Assessing Prophylactic and Therapeutic Efficacy of

a Cellulose Ether Compound TC-5RW on CJD

Zerui Wang, MD. Ph.D, Assistant Professor Case Western Reserve University

Background

• Cellulose ethers (CE)

Ingredients in foods and pharmaceuticals

• Why TC-5RW?

Small molecular weight (easy to penetrate BBB) Long exiting time in tissue,

Improve survival rate for prion disease in rodents





Months post-subcutaneous injection

HPMC602

TC-5RW

- 60SH-50

60SH-400

- 60SH-4K

- 60SH-10K

Background

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Neurodegenerative diseases: AD, PD, PrD, HD, ALS...
Misfolded proteins: α-syn, tau, Aβ, PrP<sup>Sc</sup>, TDP43
Seeding amplification assay (SAA): RT-QuIC
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Scheckel et al., 2015

Hypothesis

- TC-5RW could potentially serve as a prophylactic and therapeutic agent for human prion diseases.
- TC-5RW could also have a inhibitive effect on other misfolded proteins such as α -syn and tau

Aim

• Develop effective prevention and treatment of human prion diseases.

Inhibitive effect of TC-5RW on CJD in vitro



 TC-5RW is able to inhibit seeding activity of human PrPSc and to directly decrease PrPSc upon incubation of TC-5RW with brain homogenates of patients with different sporadic and genetic CJD *in vitro*

Protective effect of TC-5RW on PrP^{Sc} in vivo



- 1) Reduce PK-resistant PrPSc upon incubation with the compound *in vitro*
- 2) Can inhibit human PrPSc- aggregation seeding activity
- 3) A single subcutaneous administration of cellulose ethers had a remarkable protective effects on hamsters

Current study 1:

Determine the **prophylactic** and **therapeutic** effects of TC-5RW on **humanized transgenic (Tg) mice** expressing **human wild-type PrP** (Tg40h) before or after inoculation with human prions



TC-5RW on humanized Tg40h mice before or after inoculation with human PrP^{Sc}



Current study 2:

 Determine the prophylactic and therapeutic effects of TC-5RW on a spontaneous prion mouse model (TgMHu2ME199K) that expresses human PrP carrying a mutation equivalent to human PrP-E200K linked to genetic CJDE200K.



TC-5RW has prophylactic and therapeutic effects on TgMHu2ME199K mice

РК

PΚ



Inhibitory effect of TC-5RW on alpha-synuclein seeding aggregation



Inhibitory effect of TC-5RW on alpha-synuclein in vitro and in cell





Inhibitory effect of CE on tau aggregation



- 1. CE can inhibit tau aggregation in vitro
- 2. CE can truncate tau protein into fragments with low MW

?Intracerebrally for further in vivo study

Summary of current findings

- Prion Disease Model: Inhibitive effect on in vitro aggregation, in cell (Abdulrahman et al., 2020), treatment effect in vivo (rodents) and show protective effect in prophylactic group.
- PD Model: Inhibitive effect on in vitro aggregation, in cell
- AD Model: Inhibitive effect on in vitro aggregation

TC-5RW, might function as a broad-spectrum inhibitor of protein aggregation. The implication of TC-5RW's potential to disaggregate a wide array of misfolded proteins suggests it could be a universal therapeutic strategy for various neurodegenerative diseases.

Plans

• Enhance the efficiency of the prophylactic approach through modification of injection routes.

Consider subcutaneous implantation or intracerebral injection.

• Explore the possible binding target of TC-5RW during the aggregation process, and identify potential small molecules that could synergistically boost the protective effect of CE.

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Conclusions

- We found that one kind of cellulose ether called TC-5RW show therapeutic effect on prion disease of hamsters, in both prevention and post-treatment groups by single subcutaneous injection
- We found that TC-5RW can inhibit the PrP^{Sc} aggregation of CJD and other associated misfolded protein *in vitro*
- We are now testing the treatment effect of TC-5RW in humanized PrP mouse model and found that the extension of survival of prevention treatment group, but not as effective if given afterward by subcutaneous injection.
- We are exploring different injection routes of humanized PrP mouse model treatment, which might improve the treatment effect, and provide the possibility to develop efficient therapeutic compounds for CJD