



Sirt1 Deletion Leads to Enhanced Inflammation and Aggravates Endotoxin-Induced Acute Kidney Injury

Rong Gao^{1,2}, Jiao Chen², Yuxin Hu^{1,2}, Zhenyu Li⁴, Shuxia Wang⁵, Sreerama Shetty⁶, Jian Fu^{2,3*}

1 The Second Hospital of Jilin University, Changchun, Jilin, China, **2** Center for Research on Environmental Disease, College of Medicine, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky, United States of America, **3** Graduate Center for Toxicology, College of Medicine, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky, United States of America, **4** Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, College of Medicine, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky, United States of America, **5** Graduate Center for Nutritional Sciences, College of Medicine, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky, United States of America, **6** Center for Biomedical Research, University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler, Tyler, Texas, United States of America

Abstract

Bacterial endotoxin has been known to induce excessive inflammatory responses and acute kidney injury. In the present study, we used a mouse model of endotoxemia to investigate the role of Sirt1 in inflammatory kidney injury. We examined molecular and cellular responses in inducible Sirt1 knockout (Sirt1^{-/-}) mice and wild type littermates (Sirt1^{+/+}) in lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced kidney injury. Our studies demonstrated that Sirt1 deletion caused aggravated kidney injury, which was associated with increased inflammatory responses including elevated pro-inflammatory cytokine production, and increased ICAM-1 and VCAM-1 expression. Inflammatory signaling such as STAT3/ERK phosphorylation and NF- κ B activation was markedly elevated in kidney tissues of Sirt1 knockout mice after LPS challenge. The results indicate that Sirt1 is protective against LPS-induced acute kidney injury by suppressing kidney inflammation and down-regulating inflammatory signaling.

Citation: Gao R, Chen J, Hu Y, Li Z, Wang S, et al. (2014) Sirt1 Deletion Leads to Enhanced Inflammation and Aggravates Endotoxin-Induced Acute Kidney Injury. PLoS ONE 9(6): e98909. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0098909

Editor: Min Wu, University of North Dakota, United States of America

Received: March 18, 2014; **Accepted:** May 8, 2014; **Published:** June 4, 2014

Copyright: © 2014 Gao et al. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

Data Availability: The authors confirm that all data underlying the findings are fully available without restriction. All data are included within the manuscript.

Funding: The study was supported in part by the National Institutes of Health (<http://www.nih.gov>) grant (1R01GM099744) to JF. The funders had no role in study design, data collection and analysis, decision to publish, or preparation of the manuscript.

Competing Interests: The authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

* E-mail: jian.fu@uky.edu

Introduction

Sepsis arises mostly from bacterial infection which causes multiple organ failure due to excessive systemic inflammation [1,2]. Kidney functions as a natural filter of blood and serves as the first line of defense in our body [3,4]. Unfortunately, it also becomes a direct target of inflammatory injury [5]. Sepsis-induced acute kidney injury (AKI) is very common in the elderly and associated with high mortality [6–8]. To date, there has been no effective treatment for this devastating disease [9,10]. Lipopolysaccharide (LPS) challenge is one of the most accepted animal models to explore the underlying mechanisms and potential treatment in sepsis-induced kidney injury [11].

Renal function is significantly compromised during sepsis as indicated by increased blood urea nitrogen (BUN) and urine Kidney injury molecule-1 (KIM-1) levels [12–14]. Sepsis also causes renal tubular damage and inflammation as shown by histological analysis [15]. Kidney inflammation is associated with increased production of pro-inflammatory mediators [16], and up-regulation of adhesion molecules such as Intercellular adhesion molecule-1 (ICAM-1) and vascular cell adhesion molecule-1 (VCAM-1) [17]. Those early inflammatory responses induce leukocyte infiltration during kidney injury [18], which may lead to further damage. Increased cytokine production is a hallmark in many inflammatory diseases including kidney injury [19,20]. Cytokines can induce pro-inflammatory signaling such as

activation of signal transducer and activator of transcription 3 (STAT3) [21], and modulate inflammatory responses through ERK/MAPK cascade [22].

Sirt1, a member of the Sirtuin family [23], is a deacetylase that has been reported to modulate the function of a wide variety of proteins such as NF- κ B and p53, through deacetylation of lysine residues [24]. There have been increasing studies suggesting that Sirt1 plays an important role in inflammation, apoptosis, stress resistance, metabolism, differentiation, and aging [8,25–31]. In the present study, we investigated the role of Sirt1 in LPS-induced acute kidney injury by inducible deletion of Sirt1 in mice. Our studies demonstrate that Sirt1 knockout mice are highly susceptible to LPS-induced inflammatory kidney injury.

