THE EVALUATION OF THE EFFECT OF VITAMIN E ON NITROSO-OXIDATIVE PROCESSES IN MUCOUS MEMBRANES OF THE DIGESTIVE ORGANS UNDER THE CONDITIONS OF CYCLOOXYGENASE BLOCKAGE ON THE BACKGROUND OF THE LOW INTENSITY X-RAY IRRADIATION

Introduction. The simultaneous effect of several ulcerogenic factors, different due to their mechanism of action on the mucous membranes of the digestive organs needs deep elucidation. The studies were focused on the combined effect of the low intensity X-ray irradiation and cyclooxygenase blockage. It is important to evaluate the antioxidant effect of vitamin E under the conditions of simultaneous effect of different pro-inflammatory factors, acting on the nitroso-oxidative processes.

The aim of the study – to investigate the effect of vitamin E on nitroso-oxidative processes in the mucous membranes of the digestive organs under the action of the low intensity X-ray irradiation and COX blockage.

Research Methods. In the homogenates of the mucous membranes of stomach, small and large intestine in rats (n=64) the activity of NO-synthase, arginase, myeloperoxidase, superoxide dismutase, catalase, TBA-active products, nitrite-anion content and sum of nitrites and nitrates were determined.

Results and Discussion. It was established that the effect of vitamin E on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation resulted in the decrease of iNOS activity level (p<0.05) and nitrite-anion content (p<0.05) and increase of catalase and MPO activity in the mucous membranes of the digestive organs compared to indices obtained under the conditions of X-ray irradiation. Blockage of COX activity by indometacin on the background of the introduction of vitamin E and simultaneous effect of the low intensity X-ray irradiation revealed the peculiarities of antioxidant action of vitamin E in the mucous membranes of the digestive organs.

Conclusions. Under the conditions of COX blockage on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation the level of lipid peroxidation processes increased, iNOS and cNOS activity decreased compared to indices under the independent effect of irradiation, whereas compared to data under the effect of indometacin lipid peroxidation processes and iNOS activity decreased. Vitamin E exerts antioxidant effect under the conditions of ulcerative action of indometacin on the background of the X-ray irradiation.

KEY WORDS: X-ray irradiation; nitroso-oxidative processes; mucous membranes of the digestive organs; vitamin E.

INTRODUCTION. The evaluation of the simultaneous effect of the ulcerative factors, different due to their mechanism of action is one of the actual directions in gastroenterology. The use of nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drugs – blockers of COX-1/COX-2 is among the factors, causing the development of erosive-ulcerative damage in stomach and small intestine [1, 2]. Another factor, causing functional alterations of the digestive organs is the effect of chronic irradiation, which mechanism of action implicates free radical reactions in cells and the development of nitroso-oxidative stress [3, 4]. At that, the mucous barrier in mucous membranes of the digestive organs gets disrupted, processes of growth and differentiation get inhibited, proinflammatory processes get activated [5, 6].

Vitamin E is one of the key antioxidants, the effect of which is associated with the binding of free radicals (oxygen lipid, nitrogen oxide etc) [7]. However, the manifestations of the antioxidant effect of vitamin E on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation and simultaneous blockage of COX-1/COX-2 needs further elucidation.

The aim of the study – to investigate the effect of vitamin E on nitroso-oxidative processes in mucous membranes of the digestive organs under the conditions of the low intensity X-ray irradiation and COX blockage.
RESEARCH METHODS. The studies were conducted on white male rats weighing 200–240 g (n=64) accordingly to ethical requests, established by the European Convention on the Protection of the Vertebrate Animals, Used for Experimental and Scientific Purposes. The animals were kept in vivarium under the appropriate light conditions, temperature regimen and standard diet. Before the experiments the rats had unlimited access to water during 20 h.

