

## Hydrogen Peroxide-induced Alterations in Na<sup>+</sup>-phosphate Cotransport in Renal Epithelial Cells

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This study was undertaken to examine the effect of oxidants on membrane transport function in renal epithelial cells. Hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) was used as a model oxidant and the membrane transport function was evaluated by measuring Na<sup>+</sup>-dependent phosphate (Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi) uptake in opossum kidney (OK) cells. H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> inhibited Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake in a dose-dependent manner. The oxidant also caused loss of cell viability in a dose-dependent fashion. However, the extent of inhibition of the uptake was larger than that in cell viability. H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> inhibited Na<sup>+</sup>-dependent uptake without any effect on Na<sup>+</sup>-independent uptake. H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-induced inhibition of Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake was prevented completely by catalase, dimethylthiourea, and deferoxamine, suggesting involvement of hydroxyl radical generated by an iron-dependent mechanism. In contrast, antioxidants Trolox, *N,N'*-diphenyl-*p*-phenylenediamine, and butylated hydroxyanisole did not affect the H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> inhibition. Kinetic analysis indicated that H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> decreased V<sub>max</sub> of Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake with no change in the K<sub>m</sub> value. Phosphonoformic acid binding assay did not show any difference between control and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-treated cells. H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> also did not cause degradation of Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi transporter protein. Reduction in Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake by H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> was associated with ATP depletion and direct inhibition of Na<sup>+</sup>-K<sup>+</sup>-ATPase activity. These results indicate that the effect of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> on membrane transport function in OK cells is associated with reduction in functional Na<sup>+</sup>-pump activity. In addition, the inhibitory effect of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> was not associated with lipid peroxidation.

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### I. Introduction

Reactive oxygen species (ROS) have been implicated in the pathogenesis of a number of renal diseases including ischemic and nephrotoxicant-induced acute renal failure (Baliga *et al*, 1999). The cell injury by ROS involved alterations in physical integrity of the cell membrane, such as rigidity and permeability, and functional integrity, such as membrane transport and enzymes functions (Gardes-

Albert *et al*, 1993). ROS cause DNA damage (Schraufstatter *et al*, 1986), rapid depression of intracellular ATP (Andreoli *et al*, 1993), a fast rise of intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> (Hyslop *et al*, 1986), oxidation of susceptible amino acids in proteins (Aruoma *et al*, 1989), and gross perturbations to the cytoskeleton and plasma membrane (Andreoli *et al*, 1993). All these processes occur before loss of plasma membrane integrity, as measured by vital dye staining (Hyslop *et al*, 1986; Schraufstatter *et al*, 1986) or loss of preloaded <sup>51</sup>Cr (Andreoli and Mallett, 1997). In renal epithelial cells, most of the studies on acute oxidative stress have focused on the physical integrity of the cell membrane (Schnellmann, 1988; Andreoli and McAteer,

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1990; Walker and Shah, 1991; Sheridan *et al.*, 1996) Many reports and propose that lipid peroxidation plays a critical role in oxidant-induced cell death (Salahudeen, 1995; Sheridan *et al.*, 1996; Schnllmann, 1998).

*In vivo* studies have shown that ischemia and various nephrotoxicants produce significant changes in structure and function of the proximal tubule, a major site where exhibits many energy-dependent, specialized functions including reabsorption of solutes such as phosphate, glucose, amino acids. Although a recent study shows that H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> inhibits phosphate transport through a lipid peroxidation-independent mechanism in opossum kidney (OK) cells (Min *et al.*, 2000), the mechanism by which H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> alters the transport function in renal epithelial cells remains to be identified. Therefore, the present study was carried out to examine the mechanism by which H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> alters membrane transport function by measuring Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake in renal proximal tubular epithelial cells.

## II. Materials and Methods

### 1. Chemicals

[<sup>32</sup>P]-phosphate and [<sup>14</sup>C]-phosphonoformic acid were obtained from Amersham international (Amersham, UK). H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, deferoxamine (DFO), 3-aminobenzamide (AB), catalase, Tolox, dimethylthiourea (DMTU), *N,N'*-diphenyl-*p*-phenylenediamine (DPPD), butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA), and malondialdehyde tetraethylacetal were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich Chemical (St. Louis, MO). All other chemicals were of the highest commercial grade available.

