



Acetaminophen Overdose-induced Induced Liver Injury in Mice Is Mediated by Peroxynitrite Independently of the Cyclophilin D-regulated Regulated Permeability Transition

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Acetaminophen (APAP) is a widely used analgesic and antipyretic drug. ~~that~~ While is safe at in therapeutic doses, ~~However, when administered overdose, overdoses of~~ APAP can cause liver damage in humans and mice. Despite extensive research ~~for over~~ several decades, the underlying molecular mechanisms of hepatocyte injury are still not fully understood, limiting the development and therapeutic application of novel cytoprotective agents ~~in against~~ APAP-induced liver injury (Jaeschke & Bajt 2006; & Saito et al. 2010). ~~What has become~~ It is clear is that ~~in~~ Mitochondria play a key role in both the early stages of cell injury (interactions of the thiol-intermediate reagent, *N*-acetyl-*p*-benzoquinone imine; [NAPQI], with glutathione and proteins, accompanied by antioxidants and nitrate stress) ~~And and the~~ subsequent phase-propagation phase (signaling followed by hepatocellular death); ~~mitochondria appear to play a key role~~ (Cover et al. 2005; & Hanawa et al. 2008). Evidence ~~has been shown, shows~~ suggests that after exposure of hepatocytes to APAP in vitro or in vivo, ~~facilitates mitochondria easily undergo~~ permeabilization of the ~~mitochondrial~~ outer membrane ~~occurs easily, thus which inducing~~ induces necrotic cell death, ~~largely primarily~~ through caspase-independent mechanisms. How ~~exactly~~ NAPQI and its subsequent signaling events ~~lead~~ to mitochondrial permeabilization at present is ~~not currently unknown at present~~. It has been suggested that the ~~The~~ process may involve ~~the transition of~~ mitochondrial permeability transition (mPT). ~~The mPT is a functional term that, which involves~~ causes the sustained opening of a megapore ~~that encompasses across~~ both the ~~internal inner~~ and ~~external outer~~ mitochondrial ~~membrane membranes~~. This allowing allows the exchange of solutes ~~of~~ <1.5 kDa, leading to mitochondrial swelling, external membrane ~~rupture rupture~~, and release of proapoptotic ~~proteins proteins~~. Although the

Commented [CP1]: Dear Author,

It is a pleasure to edit your paper. I will do my best to ensure that all editorial issues are picked up and the document is thoroughly proofread.

Please go through all my amendments carefully to ensure that I have not changed your intended meaning. Please read all my comments carefully as I will make suggestions to improve the text.

I wish you good luck with the publication process.

Commented [CP2]: I corrected this to align with the reference list. Please confirm that you were referring to these papers.

Commented [CP3]: I corrected this to align with IUPAC naming conventions (with the positional symbols italicized).

Commented [CP4]: It is unclear how this information fits in with cell injury. Perhaps you mean "... (caused by the toxic APAP metabolite, *N*-acetyl-*p*-benzoquinone imine [NAPQI], which depletes glutathione, leading to oxidative stress and protein nitration)"?

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physiological properties of the mPT pore have been well extensively studied, ~~the-its~~ molecular nature ~~of this pore~~ remains poorly defined. ~~Originally, the~~ The ADP/ATP-ADP/ATP translocator (ANT) and ~~the voltage-voltage-~~dependent anionic transporter (VDAC) ~~have been~~ were initially attributed crucial roles, but these have recently been drawn into question ~~a crucial role, but this concept had to be~~ was recently reviewed ~~disputed recently, it was found that because~~ due to the occurrence of permeability transition could still occur in the mitochondria of ANT or VDAC knockout mice ~~were still Capable of,~~ being subjected to

On the other hand, ~~Genetic-~~ the genetic studies support a major role for cytophilin cyclophilin D (CypD) matrix protein ~~appears to be a critical actor involved~~ in the regulation of the mPT pore. Studies ~~of using Mitochondrial-mitochondria~~ studies isolated from mice with a genetic deletion of CypD ~~have~~ clearly demonstrated ~~that these mitochondria were much more resistant~~ increased resistance to mPT inducers ~~than the compared to~~ to wild-type mitochondria (~~though although they were~~ not fully protected). As an alternative to ~~the~~ genetic deletion of CypD, pharmacological inhibition—, e.g., for instance, with using cyclosporin A (CsA) or other specific cyclophilin ligands—, can also disrupt the interaction ~~of between~~ CypD ~~with and~~ the mPT pore ~~can also be disrupted by pharmacological inhibition, eg with cyclosporin A (CsA) or other specific cyclophilin ligands~~. Therefore, the ~~demonstration of~~ protective effects ~~provided demonstrated by~~ CsA against ~~the effects of toxic drugsg toxicity has have been widely been widely~~ used to ~~make an the argument for support mPT the~~ involvement of mPT.

