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# PEPTIDE YY INHIBITS ION SECRETION INDUCED BY VASOACTIVE INTESTINAL POLYPEPTIDE OR SEROTONIN IN THE RAT COLON IN VITRO

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# ABSTRACT

Peptide YY (PYY) is a gut peptide localized in intestinal mucosal endocrine cells, which are especially abundant in the colon. In order to study the effect of PYY on mucosal ion transport in the colon, the transmucosal potential difference (PD) and short circuit current (Isc) of the rat colonic mucosa were measured with Ussing chambers. Addition of PYY to the serosal reservoir induced a prompt and sustained decrease in PD and Isc in a concentration-dependent manner without affecting the tissue resistance. The threshold concentration and the EC<sub>50</sub> value for PYY were  $10^{-9}$  M and  $2 \times 10^{-8}$  M, respectively. Moreover, PYY inhibited the increase in Isc induced by VIP, theophylline and serotonin, indicating that PYY can antagonize both cyclic AMP- and calcium-mediated secretion of ion in the colon. The results suggest that PYY acts as an antisecretory modulator in the colon.

Peptide YY (PYY) is a 36-residue peptide iso- especially in association with the effect of lated and purified from porcine gut (21), and has considerable sequence homologies with peptide (VIP), theophylline and serotonin. pancreatic polypeptide (PP) and neuropeptide Y (NPY) (19). PYY is produced in many intestinal mucosal endocrine cells (4, 5, 13) which are abundant in the intestine, particularly in the colon (1, 2, 10, 22). Lundberg et al. (13) reported that intestinal PYY cells were sometimes found to have long processes resembling those of somatostatin-immunoreactive cells in the stomach, suggesting that PYY may have a paracrine as well as endocrine action. Since elevated plasma PYY levels have been observed in patients with diarrhea due to idiopathic inflammation or acute infection of the bowel (3, 12), it is possible that PYY has some rela-

such secretagogues as vasoactive intestinal poly-

MATERIALS AND METHODS PYY and VIP were purchased from Peninsula

Laboratories (Belmont, CA, U.S.A.), theophylline from Nakarai Chemicals (Kyoto), serotonin from Sigma Chemicals (St. Louis, MO, U.S.A.), and the other chemicals from Wako Pure Chemical Industries (Osaka).

Details of the methods adopted in the present in vitro study have been described elsewhere (11, 15). Briefly, nonfasting male Sprague-Dawley rats weighing 200-300 g were used, and colonic segment stripped off its tion with intestinal ion transport. The purpose serosal and muscle layers was mounted beof the present study was to examine the effect tween Lucite half-chambers (exposed area= of PYY on colonic ion transport in vitro, 1.13 cm<sup>2</sup>). Both sides of the tissue samples





Fig. 1 Effect of PYY on short circuit current (Isc • •), potential difference (PD - ) and tissue resistance (R O-O) in rat colonic mucosa. PYY  $(10^{-6} \text{ M})$  was added to the serosal reservoir after an initial 30 min stabilization period. All values are expressed as the mean±SE of 8 experiments.



Fig. 2 Dose-response curve of the decrease in Isc by PYY. Results are expressed as the ratio of the maximal decrease in Isc (AIsc) to the basal Isc (Isc<sub>0</sub>). Values represent the mean $\pm$ SE, with the number of experiments in parentheses.

were bathed with 10 ml of oxygenated Ringer's solution and maintained at 37°C by means of a water-jacketed gas-lift circulating system. The Ringer's solution had the follow- expressed as the mean  $\pm$  SE. ing composition (mM): 140 Na<sup>+</sup>, 119.8 Cl<sup>-</sup>, 5.2 K<sup>+</sup>, 1.2 Ca<sup>2+</sup>, 1.2 Mg<sup>2+</sup>, 25 HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, 2.4  $HPO_4^{2-}$  and 0.4  $H_2PO_4^{-}$ . Glutamine (5 mM) and 10 mM glucose were added to Ringer's solution. Two agar-KCl bridges in both muco- The addition of  $10^{-6}$  M PYY to the serosal



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Fig. 4 Effect of 10<sup>-2</sup> M theophylline alone on Isc Fig. 5 Effect of 10<sup>-5</sup> M serotonin alone on Isc  $(\bigcirc \bigcirc)$  and inhibitory effect of  $10^{-6}$  M PYY on Isc previously increased by 10<sup>-2</sup> M theophylline (---). PYY was added 10 min after the treatment with the phylline. (n=5)

reservoir after an initial 30-min stabilization Effect of PYY on Secretagogue-induced period caused an immediate decrease in Isc. The maximal decrease in Isc  $(-\Delta Isc=31.3\pm$  $3.7 \,\mu\text{A/cm}^2$ ) occurred 15 min after the addichange in PD following the addition of PYY tal system for 40 min (Fig. 1).

decrease in Isc by PYY. Results are expressed as the ratio of the maximal decrease in Isc to the basal Isc just before the addition of PYY, since the decrease in Isc by PYY varies directly with each level of the initial Isc before also resulted in an immediate and sustained the addition of PYY. The lowest concentra- increase in Isc. The addition of 10<sup>-6</sup> M PYY to tion of PYY that produced a significant det the  $10^{-2}$  M theophylline-treated tissue caused crease in Isc was  $10^{-9}$  M, and PYY at  $10^{-6}$  M a marked decrease in Isc ( $\Delta$ Isc=48.1±8.5  $\mu$ A/ produced the maximal decrease in Isc. The  $\text{cm}^2$ ), which was smaller than in the  $10^{-7}$  M EC<sub>50</sub> for PYY was  $2 \times 10^{-8}$  M. Therefore,  $10^{-6}$ M PYY was used in all subsequent experi- Isc-increase produced by theophylline. ments.

