

Cyclodextrin for Prevention and Treatment of Atherosclerosis

Zimmer *et al.* have just published their comprehensive study on the antiatherosclerotic and anti-inflammatory effects of HPBCD [1]. Their paper is the result of 20 research groups applying the most sophisticated methods. It triggered us to review the literature of the field.

As early as in 1992 Pitha *et al.* have already observed that repeated administration of HPBCD to rabbits led to a gradual increase in total cholesterol in circulation and in urine and eventually to a slight relief of atherosclerotic lesions in the thoracic aorta [2]. Based on the effect on the cellular cholesterol efflux in three cell lines Kilsdonk *et al.* proposed in 1995 to use HPBCD as potential pharmacological agent that could modify *in vivo* cholesterol metabolism and influence the development of the atherosclerotic plaque [3]. As 7-ketocholesterol plays an important role in the atherogenesis and HPBCD enhances the removal of this oxysterol, HPBCD was suggested to be applied as potential oxysterol removing agent for preventing atherosclerosis [4]. HPBCD was found to be a cholesterol shuttle enhancing bidirectional efflux of cholesterol between cells and lipoproteins in serum which phenomenon was thought to be useful in treating unstable atherosclerotic plaques [5].

Dass and Jessup wrote a review in 2000 with the title "Apolipoprotein A-I, cyclodextrins and liposomes as potential drugs for the reversal of atherosclerosis. A review" [6]. Both Apolipoprotein A-I (apoA-I, the major protein of high density lipoproteins, HDL) and HPBCD remove cholesterol from membranes of various cells with a similar biphasic mechanism suggesting the presence of two kinetic pools of unesterified cholesterol. Cholesterol is removed first in a rapid efflux phase in a few minutes then in the second phase a slower efflux is observed after the fast pool is refilled with cholesterol. The first phase is significantly shorter with CDs than with apoA-I but the second phase is of similar rate. The mass of effluxed cholesterol is much higher with HPBCD than with apoA-I. On the other hand, apoA-I stimulates the hydrolysis of cholesteryl esters within foam cells, what HPBCD cannot do. Dass and Jessup suggested a combination of apoA-I and cyclodextrins to enhance cholesterol desorption into the bloodstream and stimulate reverse cholesterol transport in atherosclerotic-prone patients.

The cholesterol/sphingomyelin-enriched rafts in the membrane of cells and cell organelles seem serve as signaling platforms involved in many biological processes. Modulation of

cholesterol level might be used in the treatment of raft-related diseases such as atherosclerosis [7]. According to Irie & Uekama not only cholesterol but also phosphatidylcholine and sphingomyelin are removed by CDs [8]. Loosening the membrane structure in this way, some proteins anchored by lipids are also released.

Atherosclerosis is a chronic disease triggered by lipid disturbances, endothelial injury and sustained by inflammation. CD treatment inhibited the activation of proinflammatory cytokines such as interleukin-1 beta (IL-1 β), the major cytokine linking inflammation and angiogenesis in pathological vascular processes, such as atherosclerosis [9]. Changes in cholesterol level (reduction with methyl BCDs or increase by cholesterol/methyl BCD complex) can modulate interleukin-8 (IL-8) synthesis in endothelial cells [10].

Decreasing the membrane cholesterol content by CDs and disrupting caveolae in intact rat arteries results in changed signaling steps, e.g. the localization of TRPC-1 (Transient receptor potential channel 1, an ion channel protein) and the vascular reactivity of Endothelin-1 (peptide constricting blood vessels and raising blood pressure) [11] and influx of Ca²⁺ [12]. Similarly, the p38 mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAPK), a stress-activated protein kinase potentially participating in the development of atherosclerosis can be activated [13] and the transforming growth factor (TGF-beta)-induced signaling can be facilitated [14].

Niemann-Pick type C1 (NPC1), an integral membrane protein on the limiting membrane of late endosome/lysosome (LE/LY), is known to accept cholesterol from NPC2 and then mediate cholesterol transport from LE/LY to endoplasmic reticulum and plasma membrane. Its role in regulating intracellular cholesterol trafficking and atherosclerosis has been recently reviewed [15]. HPBCD has been approved by both the US FDA and European Medicinal Agency (EMA) for the treatment of NPC1-deficient patients. HPBCD acts as a cholesterol shuttle enhancing the cholesterol esterification, suppressing the cholesterol synthesis, increased the expression of liver X receptor (LXR) genes, stimulates the cholesterol transport from LE/LY [16].

It was shown that methyl BCD can cause lipid depletion of LDL and impairs LDL susceptibility to oxidation, an effect inhibiting atherogenesis [17]. *In vitro* studies showed that treatment with CRYSMEB can block atheroprogession by reducing atherosclerotic plaque size via improving triglyceride serum levels and T helper cells (Th1)-mediated response in ApoE^(-/-) mice on high-cholesterol diet [18].

