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Manganese in atherogenesis: Detection, origin, and a role

Lozhkin A., Biktagirov T., Abdul'yanov V., Gorshkov O., Timonina E., Mamin G., Orlinskii S., Silkin N., Chernov V., Khairullin R., Salakhov M., Ilinskaya O.

Kazan Federal University, 420008, Kremlevskaya 18, Kazan, Russia

Abstract

The role of transition metal ions in atherogenesis is controversial; they may be involved in hydroxyl radical generation and can also catalyze the reactive oxygen species neutralization reaction as cofactors of antioxidant enzymes. Using EPR spectroscopy, we revealed that 70% of aorta specimens with atherosclerotic lesions possessed superoxide dismutase activity, 100% of the specimens initiated Fenton reaction and demonstrated the presence of manganese paramagnetic centers. The *sodA* gene encoding manganese-dependent bacterial superoxide dismutase was not found in the samples of atherosclerotic plaques by PCR using degenerate primers. The data obtained indicate prospects of manganese analysis as a marker element in the express diagnostics of atherosclerosis. © Pleiades Publishing, Ltd., 2011.

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Keywords

Atherosclerosis, Manganese, SodA gene, Superoxide dismutase