Materials and Methods

Reagents

Tamoxifen and lipopolysaccharide (Escherichia coli serotype 0111:B4) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO, USA). TNF- α and IL-6 ELISA kits were obtained from Biolegend (San Diego, CA, USA). Blood urea nitrogen (BUN) assay kit was obtained from Arbor Assays (Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA). Kidney injury molecule-1 (KIM-1) assay kit was purchased from R&D (Minneapolis, MN, USA). Anti-Mouse Ly-6G (Gr-1)-FITC was purchased from eBioscience (San Diego, CA, USA). Goat anti-mouse ICAM-1 and VCAM-1 antibodies were purchased from

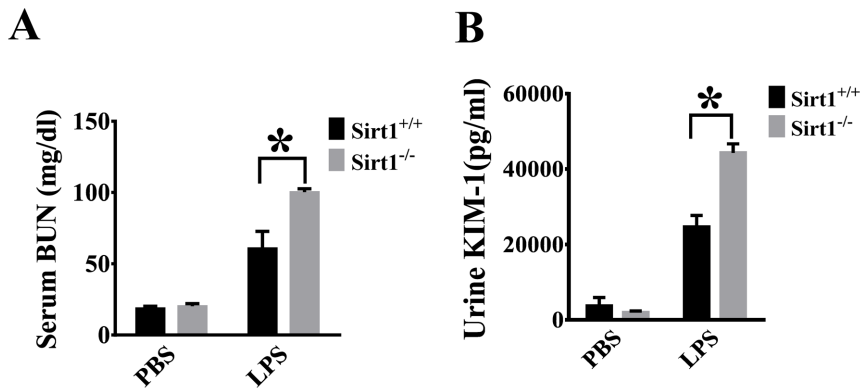


Figure 1. Aggravated renal dysfunction in Sirt1 knockout mouse after LPS challenge. Sirt1^{-/-} mice and Sirt1^{+/+} littermates were divided into four groups (Sirt1^{+/+}/PBS, Sirt1^{-/-}/PBS, Sirt1^{+/+}/LPS, Sirt1^{-/-}/LPS). Serum BUN (A) and KIM-1(B) Levels were measured 24 h after LPS challenge n \geq 4 mice/group. * P<0.05 versus LPS/Sirt1^{+/+} group. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0098909.g001

Santa Cruz Biotechnology (Dallas, Texas, USA). Phospho-STAT3 (Thr705), Stat3 (124H6), phospho-p44/42MAPK (ERK1/2) (Thr202/Tyr204), p44/42MAPK (ERK1/2), phosphorylated I κ B α , I κ B α , and β -actin antibodies were obtained from Cell Signal Technology (Boston, MA, USA).

Animal model of acute kidney injury

Mice were housed in cages with free access to food and water in a temperature controlled room with a 12-hour dark/light cycle. All experiments and animal care procedures were approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee of the University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler. The generation of inducible Sirt1 knockout mice was described previously [32,33]. Six to seven weeks after the birth, mice were given tamoxifen (100 mg/Kg body weight in corn oil) by intraperitoneal (I.P.) injection daily for 5 days to induce nuclear translocation of Cre recombinase as described previously [33]. Fourteen to fifteen weeks after Sirt1 deletion, age-matched male Sirt1^{-/-} and Sirt1^{+/+} littermates were used in the studies. Endotoxemia was induced by I.P. injection of 5 mg/kg LPS dissolved in phosphate buffered

saline (PBS), control mice were injected with PBS. Experiments were terminated 6 or 24 h after LPS challenge.

Renal function assay and histology analysis

Blood and urine samples were obtained from mice 24 h after LPS challenge, serum BUN and urine KIM-1 levels were examined as markers of renal dysfunction. Paraffin-embedded sections of mouse kidney tissues were stained with hematoxylin and eosin for assessment of renal tubular injury. The histological samples were scored by lab personnel blinded to the samples. The magnitude of tubular injury including tubular dilatation, flattening and vacuolization was scored into five levels (0, none; 1, 0–25%; 2, 25 to 50%; 3, 50 to 75%; and 4, >75%) on the basis of the percentage of affected tubules in a high-power field under light microscope.

ELISA, Immunofluorescence, and Immunoblotting assays

Serum IL-6 and TNF- α levels were determined by ELISA kits (Biolegend). Blood samples were collected 6 and 24 h after LPS challenge. Kidneys samples were obtained 6 h or 24 h after LPS exposure. Immunofluorescence and immunoblotting assays were conducted as described previously [34].

Statistical analysis

Data were analyzed by two-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparisons tests and expressed as mean \pm SEM. Statistical significance was assigned to P values less than 0.05.

Results

Sirt1 deletion leads to aggravated renal dysfunction after LPS challenge

Serum BUN and urine KIM-1 levels were used as markers of kidney function [14,35]. BUN and KIM-1 levels were increased after LPS challenge, and significantly higher in Sirt1 knockout mice than the wild type littermates (Figure 1 A, B), indicating exacerbated renal dysfunction in Sirt1 knockout mice.

LPS-induced kidney injury was examined in the tubules of the kidney cortex. The mice without LPS challenge showed normal and healthy kidney histology. We detected severe structural damage in the kidneys of Sirt1^{-/-} mice (Figure 2). Tubular injury including tubular dilatation, flattening and renal tubular cell vacuolization were markedly increased in Sirt1^{-/-} mice when

