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Lipid peroxidation and HNE formation by Aβ-Cu<sup>2+</sup>

# Lipid peroxidation and 4-hydroxy-2-nonenal formation by copper ion bound to amyloid-beta peptide

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Running title: Lipid peroxidation and HNE formation by  $A\beta$ -Cu<sup>2+</sup>

# Lipid peroxidation and 4-hydroxy-2-nonenal formation by copper ion bound to amyloid-beta peptide

Abstract— The lipid peroxidation product 4-hydroxy-2-nonenal (HNE) is proposed to be a toxic factor in the pathogenesis of Alzheimer's disease. The primary products of lipid peroxidation are phospholipid hydroperoxides and degraded reactive aldehydes, such as HNE, as secondary peroxidation products. In this study, we investigated the role of amyloid- $\beta$  peptide (A $\beta$ ) in the formation of phospholipid hydroperoxides and HNE by copper ion bound to A $\beta$ . The  $A\beta_{1-42}$ -Cu<sup>2+</sup> (1:1 molar ratio) complex showed an activity to form phospholipid hydroperoxides from phospholipid, 1-palmitoyl-2-linoleoyl phosphatidylcholine (PLPC), through Cu<sup>2+</sup> reduction in the presence of ascorbic acid. The phospholipid hydroperoxides were considered to be racemic mixture of 9-hydroperoxide and 13-hydroperoxide of linoleoyl residue. When Cu<sup>2+</sup> was bound to two molar equivalents of  $A\beta_{1-42}$  (2  $A\beta_{1-42}$ -Cu<sup>2+</sup>), lipid peroxidation was inhibited. **HNE** of was generated from one the phospholipid hydroperoxides, 1-palmitoyl-2-(13-hydroperoxy-cis-9, trans-11-octadecadienoyl) phosphatidylcholine (PLPC-OOH), by free  $Cu^{2+}$  in the presence of ascorbic acid through  $Cu^{2+}$  reduction and degradation of PLPC-OOH. HNE generation was markedly inhibited by equimolar concentrations of A $\beta_{1-40}$  (92%) and A $\beta_{1-42}$  (92%). However, A $\beta_{1-42}$  binding two or three molar equivalents of  $Cu^{2+}$  (A $\beta_{1-42}$ -2Cu<sup>2+</sup>, A $\beta_{1-42}$ -3Cu<sup>2+</sup>) acted as a pro-oxidant to form HNE from PLPC-OOH. These findings suggest that, at moderate concentrations of copper, AB acts primarily as an antioxidant to prevent Cu<sup>2+</sup>-catalyzed oxidation of biomolecules, but that, in the presence of excess copper, pro-oxidant complexes of A $\beta$  with Cu<sup>2+</sup> are formed.

**Keywords**— amyloid- $\beta$  peptide, copper, lipid peroxidation, 4-hydroxy-2-nonenal, phospholipid hydroperoxide, Alzheimer's disease, antioxidant

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Alzheimer's disease is characterized by deposition of aggregated amyloid- $\beta$  peptide (A $\beta$ ) and oxidative stress marked by protein and RNA oxidation and lipid peroxidation (1-5). Lipid peroxidation *in vivo* involves mainly unsaturated fatty acyl residues esterified in phospholipids. The primary peroxidation products are phospholipid hydroperoxides having a hydroperoxy unsaturated fatty acyl residue (Fig. 1) (6,7). The phospholipid hydroperoxides are degraded to reactive aldehydes, such as 4-hydroxy-2-nonenal (HNE) (Fig.1), malondialdehyde and alkenals, as secondary peroxidation products (8-10), and the HNE has been demonstrated to cause neuronal death (11-14). The HNE-protein adducts are detected in the brain of patients with Alzheimer's disease (15-17). Therefore, HNE is considered to play a crucial role in oxidative

injury of biomolecules related to Alzheimer's disease but the role of  $A\beta$  in the formation of HNE is unknown.