The animals were divided into 6 groups: the 1st – control animals (n=10), the 2nd – animals (n=8), who during 20 days were irradiated in daily dose 1 sGy [8]; the third – animals (n=12), who twice per week per os were introduced vitamin E (30 mg/kg, (±)-α-tocopherol, C_{29}H_{48}O_2, “Sigma”) on the background of irradiation; the fourth – animals (n=12), who on the 20th day on the background of the X-ray irradiation were injected indometacin (10 mg/kg); the fifth – animals (n=12), who on the 20th day on the background of X-ray irradiation and vitamin E were introduced indometacin; the sixth – animals (n=10), who were intragastrically introduced indometacin (10 mg/kg, “Sofpharma”, Bulgaria).

Anesthetised with sodium thiopental (40 mg/kg), the animals were decapitated, front abdominal wall was cut along the white abdominal line. The stomach, small and large intestine were washed by the saline. The mucous membranes of the investigated organs were mechanically removed and homogenized for the determination of biochemical parameters.

In homogenates of the mucous membrane of stomach (MMS), mucous membrane of small intestine (MMSI) and mucous membrane of large intestine (MMLI) the activity of NO-synthase was measured due to the determination of NADPH [9], arginase due to the quantity of produced urea [10], myeloperoxidase (MPO) was determined due to the reaction of protein with γ-dianisidine [11], superoxide dismutase (SOD) due to the reaction of nitroblue tetrazolium [12], catalase due to the reaction of hydrogen peroxide with ammonia molybdate [13], TBA-active products content [14], nitrite-anion due to the reaction with Griess reagent [15] and sum of nitrates and nitrates [16].

The changes of the antioxidant enzymes activity and MPO activity increased in digestive organs. Simultaneously the TBA-active products content and MPO activity increased in digestive organs. The changes of the antioxidant enzymes activity reflected in the increase of SOD activity in MMS and increased catalase activity in the digestive organs, that was mediated by the increase of prooxidant processes [17, 18].

As it was mentioned above, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs are often used on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation. The independent effect of COX-1/COX-2 blocker indometacin significantly affected the status of NO-synthase system – iNOS activity acutely rose in all investigated organs, simultaneously cNOS activity decreased. Along with the increase of iNOS activity in the mucous membranes of the investigated organs nitrite-anion content and the sum of nitrates and nitrates increased compared with the indices of the control group of animals. Arginase activity in

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION. The effect of the low intensity X-ray irradiation in the total dose of 20 sGy on the 20th day caused the increase of the level of inducible NO-synthesizer activity (iNOS) (p<0.05) and nitrite-anion content (p<0.05) in mucous membranes of the digestive organs compared to control group indices. Activity of cNOS and arginase did not change significantly (Fig. 1, 2).

![](image1)

Fig. 1. The changes of iNOS and cNOS activity in mucous membranes of stomach (GM), small (SIM) and large intestine (CM) under the effect of vitamin E on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation and COX blockage (n=64, M±m). 1 – control group animals; 2 – effect of the low intensity X-ray irradiation; 3 – effect of indometacin; 4 – effect of indometacin on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation; 5 – effect of vitamin E derivative on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation; 6 – effect of vitamin E on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation and indometacin. The reliability of the differences: * p<0.05 – compared to control group; ^* p<0.05 – compared to indices in the low intensity X-ray irradiation group; ^ p<0.05 – compared to indices in the low intensity X-ray irradiation and indometacin effect group; + p<0.05 – compared to indices under the effect of indometacin group.
all mucous membranes had tendency to decrease. Under the effect of indomethacin the increase content of the TBA-active products, MPO and SOD activity in all investigated organs. The results obtained by us are in coincidence with the data of the other authors towards the action of indomethacin on the mucous membranes of the digestive organs [19, 20].

Evaluating the effect of indomethacin on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation compared to the indices of the independent effect of the low intensity X-ray irradiation to the increase of the TBA-active products content in MMS was found (for 11 %, p<0.05) and MMLI (for 13 %, p<0.05) and MPO activity in MMLI (67 %, p<0.05). The changes of the antioxidant defense system enzymes had organospecific character. Activity of iNOS and cNOS under the conditions of COX blockage on the background of low intensity X-ray irradiation decreased (p<0.05). Nitrite-anion content and arginase activity did not change significantly compared to indices obtained under independent effect of irradiation. Comparing with indices obtained under the effect of indomethacin, the level of iNOS activity, nitrite-anion content, sum of nitrates and nitrates and TBA-active products content were significantly lower.