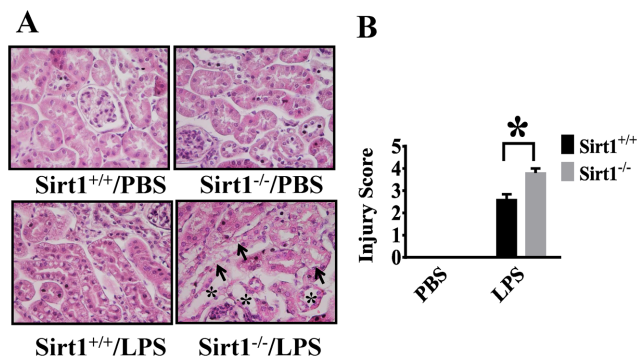


Figure 2. Aggravated renal tubular injury in Sirt1 knockout mice after LPS challenge. Kidney tissues were harvested 24 h after LPS challenge (n=5 mice/group). The collected kidneys were stained with H&E staining. (A) Histological examination shows increased tubular injury in kidney cortex of Sirt1^{-/-} mice after LPS challenge, including tubular dilatation, flattening (*) and vacuolization (arrows). (B) Quantitative evaluation of morphological tubular damage 24 h after LPS challenge. *P<0.05 versus Sirt1^{+/+}/LPS group. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0098909.g002

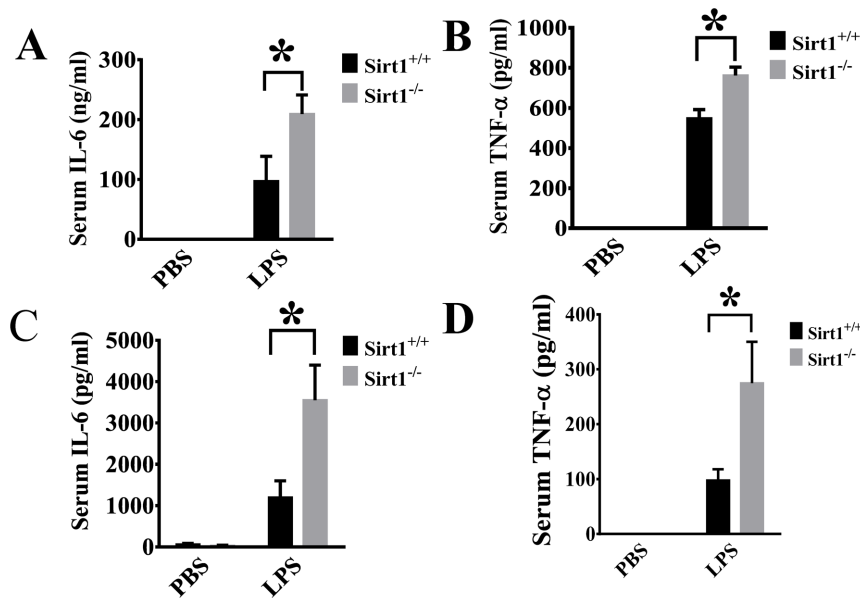


Figure 3. Sirt1 deletion causes significant increase of pro-inflammatory cytokine production after LPS challenge. Serum IL-6 and TNF- α levels were measured by ELISA 6 h (A, B) or 24 h (C, D) after LPS challenge ($n \geq 4$ mice/group). * $P < 0.05$ versus *Sirt1*^{+/+}/LPS group. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0098909.g003

compared with *Sirt1*^{+/+} littermates. Tubular injury scores indicate that kidney injury was significantly aggravated in *Sirt1* knockout mice.

Sirt1 deletion leads to increased production of pro-inflammatory cytokines after LPS challenge

The effects of *Sirt1* deletion on systemic inflammatory responses were determined by examining serum IL-6 and TNF- α levels. We observed that LPS-induced IL-6 and TNF- α production were significantly increased in *Sirt1*^{-/-} mice when compared with *Sirt1*^{+/+} littermates after LPS exposure (Figure 3), suggesting that *Sirt1* modulates systemic production of pro-inflammatory cytokines.

Sirt1 deletion leads to increased neutrophil infiltration in the kidney after LPS challenge

To further assess the effects of *Sirt1* deletion on LPS-induced kidney inflammation, neutrophil infiltration into the kidney was examined using neutrophil-specific Gr-1 antibody. No neutrophil infiltration was detected in the control group. LPS challenge led to increased neutrophil infiltration in the kidney, which was much more severe in *Sirt1* knockout mice (Figure 4 A, B).

Sirt1 deletion leads to increased ICAM-1/VCAM-1 expression in the kidney after LPS challenge

Adhesion molecules on vascular endothelial cells are major determinants of vascular inflammation [36]. We examined the

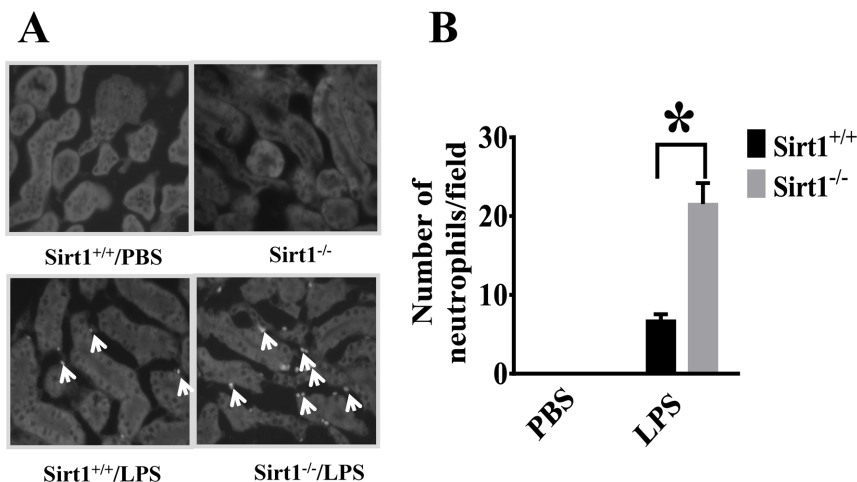


Figure 4. Increased neutrophil infiltration in *Sirt1* knockout mice after LPS challenge. Twenty four hours after LPS challenge, kidney tissues from *Sirt1*^{-/-} mice and *Sirt1*^{+/+} littermates were collected ($n = 5$ mice/group). Cryosections were prepared. (A) Gr-1 was used as a specific marker for neutrophil staining. Neutrophil (arrow) infiltration was detected. (B) The number of neutrophils was counted. * $P < 0.05$ versus *Sirt1*^{+/+}/LPS group. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0098909.g004