Based on ~~this the~~ concept of cytostatic effects of CsA, a number of independent studies have provided experimental evidence that mPT ~~could is~~ indeed ~~be~~ implicated in APAP-induced liver toxicity. However, ~~one caveat is that~~ CsA, given at high doses, as ~~used~~ in some of the mouse studies, may inhibit drug transporters in the ~~domain of the~~ canalicular membrane domain and ~~also~~ induce cholestasis. This could alter the kinetics of APAP ~~and/or and/or~~ its metabolites. ~~In addition, and importantly~~ Importantly, CsA ~~not only~~ binds not only to mitochondrial CypD but ~~also~~ to other forms of cyclophilin, including cytosolic CypA. The CypA/CsA-CypA/CsA complex is subsequently linked to calcineurin, a ~~Ca²⁺+/calmodulin~~ Ca²⁺/calmodulin-activated ~~serine/threonine~~ serine/threonine phosphatase that ~~has been is~~ mechanically involved in the immunosuppressive effects of CsA. ~~Finally,~~ CsA has also been shown to exert other calcineurin-independent effects on NH₂-NH₂-terminal ~~terminal~~ kinase (JNK) signaling. Therefore, the role

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Commented [CP8]: Please remember to include a citation here. This sentence refers to published work.

Commented [CP9]: Latin abbreviations are reserved for parentheses and tables; in running text, we prefer the full English forms.

Commented [CP10]: The relevant studies should be cited here.

Commented [CP11]: Should this be cJun NH₂-terminal kinase (JNK) signaling?

of CypD-dependent mPT in ~~the~~ APAP hepatotoxicity, based solely on the protective effects ~~provided by~~ of CsA, should be ~~reviewed~~ investigated. ~~In fact~~ Notably, studies ~~in-on~~ isolated hepatocytes ~~have provided evidence~~ suggest that ~~with increasing time and cell stress~~, CsA eventually loses its protective effects ~~towards-against~~ APAP-induced cell injury with increasing time and cell stress. However, ~~it is not known~~ whether this occurs in vivo is unknown. Additionally, and, more importantly, the mechanism of ~~"insensitive to CsA insensitivity"~~ "of to APAP toxicity ~~has remained~~ is remains ~~obscure-enigmatic~~ difficult to understand.

~~The This aim of this~~ study ~~was to~~ investigated whether APAP ~~exerts-caused~~ mitochondrial permeabilization, either through mPT ~~and/or-or~~ through other mechanisms, ~~independent-independently~~ of CypD, ~~using~~ We used both ~~the~~ in vivo pharmacological inhibitors of CypD and a genetic approach with ~~deficient-CypD-deficient~~ (*Ppif*^{-/-}) Mice mice. The data suggest that high doses of APAP induce mitochondrial peroxynitrite stress that directly triggers mitochondrial permeabilization without the involvement of CypD.

Results

Pharmacological inhibition or genetic depletion of mitochondrial CypD ~~does~~ did not protect against ~~the-APAP~~ hepatotoxicity ~~of APAP~~. A previously characterized mouse model was used ~~To~~ to investigate the mechanistic role of CypD-controlled mPT versus other modes of cell death in APAP-induced liver injury, ~~a previously characterized mouse model was used~~. 20-Twenty Acetaminophen acetaminophen APAP (600 mg/-day) was-were given to male wild-type ~~males~~ male-mice (*Ppif*^{+/-+} [Kg, ip]). As expected, APAP caused typical centrilobular necrosis, which was evident at 8 h ~~post-dose~~ after dosing and became more severe at 24 h, ~~parallel-paralleling to~~ the highly increased activity of plasma ALT (Fig-Fig. 1A, B, D). ~~Because-The~~ the choice of solvent ~~may have can~~ significantly effects-affect on APAP bioactivation ~~and/or-and/or~~ the subsequent recruitment of immune cells and thus ~~on~~ the extent of liver injury. Therefore, we first ~~determined-compared~~ the effects of Solutol HS-15, used in Para-Parenteral-parenteral administration of lipophilic compounds, ~~and compared it with~~ to those of the hot saline solution used to dissolve APAP. ~~It was found that Solutol HS-15, in-In~~ contrast to

Commented [CP12]: This is slightly confusing. I think you're saying that a total of 600 mg APAP was given to the mouse each day in 20 doses. Is this correct? If so, I would suggest rewriting this as "APAP (20 x 30 mg) was". If my understanding is incorrect, please feel free to contact me. I am more than happy to help rephrase this so that your intention is clearly expressed.

Commented [CP13]: This seems to refer to the administration of acetaminophen and should be moved to the relevant place in the sentence.

Is "Kg" referring to the weight of the mouse? If so, the SI unit for "kilogram" is "kg."

Commented [CP14]: Is this "alanine transaminase?"

It is generally best practice to introduce acronyms into the text with their expanded forms, e.g., "alanine transaminase (ALT)." Only widely accepted acronyms (DNA, RNA, DMSO, etc.) should be used without first defining them.

However, journals often have a list of abbreviations/acronyms that can be used without first defining them in the text. Please check whether "ALT" is on their list. If it is, this comment can be ignored.

~~dimethylsulfoxide~~dimethyl sulfoxide, Solutol HS-15 had no apparent effects on plasma ALT activity (Table 1). Therefore, Solutol HS-15 was used as ~~a~~the vehicle for excipient in all subsequent experiments.

