isolation of Na,K-ATPase is therefore necessary in order to understand the mechanisms of action of different regulators and, in particular, of ACh on enzymes.

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CHANGES IN SOME LIPID PEROXIDATION PARAMETERS OF ALBINO RAT LIVER MITOCHONDRIA DURING ANOXIC INJURY SIMULATED IN VITRO

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The results of experiments to study the role of lipid peroxidation (LPO) in anoxia now available can be divided into two groups. On the one hand, a decrease in antioxidant activity (AOA) is observed in lipid extracts from mitochondrial and microsomal fractions of various organs in ischemia [1, 2]. On the other hand, there is evidence of increased AOA in homogenates and mitochondrial fractions of organs surviving in situ [3, 4, 12]. Probably these two groups of experimental facts are not contradictory, but mutually complementary, for in one case the test object consisted of lipid extracts, whereas in the other it was organelles or homogenates.

The object of this investigation was to study the state of LPO in mitochondria during anoxia in a simpler system than the cell, namely mitochondria + Ca⁺⁺ + anoxia in vitro, in which virtually all features of anoxic injury to organelles can be adequately simulated [11]. Changes in the kinetics of Fe⁺⁺-induced chemiluminescence (CHL) of mitochondria and liposomes from the total lipid fraction, the content of intermediate and end products of LPO, and also the effect of Mn++ and Cu++ on parameters of CHL in mitochondria, for they may be potential regulators of LPO in the cell [15], were investigated.

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EXPERIMENTAL METHOD

Mitochondria were isolated from albino rat liver by differential centrifugation in buffered 0.25 Msucrose medium with 2 mM EDTA between 600 g (10 min) and 8000 g (10 min) and recentrifuged in medium without EDTA at 8000 g for 10 min. Anoxic incubation of mitochondria (15-20 mg protein in 1 ml medium) was carried out in a plastic syringe with fine plastic needle under 0.1 mm in diameter in medium of the following composition: KC1 62.5 mM, sucrose 125 mM, CaCl₂ 30 μM, pH 7.4, at 22-24°C. O₂ consumption and reduction of NAD under these conditions took place in 2.5-4 min. Samples for determination of functional parameters and the level of free fatty acids (FFA), measuring 0.1 and 0.3 ml, respectively, were taken every 15 min. The polarographic investigations were carried out in a transparent plastic cell by means of a covered electrode (from "Radiometer," Sweden); the incubation medium contained sucrose 125 mM, KC1 62.5 mM, mitochondria 1-1.5 mg protein/ml, HEPES 2 mM, MgCl₂ 2 mM, and sodium succinate 10 mM or sodium malate + sodium glutamate, 5 mM of each, pH 7.4. In the course of the experiments the mitochondria passed through states $4^{n}-3-4^{\circ}$ according to Chance [6], and ADP was added at the rate of 25-150-300 μ M. The FFA content was determined by the method in [13] with additional treatment of the extract with silica-gel [14]. Mitochondrial lipids were extracted by the method of Bligh and Dyer [5]. Liposomes were formed from them and these were then frozen and thawed [9].

Fe⁺⁺-induced CHL was measured on a chemiluminometer of ordinary construction, using working concentrations of mitochondria of 0.4-0.5 mg protein/ml, and liposomes of 0.15 mg lipid/ml. To induce CHL, FeSO₄ was added to the cuvette up to a concentration of 0.1 mM. The end products of LPO were determined spectrophotometrically as absorption of the complex formed from them with 2-thiobarbituric acid (TBA), and intermediates were determined by the TBA test [8]. The results are presented in the form M \pm σ .

EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

Under anoxic conditions, in the presence of 30 μ M Ca⁺⁺ in the incubation medium, hydrolysis of phospholipids and a parallel decrease in coefficients of acceleration and respiratory control due to a reduction in the rate of respiration in Chance's state 3 and an increase in state 4 for different respiration substrates. Total loss of respiratory control by the mitochondria was observed when the FFA level rose from 9 to 16-18 nmoles/mg protein usually by the 45th-60th minute of incubation. By that time the results of the TBA test showed an increase of 40% and the content of TBA-active product showed a tendency to increase.

The latent period (τ) and time of development of CHL (τ_{CHL}) of the mitochondria by the 120th minute of anoxia were approximately doubled, and the highest intensity of CHL (I_{CHL}) was observed at the 30th minute of anoxia (Fig. 1). Changes in the kinetics of CHL were similar to those observed in experiments on mitochondria isolated from the liver surviving in situ, and they indicate a shift in the ratio between pro-oxidant and antioxidant properties of the organelles in the course of anoxic injury, toward an increase in AOA.

In another series of experiments parameters of CHL were studied in liposomes obtained from mitochondrial lipids of intact and injured mitochondria (incubation time 1 h). A special technical feature of these experiments was that TBA-active products were recorded after CHL, and in that way the ability of the samples to undergo reoxidation was determined. The values of τ and τ_{CHL} of CHL for liposomes formed from lipids of injured mitochondria (Table 1) were smaller than in the control. Their absolute values, however, were greater than for mitochondria. Capacity for reoxidation also was greater in liposomes formed from injured mitochondria than in the control. These results are in good agreement with data in the literature [1, 2] and they are evidence that capacity for LPO is increased in lipid extract *in vitro* after anoxic injury to the organelles, and the content of antioxidant is reduced. It thus seems most likely that the increase in AOA of the mitochondria in anoxia is on account of antioxidants which are not extracted during extraction with a chloroform-methanol mixture.

