Gel Dressings

The experimental study was carried based on the vivarium of the Danylo Halytsky Lviv National Medical University. All animals were kept in accordance with the Sanitary Regulations for the arrangement, equipment and maintenance of experimental biological clinics (vivarium), where they received a standard diet.

The experimental study was conducted on 80 sexually mature male Wistar rats with weight from 150 to 200 grams.

Healing of an experimental infected wound in experimental animals using hydrogel dressings saturated with medicinal substances have been studied. For this purpose, white sexually mature male Wistar rats were depilated on the back in the inter-lobar region one day before surgery. Modelling of the infected wound was performed under sterile conditions under general anaesthesia using diethyl ether. On the depilated area, after aseptic treatment, a skin area with subcutaneous fatty tissue measuring 2×2 cm to the superficial fascia was excised.

After that, a small bacillus saturated with a culture of *Staphylococcus aureus* was introduced into the wound. The wound was left open. On the third day, rats developed a full-fledged purulent wound with all signs of inflammation [14, 15].

Disposition of experimental groups of animals in the study of the features of the course of purulent wound process was as follows:

1) intact animal (10 male rats);
2) control group - the wound was washed with 3% *H₂O₂* solution and a sterile ointment dressing with Levomycin was applied to the animals of this group on the third day after its modelling (10 male rats);
3) experimental group 1 - on the third day after wound modelling, the wound was washed with *H₂O₂* solution and a hydrogel dressing saturated with silver ions was applied (20 male rats);
4) experimental group 2 - on the third day after modelling the wound with *H₂O₂* solution, the animals were treated with a hydrogel dressing saturated with the antioxidant drug Quercetin (20 male rats);
5) experimental group 3 - animals of this group, on the third day after modelling the infected wound, were treated with *H₂O₂* solution and a hydrogel dressing saturated with silver ions and the antioxidant drug Quercetin was applied (20 male rats).
All hydrogels were fixed to the wounds on the animals' backs with a gauze bandage to prevent their displacement and licking by the animals.

The effectiveness of the proposed local therapy was assessed using biochemical methods. In the analysis of laboratory parameters, the indicators of intact animals that did not have an infected wound modelled were considered as normal. Animals were withdrawn from the experiment on days 3, 7, 10, 14. Blood was taken from the cervical vessels for biochemical studies.

**Method for determination of catalase activity**

Determination of catalase activity is based on the ability of hydrogen peroxide to form a stable colour complex with molybdenum salts. The intensity of the colour was measured on the SF-26 at a wavelength of $\lambda=410$ nm against a control sample, which was supplemented with water instead of hydrogen peroxide. The reaction was started by adding 0.1 ml of blood serum to 2 ml of 0.03% hydrogen peroxide solution. The blank sample was added with 0.1 ml of distilled water. Reaction was stopped after 10 min by adding 1 ml of 4% ammonium molybdate. The colour intensity was measured at a light beam length of 410 nm against a control sample to which 2 ml of distilled water was added.

Activity was determined by formula:

$$A = \frac{(E_t - E_0)}{V \cdot t \cdot K}$$

where

- $A$ - catalase activity, mmol H$_2$O$_2$/ml-s;
- $E_t$ - extinction of the control sample, in which the experimental tissue is replaced with water, units;
- $Ed$ - extinction of the experimental sample, units; $K$ - molar extinction coefficient of hydrogen peroxide, which was $22.2 \times 10^3$ mmol$^{-1}$ cm$^{-1}$; $V$ - sample volume, ml; $t$ - incubation time, s.

A unit of catalase activity is the amount of enzyme involved in the conversion of 1 mcg of hydrogen peroxide per 1 second under the specified conditions [3].

**Study results and their discussion**

Maintaining the prooxidant-antioxidant balance is an important mechanism for an adequate response to the inflammatory process. The antioxidant system is a multifactorial regulatory complex of active compounds and components for the control of free radical oxidation. One of the antioxidant enzymes is catalase, which is involved in the detoxification of non-radical active hydrogen peroxide to two stable water molecules and an oxygen molecule. The dynamics of antioxidant activity is shown in Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study group</th>
<th>Term of study, day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intact animals (n=10)</td>
<td>0.33±0.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control group (n=10)</td>
<td>0.38±0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experimental group 1 (n=20)</td>
<td>0.39±0.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experimental group 2 (n=20)</td>
<td>0.54±0.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experimental group 3 (n=20)</td>
<td>0.55±0.15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: * there is a significant difference ($p<0.05$) between the levels of catalase in the blood plasma of rats compared to intact animals.

