



Glucose Metabolism Regulation of the Antiviral Innate Immunity against SARS-CoV-2

Hua Li¹, Chaofeng Han² and Tengfei Zhang^{3*}

¹Shanghai No.2 Homeless Aid Station, Shanghai, China

²Department of Histology and Embryology, Shanghai Key Laboratory of Cell Engineering, Naval Medical University, China

³Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics, The People's Hospital of Zhujui, The Affiliated Zhujui Hospital of Wenzhou Medical University, China

Abstract

Host induces antiviral innate immunity responses by inducing type I interferon's through Pattern-Recognition Receptors (PRRs), which requires energy supply quickly. On the same time, virus also hijacks glucose, lipid metabolism of host cell to escape anti-viral immune and replicate itself. Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome-related Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) has been found inhibits antiviral innate immunity through its Non-Structure (NS) and Open Reading Frame (ORF) proteins. Recent research found that the high glucose or enhanced glycolysis in host cell aggravated SARS-CoV-2 infection, which needs to be discussed. Here we summarized the recent progress of glucose metabolism during SARS-CoV-2 infection.

Introduction

The innate immune system of host recognizes Pathogen-Associated Molecular Patterns (PAMPs) such as RNA or DNA of viruses through Pattern-Recognition Receptors (PRRs) including Toll-Like Receptors (TLRs) in the endosome, retinoic acid-inducible (RIG)-1-like receptors (RLRs) and cyclic GMP-AMP (cGAMP) synthase (cGAS) in the cytoplasm. The activation of the PRRs induce antiviral innate responses through producing type I interferon's and inflammatory cytokines majorly depending on the transcription factor Interferon Regulatory Factors (IRF) and Nuclear Factor κ B (NF- κ B) [1,2].

Upon infection host cells adapt to reprogram from Tricarboxylic Acid Cycle (TCA) to aerobic glycolysis to quick and huge energy supply, in which HIF-1 α has a central role by inducing various genes involved in metabolism such as the glucose transporter GLUT1, Lactate Dehydrogenase (LDH) and Pyruvate Dehydrogenase Kinase (PDK1). The expression of HIF-1 α under normoxic condition is very low regulated by Prolyl Hydroxylase (PHD). However, upon infection will lead to the mitochondria ROS increment and inactivation of PDH, which stabilizes and accumulation HIF-1 α expression. After then, the energy supply for producing inflammatory cytokine adaptively reprogram to anabolic glycolysis [3].

On the other side, viruses also adaptively hijack glucose, lipid metabolism of host cells to acquire enough nucleoside acid and membrane substrates for replication. SARS-CoV-2, the single RNA virus, does not encode metabolic enzymes required for viral genomic replication, protein synthesis, and lipogenesis and alters host cell metabolism to replicate itself. For example, SARS-CoV-2 boosted lipid biosynthesis to support the generation of lipid bilayer-enveloped virions in a fashion similar to other coronaviruses [3,4]. Palma first found that evaluated glucose level enhanced SARS-CoV-2 replication and inflammatory cytokines in monocyte [5]. Furthermore, monocytes and macrophages in lung adapted their metabolism to upon SARS-CoV-2 infection and became highly glycolytic regulated by mitochondria ROS and HIF-1 α accumulation, which facilitates virus replication. Inhibition of HIF-1 α limited viral replication significantly. The research did not explain how HIF-1 α promoted viral replication. Interestingly, ORF3a of SARS-CoV-2 was found to induce mitochondrial damage and Mito-ROS production and promote HIF-1 α expression, which subsequently facilitates SARS-CoV-2 infection and cytokines production [6]. However, the mechanism of negative function of HIF-1 α in antiviral innate immunity was not addressed. Recently, HMGB1 was found to induce inflammation and glycolysis via HIF-1 α , then HIF-1 α suppresses IRF5 and IRF3 transcription and sequential type I IFN expression [7].

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*Correspondence:

Tengfei Zhang, Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics, The People's Hospital of Zhujui, The Affiliated Zhujui Hospital of Wenzhou Medical University, Wenzhou, China, E-mail: sxyjb2008@126.com

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Thus, above research collectively demonstrates that high blood glucose and highly glycolysis level will be susceptible to SARS-CoV-2 infection, which also raises a question whether ketogenic diet will protect SARS-CoV-2 infection by inhibiting glycolysis.

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