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Cardiorenal actions of a novel chimeric natriuretic peptide, CD-NP, as compared to C-type natriuretic peptide, in the normal dog Candace YW Lee*, Guido Boerrigter, Gail J Harty and John C Burnett Jr

Address: Cardiorenal Research Laboratory, Division of Cardiovascular Diseases, Mayo Clinic and Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Rochester, MN, LISA

Email: Candace YW Lee* - lee.candace@mayo.edu

* Corresponding author

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Background

The novel chimeric natriuretic peptide, CD-NP, is a Mayodesigned cGMP-activating synthetic peptide that consists of the 22-amino-acid (AA) residues of C-type natriuretic peptide (CNP) and the 15-AA C-terminal extension of *Dendroaspis* natriuretic peptide (DNP) [1]. The rationale for the design of CD-NP was to transform CNP, which activates natriuretic peptide receptor-B (NPR-B) and is natriuretic, diuretic and less hypotensive than ANP and BNP which activate NPR-A into a CNP-like peptide with added renal actions. The goal of this investigation was to directly compare the cardiorenal profile of CD-NP to that of CNP.

Materials and methods

Normal anesthetized dogs were given CD-NP 50 ng/kg/min i.v. (n = 10) or an equimolar dose of CNP (29.3 ng/kg/min i.v., n = 7) for 75 min. Four 30-min clearances were performed at the following time points: pre-infusion (pre-I), at 30 and 60 min of I, and post-I. Blood and urine samples were collected for each clearance. Glomerular filtration rate was determined by inulin clearance. Comparisons were made within group vs pre-I (mean \pm SEM, P < 0.05^* , $<0.01^{\dagger}$) and between groups (P < 0.05^{\ddagger} , $<0.01^{\S}$, <0.001) using repeated measures ANOVA.

Results

CD-NP significantly increased plasma cGMP (7 \pm .4 to 25 \pm 3[†] to 36 \pm 3[†] to 23 \pm 3[†] pmol/ml) and urinary cGMP excretion (978 \pm 145 to 3170 \pm 205[†] to 5919 \pm 616[†] to

 $3077 \pm 298^{\dagger} \text{ pmol/min}$) versus CNP (7.8 ± .8 to 9.1 ± .3 to $10.1 \pm .6^{\dagger}$ to $8.1 \pm .6$ pmol/ml; 1099 ± 101 to 1193 ± 119 to 1301 ± 142 to 1003 ± 146 pmol/min, respectively). CD-NP significantly increased urinary sodium excretion $(19 \pm 4 \text{ to } 168 \pm 24^{\dagger \S} \text{ to } 237 \pm 26^{\dagger} \text{ to } 96 \pm 12^{\dagger} \mu \text{eq/min})$ versus CNP (39 \pm 14 to 68 \pm 12 to 85 \pm 31 to 81 \pm 29 μ eq/ min). Urine flow (ml/min) was augmented by CD-NP $(0.2 \pm .06 \text{ to } 1.3 \pm .2^{\dagger} \text{ to } 1.8 \pm .3^{\dagger} \text{ to } 0.8 \pm .2^{\dagger})$ and CNP $(0.5 \pm .1 \text{ to } 1.0 \pm .2 \text{ to } 1.3 \pm .3^* \text{ to } 1.0 \pm .3)$. Glomerular filtration rate was enhanced by CD-NP (37 \pm 2* ‡ to 48 \pm 3^{\dagger} to $51 \pm 3^{\dagger}$ to $53 \pm 4^{\dagger}$ ml/min) and was preserved by CNP $(55 \pm 5 \text{ to } 57 \pm 6 \text{ to } 52 \pm 4 \text{ to } 50 \pm 6 \text{ ml/min})$. Pulmonary capillary wedge pressure was significantly reduced by CD-NP $(5.7 \pm .7 \text{ to } 4.1 \pm 1^* \text{ to } 3.2 \pm .7^{\dagger \ddagger} \text{ to } 4.3 \pm .8 \text{ mmHg})$ but not by CNP (5.8 \pm .7 to 5.7 \pm .8 to 6.7 \pm .7 to 7.4 \pm .9[†] mmHg). Right atrial pressure was significantly reduced by CD-NP (1.8 \pm .4 to 1.1 \pm .4 to 0.9 \pm .5 \dagger to 1.3 \pm .5 mmHg), but not by CNP (2.7 \pm .3 to 2.6 \pm .3 to 3.2 \pm .3 to $3.9 \pm .4^{\dagger}$ mmHg). Neither CD-NP nor CNP induced systemic hypotension (mean arterial pressure 127 ± 4 to 124 \pm 5 to 122 \pm 6 to 126 \pm 7 mmHg; 121 \pm 5 to 126 \pm 4 to 127 \pm 5 to 126 \pm 4 mmHg, respectively).

Conclusion

This study demonstrates the successful transformation of CNP to a CNP-like peptide, which is cGMP-activating, natriuretic, diuretic, GFR-enhancing, and cardiac unloading, and has minimal blood pressure lowering effects. This cardiorenal profile of CD-NP is highly attractive as a drug

for the treatment of acute decompensated heart failure, warranting further investigation.

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