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Characteristics of B cell proliferation by polysaccharide fraction of *Paeonia japonica* miyabe

Hae-Ran Park¹, Yeon-Ho Ham¹, Sung-Tae Yee², Sang-Gi Paik³, Sung-Kee Jo¹*

Radiation Food Technology and Bioscience Team, Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute¹; Department of Biology, Sunchon National University²; Department of Biology, Chungnam National University³

Background: Paeonia japonica Miyabe is a medicinal plant which has been widely used as a component of blood-building decoctions (Chinese medicinal concept: Bu-Xie). The immunopharmacological characteristics of the extract of Paeonia j ap onica (PJ) were investigated. Methods: The effects of fractions of PJ extract on lymphocyte proliferation were measured by H³-thymidine incorporation assay. The proliferated lymphocyte subsets were analyzed in flow cytometry. The subset cell populations of spleen cells were separated by magnetic cell separation system, and their proliferation by the extract were investigated. The effect of the extract on antibody production was determined in mice challenged with sheep red blood cells (SRBC) using hemolytic plaque forming cell assay. Results: Spleen cells were proliferated by water extract of PJ. Polysaccharide fraction (PJ-P) of the extract was most active in the proliferation. It was found in flow cytometry that the lymphocyte subset proliferated by PJ-P was B cell population. Among the separated subset cell populations, T cell-depleted cell population and macrophage-depleted cell population were most proliferated by PJ-P. However, positively selected populations of B cells and T cells were not proliferated by PJ-P. These results indicate that B cell proliferation by PJ-P may require the assistance of macrophages or T cells. These results suggest that firstly PJ-P may stimulate macrophages or T cells, and then B cells are activated. The number of antibody-secreting cells was increased by administration of PJ-P in mice immunized with SRBC as a T-dependent antigen. Conclusion: These results suggest that macrophages and accessory cells are directly activated by PJ-P and then helper T cells and B cells are indirectly activated. As the results, immune responses might be coordinately improved. In conclusion, PJ-P, a polysaccharide of P. japonica, may be a characteristic immunostimulator, which is analogous to polysaccharides such as lentinan, PSK and ginsan.

Key Words: Paeonia j ap onica, immunomodulator, splenocyte, FACS, MACS

Correspondence: Sung-Kee Jo, Ph.D., Radiation Food Technology and Bioscience Team, Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute,

Yusong, Daejon 305-353

Tel: 042-868-8063, Fax: 042-868-8043, E-mail: skj o @kaeri.re.kr

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spectrophotometer 660nm 6. subset (Fluorescence-(32).phenol-H2SO4 activated cell sorter; FACS) 가 가 가 $2 \times 10^{5} / \text{well}$ UV-spectrophotometer 480nm 가 100 μg/Me 3,4 (33).metahy droxy dipheny l PJ-P $Na_{2}B_{4}O_{7}/H_{2}\,SO_{4}$ 가 10 , 5 subset **FACS** 0 5 가 m-hydroxydiphenyl . FACS 가 UV-spectrophotometer trypan blue 520nm (34). , FACS medium 10⁶ tube 4. Fc RIII block CD 16/CD 32 antibody (Par-70% ethanol mingen) 가 ice bath 5 tube Hank's balanced salt solution (HBSS; GIBCO) 가 ice bath 40 , 5% FBS-HBSS가 petri-dish В petri-dish anti-IgM antibody, T anti-Thy 1.2 1 antibody, helper T anti-CD4 antibody, 1500 rpm 10 cytotoxic T anti-CD8 antibody ACK cell pellet Pharmingen FITC-conjugated buffer (Tris-NH₄Cl) FBS 1 FACS medium 2 antibody 가 HBSS10m1 FACStar (CULTER, USA) 2 trypan blue 7. MACS PJ-P subset fetal bovine serum 1% penicilline-streptomy cine RPMI 37 , 5% CO₂ PJ-P 가 sub set subset 5. (proliferation) magnetic cell sorter (MACS: Miltenyi Biotec, Germany) subset ³H-thymidine uptake 100mm dish 96-well flat bottomed microplate (Corning) 2 dish 2×10^{5} well CD90 micro-. T LPS ConA beads, B CD 19 microbeads 2 . 3 . 4 . 5 microbeads ice-bath 3 well 30 Τ В ³H-thymidine 25AS column μ Ci 가 depletion column cell harvester (Inotech) glass fiber filter strip , T positive filter paper column 25RS column scintillation cocktail trypan blue -scintillation counter ³H-thymidine incorporawell 2×10^5 tion cpm PJ-P 100 μg/Me 가 2 , 3 , 4 , 5

