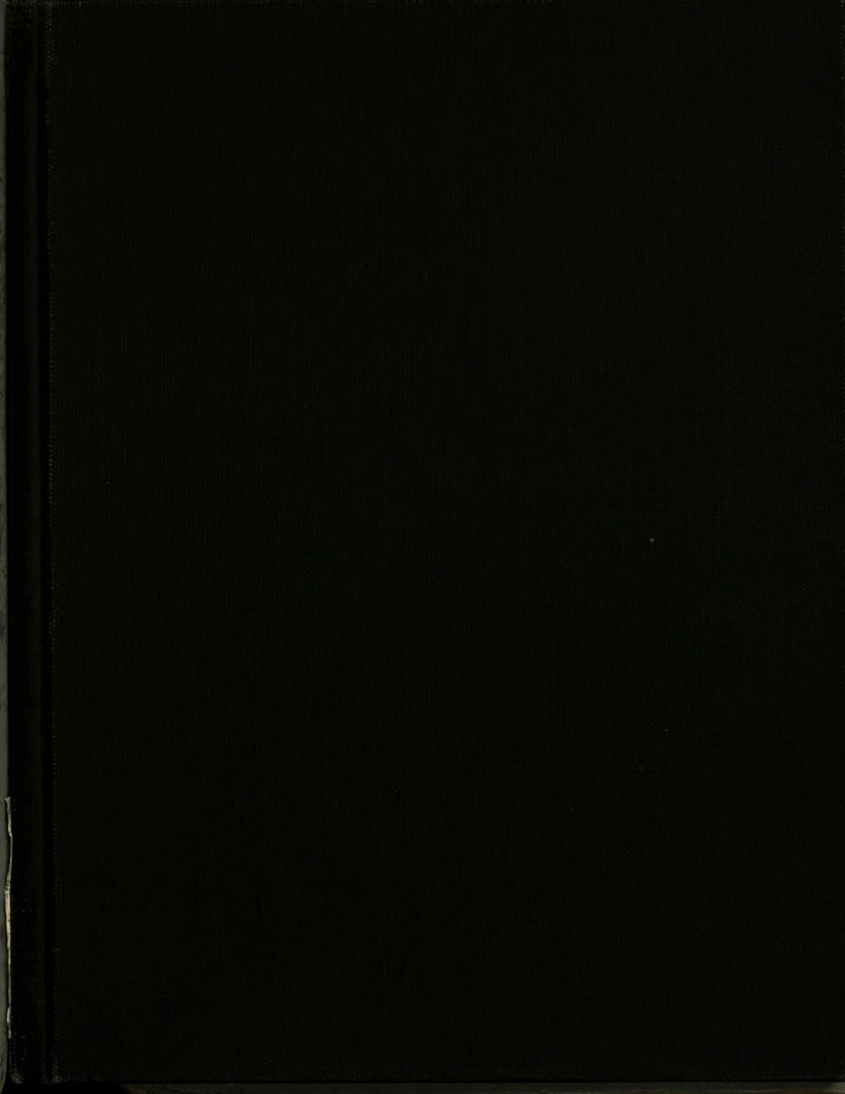




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Phosphatase Activities in Ascites Sarcoma-
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EFFECT OF CISPLATIN ON THE PLASMA MEMBRANE PHOSPHATASE ACTIVITIES
IN ASCITES SARCOMA-180 CELLS: A CYTOCHEMICAL STUDY

By

Iran Niroomand-Rad

A THESIS

Submitted to
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ABSTRACT

EFFECT OF CISPLATIN ON THE PLASMA MEMBRANE PHOSPHATASE ACTIVITIES IN ASICTES SARCOMA-180 CELLS: A CYTOCHEMICAL STUDY

By

Iran Niroomand-Rad

In order to study the effects of cisplatin [cis-dichlorodiammine-platinum (II)] on the tumor cells in presence or absence of the immune system, animals with ascites sarcoma-180 tumor burden were treated with therapeutic dose levels (9 mg/kg). Similarly, ascites sarcoma-180 cells were maintained in tissue culture media containing the same levels of the drug. Cell samples were taken from the animals at 12 hour intervals for 3 days where as samples were drawn from the tissue cultures at 15, 30, 45, 60 minutes, 2, 3, 4 and 5 hour intervals. Treated and untreated cells from in vitro and in vivo experiments when checked for alkaline-phosphatase, 5'-nucleotidase, Ca^{2+} -ATPase and Na^{+} - K^{+} -ATPase show a gradual decrease in activity on the plasma membrane. It takes about 60 minutes for inactivation of any enzyme in vitro while it takes 2 days in vivo experiments. Quantitative analysis show alkaline phosphatase activity drops from 9.7 to 4.9 nmoles in just 15 minutes further dropping to 0.79 nmoles after 2 hours. Inactivation of various plasma membrane enzymes resulting in permeability changes are probably responsible for cell death.

Dedicated to my parents and Masood
to whom I owe everything

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to thank Dr. S. K. Aggarwal, my research advisor, for his constant support of this research with regard to the facilities and research materials provided. I would like to express my appreciation to him, not only for his expert technical advice and assistance, but also for the many things he taught me that were non-science related. His constant help and advice are greatly appreciated.

