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## Research Article

# Involvement of Visceral Adipose Tissue in Immunological Modulation of Inflammatory Cascade in Preeclampsia

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**Objectives.** The pathophysiology of preeclampsia is characterized by abnormal placentation, an exaggerated inflammatory response, and generalized dysfunction of the maternal endothelium. We investigated the effects of preeclampsia serum on the expression of inflammation-related genes by adipose tissue. **Materials and Methods.** Visceral adipose tissue was obtained from the omentum of patients with early ovarian cancer without metastasis. Adipose tissue was incubated with sera obtained from either five women affected with severe preeclampsia or five women from control pregnant women at 37°C in a humidified incubator at 5% CO<sub>2</sub> for 24 hours. 370 genes in total mRNA were analyzed with quantitative RT-PCR (Inflammatory Response & Autoimmunity gene set). **Results.** Gene expression analysis revealed changes in the expression levels of 30 genes in adipose tissue treated with preeclampsia sera. Some genes are related to immune response, oxidative stress, insulin resistance, and adipogenesis, which plays a central role in excessive systemic inflammatory response of preeclampsia. In contrast, other genes have shown beneficial effects in the regulation of Th2 predominance, antioxidative stress, and insulin sensitivity. **Conclusion.** In conclusion, visceral adipose tissue offers protection against inflammation, oxidative insults, and other forms of cellular stress that are central to the pathogenesis of preeclampsia.

## 1. Introduction

Preeclampsia is the leading cause of pregnancy-associated maternal and perinatal mortality and morbidity worldwide. This disorder affects approximately 5% of all pregnancies. Several mechanisms have been proposed in preeclampsia, including (1) genetics and epigenetic imprinting; (2) increased uteroplacental ischemia/hypoxia; (3) angiogenic imbalances characterized by an excess of antiangiogenic factors; (4) increased trophoblast apoptosis/necrosis; (5) an exaggerated maternal inflammatory response to injured trophoblast cells; and (6) immune maladaptation [1]. Shallow trophoblast invasion and inadequate artery remodeling early in pregnancy may underlie subsequent placental hypoperfusion, hypoxia, or ischemia, which are critical components in the pathogenesis of preeclampsia [2]. Maternal responses are associated with release of placenta-derived circulating antiangiogenic molecules such as soluble fms-like tyrosine kinase 1 (sFlt-1 or the soluble VEGF receptor-1), soluble endoglin

(sEng), the angiotensin II type-1 receptor autoantibody (AT1-AA), and proinflammatory cytokines such as tumor necrosis factor- (TNF-) alpha and interleukin- (IL-) 6 [3]. The loss of endothelial control of vascular development by these factors in turn acts in concert to cause hypertension and decrease renal function during pregnancy [3]. Placenta-derived circulating factors could also stimulate proinflammatory cells to produce cytokines and chemokines, including IL-1beta, IL-2, IL-10, IL-12, IL-13, IL-18, granulocyte-colony stimulating factor (G-CSF), interferon- (IFN-) gamma, monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 (MCP-1), and TNF-alpha, demonstrating that preeclampsia is associated with an overall proinflammatory systemic environment [4–6]. Although a normal pregnancy enhances a state of the T helper 2 (Th2) type anti-inflammatory responses, preeclampsia exhibits a shift towards Th1 [4, 7] and Th17 [8] type immunity.

The discovery of biologically functional numerous proinflammatory, anti-inflammatory, and immunomodulating

TABLE 1: Characteristics of the study population of the sera.

	Normal pregnancy	Preeclampsia
<i>n</i>	5	5
Maternal age at sampling (years)	31.8 ± 2.1	31.5 ± 2.9
Gestational age at sampling (weeks <sup>+days</sup> , range)	28 <sup>+0</sup> (27 <sup>+1</sup> –28 <sup>+4</sup> )	29 <sup>+1</sup> (26 <sup>+5</sup> –31 <sup>+3</sup> )
BMI at sampling (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	24.1 ± 1.6	23.5 ± 0.5
BMI before pregnancy (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	22.7 ± 2.3	20.6 ± 0.4
Blood pressure (mm/Hg)		
Systolic	121.2 ± 1.9	182.8 ± 5.7*
Diastolic	67.8 ± 1.9	117.2 ± 3.4*
MAP	85.6 ± 1.7	139.1 ± 3.9*

BMI: body mass index; MAP: mean arterial pressure. All patients in preeclampsia group showed urine protein over 2 g/day. Data has shown as mean ± S.E.M. unless indicated.