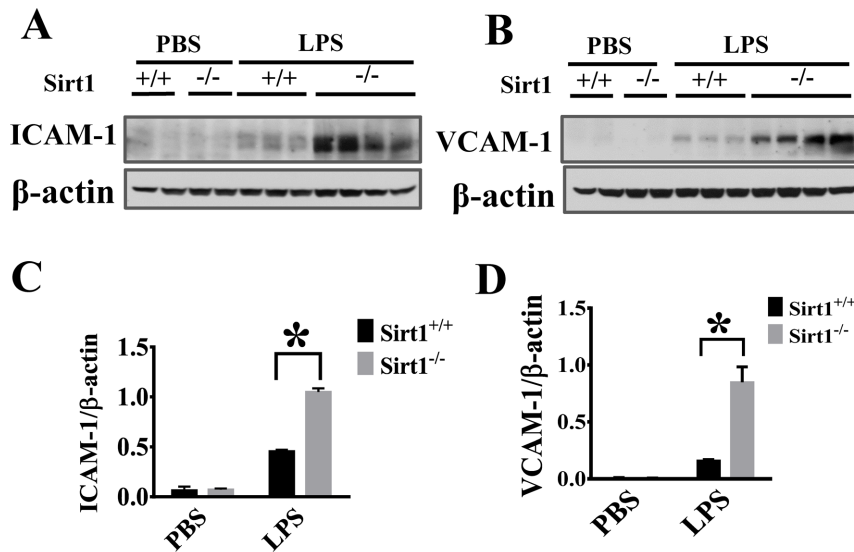


Figure 5. Sirt1 deletion enhances LPS-induced ICAM-1/VCAM-1 expression in the kidney. ICAM-1 and VCAM-1 expression were assayed 24 h after LPS challenge ($n \geq 4$ mice/group). (A, B) Representative blots showing ICAM-1 and VCAM-1 expression in the kidney. (C, D) Densitometry analysis. * $P < 0.05$ versus Sirt1^{+/+}/LPS group. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0098909.g005

effects of Sirt1 deletion on LPS-induced VCAM-1 and ICAM-1 expression in kidney tissues. Immunoblotting assays showed that Sirt1 knockout mice exhibited significantly higher ICAM-1/VCAM-1 expression after LPS challenge than Sirt1^{+/+} littermates (Figure 5 A–D).

Sirt1 deletion leads to enhanced inflammatory signaling in the kidney after LPS challenge

We then conducted experiments to investigate the mechanisms of sirt1 regulation of the kidney inflammation. Inflammatory signaling including Stat3 pathway has been reported to play an important role in the development of kidney injury [37]. Our

results indicate that STAT3 phosphorylation was increased in Sirt1^{-/-} mice when compared with Sirt1^{+/+} littermates (Figure 6A, C). To confirm Sirt1 regulation of inflammatory signaling, we also examined ERK phosphorylation in the kidney after LPS challenge. The results showed that Sirt1 deletion caused significant increases in ERK1/2 phosphorylation (Figure 6B, D). Furthermore, Sirt1 deletion led to increased NF- κ B activation in kidney tissues after LPS challenge as demonstrated by higher I κ B α phosphorylation and degradation (Figure 7), suggesting that Sirt1 down-regulation of inflammatory signaling could be one of the mechanisms contributing to its protection against kidney inflammation.