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Previous reports ~~from various laboratories~~ have shown that CsA ~~can~~ effectively protects mouse hepatocytes from APAP-induced injury both in vitro and in vivo. However, CsA may have a number of off-target effects, including those ~~not related~~unrelated to CypD. ~~To avoid these confounding factors, the CsA analog, Debio 025, a CsA analog which that is a more selectively inhibits mitochondrial CypD mitochondrial inhibitor and inhibits the immune system (via calcineurin-mediated pathways) at least whose is >3,000 times less potent potency to at inhibiting/inhibit the immune system (via the calcineurin mediated pathways) is >3,000 times less than~~ ~~The CsA, was used to avoid these confounding factors.~~ Debio 025 (10~~-mg/kg~~ mg/kg, ip) ~~was injected~~ 1.5 h after APAP ~~administration~~ (when APAP bioactivation was largely completed and ~~NAPQI had consumed most the majority of the hepatic GSH~~was already consumed by NAPQI) ~~was injected, thus minimizing to minimize drug-drug interactions- interactions.~~ Surprisingly, ~~it was found that~~ Debio 025 did not ~~afford protect~~protection from ~~APAP-APAP~~-induced hepatotoxicity (Fig. 1C, D). A pilot study revealed ~~that there was~~ a similar lack of protective effects when ~~administering~~-Debio 025 ~~was administered~~ simultaneously with APAP (data not shown), indicating that the lack of protection was not simply due to ~~the~~ late administration of the CypD inhibitor. These findings suggest ~~that, in an additional -mode of mitochondrial permeabilization induced by high doses of APAP to the other than CypD-CypD-dependent mode of mPT, there may be another mode of mitochondrial permeabilization induced by high doses of APAP.~~

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To corroborate these findings and ~~to totally~~ exclude ~~any~~ possible drug interactions due to the presence of ~~the~~ pharmacological inhibitors, we ~~then~~ determined the extent of APAP-induced liver injury in a CypD depletion mouse ~~genetic model of CypD depletion (Ppif^{-/-} mice)~~ (Figure Fig. 2A-). We first ~~had to check checked~~confirmed that ~~the APAP bioactivation rates of these CypD-deficient mice exhibited similar rates of APAP bioactivation were had similar APAP bioactivation rates to those of as their the~~ wild-type controls. ~~Therefore~~Specifically, hepatic GSH consumption (a marker established for the extension of NAPQI formation) was measured for 90

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~~min after following administering administration of~~ a hepatotoxic dose of APAP ~~in to~~ *Ppif*^{-/-} mice and their wild-type littermates ~~for the first 90 min (a marker established for the extension of NAPQI formation)~~. Although *Ppif*^{-/-} mice ~~had~~ initially ~~had~~ higher GSH levels (+ 30%), no significant differences were found in the ~~extent level~~ of GSH depletion between the two genotypes (Figure Fig. 2B). We then evaluated the degree of liver injury after 4, ~~8~~, and 24 h in both *Ppif*^{+/+} and *Ppif*^{-/-} mice injected with APAP (600 mg/kg, ip). ~~In line~~ Consistent with the ~~results of the~~ Debio 025 experiments, the *Ppif*^{-/-} mice were not protected from APAP toxicity at this high dose, but developed typical centrilobular necrosis ~~after 24 h, after 24 h, whose similar in expression was not different from to that of in the Wild wild-type animals, after 24 h~~ (Fig. 2D). ~~Taken together~~ Overall, these data indicate that, ~~at the high dose used here, the~~ mitochondrial signaling involved in APAP hepatotoxicity includes ~~an a mode~~ CypD-independent ~~mode mode of CypD, at least at this high dose~~. [In contrast, ~~a recent report suggests that the at much lower doses,~~ inhibition of the CypD pathway ~~may still~~ allows cytoprotection ~~when lower doses are administered, as shown in a recent report~~.]

Commented [CP20]: Although it is not essential here, including the *p*-value would strengthen this statement.

Commented [CP21]: Please remember to include a citation here. This sentence refers to published work.

References

1. Jaeschke H, Bajt M, (2006). Intracellular signaling mechanisms of acetaminophen-induced liver cell death. *Toxicol. Sci.*, (89), 31–41 ~~2006~~.
2. Saito C, Lemasters J, Jaeschke H (2010). -c-Jun N-terminal kinase modulates oxidant stress and peroxynitrite formation independent of inducible nitric oxide synthase in acetaminophen hepatotoxicity. *Toxicol. Appl. Pharmacol.*, (246), 8–17.
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4. Hanawa N, Shinohara M, Saberi B, Gaarde W, Han D, Kaplowitz N (2008). Role of JNK translocation to mitochondria leading to inhibition of mitochondria bioenergetics in acetaminophen-induced liver injury. *J. Biol. Chem.*, (283), 13565–13577.

Commented [CP22]: The in-text citations are not numbered, so these references do not need to be numbered. Instead, they should be organized alphabetically.