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INTRODUCTION

Aminoplatinum (II) complexes have attracted considerable attention as potential chemotherapeutic agents (2,3,46,48) against a broad spectrum of chemically-induced, virally-induced and transplantable tumors both in animals (49) and in humans (27). Of these, cis-dichlorodiammineplatinum (II) (cisplatin, DDP) is now available for the treatment of testicular (54) and ovarian cancers (28). However, the drug is not free from its toxic side effects on the kidney (proteinuria and shedding of the renal enzymes in the urine, together with changes in renal morphology), intestine (emesis, anorexia and diarrhea), and toxicity to the hematopoietic organs (bone marrow aplasia, splenic atrophy, atrophy of thymus and lymph nodes) (3). Renal toxicity remains the most limiting factor in its use. A second generation of platinum coordination complexes with little or no nephrotoxicity is currently being tested in clinical trials (16). Ways are still being sought to combat the toxic side effects of the available compound through the use of various diuretics and antagonists without rendering the drug ineffective against tumor systems (46).

Although various symptoms due to use of the drug have been well classified since its first discovery, the mechanisms of its action in tumor regression or its various toxicities have not yet been fully understood (42,47). Inhibitory effects of some platinum compounds on DNA, RNA and protein synthesis have been demonstrated in vitro using mammalian cells (41,25). The interaction of cisplatin with DNA seems to

be through the cross-linking of the complementary strands of DNA (42,60). If the DNA has already been replicated, cisplatin has been shown to inhibit the process of karyokinesis (1). Again, if the nucleus has already replicated the process of cytokinesis has been shown to be arrested, probably through the depolymerization of microfilaments (1). Further possible enhancement of the antigenicity of tumor cells (48) and regression of the tumor through the immune system have been proposed (3,7,45).

In order for cells to perform their essential metabolic functions, they must be able to transport ions and molecules against a concentration gradient. Present investigations were undertaken to study various plasma membrane enzymes such as Ca^{+2} ATPase, $\text{Na}^{+}\text{-K}^{+}\text{-ATPase}$, Alkaline phosphatase and 5'-nucleotidase that are involved with the transport of ions across the membrane, better to understand the mechanism of action of cisplatin in tumor regression and the cause of its various toxicities.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

In Vitro Studies

Highly inbred Swiss Webster female mice 4-5 weeks old (Spartan Research Animals, Haslett, Michigan) were implanted intraperitoneally with ascites sarcoma-180 according to protocols of the Cancer Chemotherapy National Service Center (50). The day of tumor implant was taken as day 0. The animals were sacrificed by cervical dislocation on day 8 of the tumor implant. Ascites fluid was removed with the help of a disposable pipette and transferred to culture flasks containing Eagle's Basal Medium (BME) with Eagle's Salt (Gibco, Grand Island, N.Y.) containing 2x amino acids with glutamine supplemented with 10% calf serum. Cultures were maintained at 37°C. Cell counts were made at the start of each experiment using a Coulter counter model ZB1. A concentration of 10^7 cells/ml was a standard for each experiment.

Cisplatin (Johnson Matthey Research Laboratories, Sonning Commons, Reading, U.K.) was added to the cultures as a freshly prepared solution (stock solution 9 mg/10 ml of 0.75% sterile saline) at a concentration of 0.9 mg/100 ml of the culture. Aliquots of cells were withdrawn at 0, 15, 30, 45 and 60 minutes, 2, 3, 4 and 5 hours and were fixed in 1% buffered glutaraldehyde (0.05 M cacodylate buffer, pH 7.3) for 10 minutes at 4°C. After fixation, cells were washed twice in buffered sucrose (3.5% sucrose in 0.1 M cacodylate buffer, pH 7.3) and stored at 4°C until use.

Animal Studies

Swiss Webster female mice 4-5 weeks old with ascites sarcoma-180 were injected with sterile cisplatin solution (9 mg/kg) as intraperitoneal injection on day 8 of the tumor implant. The animals were sacrificed at 12 hour intervals (6 in each group) for a period of 8 days and the cells were collected using a disposable pipette and processed for Ca^{2+} -activated ATPase studies.

Cytochemical Studies

Ascites sarcoma-180 cells after various intervals of drug treatment and fixation were incubated in one of the several media as described below.

Alkaline Phosphatase (AP) activity was detected after incubation of cells at 37°C for 60 minutes in a medium containing 0.2 M Tris-maleate buffer (pH 8.2), 1.2% sodium- β -glycerophosphate, 0.2 mM magnesium chloride, 1% lead nitrate according to the method of Hugon and Borgers (29). The control incubation medium contained in addition 0.5 mM levamisole hydrochloride (13) or 50 mM L-phenylalanine (33) as the inhibitors of AP.

5'-Nucleotidase (5'-N). For the visualization of 5'-N, the cell suspension was incubated at 37°C for 60 minutes according to the technique of Uusitalo and Karnovsky (52). The medium consisted of 0.1 M Tris-maleate buffer (pH 7.3), 1.4 M adenosine-5'-monophosphate (AMP), 1% lead nitrate, 10 mM magnesium sulfate and 5% sucrose. The control medium contained in addition 50 μ M of α, β -methylene adenosine diphosphate (ADP) (43) or else the substrate AMP was omitted.