There was no significant difference ($p>0.05$) between the levels of catalase in the blood plasma of rats compared to the control group.

Catalase activity on the third day of the experiment had insignificant differences between different groups of animals, which depended on the factor that influenced the healing process. In all experimental animals with modelled purulent wounds, an increase in catalase activity was observed in response to an increase in the formation of peroxidation products. In animals of the control group, the content of catalase in the blood plasma was 0.33±0.11 μCat/l, which is 15.2% ($p>0.05$) higher than in intact animals - 0.33±0.05 μCat/l. If to compare the indicators in the experimental groups with the animals treated with traditional topical treatment, it should be noted that the catalase content in the first experimental group was statistically insignificantly different from the control - 0.39±0.04 and 0.38±0.11 μCat/l, respectively ($p>0.05$). Such data can be explained by the absence of antioxidant drugs in the treatment regimen of animals of both groups. Significantly higher rates of catalase activity growth were observed with the use of hydrogel dressings saturated with an antioxidant drug alone or this drug together with silver. In experimental group 2 (0.54±0.14 μCat/l), an increase in CA was noted by 42.1% from the level of the control group and by 44.7% more in experimental group 3 (0.55±0.15 μCat/l). The data obtained in the experimental groups in which the animals were administered topical administration of the antioxidant drug demonstrates a difference in catalase activity and a slight difference with the data in the control group and the first experimental group.

The data obtained on the seventh day of the...
study had fundamental differences from the previous study. Subsequently, there was a tendency to a slight increase in catalase activity in the control group (0.41±0.08 μCat/l), relative to the value on the third day and relative to intact animals (0.33±0.05 μCat/l). The results obtained were not statistically different from each other, as well as on the third day of the experiment. The content of catalase on day 7 of the experiment in the first experimental group was 0.43±0.06 μCat/l, which was not statistically different from animals treated with Levomikol ointment. In rats treated with hydrogel dressings saturated with an antioxidant preparation, an increase in antioxidant activity was further observed, which was almost the same and statistically significantly different from the intact group (p<0.05). In the second experimental group, the catalase activity was 0.52±0.07 μCat/l, in the third experimental group - 0.51±0.03 μCat/l.

On the 10th day, there was a tendency to decrease catalase activity in all groups of animals. A decrease was observed in the control group of animals (0.35±0.08 μCat/l), in which an unreliable statistical difference with intact animals by 6.1% was noted. The index of the antioxidant system in animals treated with hydrogel dressings saturated with silver ions did not statistically differ from that of the control group - 0.35±0.03 μCat/l, which indicates the same therapeutic value of these active substances on the antioxidant intensity in wound healing. The results were somewhat higher in the second (0.44±0.05 μCat/l) and third experimental groups (0.42±0.02 μCAT/l) - by 25.7% and 20% compared to the control group. However, when compared with the values in these groups on day 7 of the experiment, a significant decrease in catalase activity on day 10 should be noted.

At the final stage of the study on the 14th day, the analysis of catalase content showed that in all animals with a modelled inflammatory process, an increase in catalase activity was observed in almost all groups of animals with purulent wounds, an increase in catalase activity levels approached the level of intact animals on day 14.

Conclusions

Analyzing the obtained results, it can be concluded that in all experimental animals with simulated purulent wounds, an increase in catalase activity was observed in response to an increase in the formation of peroxidation products. The highest indicators of the antioxidant system were observed in animals that were treated with hydrogel bandages saturated with the antioxidant drug "Quercetin" in the scheme of local treatment of purulent wounds. Leveling of the catalase index in all experimental groups was observed on the 14th day of the experiment.

The results in the second and third experimental groups indicate that the use of hydrogel dressings saturated with an antioxidant drug, which is released into the wound surface for a long time, promotes the activation of antioxidant protection and suppresses the processes of free radical formation for local treatment.

