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・異常行動モデルとしての薬物誘発ジャンピング行動に対するタミフルの影響 とその防御法に関する研究

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## Effect of a neuraminidase inhibitor (oseltamivir) on mouse jump-down behavior via stimulation of dopamine receptors

Minoru Suzuki<sup>1</sup> and Yutaka Masuda<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Neuropsychiatry, <sup>2</sup> Psychosomatic Division, Akita University School of Medicine, Akita 010-8543, Japan (Received 7 July 2008; and accepted 31 July 2008)

#### ABSTRACT

Oseltamivir (Tamiflu<sup>®</sup>, Roche Laboratories, Inc.) is a neuraminidase inhibitor that can cause jump-down behaviors in children. There is a mouse slip-down model, in which the dopamine D2 receptor activity is increased by serum sialoglycolipids and the mouse jump-down behavior appears in response to the dopamine D2 receptor agonist, PPHT. The present study examined the effect of oseltamivir on jump-down behavior in mice. Oseltamivir sialylates a serum glycolipid and this modified glycolipid induces jump-down behavior via the stimulation of dopamine D2 receptors. This mechanism may be involved in the abnormal behavior of children taking oseltamivir.

Oseltamivir (Tamiflu<sup>®</sup>, Roche Laboratories, Inc.) is an antiviral drug used to treat influenza. It can reduce the duration and severity of the illness if administered within 48 hours after the onset of symptoms (4, 13, 19). Recently, fatal accidents due to abnormal behaviors such as jumping from high places after taking oseltamivir have been reported in juvenile patients in Japan (7, 18, 20). These abnormal behaviors usually occur after the initial administration of oseltamivir (8). In March 2007, the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare announced a ban on the use of oseltamivir in patients from 10–19 years of age (12). However, little is known about either the contribution of this drug to these behaviors or the mechanism involved.

Sialic acids exist mostly in the terminal positions of biomolecules (such as glycoproteins, glycolipids and gangliosides) and cell membranes and are involved in a wide variety of physiological processes, including immune functions (24, 26). Neuraminidases are called sialidases because they hydrolyze the terminal sialic acid linkage in these biomolecules and variations in human sialidase activity have been

implicated in serious diseases and symptoms including neuropsychiatric problems (1, 2, 25). Oseltamivir is a representative neuraminidase inhibitor.

Slip-down behavior in mice is induced by a comparatively low-dose of the dopamine D2 receptor agonist, PPHT (17), and that the representative dopamine D2 receptor agonists morphine and quinpirole induce jump-down behavior in mice (6, 10). In addition, we noticed that mouse jump-down behavior appeared by increased doses of PPHT during previous experiment. An increase in dopamine D2 receptor activity is closely associated with sialylation of a serum glycolipid (15). Oseltamivir might influence the dopamine D2 receptor activity through sialoglycolipids and oseltamivir might be connected to the manifestation of the jump-down behavior. An animal model is useful for understanding these behavioral phenomena. Therefore, the jump-down behavior in mice could be a model for the jump-down behavior in human children taking oseltamivir.

The present study investigated the effect of oseltamivir on jump-down behavior in mice, a serum glycolipid associated with this behavior and changes in glycosylation of this glycolipid in response to oseltamivir.

Address correspondence to: Minoru Suzuki M.D., Department of Neuropsychiatry, Akita University School of Medicine, 1-1-1 Hondo, Akita 010-8543, Japan Tel: +81-18-834-1111, Fax: +81-18-884-6445

E-mail: suzukimi@kyusei.or.jp

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS

Animals. Eight-week-old male ddY mice that weighed 25–30 g were purchased from Japan SLC (Shizuoka, Japan). A group of 5 mice were housed in a plastic cage (338 × 140 × 225 mm) with free access to food (ED-7; Clea Japan, Tokyo, Japan) and water. The animal room was kept at 21–25°C with 50–60% humidity and was illuminated from 7:00 to 19:00. All experiments were carried out according to the guidelines of the Ethics Committee for Animal Experiments of the Akita University School of Medicine.