Hyperlipidemic mice treated with HPBCD demonstrated a shift in intracellular distribution of cholesterol towards cytoplasmic cholesteryl ester storage and a decrease in cholesterol crystallization inside Kupfer cells suggesting that HPBCD could be a useful tool to improve intracellular cholesterol levels in the context of the metabolic syndrome, such as atherosclerosis and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) [19].

In vitro studies demonstrated the potential benefits of HPBCD treatment in peripheral artery disease (PAD). This disease is caused by atherosclerosis and results in progressive narrowing



and occlusion of the peripheral arteries thus inhibits blood flow to the lower extremities [20].

The comprehensive study of Zimmer *et al.* recently published in *Science of Translational Medicine* ascertained that HPBCD treatment not only impairs the atherogenesis but also mediates the regression of the existing atherosclerotic plaques [1]. The atherosclerotic lesions with aortic roots were profoundly reduced in apolipoprotein E (ApoE^{-/-}) deficient mice and the amount of crystalline cholesterol (CC) was decreased in atherosclerotic plaques. The treatment did not influence weight gain, blood pressure and heart rate. Interestingly there was no change in plasma concentration of cholestanol and cholesterol precursors showing that treatment had no impact on the endogenous biosynthesis. On the other hand, the secretion of proinflammatory cytokines as well as the production of reactive oxygen species was reduced suggesting anti-inflammatory effect of HPBCD.

Several *in vitro* tests were performed to clarify the mechanism. Rhodamine-labeled HPBCD was found to be bound to the cholesterol crystals and started to dissolve them. As macrophages rapidly internalized the fluorescent CD derivative the dissolution of both intra- and extracellular CC was demonstrated by confocal microscopy. The mechanism of the metabolism of CC derived from D₆-cholesterol after HPBCD treatment was studied by GC-MS. The analysis evidenced that the treatment promoted both the esterification and oxidation of cholesterol resulting in cholesteryl esters and oxysterols, which are water soluble and not cytotoxic. Gene set enrichment analysis showed that the genes involved in driving cholesterol efflux (LXR genes) were enriched upon HPBCD treatment.

Ex vivo experiments on human atherosclerotic plaques derived from biopsy specimens obtained from carotid endarterectomies showed similar effects of HPBCD to those obtained in murine: HPBCD helped the transfer of cholesterol from plaques to supernatants. The oxysterol production was increased and the genes involved in lipid transport, storage, metabolism and efflux were up-regulated. The urinary cholesterol excretion was studied by monitoring NPC patients receiving HPBCD treatment. Enhanced cholesterol concentration was measured in the urine of these patients in a time-dependent manner showing that in addition to changing the cholesterol metabolism HPBCD can also directly extract and transport cholesterol for excretion.

The authors conclude that HPBCD exerts its potent effect mainly by reprogramming the cells in atherosclerotic plaques. By enhancing cholesterol solubility, LXR activity becomes higher and as a consequence the cholesterol efflux is increased restoring the cholesterol and immune homeostasis. Unlike to HDL HPBCD can also mobilize cholesterol for direct excretion into urine and feces.

The authors are optimistic as HPBCD is a drug (it has received the orphan drug status against NPC disease). Its development for a new indication after the necessary clinical trials might be a less rocky road.



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β -CD, Adamantane, Supramolecular hydrogel, Lectin ConA

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α -CD, β -CD, HP β -CD, Chemoterapeutic agent, Kneading method, MTT-assay on MCF-7 breast cancer cell line, Hep G2 hepatocyte carcinoma cell line and A549 alveolar basal epithelial carcinoma cell line

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Oxygen loaded nanospheres, Cellular line of cardiomyoblast, Reduction of cellular mortality

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Synthesis and inclusion properties of polyionic cyclodextrin derivatives

Needs for structurally well-defined excipients, SulfoPEG thioether CDs (sugammadex analog), Polysulfonates, Polycarbonates, PEG to improve biocompatibility, Self-inclusion with ACD derivative, Maximum tolerated dose study, 100 g scale no chromatography

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4. CDs in Cell Biology

Chen, Y.; Shi, R.-J.; Liu, Y.

Cyclodextrin-based polycationic supramolecular amphiphilic assembly as gene delivery vector

Polycationic supramolecular amphiphilic assembly, Methylimidazoliumyl arms, Hepta-imidazoliumyl-BCD

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Maeda, Y.; Motoyama, K.; Higashi, T.; Horikoshi, Y.; Takeo, T.; Nakagata, N.; Kurauchi, Y.; Katsuki, H.; Kondo, Y.; Ishitsuka, Y.; Irie, T.; Era, T.; Arima, H.

