



ELSEVIER

International Congress Series xx (2003) xxx–xxx



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Seeking for ageing-associated gene expression in cerebral tissue of senescence-accelerated mouse (SAM)

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Received 11 June 2003; received in revised form 19 June 2003; accepted 10 September 2003

Abstract. In this study, the ageing-specific expression genes of the murine cerebrum were investigated by employing differential-display reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (DDRT-PCR) in three senescence-accelerated mouse (SAM) strains: SAMP8/Ta, SAMP10/Ta and SAMR1TA. In the comparison of gene expression profile in different strain mice, 16 differential fragments have been detected, 3, 6 and 7 of them belong to SAMP10/Ta, SAMP8/Ta and SAMR1TA, respectively. Sequencing data indicated that those fragments are homologous with heat shock protein cognate protein 70, ATP-dependent mitochondrial RNA helicase, Dleu2 mRNA, Mouse DNA sequence from clone RP23-334C3 on chromosome X, ubiquinol-cytochrome *c* reductase complex (7.2 kDa), 60S ribosomal protein L21, FIS, phenylalkylamine Ca²⁺ antagonist (emopamil) binding protein, fucosyltransferase 9, glial cell line derived neurotrophic factor family receptor alpha 1, endonuclease/reverse transcriptase, PER1 interacting protein of the suprachiasmatic nucleus homolog, centrosomal protein CG-NAP, ferritin heavy chain gene, NID-2 gene, and prkdc gene for DNA-dependent protein kinase catalytic subunit. © 2003 Published by Elsevier B.V.

Keywords: Senescence-accelerated mouse; Ageing-associated gene expression; DDRT-PCR; Cerebral tissue

Senescence-accelerated mouse (SAM), which has been established as a murine model of the SAM strain, is actually a group of related inbred strains including nine strains of accelerated senescence-prone, short-lived mice (SAMP), and three strains of accelerated senescence-resistant, long-lived mice (SAMR) [1,2]. SAMP-strain mice show relatively strain-specific ageing-associated phenotypic pathologies such as a shortened life span and early manifestation of senescence. In this study, three strain mice were applied to seek for ageing-associated expression genes: SAMP8/Ta strain mice have short life span and ageing-related deficits in learning and cognitive abilities, emotional disorder, abnormal

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circadian rhythms and impaired immune response [3]. SAMP10/Ta strain mice have short life span and ageing-related deficits in learning and memory, emotional disorder and abnormal circadian rhythms. SAMR1TA strain mice have normal life span and no ageing-related disorders as control.

The model animal SAM exhibiting senescence-accelerated phenotype indicates that senescence is, at least to some extent, controlled genetically. To date, SAM mouse had been widely used in researching ageing-associated diseases. However, few are involved in that what cause SAMP mouse shortened life span on molecular level [4–6].

1. Materials and methods

1.1. Materials

Animals and Feed Condition: senescence-accelerated mice (SAM): SAMR1TA, SAMP8/Ta, SAMP10/Ta were bought from Kyoto University, Japan. The mice were housed in the experimental animal center of our Institute under the same condition in a clean facility on a 12-h light/dark cycle, and were given a standard commercial pellet diet and tap water ad libitum. The standard commercial pellet diet used in this experimental animal is the commercial forage for propagation mice and was bought from the feed-processing plant of the experimental animal center, the academy of military medicine sciences.

Primers are synthesized by SBS, Beijing. Primer sequences are as follow:

A1: 5' -ACAGA GCACA; APG: 5' -AAGCT TTTT TTTT TG; APC: 5' -AAGCT TTTT TTTT TC; APA: 5' -AAGCT TTTT TTTT TA.

1.2. Methods

1.2.1. Total RNA isolation

The male mice used for the experiment were decapitated, and the cerebral tissues were taken out. Cut out about 30-mg cerebral tissue of each mouse, then according to the RNeasy mini-Kit protocol, total RNA was isolated. The total RNA samples are treated with RQ1 RNase-Free DNase and stored at -20°C before use.

1.2.2. Reverse transcription of the RNA and PRC amplification

Three PCR tubes were used for each sample. In each tube, the reagents were added as follows: 2 μl of total RNA (1 μg), 2 μl of $10\times$ RT buffer, 1.6 μl of 2.5 mM dNTPs, 2 μl of 3' Primer, 0.5 μl of RNasin Ribonuclease Inhibitor (40 iu/ μl), add double-distilled water to 19 μl . 65 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 5 min, 42 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 10 min, then in each tube add 1 μl of M-MuLV Reverse Transcriptase (200 iu); 37 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 50 min, 75 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 5 min. The RT products were amplified with PCR system.