\*  $P < 0.05$  versus normal pregnancy.

proteins, cytokines, and chemokines in adipocytes emphasizes the role of the adipose tissue as a highly active immune response, endocrine and metabolically important organ that modulates energy expenditure, insulin resistance, and glucose homeostasis [9, 10]. Adipose tissue is capable of contributing to this inflammation by its production of inflammatory mediators, which appears to be a key step in the development of the preeclampsia-associated inflammatory state.

Here, we aim to investigate whether preeclampsia sera could modulate the inflammatory and adipogenic activities in visceral adipose tissue, using new method of the tissue culture. Our data suggest a revised paradigm for restoring host defense and preventing inflammatory sequelae in adipose tissue in women affected with preeclampsia.

## 2. Materials and Methods

**2.1. Sample Collection.** The study was approved by the Local Ethics Committee at Nara Medical University, and all participants provided written informed consent. Visceral fat (omentum) was taken from two women at reproductive age (36 years old and 40 years old) who underwent prophylactic omentectomy on ovarian cancer operation. No metastasis of cancer or inflammation was confirmed with pathological search. The tissue was immediately suspended in cold sterile saline, transported to the laboratory, washed several times in sterile phosphate buffered saline to remove excess blood, and dissected to twenty pieces of approximately 1.5 g.

Next, we included severe preeclampsia (PE) patients of with a prepregnancy body mass index (BMI) before pregnancy was under less than 25 kg/m<sup>2</sup> with gestational age-matched normal pregnant women at 28 weeks gestation or later. All subjects of them were Eastern Asian origin, and none of the subjects were taking any medication or showed evidence of any metabolic disease or other complications beside PE. Severe PE was defined as new onset and diagnosed based on two consecutive measurements of diastolic and systolic blood pressure measurements, diastolic blood pressure greater than or equal to 110 mmHg, or systolic blood pressure ≥160 mmHg, respectively, with urine protein over 2 g/day, occurring diagnosed after 20 weeks of gestation [11].

All subjects had provided serum samples available for analysis and did not have gestational diabetes mellitus, thyroid malfunction, or other complications. Briefly, 5 women with severe preeclampsia with BMI ranging from 22.6 to 25.2 kg/m<sup>2</sup> at test and 5 age- and BMI-matched control pregnant women were recruited.

Characteristics of the subjects serum taken were shown in Table 1.

**2.2. Whole Adipose Tissue Culture.** In this study, we established new method for bottom culture of whole adipose tissue, not only adipocyte but other cells and connective tissue as well. Dissected visceral fat was captured immediately on the bottom of the 24 well plastic plate (Becton, Dickinson & Co., Franklin Lakes, NJ) with 99.5% medium-containing hydrogel (PuraMatrix, Becton, Dickinson & Co.) after provider's manual. After enough fiber construction, culture medium (Eagle's minimal essential medium, Sigma-Aldrich Co., St. Louis, MO) without any serum was added and changed for three times to adjust medium's pH as homeostatic range. The tissue was starved for 12 hours until next process.

Next day, serum from PE or healthy pregnant subjects ( $n = 5$  each) was added in 1:10 order in the wells in duplicate. The human serum concentrations in the medium were decided from former report for bovine serum concentrations in the culture medium treating mice adipose tissue and separated cells [12]. After 24 hours of culture under incubator of 37°C/21% O<sub>2</sub>/5% CO<sub>2</sub> condition, medium and the tissue were collected. All adipose tissues are stock-frozen immediately with liquid nitrogen until mRNA extraction.

