# IN VITRO RADIOSENSITIVITY OF HUMAN FRESH T-LYMPHOCYTES BY COLONY FORMATION ASSAY USING PHA AND RECOMBINANT INTERLEUKIN-2

PHA 及びリコンビナント・インターロイキン 2 を用いたコロニー 形成法によるヒトTリンパ球の試験管内放射線感受性

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PHA 及びリコンビナント・インターロイキン 2 を用いたコロニー 形成法によるヒトTリンパ球の試験管内放射線感受性

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#### **SUMMARY**

In vitro culture conditions for colony formation of human fresh peripheral T-cells using phytohemagglutinin (PHA) and recombinant Interleukin-2 are defined. Peripheral lymphocytes, from six individuals, were exposed to X or gamma rays in vitro, and dose-survival curves were obtained. The results showed typical sigmoid curves similar to those observed when other mammalian cells are exposed to radiation. The  $\rm D_{10}$  (dose required to kill 90% of the cells) was found to be 3.0 to 3.5 Gy.

#### INTRODUCTION

The variation of radiosensitivity among individuals has not been taken into account in the assessment of radiation risk to humans, mainly because the variation in normal populations is not clear and is regarded to be small.1 Most of the studies on radiosensitivity of cells from patients who are genetically prone to cancer as well as normal people have been conducted using normal diploid skin fibroblasts. Such investigations are, however, limited because of the difficulty in obtaining skin samples from healthy people. Recently, with the discovery of T-cell growth factor (Interleukin-2, IL-2), it became possible to obtain clonal growth of peripheral T-lymphocytes with high cloning efficiency (CE). This colony formation method is superior to that used previously in which skin fibroblasts were used because of the ease in obtaining the cells. Here we report a method of T-cell colony formation in vitro

#### 要約

フィトへムアグルチニン (PHA) 及びリコンビナント・インターロイキン2を用いたヒト末梢T 細胞のコロニー形成のための試験管内培養条件を決定した。6名から得られた末梢リンパ球に試験管内でX 線又はガンマ線を照射し、線量-生存率曲線を得た。その結果、ほかの哺乳類細胞に放射線を照射した場合と同様の典型的なシグモイド曲線を得た。 $D_{10}(90\%$ の細胞を死滅させるのに要する線量) は $3.0\sim3.5\,\mathrm{Gy}$  であることが判明した。

#### 緒言

ヒトに対する放射線リスクを評価する際に, 現状では 放射線感受性の個人差は考慮に入れられていないの であるが、これは主として通常集団における放射線 感受性の不均質性が明らかでなく、またそれは小さい と考えられているためである.1 健常者及び遺伝学的 に癌にかかりやすい患者の細胞の放射線感受性に 関する研究の大部分は,正常な二倍性皮膚線維芽 細胞を用いて行われてきた. しかし、健康人から 皮膚標本を得にくいという理由により、このような 研究は多くはない. 最近, T細胞増殖因子(インター ロイキン2, IL-2) の発見によって, 高いコロニー 形成率 (CE) でもって末梢Tリンパ球のクロン増殖を 行うことが可能になった。このコロニー形成法は、 必要な細胞の入手しやすさという点で皮膚線維芽 細胞を用いた従来のコロニー形成法よりも優れている. 本報では、PHA 及びリコンビナントIL-2を用いた

using PHA and recombinant IL-2 and the results of radiation dose-survival experiments using cells of six healthy individuals.

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS

<u>Isolation of lymphocytes</u>. Three milliliters of blood was defibrinated with glass beads and mononuclear cells were separated by Ficoll-Hypaque density gradient centrifugation.<sup>2</sup> The cells were washed three times with Earle's balanced salt solution (EBSS) containing 2.5% fetal calf serum, 100 U/ml Penicillin, and  $100 \mu \text{g/ml}$  Streptomycin.

