

Notes

SCREENING OF PHOSPHATIDYL-
INOSITOL KINASE INHIBITORS
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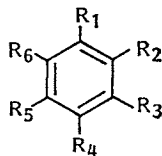
Phosphatidylinositol turnover is important in intracellular signal transduction in response to various growth factors, hormones and neurotransmitters¹. Transformation by oncogenes such as *ras*², *src*³, *erbB*⁴, *fms*⁵ and *fes*⁵ also enhances cellular phosphatidylinositol turnover. Phosphatidylinositol kinase is an enzyme involved in the pathway of phosphatidylinositol turnover. Especially, its activity is known to be enhanced by transformation with *src*^{3,6}, *erbB*⁴, *fms*⁶ and *sis*⁶ and by platelet-derived growth factor⁶. Therefore, we have screened for inhibitors of phosphatidylinositol kinase

from microbial secondary metabolites and found that 2,3-dihydroxybenzoic acid and orobol strongly inhibit the enzyme.

The phosphatidylinositol kinase from A431 cells has been purified to near homogeneity⁷. The enzyme has a subunit weight of 55,000 and acts as a monomer. It phosphorylates the inositol moiety of phosphatidylinositol on the 4-position and is therefore phosphatidylinositol 4-kinase (Type II)⁸.

With the A431 cell membrane, we have developed a rapid assay method for phosphatidylinositol kinase using a small packed silica gel column for separating phosphorylated lipid and unreacted [γ -³²P]ATP. The reaction mixture of phosphatidylinositol (60 μ g) and membrane fraction of A431 cells with or without inhibitor was incubated in 90 μ l of 20 mM 4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazineethanesulfonic acid (HEPES) buffer (pH 7.2) at 20°C for 10 minutes, then [γ -³²P]ATP was added to give about 2 μ M final concentration and incubation was continued at 20°C for 20 minutes. The reaction was stopped by addition of 700 μ l of a mixture of CHCl₃, MeOH and 1 N HCl (4:1:2). The mixture was centrifuged (3,000 rpm \times 10 minutes) to separate the two phases. Then, 200 μ l of the lower phase was

Table 1 Inhibition of phosphatidylinositol (PI) kinase by benzoic acids and benzaldehydes.



R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	R ₆	PI kinase IC ₅₀ (μ g/ml)
COOH	OH	OH	H	H	H	0.7
COOH	OH	H	OH	H	H	>10
COOH	OH	H	H	OH	H	>10
COOH	OH	H	H	H	OH	>10
COOH	H	OH	OH	H	H	5.6
COOH	H	OH	H	OH	H	>10
COOH	OH	H	H	H	H	>10
CHO	OH	OH	H	H	H	0.45
CHO	OH	H	OH	H	H	>10
CHO	H	OH	OH	H	H	10
CHO	OH	OH	OH	H	H	>10

applied to a packed silica gel column (1 ml). The phosphorylated lipid was eluted with a mixture of CHCl_3 , MeOH and 4 N NH_4OH (9:7:2) and the eluted fraction was evaporated to dryness *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in 100 μl of a mixture of CHCl_3 and MeOH (2:1). Then, 80 μl of the solution was applied on a cellulose filter paper. The paper was dried and counted for radioactivity.

After screening for phosphatidylinositol kinase inhibitors from hundreds of *Streptomyces* culture filtrates, we isolated 2,3-dihydroxybenzoic acid which inhibited the enzyme with an IC_{50} of 0.7 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$. For isolation of 2,3-dihydroxybenzoic acid, *Streptomyces* strain MI689-SF6 was cultured in media containing glucose 2%, starch 3%, corn steep liquor 1%, soybean meal 0.2%, Polypeptone 0.5%, NaCl 0.3%, CaCO_3 0.5% (pH 7.0) for 4 days at 28°C on a reciprocal shaker. The broth filtrate (3 liters) was extracted with BuOAc (3 liters) after adjusting to pH 2.0. The extract was concentrated *in vacuo* to give an oily matter which was mixed with silica gel (8.5 g) and applied to a silica gel column chromatography (31.5 g). The column was washed with a mixture of CHCl_3 and MeOH, and an active compound was eluted with a mixture of BuOH, MeOH and H_2O (4:1:2). The active fractions were charged on a column of Toyopearl HW-40 (150 ml) which was de-

veloped with MeOH. The residue after evaporation of the active fractions was further chromatographed on Sephadex LH-20 (100 ml) with MeOH. Then, the active compound was further purified by planetary coil centrifuge to yield 4.4 mg of 2,3-dihydroxybenzoic acid which was identified by ^1H and ^{13}C NMR and mass spectra.