Ca^{2+} -activated ATPase (Ca^{2+} -ATPase) was detected by incubating the cell suspensions in a medium containing 0.1 M Tris-maleate

(pH 7.3), 5% sucrose, 2 mM lead nitrate, 1 mM adenosine triphosphatase (ATP), 1 mM calcium chloride, 0.2 mM Magnesium chloride (17,43). The incubation lasted for 60 minutes at 37°C. The control incubation medium contained in addition 15 µg/ml quercetin (an inhibitor of Ca^{2+} -ATPase (19)) or the ATP was omitted from the incubations.

Na^{+} - K^{+} -activated ATPase (Na^{+} - K^{+} -ATPase) activity was determined by incubating the cell suspension in a medium consisting of 0.1 M Tris-maleate buffer (pH 7.3), 1 mM ATP, 1% lead nitrate, 10 mM magnesium sulfate, 5% sucrose and 100 mM sodium chloride (36). Controls were incubated in the same medium but without sodium chloride or ATP. Incubations were performed at 37°C for 60 minutes.

Thick (1µm) frozen sections of normal mouse liver and kidney were used to check for the reactivity of the various incubation media while also incubating various sarcoma-180 cell samples. All cell samples from various incubation media were washed in ice-cold corresponding buffer identical to the one used for incubation. Half of the cells from each sample were stained with 1% light ammonium sulfide and mounted in glycerine jelly after proper washings. Such slides were viewed using a Zeiss Photomicroscope II. Photomicrographs were prepared of random areas from the various samples. The other half of the cell samples were fixed in buffered 1% OsO_4 (pH 7.3) for 1 hr at 4°C and processed for routine electron microscopy. Ultrathin sections were cut on an LKB ultratome III ultramicrotome and were viewed in a Hitachi-HU11E electron microscope with or without uranyl acetate and lead citrate staining. The enzyme reaction product was visualized as an electron dense deposit on the surface of the cells. Records were made from the electron micrographs of

very high response (++++), moderate response (+++), low response (++) , or a very poor response (+) and compared for the effects of the drug.

Biochemical assays

Detailed biochemical quantitations were carried out in the case of alkaline phosphatase only. Cells from various intervals of cisplatin treatment were homogenized in carbonate-bicarbonate buffer (pH 10.0) (1:5 w/v) using 16 full strokes of a Potter-Elvehjem homogenizer fitted with a teflon pestle rotating at 2,000 rpm (57). 0.3 ml of the homogenate was added to 0.6 ml of carbonate-bicarbonate buffer (pH 10.0) and mixed with 0.03 ml of 100 mM magnesium sulfate. The mixture was incubated at 30°C for 10 minutes before adding 0.07 ml of 87.6 mM disodium-*p*-nitrophenyl phosphate dissolved in 0.1 ml of the same buffer to start the reaction (32). An increase in the absorption at 400 m μ was recorded as a result of the release of inorganic phosphate (Pi) (34). The controls consisted of incubation medium without the cell sample or of medium and cells to which 0.5 mM levamisole had been added (13). Increase in absorption at 400 m μ was measured using a Beckman 25 spectrophotometer with recorder. The cuvettes used had a 1 cm path length and a 1 ml capacity. Enzyme activity was further calculated using Beer's law and expressed as nM nitrophenyl/min/mg protein (53).

Protein determination

Standard protein solutions containing 1.0-10.0 μ g of bovine serum albumin (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, MO) were prepared in 50 μ l of Tris-buffered saline and 950 μ l of the dye reagent (39). A standard curve was prepared from an absorption at 595 m μ to determine the protein concentrations in unknown samples.

It was found necessary to further dilute the above cell homogenates by a factor of 20x in order for the readings to fall within the standard curve. 50 μ l of the diluted samples were added to 950 μ l of the dye reagent and read for absorption at 595 m μ for 2 minutes.

RESULTS

Various effects of cisplatin on cellular morphology have already been reviewed (8) and therefore will not be repeated here. Since no attempt was made to synchronize the cells in a certain phase of the cell cycle, the following observations are based on random cells in various stages of the cell cycle.

Alkaline Phosphatase

Alkaline phosphatase activity as depicted by the reaction product (r.p.) after 1 hr of incubation appears as dense deposits only on plasma membranes (Fig. 1). It may be pointed out that not all the cells in a random section show positive r.p. As many as 10-20% of the cell total may be negative. The number of the dense deposits decreases as the length of exposure of the cells to cisplatin is increased (Fig 2). The activity totally disappears after 45 minutes of such an exposure (Fig. 3 and Table I). At the electron microscope level, the reaction product appears as a thin, continuous, electron dense layer interspersed with dense patches on the outer surface of the cells (Fig. 4). The undulating segments of the plasma membrane, together with the microvilli, show the highest amount of deposits. The number of electron dense patches gradually decreases after cisplatin treatment, until, after 2 hours of treatment one can hardly see any r.p. on the cell surface (Fig. 5). Similarly no r.p. could be observed in cells incubated in a medium containing either levamisole or L-phenylalanine and without cisplatin treatment.

- Fig. 1 Localization of alkaline phosphatase around normal sarcoma-180 cells. Note the uniform distribution of reaction product (r.p.) on the plasma membrane (arrows). Original magnification x3600. Bar = 5 μ m.
- Fig. 2 Light micrograph taken with Nomarski optics showing the r.p. in patches (arrow) after 30 minutes of cisplatin. Original magnification x1600. Bar = 10 μ m.
- Fig. 3 No r.p. can be observed after 45 minutes of cisplatin treatment. Photomicrograph taken with Nomarski Optics. Original magnification x1600. Bar = 10 μ m.