The formation of HNE has been demonstrated by the reaction of one of the phospholipid hydroperoxides. 1-palmitoyl-2-(13-hydroperoxy-cis-9, trans-11-octadecadienovl) phosphatidylcholine (PLPC-OOH), with hemoprotein (18). Lipid hydroperoxides are generally known to be degraded by transition metal ions and is known that AB shows a strong affinity for transition metal ions, especially  $Cu^{2+}$  such that AB is assumed to bind with  $Cu^{2+}$  physiologically (19-23). The A $\beta$ -Cu<sup>2+</sup> complex is reported to act as a pro-oxidant (24-27), an especially deleterious aspect since A $\beta$  is rich in hydrophobic amino acids in the carboxyl-terminal region and is present in phospholipids with lipoproteins of both cerebrospinal fluid and plasma (28,29). Indeed, the lipoprotein of human cerebrospinal fluid is reported to be easily oxidized in vitro to generate phospholipid hydroperoxides (30,31) – an aspect that might account for the reduced concentrations of fatty acids in Alzheimer's disease. Therefore, we hypothesized that phospholipid hydroperoxides and HNE could be formed from phospholipids by the A $\beta$ -Cu<sup>2+</sup> complex. In support of this concept, in this study, we found that the AB-Cu<sup>2+</sup> complex have an activity to generate phospholipid hydroperoxides from phospholipids. Moreover, we show that when  $Cu^{2+}$  concentration is higher than A $\beta$ , in the presence of ascorbic acid (Fig.1), HNE could be detected as a reaction product from the phospholipid hydroperoxides with the A $\beta$ -Cu<sup>2+</sup> complex.

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS

#### Materials

Human A $\beta_{1-40}$  and A $\beta_{1-42}$  were purchased from Peptide Institute Inc. (Osaka, Japan); A $\beta_{1-28}$ ,  $A\beta_{35-42}$ , L-carnosine, trientine (triethylenetetramine), penicillamine, clioquinol (5-chloro-7-iodo-8-hydroxyquinoline), deferoxamine and glycyl-L-histidyl-L-lysine (GHL) from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis MO, USA); EDTA, oxine (8-hydroxyquinoline), histidine, histamine, spermine, spermidine and putrescine from Wako Pure Chemical Co. (Osaka, Japan); 4-hydroxy-2-nonenal (HNE) from Cayman chemical Co.; and 1-palmitoyl-2-linoleoyl USA). phosphatidylcholine (PLPC) from Avanti Polar Lipids, (Alabaster, Inc. 1-palmitoyl-2-(13-hydroperoxy-cis-9, trans-11-octadecadienovl) phosphatidylcholine (PLPC-OOH) was prepared from PLPC as described previously (18, 32, 33). Other chemicals were of the highest quality commercially available.

## Determination of phospholipid hydroperoxides and HNE.

The determination of phospholipid hydroperoxide and HNE with high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) was performed on a Hitachi model L-6000 liquid chromatograph. The HPLC conditions for the determination of HNE were described previously (18). An ODS

column (5µm, 4.6 × 250mm, TSK ODS-80Ts, Tosoh Co., Tokyo, Japan) was used. The mobile phase was acetonitrile/50 mM phosphate buffer (pH 2.7) (3:7; v/v), and the flow rate was 1.4 ml/min. The UV peaks were monitored at 222 nm, the absorption maximum of HNE. The chemiluminescence detection-high performance liquid chromatography (CL-HPLC) conditions for the determination of PLPC-OOH were described previously (18). An ODS column (5µm, 4.6 × 250mm, TSK ODS-80Ts, Tosoh Co., Tokyo, Japan) was used. The mobile phase was acetonitrile /methanol/water (75:23:2, v/v/v) containing 10 mM choline chloride and the flow rate was 1.5 ml/min. The eluent was mixed at post-column with chemiluminescence reagent which consisted of 0.15 µM cytochrome c, 10.0 µM luminol, 1.0 mM EDTA and 20 mM H<sub>3</sub>BO<sub>3</sub>-Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> buffer (pH 10), with a 2.5-ml/min flow rate. Phospholipid hydroperoxides were detected with the chemiluminescence detector (Shimadzu CLD-10A). PLPC-OOH was used as external standard to determine phospholipid hydroperoxides.

*Phospholipid hydroperoxide formation from PLPC by*  $A\beta_{1-42}$ *-* $Cu^{2+}$  *complex.* 

The reaction mixture containing PLPC (1 mM) and ascorbic acid (2 mM) was incubated with  $Cu^{2+}$  (10  $\mu$ M) or A $\beta_{1-42}$  (3.3~20  $\mu$ M)- $Cu^{2+}$  (10  $\mu$ M) complex (A $\beta_{1-42}/Cu^{2+}=2:1$ , 1:1, 1:2 and 1:3) in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4) at room temperature. An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into a CL-HPLC to determine phospholipid hydroperoxides.