Prospects of research

The results of the study can be used for further clinical study of the effectiveness of the use of hydrogel dressings saturated with silver ions and an antioxidant drug for the local treatment of odontogenic abscesses and phlegmon.

Authors’ contribution

The author confirms sole responsibility for the following: study conception and design, data collection, analysis and interpretation of results, and manuscript preparation.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

References


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Стаття надійшла 14.05.2024 року
Summary

Introduction. The development of the inflammatory process is always accompanied by the activation of lipid peroxidation, which is caused by tissue hypoxia. This, in turn, catalyzes a change in the physiological parameters of the antioxidant system.

The aim of the study is to analyze the dynamics of the antioxidant balance of wounds in an experiment using hydrogels saturated with silver ions and an antioxidant drug for the local treatment of inflammatory processes.

Object and research methods. The experimental study was carried out on 80 Wistar rats weighing 150 to 200 grams. Animals were removed from the experiment: for 3, 7, 10, 14 days. Catalase activity in the dynamics of the wound process was determined.

Research results and their discussion. The content of catalase on the 7th day in the third experimental group is 0.51±0.03 μKat/l. On the 10th day, the indicator of the antioxidant system in the second (0.44±0.05 μKat/l) and third experimental groups was 0.42±0.02 μKat/l. At the final stage of the study on the 14th day, the analysis of catalase content showed that in all animals with a simulated inflammatory process, the indicator of antioxidant activity had no significant differences between themselves and, importantly, with the indicators of intact animals (0.33±0.01 μKat/l). The indicators of the control (0.33±0.04 μKat/l) and experimental groups were as follows: the first experimental group – 0.32±0.06, the second experimental group – 0.36±0.04, the third experimental group – 0.38±0.06 μKat/l. Antioxidant protection was supplemented by local release of a drug with antioxidant action from the hydrogels, which contributed to a reduction in the intensity of free radical oxidation processes. That is, in almost all groups of animals, which were simulated purulent-inflammatory wounds, indicators of catalase activity approached the level of intact animals already on the 14th day.

Conclusions. Application for local treatment of hydrogel bandages saturated with an antioxidant drug, which is released into the wound surface for a long time, promotes the activation of antioxidant protection and suppresses the processes of free radical formation.

Key words: inflammatory processes, antioxidant system, catalase, hydrogel bandages.

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АНАЛІЗ АНТИОКСИДАНТНОЇ СИСТЕМИ ПІДДОСЛІДНИХ ТВАРИН У ДИНАМІЦІ РАНОВОГО ПРОЦЕСУ ЗА МІСЦЕВОГО ЗАСТОСУВАННЯ ГІДРОГЕЛЕВИХ ПОВ’ЯЗОК

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Резюме

Вступ. Розвиток запального процесу завжди супроводжується активізацією перекисного окиснення ліпідів (ПОЛ), що зумовлено тканинною гіпоксією. Це своєю чергою каталізує зміну фізіологічних показників антиоксидантної системи.

Мета дослідження. Аналіз динаміки антиоксидантного балансу ран в експерименті при застосуванні гідрогелевих пов’язок, насичених іонами срібла і антиоксидантним препаратом для місцевого лікування запальних процесів.

Об’єкт і методи дослідження. Експериментальне дослідження було проведено на 80 статевозрілих щурах-самцях лінії Вістар масою від 150 до 200 грам. Виводили тварин з експерименту на 3, 7, 10, 14 добу.

Результати досліджень та їх обговорення. Уміст каталази на 7-му добу в третій дослідній групі – 0,51±0,03 мкКат/л. На 10-му добу показник антиоксидантної системи в другій (0,44±0,05 мкКат/л) і третій дослідній групах – 0,42±0,02 мкКат/л. На завершальному етапі дослідження на 14-му добу аналіз умісту каталази показав, що в усіх тварин із моделюванням запальним процесом показник антиоксидантної активності не мав суттєвих змін і відрізнявся лише залежно від віком.

Висновки. Застосування для місцевого лікування гідрогелевих пов’язок, насичених антиоксидантним препаратом, який пролонговано виділяється в ранову поверхню, сприяє активації антиоксидантного захисту і пригнічує процеси вільнорадикального окиснення.

Ключові слова: запальні процеси, антиоксидантна система, каталаза, гідрогелеві пов’язки.