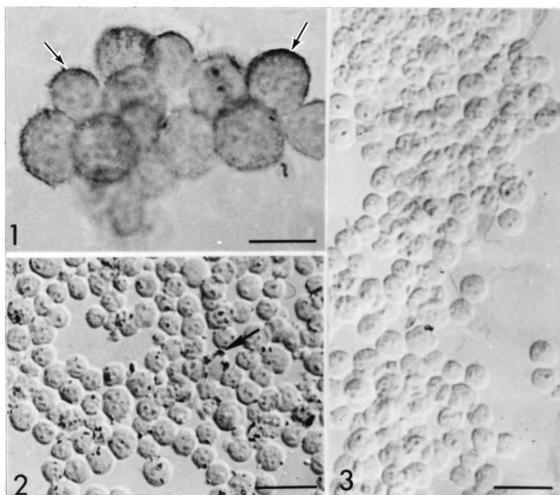


Fig. 4 Electron micrograph depicting alkaline phosphatase
 (arrows) on the surface of sarcoma-180 cells. N, nucleus.
 Original magnification x12000. Bar = 1 μ m.



Fig. 5 No r.p. on the surface of cisplatin (2 hrs) treated cell.
N, nucleus; Nu, nucleolus. Original magnification x8600.
Bar = 2 μ m.



The visual cytological observations are further confirmed by biochemical determination of AP activity (Fig. 6). The treated cells show a change in alkaline phosphatase activity from 9.7 to 4.9 nmoles after just 15 minutes of exposure to cisplatin. These values drop to 0.79 nmoles after about 2 hours. Since observation ceased after 3 hours, it is not known if the value ever drops to zero.

5'N

As in the case of alkaline phosphatase, the cytochemical reaction for 5'-nucleotidase is mainly localized on the plasma membrane (Fig. 7). The reaction product is more abundant on the microvilli and on the undulations than on the nonundulated regions of the plasma membrane. Enzyme activity is vastly affected by cisplatin over a time period of 2 hrs (Table I). Again no r.p. is observed after incubation in a medium containing β -methyl ADP, or when the substrate is omitted.

Ca²⁺-ATPase

Cells that have been incubated in a medium for Ca²⁺-ATPase activity, when viewed under the light microscope, show r.p. on the cell surface as dark granules (Fig. 8). This granulation decreases when the cells are incubated in a culture medium containing cisplatin (Fig. 9). The r.p. completely disappears after 120 minutes of exposure to cisplatin (Fig 10). At the electron microscope level, the r.p. appears on the surface of almost all the cells as electron dense granules (in both the resting and the actively dividing cells) (Figs. 11-12). At times, r.p. can also be observed inside some vacuoles and around lipid globules. The r.p. decreases gradually from the surface as the time of treatment with cisplatin is increased from 0 to 120 minutes (Figs. 13-15 and Table I). Quercetin exposed cells show no reaction product.

Fig. 6 Phosphatase activity (n moles p-nitrophenol/min/mg protein) in ascites sarcoma-180 cell homogenates before and after cisplatin treatment (0.9 mg/100 ml).