### 2. Culture of OK cells

OK cells were obtained from ATCC and maintained by serial passages in 75-cm<sup>2</sup> culture flasks (Costar, Cambridge, MA). The cells were grown in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium/Ham's F12 (DMEM/F12, Sigma Chemical Co. St. Louis USA) containing 10% fetal

bovine serum at 37°C in 95% air/5% CO<sub>2</sub> incubator. When the cultures reached confluence, subculture was prepared using a 0.02% EDTA-0.05% trypsin solution. The cells were grown on 24-well tissue culture plates in DMEM/F12 medium containing 10% fetal bovine serum. All experiments started 3~4 days after plating when a confluent monolayer culture was achieved.

### 3. Induction of oxidant injury

Cells were treated with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> of the indicated concentration in Hanks' balanced salt solution (HBSS) containing the following; 115 mM NaCl, 5 mM KCl, 25 mM NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, 2 mM NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 1 mM MgSO<sub>4</sub>, 1 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, and 5 mM glucose (pH 7.4) for 120 min at 37°C. Following oxidant stress, uptakes of solutes and ATP content were measured as described below.

### 4. Uptake studies

The uptake of solutes was determined in cell monolayers grown on 24 well plates. After an exposure to oxidant stress, the reaction buffer was removed and washed twice with the uptake buffer containing the following; 137 mM NaCl, 5.4 mM KCl, 2.8 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 1.2 mM MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and 10 mM Hepes (pH 7.4). The cells were incubated for 30 min at 37°C in the uptake buffer containing 5 μM [<sup>32</sup>P]-phosphate. For kinetic studies, the cells were incubated for 20 min at 37°C in the uptake buffer containing [<sup>32</sup>P]-phosphate of various concentrations (0.005-1 mM). For measurement of Na<sup>+</sup>-independent phosphate uptake, NaCl was replaced by 137 mM *N*-methyl-D-glucamine (NMG). At the end of the incubation period, the cells were washed three times with ice-cold uptake buffer and solubilized in 0.5 mL of 0.2 % Triton X-100. Aliquots of each sample were transferred to scintillation vials and the radioactivity was counted in a liquid scintillation counter (TRI-CARB 2100TR, Packard, USA). Protein was measured by the method of Bradford (Bradford, 1976).

### 5. [<sup>14</sup>C]PFA binding studies

The binding of [<sup>14</sup>C]PFA was measured in cell monolayers grown on 24 well plates. After an exposure to oxidant stress, the reaction buffer was removed and washed twice with the uptake buffer described above. The cells were incubated for 30 min at 37°C in the uptake buffer containing 1 mM [<sup>14</sup>C]PFA. At the end of the incubation period, the cells were washed three times with ice-cold buffer and solubilized in 0.5 mL of 0.2 % Triton X-100. Aliquots of each sample were transferred to scintillation vials and the radioactivity was counted in a liquid scintillation counter as described above

### 6. Electrophoresis and Immunoblotting

The intrinsic type II Na<sup>+</sup>-dependent phosphate transporter protein (NaPi-4) in OK cells was analyzed as described by Pfister et al. (1997). Cells were grown to confluency in Ø 10 cm Petri dishes. After treatment with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, the cells were scraped off the dish and washed twice with TBS (0.9% NaCl and 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.4). The scraped cells were homogenized in solution containing 10 mM NaCl, 1 mM EGTA, 1 mM EDTA, 20 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.4), and 1% Triton X-100. The homogenate was centrifuged at 2000 rpm for 10 min at 4 °C. The supernatant was saved and centrifuged at 16,000 rpm for 40 min at 4°C. The pellet corresponding to a crude membrane preparation was resuspended in 100 µL of 50 mM mannitol and 10 mM Hepes-Tris (pH 7.2).

