



Functional analysis of human type 2 diabetic adipose tissue-derived mesenchymal stem cells

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Abstract

Background: Stem cell therapy has recently shown promise in the prevention of diabetic complications due to its regenerative potential. The possible applications of human diabetic adipose tissue-derived mesenchymal stem cells (dAT-MSCs) in cell therapy are limited because their characteristics are still not fully understood. **Aims:** This study aimed to characterize dAT-MSCs in vitro and to investigate the potential application of dAT-MSCs in wound healing. **Materials and Methods:** dAT-MSCs were characterized under normoxic and hypoxic conditions in vitro and evaluated wound healing capacity in the ischemic flap mouse model. **Results:** Early growth response factor-1 (EGR-1) and its target genes were highly expressed in dAT-MSCs in comparison to nAT-MSCs, resulting in increasing of genes and protein associated with cell adhesion, insulin resistance, and impaired wound healing. Interestingly, under hypoxic conditions, hypoxia-inducible factor-1 α (HIF-1 α) can bind to the EGR-1 promoter in dAT-MSCs, but not in nAT-MSCs. The effects of EGR-1 were inhibited by shEGR-1 and PD98059. Mice injected with shEGR-1- dAT-MSCs were improved their wound healing capacity. Furthermore, we found that human nAT-MSC-derived microvesicles (nMVs) could improve dAT-MSC function by altering miRNA and mRNA expressions, which enhanced their migration ability in vitro and wound healing capacity in the ischemic flap mouse model. **Conclusion:** Our study suggests that dAT-MSCs may contribute to delay wound healing. Interrupting the expression of EGR-1 in dAT-MSCs or transfecting nMVs to dAT-MSCs may be a useful treatment for chronic wounds in diabetic patients.

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stem cells, diabetes, EGR-1, microvesicles

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