1.2.3. Identification and collection of DD bands

The PCR products above were used for 6% Urea denature polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis and the electrophored gel was exposed to double X-ray films for 72 h at -20°C . The differential display bands (DD bands) were located on the film and then cut out the interesting DD bands from the gel and put each band into a 1.5-ml tube. The DD fragment was extracted from its correspondence gel.

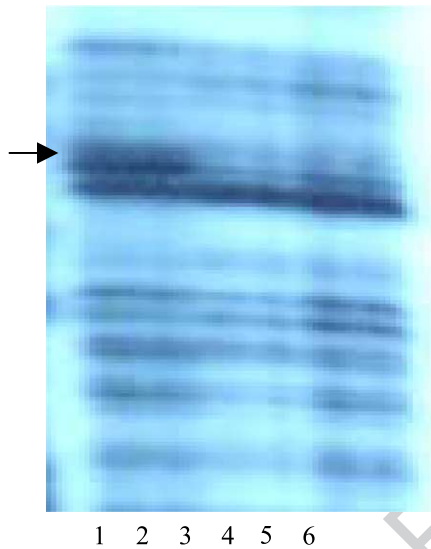


Fig. 1. Comparison of gene expressions among differential age SAMP8/Ta using DDRT-PCR. The arrow points the differential display band. The numbers below the figure represent as follow: 1, 2 samples come from 11-month SAMP8/Ta; 3, 4 samples come from 4-month SAMP8/Ta; 5, 6 samples come from 2-month SAMP8/ Ta.

1.2.4. Ligation and transformation of the purified products

Ligate the purified products into pGEM-T Easy Vector according to the protocol of the manual. Then the ligated products are transformed into *Escherichia coli* DH.5 α competent

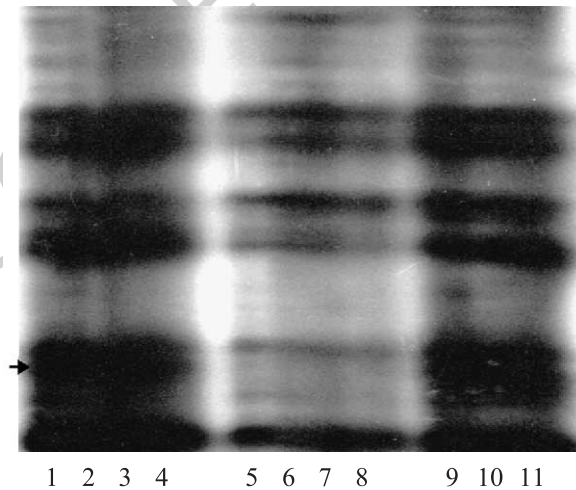


Fig. 2. Comparison of gene expression among differential strains SAM mouse. The arrow points the differential gene expression band. The numbers below the figure represent as follow: 1, 2, 3, 4 samples come from SAMP10/ Ta and aged 18, 12, 4, and 2 month, respectively; 5, 6, 7, 8 samples come from SAMR1TA and aged 18, 11.5, 4, and 2 month, respectively; 9, 10, 11 samples come from SAMP8/Ta and aged 11, 4, 2 month, respectively.

t1.1 Table 1

t1.2 Features of sequenced clone and results of BLAST search

t1.3	Clone	Size (bp) ^a	DNA homology (BLAST)	Accession no.	Identity (%)	Overlap
t1.4	1 ^b	120	<i>Mus musculus</i> heat shock cognate protein 70	BC006722.1	99	104
t1.5	2	132	<i>Mus musculus</i> similar to suppressor of var1, 3-like 1	AK031911.1	94	142
t1.6	<i>S. cerevisiae</i> [<i>Homo sapiens</i>]					
t1.7	Mouse DNA sequence from clone RP23-334C3 on chromosome					
t1.8	3	166	<i>Mus musculus</i> Dleu2 mRNA	XAL672057.8	100	132
t1.9	4	181	<i>Mus musculus</i> similar to ubiquinol-cytochrome <i>c</i> reductase complex (7.2 kDa)	AF380423	98	191
t1.10	7	256	<i>Mus musculus</i> similar to <i>Mus musculus</i> similar to 60S ribosomal protein L21	BC024518.1	99	263
t1.11	12	227	<i>Mus musculus</i> similar to FIS	XM_193408.1	99	235
t1.12	13	198	<i>Mus musculus</i> similar to FIS	AK003875.1	100	206
t1.13	14	198	<i>Mus musculus</i> similar to FIS	AK003875.1	100	206
t1.14	16	135	<i>Mus musculus</i> phenylalkyl-amine Ca ²⁺ antagonist (emopamil) binding protein	BC004703.1	100	143
t1.15	19	132	<i>Mus musculus</i> fucosyl-transferase 9	AK047650.1	94	136
t1.16	20	103	<i>Mus musculus</i> , similar to glial cell line derived neurotrophic factor family receptor alpha 1	BC040251.1	100	73
t1.17	24	255	<i>Mus musculus</i> , similar to ubiquinol-cytochrome <i>c</i> reductase complex (7.2 kDa)	BC024518.1	100	263
t1.18	25	112	<i>Mus musculus</i> , similar to endonuclease/reverse transcriptase	XM_207118.2	94	121
t1.19	27	111	<i>Mus musculus</i> , PER1 interacting protein of the Suprachiasmatic nucleus Homolog [<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>]	AK050919.1	97	122
t1.20	29	108	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i> centrosomal protein CG-NAP	AB071391.1	91	116
t1.21	32	98	<i>Mus musculus</i> similar to 60S ribosomal protein L21	XM_122501.1	100	105
t1.22	33	98	<i>Mus musculus</i> similar to 60S ribosomal protein L21	XM_122501.1	99	105
t1.23	36	177	Mouse ferritin heavy chain gene	M60170.1	100	184
t1.24	40	184	<i>Mus musculus</i> partial NID-2 gene	MMU428512	99	195
t1.25	41	145	<i>Mus musculus</i> prkdc gene for DNA-dependent protein kinase catalytic subunit	AB030754.1	93	48