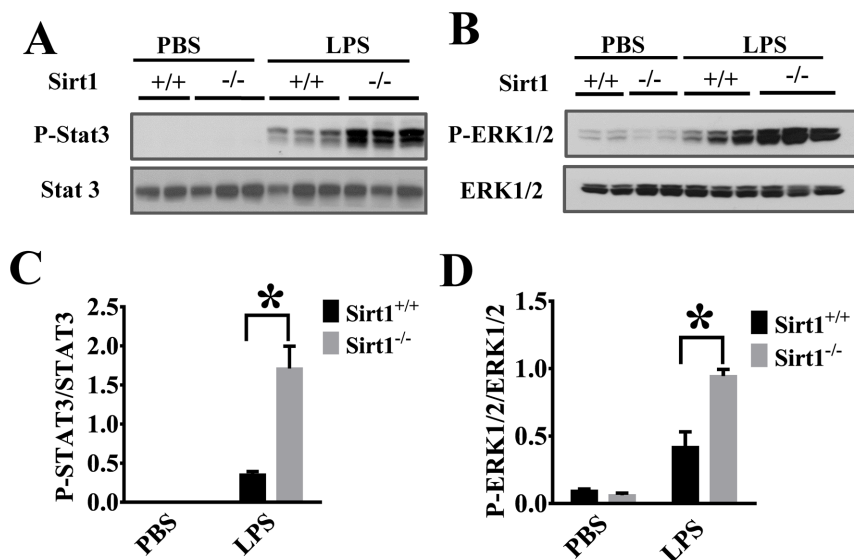


Figure 6. Sirt1 deletion enhances LPS-induced Stat3 and ERK1/2 activation in the kidney. Kidney tissues were harvested 6 h after LPS challenge ($n \geq 7$ mice/group). Samples were subjected to immunoblotting assay. STAT3 (A) and ERK1/2 (B) phosphorylation were examined in the kidney tissues by immunoblotting assay. (C, D) Densitometry analysis. * $P < 0.05$ versus Sirt1^{+/+}/LPS group. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0098909.g006

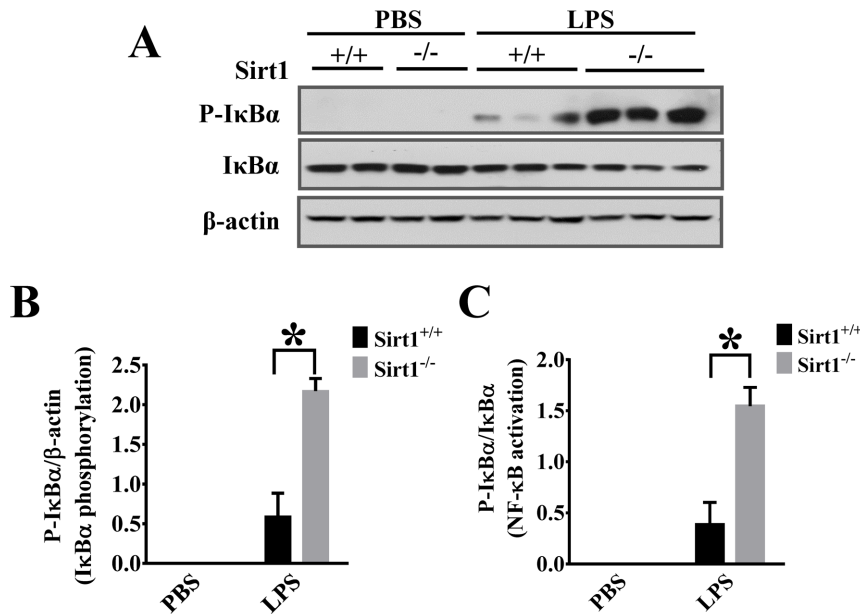


Figure 7. Sirt1 deletion enhances LPS-induced NF-κB activation. Kidney tissues were harvested 6 h after LPS challenge ($n \geq 7$ mice/group). Kidney samples were then subjected to immunoblotting assay. IκBα phosphorylation and IκBα level were examined. (A) Representative blots of IκBα phosphorylation and total IκBα. (B, C) Densitometry analysis. * $P < 0.05$ versus Sirt1^{+/+}/LPS group. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0098909.g007

Discussion

Sepsis remains a devastating disease without cure. While many studies have been done to explore the treatment for the disease [38–42], the mechanisms of septic shock and associated multi-organ failure are yet to be determined [43,44]. Endotoxemia is responsible for sepsis-induced excessive inflammatory injury including acute kidney injury in many clinic settings [45]. The Kidney, as a maintainer of internal environment homeostasis [3,4], is vulnerable to tissue injury caused by toxins and pro-inflammatory mediators [6], and studies are needed to identify protective mechanisms against sepsis-induced kidney injury.

Altered Sirt1 expression and function have been associated with many pathological changes [46]. We reported previously that Sirt1 plays an important role in regulating lung inflammation and coagulation responses [33]. Interestingly, Sirt1 expression is reduced during aging and in some pre-existing inflammatory diseases such as COPD and alcoholic fatty liver disease [47,48], and the elderly are also highly susceptible to inflammatory disorders including sepsis [23,47,48].

The progression of sepsis is likely associated with two phases. A systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SIRS) phase and a compensatory anti-inflammatory response syndrome (CARS) phase. However, not all patients who suffer from SIRS develop into severe sepsis [49]. Tight control of the balance between the two phases could be an important means of suppressing excessive inflammation [50]. Our studies demonstrate that Sirt1 deletion leads to aggravated inflammatory kidney injury. Given the reduced Sirt1 expression during aging [51], our results may provide an insight on why the elderly are more susceptible to sepsis-associated kidney injury. Therefore, Sirt1 could be considered as a potential target to treat inflammatory kidney injury in the aged population.

Pro-inflammatory cytokines such as TNF-α and IL-6 have been known to play a critical role in sepsis-induced inflammatory injury [19,43]. Our results showed that Sirt1 deletion led to increased

LPS-induced IL-6 and TNF-α production, suggesting that Sirt1 acts to suppress inflammatory responses during sepsis. The cytokines is also known to play an important role in kidney injury [37]. Inflammatory signaling such as STAT-3 activation promotes kidney inflammatory responses [52]. In our studies, we showed that Sirt1 deletion led to enhanced pro-inflammatory signaling as demonstrated by increased STAT and ERK phosphorylation. Interestingly, Sirt1 expression in the kidney is higher in young mice and decreased during aging [53]. Even though it will be intriguing to link uncontrolled inflammatory responses in the elderly during sepsis to the reduced Sirt1 expression, more studies are needed to elucidate the role of Sirt1 in aging-related kidney injury.

