

Oral Abstracts

5B-01

LIVER X RECEPTOR AGONIST TO901317 ATTENUATES PARAQUAT-INDUCED ACUTE LUNG INJURY THROUGH INHIBITION OF NF-KB AND JNK/P38 MAPKS SIGNAL PATHWAYS

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Objectives: To investigate the effects and possible underlying mechanisms of TO901317, a potent Liver X receptors(LXRs) receptor ligand, against paraquat(PQ)-induced acute lung injury(ALI) in mice.

Methods: Male C57BL/6J mice were injected with PQ (28 mg/kg, ip). TO901317 (5 or 20 mg/kg, ip) was administered 30 minutes after PQ exposure. Bronchoalveolar lavage fluid (BALF) was collected at 6, 12, 24 and 72 h after PQ exposure for protein concentration and cytokines measurement. Lung tissues were collected at 72 h after PQ exposure to determine the wet-to-dry (W/D) ratios, histopathology changes, antioxidant capacity, cell apoptosis as well as the protein levels of LXR α , LXR β , NF- κ Bp65, I κ B- α , JNK, p38 MAPK, Bax and Bcl-2.

Results: PQ exposure induced ALI characterized by significant tissue damage and edema, neutrophils(PMNs) infiltration and increased production of proinflammatory cytokine, such as tumor necrosis factor- α (TNF- α) and interleukin-1 β (IL-1 β), in the BALF. PQ administration also decreased the antioxidant capacity by reducing superoxide dismutase(SOD), catalase (CAT) and glutathione S-transferases(GSTs) activities, as well as increasing lipid peroxidation damage evaluated by malondialdehyde(MDA) levels. Furthermore, PQ administration induced upregulation of pro-apoptotic gene Bax and downregulation of anti-apoptotic gene Bcl-2, which leads to significantly increased cell apoptosis in the lung tissues. However, TO901317 pretreatment reversed all these parameters via inhibition of PQ-induced NF- κ B and JNK/p38 MAPKs activation.

Conclusion: Our results imply that LXR agonists TO901317 showed potent antioxidant, anti-inflammatory and anti-apoptotic effects against PQ-induced ALI.