Dosage of PPHT inducing mouse jump-down behavior. The dopamine D2 receptor agonist 2-(N-phenylethyl-N-propyl) amino-5-hydroxytetralin hydrochloride (PPHT; Funakoshi, Tokyo, Japan) was dissolved in water. The observation of mouse jumpdown behavior is the same as procedure of observation of mouse slip-down behavior which we previously reported (17). This method was established for the detection of neuronal D2 dopamine receptor activity. In brief, a raised platform measuring 10 cm in diameter and 20 cm high was prepared. One group of five mice in a cage was intraperitoneally injected with 200, 150, 100, or 50 µg/kg of PPHT, or 100 µL of physiological saline (PS) as a control. Twenty minutes after the injection, the mice were placed individually on the platform for 5 min and thereafter both slip-down behavior and jumpdown behavior were investigated.

Effect of oseltamivir on jump-down behavior. From results of the above experiment, 50 ug/kg of PPHT was determined to be a suboptimal dose of mouse jump-down behavior. Other naïve mice groups were prepared. Two trials separated by a 20-min interval were observed to confirm that all of the mice remained on the platform for 5 min without jumpingdown and slipping-down before the administration of drugs. Then the mice were injected intraperitoneally with oseltamivir solution or with PS as a control (5 mice each). Oseltamivir was dissolved in water and 25 mg/kg, 50 mg/kg, or 100 mg/kg was injected intraperitoneally in mice (5 mice each). Two hours after injection with oseltamivir solution or with PS, each mouse was placed individually on the platform and jump-down behavior was examined for 5 min. These mice were also injected intraperitoneally with PPHT at the suboptimal dose of 50 µg/ kg. Twenty minutes after injection with PPHT of -50 µg/kg, jump-down behavior was again examined

for 5 min.

Isolation of the glycolipid fraction from sera. The effect of oseltamivir was thought to be related to serum glycolipid. Oseltamivir solution (100 mg/kg) was injected intraperitoneally in 5 groups of mice and PS (100 µL) was injected into another 5 groups. Sera were collected 2 h after this treatment. Glycolipids were separated from the sera by the methanolchloroform method, as reported previously (16). In brief, I mL of sera was added to 2.5 mL methanol and 1.25 mL chloroform. The fluid was agitated for 2 min and left at room temperature (RT) for 10 min. Then another 1.25 mL chloroform was added and the mixture was agitated for 30 s. After addition of 1.25 mL water and agitation for another 30 s, the mixture was centrifuged at  $150 \times g$  for 5 min at RT, thus resulting in an upper methanol-water layer containing proteins and a lower chloroform layer containing lipids and glycolipids. The lower layer was collected and evaporated and the lipids and glycolipids were redissolved in 2 mL water. The solution was applied to an ion-exchange DE-52 column (Whatman International, Maidstone, UK) saturated with 10 mM NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, pH 8.3 and eluted with 50, 100, 150, 200, 250 and 300 mM NaCl in stages. The eluted fractions were refined to less than 3 kDa with the use of an ultrafiltration membrane (Centricon; Amicon, Tokyo, Japan). Two hundred microliters of each fraction was injected intraperitoneally into the naïve group of 5 mice and then the mice were additionally injected with 50 µg/kg PPHT 20 min after the fraction injection. The effect on neural D2 receptor activity was investigated by the jump-down method.

Detection of the sugar chain structures of effective glycolipids. To detect the sugar chain structures of the glycolipids, a 50% ethanol lectin-enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (lectin-ELISA) was performed, as reported previously (16). In brief, 50 µL of the lipid fraction eluted with 250 mM NaCl in the serum of 5 mice treated with 100 mg/kg oseltamivir or 5 mice treated with PS was mixed with 50 µL ethanol and poured into one well of a 96-well plate (Sumitomo Bakelite, Tokyo, Japan). After 2 h, the well was washed three times with a washing solution (PS containing 0.005% Tween 20; Seikagaku Co., Tokyo, Japan). After a 30-min block with 5% bovine serum albumin (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO), the well was washed again three times with the same washing solution. Five different biotinylated lectins that recognize specific sugar