In the series of experiments to study the effect of Mn $^{++}$ and Cu $^{++}$ on the parameters of mitochondrial CHL an increase in the concentration of these ions to 50 μ M was accompanied by an increase in the values of τ and τ_{CHL} , whereas I_{CHL} fell by an order of magnitude or more. The effect was only slightly more marked in the case of mitochondria injured by anoxia (Fig. 2). Ability of the suspension of control and experimental mitochondria to carry out LPO, estimated from accumulation of TBA-active products, as the result of Fe $^{++}$ -induced LPO likewise was reduced, if Cu $^{++}$ was present in the incubation medium (Table 2); Mn $^{++}$ and Cu $^{++}$ were particularly effective on CHL in liposomes. In a concentration of 1 μ M these cations sharply

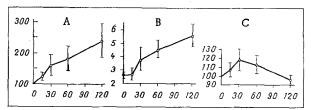


Fig. 1. Changes in latent period (A), period of development (B), and intensity (C) of slow flash of CHL of albino rat liver mitochondria during anoxia in vitro. Abscissa, duration of anoxic incubation (in min); ordinate: A) τ (in % of control), B) $\tau_{\rm CHL}$ (in min), C) $I_{\rm CHL}$ (in %).

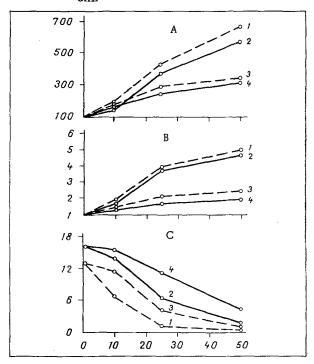


Fig. 2. Effect of Mn and Cu on latent period (A), period of development (B), and peak intensity of slow flash (C) of CHL of albino rat liver mitochondria. Abscissa, concentration (in μ M); ordinate: A) τ (in % of control); B) τ_{CHL} (in min); C) I_{CHL} (in relative units). 1, 3) Anoxia (1 h); 2, 4) control. 1, 2) Cu ; 3, 4) Mn .

TABLE 1. Parameters of CHL of Mitochondria and Liposomes Formed from Mitochondrial Lipids, and Their TBA-Active Product Level in Control and after 1 h of Anoxia $in\ vi-tro\ (\text{M}\ \pm\ \sigma)$

Parameter tested	Mitochondria (n = 8)		Liposomes (n = 3)	
	control	anoxia	control	anoxia
τ, min •CHL• min •CHL• % TBA-active products• %	2,17±0,31 3,26±0,37 100 100±2,3	$4,54\pm0,29*$ $6,32\pm0,17*$ $113,5\pm10,2$ $63,2\pm11,9*$	$8,34\pm0,17$ $10,23\pm0,37$ 100 $100\pm3,9$	$\begin{array}{c} 5,63\pm0,34*\\ 6,91\pm0,54*\\ 193\pm22,8\\ 117,8\pm7,0* \end{array}$

Legend. *P < 0.05 compared with control.

increased τ and τ_{CHL} , but the effectiveness of accumulation of TBA-active products in liposomes formed from injured mitochondria was reduced. In liposomes obtained from intact mitochondria CHL could not be recorded at all for 20-40 min.

TABLE 2. Dependence of Accumulation of TBA-Active Products After Fe $^+$ -Induced LPO of Mitochondria on Mn $^{++}$ and Cu $^{++}$ Concentrations (M \pm σ , n = 3)

Experimental conditions	TBA-active products, % of control, ion concentration, µM				
	0	10	25	50	
Control $+ Cu^{2+}$ Anoxia $+ Cu^{2+}$ Anoxia $+ Mn^{2+}$	100 100 100	$83,8\pm3,2$ $92,3\pm3,8$ $94,3\pm4,9$	71,8±4,3 84,0±10,4 89,3±14,0	$59,3\pm5,8$ $65,3\pm4,5$ $74,7\pm21,5$	

Legend. In every case n = 3.

The results are evidence that Mn⁺⁺ and Cu⁺⁺ exhibit antioxidant properties in micromolar concentrations. No significant difference was found between the AOA exhibited by these cations in the case of intact or injured mitochondria. The most likely mechanism of action of these cations as antioxidants, from our point of view, is decomposition of hydroperoxide with the formation of inactive products. Regarding the possibility of involvement of Mn⁺⁺ and Cu⁺⁺ in the development of anoxic injury the following points may be noted: Although the concentrations of these cations in the cell cytosol is several orders of magnitude lower [15] than those which we tested, they can be carried into the cytosol from the plasma (where their concentration is measured in tens of micromoles [10]) during hypoxic injury to the cell *in vivo*, when the blood flow in the organ is partly preserved.

The results of the present investigation, in conjunction with the data in the literature, suggests that during anoxic injury to mitochondria in vitro, just as in situ, AOA of lipids of these organelles decreases whereas AOA of the mitochondria as a whole increases. In our opinion, either elevation of the level of thiol compounds in the matrix may be responsible for the increase in AOA, as noted in the experiments of Olenev et al. [7], or an increase in activity of enzyme systems producing inhibition of LPO may be responsible.

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