

## Cadmium mimics the in vivo effects of estrogen in the uterus and mammary gland

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### 서론

난소에서 생성되는 estradiol은 자궁내막세포를 증식시키고 비대하게 만든다. 또한 유선조직의 성장, 발달을 촉진시킨다. 다이옥신, Bisphenol A 등의 화학물질은 대표적인 환경호르몬(endocrine disruptor)으로서 생식내분비계에 영향을 미친다고 알려져 있다. 하지만 최근 카드뮴 등의 중금속들도 저농도에서 배분비계를 교란시킨다는 보고들이 있었으며, 이 연구에서는 카드뮴이 estradiol의 표적기관인 자궁과 유선조직에 어떠한 영향을 주는가를 살펴보았다.

### 연구방법

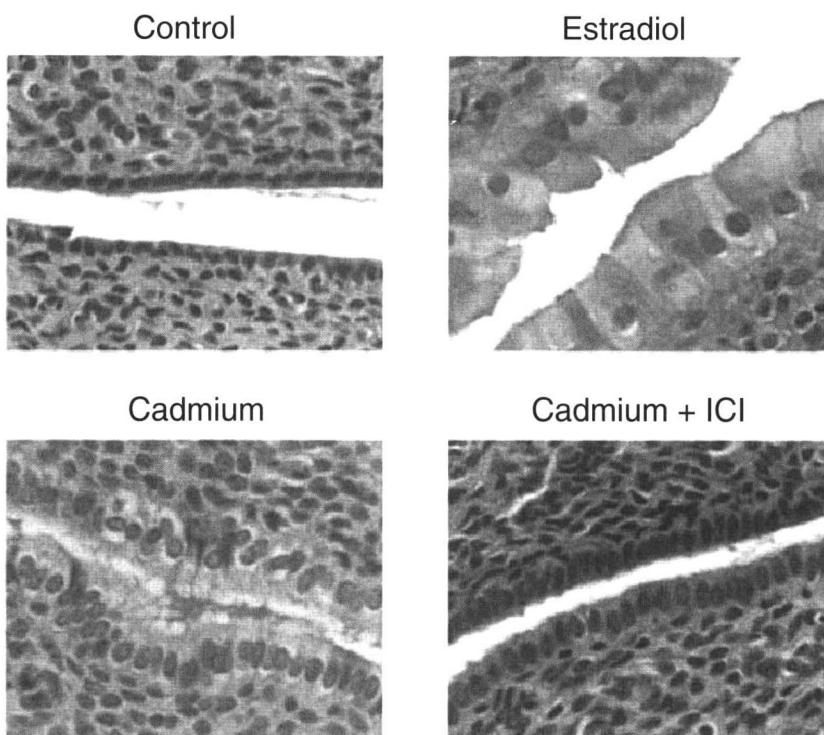
쥐의 복강에 cadmium을 일회  $5 \mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ /body weight 주사한 후 4일, 14일에 자궁조직과 유선조직의 변화를 살펴보았다. 그리고 에스트로겐의 효과를 차단하는 물질인 ICI-182, 780을 복강으로  $500 \mu\text{g}/\text{kg}/\text{d}$ 로 주사하여 에스트로겐에 의한 반응이 차단되는가를 살펴보았다. 대조군은 estradiol을  $60 \mu\text{g}/\text{kg}/\text{d}$ 로 방출하는 펠렛을 단독으로 투여하였다.

### 결론 및 고찰

estradiol과 카드뮴을 각각 투여한 후에 자궁조직과 유선조직이 증식하였다. 하지만 ICI를 함께 투여했을 때에는 둘 다에서 효과가 나타나지 않았다.

### 결과

동물 실험에서 독성, 발암성을 나타내는 용량은  $1-5 \text{ mg}/\text{kg}$ ( $5-25 \mu\text{mol}/\text{kg}$ )이다. 하지만 이 연구에서는 위의  $1/1000$  용량을 사용하였고 이는 WHO-recommended Provisional Tolerable Intake( $7 \mu\text{g}/\text{kg}/\text{week}$ )와 비슷한 용량이다. 따라서 카드뮴은 저농도 노출에서 내분기 교란 물질로 작용할 수 있을 것이라 예상된다.



**Table 1** Effects of cadmium on uterine wet weight and mammary gland density in ovariectomized animals

	Uterine weight (day 4)		Mammary gland density		Body weight Grams
	Grams	Fold increase	Day 4	Day 14	
Control	0.075 (±0.0069; n = 17)	—	54.3 (±2.5; n = 17)	75.4 (±1.9; n = 9)	187 (n = 9)
Cadmium	0.14* (±0.0111; n = 21)	1.9	82.8*** (±4.0; n = 20)	99.8*** (±2.9; n = 14)	189 (n = 12)
ICI-182,780	0.048 (±0.0027; n = 13)	0.64	69.7 (±3.7; n = 8)	72.7 (±2.2; n = 8)	182 (n = 10)
Cadmium + ICI-182,780	0.046 (±0.0035; n = 11)	0.61	69.0 (±5.4; n = 8)	72.2 (±2.8; n = 8)	182 (n = 8)
Estradiol	0.284** (±0.0168; n = 22)	3.8	84.1*** (±3.2; n = 20)	112.6*** (±6.9; n = 11)	172 (n = 10)

Uterine wet weight and mammary gland density in ovariectomized rats treated with cadmium, estradiol or ICI-182,780. Uterine wet weights and epithelial density (arbitrary units) are shown as mean ± s.e.m. \* P = 0.0001 compared with control; \*\*, P < 0.0001 compared with control. Epithelial density data were analyzed by one-way ANOVA ( $F_{(4,58)} = 12.41$ ,  $P < 0.001$  for day 4;  $F_{(4,46)} = 20.73$ ,  $P < 0.001$  for day 14). \*\*\*,  $P < 0.05$  (significantly different from controls).

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