chain structures (ABA, Galβ<sub>1-3</sub>GalNAc; DBA, GalNAcα<sub>1-3</sub>GalNAc; SSA, Sialα<sub>2-6</sub>Gal; AAL, Fucα<sub>1-2</sub>Gal; MAM, Sialα<sub>2-3</sub>Gal) were prepared at 2 μg/mL in PS and 100 μL of the mixture was added to the well. After 1 h incubation at RT, the well was washed three times with the washing solution. One hundred microliters of peroxidase-conjugated avidin (Seikagaku Co.) prepared at 0.1 μg/mL in PS was then added to the well. After 15-min incubation at RT, the well was washed four times with PS. Development of the color reaction was performed with a developing kit (Sumitomo Bakelite) and absorbance was measured at 455 nm and 650 nm.

Confirmation of the glycolipid effect. The glycolipid fraction eluted with 250 mM NaCl from the sera of mice treated with PS or the sera of mice treated with 100 mg/kg oseltamivir was applied to a Macckia amurensis agglutinin (MAM) affinity column (Seikagaku Co.). MAM is the specific lectin for Sialo Gal and this affinity column was used to refine the glycolipid that has Sialoz. Gal in the sugar chain terminal. Fractions eluted with 6 M urea were desalted over a CD-50 desalting column (Pharmacia, Uppsala, Sweden) and freeze-dried. Glycolipids were redissolved in water to a concentration of 10 µg/mL. A concentration of 25, 50, or 100 µg/kg of glycolipid solution was injected intraperitoneally into mice (5 each) and the effect on jump-down behavior was investigated after treatment with the suboptimal dose of PPHT.

Statistical analysis. The Kruskal-Wallis rank test

was used to determine significant differences among groups. The Mann-Whitney U test was used for further analysis. P < 0.01 was considered to be statistically significant.

#### RESULTS

Suboptimal dose of the dopamine D2 receptor agonist PPHT

A concentration of 100 μg/kg of PPHT induced slipdown behavior, but 50 μg/kg did not. On the other hand, concentrations of 200 and 150 μg/kg induced jump-down behavior, but 100 and 50 μg/kg did not (Table 1).

Effect of oseltamivir on jump-down behavior

To determine whether oseltamivir induces jump-down behavior in mice, the behavior of the mice 2 h were examined after the injection of various concentrations of oseltamivir or PS and then at 20 min after the injection of 50 µg/kg PPHT. Mice treated with oseltamivir or PS showed no jump-down behavior, but after being treated with D2 receptor agonist, the mice treated with 50 or 100 mg/kg oseltamivir showed jump-down behavior (Table 2). The number of mice exhibiting jump-down behavior increased dose-dependently.

Effects of serum glycolipid fractions on jump-down behavior

To determine whether glycolipid fractions from 100 mg/kg oseltamivir-treated mice induce jump-down behavior, the mice were injected intraperitone-

Table 1 Jump-down or slip-down behavior induced by the dopamine D2 receptor agonist PPHT

	Dose of PPHT (µg/kg)			PS	
· ·	 200	150	100	50	(control)
Jump-down behavior	 5	. 5 .	0.	0	0
Slip-down behavior	. 0	0	_ 5	0	0

Values in this table indicate the number of mice that showed jump-down or slip-down behavior among the 5 treated mice. PPHT: 2-(N-phenylethyl-N-propyl) amino-5-hydroxytetralin hydrochloride. PS: physiologic saline.

Table 2 Number of mice exhibiting jump-down behavior

		Dose of oseltamivir solution (mg/kg)		
100	50	25	(control)	
2 h after oseltamivir injection 0	0	0	0	
20 min after further D2 receptor agonist injection 5*	2*	0	0	

Values in this table indicate the number of mice that showed jump-down behavior among the 5 treated mice. The D2 receptor agonist was used at 50  $\mu$ g/kg. In the lower data, a statistically significant difference was found (k = 3,  $n_1 = n_2 = n_3 = 5$ , n = 15, H = 12.5, P < 0.009; Kruskai-Wallis rank test). \*P < 0.01 vs. control (Mann-Whitney U test). PS: physiologic saline.

ally with serum glycolipid fractions eluted with various concentrations of NaCl and evaluated their behavior. The glycolipid fraction from 100 mg/kg oseltamivir-treated mice eluted with 250 mM NaCl induced jump-down behavior (Table 3). None of the other fractions from 100 mg/kg oseltamivir- or PS-treated mice induced this behavior.