Colony formation. The culture medium was alpha-MEM supplemented with 4 mM HEPES, 2 mM Lglutamine, 100 U/ml Penicillin, 100 µg/ml Streptomycin, 0.7 µg/ml Phytohemagglutinin-protein (PHA-P, Difco), and 5 U/ml recombinant IL-2 (Shionogi Pharmacy Co., Ltd.). The mononuclear cells were suspended in EBSS at a concentration of  $1 \times 10^6$  cells/ml. Immediately after appropriate dilution with the culture medium, cells were irradiated with 60 Co gamma rays at the Research Institute for Nuclear Medicine and Biology, Hiroshima University, and 2 to 800 cells (depending on the dose) were seeded to each well of a 96-well microplate (flat bottom, Corning) with 0.10 ml of culture medium. One plate was used for each irradiation. In the case of X irradiation, 2 to 800 cells were distributed in a microwell plate prior to exposure. In both cases, PHA was added immediately after irradiation. Radiation exposure was delivered at a dose rate of 50 and 44 rad/min for 60 Co gamma rays and X rays (Shimazu WSI-250S, operated at 220 kVp, 8 mA, with a 0.3 mm Cu and 0.5 mm Al filter), respectively. As a feeder layer, human B-cells, Raji (IL-2 independent), inactivated with 100 Gy of X rays, and human allogeneic lymphocytes, inactivated with 50 Gy of X rays, were added to each well with 0.10 ml of the medium in both gamma- and Xray experiments. Cells were incubated at 37 °C in a humidified CO2 incubator (5% CO2 plus 95% air). Half of the medium (0.1 ml per well) was replenished after one week, and the presence of colonies was determined after two weeks using an inverted microscope. The CE of nonirradiated cells was found to be around 10%. Under the experimental conditions of the present study, it has been found that more than 80% of the colonies thus obtained possessed T<sub>4</sub> antigen on the surface<sup>3</sup>; they are mainly helper/inducer T-cells, which are being sought under the present examination.

T細胞の試験管内コロニー形成法,及び健康な6名の対象者の細胞を用いた放射線線量-生存率実験の結果を報告する.

#### 材料及び方法

リンパ球の分離. 血液 3 ml をガラスビーズで脱フィブリンし, 単核細胞を Ficoll-Hypaque 密度勾配遠心法で分離した. <sup>2</sup> 2.5%ウシ胎児血清, 100 U/ml penicillin, 100 μg/ml streptomycin を含む Earle balanced salt solution (EBSS) で細胞を 3 回洗浄した

培養液には4 mM HEPES, 2 mM コロニー形成. 100 U/ml penicillin,  $100 \, \mu \text{g/ml}$ L-glutamine, 0.7 µg/ml phytohemagglutininstreptomycin, protein (PHA-P, Difco) 及び5 U/ml リコンビナント IL-2 (シオノギ製薬)を添加した alpha-MEM を用 いた. 単核細胞を濃度1×10<sup>6</sup> 個/ml の割合で EBSS に浮遊させた. 細胞は培養液で適当に希釈した直後, 広島大学原爆放射能医学研究所で<sup>60</sup>Co ガンマ線を 照射し、線量に応じて2~800個を0.10ml 培養液を 用いて96穴の microplate (平底, Corning) の各 well に播種した. 各照射ごとに1 plate 用いた. X線照射の 場合は、照射に先立ち2~800個の細胞を microwell plate に播種した、いずれの場合も、照射後30分 以内に PHA を添加した。 60 Co ガンマ線は50 rad/分, X線(島津 WSI-250S, 0.3 mm Cu 及び0.5 mm Al フィルター付き 220 kVp, 8 mA) は44 rad/分の割合 で照射を行った. ガンマ線及びX線両照射実験の いずれにおいても、feeder 細胞としてX線100 Gyで 不活性化したヒトB細胞である Raji 細胞 (IL-2 非依存性),及びX線50Gyで不活性化した他人由来 リンパ球を0.10ml 培養液とともに各 well に添加 した. 加湿 CO<sub>2</sub> 恒温器 (5% CO<sub>2</sub> + 95% 空気) の 中で37℃で細胞を培養した。培養液の半分(well 当たり0.1 ml)を1週間後に交換し、2週間後倒立 顕微鏡を用いてコロニーの有無を確認した. 照射 されなかった細胞のコロニー形成率 (CE) は約10%で あった. 本研究の実験条件下では、このようにして 得られたコロニーの80%以上が細胞表面上に T4 抗原 をもっていることが判明している.3 そのコロニー は大部分 helper/inducer T細胞であり、今回の検査 では主としてこれらの細胞について調査したことに なる.

<u>Determination of surviving fraction</u>. To determine the surviving fraction (SF), CE was first obtained for each plate by the formula<sup>3,4</sup>:

生存率の決定. 生存率 (SF) を決定するために以下 の公式を用いてまず各 plate の CE を得た ³, 4:

- In (fraction of wells with no cell growth)
- In (細胞増殖のない well の割合)

Average number of cells seeded per well
well 当たり平均播種細胞数

SFs were obtained by dividing the CE at each dose by that of the same individuals' nonirradiated plate.