*Effects of chelator on phospholipid hydroperoxide formation from PLPC by*  $A\beta_{1-42}$ - $Cu^{2+}$  *complex.* 

The reaction mixture containing PLPC (1 mM), ascorbic acid (2 mM) and  $A\beta_{1-42}$  (10  $\mu$ M) -Cu<sup>2+</sup> (10  $\mu$ M) (1:1 molar ratio) complex was incubated with 10  $\mu$ M chelator for 60 minutes in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4) at room temperature. An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into the CL-HPLC to determine phospholipid hydroperoxides.

HNE formation from PLPC-OOH by  $Cu^{2+}$ .

The reaction mixture containing PLPC-OOH (500  $\mu$ M), Cu<sup>2+</sup> (1~3  $\mu$ M) and ascorbic acid (500  $\mu$ M) was incubated in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4) at room temperature. An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into an HPLC and CL-HPLC to determine HNE and PLPC-OOH, respectively.

# Effects of chelator on HNE formation by $Cu^{2+}$ .

The reaction mixture containing PLPC-OOH (500  $\mu$ M), Cu<sup>2+</sup> (2  $\mu$ M) and ascorbic acid (500  $\mu$ M) was incubated with 2  $\mu$ M chelator for 30 minutes in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4) at room temperature. An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into an HPLC to determine HNE.

*HNE formation from PLPC-OOH by*  $A\beta_{1-42}$ - $Cu^{2+}$  *complex.* The reaction mixture containing PLPC-OOH (500 µM) and ascorbic acid (500 µM) was incubated with Cu<sup>2+</sup> (2-8 µM) or A $\beta_{1-42}$  (2µM)-Cu<sup>2+</sup> (2-8 µM) complex for 30 minutes in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4) at room

temperature. An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into an HPLC to determine HNE.

### Ascorbate-oxidase activity of $A\beta_{1-42}$ complex.

Ascorbate-oxidase activity was followed optically at 260 nm. Reaction mixture contained 100  $\mu$ M ascorbate, 22  $\mu$ M A $\beta_{1-42}$  and various concentrations of Cu<sup>2+</sup> in 20mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4). Reactions were started by the addition of ascorbate.

*Effects of chelator on HNE formation by*  $A\beta_{1-42}$ - $Cu^{2+}$  *complex.* 

The reaction mixture containing PLPC-OOH (500  $\mu$ M), ascorbic acid (500  $\mu$ M) and A $\beta_{1.42}$  (2  $\mu$ M)-Cu<sup>2+</sup> (4  $\mu$ M) (1:2 molar ratio) complex was incubated with 2  $\mu$ M chelator for 60 minutes in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4) at room temperature. An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into HPLC to determine HNE.

## RESULTS

# *Phospholipid hydroperoxide formation from PLPC by* $A\beta_{1-42}$ - $Cu^{2+}$ *complex.*

When synthetic phospholipid, PLPC, was incubated with both  $Cu^{2+}$  and ascorbic acid, the formation of phospholipid hydroperoxides was observed by CL-HPLC. The CL-HPLC chromatogram showed a main peak at 14 min. The main peak was considered to be racemic mixture of 9-hydroperoxide and 13-hydroperoxide of linoleoyl residue (data not shown). The formation of phospholipid hydroperoxides by  $Cu^{2+}$  is shown in Fig. 2. The  $Cu^{2+}$ -associated lipid peroxidation was inhibited by  $A\beta_{1-42}$ , when  $Cu^{2+}$  was bound to two molar equivalents of  $A\beta_{1-42}$  (2  $A\beta_{1-42}$ - $Cu^{2+}$ ). However, an equimolar complex of  $A\beta_{1-42}$ - $Cu^{2+}$  (1:1 molar ratio) showed phospholipid hydroperoxide formation. When the  $Cu^{2+}$  concentration is higher than  $A\beta$ , the activity of phospholipid hydroperoxide formation by the complex ( $A\beta_{1-42}/Cu^{2+}=1:2$ , and 1:3) was higher than  $Cu^{2+}$ . The decrease of phospholipid hydroperoxides after a 60 minute incubation is consistent with the decomposition of phospholipid hydroperoxides.

Decomposition of PLPC-OOH and formation of HNE by  $Cu^{2+}$ .