Sugar chain reactivities of glycolipid eluted with 250 mM NaCl

To identify the sugar chain structures of the effective glycolipid eluted with 250 mM NaCl, the reactivity of five kinds of sugar chain structures were investigated using by the 50% ethanol lectin-ELISA method. The sugar chain structures  $Gal\beta_{1-3}GalNAc$ ,  $GalNAc\alpha_{1-3}GalNAc$ ,  $Sial\alpha_{2-6}Gal$  and  $Sial\alpha_{2-3}Gal$  were found in the glycolipid fractions of mice treated with 100 mg/kg oseltamivir or PS (Table 4). No  $Fuc\alpha_{1-2}GalNac$ ,  $GalNac\alpha_{1-3}GalNac$  and  $Sial\alpha_{2-6}Gal$  reactivity was similar in both groups, but the  $Sial\alpha_{2-3}Gal$  reactivity was greater in the mice treated with 100 mg/kg oseltamivir than in the mice treated with PS.

Confirmation of the glycolipid effect

To confirm the glycolipid effect, three concentrations of the glycolipid fraction or PS were each injected intraperitoneally into 5 mice and the effects on jump-down behavior were investigated. After refinement with a MAM column, the glycolipid from mice treated with oseltamivir dose-dependently induced jump-down behavior after treatment with 50 µg/kg PPHT. The glycolipid from mice treated with PS did not induce this behavior, even at the dose of 100 µg/kg and after treatment with 50 µg/kg PPHT (Table 5).

#### DISCUSSION

Oseltamivir is a sialic acid analogue that inhibits influenza type A and type B neuraminidase, the viral enzyme that allows the release of virus from infected cells. In addition, oseltamivir is an ester prodrug activated by hepatic carboxylesterases. It is thought that the sudden onset of reactions such as abnormal behaviors and sudden death during sleep are caused by the prodrug of oseltamivir, oseltamivir phosphate. On the other hand, adverse reactions such as

Table 3. Jump-down behavior in mice treated with glycolipids isolated from sera

			Serun	ı giye	olipids fr	om -	
Injected fraction		ction	mice treated with PS		mice treated with 100 mg/kg oseltamivir		
Eluted with	50	mM NaCl	Ō			. 0	
	100		0		• •	'n	
. 1	i 50		0			0	
. 2	200		0	٠		. 0	
	250	•	0	•		. 5	•
	300	•	0	•	•	0	• •

Values in this table indicate the number of mice that showed jump-down behavior among the 5 injected mice. All mice were also treated with 50 µg/kg dopamine D2 receptor agonist PPHT 20 min after the fraction injection. PS: physiologic saline.

Table 4 Sugar chain reactivities of the serum glycolipids eluted with 250 mM NaCl

-		,	
	mice treated with PS	mice treated with 100 mg/kg oseltamivir	PS (negative control)
Galβ <sub>t-3</sub> GalNAc	0.126	0.127	0.036
GalNAca <sub>1-3</sub> GalNAc	0.116	0.118	0.050
Sialα₂_6Gal	0.091	. 0.088	0.045
Siala <sub>2-3</sub> Gal	0.086	0.153	0.043
Fucα <sub>1-2</sub> Gal	0.037	0.035	0.036

Values indicate absorbance at dual wavelengths of 455 nm and 650 nm.

Serum glycolipid was obtained from the 5 mice treated with PS or the 5 mice treated with 100 mg/kg oseltamivir. PS: physiologic saline.