Effects of methylated cyclodextrins on GM1-ganglioside level in both fibroblasts derived from a GM1-gangliosidosis patient and brains of GM1-gangliosidosis model mice

Excessive accumulation of GM1-ganglioside, Deficiency of β -galactosidase, DM- α -CD, M- β -CD, Lowered GM1-ganglioside levels in endolysosomes of EA1 cells, Intraventricular administration of DM- α -CD, GM1-gangliosidosis model mice.

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Mohammed, A. F. A.; Ohyama, A.; Higashi, T.; Motoyama, K.; Arima, H.

Evaluation of polyamidoamine dendrimer (G3) conjugates with glucuronylglucosyl- β -cyclodextrin as siRNA carriers

KB cells, Human HeLa cell line, Cellular uptake, Folate-appended GUG-beta-CDE

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Negi, S.; Ogasawara, T.; Iede, H.; Nakayama, C.; Kawamura, N.; Kitagishi, H.; Kano, K.; Sugiura, Y.

Reversible control of DNA binding of GAL4 transcription factor by a cyclodextrin-porphyrin supramolecular complex

Per-O-methylated β -cyclodextrin, GAL4 zinc finger protection, Transpeptidation reaction

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5. CDs in Food, Cosmetics and Agrochemicals

Aytac, Z.; Keskin, N. O. S.; Kusku, S. I.; Tekinay, T.; Durgun, E.; Uyar, T.

Efficient encapsulation of active agents in electrospun polymeric nanofibers by cyclodextrin inclusion complexation

Electrospun polymeric nanofibers incorporating CD-ICs with thymol, α -tocopherol, and quercetin, Controlled release, Antibacterial/antioxidant properties, Food packaging

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Azzi, J.; Auezova, L.; Danjou, P.-E.; Greige-Gerges, H.; Fourmentin, S.

Encapsulation of nerolidol, an antimicrobial sesquiterpene, in cyclodextrins, liposomes and nerolidol-in-cyclodextrin-in-liposomes

Food-flavouring, α -CD, β -CD, γ -CD, HP- β -CD, RAMEB, CRYSMEB, SBE- β -CD, Encapsulation efficiency

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Furune, T.; Ikuta, N.; Okamoto, H.; Ishida, Y.; Nakata, D.; Yoshikawa, Y.; Terao, K.; Sakamoto, N.

A study on the inhibitory mechanism of triglyceride absorption by α -cyclodextrin administration

Decreasing effects of α CD on the solubility, Effect of α CD on the solubility of fatty acids in the small intestinal fluid

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Kfoury, M.; Auezova, L.; Greige-Gerges, H.; Larsen, K. L.; Fourmentin, S.

Investigation of the release kinetics of trans-anethole from β -cyclodextrin inclusion complexes by multiple headspace extraction

Freeze-drying, Coprecipitation, Zero order swelling-controlled release

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Kfoury, M.; Pipkin, J.; Antle, V.; Fourmentin, S.

Captisol®: An efficient encapsulant and solubilizing agent for essential oils and their components

Sulfobutylether- γ -CD, Sulfobutylether- β -CD, Static headspace-gas chromatography, Total organic carbon, Phase solubility diagrams, Tee tree oil, Mandarin oil

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Trotta, F.; Cavalli, R.; Dianzani, C.; Barrera, G.; Argenziano, M.; Pizzimenti, S.; Caldera, F.

A new strategy based on GSH-responsive nanosponges for enhancing doxorubicin intracellular efficacy: An *in vitro* and *in vivo* evaluation

Glutathione-responsive cyclodextrin nanosponges, Disulfide bridges, Cancer cells, One-step synthesis, Hydroxyethyl disulfide, Nanoparticles, No burst effect, Retarded release, Pyromellitic anhydride

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Uekaji, Y.; Onishi, M.; Nakata, D.; Yoshii, H.; Terao, K.

Reduction of coenzyme Q10 via micelle formation by using complexation with γ -cyclodextrin

Oxidized form (ubiquinone), Reduced form (ubiquinol), Polyglycerol fatty acid esters, Micelle formation, Vitamin C, Decaglycerol lauric acid ester, Replacement reaction of the surfactant to ubiquinone/ γ -CD inclusion complex

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6. CDs for other Industrial Applications

Agócs, T. Z.; Puskás, I.; Varga, E.; Molnár, M.; Fenyvesi, É.

Photocatalytic effect of cyclodextrin-stabilized nano titanium dioxide on degradation of waste water pollutants

Accelerated decomposition and mineralization of the pollutant, Carboxymethylated beta-CD polymer, Methylene blue

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Blanford, W. J.

Methods for determining the distribution of hydrophobic organic chemicals in cyclodextrin–water–air–solid sorbent systems as a function of salinity, temperature, and CD concentration

Mathematical models, Van't Hoff and Setchenow equations, Calculating HOC phase distribution in air-water-CD-solid sorbent systems

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Boving, T.