**2.3. mRNA Extraction and Profiler Array.** Total mRNA from visceral fat was extracted at Genetic Lab Co., Ltd. (Sapporo, Japan). The purity of mRNA was confirmed with OD260/280 (range: 2.07–2.11) and RNA Integrity Number (range: 7.5–8.3). And then, 370 genes in total mRNA were analyzed with quantitative RT-PCR (Inflammatory Response & Autoimmunity gene set, RT2 Profiler PCR Array, Qiagen Inc., Germany).

**2.4. Statistical Analysis.** Results of the quantitative RT-PCR were shown as fold change on PE serum-added adipose tissue

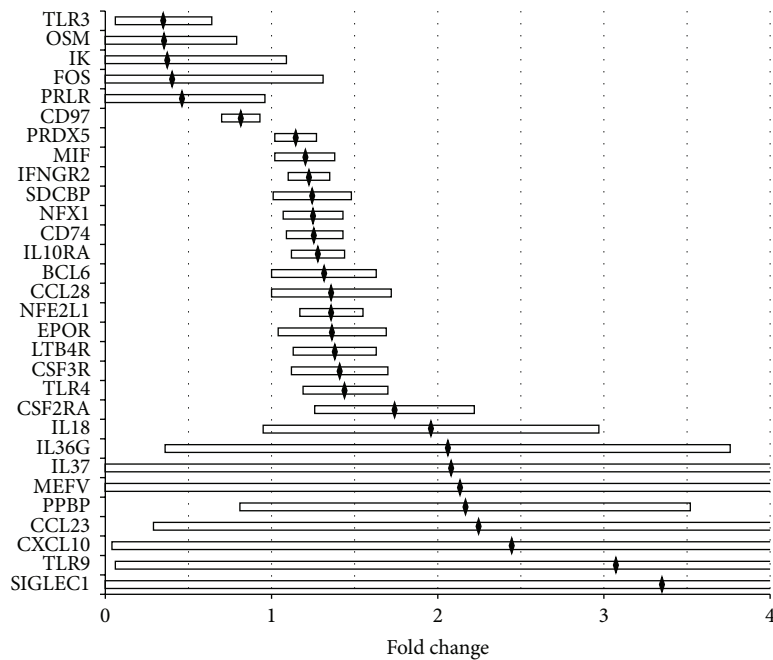


FIGURE 1: Genes identified with altered expression in adipose tissues treated with preeclampsia sera. Thirty genes showed alteration at least 2-fold or statistical significance ( $P < 0.05$ , unpaired  $t$ -test). Black diamond shows mean and open bars show 95% CI of respective genes.

against normal serum added tissue after being normalized with internal control gene (beta-2-microglobulin (B2M), hypoxanthine phosphoribosyltransferase 1 (HPRT1), ribosomal protein L13a (RPL13A), glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase (GAPDH), actin, beta (ACTB)) expression. The criteria for selecting differentially expressed genes were preset as at least 2-fold difference in either direction or genes with statistical significance ( $P < 0.05$ , unpaired  $t$ -test). Statistical calculations were performed using SPSS 15.0J (SPSS Japan Inc., Japan) on each gene with Student's  $t$ -test comparing PE and the normal ( $n = 5$  each), with  $P < 0.05$  indicating a statistically significant difference.

### 3. Results

**3.1. Identification and Functional Classification of Differentially Expressed Genes.** Thirty genes were identified with altered expression of at least 2-fold or statistical significance ( $P < 0.05$ , unpaired  $t$  test) in adipose tissues treated with preeclampsia sera (Figure 1, Table 2). Among these genes, the greatest up- or downregulation was observed in genes involved in immune response, oxidative stress, and insulin and lipid metabolism, any of which may contribute to the molecular mechanisms underlying insulin resistance and adipogenesis in preeclampsia (Table 3). Our results show that exposure of preeclampsia sera increased or decreased the expression of several genes and affected the functional pathways, including (1) energy balance, obesity, lipid metabolism, and adipogenesis, (2) insulin resistance and glucose tolerance, (3) host defense, redox balance, detoxification, and oxidative stress, and (4) inflammation, immune response, and Th1/Th2 type cytokine balance. See Supplementary data

in Supplementary Material available online at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1155/2015/325932>.

