Effects of Poisonous Mushroom Extracts on the Microsomal ⁴⁵Ca²⁺ Uptake and Release in Porcine Epithelial Cells

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Extracts were prepared from six different poisonous mushrooms in order to identify biologically active natural ligands. The effects of these extracts were examined on the microsomal 45Ca2+ uptake and ⁴⁵Ca²⁺ release. Five out of six species apparently inhibited the activity of total microsomal ATPases prepared from the epithelial cells of pig airway. However, these extracts increased the microsomal $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$ uptake and, specially, *O. radicata* increased microsomal $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$ uptake more than 200%. The extract-induced activation of Ca2+-ATPase was also supported by the effect of thapsigargin, a specific antagonist of Ca²⁺-ATPase, since the extract-induced effects were thapsigargin-sensitive. Based on above results following two possibilities can be suggested; 1) some extracts may consist of at least two active components; one activates the Ca2+-ATPase and the other inhibits the major part of total ATPases except Ca²⁺-ATPase, and 2) some extracts may also inhibit the enzymes used in an enzyme-coupled assay, an indirect enzymatic system to measure the activity of ATPases. Extracts of three species, A. virosa, R. aurea, and R. formosa, seem to belong in the first category and those of two species, L. perlatum and O. radicata, seem to belong in the second category. The effects of these extracts on the microsomal Ca2+ release channel and on the microsomal [3H]InsP₃ binding are also under investigation.