All samples were prepared by heating to 100°C for 10 min in SDS gel-loading buffer. A 30 µg of total protein was used for SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (10%) and subsequent transfer to nitrocellulose membrane. To confirm identical loading, nitrocellulose membrane was stained with Ponceau-S. Nonspecific binding was then blocked by incubating the nitrocellulose at room temperature for 1 hr in TBS containing 5% nonfat dry milk and 1% Triton X-100. Expression of the NaPi-4 protein was estimated using a affinity pure polyclonal antibody (Alpha Diagnostic, Inc.) raised against the

C-terminal 12 amino acids of the published NaPi-4 sequence (antibody dilution, 1/100). Incubation with the primary antibody took place overnight at room temperature. The nitrocellulose was washed four times with TBS containing 1% Triton X-100. The nitrocellulose was then incubated with a 1:10,000 dilution of an anti-rabbit IgG labeled with horseradish peroxidase (Amersham Life Science, Inc.) for 1 hr at room temperature. Blots were developed by ECL kit.

### 7. Measurement of cell viability

The cell viability was estimated by a trypan blue exclusion assay. Cells were grown to confluence in 24-well dishes, treated with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, and then harvested using 0.025% trypsin. Cells were incubated with 4% trypan blue solution. Cells failing to exclude the dye were considered nonviable, and the data are expressed as percentage of nonviable cells.

### 8. Measurement of ATP content

ATP levels were measured on OK cells with a luciferin-luciferase assay. After an exposure to oxidant stress, the cells were solubilized with 500 µL of 0.5 % Triton X-100 and acidified with 100 µL of 0.6 M perchloric acid and placed on ice. Cell suspension was then diluted with 10 mM potassium phosphate buffer containing 4 mM MgSO<sub>4</sub> (pH 7.4), and 100 µL of 20 mg/ml luciferin-luciferase was added to 10 µL of diluted sample. Light emission was recorded at 20 sec with a luminometer (MicroLumat LB96P, Berthold, Germany). Protein content was determined on a portion of the cell sample.

### 9. Measurement of Na<sup>+</sup>-K<sup>+</sup>-ATPase activity

The Na<sup>+</sup>-K<sup>+</sup>-ATPase activity was measured in the microsomal fraction prepared from OK cells. For the preparation of microsomal fraction, cells were grown to confluence in 100 mm dish, scraped from the dish in 10 mM mannitol and 2 mM Tris/HCl (pH 7.1) at 4°C, and briefly sonicated. Then, the cell lysate was centrifuged for

2 min at 2,000×g to remove unbroken cells and the supernatant was saved, centrifuged for 12 min at 15,000 ×g. Pale-pink layer on top of pellet was removed and resuspended in 10 mM mannitol and 2 mM Tris/HCl (pH 7.1). Microsomal fraction was treated with ethanol for 60 min at 37°C and Na<sup>+</sup>-K<sup>+</sup>-ATPase was measured.

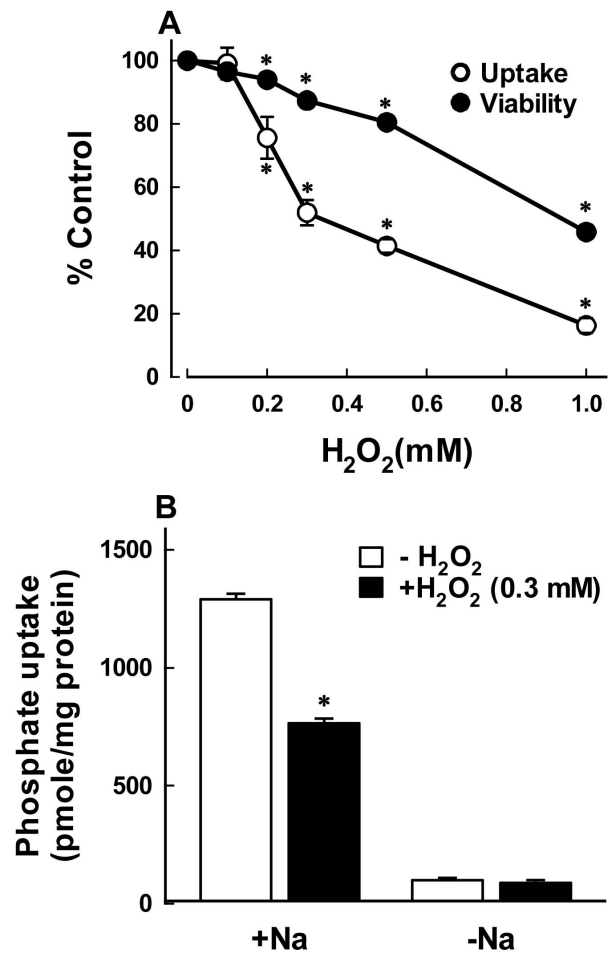
The ATPase activity was determined by measuring inorganic phosphate (Pi) released by ATP hydrolysis during incubation of microsome with an appropriate medium containing 3 mM ATP (Sigma) as the substrate. The total ATPase activity was determined in the presence of 100 mM Na<sup>+</sup>, 20 mM K<sup>+</sup>, 3 mM Mg, 2 mM EDTA, and 40 mM imidazole (pH 7.4). The Mg<sup>2+</sup>-ATPase activity was determined in the absence of K<sup>+</sup> and in the presence of 1 mM ouabain. The difference between the total and the Mg<sup>2+</sup>-ATPase activities was taken as a measure of the Na<sup>+</sup>-K<sup>+</sup>-ATPase activity. At the end of a 10-min incubation, the reaction was terminated by the addition of ice-cold 6% perchloric acid. The mixture was then centrifuged at 3,500×g, and Pi in the supernatant fraction was determined by the method of Fiske and SubbaRow (Fiske and SubbaRow, 1925).