t1.26 ^a The size does not include the primer sequences.

^b The background of these fragments is as follow: Fragments come from differential age cerebral tissue in single strain. Clone 1, 12 month of SAMP10/Ta, clone 2, 11 month of SAMP8/Ta, clone 3, 2 month of SAMP8/Ta, clone 4, 4 month of SAMP10/Ta. Fragments come from differential strains of their cerebral tissue. Clone 7, SAMR1TA, clone 12, SAMP10/Ta, clone 13, SAMR1TA, clone 14, SAMP8/Ta, clone 16, SAMR1TA, clone 19, SAMP8/Ta, clone 20, SAMP10/Ta, clone 24, SAMP8/Ta, clone 25, SAMP10/Ta, clone 27, SAMP8/Ta, clone 29, SAMP8/Ta, clone 32, SAMR1TA, clone 33, SAMP8/Ta, clone 36, SAMR1TA, clone 40, SAMR1TA, and clone

t1.27 41, SAMR1TA.

cell, cultured in SOC medium at 37 °C overnight. The overnight-cultured products are used to purified plasmid DNA with UltraPure™ plasmid DNA mini-purification kit according to the manual protocol. The purified products are identified by PCR with the same primers of the insert fragments, and electrophored on 1.2% agarose gel.

1.2.5. DNA sequencing and its analysis

The DNA sequencing of differential fragment is finished by Sangon and Bioasia, and the data are compared in GenBank.

2. Results

Using DDRT-PCR method, the cerebral gene expressions at differential age were compared in the same strains of the SAMP8/Ta (age: 2, 3.5, 11 months), SAMP10/Ta (age: 2, 4, 12, 18.5 months) and SAMR1TA (age: 2, 4, 12, 18 months). Four differential bands had been found, which belong to 12 months of SAMP10/Ta (1), 11 months of SAMP8/Ta (2), 2 months of SAMP8/Ta (3), and 4 months of SAMP10/Ta (4). In addition, the differential strain mouse cerebral gene expressions were compared in the three strains. Forty-two differential bands had been located. A part of the result of the DDRT-PCR is shown in [Figs. 1](#) and [2](#).

Of these differential bands, 20 had been reamplified and sequenced. The sequenced results had been analyzed on homology by using BLAST program to search NCBI-nr. The results are shown in [Table 1](#).

3. Discussion

The investigation reported here demonstrated that employing DDRT-PCR to insight the differential gene expression of cerebral tissue among differential strains and vary age SAM mice can provide valuable data. Using the DDRT-PCR, we had found out 4 fragments that are ageing-associated expression. And 16 fragments that are strain-specific expression. The 4 ageing-associated expression fragments are homologous with heat shock protein cognate protein 70, ATP-dependent mitochondria RNA helicase, Dleu2 mRNA, and Mouse DNA sequence from clone RP23-334C3 on chromosome X, respectively.

4. Conclusion

In this investigation, the DDRT-PCR was used to compare the differential gene expression among differential age SAM mouse and between train of SAMP8/Ta, SAMP10/Ta and SAMR1TA. Twenty cDNA fragments were cloned which involved 15 known genes and 1 novel gene, most of the fragments reported are age-associated. The data obtained in these studies indicate that genes control the senile and accelerated senescence phenotypic pathologies in SAM mouse.

Acknowledgements

This project was supported by State Basic Research Developmental Program (No. G2000016107), and partly supported by Beijing Lingtai Bicheng Medical Technology.

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