Hyperglycemia and ischaemic stroke

Elevated blood glucose in the hyper-acute phase after onset:

- Occurs in over a third of stroke patients
- Associated with large infarct size, poor functional outcome and higher risk of mortality

Question:

- What are the mechanisms of harm?



Rodent Models of Focal Cerebral Ischaemia



Hyperglycemia exacerbates ischaemic brain damage in rats



Is the increase tissue damage due to more severe reductions in CBF?

Hyperglycemia does not influence the severity of ischaemia



In vivo autoradiography of CBF – 1h after arterial occlusion



Causes of post-stroke hyperglycaemia:

Stress response to the hypoxic insult <u>Undiagnosed disorder of glucose metabolism</u>



- Circadian desynchrony occurs after jet-lag and shift work
- Associated with physiological changes that impact on stroke e.g. hyperglycemia, hypertension, metabolic syndrome

Does circadian desynchrony adversely affect stroke outcome?

No effect of photoperiod disruption on vulnerability to focal cerebral ischaemia in rats

Ku Mastura Ku Mohd Noor¹, Lisa Roy¹, Cathy Wyse², Christopher McCabe¹, Deborah Dewar¹.

¹ Institute of Neuroscience & Psychology, College of Medical, Veterinary & Life Sciences, ² Institute of Biodiversity, Animal Heath and Comparative Medicine,

University of Glasgow, Scotland





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- Circadian rhythms are daily oscillations in physiology and behaviour that recur with a period of 24 h.
- Master clock in suprachiasmatic nucleus (SCN) synchronises internal rhythm to environmental stimuli.
- Manipulation of the light/dark cycle such as in photoperiod disruption (PD) results in circadian misalignment.
- Shift work involves PD such that exposure to light/dark cycles are regularly altered compared to normal day/night schedules.
- PD induces changes in metabolism or physiology (e.g. hypertension, hyperglycemia)^{1,2} that have the
 potential to adversely affect stroke outcome..



- Animals: adult male Wistar rats (200-250g), housed singly under two different light/dark conditions (n=12 each).
- Six hour phase advance protocol: for PD rats; lights switched on 6 h earlier than previous
 photoperiod every 3 days for 9 weeks.
- Locomotor activity: monitored continuously by infrared movement sensors to examine temporal
 associations between light/dark periods and activity only in PD rats.
- Physiological measurements: body weight and food intake measured weekly; systolic blood
 pressure (BP) recorded by tail cuff plethysmography at baseline and again 9 weeks later; blood
 glucose measured immediately following induction of isoflurane anaesthesia prior to permanent distal
 MCAO by diathermy. Plasma fructosamine measured at 48 h after MCAO.
- Model of cerebral ischemia: permanent distal MCA occluded using electrocoagulation, adapted from Tamura et al, 1981³
- MRI: infarct volume was assessed by T2-weighted MRI 48 h following MCAO by an experimenter

Results



Figure 1. Double plotted actogram measured by cape-top movement sensors shows PD resulted in temporal dissociation between light/dark cycle and activity. Each horizontal line represents the day of recording, and total number of movements detected. Time of the day (hour) represented by x axis. At baseline, PD rats exhibited clear rightme entrained to the light/dark cycle ia. high activity during the dark phase.





Figure 2. Two-way ANOVA with Bonferroni post test indicated that there was no significant difference in % of body weight gained and food intake between groups. (P > 0.05 - ne12). Data presented as mean $\pm 5D$.



Figure 3. Percentage BP changes from baseline at the end of the 9 week period were not significantly different between groups. Data points indicate individual rats and horizontal bar represents the mean; unpaired t-test; P=0.89



Figure 4. Blood glucose levels immediately prior to MCAO. Data points indicate individual rats and the horizontal bar represents the mean. Unpaired t-test revealed no significant different in blood glucose in PD rats compared to control immediately prior to MCAO (P=0.056)

Conclusions

· PD resulted in temporal dissociation between light/dark cycle and activity but had no effect on key physiological parameters that can impact on infarct size.

- · There was no effect of PD on infarct size after MCAO in young healthy rats.
- · Potentially adverse effects of PD such as occurs in shift work, on stroke outcome may require the presence of existing co-morbidities.

No effect of PD on infarct size after permanent MCAO





Figure 5. T_z-weighted MRI images obtained 48 h after MCAO showing infarcted areas as hyper intense regions outlined in red. Representative slices are from the median animal in control and PD groups.



Figure 6. PD for 9 weeks did not exacerbate infarct volume. Data points indicate individual rats and the horizontal bar represents the mean; unpaired t-test; P=0.41

PD had no effect on plasma fructosamine level



Figure 7. Plasma fructosamine level at 48 h after MCAO. Fructosamine levels reflect average glycaemic levels over the preceding 2-3 weeks prior to MCAO. Differences between groups are not statistically significant: unpaired Hest; PE 0.47

References.

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³ Tamura A, et al. 1991. Focal Cerebral Ischaemia in the Rat 1. Description of Technique and Early Neuronathonerial Conservationese Englewing Middle Cerebral Barov Consistence Internal Conferences.

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Rodent Models of Focal Cerebral Ischaemia



No effect of photoperiod disruption



Immune response is major contributor to ischaemia + reperfusion pathobiology



Spatio-temporal profile of microglia and myeloid immune cells and their polarization state in transient brain ischemia

The role of microglia and myeloid immune cells in acute cerebral ischemia. Front Cell Neurosci. 2015;8:461

Microglial activation induced by circadian desynchrony





Does circadian desynchrony "prime" the immune system to exacerbate damage after ischaemia + reperfusion?

Vascular?

Systemic Inflammation Impairs Tissue Reperfusion Through Endothelin-Dependent Mechanisms in Cerebral Ischemia

Katie N. Murray, BA (Hons); Sylvie Girard, PhD; William M. Holmes, PhD; Laura M. Parkes, PhD; Stephen R. Williams, PhD; Adrian R. Parry-Jones, PhD, MRCP; Stuart M. Allan, PhD



Stroke. 2014 45:3412-9

Parenchymal?



What do we need? Immunology expertise and techniques for tissue/blood analysis