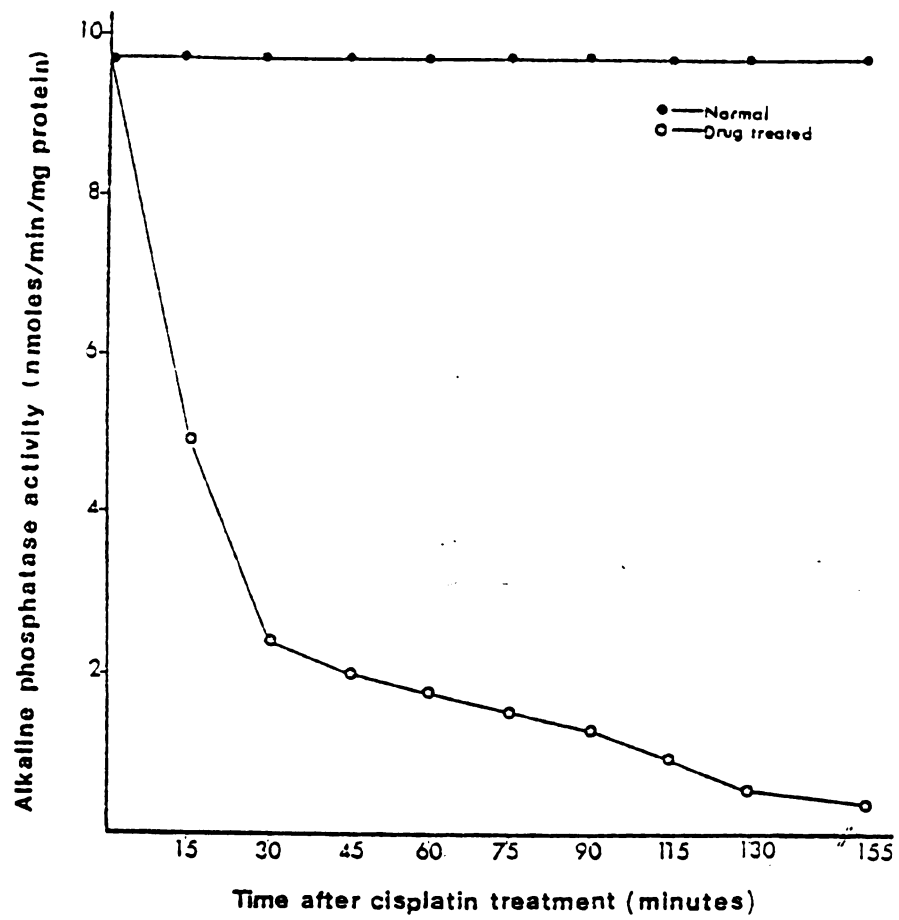


Fig. 7 5'-N r.p. (arrows) distributed on the plasma membrane.
N, nucleus; Nu, nucleolus. Original magnification
x20,000. Bar = 1 μ m.

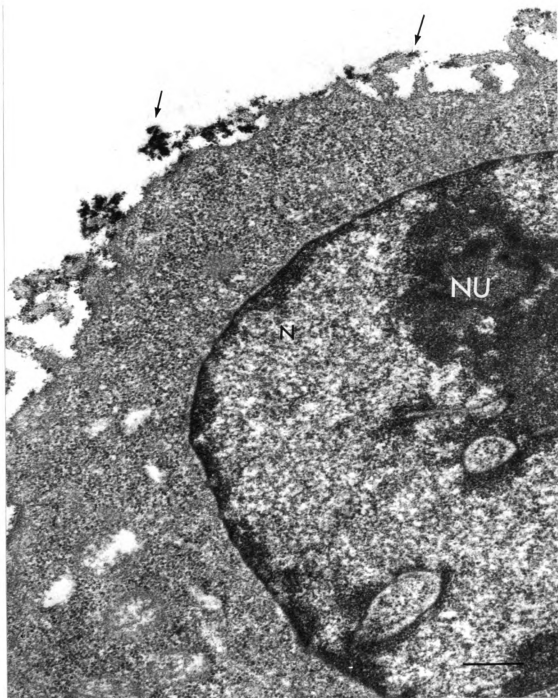


Table I. Plasma membrane phosphatase activities before and after cisplatin treatment in Ascites sarcoma-180 cells in vitro

Time of cisplatin treatment (minutes)	Alkaline Phosphatase		5'- Nucleotidase		Ca ²⁺ -ATPase		Na ⁺ -K ⁺ -ATPase	
0	++++		++++		++++		++++	
15	++		++		+++		+++	
30	++		+		++		++	
45	+		-		+		+	
60	-		-		+		+	
120	-		-		-		-	
180	-		-		-		-	
240	-		-		-		-	
300	-		-		-		-	

++++ a very strong reaction
 +++ moderate reaction
 ++ not a very dense reaction
 + low activity
 ± less than 10% reaction limited to few spots
 - negative reaction

- Fig. 8 Reaction product (arrows) depicting Ca^{2+} -ATPase on the surface of untreated sarcoma-180 cells. Original magnification x3000. Bar = 5 μm .
- Fig. 9 Ascites sarcoma-180 cells after 30 minutes of cisplatin treatment showing only patches of reaction product indicative of Ca^{2+} -ATPase activity. Original magnification x3000. Bar = 5 μm .
- Fig. 10 Ascites sarcoma-180 cells after 2 hrs of cisplatin treatment showing no r.p. for Ca^{2+} -ATPase. Original magnification x3600. Bar = 5 μm .

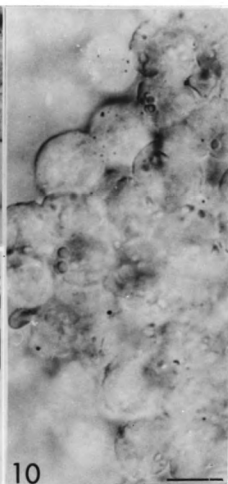
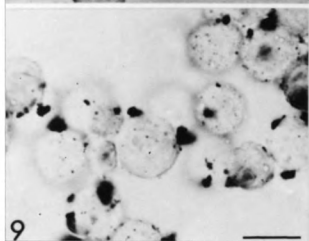
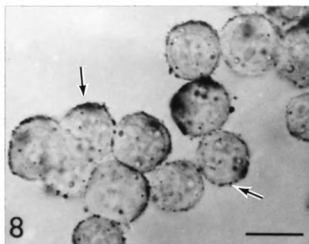


Fig. 11 Electron micrograph show Ca^{2+} -activated ATPase r.p. (arrows) on the surface of a sarcoma-180 cell during interphase. M, mitochondria; N, Nucleus. Original magnification x25000. Bar = 0.5 μm .