Excessive neutrophil infiltration often leads to inflammatory tissue injury including acute kidney injury [18]. Leukocyte migration to the injured sites could help to remove dead cells and promote the repair process [54], however, excessive neutrophil accumulation can result in tissue damage [35]. Neutrophil infiltration across the vasculature is a multistep process which requires neutrophil/endothelial interactions through adhesion molecules ICAM-1 and VCAM-1 [36]. Our results demonstrated that Sirt1 deletion led to increased ICAM-1/VCAM-1 expression and neutrophil infiltration in the kidney after LPS challenge, suggesting that Sirt1 modulates some key factors needed for sustained inflammatory responses. Sirt1, a member of Class III Histone Deacetylases [55], modulates transcriptional activities of associated transcriptional factors, cofactors, and histones by controlling their acetylation [56,57]. NF-κB pathway is a central signaling node in inflammatory cytokine production and activation [55]. NF-κB, a master transcription regulator which also controls ICAM-1/VCAM-1 expression [58], is an endogenous substrate of Sirt1 [24]. Deacetylation of NF-κB inhibits its activity and has been linked to the anti-inflammatory function of Sirt1 [59]. Our data indicate that Sirt1 modulates NF-κB pathway in the kidney including IκBα phosphorylation and degradation.

In summary, Sirt1 plays a protective role against inflammatory kidney injury in endotoxemia. Sirt1 exerts its function likely through multiple pathways such as suppressing STAT3, ERK1/2, and NF- κ B activation. Our studies indicate that Sirt1 is a potential therapeutic target to treat sepsis-induced kidney injury.