When 500  $\mu$ M PLPC-OOH was incubated with both 1-3  $\mu$ M Cu<sup>2+</sup> and 500  $\mu$ M ascorbic acid for 5 minutes, a decrease of PLPC-OOH and formation of HNE was observed (Fig. 3). The rates of decomposition of PLPC-OOH and HNE formation were dependent on the Cu<sup>2+</sup> concentration. In the absence of ascorbic acid, neither decomposition of PLPC-OOH nor formation of HNE was observed (data not shown). Thus, it is likely that Cu<sup>2+</sup> is reduced to Cu<sup>+</sup> by ascorbic acid, and that the Cu<sup>+</sup> rapidly reacts with PLPC-OOH to generate HNE (Fig. 1). The reaction was further examined at 2  $\mu$ M Cu<sup>2+</sup> and the time courses of the decrease in PLPC-OOH and the formation of HNE are shown in Fig. 4. PLPC-OOH was rapidly and almost completely decomposed during the 20 minute incubation. However, HNE continued to increase after depletion of PLPC-OOH, reaching a peak after incubation for 80 min. The efficiency (mol % yield) of the formation of HNE from decomposed PLPC-OOH after incubation for 80 minutes was 6.1 %.

## *Effects of chelators on HNE formation by* $Cu^{2+}$ .

Figure 5 shows the amount of HNE formed from PLPC-OOH by free  $Cu^{2+}$  in the presence of equimolar concentration of the copper chelators. The amount of HNE formed from 500  $\mu$ M PLPC-OOH by incubation with 2  $\mu$ M  $Cu^{2+}$  for 30 minutes (control) was 22.1  $\mu$ M. The well-known  $Cu^{2+}$  chelator EDTA, deferoxamine, trientine, penicillamine, oxine and GHL, all inhibited the formation of HNE by 95, 88, 95, 73, 88 and 96 %, respectively. A $\beta_{1-42}$ , which are also very efficient chelators for copper, also both inhibited the formation by 92 %. A $\beta_{1-28}$  and A $\beta_{35-42}$  inhibited by 84 and 10%, respectively. The metal chelator, clioquinol, a 5-chloro-7-iodo derivative of oxine, reported to induce a decrease in brain A $\beta$  deposition (23, 34), was the least effect chelator only inhibiting formation by 25 %. Histidine and histamine inhibited by 36 and 17%, respectively. The biogenic polyamines such as putrescine, spermidine and spermine, inducers of cell growth and proliferation, reported to enhance A $\beta$ -associated neurotoxicity (35), inhibited the formation by 11, 18 and 11%, respectively. Carnosine, a dipeptide having copper chelating property, has been reported to inhibit the oxidation of phosphatidylcholine by Cu<sup>2+</sup> in the presence of ascorbic acid (36), but it did not show inhibitory effect.

*HNE formation by*  $A\beta_{1-42}$ - $Cu^{2+}$  *complex and ascorbate-oxidase activity of*  $A\beta_{1-42}$ - $Cu^{2+}$  *complex.* 

It has been reported that  $A\beta_{1-42}$  has an ability to bind up to 3.5 molar equivalents of  $Cu^{2+}$  (37), and  $A\beta_{1-42}$  binding two molar equivalents of  $Cu^{2+}$  ( $A\beta_{1-42}$ -2 $Cu^{2+}$ ) generates hydrogen peroxide in the presence of reductant (27).  $A\beta_{1-42}$  with equimolar  $Cu^{2+}$  decreased HNE formation by 91% as compared to free  $Cu^{2+}$  (Fig. 6A), and ascorbate-oxidase activity was also markedly inhibited (Fig. 6B). However,  $A\beta_{1-42}$  with two molar equivalents of  $Cu^{2+}$  provided a 36% inhibition of the formation by free  $Cu^{2+}$ , and showed ascorbate-oxidase activity. The  $A\beta_{1-42}$  binding three molar equivalents of  $Cu^{2+}$  showed marked ascorbate-oxidase activity and formation of HNE, the same as shown for the formation by free  $Cu^{2+}$ .

# *Effects of chelators on lipid peroxidation and HNE formation by* $A\beta_{1-42}$ - $Cu^{2+}$ *complex.*

Table 1 shows the inhibitory effect of chelators on phospholipid hydroperoxide and HNE formation by  $A\beta_{1-42}$ -Cu<sup>2+</sup> complex. phospholipid hydroperoxide formed from PLPC by  $A\beta_{1-42}$ -Cu<sup>2+</sup> (1:1) in the presence of copper chelator was determined. The total amounts of  $A\beta_{1-42}$  and copper chelators were two times higher than Cu<sup>2+</sup>. EDTA, trientine, penicillamine and GHL, markedly inhibited the formation of phospholipid hydroperoxide by 96, 92, 93 and 92 %, respectively.

