

2460-PUB

A Functionalized Photo Tunable Hydrogel Promoting Islet Transplant Engraftment and FunctionCOLE A. DEFOREST, LAURA CRISA, VINCENZO CIRULLI, *Seattle, WA*

Islet transplantation is emerging as a promising cell replacement therapy for type 1 diabetes. To date, however, several hurdles remain for the widespread adoption of this approach. First, revascularization of islet transplants remains inefficient leading to substantial tissue loss during the first few days after transplantation. Second, immune recognition of allogeneic histocompatibility antigens and recurrence of autoimmunity requires systemic immunosuppressive regimens that have been shown to negatively impact islet engraftment, survival and function. To overcome these limitations, the identification of biocompatible materials that can be used to encapsulate islet grafts offers new opportunities. Yet, encapsulation materials tested so far have met limited success for the long-term survival, function and protection of islet grafts in vivo.

In this study, we have designed and tested a new generation of biocompatible materials whose properties can be readily tuned to integrate user-defined biophysical and biochemical cues that support islets function, promote interaction with the host vasculature and incorporate immune modulatory moieties capable of mitigating host immune responses. The material is a new poly (ethylene glycol)-based hydrogel whose chemistry render it phototunable, allowing for the dynamic material functionalization of the hydrogel with pro-angiogenic cues and immunoregulatory moieties upon mild exposure to cytocompatible light. Our results demonstrate that this new programmable biomaterial supports islet cell survival and function by providing a tissue-like niche whose three-dimensional architecture and biochemical composition is designed to incorporate extracellular matrix moieties that we previously identified in the human pancreas, support angiogenesis, and promote leukocyte exclusion from the grafts. We anticipate that this new approach will have a significant translational application to human islet transplantation.

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INSULIN ACTION—ADIPOCYTE BIOLOGY

2461-PUB

Omics Analysis of Adiponectin in African Americans to Elucidate the Biology Underlying Metabolic DiseaseNICHOLETTE D. PALMER, SATRIA SAJUTHI, NEERAJ SHARMA, JEFF CHOU, DONALD W. BOWDEN, BARRY I. FREEDMAN, CARL D. LANGFELD, SWAPAN K. DAS, *Winston-Salem, NC*

There is extensive epidemiological literature examining adiponectin in T2D and obesity. Despite higher prevalence, few studies have examined African Americans (AAs) where differences are accentuated, i.e., lower protein levels compounded by higher insulin resistance and cardiometabolic disease risk. Beyond statistical implication, we assessed the biological contribution of adiponectin to cardiometabolic phenotypes using omics technologies. Plasma adiponectin, transcriptional profiling of subcutaneous adipose and muscle, glucose homeostasis (fasting and FSIGT), and genotypes (Omni5+) were assessed in 240 fasting nondiabetic AAs. Plasma adiponectin was negatively correlated with insulin resistance ($HOMA_{IR}$; $r=-0.36$, $P=1.7E-8$) and adiposity (BMI; $r=-0.25$, $P=9.3E-5$), with similar relationships for the ADIPOQ transcript ($r=-0.25$, $P=4.6E-5$ and $r=-0.37$, $1.2E-9$, respectively) in adipose (age, gender, admixture adjusted). The correlation between protein and transcript was weak ($r=0.28$, $P=1.5E-5$) suggesting additional modulators. Despite no ADIPOQ muscle expression, correlation of the adipose transcript with downstream targets in muscle, e.g., ADIPOR1 and AKT1, indicates tissue-tissue crosstalk. A positive correlation ($r\geq 0.4$) of 247 transcripts (e.g., CS, DLST, ECH1) was enriched for mitochondrial function and oxidative phosphorylation ($P=1.2E-22$). A negative correlation ($r\leq -0.4$) of 44 transcripts (e.g., CD68) was enriched for immune response ($P=2.32E-28$). Association analysis of the ADIPOQ locus with transcript level identified rs17846866 ($P=1.1E-5$), in ADIPOQ which was not associated with plasma adiponectin ($P=0.9$). These results suggest higher order regulation of protein pathways, e.g., protein multimerization. Analysis is currently underway for high molecular weight adiponectin. These results elucidate the metabolic role of adiponectin in human physiology and reveal novel insights into the regulation of metabolic disease.

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INSULIN ACTION—CELLULAR AND MOLECULAR METABOLISM

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2463-PUB

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Insulin Activated AMPK through Inhibiting Rho Kinase in Insulin-Resistant Skeletal Muscle CellsYAN BI, SUNYINYAN TANG, WENJUN WU, WENJUAN TANG, DALONG ZHU, *Nanjing, China, Wuxi, China*

Lipotoxicity has been associated with type 2 diabetes mellitus. Our recent study indicated that SREBP-1c, a transcription factor that controls cellular lipogenesis, participated in fatty acid-induced insulin resistance through a direct effect of suppressing the transcription of insulin receptor substrate-1 in skeletal muscle cells, addressing its potential importance in metabolic disease. The molecular mechanism of insulin reducing SREBP-1c protein level is unclear. L6 myotubes were added with a final concentration of 0.5mM palmitic acid (PA) for 0 h to 48 h and then treated with 100nM insulin for 12 h. L6 myotubes were added with 0-100nM insulin after 0.5mM PA intervention. DN-AMPK α 2 lentivirus, siRNA-AMPK α 2 and AMPK inhibitor were used for determining the role of AMPK in vivo and in vitro. In order to investigate the specific mechanisms responsible for the insulin-induced AMPK activation, siRNA-ROCK1 and siRNA-LKB1 were transfected into PA-induced L6 myotubes. The protein levels were measured by western blot. We found that insulin increased AMPK phosphorylation and reduced SREBP-1c protein