Hence, blockage of COX on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation compared to independent effect of the low intensity X-ray irradiation results in the increase of the activity of lipid peroxidation processes and decrease of the activity of iNOS and cNOS, whereas compared to the independent effect of indomethacin its proinflammatory effect decreased.

Effect of vitamin E on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation caused the decrease of the activity level of iNOS in MMS for 27 % (p<0.05), in MMSI – for 32 % (p<0.05), in MMLI – for 39 % (p<0.05), simultaneously nitrite-anion content decreased (p<0.05) compared to indices under the effect of X-ray irradiation. The tendency to decrease of the TBA-active products content and multidirectional changes of SOD and catalase activity were noted – SOD activity decreased for 20 % (p<0.05) in MMS and for 17 % (p<0.05) in MMLI, whereas catalase activity rose in all investigated organs (Fig. 3, 4). Under the conditions of vitamin E administration MPO activity increased in MMLI.

Hence, under mentioned conditions vitamin E on one hand exerted antioxidant effect, manifested by iNOS activity decrease, tendency to decrease of TBA-active products content and increase of catalase activity, whereas prooxidant effect manifested in the increase of MPO activity.

For deeper elucidation of the character of vitamin E effect it was studied under the conditions of simultaneous influence of X-ray irradiation and COX blockage. Vitamin E administration and simultaneous effect of X-ray irradiation and COX blockage resulted in the decrease of TBA-active products content for 14 % (p<0.05), in MMSI – for 11 % (p<0.05), in MMLI – for 11 % (p<0.05) and iNOS activity – in MMS for 26 % (p<0.05), in MMSI – for 45 % (p<0.05), in MMLI – for 12 % (p>0.05); SOD activity also decreased mainly in MMSI and MMLI compared to relevant indices under the effect of indomethacin on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation, whereas the level of iNOS, arginase, MPO, SOD, catalase activity, TBA-active products and nitrite-anion content did not change compared to indices under the effect of vitamin E on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation.

Thus, introduction of vitamin E on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation twice
per week during 3 weeks showed the peculiarities of its effect on the NO-synthase system in MMLI, manifested in the decrease of the activity level of iNOS and nitrite-anion content, status of pro- and antioxidant system characterised by the tendency to decrease of TBA-active products content, decrease of SOD activity and increase of catalase activity, at that MPO activity increased.

CONCLUSIONS. 1. Effect of vitamin E on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation caused the decrease of the activity level of iNOS (p<0.05) and nitrite-anion content (p<0.05) in mucous membranes of the digestive organs compared to indices under the X-ray irradiation. The tendency to decrease of TBA-active products content and SOD activity was revealed, whereas catalase and MPO increased in all digestive organs.

2. Under the conditions of COX blockage on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation the intensification of lipid peroxidation processes was found, whereas iNOS and cNOS decreased compared to indices under the independent effect of irradiation, whereas compared to the indices under the effect of indometacin TBA-active products content and iNOS activity were lower, determining the peculiarities of the modeling effect of the low intensity X-ray irradiation on nitroso-oxidative processes and system of COX/prostaglandins.

3. Blockage of COX activity by indometacin on the background of vitamin E introduction and simultaneous effect of X-ray irradiation caused the decrease of TBA-active products content (p<0.05) in the mucous membranes of the digestive organs, SOD activity level mainly in MMSI and MMLI compared to relevant indices under the effect of indo-
metacin on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation; changes of iNOS, arginase, MPO, SOD catalase activity, TBA-active products and nitrite-ion content were not revealed compared with the

indices under the effect of vitamin E on the background of the low intensity X-ray irradiation, stating the antioxidant effect of vitamin E under the conditions of ulcerative action of indometacin.