³H-thymidine incorporation cpm 8. Hemolytic plaque forming cell assay (35) C57BL/6 sheep red blood cell(SRBC) 10° cells/0.2 Me PJ-P 100 mg/kg B.W./0.2 Me 0.2 Me . SRBC , 7×10^6 cells/Me ice-bath , SRBC RPMI 1640 20%가 ice-bath 0.5% agarose-RPMI SRBC, 0.5% agarose $100 \mu \ell$, 100 $\mu \ell$, 1,600 $\mu \ell$ 가 petri- dish (Corning) 37 5% CO₂ GPC (Guinea pig incubator 2 complement) 1:70 petri-dish μθ 2 plaque PFC/spleen

1.

uronic acid table PJ-T가 46.3% PJ-P가 70.6% 20.7% 19.8% uronic acid 2.2% 15.1% 2. Fig.1 3 PJ-P 100 μg/Me 51,616 cpm 45 PJ-T 22,773 cpm PJ-P PJ-E 10 μg/Me $30 \mu g/Me$ 2 4 , 100 μg/Me

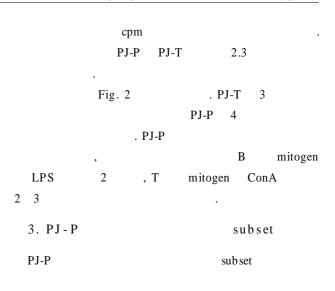


Table . Chemical composition of the extract of *Paeonia japonica Miyabe*

	Content (%)			
Component	Water extract	Crude polysaccharid		
Protein	20.7	19.8		
Total sugar	46.3	70.6		
Uronic acid	2.2	15.1		

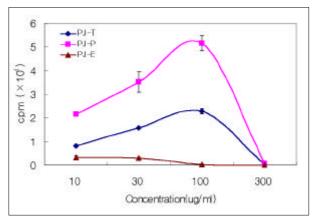


Fig. 1. Effects of fractions of *P. japonica* extract on proliferation of splenic lymphocytes in vitro. Spleen cells $(2 \times 10^5/\text{well})$ were cultured with fraction of the extract on 96-well flat bottomed plates for 3 days. After culture, the degree of lymphocyte proliferation was measured by the incorporation of ³H-thymidine after a 4-hr pulsing with 1.5 μ Ci ³H-TdR. The data present the mean values \pm standard deviation of three experiments. PJ-T, total water extract of *P. japonica*; PJ-P, polysaccharide fraction of the extract; PJ-E, ethanol fraction of the extract.

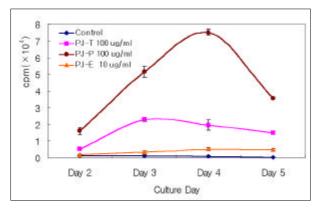


Fig. 2. Time course of the proliferation of splenic lymphocytes by the fractions of *P. japonica* extract. Spleen cells (2 × 10⁵/well) were cultured with fraction of the extract at a optimal concentration. On day 2, 3 and 4 after culture, the degree of lymphocyte proliferation was measured by the incorporation of ³H-thymidine after a 4-hr pulsing with 1.5 μCi ³H-TdR. The data present the mean values ± standard deviation of three experiments. The cpm of LPS was 139213, 48734, 18570 on day 2, 3, 4, respectively. The cpm of ConA was 149178, 121190, 16214 on day 2, 3, 4, respectively. PJ-T, total water extract of *P. japonica*; PJ-P, polysaccharide fraction of the extract; PJ-E, ethanol fraction of the extract.

Table . Flow cytometric analysis of lymphocyte subsets of splenocytes cultured with PJ-P

Cultura day	Sample treatments	Conc. (µgMl)	Percent of lymphocyte subsets			
Culture day			IgM	Thy 1.2	CD4	CD8
Day 0			60.4	35.2	20.8	14.4
Day 3	medium		74.2	25.2	12.6	10.8
	PJ-P	100	82.6	10.6	7.4	3.5
	LPS	60	87.7	8.5	NT	NT
	ConA	5	20.0	83.7	14.3	64.6
Day 4	PJ-P	100	86.0	13.8	7.2	3.6
Day 5	PJ-P	100	90.0	9.2	6.7	4.8

NT, not tested.

