Lethal effect of k-shell photoionization of phosphorus on radiosensitive cell lines

Kiyomi EGUCHI-KASAI*[1], Hiroshi MAEZAWA[2], Koki SATO[3], Katsumi KOBAYASHI[1]
[1]Radiat. Hazards Res. Gr., NIRS, Chiba, Chiba 263-8555, Japan
[2]Sch. of Health Sci., The Univ. of Tokushima, Tokushima, Tokushima 770-8509, Japan
[3]The Sch. of Biol.-Oriented Sci. & Technol., Kinki Univ., Naka-gun, Wakayama 649-6493, Japan
[4]KEK-PF, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-0801, Japan

Introduction

DNA is considered to be the critical target for cell killing by ionizing radiation. Therefore it is expected that the photoionization of phosphorus in DNA may cause some specific biological effects[1].

Many radiosensitive mammalian mutant cell lines have been established in these 40 years. They lack at least one gene which is involved in DNA repair system. By the complementation test, these cell lines are classified into at least 9 groups. Most of these genes have already been cloned in these several years. The usage of these mutants should help to clarify the nature of DNA damage.

These facts prompted us to test the lethality caused by k-shell photoionization of phosphorus in some radiosensitive mutant cell lines. We already reported the lethality of 2 mutant cell lines (SX9 is grouped as XRCC7 which is defective in DNA-PKcs and SX10 defective in DNA ligase IV) and 1 wild cell line (FM3A which is the wild type parents of SX9 and SX10) [2]. This year, we will report the results for other radiosensitive cell lines of irs1 and irs1SF.

Materials and Methods

Cells

Two Radiosensitive mutant cell lines of irs1 (XRCC2) and irs1SF (XRCC3) were used. These genes are the important components of homologous recombination which is on of the pathway of the DNA double strand break repair. Cells were cultured in plastic culture bottles with alpha-MEM medium with 10% fetal bovine serum and antibiotics.

Exposure

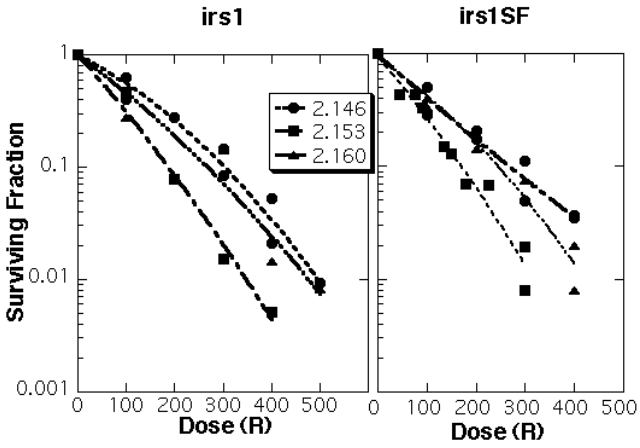
Monochromatic X-rays at 2.153 keV (K-shell resonance absorption peak of phosphorus), 2.146 keV and 2.160 keV (off peak) were selected for irradiation by an InSb double-crystal monochromater at BL-27A. A plastic dish, in which exponentially growing cells were attached, was set on a sample scanning stage to make uniform irradiation with X-rays. After irradiation, cells were plated in appropriate number and cultured for the colony formation.

Results and Discussions

Survival curves of irs1 andirs1SF cells after x-rays irradiation were shown in Fig.1. Linear-quadratic survival curves were obtained for three energies. Lethal effect at 2.153 keV and 2.160 keV was larger than that at 2.146 keV in both cell lines. Lethal enhancement ratio (LE), which was defined as the ratio of 10% survival dose at 2.153 keV and 2.160 keV to that at 2.146 keV, was 1.6 and 1.1, respectively, for both cell lines. LE values were very similar to the wild-type SR-1 cells reported previously[2].

Studies on lethal effects are now going on different radiosensitive mutants those are defective in other DNA repair pathway(s).

Fig.1 Survival curves of irs1 and irs1SF cells. One R corresponds to 2.58 x 10^{-4} C/Kg.



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* kiyomiek@nirs.go.jp