**3.2. Genes Involved in Immune Response.** Microarray analysis identified 11 upregulated and 2 downregulated immune response-related genes in preeclampsia sera-stimulated adipose tissue. Interestingly, Th1/Th2 type cytokine and immune responsive genes were significantly regulated. RT-qPCR confirmed changes in expression of Th1 type cytokine-related genes (IL18, CXCL10, and IK) and Th2 type cytokine-related genes (BCL6, CCL28, LTB4R, and IL27), with Th2/Th1 predominance. Differential expression of Th17-related cytokine (IL36G) and other immune responsive genes (MEFV, PPBP, CCL23, SIGLEC1, and CD97) was also confirmed by RT-qPCR and independently validated.

**3.3. Genes Involved in Oxidative Stress.** Oxidative stress signaling genes were also differentially expressed. Among oxidative stress-related genes, 7 genes (PRDX5, MIF, CD74, NFE2L1, CSF3R, TLR4, and TLR9) were induced while no genes were suppressed. RT-qPCR confirmed aberrant expression of genes involved in inflammation and stress response (TLR4 and TLR9) and also genes involved in host defense (PRDX5, MIF, CD74, NFE2L1, and CSF3R), suggesting that preeclampsia sera suppress the TLR4/9-dependent excess oxidative stress in adipose tissue.

**3.4. Genes Involved in Glucose and Lipid Metabolism.** Our results indicated that 6 upregulated genes (IFNGR2, NFX1, IL10RA, SDCBP, EPOR, and CSF2RA) and 4 downregulated genes (TLR3, FOS, PRL, and OSM) were involved in glucose and lipid biosynthesis (Table 3). The amount of insulin

TABLE 2: Genes identified with altered expression in adipose tissues treated with preeclampsia sera.

Symbol	Fold change	95% CI	<i>P</i> -value
TLR3	<b>0.348</b>	(0.06, 0.64)	<b>0.016</b>
OSM	<b>0.353</b>	(0.00001, 0.79)	<b>0.019</b>
IK	<b>0.372</b>	(0.00001, 1.09)	0.347
FOS	<b>0.400</b>	(0.00001, 1.31)	0.819
PRLR	<b>0.461</b>	(0.00001, 0.96)	0.318
CD97	0.814	(0.70, 0.93)	<b>0.021</b>
PRDX5	1.143	(1.02, 1.27)	<b>0.041</b>
MIF	1.202	(1.02, 1.38)	<b>0.045</b>
IFNGR2	1.225	(1.10, 1.35)	<b>0.004</b>
SDCBP	1.244	(1.01, 1.48)	<b>0.043</b>
NFX1	1.251	(1.07, 1.43)	<b>0.016</b>
CD74	1.258	(1.09, 1.43)	<b>0.011</b>
IL10RA	1.279	(1.12, 1.44)	<b>0.007</b>
BCL6	1.315	(1.00, 1.63)	<b>0.049</b>
CCL28	1.358	(1.00, 1.72)	<b>0.049</b>
NFE2L1	1.360	(1.17, 1.55)	<b>0.003</b>
EPOR	1.362	(1.04, 1.69)	<b>0.042</b>
LTB4R	1.382	(1.13, 1.63)	<b>0.009</b>
CSF3R	1.412	(1.12, 1.70)	<b>0.013</b>
TLR4	1.441	(1.19, 1.70)	<b>0.004</b>
CSF2RA	1.740	(1.26, 2.22)	<b>0.005</b>
IL18	1.961	(0.95, 2.97)	<b>0.038</b>
IL36G	<b>2.064</b>	(0.36, 3.76)	0.118
IL37	<b>2.084</b>	(0.00001, 4.50)	0.208
MEFV	<b>2.134</b>	(0.00001, 4.68)	0.275
PPBP	<b>2.163</b>	(0.81, 3.52)	0.087
CCL23	<b>2.249</b>	(0.29, 4.21)	0.139
CXCL10	<b>2.447</b>	(0.04, 4.85)	0.130
TLR9	<b>3.076</b>	(0.06, 6.09)	0.062
SIGLEC1	<b>3.352</b>	(0.00001, 6.98)	0.088

Thirty genes showed alteration at least 2-fold or statistical significance ( $P < 0.05$ , unpaired *t*-test).

resistance genes (IFNGR2 and NFX1) may correlate with the preeclampsia syndrome, which is regarded as a key feature of preeclampsia genesis. In contrast, four genes such as IL10RA, TLR3, FOS, and PRL demonstrate strong inverse correlations with insulin resistance.

