

The World of Glycobiology : O-GlcNAc modification and N-Glycosylation

Won Ho Yang, Jeong Gu Kang, Do Hyun Kim, Sang Yoon Park, Suena Ji, Jiae Lee, Su Jin Park, Hoe Suk Kim and Jin Won Cho

Protein Network Research Center and Department of Biology, Yonsei University, Seoul Korea

β -O-linked N-acetylglucosamine (O-GlcNAc) is a nucleocytosolic post-translational modification on serine and threonine residues that is dynamically regulated by O-GlcNAc transferase and O-GlcNAcase. Many proteins are O-GlcNAcylated in response to various cellular processes, including transcription, proliferation, apoptosis and signal transduction. So, we have studied the function of O-GlcNAc modification on several proteins. We found that O-GlcNAcylated NF- κ B was translocated into nucleus and had increased transcriptional activity. In glucose starvation conditions O-GlcNAcylated proteins might be protected from degradation by Hsp-70, which is the chaperon containing lectinic activity. Also O-GlcNAc modification seems to be involved in neurite outgrowth in cultured neuronal cells. We also observed that O-GlcNAc modification plays a role in final differentiation of myoblast cells to myotubules and cardiomyocyte differentiation in ES cells. O-GlcNAcylation is highly conserved, so we were able to find several novel proteins modified with O-GlcNAc in *Drosophila* using SL2 fly cell line. In addition, we are finding a role of O-GlcNAcylation related in innate immunity with *Drosophila*. Besides, we have studied the function of N-glycosylation in development. The functional block of dolichol phosphate mannose synthase I (DPM1) homolog, one of the enzymes involved in N-glycan assembly, by RNAi in *C.elegans* caused various developmental defects. It indicates that N-linked glycosylation have important roles involved in development.