Table . Flow cytometric conformation of the cell populations separated from spleen cells by MACS

Commention of learning and only form and on a 11-	Percent of lymphocyte subsets			
Separation of lymphocyte subsets from spleen cells —	IgM	Thy 1.2(CD 90)		
Depletion of T cells	89.2	5.9		
Depletion of B cells	3.8	91.2		
Positive selection of T cells	1.7	NT		
Positive selection of B cells	99.0	NT		

NT, not tested.

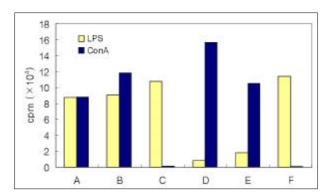
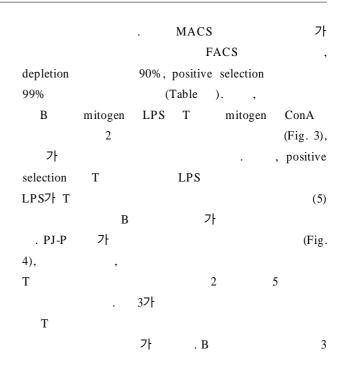


Fig. 3. Conformation of the proliferation of lymphocyte subsets by LPS and ConA. LPS and ConA was given to six kinds of cell preparations such as total cell population (A), macrophage-depleted cell population (B), T cell-depleted cell population (C), B cell-depleted cell population (D), positively selected T cell population (E), and positively selected B cell population (F) by MACS. After 2 days of culture, the degree of lymphocyte proliferation was measured by the incorporation of 3 H-TdR after a 4-hr pulsing with 2 μ Ci 3 H-TdR.



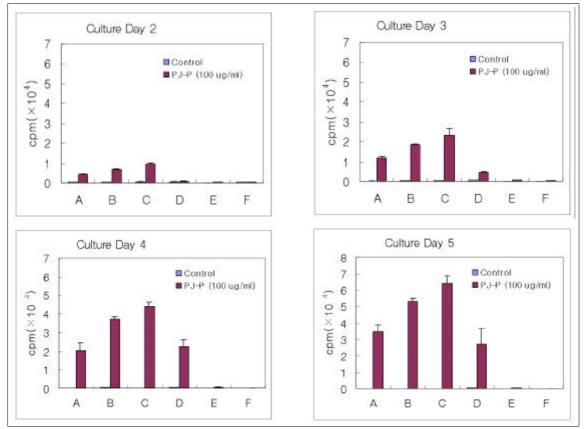


Fig. 4. The proliferation pattern of lymphocyte subsets by PJ-P. PJ-P(100 μ g/Me) was given to six kinds of cell preparations such as total cell population(A), macrophage-depleted cell population(B), T cell-depleted cell population(C), B cell-depleted cell population(D), positively selected T cell population(E), and positively selected B cell population(F). On day 2, 3, 4 and 5 after incubation, the degree of the lymphocyte proliferation was measured by the incorporation of ³H-thymidine into the cells.

5 В , T В positive selection (10)В LPS В mitogen 가 5 PJ-P (Fig. 3) , PJ-P В LPS 5. PJ-P PJ-P В lentinan (12-14), schizofilan (15), PSK (16, T 17), ginsan (18-21) (3) , PJ-P PJ-P В 가 T В SRBC PJ-P T . Fig. 5 , SRBC cytokine В PJ-P 가 가 (100 mg/kg B.W.) **SRBC** cytokine 가 2.7 가 PJ-P T , PJ-P가 T-dependent antigen 가 , PJ-P T В PJ-P PJ-P 가 . PJ-P PJ-P В 1. Oldham RK: Biological response modifier. JNCI 70; 789-796, 1983 2. Wimer BM: The ideal biological response modifier. (18-21)Mol Biother 1;311-317, 1989 lentinan (12-14) 3. Galbraith GM: Therapeutic Immunomodulation. Dermatol Clin 6;561-568, 1988 4. Gatenby PA: Immunopotentiation. In: Roitt IM, Delves PJ-P가 B subset PJ eds.: Encyclopedia of immunology, p847-852, 가 MACS Academic Press, 1992 subset 5. Hadden JW: Immunostimulants. Immunology today . PJ-P В 14;275-280, 1993 В T 6. Chang J: Medicinal Herbs: Drugs or Dietary Supple-В ments?. Biochemical Pharmacology 59;211-219, 2000 가 T , B 7. Audibert FM, Lise LD: Adjuvants: current status, clinical perspectives and future prospects. Immunology PJ-P가 T Today 14;281-284 1993 가 cytokines В 8. Liu J: FK506 and cyclosporin, molecular probes for studying intracellular signal transduction. Immunolgy

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