Table 5 Mice jumping-down after treatment with refined glycolipid

Glycolipid dose (µg/kg)	Glycolipid from			
	mice treated with PS	mice treated with 100 mg/kg oseltamivir		
100	0.	5*		
50 ·	0	3		
25	. 0	. 0		
PS (control)		0		

Values in this table indicate the number of mice that showed jump-down behavior among 5 treated mice. All mice were treated with 50  $\mu$ g/kg D2 receptor agonist. In the right column data, statistical differences were analyzed by the Kruskal-Wallis rank test (k = 3,  $n_1 = n_2 = n_3 = 5$ , n = 15, H = 12.5, P < 0.009).

pneumonia, sepsis, hyperglycemia and gastrointestinal bleeding are thought to be delayed reactions induced by oseltamivir and the active metabolite of oseltamivir, oseltamivir carboxylate (OC), is thought to be the cause of delayed reactions (9). Recently, OC has been described to have an inhibitory action on human cytosolic sialidase. It was hypothesized that this effect might be a mechanism by which oseltamivir induces adverse neuropsychiatric reactions (14). Since OC inhibits the human cytosolic sialidase and it can also damage the cell functions in various human tissues, this may explain the delayed reactions induced by oseltamivir. However, abnormal behaviors occur after the initial administration of oseltamivir (8), therefore, it is supposed that the mechanism of such abnormal behavior might be different from the hypothesis (9).

There were two novel findings in the present study: 1) oseltamivir induced jump-down behavior in mice in association with stimulated neuronal D2 receptor activity and 2) this effect of oseltamivir was associated with the Sialα2-3Gal form of sialylation of serum glycolipid. Neither oseltamivir nor its carboxylic acid metabolite, GS4071, influence the re-uptake/release of three monoamines (dopamine, serotonin and norepinephrine) or GTP binding in postsynapses (23). However, another investigation using rats indicates the possibility that oseltamivir has effects on the central nervous system, especially when combined with other agents (11). Serum glycolipid would be expected to be sialylated following oseltamivir treatment; however, the mechanism of sialylation with the Siala<sub>2-3</sub>Gal form is not clear. Lipids can pass through the bloodbrain barrier and dopaminergic neurons possess glycoside receptors (21). Serum glycolipid regulates the dopaminergic neuron activity, while sialylation enhances the effect of increased D2 receptor activity

by agonists. A previous study reported that oseltamivir enhances the effect of ganglioside on opioid receptors (5).

Hyperthermia excites the hypothalamus, which decreases the plasma sialic acid level (3). Decreased sialylation of serum glycolipids regulates dopaminergic neuron activity relating to hyperthermia. With regard to the jump-down behavior of children taking oseltamivir, oseltamivir may block glycolipid desialylation and neuronal D2 receptor activity in children infected with influenza may be increased. Slip-down behavior in mice is caused by dopaminergic hyperactivity to escape from an uneasy situation (15). Jump-down behavior in mice is also caused by dopaminergic hyperactivity and could also indicate behavior to escape from an uneasy situation. This is a basic adaptative behavior in animals and experience refines the behavior. Some children may not be able to handle this type of hyperactive D2 activity.

The results of the present study shed light on the mechanism underlying abnormal behaviors of some children in response to oseltamivir. It would be useful to examine the oseltamivir-induced jump-down behavior in influenza-infected mice. Human studies such as a sugar-chain analysis of blood phospholipids of patients who take oseltamivir are also needed.

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<sup>\*</sup>P < 0.01 vs. control (Mann-Whitney U test). PS: physiologic saline.

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### **Short Communication**

# Activation of the Antiviral Prodrug Oseltamivir Is Impaired by Two Newly Identified Carboxylesterase 1 Variants

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#### ABSTRACT:

Oseltamivir phosphate is an ethyl ester prodrug widely used in the treatment and prevention of both Influenzavirus A and B infections. The conversion of oseltamivir to its active metabolite oseltamivir carboxylate is dependent on ester hydrolysis mediated by carboxylesterase 1 (CES1). We recently identified two functional CES1 variants p.Gly143Glu and p.Asp260fs in a research subject who displayed significant impairment in his ability to metabolize the selective CES1 substrate, methylphenidate. In vitro functional studies demonstrated that the presence of either of the two mutations can result in severe reductions in the catalytic efficiency of CES1 toward methylphenidate, which is required for hydrolysis and pharmacological deactivation. The aim of the present study was to investigate the function of these mutations on activating (hydrolyzing) oseltamivir to oseltamivir carboxylate using the cell lines

expressing wild type (WT) and each mutant CES1. In vitro incubation studies demonstrated that the S9 fractions prepared from the cells transfected with WT CES1 and human liver tissues rapidly convert oseltamivir to oseltamivir carboxylate. However, the catalytic activity of the mutant hydrolases was dramatically hindered. The  $V_{\rm max}$  value of p.Gly143Glu was approximately 25% of that of WT enzyme, whereas the catalytic activity of p.Asp260fs was negligible. These results suggest that the therapeutic efficacy of oseltamivir could be compromised in treated patients expressing either functional CES1 mutation. Furthermore, the potential for increased adverse effects or toxicity as a result of exposure to high concentrations of the nonhydrolyzed prodrug should be considered.