HNE formed from PLPC-OOH by  $A\beta_{1-42}$ -2Cu<sup>2+</sup> (1:2) in the presence of copper chelator was

determined. The total amounts of  $A\beta_{1-42}$  and copper chelators were equimolar to  $Cu^{2+}$ . EDTA, trientine, deferoxamine, and GHL, markedly inhibited the formation of HNE by 93, 87, 82 and 87 %, respectively.

# DISCUSSION

Lipid peroxidation is induced under conditions of oxidative stress, such as Alzheimer's disease, ischemia-reperfusion, atherosclerosis, cancer, and various other disorders. The lipid peroxidation process involves the formation of lipid hydroperoxides, HNE, and malondialdehyde (6-9). Among these products, lipid hydroperoxides, which are mainly generated from phospholipids, cholesterol esters and unsaturated fatty acids, are the intermediates of peroxidation reactions. Phospholipids are the main components of cell membranes and lipoproteins, and these are converted to phospholipid hydroperoxides under peroxidative conditions. Incubation of PLPC with free  $Cu^{2+}$  in the presence of ascorbic acid generated phospholipid hydroperoxides through Cu<sup>2+</sup> reduction and peroxidation of PLPC (Fig. 2). The Cu<sup>2+</sup>-associated reactions are generally inhibited by copper chelators. Because the A $\beta_{1-42}$ when binding equimolar Cu<sup>2+</sup>, forms a square-planar complex including His<sup>6</sup>, His<sup>13</sup>, His<sup>14</sup>, and N-terminal amino group (21), the equimolar complex  $(A\beta_{1-42}-Cu^{2+})$  was expected to be redox-inactive. However, the  $A\beta_{1-42}$ -Cu<sup>2+</sup> was not redox-inactive, and showed phospholipid hydroperoxide formation (Fig. 2), and this is the first evidence for phospholipid hydroperoxide formation by  $A\beta_{1-42}$ -Cu<sup>2+</sup> complex. Two molar equivalents of  $A\beta_{1-42}$  showed Cu<sup>2+</sup>-associated lipid peroxidation but to a lesser extent. On the other hand, when Cu<sup>2+</sup> concentration is higher than A $\beta_{1-42}$ , the complexes (A $\beta_{1-42}$ -2Cu<sup>2+</sup> and A $\beta_{1-42}$ -3Cu<sup>2+</sup>) showed higher lipid peroxidation compared to free Cu<sup>2+</sup>, and the formed phospholipid hydroperoxide was reduced after incubation for 60 minutes (Fig. 2). The decrease in formed phospholipid hydroperoxide was caused by the reaction of phospholipid hydroperoxides with the complexes as mentioned below.

The reaction of one of the phospholipid hydroperoxides, PLPC-OOH, with hemoprotein has demonstrated the rapid formation of HNE (18). Reaction of ferric ion with PLPC-OOH is very slow and no HNE formation has been observed (18). In the presence of ascorbic acid as reductant, the reaction was also very slow (unpublished result). In the absence of ascorbic acid, reaction of  $Cu^{2+}$  with PLPC-OOH proceeds also very slowly (data not shown). On the other hand, in the presence of ascorbic acid,  $Cu^{2+}$  was reduced to  $Cu^{+}$ , and rapidly reacted with PLPC-OOH, followed by a generation of HNE (Figs. 3 and 6). The reaction was dependent on both the concentration of  $Cu^{2+}$  and the ascorbate-oxidase activity.

The time-courses of the decomposition of PLPC-OOH and HNE formation by 2  $\mu$ M Cu<sup>2+</sup> are shown in Fig. 4. In this reaction, over 99% of the added PLPC-OOH decomposed after incubation for 20 minutes; however, the increase in HNE concentration continued for more than

20 minutes. The increase in HNE after depletion of PLPC-OOH has been previously observed in the case of HNE formation by methemoglobin (18). These data suggest the operation of more than one pathway that generates HNE from PLPC-OOH — one pathway that rapidly generates a burst of product and another pathway that generates HNE more slowly, probably from a stable unidentified intermediate. The maximum efficiency (mol% yield) of the formation of HNE from decomposed PLPC-OOH, shown after incubation for 80 minutes, was 6.1%, and was higher than that by methemoglobin (1.6%) (18). Cu<sup>2+</sup>-associated decomposition of phospholipid hydroperoxides may be an important mechanism for HNE formation *in vivo*.