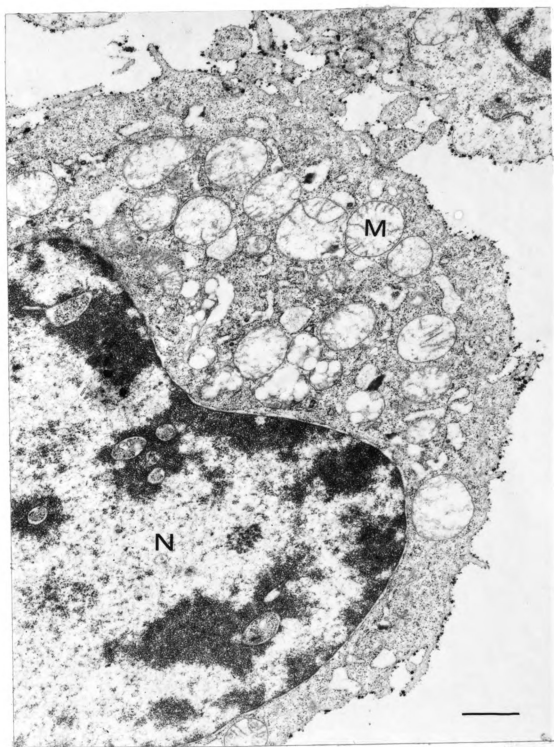


Fig. 12 Ascites sarcoma-180 cell in metaphase showing
Ca²⁺-ATPase r.p. (arrows) on the surface. CH,
chromosomes. Original magnification x22500. Bar = 1 μ m.

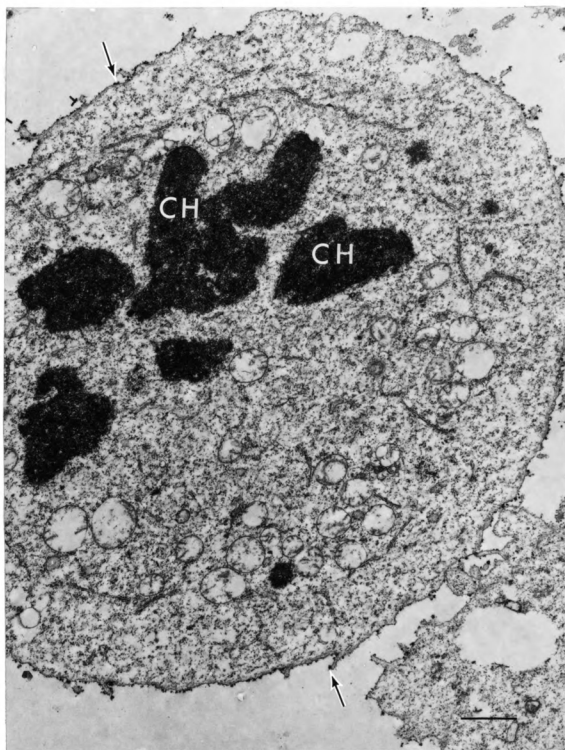


Fig. 13 Interface between two ascites sarcoma-180 cells showing Ca^{2+} -ATPase r.p. (arrows) after exposure to cisplatin for 30 minutes. N, nucleus. Original magnification x25,000. Bar = 1 μm .

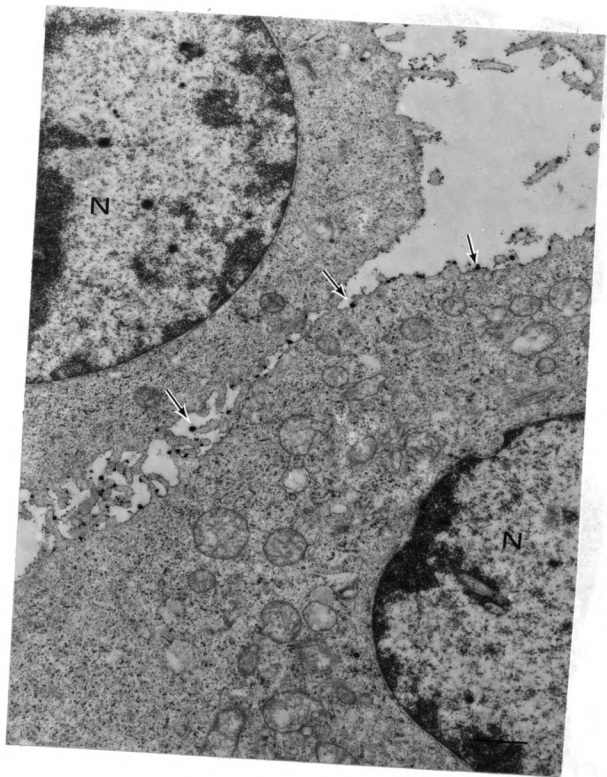


Fig. 14 Interface between two ascites sarcoma cells showing Ca^{2+} -ATPase r.p. after 45 minutes of cisplatin treatment (arrow). Note the sparse distribution of reaction product. N, nucleus. Original magnification x18000. Bar = 1 μm .