#### RESULTS

Before conducting the radiation experiments, conditions of feeder cells were examined. Our previous investigations revealed that X ray-inactivated Raji cells (10<sup>4</sup> cells/well) support clonal growth of fresh lymphocytes.<sup>3</sup> Thus, different numbers of X ray-inactivated allogeneic lymphocytes were plated with 104 Raji cells per well. It was found that the colony size was small with less than  $1 \times 10^4$ allogeneic lymphocytes per well, and it was sometimes quite difficult for the untrained eve to identify the presence of growing lymphocytes. With more than  $2 \times 10^4$  lymphocytes per well, colony size was greatly improved and CE also increased substantially (Figure 1). Therefore, in the following dosesurvival study,  $1 \times 10^4$  Raji cells and  $2 \times 10^4$  allogeneic lymphocytes were seeded per well as feeder cells.

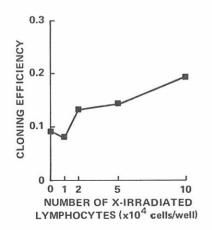
各線量における CE を同一対象者の照射されなかった plate の CE で除して SF を得た.

#### 結 果

放射線実験を行う前に feeder 細胞の条件を検討した. 以前の研究から,X線不活化 Raji 細胞( $10^4$  個/well)がリンパ球のクロン増殖を支持することが判明している.  $^3$  したがって,well 当たり $10^4$  個の Raji 細胞とともに異なる数のX線不活化同種リンパ球を培養した。Well 当たりの同種リンパ球が $1\times10^4$  個以下の場合にはコロニーの大きさは小さく,ときとして不慣れな目では増殖中のリンパ球の有無を確認することは大変困難であることが判明した。Well 当たり $2\times10^4$  個以上のリンパ球を加えた場合にはコロニーの大きさは随分大きくなり,CE もかなり増大した(図1). したがって,以下の線量 - 生存率研究ではfeeder 細胞として well 当たり $1\times10^4$  個の Raji 細胞と $2\times10^4$  個の同種リンパ球を播種した。

FIGURE 1 THE EFFECT OF X RAY-INACTIVATED ALLOGENEIC LYMPHOCYTES ON THE CLONING EFFICIENCY OF FRESH LYMPHOCYTES

図1 X線不活化同種リンパ球がリンパ球コロニー形成率に及ぼす影響



Fresh lymphocytes (2 cells/well on the average) were plated with  $1 \times 10^4$  Raji cells (treated with 100 Gy of X rays) and different number of allogeneic lymphocytes (50 Gy) per well. Each point represent average of duplicate plates (96 wells/plate).

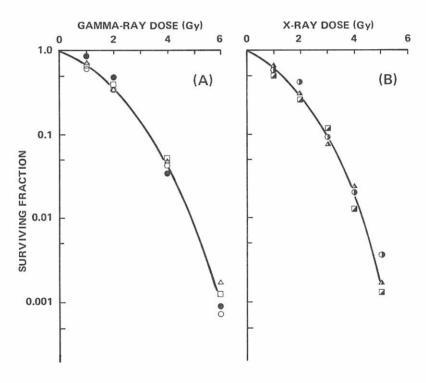
well 当たり $1 \times 10^4$  個の Raji 細胞 (100 Gy X線処理)及び異なる数の同種リンパ球 (50 Gy X線処理)を用いてリンパ球 (平均2 個/well)を培養した。各点は2 枚のプレート(96 穴/plate)の平均を示す。

Cells from three laboratory volunteers were exposed to <sup>60</sup>Co gamma rays and cells from another three volunteers were exposed to 220 kVp X rays to obtain dose-response curves (Figures 2A and 2B). Typical curvilinear responses were observed as reported for many other cultured mammalian cells. Cells from one individual were collected again one month later and reexamined; the result was similar to that in the earlier experiment (Figure 2A, open and closed circles), demonstrating that the present assay system is satisfactorily reproducible.