We also identified four genes associated with adipogenesis, indicating that the SDCBP and OSM genes stimulate adipogenesis, while EPOR and CSF2RA significantly reduce it. Adipose tissue produced several genes in the homeostasis of glucose and lipid metabolism as well as adipogenesis.

On the one hand, preeclampsia sera expectedly enhance inflammatory activities, including immune response, oxidative stress, insulin resistance, and adipogenesis, in adipose tissue. On the other hand, they can also suppress inflammation through upregulation of Th2 cytokine predominance, antioxidant stress, and insulin sensitivity. These data collectively support that visceral fat in women affected with preeclampsia

TABLE 3: Genes differentially expressed in adipose tissue treated with nonobese preeclampsia sera ( $n = 5$ ) versus matched control sera ( $n = 5$ ).

Functional categories	Genes	Reference
Immune response		
	BCL6	[30–32]
Th2 predominance	CCL28	[33]
	LTB4R	[34–37]
	IL37	[38]
	IL18	[7, 39–43]
Th1 predominance	CXCL10	[44–47]
	IK	[9, 48]
Th17 predominance	IL36G	[49]
	MEFV	[50]
	PPBP	[51, 52]
Others	CCL23	[53–55]
	SIGLEC1	[56]
	CD97	[57]
Oxidative stress		
	PRDX5	[58–64]
	MIF	[65–73]
Host defense	CD74	[74–76]
	NFE2L1	[77, 78]
	CSF3R	[5, 79, 80]
Stress response	TLR4	[6, 16, 17, 28, 81–85]
	TLR9	[18, 19, 86, 87]
Insulin resistance		
	IL10RA	[88, 89]
Insulin sensitivity	TLR3	[89–94]
	FOS	[95, 96]
	PRL	[97]
Insulin resistance	IFNGR2	[98, 99]
	NFX1	[100]
Adipogenesis		
Stimulation	SDCBP	[101–104]
	OSM	[25, 26, 105–107]
Reduction	EPOR	[21–23, 108]
	CSF2RA	[24, 109]

Microarray analyses indicated that 24 upregulated genes and 6 downregulated genes in preeclampsia sera-treated adipose tissue were involved in immune response, oxidative stress, insulin resistance, and lipid metabolism. Gene expression was confirmed by RT-qPCR and independently validated.

might promote and strongly suppress the inflammatory and adipogenic activities.

#### 4. Discussion

Preeclampsia is strongly associated with abnormal placentation characterized by shallow trophoblast invasion and incomplete spiral artery remodeling, which causes elevated amounts of proinflammatory cytokines, chemokines, adhesion molecules, and growth factors [4]. Chronic inflammation and endothelial injury might play a central role in

the pathogenesis of preeclampsia, but the underlying pathophysiology is still unclear. We demonstrate significant differences in gene expression of adipose tissue treated with sera from nonobese preeclampsia patients and age- and BMI-matched controls. Adipose tissue might be contributing to modulation of the potential functional genes for inflammation and immune response (Th1/Th2 predominance), oxidative stress, insulin resistance, and adipogenesis (Table 3). The altered gene products in adipose tissue lead to suppression of preeclampsia-associated inflammation which in turn is responsible for excessive production of Th2 type cytokines and host defense molecules, as well as modulation of adipogenesis and insulin resistance.

These data allow us to hypothesize that when chronic inflammation is consistently present, anti-inflammation remains active in adipose tissue. In an early event of placental dysfunction, newly synthesized inflammatory cytokines and chemokines drive association of inflammation and oxidative stress, leading to insulin resistance and adipogenesis. The second wave of preeclampsia supports sustained expression of a subset of inhibition of oxidative stress, insulin resistance, and adipogenesis in adipose tissue, several of which play important roles in preeclampsia. This study reveals new aspects of preeclampsia and adipocyte biology.