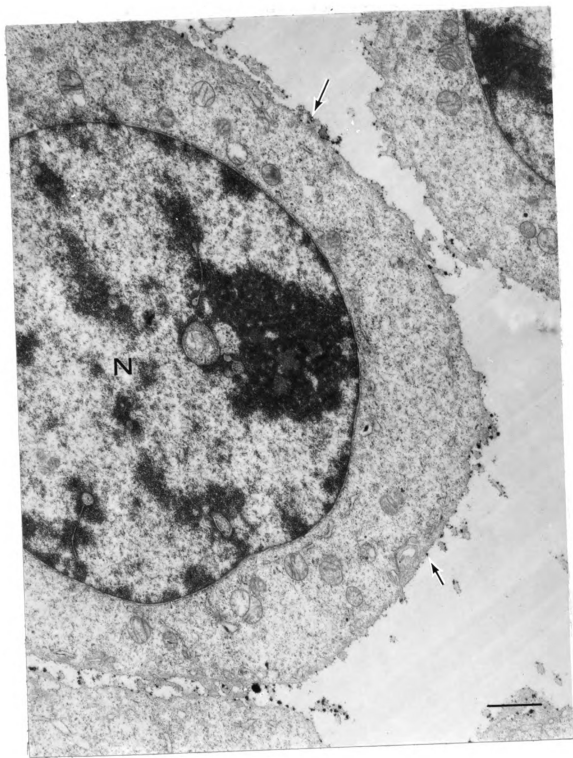


Fig. 15 Ascites sarcoma-180 cell in metaphase exposed to
cisplatin for 2 hrs showing no r.p. for Ca^{2+} -ATPase.
Compare with Fig. 12 for normal reaction. CH,
chromosomes. Original magnification x25,000. Bar = 1 μm .

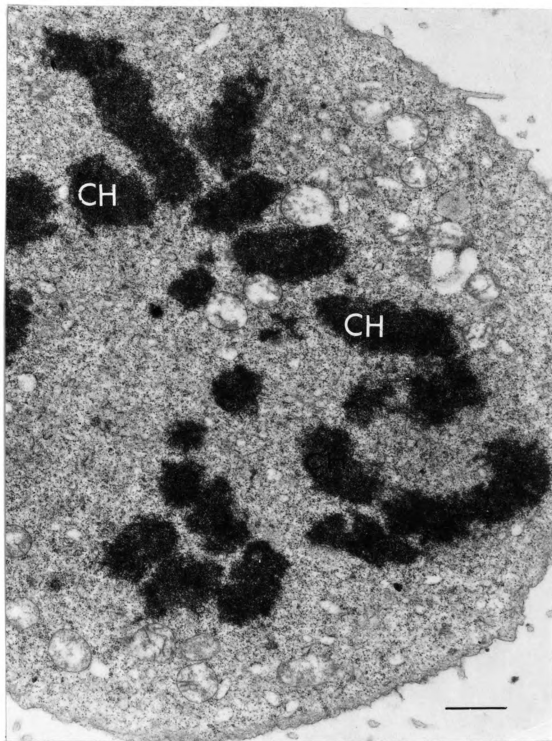


Fig. 16. Graph showing changes in the Ca^{2+} -activated ATPase as depicted by the concentration of reaction product of various incubations in ascites sarcoma-180 in vitro and in vivo after cisplatin treatment.

Na⁺-K⁺-ATPase

The plasma membrane distribution patterns for Na⁺-K⁺-ATPase are exactly similar to those for Ca²⁺-ATPase, both before and after cisplatin treatment, and are summarized in Table 1.

In in vitro studies most of the above enzymes on the cell surfaces are totally inactivated within 2 hours of their exposure to cisplatin. However, in the in vivo studies it takes about 2 days to achieve the same results (Fig. 16).

DISCUSSION

In the present study we have investigated the effects of cisplatin on plasma membrane enzymes because of their importance in the homeostasis of the cell. Control of plasma membrane functions such as transport of metabolites (23), cell growth (25), synthesis and breakdown of cyclic nucleotides (24) and the process of mitosis (6) are known to be affected by cisplatin.

Alkaline phosphatase has been demonstrated to be mostly associated with the plasma membrane (40). In the liver, the enzyme is present predominantly in the plasma membranes of the bile canaliculi and does not extend appreciably to the basal or the lateral membranes beyond the tight junctions (20).

The discovery of alkaline phosphatase in the proximal convoluted tubules of the kidney, the intestinal microvilli, and the follicular epithelium of the ovary suggests some role for this enzyme in active transport of substances across the membrane (18). It is known that this enzyme is needed for the hydrolysis of extracellular phosphate esters, so that the reaction products such as orthophosphate and organic residues can then be transported into the cell (56). Further evidence for a transport function of alkaline phosphatase comes from the finding that some mutant strains of E. coli which lack alkaline phosphatase are unable to grow in phosphate-containing media (22). Since alkaline phosphatase is able to transfer phosphate groups from one alcohol to another, it is

possible that its physiological function depends on its transferase activity, rather than its hydrolase activity (55). Thus, membrane-associated alkaline phosphatase activities are closely related to, if not identical with, Ca^{2+} -dependent ATPase (11).

A parallel can be found between the activity of alkaline phosphatase and DNA synthesis in synchronized HeLa cells, in that high specific activity of AP has been used as a marker for the mitotic plasma membranes (35). However, just the contrary has been demonstrated using certain aliphatic monocarboxylates that inhibit cell division in HeLa cells, yet alkaline phosphatase activity is increased on the plasma membrane (53). Similar conclusions have been drawn concerning cultured human fibroblasts, which, when treated with DNA inhibitors like hydroxyurea and methothrexate, show elevated levels of alkaline phosphatase (58). However, using cisplatin, which is a known inhibitor of DNA synthesis and a mitotic inhibitor, we have observed a distinct drop in the enzyme activity in both in vitro and in vivo studies. In the in vitro system it takes about 60 minutes for an inactivation of the enzyme, whereas in the in vivo system it takes about 2 days using the same ascites sarcoma-180 cells. This is probably due to the fact that the levels of cisplatin in the in vitro system are much higher than in the animal. In the animal system, 70-90% of the injected drug is usually excreted in the initial minutes of its injection (45) and thus the amount available to the cells for interaction is very small. Inhibition of DNA by cisplatin has been determined to occur through an intrastrand and interstrand crosslinking with nuclear DNA (59,30). In either case, the prime interaction is with the purine and pyrimidine bases. Inhibition of DNA synthesis and increase or decrease of alkaline phosphatase activity therefore, do not seem to be interrelated.

