



# The pulmonary endothelial glycocalyx regulates neutrophil adhesion and lung injury during experimental sepsis

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#### Nature Medicine VOLUME 18 | NUMBER 8 | AUGUST 2012

#### Labmeeting 29.4.2013





Acute lung injury (ALI) describes a clinical syndrome of acute respiratory failure with substantial morbidity and mortality

Between 25-40% of individuals with sepsis and 7% of intensive care patients develop ALI

increasing intensive care unit mortality from 11% to 38% in patients

Deffinition of the American-European Consensus Conference Committe: acute onset of diffuse bilateral pulmonary infiltrates by chest radiograph, a PaO2/FiO2 ≤300 for ALI and pulmonary artery wedge pressure (PAWP) ≤18



Published in final edited form as: Expert Rev Respir Med. 2011 February ; 5(1): 115–126. doi:10.1586/ers.10.92.

Pathogenesis of indirect (secondary) acute lung injury

Mario Perl $^1$ , Joanne Lomas-Neira $^2$ , Fabienne Venet $^3$ , Chun-Shiang Chung $^2$ , and Alfred Ayala $^{2,\dagger}$ 

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### JOURNAL OF AEROSOL MEDICINE AND PULMONARY DRUG DELIVERY Volume 23, Number 4, 2010

Acute Lung Injury: Epidemiology, Pathogenesis, and Treatment

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Therapeutic interventions to treat ALI remain limited

**Lung-protective ventilation**, including low tidal volume and low inspiratory pressure ventilation, has been associated with increased survival rates

Prone positioning, high-frequency oscillatory ventilation, inhaled nitric oxide and glucocorticoids are also used, but have so far failed to alter mortality rates

Thus far, no real pathophysiologic-driven therapeutic intervention has become available La Presse Médicale; Volume 40, Issue 12, Part 2, December 2011, Pages e585–e594; "Prone positioning in acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS): When and how?"



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Pathogenesis of indirect (secondary) acute lung injury

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#### Sepsis and Major Abdominal Surgery Lead to Flaking of the Endothelial Glycocalix

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JOURNAL OF SURGICAL RESEARCH: VOL. 165, NO. 1, JANUARY 2011



Levels of syndecan-1 and heparan sulfate, both markers for the integrity of the endothelial glycocalix, were markedly higher in the sepsis group and the surgery group compared with the control group







#### Aims

- The mechanisms by which glycocalyx loss occurs during sepsis
- How this loss allows for neutrophil adhesion within the pulmonary circulation

Mechanistic overview of reactive species-induced degradation of the endothelial glycocalyx during hepatic ischemia/reperfusion injury Rowan F. van Golena, Thomas M. van Gulika, Michal Hegera, b The pulmonary endothelial glycocalyx regulates neutrophil adhesion and lung injury during experimental sepsis



### **Materials & Methods**



Closed-chest pulmonary intravital (in vivo) microscopy



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### **Materials & Methods**



#### Closed-chest pulmonary intravital (in vivo) microscopy



Subpleural microvessels (MV) Alveolus (A)

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#### **Materials & Methods**



Animal testing:

BL/6 wild-type
TNFR1 knockout
ICAM-1 knockout

Human lung samples with diffuse alveolar damage (=ALI) and noninjured controls

Immunofluorescence

Flow cytometry

Protein and mRNA expression

In vivo polystyrene microspheres with anti–ICAM-1

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#### LPS degrades the pulmonary ESL via TNF- $\!\alpha$



n=5, iv injection saline LPS (20 μg per g body weight) TNF-α (200 ng)

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#### Heparanase mediates LPS-induced ESL degradation



wild-type mice treated with heparinase-III or heat-inactivated heparinase-III (1 U) n = 4–6 mice per group

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#### Heparanase contributes to septic acute lung injury



heparanase activation (with consequent glycocalyx degradation) is necessary to the development of ALI

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Inhibition of heparanase activity with the competitive antagonist heparin completely prevented endotoxemia-induced ESL loss



However heparin does not interfere with LPS danger signaling

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LPS-induced neutrophil adherence is dependent upon ESL degradation



Adherence of adoptively transferred GFP+ neutrophils within subpleural microvessels n = 3 mice per group

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intercellular adhesion molecule 1 (ICAM-1), an endothelial adhesion molecule implicated in endotoxin-induced pulmonary neutrophil adhesion



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## Visualization of anti-ICAM-1–coated fluorescent microspheres within wild-type mouse subpleural microvessels



LPS (20  $\mu$ g per g body weight) LPS (20  $\mu$ g per g body weight) heparin (5 U) heparinase-III (1 U) n = 3 or 4 mice per group

These findings provide a teleological rationale for LPS-induced heparanase activation: pathogenassociated molecular patterns prompt endothelial cells to cleave the endothelial glycocalyx, preparing the vascular surface for neutrophil adhesion and subsequent inflammation.

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Normal human PMNs were found to express ICAM-1 with 90% positive population, and this expression is augmented by LPS

The possibility that anti–ICAM-1 microspheres were being captured by neutrophils was excluded, as neutrophil depletion did not prevent microsphere adhesion during



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Wang,J.H. et al. Intercellular adhesion molecule-1 (ICAM-1) is expressed on human neutrophils and is essential for neutrophil adherence and aggregation. Shock 8, 357-361 (1997).

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#### Heparanase is apparent in human sepsis and lung injury



Heparan sulfate degradation activity measured in plasma n = 4-7 patients per group Heparanase immunofluorescence in normal human lung tissue and in lung biopsies with diffuse alveolar damage confocal fluorescent images high heparanase expression (red) endothelial marker CD31 (green)

## -> Can heparanase inhibition be lung-protective even if administered after sepsis onset?

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Administration of heparin 3 h after intraperitoneal LPS (40 μg per g body weight in 500 μl saline)



Heparin treatment in mice subjected to cecal ligation and puncture (CLP)



Pulmonary heparanase expression (red) after CLP in wild-type mice

Assessment of pulmonary endothelial permeability (Kf)

Pulmonary heparanase expression peaked 48 h after CLP, coincident with an increase in endothelial permeability









To augment CLP-induced neutrophilic alveolitis, CLP was performed the presence of 60% fraction of inspired oxygen (FiO2)



Pulmonary neutrophilic infiltration was apparent 48 h after CLP and was attenuated by delayed heparin therapy. Hpse-/- mice were similarly protected from CLP- and hyperoxia-induced alveolitis and experienced no CLP- and hyperoxia-associated mortality

#### Heparanase inhibition is protective after sepsis onset

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#### Conclusion

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Activated heparanase cleaves heparan sulfate from the pulmonary endothelial glycocalyx

inducing a rapid thinning of the ESL

exposes previously hidden endothelial surface adhesion molecules such as ICAM-1

allowing neutrophil recognition of and adhesion to the endothelial surface

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## A phase 1 trial of nebulised heparin in acute lung injury

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Influence of Nebulized Unfractionated Heparin and *N*-Acetylcysteine in Acute Lung Injury After Smoke Inhalation Injury

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The use of aerosolized unfractionated heparin and N-acetylcystine attenuates lung injury and the progression of acute respiratory distress syndrome in ventilated adult patients with acute lung injury following smoke inhalation.







## Thank you for your attention