Firstly, RT-qPCR data demonstrated significant differences in immune response gene expression. These genes are immunomodulators induced under stressful or pathological conditions such as preeclampsia. Pregnancy is associated with Th2 type cytokine predominance or downregulation of the Th1 response, which is more pronounced at the maternal fetal interface [13]. Th1 cells produce an array of proinflammatory cytokines including IFN-gamma, IL-2, and TNF-alpha. Th2 cells produce IL-4, IL-5, and IL-10. The majority of publications report on aberrant Th1/Th2 balance and upregulation of the Th17 immune response in preeclampsia [14]. We for the first time confirmed that preeclampsia sera could induce changes of Th1/Th2 cytokine balance with a predominance of Th2 immunity in adipose tissue, suggesting the role of immunological mechanisms engaged in preeclampsia. After the establishment of preeclampsia, predominance might be shifted from Th1 cells to Th2 cells in adipose tissue.

Secondly, altered expression was observed in several defense and stress response genes associated with oxidative stress, which is involved in regulating host defense. It appears that preeclampsia is a disease of exaggerated innate immunity that may be mediated by Toll-like receptors (TLRs). Previous studies have also identified immune-system alterations associated with the origin of preeclampsia as well as genetic associations between TLRs and preeclampsia: TLR2 and TLR4 SNPs appear to alter susceptibility to developing preeclampsia [15]. This study showed that preeclampsia sera stimulate expression of TLR4 and TLR9 in adipose tissue. TLR4 generates local and systemic inflammatory and oxidative stress responses in preeclampsia [16]. Oxidative stress can in turn induce and maintain inflammatory responses mainly through a TLR4-dependent nuclear factor- (NF-) kappaB pathway [17]. Exaggerated placental cell injury and death result in the release of mitochondrial DNA, which activates TLR9 to produce systemic maternal inflammation

from adipocytes, and subsequent vascular dysfunction that may in turn lead to preeclampsia [18]. TLR9 and IFN-gamma were located in differentiated and mature adipocytes [19]. The TLR4 and TLR9 activation in adipose tissue may worsen the situation of patients with preeclampsia. In contrast, we identified increased expression levels of 5 genes such as PRDX5, MIF, CD74, NFE2L1, and CSF3R, which play an essential role in the host immune response or the host defense against several pathogens or oxidative stress. It is possible that increased expression of these genes in adipose tissue could strengthen host defense by protecting host cells from oxidative insults.

Thirdly, genes involved in insulin resistance are differentially expressed in adipose tissue stimulated with preeclampsia sera. It has been established that women with preeclampsia have an increased risk of developing diabetes [20]. Although insulin resistance is a key pathophysiology of preeclampsia, the mechanisms remain unclear. Our data demonstrated significant increases in the expression levels of several lipid metabolism-related genes, including IFNGR2 and NFX1, which modulate lipid metabolism to promote insulin resistance. In contrast, we identified decreased expression of selected genes involved in insulin resistance in adipose tissue, including TLR3, FOS, and PRL, which could induce insulin sensitivity. IL10RA is also negatively involved in insulin resistance. Thus, preeclampsia sera might contribute to insulin sensitivity by positive and negative regulation of the expression of diverse genes.

Finally, adipose tissue is a highly active endocrine and metabolically important organ, with the ability to modulate glucose homeostasis, energy expenditure, lipid metabolism, and peripheral inflammation. Our results identified increased expression of selected genes involved in lipid metabolism, including SDCBP, EPOR, and CSF2RA. Increased expression of SDCBP in adipocytes likely contributes to adipogenesis, whereas EPOR and CSF2RA are negatively involved in adipogenesis [21–23]. EPOR regulates energy homeostasis and mitigates adipogenesis via the metabolism coregulators peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor alpha (PPARalpha) and sirtuin 1 (Sirt1) [21–23]. Furthermore, CSF2RA is a receptor for CRF2, also known as GM-CSF, which is related to a central action to reduce food intake and body weight, since knockout mice are more obese and hyperphagic than wild-type mice [24]. OSM inhibits the terminal differentiation of adipocytes through the Ras/extracellular signal-regulated kinase (ERK) and signal transducer and activator of transcription (STAT) 5 signaling pathways [25, 26]. Preeclampsia sera inhibited the OSM gene expression in adipose tissue. Therefore, preeclampsia sera could relieve insulin resistance and adipogenesis in adipose tissue.

