京都大学	博士(医科学)	氏名	Soper, Andrew James
論文題目	HIV-1 tracing method of systemic viremia <i>in vivo</i> using an artificially mutated virus pool (人工的変異導入ウイルスプールによる HIV 血症のウイルス起源追跡法)		

(論文内容の要旨)

The human immunodeficiency virus-1 (HIV-1) is the causative agent of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). The majority of worldwide infections occur via the sexual route, but vertical and parenteral transmission also remain a significant issue. Although the combined antiretroviral therapy (cART) available to treat HIV-1 is largely successful in most patients, poor adherence resulting in viral escape mutations and adverse side-effects remain a problem for some. A large barrier is that in cART treated patients the virus remains latent in CD4 T as well as tissue resident macrophages and is therefore hard to detect. HIV-1 enters cells via the CD4 receptor and also requires a co-receptor in either CXCR4 or CCR5. To cure a patient of HIV-1 it must be well understood exactly which tissues in the body harbour the majority of replication competent virus that is contributing to viral rebound upon the cessation of cART, which is what this study aimed to further investigate.

In this study a CCR5 tropic strain of HIV-1 (JR-CSF) was used. By carrying out random mutagenesis PCR on the *nef* gene only of this virus, an infectious JRCSFξ*nef* with a highly mutated *nef* gene was created. A pool of infectious JRCSFξ*nef* was used to infect both Jurkat-CCR5 cells and hematopoietic stem cell-transplanted humanized mice. Initially, inspection of the supernatant of Jurkat-CCR5 cells confirmed the presence of a wide range of viruses with unique nef sequences indicating the JRCSF ξ nef pool consisted of replication competent virus. The JRCSFξ*nef* pool was then infected into three humanized mice and the virus in the plasma at 1, 2, 4 and 6 weeks post infection as well as in various lymphoid tissues at necropsy at 9 weeks post infection were analysed. It was observed that in all three mice, the bone marrow (BM) and plasma possessed identical virus indicating the BM acts as the source of plasma virus at all times in these mice. In one mouse the identical virus was observed in both spleen and plasma and in another the lymph nodes and plasma, indicating these tissues are also contributing. A viral outgrowth assay of murine spleen cells with human peripheral blood lymphocytes confirmed the presence of replication competent virus in the plasma of one mouse, and the plasma and bone marrow virus of another. In summary, this novel method demonstrated in these experiments shows that it is possible to trace HIV-1 trafficking with an artificially mutated gene (nef). This method is preferable to the addition of artificial barcodes, as all of the mutations created in these experiments may in theory occur in an HIV-1 infected person, more closely representing a real distribution of HIV-1 infection.

(論文審査の結果の要旨)

Human immunodeficiency virus-1 (HIV-1)はエイズの原因ウイルスであり、生体内で多様なウイルス集団を形成する。その中で CCR5 を補受容体とする R5 ウイルスが感染伝播し、高ウイルス血症を成立させる。血液やリンパ組織の CD4⁺T 細胞やマクロファージに感染するこのウイルスによる病状進行は、血漿ウイルス量 (viral load) から推測される。一方、血漿ウイルスとリンパ組織や骨髄組織細胞内のウイルス遺伝子配列の異同については不明な点が多い。そこで、本研究では HIV-1 nef 遺伝子に人工的にランダム変異導入後に複製能を有するウイルスプールを作製し、動物モデルへの接種後のウイルス遺伝子多様性解析からその分布解明実験をおこなった。その結果、ヒト血液幹細胞移植ヒト化マウスにおいて、CD4⁺T 細胞の減少と複数の変異ウイルスで構成される高ウイルス血症が再現され、血漿ウイルス RNA 配列と同一のウイルス RNA 配列を末梢血細胞ではなく骨髄やリンパ節細胞中に見出した。この結果は、本法がウイルス起源追跡法になりうること、そして血漿ウイルスの起源は、末梢血細胞からではなく骨髄を含むリンパ組織細胞に由来することを示している。

以上の研究は、HIV-1 の体内動態の解明に貢献し、循環血液と組織内のウイルス存在 様式の解明に寄与するところが多い。

したがって、本論文は博士(医科学)の学位論文として価値あるものと認める。 なお、本学位授与申請者は、令和3年2月15日実施の論文内容とそれに関連した試問 を受け、合格と認められたものである。