

EVALUATION OF ANTIOXIDANT DEFENSE IN PATIENTS WITH COLORECTAL CARCINOMA

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Cancers are among the most feared diseases of modern civilization. In Poland, colorectal cancer is one of the tumors with the worst prognosis. The ability to cure is primarily dependent on the stage of the disease at the time of diagnosis.

The aim of the study was evaluate antioxidant response in patients with colorectal carcinoma.

Material and methods. Twenty patients (14 men and 6 women) aged 61.9 ± 11.1 years with colorectal cancer were included in the study. Twenty healthy subjects (4 men and 16 women) aged 64 ± 15.3 years formed the control group. The erythrocyte activities of antioxidant enzymes, superoxide dismutase (SOD), and glutathione peroxidase (GPx),

Results. A significant increase of GPx, and SOD ($p < 0.05$) were seen in patients compared to healthy controls.

Conclusion. The results indicate that the tested antioxidant enzyme activity of glutathione peroxidase and superoxide dismutase is increased in patients diagnosed with colorectal cancer compared to the control group.

Key words: GPx, SOD, colon cancer

Colorectal cancer is a malignant tumor growing in the colon, appendix and rectum. The large intestine and rectum are the end portions of human digestive system. Are primarily responsible for the absorption of water and formation of stool. In terms of the incidence of cancer, colorectal cancer (CRC) is classified in second place among both women and men. Is the second cause of death in men (after lung cancer) and third (after breast cancer and cervical cancer) in women (1-8). It is now believed that certain types of tumors arise via genetic mechanisms, and others – epigenetic. There are also many conditions that both of these mechanisms interact in a complex process of carcinogenesis. Today, there is no doubt that environmental factors participate in the final “decision” or cells with mutations in the DNA will neoplastic trans-

formation. Growing evidence indicates that one of the factors responsible for the induction of malignant transformation of cells are reactive oxygen species (reactive oxygen species – ROS). Because of their substantial reactivity they constitute a serious threat to the integrity and proper functioning of cells.

Regardless of important biological functions of ROS may also be damaging agents cellular components. Imbalance between ROS generation and antioxidant systems performance lead to oxidative stress. The formation of cancer is a multistep process in which distinguished the initiation phase, promotion, and progression. The results of numerous studies in experimental systems in vitro and in vivo studies indicate that ROS are involved not only during the initiation and promotion of carcinogenesis, but also its progression. Oxidative DNA

modifications caused by ROS may be part of the process of initiating tumor. Evidence of this can be detected elevated levels of modified bases in tumor tissue compared to normal tissue surrounding the tumor.

It is also expected that such changes in DNA are converted into a factor in the change of benign malignant and may lead to an increase in metastatic potential (2, 3). Biological strategy of defense against hydroxyl radical precursors: superoxide anion and hydrogen peroxide based on the fact that both are dismutation reaction, which is their weak point. The simplest measure of defense is thus speeding up the process. For this purpose, living organisms have developed a group of enzymes that catalyze the degradation of superoxide anion and hydrogen peroxide. Here ones include catalase (CAT), superoxide dismutase (ZnCu-SOD), glutathione peroxidase (GSH-Px) and glutathione reductase (3).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Patients

The study involved 20 patients with colorectal cancer including 14 men and 6 women, aged 61.9 ± 11.1 . Control group consisted of healthy individuals without cancer lesions, 16 men and 4 women, aged 64 ± 17.7 . Tests were carried out on the blood of patients hospitalized in the Department of General and Colorectal Surgery, Medical University in Łódź, research material was blood that was collected into vacuum tubes with anticoagulant – heparin lithium in the amount of 4 ml. Experienced were conducted with the consent of bioethics committee No RNN / 693/14 / KB Medical University in Łódź.

Hemoglobin (Hb) (9)

The concentration of hemoglobin (Hb) in the blood hemolysate was determined by Drabkin. This parameter has a maximum absorbance at a wavelength of 540 nm. The color intensity of the resulting compound is proportional to the concentration of hemoglobin. This parameter was necessary to calculate the activity of antioxidant enzymes studied (GPx and SOD).

Determination of the activity of glutathione peroxidase (GPx) in red blood cells (10)

As a substrate for the enzyme used cumene. Control samples were prepared and tested in the centrifuge tube by adding 0.1 ml of 50 fold diluted hemolysate and 0.7 ml of Tris-HCl buffer, pH 7.6. Incubated for 10 minutes in a water bath at 37 ° C. At this time, the control were added 0.1 ml of a solution of reduced glutathione in Tris-HCl buffer, and test sample 0.1 ml of a solution of reduced glutathione and 0.1 ml of 0.05% solution of cumene in Tris-HCl buffer. The tubes were once again placed for 5 minutes in a water bath at 37 ° C. After cooling to room temperature, samples were added 1.0 ml of an aqueous solution of 20% trichloroacetic acid, and the control 0.1 ml of 0.05% solution of cumene in Tris-HCl. The tubes were centrifuged for 10 minutes at 1400xG acceleration. After centrifugation, 1.0 ml of the supernatant containing the reduced glutathione, which has not been used in the reduction reaction of cumene by the active enzyme, was added 2 ml of 0.4 M Tris-HCl buffer pH 10.0 and 0.1 ml of an alcoholic solution of DTNB. Test samples were measured against the control, using a spectrophotometer DU-650 at a wavelength of 412 nm. The enzyme activity was calculated after taking into account the dilution and molar absorbance coefficient expressing it in the U / gHb.

Determination of the activity of superoxide dismutase (SOD ZnCu) in red blood cells (11)

Principle of the method determining the superoxide dismutase is based on the phenomenon of inhibition of the enzyme reaction of auto-oxidation of adrenaline. To measure the activity of CuZn-SOD in the test samples used previously diluted hemolysate prepared twice. To 0.1 ml of the hemolysate was added 0.9 ml of distilled water chilled to + 4 ° C, 0.5 ml of 96% ethanol and 0.25 ml of chloroform. The mixture was shaken for two minutes in a closed tube stopper. The tubes were centrifuged for 10 minutes at 4200xG acceleration at + 4 ° C. Then the control sample is added to 2.9 ml of 0.05 M carbonate buffer, pH 10.2, and 0.1 ml of a solution of adrenaline in 0.01 N HCl at pH 2.0.

Assay test contained 2.8 ml of 0.05 M carbonate buffer, pH 10 ml, 2, 0.1 ml of the su-