Over the last decade preeclampsia biology revealed that the early molecular changes affect inflammation, immune response, angiogenesis, oxidative stress, matrix remodeling, and lipid biosynthesis [27]. The TLR signaling pathway induces inflammation, which in turn modulates insulin resistance and adipogenesis [28, 29]. Inflammation, oxidative stress, insulin resistance, and adipogenesis, secondary to the influx of proinflammatory cytokines and chemokines during placental dysfunction, are involved in the progression of

preeclampsia. Preeclampsia serum priming in adipose tissue leads to enhanced Th1 inflammation, oxidative stress, and insulin resistance, and simultaneously antiadipogenic induction may result in enhanced expression of Th2 predominance, antioxidative stress, and insulin sensitivity.

This study limits the ability to ascribe causality to the association between adipocytes and their gene expression. Adipose tissue used in this study contains adipocytes, macrophages, T lymphocytes, other immune cells, vasculature, and stromal cells. Further study will be conducted to confirm the anti-inflammatory effects of preeclampsia serum and to elucidate its mechanism of action in adipocytes in culture.

In conclusion, this study supports the hypothesis that there are at least two distinct phases of preeclampsia development: the initial wave of inflammatory activation in modulating immune response, oxidative stress, insulin resistance, and adipogenesis would be followed by the second big wave of anti-inflammation in adipose tissue. Finally, adipose tissue may have an ability to suppress inflammation, immune response, oxidative stress, and metabolic signals to protect host from excessive inflammation.

## 5. Conclusions

The primary event in the molecular sequence leading to chronic inflammation is placental dysfunction in preeclampsia. Increased inflammation likely contributes to adipokine dysregulation, adipogenesis, and insulin resistance in adipose tissue. This initial wave of the systemic inflammation would be followed by the second big wave of subsequent production of anti-inflammatory mediators by adipose tissue, which then suppresses oxidative stress, insulin resistance, and metabolic dysfunction. Adipose tissue may protect host from excessive inflammation in preeclampsia.

## Abbreviations

BCL6:	B-cell CLL/lymphoma 6
CCL28:	Chemokine (C-C motif) ligand 28
CCL23:	Chemokine (C-C motif) ligand 23
CD74:	Major histocompatibility complex, class II invariant chain
CD97:	CD97 molecule
CSF2RA:	Colony stimulating factor 2 receptor, alpha, low-affinity (granulocyte-macrophage)
CSF3R:	Colony stimulating factor 3 receptor
CXCL10:	Chemokine (C-X-C motif) ligand 10
EPOR:	Erythropoietin receptor
FOS:	FBJ murine osteosarcoma viral oncogene homolog
IFNGR2:	Interferon gamma receptor 2
IK:	IK cytokine, downregulator of HLA II
IL10RA:	Interleukin 10 receptor, alpha
IL18:	Interleukin 18 (interferon-gamma-inducing factor)
IL36G:	Interleukin 36, gamma
IL37:	Interleukin 37
LTB4R:	Leukotriene B4 receptor
MEFV:	Mediterranean fever, also known as pyrin

MIF:	Macrophage migration inhibitory factor
NFE2L1:	Nuclear factor, erythroid 2-like 1
NFX1:	Nuclear transcription factor, X-box binding 1
OSM:	Oncostatin M
PPBP:	Proplatelet basic protein (chemokine (C-X-C motif) ligand 7)
PRDX5:	Peroxiredoxin 5
PRLR:	Prolactin receptor
SDCBP:	Syndecan binding protein (syntenin)
SIGLEC1:	Sialic acid binding Ig-like lectin 1, sialoadhesin
TLR3:	Toll-like receptor 3
TLR4:	Toll-like receptor 4
TLR9:	Toll-like receptor 9.

## Conflict of Interests

The authors declare no conflict of interests.

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