3名の有志から得た細胞を<sup>60</sup>Co ガンマ線照射し、別の3名の有志から得た細胞を220 kVp X線照射して線量-反応曲線を得た(図2A及び2B).多くの哺乳類の培養細胞について報告されているように典型的な曲線反応が観察された。対象者一名については細胞を1か月後に再採取して再検査したところ、結果は初期の実験結果とほぼ同じであり(図2A,白丸及び黒丸)今回の測定法が十分再現性のあることが示された。

FIGURE 2 RADIATION RESPONSE OF THE LOSS OF COLONY FORMING ABILITY OF HUMAN PERIPHERAL T-LYMPHOCYTES

図2 ヒト末梢Tリンパ球のコロニー形成能力喪失の放射線反応



A. Results of <sup>60</sup>Co gamma rays for three volunteers. B. Results of 220 kVp X rays for three different individuals. The open and closed circles in A represent the initial and repeated examinations of the same person. The lines were fitted by eye.

A. 有志 3名の $^{60}$ Co ガンマ線照射の結果。B. 別の有志 3名の $220\,kVp$  X線照射の結果。A の白丸及び黒丸は同一対象者の1回目及び2回目の検査結果を示す。曲線の適合は目測で行った。

#### DISCUSSION

As shown in Figure 2, the dose-survival curve of T-lymphocytes has a broad shoulder and the slope is continuously curving up to 6Gy. no estimation was made for n and Do which are usually obtained for multitarget models. linear extrapolation was made using data points above 3 Gy, the n value would be certainly larger than 10. This is in sharp contrast to the results obtained with normal human skin fibroblasts4,5 and thyroid epithelial cells<sup>6</sup> in which the shoulder was found to be practically absent or quite small. It is not clear at present why such shoulders were observed in these experiments. One possible reason, however, may be related to the arrest of fresh lymphocytes in the Go cell cycle. James et al7 used normal human lymphocytes under longterm culture (more than 20 days) in dose-survival experiments and reported an almost linear doseresponse curve (0-400 rad, average n=1.4 for five individuals). Sanderson et al<sup>8</sup> examined dose responses of fresh, nonproliferating lymphocytes, and proliferating lymphocytes three days after PHA stimulation and reported that the growing cells were considerably more radiosensitive and the shoulder was greatly diminished. Wolff<sup>9</sup> also showed that lymphocytes at the G1 phase are twice as sensitive as cells at Go in terms of radiation-induced dicentric/ring chromosome production. These results strongly suggest that Go lymphocytes are capable of repairing sublethal damage more effectively than cycling cells. This is probably due to the fact that they have a longer time for repair to occur before the onset of DNA replication. On the other hand, in a plaque forming cell (PFC) assay with mouse spleen cells, Sado et al<sup>10</sup> reported that the survival curve for cells from B6 mice was almost exponential while cells from C3H mice had a broad shoulder (n=more than 10). These results may indicate that such a broad shoulder is not an unusual characteristic of normal cells following radiation exposure. Dose fractionation experiments will be used in the near future in an effort to clarify this hypothesis.

It has been known that peripheral lymphocytes are one of the most vulnerable cells to radiation injury. In rats, for example, after a total-body irradiation of 50 rad, the peripheral lymphocyte count decreased to less than 1/2 of the normal value within one day.<sup>11</sup> In human peripheral lymphocytes, exposure to 150 R in vitro resulted in about 90% of the cells being classified as morphologically nonviable

#### 考察

図2に示すとおり、Tリンパ球の線量-生存率曲線は 肩が広く、6 Gv まで連続してカーブを描いている. したがって、通常多重標的モデルの場合得られる n及び D<sub>0</sub>の推定は行わなかった。もし3 Gy 以上の データポイントを用いて直線外挿を行えば, n値が 10以上になることは確かである。これはヒトの正常な 皮膚線維芽細胞 4,5 や甲状腺細胞 6 では曲線の肩が ほとんどないか、極めて小さいという結果と大きく異 なっている. 今回の実験でなぜそのような曲線の肩が 観察されたのか現在のところ明らかでない. しかし, 考えられる理由として、リンパ球が Go細胞周期に 停止していることとの関連が挙げられる. James ら7 は、線量-生存率実験で長期培養(20日以上)のヒトの 正常リンパ球を用い,線量-反応曲線(0-400 rad, 対象者5名の平均n値=1.4) がほぼ線形であること を報告した. Sanderson ら 8 は, 非増殖リンパ球及び PHA 刺激後3日目の増殖リンパ球を調べた結果, 増殖 期の細胞の方が放射線感受性が一層高く, 曲線の肩 も減少していると報告している. Wolff9も, 放射線 誘発の二動原体/環状染色体産生に関しては G<sub>1</sub> 期の リンパ球の放射線感受性はG<sub>0</sub>期のリンパ球の2倍で あることを報告している. これらの結果は、G。期の リンパ球は細胞周期を回っている細胞よりも亜致死 損傷をよりよく修復できることを強く示唆している. それは、この時期のリンパ球は DNA 複製を開始 するまでに修復時間がより長いためと考えられる. 一方, マウスの脾臓細胞を用いたプラーク形成細胞 (PFC) 測定において Sado ら<sup>10</sup> は, B6 マウスから得た 細胞の生存曲線は指数曲線に極めて近いのに対して, C3Hマウスから得た細胞では曲線の肩が広い(n= 10以上)ことを報告した.したがって、これらの結果 は曲線の肩が大きいことは放射線照射された正常 細胞の例外的な特性ではないことを示しているのかも しれない. この仮説を実証するために近い将来線量 分割実験を行うことを考えている.