Transition metal-associated reactions are generally inhibited by metal chelators. GHL, known as a growth-modulating tripeptide isolated from human serum, is very efficient chelator for copper (38, 39). Because the GHL-Cu<sup>2+</sup> forms a planar tridentate complex involving the imino nitrogen of the histidyl imidazole ring (38), Cu<sup>2+</sup>-associated HNE formation from PLPC-OOH was considered to be markedly inhibited (Fig. 5). The A $\beta_{1-28}$ , A $\beta_{1-40}$  and A $\beta_{1-42}$  when binding equimolar Cu<sup>2+</sup>, forms a square-planar complex (21). The formation of HNE by these equimolar complexes was also markedly inhibited. In contrast, A $\beta_{35-42}$  having no Cu<sup>2+</sup>-binding site did not inhibit the formation of HNE. These data indicate that the formation of equimolar complexes of Cu<sup>2+</sup> with A $\beta$  is necessary for inhibition of Cu<sup>2+</sup>-associated HNE formation from PLPC-OOH.

It has been reported that  $A\beta_{1-42}$  has an ability to bind up to 3.5 molar equivalents of Cu<sup>2+</sup> (37).  $A\beta_{1-42}$  binding two molar equivalents of  $Cu^{2+}$  ( $A\beta_{1-42}$ - $2Cu^{2+}$ ) showed reduced ascorbate-oxidase activity inhibited the formation of HNE, corresponding to about 60 % of the formation by free  $Cu^{2+}$  (Fig. 6). Ascorbate radicals were observed during ascorbate-oxidase reaction by  $A\beta_{1-42}-2Cu^{2+}$  (data not shown). On the other hand, three molar equivalents of  $Cu^{2+}$  $(A\beta_{1-42}-3Cu^{2+})$  was equivalent to free  $Cu^{2+}$  suggesting an overload of inhibition. In this regard, Opazo et al. reported that  $A\beta_{1-42}$  purified from Alzheimer's disease plaque binds two molar equivalents of Cu<sup>2+</sup>, and it acts as pro-oxidant to generate hydrogen peroxide in the presence of reductant (27). The A $\beta_{1-42}$ -2Cu<sup>2+</sup> and A $\beta_{1-42}$ -3Cu<sup>2+</sup> generated hydrogen peroxide in the presence of ascorbate much the same as ascorbate-oxidase activity and HNE formation (unpublished result). These data indicate that the complex of  $Cu^{2+}$  with A $\beta$  acts as a pro-oxidant when  $Cu^{2+}$ concentration is higher than  $A\beta_{1.42}$ . On the other hand, the generation of hydrogen peroxide by free  $Cu^{2+}$  in the presence of ascorbate as reductant was inhibited by equimolar  $A\beta_{1-42}$ (unpublished result) and lipid peroxidation by Cu<sup>2+</sup> was inhibited by two molar equivalent of  $A\beta_{1-42}$  (Fig. 2). These data indicate that  $A\beta_{1-42}$  acts as antioxidant when  $Cu^{2+}$  concentrations are lower than  $A\beta_{1.42}$ . Such an antioxidant effect of  $A\beta$  is not completely surprising. Kontush et al. documented the *in vitro* effect of A $\beta$  as antioxidant on Cu<sup>2+</sup>-catalyzed oxidation of low density lipoprotein when added in molar excess of  $Cu^{2+}$  (40). Nunomura et al. reported that increases of A $\beta$  in vivo are associated with decreased oxidative damage (41). Based on data presented here,

we suspect that  $A\beta$  acts primarily as antioxidant to prevent  $Cu^{2+}$ -catalyzed oxidation of biomolecules in the brain at low concentrations of  $Cu^{2+}$ . On the other hand, at higher concentrations of  $Cu^{2+}$  than  $A\beta_{1-42}$ ,  $A\beta_{1-42}$ - $Cu^{2+}$  (1:1) shows phospholipid hydroperoxide formation, and furthermore,  $A\beta_{1-42}$ - $2Cu^{2+}$  (1:2) and  $A\beta_{1-42}$ - $3Cu^{2+}$  (1:3) show both phospholipid hydroperoxide and HNE formations. As such, both antioxidant and pro-oxidant properties of the  $A\beta$  complex with  $Cu^{2+}$  are dependent on the ratio of  $Cu^{2+}$  to  $A\beta$ .

The phospholipid hydroperoxide formation by  $A\beta_{1-42}$ -Cu<sup>2+</sup> (1:1) was markedly inhibited by copper chelators such as EDTA, trientine, penicillamine and GHL (Table 1). The HNE formation was also markedly inhibited by copper chelators such as EDTA, trientine, deferoxamine and GHL. These data indicated that the oxidative stress by the complex of A $\beta$  with Cu<sup>2+</sup> in the brain of Alzheimer's disease may be abrogated by copper chelator treatment.