serotonin. (n=7)

Mucosal Isc Response

*VIP (Fig. 3)* The addition of  $10^{-7}$  M VIP to tion of 10<sup>-6</sup> M PYY. The decrease in Isc per- the serosal reservoir caused a rapid and sussisted over 30 min after PYY addition. The tained increase in Isc. This concentration of VIP has been shown to produce the maximal was parallel to that of Isc, indicating that the increase in Isc (16). The addition of  $10^{-6}$  M Rt was not affected by PYY in this experimen- PYY to the  $10^{-7}$  M VIP-treated tissue caused a rapid and marked decrease in Isc ( $\Delta$ Isc= Fig. 2 shows the dose-response curve of the  $83.2\pm4.0 \,\mu\text{A/cm}^2$ ) that was much larger than that with PYY alone. PYY completely blocked the VIP-evoked mucosal Isc increase.

> Theophylline (Fig. 4) The addition of  $10^{-2}$  M theophylline to the serosal reservoir VIP-treated tissue. PYY partially inhibited the Serotonin (Fig. 5) The Isc increased



Fig. 3 Effect of  $10^{-7}$  M VIP alone on Isc (0-0) and inhibitory effect of 10<sup>-6</sup> M PYY on Isc previously increased by  $10^{-7}$  M VIP ( $\bullet$ -- $\bullet$ ). PYY was added 10 min after the treatment with VIP. (n=4)

sal and serosal sites connected the chamber to a pair of calomel electrodes for measuring the transmucosal potential difference (PD) with a high-impedance potentiometer. Direct current was passed across the tissue between two other agar bridges connected to a battery via Ag-AgCl electrodes, and the short circuit current (Isc) was measured by a micro-amperemeter with a correction for the drop in potential between PD-measuring agar electrodes by the fluid resistance. The tissue resistance (Rt) was calculated from the PD and Isc according to the Ohm's law. The tissue was incubated for 30 min to equilibrate until the first agent was added to the serosal reservoir. The second agent, if used, was added 10 min after the treatment with the first agent. The results are

# RESULTS

Effects of PYY on the Basal State

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(0-0) and inhibitory effect of 10<sup>-6</sup> M PYY on Isc previously increased by  $10^{-5}$  M serotonin (•-•). PYY was added 10 min after the treatment with

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markedly after the addition of  $10^{-5}$  M seroto-increase in Isc induced by all of these agents, nin to the serosal reservoir. The addition of indicating that PYY can antagonize both cy- $10^{-6}$  M PYY to the  $10^{-5}$  M serotonin-treated clic AMP- and calcium-mediated secretagotissue caused a rapid decrease in Isc ( $\Delta$ Isc= gues in the colon. Although the mode of inter- $75.4 \pm 4.6 \,\mu$ A/cm<sup>2</sup>) even below the levels of action by PYY with intracellular mediators of the basal Isc. PYY reversed the serotonin- active electrolyte secretion remains unclear, evoked mucosal Isc response.

### DISCUSSION

Recent experiments have suggested that PYY and NPY affect the fluid and electrolyte transport in the small intestine (9, 18). Friel et al. (9) reported that PYY and NPY reduced the by prostaglandin E<sub>1</sub>, theophylline and serotoshort circuit current in the rabbit ileum in nin in vitro (11). It is thus possible that PYY vitro. They showed that NPY enhanced mu- affects colonic ion transport via PGD<sub>2</sub> synthecosal-to-serosal Cl<sup>-</sup> fluxes and reduced sero- sis. PYY, like PGD<sub>2</sub>, appears to be an inhibisal-to-mucosal Cl<sup>-</sup> fluxes across mucosa in the tory modulator in the colonic ion transport. rabbit ileum. Seria et al. (18) described that NPY and, to a lesser extent, PYY reduced a strong antisecretory action in the rat colon. prostaglandin E<sub>2</sub>-induced fluid secretion in Further studies are expected to determine its the rat jejunum in vivo. While the highest therapeutic potential in human endocrinopa-NPY immunoreactivity in the gut is found in thies (8, 14, 17) associated with excessive the proximal intestine (20), the highest PYY immunoreactivity is found in the colon in rats (10), dogs (10, 22) and humans (1, 2). It may well be speculated that PYY affects colonic ion transport when acting as a paracrine substance.

The present study shows that rat colonic mucosa does respond to PYY with a marked alteration in electrogenic ion transport in vitro. PYY produced a marked decrease in Isc and PD in the rat colonic mucosa (Fig. 1). The very low EC<sub>50</sub> of PYY may support a physiological role of PYY in the regulation of ion transport (Fig. 2). The increase in net Cl<sup>-</sup> absorption such as seen in the NPY-treated rabbit ileal mucosa (9) may be involved in the PYY-induced decrease in the short circuit current in rat colonic mucosa.

In addition, PYY was shown to block the Isc-increasing effect of VIP, theophylline and serotonin (Figs. 3, 4 and 5). VIP and theophylline are known to stimulate electrogenic Cl<sup>-</sup> secretion in rat colonic mucosa by increasing intracellular cyclic AMP through the activation of adenvlate cyclase and the inhibition of phosphodiesterase, respectively (6, 7, 16). On the other hand, serotonin is known to facilitate the intestinal fluid secretion through a calcium-dependent and cyclic AMP nonmediated process (7, 23). PYY inhibited the

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these results suggest that PYY may interfere some intracellular steps other than the increase in the cyclic AMP and calcium concentrations.

We have previously reported that prostaglandin  $D_2$  (PGD<sub>2</sub>) has also very similar actions of inhibiting the Isc-increasing effect

In conclusion, we have shown that PYY has secretion of VIP and serotonin.

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