Soil and groundwater remediation with cyclodextrin



In situ chemical oxydation, Peroxone activated persulfate, CMBCD, HPBCD, Ozone/CD complexation

Book of Abstracts of IC18, Gainesville, Florida, May 18-21, 2016, 17

Celebioglu, A.; Uyar, T.

Molecular filtration performance of electrospun poly-cyclodextrin nanofibers

Waste treatment applications, CD included polymeric nanofibrous web, Air filtration, Integrating suitable crosslinking agents to the electrospinning system, Removing dye molecules (methylene blue) and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH)

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Celebioglu, A.; Uyar, T.

Optimization study on electrospinning of insoluble poly-cyclodextrin nanofibers

Crosslinked CD polymer, Different kind of crosslinking agents, insoluble CD nanofibers, Durability

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Ertas, Y.; Celebioglu, A.; Uyar, T.

Water-insoluble cross-linked cyclodextrin/polybenzoxazine composite nanofibers by electrospinning for waste water treatment

HP β CD, HP γ CD, M β CD, Citric acid, Crosslinking agent, Removal of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and dye molecules, Benzoxazine monomer, Bisphenol-A, Aniline, Paraformaldehyde

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Fenyvesi, É.

Cyclodextrins in environmental technologies for soil remediation

Microbial bioavailability of organic pollutants, PAHs, PCBs, Bioremediation, RAMEB

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Hernández-Pascacio, J.; García, E.; Campos-Terán, J.; Costas, M.; Campbell, R.; Piñeiro, Á.

Cyclodextrin based viscoelastic films spontaneously formed at water/air interfaces

α -CD, Sodium dodecyl sulfate, Functional coatings, Separation of contaminants

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Mazzaglia, A.; Tosto, R.; Sortino, G.; Scala, A.; Piperno, A.; Villari, V.; Mineo, P.; Giuffrida, M.; Natale, G. D.; Micali, N.; Pappalardo, G.

Peptides-tailored cyclodextrin nanomagnets for amyloid- β targeting

Magnetic-field-assisted bio-separation, biointeraction, imaging and drug delivery, Heptakis(2-oligo(ethyleneoxide)-6-hexadecylthio)- β -CD (SC16OH)-capping Fe₃O₄, Amphiphilic CD oligoethyleneglycol chains

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Saito, R.; Matsumoto, M.

Cyclodextrin/poly(amideimide) complexes as novel binders/dispersants for lithium



ion battery

Poly(acrylic acid), Poly(amideimide), RAMEB and BCD modified primary hydroxy groups with poly(acrylic acid) oligomer, Improved dispersion of carbon nano-materials in water

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Wang, L.; Liang, X.; Li, B.-J.; Zhang, S.

An efficient magnetic enantioseparation of naphthylamine via host-guest interaction

Covalently linked magnetic nano-particles and β -cyclodextrin derivatives, Chiral selector

Book of Abstracts of IC18, Gainesville, Florida, May 18-21, 2016, 179

7. CDs in Sensing and Analysis

Benkovics, G.; Fejős, I.; Darcsi, A.; Béni, S.; Malanga, M.; Bálint, M.

Single-isomer carboxymethylated cyclodextrins as chiral resolving agents for capillary electrophoresis

Hexakis(2,3-di-O-methyl-6-carboxymethyl)- α -CD, Heptakis(2,3-di-O-methyl-6-carboxymethyl)- β -CD, Otakis(2,3-di-O-methyl-6-carboxymethyl)- γ -CD, Silylated intermediers, Enantioseparation

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Biscotti, A.; Bonnet, C.; Toth, E.; Barbot, C.; Estour, F.; Gouhier, G.

New MRI contrast agents based on modified cyclodextrins: Hydration spheres effects studies

Gadolinium, Relaxivity, Percarboxylated BCD, Permethylated BCD, Conjugating the chelating agent to BCD

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Fujiwara, S.; Yamada, T.; Hashimoto, T.; Hayashita, T.

Development of coumarin fluorescent probe modified cyclodextrin for phosphate anion sensing in water

Dipicolylamine modified CD, Metal ion recognition, Phosphate anion recognition, Multi-point recognition

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Sugita, K.; Mizuta, Y.; Tsuchido, Y.; Hashimoto, T.; Hayashita, T.

Selective sugar recognition by fluorinated boronic acids fluorophore/cyclodextrin complexes in water

Phenylboronic acid fluorophore, Glucose, Galactose, Anthracene, Pyrene

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Wang, L.-H.; Zhang, Y.-H.; Liu, Y.

Polysaccharide-quantum dots conjugate for controlled DNA condensation and cellular

imaging

Multicomponent nanoparticles, Adamantane-modified anthracene, π -intercalation of anthracene into the grooves of DNA, Active targeting

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