References

- Zhang D, Li Y, Liu Y, Xiang X, Dong Z (2013) Paclitaxel ameliorates lipopolysaccharide-induced kidney injury by binding myeloid differentiation protein-2 to block Toll-like receptor 4-mediated nuclear factor-kappaB activation and cytokine production. *J Pharmacol Exp Ther* 345: 69–75.
- Jeong SJ, Han SH, Kim CO, Choi JY, Kim JM (2013) Anti-vascular endothelial growth factor antibody attenuates inflammation and decreases mortality in an experimental model of severe sepsis. *Crit Care* 17: R97.
- Adachi M, Kitamura K, Tomita K (2005) [Regulation of sodium and water balance by the kidney]. *Nihon Rinsho* 63: 45–50.
- Horky K (1967) [Role of the renin-angiotensin system in homeostasis of the internal environment]. *Cas Lek Cesk* 106: 105–113.
- Coldevey SM, Khan AI, Kapoor A, Collino M, Rogazzo M, et al. (2013) Erythropoietin attenuates acute kidney dysfunction in murine experimental sepsis by activation of the beta-commo receptor. *Kidney Int*.
- Suh SH, Kim CS, Choi JS, Bae EH, Ma SK, et al. (2013) Acute kidney injury in patients with sepsis and septic shock: risk factors and clinical outcomes. *Yonsei Med J* 54: 965–972.
- Maddens B, Vandendriessche B, Demon D, Vanholder R, Chiers K, et al. (2012) Severity of sepsis-induced acute kidney injury in a novel mouse model is age dependent. *Crit Care Med* 40: 2638–2646.
- Lim JH, Kim EN, Kim MY, Chung S, Shin SJ, et al. (2012) Age-associated molecular changes in the kidney in aged mice. *Oxid Med Cell Longev* 2012: 171383.
- Nguyen HB, Rivers EP, Abrahamian FM, Moran GJ, Abraham E, et al. (2006) Severe sepsis and septic shock: review of the literature and emergency department management guidelines. *Ann Emerg Med* 48: 28–54.
- Venkataraman R, Kellum JA (2013) Sepsis: update in the management. *Adv Chronic Kidney Dis* 20: 6–13.
- McCurdy TR, Patrick AL, Eltringham-Smith LJ, Bhakta V, Sheffield WP, et al. (2013) Alpha-1 acid glycoprotein reduces hepatic leukocyte recruitment in murine models of either early endotoxemia or early sepsis. *Microcirculation*.
- Miyaji T, Hu X, Yuen PS, Muramatsu Y, Iyer S, et al. (2003) Ethyl pyruvate decreases sepsis-induced acute renal failure and multiple organ damage in aged mice. *Kidney Int* 64: 1620–1631.
- Peng X, Xu H, Zhou Y, Wang B, Yan Y, et al. (2013) Human umbilical cord mesenchymal stem cells attenuate cisplatin-induced acute and chronic renal injury. *Exp Biol Med (Maywood)* 238: 960–970.
- Sabbiseti VS, Ito K, Wang C, Yang L, Mefferd SC, et al. (2013) Novel assays for detection of urinary KIM-1 in mouse models of kidney injury. *Toxicol Sci* 131: 13–25.
- Wan L, Bagshaw SM, Langenberg C, Saotome T, May C, et al. (2008) Pathophysiology of septic acute kidney injury: what do we really know? *Crit Care Med* 36: S198–203.
- Danoff TM (1998) Chemokines in interstitial injury. *Kidney Int* 53: 1807–1808.
- Kasprzak A, Surdacka A, Tomczak M, Konkol M (2013) Role of high endothelial postcapillary venules and selected adhesion molecules in periodontal diseases: a review. *J Periodontol Res* 48: 1–21.
- Lampinen M, Sangfelt P, Taha Y, Carlson M (2008) Accumulation, activation, and survival of neutrophils in ulcerative colitis: regulation by locally produced factors in the colon and impact of steroid treatment. *Int J Colorectal Dis* 23: 939–946.
- Greenhill CJ, Rose-John S, Lissilaa R, Ferlin W, Ernst M, et al. (2011) IL-6 trans-signaling modulates TLR4-dependent inflammatory responses via STAT3. *J Immunol* 186: 1199–1208.
- Mihara M, Hashizume M, Yoshida H, Suzuki M, Shiina M (2012) IL-6/IL-6 receptor system and its role in physiological and pathological conditions. *Clin Sci (Lond)* 122: 143–159.
- Tu B, Du L, Fan QM, Tang Z, Tang TT (2012) STAT3 activation by IL-6 from mesenchymal stem cells promotes the proliferation and metastasis of osteosarcoma. *Cancer Lett* 325: 80–88.
- Wang S, Wei Q, Dong G, Dong Z (2013) ERK-mediated suppression of cilia in cisplatin-induced tubular cell apoptosis and acute kidney injury. *Biochim Biophys Acta* 1832: 1582–1590.
- Houtkooper RH, Pirinen E, Auwerx J (2012) Sirtuins as regulators of metabolism and healthspan. *Nat Rev Mol Cell Biol* 13: 225–238.
- Hao CM, Haase VH (2010) Sirtuins and their relevance to the kidney. *J Am Soc Nephrol* 21: 1620–1627.
- Chang HC, Guarente L (2013) SIRT1 Mediates Central Circadian Control in the SCN by a Mechanism that Decays with Aging. *Cell* 153: 1448–1460.
- Uribarri J, Cai W, Pyzik R, Goodman S, Chen X, et al. (2013) Suppression of native defense mechanisms, SIRT1 and PPARgamma, by dietary glycoxidants precedes disease in adult humans; relevance to lifestyle-engendered chronic diseases. *Amino Acids*.
- Uribarri J, Cai W, Ramdas M, Goodman S, Pyzik R, et al. (2011) Restriction of advanced glycation end products improves insulin resistance in human type 2 diabetes: potential role of AGER1 and SIRT1. *Diabetes Care* 34: 1610–1616.
- Liu TF, Vachharajani VT, Yoza BK, McCall CE (2012) NAD⁺-dependent sirtuin 1 and 6 proteins coordinate a switch from glucose to fatty acid oxidation during the acute inflammatory response. *J Biol Chem* 287: 25758–25769.
- Busch F, Mobasher A, Shayan P, Stahlmann R, Shakibaei M (2012) Sirt-1 is required for the inhibition of apoptosis and inflammatory responses in human tenocytes. *J Biol Chem* 287: 25770–25781.
- Van de Wiele C, Maes A, Brugman E, D'Asseler Y, De Spiegeleer B, et al. (2012) SIRT of liver metastases: physiological and pathophysiological considerations. *Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging* 39: 1646–1655.
- He W, Wang Y, Zhang MZ, You L, Davis LS, et al. (2010) Sirt1 activation protects the mouse renal medulla from oxidative injury. *J Clin Invest* 120: 1056–1068.
- Li H, Rajendran GK, Liu N, Ware C, Rubin BP, et al. (2007) Sirt1 modulates the estrogen-insulin-like growth factor-1 signaling for postnatal development of mammary gland in mice. *Breast Cancer Res* 9: R1.
- Wu Z, Liu MC, Liang M, Fu J (2012) Sirt1 protects against thrombomodulin down-regulation and lung coagulation after particulate matter exposure. *Blood* 119: 2422–2429.
- Wei Q, Dong G, Chen JK, Ramesh G, Dong Z (2013) Bax and Bak have critical roles in ischemic acute kidney injury in global and proximal tubule-specific knockout mouse models. *Kidney Int* 84: 138–148.
- Ranganathan PV, Jayakumar C, Mohamed R, Dong Z, Ramesh G (2013) Netrin-1 regulates the inflammatory response of neutrophils and macrophages, and suppresses ischemic acute kidney injury by inhibiting COX-2-mediated PGE2 production. *Kidney Int* 83: 1087–1098.
- Chen T, Guo ZP, Wang L, Qin S, Cao N, et al. (2013) Paconiflorin suppresses vascular damage and the expression of E-selectin and ICAM-1 in a mouse model of cutaneous Arthus reaction. *Exp Dermatol* 22: 453–457.
- Ranganathan P, Jayakumar C, Ramesh G (2013) Proximal tubule-specific overexpression of netrin-1 suppresses acute kidney injury-induced interstitial fibrosis and glomerulosclerosis through suppression of IL-6/STAT3 signaling. *Am J Physiol Renal Physiol* 304: F1054–1065.
- Araujo M, Doi SQ, Palant CE, Nylen ES, Becker KL (2013) Procalcitonin induced cytotoxicity and apoptosis in mesangial cells: implications for septic renal injury. *Inflamm Res*.
- Heuer JG, Zhang T, Zhao J, Ding C, Cramer M, et al. (2005) Adoptive transfer of in vitro-stimulated CD4⁺CD25⁺ regulatory T cells increases bacterial clearance and improves survival in polymicrobial sepsis. *J Immunol* 174: 7141–7146.
- Doi K, Hu X, Yuen PS, Leelahavanichkul A, Yasuda H, et al. (2008) AP214, an analogue of alpha-melanocyte-stimulating hormone, ameliorates sepsis-induced acute kidney injury and mortality. *Kidney Int* 73: 1266–1274.
- Dear JW, Yasuda H, Hu X, Hieny S, Yuen PS, et al. (2006) Sepsis-induced organ failure is mediated by different pathways in the kidney and liver: acute renal failure is dependent on MyD88 but not renal cell apoptosis. *Kidney Int* 69: 832–836.
- Zager RA, Johnson AC, Hanson SY, Lund S (2006) Acute nephrotoxic and obstructive injury primes the kidney to endotoxin-driven cytokine/chemokine production. *Kidney Int* 69: 1181–1188.
- Cunningham PN, Dyanov HM, Park P, Wang J, Newell KA, et al. (2002) Acute renal failure in endotoxemia is caused by TNF acting directly on TNF receptor-1 in kidney. *J Immunol* 168: 5817–5823.
- Gautier EL, Huby T, Saint-Charles F, Ouzilleau B, Chapman MJ, et al. (2008) Enhanced dendritic cell survival attenuates lipopolysaccharide-induced immunosuppression and increases resistance to lethal endotoxin shock. *J Immunol* 180: 6941–6946.
- Chen S, Zuo X, Yang M, Lu H, Wang N, et al. (2012) Severe multiple organ injury in HSF1 knockout mice induced by lipopolysaccharide is associated with an increase in neutrophil infiltration and surface expression of adhesion molecules. *J Leukoc Biol* 92: 851–857.
- Winnik S, Stein S, Matter CM (2012) SIRT1 - an anti-inflammatory pathway at the crossroads between metabolic disease and atherosclerosis. *Curr Vasc Pharmacol* 10: 693–696.
- Hwang JW, Chung S, Sundar IK, Yao H, Arunachalam G, et al. (2010) Cigarette smoke-induced autophagy is regulated by SIRT1-PARP-1-dependent mechanism: implication in pathogenesis of COPD. *Arch Biochem Biophys* 500: 203–209.
- Yin H, Hu M, Zhang R, Shen Z, Flatow L, et al. (2012) MicroRNA-217 promotes ethanol-induced fat accumulation in hepatocytes by down-regulating SIRT1. *J Biol Chem* 287: 9817–9826.
- Singer M (2013) Biomarkers in sepsis. *Curr Opin Pulm Med* 19: 305–309.