以前から末梢リンパ球は放射線障害を最も受けやすい細胞の一つであることが知られている。例えばラットでは、50 rad の全身照射後末梢リンパ球数は一日のうちに正常値の½以下に減少する.<sup>11</sup> ヒトの末梢リンパ球では、試験管内で150 R 照射すると細胞の約90%が6日間培養(PHA刺激なし)後形態学的

after six days' culture (without PHA stimulation).12 It has also been shown that the ultrasensitivity is greatly diminished if the cells were stimulated by mitogens in vitro either before or after radiation exposure. 12,13 In the present study, cells were irradiated at the Go stage, followed by PHA stimulation, and the results show that the D<sub>10</sub> lies between 3 and 3.5 Gy which is in reasonable agreement with results obtained with other types of human cells; that is, human skin fibroblasts (3-4 Gy, 4 3.5-4.5 Gy<sup>5</sup>), mammary epithelial cells (>4 Gy<sup>14</sup>) or thyroid epithelial cells (2-3.5 Gy<sup>6</sup>). The molecular events relating lymphocyte blastogenesis to reduction of lymphocyte radiosensitivity are not understood as yet. In this regard, it is interesting to mention that resting oocytes of juvenile mice have been known to be quite radiosensitive ( $D_{10} = 20 \text{ rad}$ ) while growing oocytes are not.15 Hence, in both oocytes and lymphocytes, cells at the resting stage seem to be programmed to die after exposure to small doses of radiation, whereas physiological alteration (i.e., maturation of resting oocytes and blastogenesis of small lymphocytes) may release the cells from the programmed interphase cell death leading to a common mitotic death of which the target molecule is mainly DNA (chromosomes). Alternatively, it has been speculated that the greatly increased DNA polymerase and ligase activities accompanying lymphocyte blastogenesis may render the cells to repair DNA damage more effectively. 13

The present assay provides the means to survey human radiosensitivity at the cellular level for a large number of people and such investigations are currently under progress. に致死と認められた.12また放射線照射の前後に試験 管内で細胞をマイトジェンで刺激すれば、この超高 感受性が大幅に低下することも証明されている.12,13 本研究では、Go期で細胞を照射した後 PHA 刺激を 行ったところ、D10は3~3.5 Gy であり、ヒトのその他 の細胞, すなわちヒトの皮膚線維芽細胞 (3~4 Gy,4 3.5~4.5 Gy 5), 乳腺上皮細胞(>4 Gy M) 又は 甲状腺上皮細胞(2~3.5 Gv<sup>6</sup>)を用いて得た結果と かなり一致している. リンパ球の幼若化がリンパ球の 放射線感受性の減少をもたらす分子レベルでの原因は まだ明らかでない. この点に関して興味深いことは, 若いマウスの休止期の卵母細胞は放射線感受性が 非常に高い(D<sub>10</sub>=20 rad)が、増殖期の卵母細胞は そうではないことが知られていることである.15 した がって、卵母細胞及びリンパ球のいずれも、休止期の 細胞は少量の放射線照射後死滅するようプログラム されているように思われるが、生理学的変化(休止期 卵母細胞の成熟及び小リンパ球の幼若化)によって 細胞はプログラムされた間期死をまぬかれて、主と して DNA (染色体) が標的となる一般的な分裂死に 到るようになるのかもしれない. 他方, リンパ球の 幼若化に伴い DNA ポリメラーゼ及びリガーゼの活性 が大きく増大することが知られており、そのために 細胞は DNA 損傷修復をより効果的に行うようになる かもしれない.13

本測定法によって多くの人を対象にしたヒト放射性 感受性を細胞レベルで調査することができ,このよう な調査が現在進行中である.

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