

## Cyclooxygenase-1 - 2

### Cyclic Expression of Cyclooxygenase-1 and -2 in Human Endometrium

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=Abstract=

Cyclooxygenase (COX) is an enzyme involved in the conversion of arachidonic acid to prostaglandins (PGs), and exists in two forms, COX-1 and COX-2. COX has been reported to be involved in early implantation by secretion of PGs which causes permeability of vessels and reaction of decidual cells around the implantation site. Recently, in mice and sheep studies, COX-1 and COX-2 expression in the endometrium has been reported to be different according to implantation and stages of the estrous cycle, but expression of COX-1 and COX-2 in human endometrium during the menstrual cycle has not yet been established. The purpose of this study was to observe the variances of COX-1 and COX-2 expression by immunohistochemical staining in endometrial samples obtained from human hysterectomy specimens and biopsies of women of reproductive age according to different stages of the menstrual cycle. Also, we attempted to observe COX-1 and COX-2 expression in the epithelial and stromal cells of the endometrium obtained during the mid-secretory phase, which were cultured separately.

COX-2 showed a cyclic pattern of expression according to the different stages of the menstrual cycle and was strongly expressed particularly at the mid-secretory phase which corresponds to the time of implantation. However, COX-1 tended to be increased in the early proliferative, and mid- and late secretory phases, but was also expressed in the whole menstrual cycle showing no particular pattern. In the separately cultured cells COX-1 was expressed in epithelial cells and COX-2 in the stromal cells.

The above results suggest that since COX-2 is expressed at the same time as implantation and cultured cells display a specific secretory pattern, COX-2 has inductive endocrine enzyme properties and has an important effect on endometrial cells during implantation. Also, and COX-2 expression in endometrial cells may be utilized as a useful marker of endometrial maturation.

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Key Words: Implantation, Endometrium, Prostaglandin (PG), Cyclooxygenase (COX)  
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( 96-19)

(luminal epithelial cell),  
 (glandular epithelial cell), (stromal cell)  
 estradiol progesterone (Ilesanmi et al., 1993), integrins (Lessey et al., 1992), (Giudice, 1994), interleukin-1 (IL-1) (Tabibzadeh et al., 1990; Simon et al., 1993), cyclooxygenase (COX) PGE<sub>2</sub> (Ishihara et al., 1986; Kennedy et al., 1983a, b; Martel et al., 1989) 가  
 , 가 (menstrual phase),  
 (proliferative phase), (ovulatory phase), (secretory phase)  
 , Simon (1996)  
 IL-1 TNF , TGF , FGF, LIF, CSF INF-8,  
 INF- , IL-6, PGE<sub>2</sub>, integrins, adhesion molecules, MMPs, TIMP  
 "Cytokine - adhesion molecules - invasive proteinase hypothesis"

Noyes (1950)

, 가  
 prostaglandins (PGs) (decidual reaction)  
 (Rees et al., 1982; Malathy et al., 1986; Gupta et al., 1989; Yee and Kennedy, 1991; Kennedy, 1994).

PAF (platelet-activating factor), IL-1 paracrine  
 PGE<sub>2</sub>  
 CRF (corticotrophin-releasing factor)가  
 (Psychoyos et al., 1995). COX PGs  
 arachidonic acid COX-1 COX-2 가  
 가 (Fletcher et al., 1992; Kraemer et al., 1992). COX-1  
 , COX-2  
 가  
 , COX-1  
 , COX-2  
 가 (Chakraborty et al., 1996; Charpigny et al., 1997)  
 가 COX-2가  
 (Wetzka et al., 1997)  
 (Han et al., 1996; Jones et al., 1997) COX-2

COX-1 -2

COX-1 -2

1.

(28-32 ) 20-40

가

24 ( 9 ,

13 , 2 )

PBS

4.5% paraformaldehyde 24

paraffin

4 μ m

paraffin

Hematoxylin-Eosin

Noyes (1950)

-3

-4 -7

5

6 10

14

2.

PBS가

cornical tube (Falcon, Becton Dickinson, New

Jersey, USA)

, PBS

Dulbeco's Modified Eagle's Media (DMEM; Gibco, Life

Technologies, Roskilde, USA) 2-3 ml 가

가

1-2 mm

cornical tube

. 5 ml trypsin-EDTA (Gibco, USA)

tube 37

(shaking incubation)

. 1 가

400 rpm 5

, 0.2 %

penicillin-streptomycin (Gibco, USA), 10 % fetal bovine serum (Gibco, USA)

DMEM 1 x 10<sup>6</sup>cells/ml

60 mm

(Falcon, Becton Dickinson,

New Jersey, USA)

24

cornical

tube 400 rpm 10

0.2 %

penicillin-streptomycin 1,000 units/ml collagenase (Sigma, St. Louis, MO, USA)가 1:1

가 37

. 2 400 rpm 5

, 3 ml 가

60 mm 1 x 10<sup>6</sup>cells/ml

3.