Author Contributions

Conceived and designed the experiments: RG JC YH ZL SW SS JF. Performed the experiments: RG JC YH. Analyzed the data: RG JC JF. Contributed reagents/materials/analysis tools: RG JC YH ZL SW SS JF. Contributed to the writing of the manuscript: RG JC YH ZL SW SS JF.

50. Gentile LF, Cuenca AG, Efron PA, Ang D, Bihorac A, et al. (2012) Persistent inflammation and immunosuppression: a common syndrome and new horizon for surgical intensive care. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 72: 1491–1501.
51. Mortuza R, Chen S, Feng B, Sen S, Chakrabarti S (2013) High glucose induced alteration of SIRT1s in endothelial cells causes rapid aging in a p300 and FOXO regulated pathway. *PLoS One* 8: e54514.
52. Scott MJ, Godshall CJ, Cheadle WG (2002) Jaks, STATs, Cytokines, and Sepsis. *Clin Diagn Lab Immunol* 9: 1153–1159.
53. Fan H, Yang HC, You L, Wang YY, He WJ, et al. (2013) The histone deacetylase, SIRT1, contributes to the resistance of young mice to ischemia/reperfusion-induced acute kidney injury. *Kidney Int* 83: 404–413.
54. Kolaczowska E, Kubes P (2013) Neutrophil recruitment and function in health and inflammation. *Nat Rev Immunol* 13: 159–175.
55. Kong S, McBurney MW, Fang D (2012) Sirtuin 1 in immune regulation and autoimmunity. *Immunol Cell Biol* 90: 6–13.
56. Brunet A, Sweeney LB, Sturgill JF, Chua KF, Greer PL, et al. (2004) Stress-dependent regulation of FOXO transcription factors by the SIRT1 deacetylase. *Science* 303: 2011–2015.
57. Guarente L (2005) Calorie restriction and SIR2 genes—towards a mechanism. *Mech Ageing Dev* 126: 923–928.
58. Jung J, Ko SH, Yoo do Y, Lee JY, Kim YJ, et al. (2012) 5,7-Dihydroxy-3,4,6-trimethoxyflavone inhibits intercellular adhesion molecule 1 and vascular cell adhesion molecule 1 via the Akt and nuclear factor-kappaB-dependent pathway, leading to suppression of adhesion of monocytes and eosinophils to bronchial epithelial cells. *Immunology* 137: 98–113.
59. Yeung F, Hoberg JE, Ramsey CS, Keller MD, Jones DR, et al. (2004) Modulation of NF-kappaB-dependent transcription and cell survival by the SIRT1 deacetylase. *EMBO J* 23: 2369–2380.