

Impacts of prenatal FGF21 upregulation on the thermogenic gene expression in the white adipose tissues of male C57BL/6J mice at adult stages

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Fibroblast growth factor 21 (FGF21) is mainly produced by the liver and its expression transcriptionally regulated by peroxisome proliferator-activated receptors α (PPAR α). FGF21 is postulated to be a thermogenic hormone, since it has been demonstrated to involve in the browning of white adipose tissue (WAT) and to activate thermogenic gene expression in the WAT and brown adipose tissue. Previous study shows that uterine PPAR α activation caused by maternal oxidized frying oil ingestion at adulthood. The aim of this study is to investigate whether the intrauterine exposure to high level of FGF21, by giving clofibrate (CF; a PPAR α agonist) to pregnant mothers, influences the thermogenic capacity, which contribute to resistance to diet-induced obesity (DIO) in the offspring at adulthood. Pregnant C57BL/6J mice were divided into two groups to receive a control or CF diet (0.5% clofibrate) for gestational period. After delivery, all pups were lactated by control dams, weaned on chow diet, and exposed to a high fat diet at 8-12 wk of age. Results show PPAR α activation occurred in CF-fed dams and their fetuses. Moreover, the expression of *Fgf21* was upregulated in CF-fed fetuses. The male, but not the female, adult offspring of the CF-fed dams were protected from DIO. The protein level of UCP-1 was significantly increased in the WAT of male offspring from the CF-fed dams and this might contribute to the anti-obesity effect. We conclude that uterine PPAR- α activation caused by maternal clofibrate ingestion leads to greater production of FGF21 in the liver, which might increase the browning capacity of WAT in males during adulthood.

Keywords: Clofibrate, Fibroblast growth factor 21, Thermogenesis, Adipose tissues, Prenatal period

PA-16

Inhibition of breast cancer cell Invasion by docosahexaenoic acid mediated by altering distribution of integrin $\alpha 6\beta 4$ in lipid rafts

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Integrin $\alpha 6\beta 4$ belongs to a laminin receptor and its primary function was to maintain epithelial integrity. Several studies suggested that integrin $\alpha 6\beta 4$ plays a pivotal role in carcinoma progression. In advanced breast carcinomas, the integrin $\alpha 6\beta 4$ is positively associated with a migratory and invasive phenotype. Previous studies showed that n-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids - docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) exhibited an anti-cancer effect in various human carcinoma cells, but the effect of DHA on metastasis of breast cancer cells is not fully clarified. We studied the anti-metastasis potential of DHA in Hs578T breast cancer cells. We found that DHA significantly inhibited cell migration, invasion and dramatically down-regulated integrin $\alpha 6\beta 4$ expression in a dose-dependent manner. Furthermore, DHA suppressed the Src, AKT expression and phosphorylation as well as their downstream pathways by altering the integrin $\alpha 6\beta 4$ distribution in lipid rafts. These results suggest that DHA inhibits $\alpha 6\beta 4$ -mediated cell migration and invasion at least in part via altering the distribution of integrin $\alpha 6\beta 4$ and integrin $\alpha 6\beta 4$ -mediated Src and Akt signaling pathways.

Keywords: Breast cancer cell, Integrin $\alpha 6\beta 4$, lipid raft, S100A4, DHA