COX-1 -2

4% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 5

peroxydase

1/400

COX-1

COX-2

(Santa Cruz, Biotechnology Inc., California, USA)

1

chamber LSAB- kit (DAKO A/S, Glostrup, Denmark) 2  
 15 . diaminobenzidine (DAB;  
 DAKO A/S, Denmark) , hematoxylin 10  
 canadian balsam .  
 COX-1 -2 4 3.7 %  
 formaldehyde 15 . PBS  
 COX-1 -2  
 . DAB Methylene blue 10  
 , PBS culture dish 가 phase contrast  
 inverted microscope (Diaphot 300, Nikon Co., Tokyo, Japan)

4.

,  
 (-),  
 (+), (++) , (+++)

1. COX-1 -2  
 COX-1  
 (+++)  
 가 . (++)  
 (+++)  
 (++) (+)  
 COX-2  
 (-) 가  
 (+)  
 (+) 가  
 (++)  
 (+++)

COX-2 (Fig. 1 [A-L], Table 1, 2).

2. COX-1 -2  
 4  
 COX-1 -2 COX-1  
 80% , COX-2  
 80% (Fig. 1 [a, b]).

COX-1 -2 가 가 COX arachidonic acid PGs

COX-1 (Dewitt et al, 1995), (Wetzka et al, 1997). COX-2

(Ristimaki et al, 1994; Dong et al, 1996).

COX-1 -2 , COX-1 -2 COX-1

COX-2 가

COX-1 -2 , COX-1 -2 85% 가 , COX-1 -2 60% (Fletcher et al., 1992). COX-1 -2 5'- 가 (Kosaka et al., 1994). , COX-1 promoter 가 TATA box 가 COX-1 (house keeping) (Wang et al., 1993). COX-2 lipopolysaccharide (Hempel et al., 1994), cAMP (Wong et al., 1989), interleukin-1 (IL-1)(Kawaguchi et al., 1994), hCG (Sirois et al., 1992) , Wu (1997) estradiol progesterone COX-2 가 , interleukin-1 , Simon (1993) IL-1 type I , IL-1 IL-1 PGE<sub>2</sub>가 (Tabibzadeh et al., 1990). Kennard (1995) IL-1 가 COX-2 IL-1 (Simon et al., 1994), IL-1 progesterone COX-2 (Simon et al., 1996). IL-1 IL-1 COX-2가 가 progesterone IL-1 COX-1 2

Osteen (1989)

trypsin-EDTA  
EDTA 24

trypsin-EDTA

collagenase 4

가

COX-1 -2 COX-1

80% , COX-2

80 %

COX-2가 ,

COX-2가

(Morita et al, 1995).

COX-1

, COX-2 ,

가

가 COX-2가 LH

, COX-1

, COX-2가 .

가

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Fig. 1. Immunohistochemistry of COX-1 and COX-2 in human endometriums during the menstrual cycle (A-L) and in primary cultured endometrial cells (a, b). Intense COX-1 (A-F) positive staining was observed in the luminal epithelium cells during the menstrual cycle. In the glandular epithelial cells, no positive immunostaining was obtained on the early and late proliferative phase. In the subepithelial stroma, positive staining was not detectable on the early and late secretory phase. The positive immunoreactions of COX-2 (G-L) were appeared in the luminal and grandular epithelium and stroma cells at the mid secretory. An weak positive staining was observed in subepithelial stromal cells on early proliferative phase. In the menstrual phase, no positive immunoreactivity was obtained from all tissue samples. (A, G ; menstrual phase, B, H ; early proliferative phase, C, I ; late proliferative phase, D, J ; early secretory phase, E, K ; mid secretory phase, F, L ; late secretory phase. le; luminal epithelium, ge; grandular epithelium, st; stromal cell) For immunohistochemical staining of COX-1 and -2 in cultured endometrial cells, detached single endometrial cells were grown on poly-L-lysine coated glass cover slip for 4 days after plating. COX-1 positive staining was observed in epithelial-enriched culture (a) and COX-2 positive staining was observed in stromal-enriched culture (b).