

Methods: Confluent cells were incubated with dFdC for 1, 3, 6, 18 or 24 h, washed, pulse-labeled with BrdUrd (10 μ M), fixed and then processed for FACS analysis. Alternatively, after drug incubation, cells were irradiated with 4 Gy photons and plated for a colony assay.

Results: For incubation times of 1 to 6 h, dFdC induced a quasi complete inhibition of DNA synthesis with accumulation of cells at the G1-S boundary. From a 6 h incubation time, cells started to reinitiate DNA synthesis, and at 24 h, a significant cell fraction was accumulated in early S-phase. Radiosensitization increased up to a 3 h drug incubation time, thereafter decreased up to 24 h where no more radiosensitization was observed.

Conclusions: In SCC61 cells, dFdC induced a transient block at the G1-S phase boundary. Subsequent accumulation of cells in early S-phase was associated with a loss of radiosensitization. Our data suggest a possible role for dFdC-induced cell cycle synchronization in the kinetics of dFdC's radiosensitization.

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POSTER

Intravital lectin perfusion of tumours: Visualisation of efficiently and inefficiently perfused microvessels

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Purpose: Histological correlates to high-field rapid acquisition MR images of tumours aid explanation of regional heterogeneities in CM uptake and washout. Protocols for intravital lectin perfusion were developed and assessed for use in localising regions of inefficient perfusion.

Methods: C3H mice with subcutaneous passaged AT17 adenocarcinomas were perfused intravenously with fluorochrome-labelled lectins, given as boluses applied in various protocols, such as sequential injection at different intervals. The tumours and other organs were snapfrozen, and cryostat sections evaluated by fluorescence microscopy to visualise lectin-binding microvessels. Wide-area composite images were correlated with MR data.

Results: Brilliant contrast images of the tumour microvasculature were obtained up to 4 hours post-bolus. Lectin clearance from the blood was largely complete within 15 minutes, so an intravenous bolus preserved a snapshot view of the microvessels accessible to perfusion near the time of injection. Sequential application of lectins visualised colocalisation in large micro-vessels and many narrow-caliber ones, but also frequent mismatch labelling: evidence of intermittent perfusion in many narrow microvessels.

Conclusion: Over a timescale of a few minutes to a few hours intravital lectin perfusion visualises intermittent perfusion and permits correlation with MR data obtained from the same animals in dynamic studies.

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POSTER*

Influence of fractionation on the response of pulmonary micrometastases of the R1H-tumour to fractionated irradiation

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The aim of the study was the examination of the influence of the dose per fraction and overall treatment time on tumour control rate of micrometastases.

Lung metastases were induced by i.v. injection of viable tumour cells. Treatment was started 14 days later, when metastases reached an average size of 4 cells. Total doses of 16 to 28 Gy were administered within an overall treatment time of 11 or 25 days, using doses per fraction of 1, 2, or 4 Gy. Tumour response was quantified by local control and number of lung metastases. TCD37% and corresponding 95% C.I. were calculated applying the maximum likelihood method.

Fractionation had a significant influence on local control ($p = 0.05$). After application of 1, 2, or 4 Gy and an overall treatment time of 11 days the TCD37% was 25.4 Gy (21.5–32.0), 20.7 (17.0–24.0), and 18.5 Gy (14.9–21.6), respectively.

When overall treatment time was prolonged to 25 days the TCD37% increased to 25.5 Gy (21.3–33.5) after application of 2 Gy per fraction ($p = 0.056$). Comparison with results obtained in vitro allows calculation of a formal doubling time of 8 days, whereas the doubling time of untreated micrometastases of this size is about 4 days.

The results show for well oxygenated micrometastases a strong influence

of fractionation on treatment outcome, which is in contrast to findings on macroscopic subcutaneous R1H-tumours. Furthermore repopulation of microscopic lung metastases seems to be decelerated during fractionated radiotherapy.

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POSTER

In vitro interaction of radiation and paclitaxel compared to the solvent cremophor EL/ethanol

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Purpose: Cremophor EL/ethanol (Cr/e), the diluent of paclitaxel (P), has shown to be active in tumor samples. The aim of our study was to evaluate the interaction of radiation and paclitaxel compared to the effect of cremophor EL/ethanol.

Methods: Single cells derived from the two common human carcinoma cell lines U-138 MG (glioblastoma) and SK-LU-1 (lungcarcinoma) were used. Cells were treated with P and with Cr/e. Cr/e concentration was equivalent to that found in P. As controls, cells were exposed to a phosphate buffered salt solution (PBS). Drug exposure was investigated alone and in combination with irradiation. Cytotoxicity of P and Cr/e was examined at concentrations varied from 2–50 μ M with 3 hours incubation time. Radiation doses ranged from 0–10 Gy. In combination treatment irradiation followed 9 hours after the end of drug or PBS incubation. Cell survival was determined applying the clonogenic assay.

Results: In the lungcancer cell line single P exposure with 0/10/30/50 μ M resulted in a clonogenic survival of 100/54/31/10% compared to the glioblastoma cell line with 100/54/43/16%. In both cell lines Cr/e exposure resulted in a survival of 100/100/90/92%. Radiation with 0–10 Gy of both cell lines led to 100–0.05% survival. 10 μ M P and 10Gy irradiation resulted in 0.03% (lung cancer) and 0.1% (glioblastoma) survival. 10 μ M Cr/e and 10 Gy irradiation led to 0.06% (lung cancer) and 1.1% (glioblastoma) clonogenic survival.

Conclusion: Paclitaxel and radiation used concomitantly produced an additive effect in both cell lines with an enhancement ratio of 1.4 (lungcancer) and 2.3 (glioblastoma). Cr/e was without significant cytotoxic or radiosensitizing effect.

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POSTER

Response of two different human squamous cell carcinoma xenografts to irradiation at varying sizes: Relationship between tumor volume and TCD₅₀

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Purpose: Clinical experience shows that higher doses are needed for larger tumors to achieve local control (LC). Under ideal conditions the single-dose needed for LC should be dependant only on tumor volume and radiosensitivity assuming cell killing to be an exponential function of dose as well as sensitivity and number of clonogenic cells per volume being constant. This relationship was investigated in two human SCC-xenografts.

Methods: FaDu (poorly differentiated) and GL tumors (moderately well differentiated) were transplanted s.c. into nude mice. Local single-dose irradiation was performed when tumors reached sizes of 36, 80, 180 and 470 mm³. To avoid the influence of varying oxygen concentrations all irradiations were performed under clamp hypoxia. Experimental endpoint was LC at day 120 (FaDu) or 180 (GL).

Results: The radiation dose required to control 50% of the tumors (TCD₅₀) of sizes between 30 and 470 mm³ increased from 36.6 to 44.1 Gy (FaDu) resp. 29.9 to 41.7 Gy (GL) showing very similar responses with overlapping confidence intervals. Calculations of the D₀ from the slopes of the regression lines resulted in values of 1.0 for FaDu and 1.4 for GL (both corrected for an OER of 3.0). The results of both tumors are also well described by a common regression line with a D₀ of 1.2.

Conclusion: The results indicate that the intrinsic radiosensitivity to single-dose irradiation and the number of clonogenic cells per unit of tumor volume are similar in both tumors. In contrast other experiments from our laboratory have shown that the response to fractionated irradiation with 30 f/6 w under ambient conditions shows a marked difference (TCD₅₀ FaDu \approx 60 Gy, GL \approx 44 Gy) suggesting that other factors e.g. repopulation and re-oxygenation importantly influence the outcome of fractionated radiotherapy.