A direct inhibition of various enzymes after cisplatin treatment has been reported (21), however, the drug concentrations used in such assay systems are much higher than those normally found in cells. Alkaline phosphatase activity in the urine of cisplatin-treated rats shows a 50-70% increase with a corresponding decrease in the kidney homogenates, indicating a stripping of the enzyme from the brush borders (5). A similar stripping effect of cisplatin has been demonstrated on sialic acid in normal splenocytes and transformed lymphocytes in culture (38).

Patients suffering from carcinoma of the testis when treated with cisplatin show a 75% decrease in plasma sialyltransferase that corresponds with a relative decrease in the size of the tumor (31). However, the enzyme by itself is again unaffected by cisplatin in the assay system.

Our observations show 5'-nucleotidase activity mostly on the plasma membrane of the ascites sarcoma-180 cells. 5'-Nucleotidase has been extensively studied as an ectoenzyme and is often bound to the brush borders of various cells (43). 5'-Nucleotidase is one of the enzymes directly involved in the metabolism of adenosine and indirectly in the synthesis of ATP and cyclic AMP and also in the breakdown of the latter (53). Plasma membranes are permeable to nucleosides whereas nucleotides are unable to traverse the membrane intact. Hence 5'-nucleotidase is involved in the dephosphorylation of nucleoside monophosphate and the nucleoside product may then be internalized (44,40). Thus inhibition of this enzyme would inhibit further DNA synthesis because of unavailability of various nucleotides needed. Cisplatin indeed does affect the enzyme activity at all stages of the cell cycle, therefore interfering with cell metabolism and replication.

Ca^{2+} -ATPase is involved in the transport of Ca^{2+} ions across the plasma membrane and in regulating the level of these ions inside the cell (44). Ca^{2+} plays a key role in regulating cell metabolic processes by stimulating or inhibiting key enzymes (14). In general, cells must keep the intracellular Ca^{2+} concentration at a very low level in order to maintain Na^{+} - K^{+} -ATPase in an active state. Even a small increase in internal Ca^{2+} would therefore act as a powerful messenger of extracellular membrane stimuli (44).

A correlation has been proposed between Ca^{2+} -ATPase activity and the chromosomal cycle to a point that the enzyme activity has been shown to be increased as the cell prepares for mitosis (37). However, we have not observed any significant increase or decrease in Ca^{2+} -ATPase activity on the plasma membrane of the interphase or actively dividing sarcoma-180 cells. Cisplatin knocks out all ATPase activity from the plasma membrane irrespective of the stage of cell cycle. Cisplatin has also been shown to cause an inactivation of Ca^{2+} -ATPase activity from the brush border of the proximal tubule cells (4). A parallel has further been established in the inactivation of Ca^{2+} -ATPase activity and Ca^{2+} ions within mitochondria (8,12). If the internal generation of Pi is prevented, Ca^{2+} is spontaneously released from the mitochondria (15). Lowering the internal concentration of Pi with the use of appropriate inhibitors leads to the release of accumulated Ca^{2+} , which is related to the permeability of the membrane.

Various platinum coordination complexes including cisplatin have been shown to stimulate state 4 respiration which is similar to uncoupling of oxidative phosphorylation (8,12), again causing efflux of Ca^{2+} from the mitochondria. The membrane permeability changes have

been implicated in the release of various hydrolytic enzymes from the lysosomes, thus inducing damage to the cell. Various compounds that are competitors or inhibitors of Ca^{2+} sites (26) and block Ca^{2+} transport mechanisms have also been proven to be potent antitumor agents (9).

Using frog skin as a model, it has further been demonstrated that cisplatin increases the permeability of the cellular pathway (10), an observation common to other antineoplastic agents such as adriamycin (51). Increased levels of intracellular Ca^{2+} are known to shut down $\text{Na}^{+}\text{-K}^{+}\text{-ATPase}$ which is an integral glycoprotein of the plasma membrane. Guarino et al. (23) have demonstrated an inactivation of $\text{Na}^{+}\text{-K}^{+}\text{-ATPase}$ in isolated kidney tubules under the influence of cisplatin. They have implicated this inactivation of ATPase to be responsible for the kidney toxicity so very prominent after cisplatin treatment.

From the above considerations, we conclude that cisplatin is responsible for the inactivation of various plasma membrane associated enzymes that are very important in the normal metabolic processes of the cell, such as transport, synthesis, breakdown of cyclic nucleotides and mitosis. The drug does not seem to be selective in its action as it affects normal cells and tumor cells alike. However, the tumor cells are known to be metabolically more active, and are probably destroyed faster than they have time to recover the various membrane enzymes. Thus, in addition to the inhibition of DNA synthesis by crosslinking the complementary strands, cisplatin also functions to alter the surface properties of cells to cause antitumor or cytotoxic effects.

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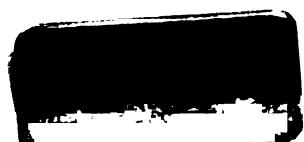
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