

MEETING ABSTRACT

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# Effect of rat common carotid artery occlusion on vascular action of adenosine

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## Background

Adenosine is a purine nucleoside that contributes to regulation of vascular tone in different blood vessels, especially in pathological conditions with ischemia and subsequent hypoxia. Prior studies also suggested that relaxations induced by adenosine could be dependent upon the presence of vascular endothelium and activation of various potassium channels. In regard to the previous facts the aim of this study was to investigate effect of adenosine on isolated rat common carotid artery submitted to occlusion.

## Materials and methods

The current study involved three groups of Wistar rats (220–280 g): non-operated (A), sham-operated (B) and operated animals in which carotid arteries were occluded for 45 minutes (C). Anaesthesia was induced by a single i.p. application of 25% urethane. Carotid arteries were extracted from rats, carefully dissected from surrounding tissue, cut into 4 mm long rings and placed in an organ bath. The endothelium was removed from some rings by gently rubbing the intimal surface with stainless-steel wire. Apart from the pharmacological verification, the presence of endothelial cells was confirmed by histological evaluation on randomly selected preparations. Concentration-response curves for adenosine were obtained in a cumulative fashion on serotonin-precontracted arteries.

## Results

Adenosine (0.01–100  $\mu$ M) produced a concentration-dependent relaxation of carotid artery with similar maximal effects in all three groups (A:  $97.0 \pm 5.8\%$ ; B:  $99.4 \pm 2.3\%$ ;

C:  $102.5 \pm 2.5\%$ ). Endothelial denudation did not affect obtained maximal responses to adenosine in any of investigated clusters (A:  $108.4 \pm 3.8\%$ ; B:  $98.5 \pm 2.0\%$ ; C:  $95.8 \pm 2.8\%$ ). In the presence of high  $K^+$  (100 mM) maximal relaxant responses of carotid artery from non-operated and sham-operated animals were reduced by 70.7% and 81.9%, respectively, whereas after the artery occlusion the control effect produced by adenosine was reduced only by 16.6%.

## Conclusions

Adenosine induced endothelium-independent relaxation of carotid artery irrelevant of artery occlusion. Conversely, it appears that in a pathological setting with ischemia the signal mechanism of potassium channel activation is significantly reduced.

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