both Crohn's disease and UC. A role of eicosanoids and nitric oxide in IBD was relatively well delineated. Much less attention has been paid to other autacoids, although a number of the intestinal tissue kallikrein – kinin system in IBD has been investigated in the late 1990s – 2000s. Histamine,

area and intracellularly in the lamina propria tissue. In contrast, B1R protein is found in the basal area of enterocytes in normal intestine, but in the apical portion of enterocytes in inflamed tissue. B1R protein is significantly increased in both active UC and CD intestines compared to controls. In patients with active UC, B1R mRNA is significantly higher than B2R mRNA. However, in inactive UC patients, the B1R and B2R mRNA did not differ. These findings suggest that bradykinin receptors in IBD may play an important role. Increased B1R gene and protein expression in active IBD provides a structural basis of the important role of bradykinin in chronic inflammation. Hara et al. [16] shown that upregulation of B1R in the trinitrobenzene sulphonic acid (TNBS) - induced colitis model is in part dependent on NF- κ B activation. Kininogen has been demonstrated in both normal and inflamed human colon, thus, ITK can generate kinins. In addition, kallistatin, a major tissue kallikrein inhibitor and kininase II, a kinin inactivator, have been demonstrated in intestinal tissue [11]. Our data from human study showing alteration in distribution of B1R and B2R and increased its levels in the patients with IBD tend to corroborate with experimental Hara et al. results suggesting that selective B1R receptor antagonist may have potential in therapeutic trial. It should be noted that kinins are implicated in the regulation of blood pressure, sodium homeostasis and the cardioprotective effects of preconditioning. Angiotensin-converting enzyme (kininase II) inhibition increase blood levels of bradykinin and kallidin peptides [17].