Effects of Maternal Cigarette Smoke Exposure on Renal and Other Health Outcomes in Mice Offspring

A thesis submitted in fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

By

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Certificate of original authorship

I certify that the work in this thesis has not previously been submitted for a

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I also certify that the thesis has been written by me. Any help that I have

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Date:

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Dedication

To the memory of my late mother

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List of Abbreviations

ACE angiotensin-I-converting enzyme

AT angiotensin type

ATGL adipose triglyceride lipase

AUC area under the curve

BMI body mass index

BMP bone morphogenetic protein

BW body weight

CKD Chronic kidney disease

CPT carnitine palmitoyl transferase

DDti3 DNA damage-inducible transcript 3

E embryonic day

ECM extracellular matrix protein

eNOS Endothelial nitric oxide synthase

ET endothelin
Eya1 eyes absent 1

FASN Fatty acid synthase

FGF Fibroblast growth factor FOXO forkhead box protein O

GDNF glial-cell line-derived neurotrophic factor

GFR Glomerular Filtration Rate GFR α 1 GDNF-family receptor α 1

Glut Glucose transporter

h hour

H&E hematoxylin and eosin
HRP horse radish peroxidase
HSL hormone-sensitive lipase

IHC immunohistochemistry

i.p intraperitoneally

IPGTT Intraperitoneal glucose tolerance test

IGF Insulin-like growth factor

IL interleukin

IM intermediate mesoderm

IUGR intrauterine growth retardation

LBW low birth weight

LC L-Carnitine

LIF leukaemia inhibiting factor

mA milliAmpere

MCP monocyte chemoatractant protein

MM metanephric mesenchyma

MSA murine serum albumin

NC nephrogenic cord

NEFA non-esterified fatty acids

NHEBSA normal horse serum with bovine serum albumin

NFκB nuclear factor kappa B

NO nitric oxide

NOS NO synthase

Pax paired box transcription factor

PGC Peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma coactivator

P postnatal day

PAS periodic acid Schiff

PPAR peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor

RAS renin-angiotensin system

RCF relative centrifuge force

RET receptor tyrosine kinase

ROS reactive oxygen species

RV renal vesicle

SE smoke exposure

SEM standard error of the mean

TG triglyceride

TGF- β transforming growth factor- β

TLR Toll-like receptor

TMB Tetramethylbenzidine

TNFα tumour necrosis factor α

T-TBS tween twenty trise buffer saline

UB ureteric bud

UV ultra violet W13 week 13

WNT wingless-type MMTV integration site family member

Wt1 Wilms tumor 1

Xbp X-box binding protein

List of peer reviewed Publications

- **Al-Odat I**, Chen H, Chan Y-L, Sawiris A. Wong MG, Gill A, Pollock C, Saad S, (2014). The impact of maternal cigarette smoke exposure in a rodent model on renal development in the offspring. *PLoS ONE* 9(7): e103443.
- Stangenberg, S., Nguyen, L.T., Chen, H., Al-Odat, I., Killingsworth, M.C., Gosnell, M.E., Anwer, A.G., Goldys, E.M., Pollock, C.A. & Saad, S. 2015, 'Oxidative stress, mitochondrial perturbations and fetal programming of renal disease induced by maternal smoking', *The International Journal of Biochemistry & Cell Biology*, vol. 64, pp. 81-90.
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List of conference abstracts

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Abstract

Background

The burden of kidney disease is significantly increased worldwide. Developmental programming of non-communicable diseases is an established paradigm. Therefore, there is increasing attention to the contribution of intrauterine and early post-natal environmental insults to the risk of adulthood kidney diseases. One of such insults is maternal cigarette smoke exposure (SE), which is associated with intrauterine growth retardation (IUGR) and some adulthood diseases in offspring. However, it is unknown whether maternal SE can increase the risk of developing chronic kidney disease (CKD) in offspring. Maternal SE was also shown to increase renal oxidative stress in offspring; while the anti-oxidants L-carnitine (LC) supplementation has been shown to be beneficial in many human diseases, which may benefit such offspring.

Objectives

This thesis aimed to study the effect of maternal SE on, 1) kidney development and renal function; 2) glucose and lipid metabolic markers in the liver, and; 3) the effect of maternal LC supplementation during gestation and lactation on health outcome of the SE offspring.

Methods

Female Balb/c breeder mice were exposed to cigarette smoke for 6 weeks prior to mating, during gestation and lactation; with sham exposure as control. A subgroup of the SE dams was treated with LC (SE+L-C) during gestation and lactation via drinking water. The offspring were sacrificed at postnatal day (P)1, P20 (weaning age) and 13 weeks (mature age). Blood, urine, kidneys and livers were collected. Renal Morphology and function, renal development factors, and metabolic markers in the liver were examined in the offspring.

Results

Reduced nephrons number, enlarged glomerular size and altered renal expression of developmental factors such as glial cell line-derived neurotrophic factor (GDNF) and paired box binding protein (Pax)2 were observed in the offspring. This was linked to increased mRNA expression of pro-inflammatory marker, monocyte chemoatractant

protein (MCP)-1, and urine albumin/creatinine ratio at adulthood in the male offspring. However female offspring were protected from such maternal effect. Both genders developed glucose intolerance. mRNA expression of IL-1 β and TNF- α was upregulated in the liver in the female offspring, with hyperlipidemia. Maternal LC supplementation during gestation and lactation ameliorated these changes in the offspring by maternal SE.

Conclusion

Maternal SE led to kidney underdevelopment, adulthood renal dysfunction, lipid and glucose metabolic disorders, and increased renal and liver inflammation in the offspring in a gender-specific manner. Maternal LC supplementation has a beneficial role in ameliorating the detrimental impact of maternal SE on the offspring.