The copper ion is considered to be mainly bound to copper-chelating protein such as ceruloplasmin and metallothionein *in vivo* (42). Bound copper, similar to  $Cu^{2+}$  of  $A\beta_{1-42}-2Cu^{2+}$  (Fig. 6), carnosine- $Cu^{2+}$  and polyamines- $Cu^{2+}$  (Fig. 5) in this study, is assumed to be redox-active, and may induce HNE formation from lipid hydroperoxides *in vivo*. The mechanism of the formation of HNE *in vivo* has been a long-standing question. The reaction of  $Cu^{+}$ , generated by reduction of binding  $Cu^{2+}$ , with lipid hydroperoxides may be one of a possible route of HNE formation *in vivo*.

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## **ABBREVIATIONS**

HNE — 4-hydroxy-2-nonenal
Aβ— amyloid-beta peptide
PLPC — 1-palmitoyl-2-linoleoyl phosphatidylcholine
PLPC-OOH— 1-palmitoyl-2-(13-hydroperoxy-cis-9, trans-11-octadecadienoyl)
phosphatidylcholine
GHL — glycyl-L-histidyl-L-lysine
CL-HPLC — chemiluminescence detection-high performance liquid chromatography

Figure legends

## Fig. 1. HNE formation from PLPC.

<u>Fig. 2.</u> Phospholipid hydroperoxide formation from PLPC by  $A\beta_{1-42}$ -Cu<sup>2+</sup> complex. The reaction mixture containing PLPC (1 mM) and ascorbic acid (2 mM) was incubated with Cu<sup>2+</sup> (10  $\mu$ M) or  $A\beta_{1-42}$  (3.3~20  $\mu$ M) - Cu<sup>2+</sup> (10  $\mu$ M) complex in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4) at room temperature. An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into a CL-HPLC to determine phospholipid hydroperoxide. Each point represents the mean  $\pm$  S.D. of three experiments.

<u>Fig. 3.</u>  $Cu^{2+}$ -dependent decomposition of PLPC-OOH and the formation of HNE from PLPC-OOH in the presence of ascorbic acid. 500 µM PLPC-OOH and 500 µM ascorbic acid was incubated with 1-3 µM Cu<sup>2+</sup> for 5 minutes in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4). An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into a CL-HPLC and HPLC to determine PLPC-OOH and HNE, respectively. Each point represents the mean ± S.D. of three experiments.

Fig. 4. Time courses of the decomposition of PLPC-OOH and the formation of HNE

Lipid peroxidation and HNE formation by Aβ-Cu<sup>2+</sup>

from PLPC-OOH by  $Cu^{2+}$  in the presence of ascorbic acid. 500 µM PLPC-OOH and 500 µM ascorbic acid was incubated with 2 µM  $Cu^{2+}$  in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4). An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into a CL-HPLC and HPLC to determine PLPC-OOH and HNE, respectively. Each point represents the mean  $\pm$  S.D. of three experiments.

Fig. 5. Effects of chelators on the formation of HNE from PLPC-OOH by  $Cu^{2+}$  and ascorbic acid. 500  $\mu$ M PLPC-OOH, 500  $\mu$ M ascorbic acid and 2  $\mu$ M Cu<sup>2+</sup> was incubated with 2  $\mu$ M chelator for 30 minutes in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4). An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into an HPLC to determine HNE. Each point represents the mean  $\pm$  S.D. of three experiments.

Fig. 6. Effects of ratio of  $Cu^{2+}$  to  $A\beta_{1.42}$  on  $Cu^{2+}$ -dependent formation of HNE and ascorbate-oxidase activity. (A) 500 µM PLPC-OOH and 500 µM ascorbic acid was incubated with  $A\beta_{1.42}$  (2 µM) -  $Cu^{2+}$  (2-8 µM) ( $\circ$ ) for 30 minutes in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4). Closed circle (•) represent HNE formation by  $Cu^{2+}$  alone (2-8 µM) which concentration are the same as those of  $A\beta_{1.42}$ - $Cu^{2+}$  complex. An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into an HPLC to determine HNE. Each point represents the mean ± S.D. of three experiments. (B) Reaction mixture contained 100 µM ascorbate, 22 µM  $A\beta_{1.42}$  and various concentrations of  $Cu^{2+}$  ( $\circ$ ) in 20mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4). Reactions were started by the addition of ascorbate. Ascorbate-oxidase activity was followed optically at 260 nm. Each point represents the mean of three experiments.