Oseltamivir phosphate (Tamiflu; Roche, Nutley, NJ) is widely used in the treatment and prophylaxis of both Influenzavirus A and B infections. In addition, oseltamivir may be effective in preventing or treating avian influenza or so-called "bird flu." Oseltamivir is an ester prodrug and, in general, it is readily converted to its active form oseltamivir carboxylate mediated by hepatic carboxylesterase 1 (CES1) (Fig. 1) (Shi et al., 2006). The active metabolite exerts its antiviral effects via the selective inhibition of neuraminidase.

Carboxylesterases are members of the  $\alpha\beta$  hydrolase -fold family and expressed in many tissues, especially in the liver, small intestine. and lung (Satoh and Hosokawa, 2006; Ross and Crow, 2007). The major human carboxylesterases include CES1 (UniProtKB/Swiss-Prot P23141) and carboxylesterase 2 (CES2) (UniProtKB/Swiss-Prot O00748). CES1 and CES2 are largely distinguished from one another by their substrate specificity and tissue distribution (Imai et al., 2006; Satoh and Hosokawa, 2006). CES1 more readily catalyzes substrates with a relatively large acyl group and small alcohol group such as methylphenidate, temocapril, and oseltamivir (Sun et al., 2004; Imai et al., 2005; Shi et al., 2006). In contrast, CES2 preferentially hydrolyzes compounds bearing a small acyl moiety and bulky alcohol group, which includes agents such as cocaine and irinotecan. CES1 predominates in the human liver, whereas CES2 is the major carboxylesterase expressed in the intestine (Imai et al., 2006). Hepatic CES1 is the major esterase governing the metabolism of numerous and

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structurally diverse therapeutic agents formulated as carboxylic acid esters, carbamates, thioesters, and amide compounds including those prodrugs formulated as esters. In addition, a number of endogenous substrates are recognized.

In a recent study, we identified two CES1 mutations, p.Gly143Glu and p.Asp260fs (Zhu et al., 2008), in a subject who displayed profound alteration of the pharmacokinetics of racemic (dl)-methylphenidate (Ritalin; Novartis Pharmaceuticals, Summit, NJ), a selective CES1 substrate, during a single-dose pharmacokinetic study (Patrick et al., 2007). The minor allele frequency of p.Gly143Glu was estimated to be 3.7, 4.3, 2.0, and 0% in white, black, Hispanic, and Asian populations, respectively, by a genotyping study that contains a total of 925 subjects with varied racial and ethnic backgrounds. It was concluded that the p.Asp260fs variant was extremely rare because none of the 925 screened subjects carried this mutation. The functional consequences of both mutations were investigated using cell lines stably expressing each individual mutant. The in vitro incubation study demonstrated that the catalytic function of both p.Gly143Glu and p.Asp260fs is impaired to such a significant degree that CES1mediated methylphenidate hydrolysis was essentially nil using these two CES1 mutants, whereas wild-type (WT) CES1 readily cleaved the ester (Zhu et al., 2008).

Even though the two newly discovered CES1 mutations were determined to be dysfunctional enzymes in terms of hydrolyzing methylphenidate to its inactive metabolite ritalinic acid, the influence of these CES1 variants on prodrug activation has not been examined to date. Oseltamivir (a drug in wide therapeutic use) has recently been shown to be a selective

ABBREVIATIONS: CES1, carboxylesterase 1; CES2, carboxylesterase 2; WT, wild type; PNPA, p-nitrophenyl acetate; PNP, p-nitrophenol; HPLC, high-performance liquid chromatography.