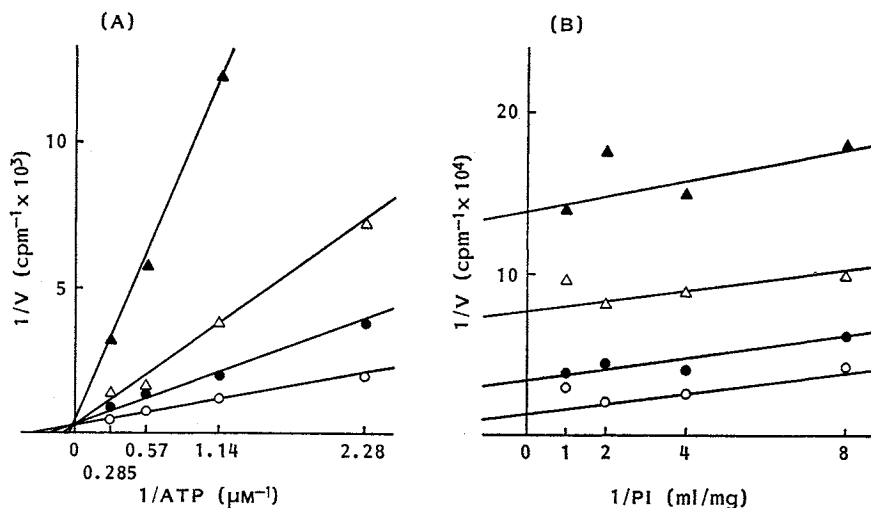
Among its structural analogues 2,4-, 2,5-, 2,6-, 3,4-, 3,5-dihydroxy and *o*-hydroxybenzoic acid were inactive, as shown in Table 1. An aldehyde analogue, 2,3-dihydroxybenzaldehyde showed stronger inhibitory activity with an IC_{50} of 0.45 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$. But, 2,4-, 3,4-dihydroxy and 2,3,4-trihydroxybenzaldehyde did not inhibit the enzyme. Thus, the 2,3-dihydroxy substitution is favorable for the enzyme inhibition. In

Table 2. Inhibition of phosphatidylinositol (PI) kinase by flavonoids.

	PI kinase IC_{50} ($\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$)
Isoflavones	
Orobol	0.25
Psi-tectorigenin	>10
Genistein	>10
Daizein	>10
Flavones	
Quercetin	1.8
Fisetin	2.0
Galangin	>10
Kaempferol	>10

Fig. 1. Lineweaver-Burk plot of the phosphatidylinositol (PI) kinase reaction with orobol.

The reaction was carried out with 0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ (○), 0.25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ (●), 0.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ (△) or 1.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ (▲) of orobol. (A) Orobol against ATP, (B) orobol against phosphatidylinositol.



addition, 2,3-dihydroxybenzoic acid and aldehyde inhibited tyrosine kinase of epidermal growth factor receptor with IC_{50} of about 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ and 1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$, respectively.

Quercetin is known to inhibit phosphatidylinositol kinase. In our assay system it inhibited the enzyme with an IC_{50} of 1.8 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$. Therefore, we have studied inhibition of phosphatidylinositol kinase by flavonoids which are structurally related to quercetin.

As shown in Table 2, orobol isolated from *Aspergillus niger*⁹⁾ or *Streptomyces neyagawensis*¹⁰⁾ was found to be a potent inhibitor of phosphatidylinositol kinase. Its inhibitory activity was about 10 times stronger than that of quercetin. Orobol also inhibits cellular phosphatidylinositol turnover in A431 cells¹¹⁾. Psitectorigenin strongly inhibits cellular phosphatidylinositol turnover¹¹⁾, but it does not inhibit phosphatidylinositol kinase. Thus, it should inhibit other enzymes involved in phosphatidylinositol turnover. Orobol is known to inhibit tyrosine kinase competitively with ATP¹²⁾. Again it was shown to compete with ATP in inhibition of phosphatidylinositol kinase. As shown in Fig. 1, kinetic studies by Lineweaver-Burk plotting have indicated that orobol is competitive with ATP and is uncompetitive with phosphatidylinositol. The Dixon plot of orobol with ATP has shown that the K_i value is 0.49 μM .

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