#### Table 1.

# Effects of chelators on phospholipid hydroperoxide and HNE formations by $A\beta_{1-42}$ -Cu<sup>2+</sup> complex.

a. The reaction mixture containing PLPC (1 mM), ascorbic acid (2 mM) and A $\beta_{1-42}$  (10  $\mu$ M) - Cu<sup>2+</sup> (10  $\mu$ M) (1:1 molar ratio) complex was incubated with 10  $\mu$ M chelator for 60 minutes in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4) at room temperature. An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into a CL-HPLC to determine phospholipid hydroperoxide.

b. The reaction mixture containing PLPC-OOH (500  $\mu$ M), ascorbic acid (500  $\mu$ M) and A $\beta_{1-42}$  (2  $\mu$ M) - Cu<sup>2+</sup> (4  $\mu$ M) (1:2 molar ratio) complex was incubated with 2  $\mu$ M chelator for 60 minutes in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4) at room temperature. An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into an HPLC to determine HNE.

Each value represents the mean of three experiments.



Fig. 1. HNE formation from PLPC.

Fig. 2. Phospholipid hydroperoxide formation from PLPC by  $A\beta_{1-42}$ -Cu<sup>2+</sup> complex. The reaction mixture containing PLPC (1 mM) and ascorbic acid (2 mM) was incubated with Cu<sup>2+</sup> (10  $\mu$ M) or  $A\beta_{1-42}$  (3.3~20  $\mu$ M) - Cu<sup>2+</sup> (10  $\mu$ M) complex in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4) at room temperature. An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into a CL-HPLC to determine phospholipid hydroperoxide. Each point represents the mean  $\pm$  S.D. of three experiments.



<u>Fig. 3.</u>  $Cu^{2+}$ -dependent decomposition of PLPC-OOH and the formation of HNE from PLPC-OOH in the presence of ascorbic acid. 500 µM PLPC-OOH and 500 µM ascorbic acid was incubated with 1-3 µM Cu<sup>2+</sup> for 5 minutes in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4). An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into a CL-HPLC and HPLC to determine PLPC-OOH and HNE, respectively. Each point represents the mean ± S.D. of three experiments.



Lipid peroxidation and HNE formation by  $A\beta$ -Cu<sup>2+</sup>

Fig. 4. Time courses of the decomposition of PLPC-OOH and the formation of HNE from PLPC-OOH by  $Cu^{2+}$  in the presence of ascorbic acid. 500 µM PLPC-OOH and 500 µM ascorbic acid was incubated with 2 µM  $Cu^{2+}$  in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4). An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into a CL-HPLC and HPLC to determine PLPC-OOH and HNE, respectively. Each point represents the mean  $\pm$  S.D. of three experiments.



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<u>Fig. 6.</u> Effects of ratio of  $Cu^{2+}$  to  $A\beta_{1.42}$  on  $Cu^{2+}$ -dependent formation of HNE and ascorbate-oxidase activity. (A) 500 µM PLPC-OOH and 500 µM ascorbic acid was incubated with  $A\beta_{1.42}$  (2 µM) -  $Cu^{2+}$  (2-8 µM) ( $\circ$ ) for 30 minutes in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4). Closed circle (•) represent HNE formation by  $Cu^{2+}$  alone (2-8 µM) which concentration are the same as those of  $A\beta_{1.42}$ - $Cu^{2+}$  complex. An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into an HPLC to determine HNE. Each point represents the mean ± S.D. of three experiments. (B) Reaction mixture contained 100 µM ascorbate, 22 µM  $A\beta_{1.42}$  and various concentrations of  $Cu^{2+}$  ( $\circ$ ) in 20mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4). Reactions were started by the addition of ascorbate. Ascorbate-oxidase activity was followed optically at 260 nm. Each point represents the mean of three experiments.



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b. The reaction mixture containing PLPC-OOH (500  $\mu$ M), ascorbic acid (500  $\mu$ M) and A $\beta_{1.42}$  (2  $\mu$ M) - Cu<sup>2+</sup> (4  $\mu$ M) (1:2 molar ratio) complex was incubated with 2  $\mu$ M chelator for 60 minutes in 5 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4) at room temperature. An aliquot of the reaction mixture was directly injected into an HPLC to determine HNE.

Each value represents the mean of three experiments.

Chelators	Inhibition of phospholipid	Inhibition of
	hydroperoxide formation (%)	HNE formation (%)
EDTA	96	93
Oxine	61	64
Trientine	92	87
Penicillamine	93	56
Carnosine	52	6
Deferoxamine	61	82
GHL	92	87