LITERATURE
REFERENCES
ОЦІНКА ВПЛИВУ ВІТАМІНУ Е НА НІТРОЗО-ОКСИДАТИВНІ ПРОЦЕСИ У СЛИЗОВИХ ОБОЛОНКАХ ОРГАНІВ ТРАВЛЕННЯ ЗА УМОВ БЛОКУВАННЯ ЦИКЛООКСИГЕНАЗИ НА ТЛІ ДІЇ НІЗЬКОІНТЕНСИВНОГО РЕНТГЕНІВСЬКОГО ОПРОМІНЕННЯ

Резюме

Вступ. Потребує поглибленого вивчення однією з нітруючих задач окисно-воскової системи з її впливом на эффект біолінгвістичних факторів на слизову оболочку органів травлення, серед них – нітруючий вплив низькоінтенсивного рентгенівського випромінювання та блокування циклооксигенази. Важливо оцінити антиоксидантний вплив вітаміну Е за умов однієї з нітруючих задач – впливу вітаміну Е на слизову оболочку органів травлення, що впливає на нітруючі процеси.

Мета дослідження – вивчити вплив вітаміну Е на нітруючі процеси у слизових оболонках органів травлення спостереження за умов низькоінтенсивного рентгенівського випромінювання та блокування циклооксигенази.

Методи дослідження. У гомогенатах слизових оболонок шлунка, тонкої та товстої кишок щурів (n=64) визначали активність синтази оксиду азоту, аргінази, мієлопероксидази, супероксиддисмутази, каталази, вміст ТБК-активних продуктів, нітрит-аніона та суму нітратів.

Результати й обговорення. Встановлено, що дія вітаміну Е на тлі низькоінтенсивного рентгенівського випромінювання призводить до зниження рівня активності нітруючих синтаз оксиду азоту (p<0,05) та вмісту нітратів (p<0,05) порівняно з показниками випромінювання. Блокування активності циклооксигенази індуцтовано вітаміном Е виявлено особливості антиоксидантного впливу вітаміну Е у слизових оболонках органів травлення.

Висновки. За умов блокування циклооксигенази індуцтовано на тлі низькоінтенсивного рентгенівського випромінювання рівень процесів ліпопероксидації зростає, тоді як активність кислоту-оксидази зменшується порівняно з показниками при самостійному впливу вітаміну Е у слизових оболонках органів травлення.

КЛЮЧОВІ СЛОВА: рентгенівське опромінення; нітруючі процеси; слизові оболонки органів травлення; вітамін Е.
Методи исследования. В гомогенатах слизистых оболочек желудка, тонкого и толстого кишечника крыс (n=64) определяли активность синтазы оксида азота, аргиназы, миелопероксидазы, супероксиддисмутазы, каталазы, содержание ТБК-активных продуктов, нитрит-аниона и сумму нитритов и нитратов.

Результаты и обсуждение. Установлено, что действие витамина Е на фоне низкоинтенсивного рентгеновского облучения приводило к снижению уровня активности индуцибельной синтазы оксида азота (р<0,05) и содержания нитрит-аниона (р<0,05) и повышению активности каталазы (р<0,05) и миелопероксидазы (р<0,05) по сравнению с показателями рентгеновского облучения. Блокирование активности циклооксигеназы индометацином на фоне введения витамина Е и одновременного действия низкоинтенсивного рентгеновского облучения выявило особенности антиоксидантного влияния витамина Е в слизистых оболочках органов пищеварения.

Выводы. В условиях блокирования циклооксигеназы индометацином на фоне низкоинтенсивного рентгеновского облучения уровень процессов липопероксидации возрастает, в то время как активность индуцибельной и конститутивной синтаз оксида азота уменьшается по сравнению с показателями при самостоятельном действии рентгеновского облучения, а по сравнению с данными при действии индометацина уровень процессов перекисного окисления липидов и активность индуцибельной синтазы оксида азота снижаются. Витамин Е проявляет антиоксидантное влияние при цитоповреждающем действии индометацина и на фоне действия рентгеновского облучения.

КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА: рентгеновское облучение; нитрозо-оксидативные процессы; слизистые оболочки органов пищеварения; витамин Е.

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Address for correspondence: O. Ya. Sklyarov, Danylo Halytskyi Lviv National Medical University, Pekarska Street, 69, Lviv, 79010, Ukraine, e-mail: o.y.sklyarov@gmail.com.