### 10. Statistical analysis

Data are expressed as mean ± SEM. Comparisons between two groups were made using the unpaired *t* test. Multiple group comparisons were done using one-way analysis of variance followed by the Turkey *post hoc* test. P < 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

## III. Results

The concentration dependent effect of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> on Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake in OK cells was examined. Based on preliminary studies, the uptake was determined at 30 min following exposure of cells to various concentrations of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 120 min (Fig. 1A). When cells were exposed to 0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.5, and 1 mM, Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake was reduced by



**Fig. 1.** (A) Concentration dependent effect of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> on phosphate uptake and cell viability in OK cells. Cells were exposed to various concentrations of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 120 min, and the uptake and cell viability were estimated. The uptake was measured for 30 min and cell viability was evaluated by a trypan blue exclusion assay. Data are mean ± SE of four experiments. \*P < 0.05 compared with the absence of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (control). (B) Effect of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> on Na<sup>+</sup>-dependent and -independent phosphate uptake in OK cells. Cells were exposed to 0.3 mM H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 120 min and the uptake was measured for 30 min in a buffer with or without Na<sup>+</sup> (replaced by NMG). Data are mean SE of four experiments. \*P < 0.05 compared with control.

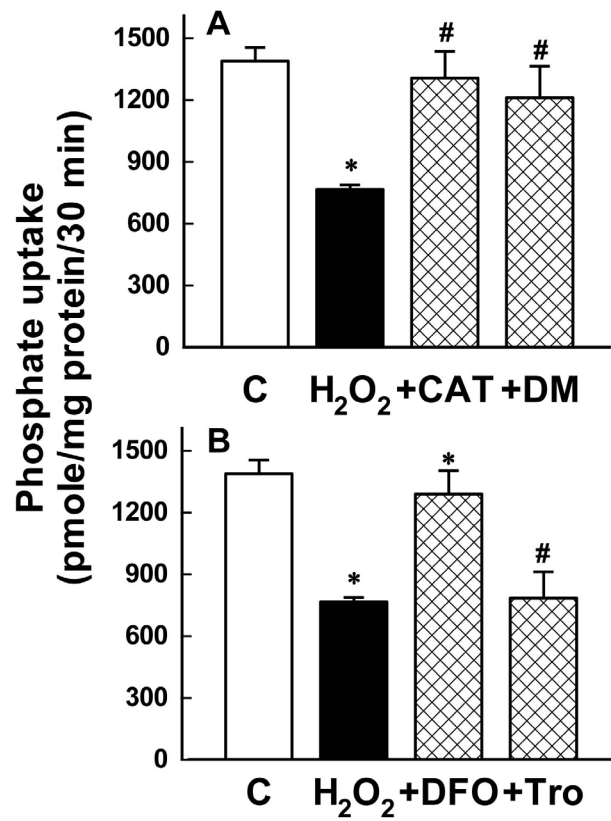
H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> in a dose-dependent manner, with an IC<sub>50</sub> (the inhibitor concentration for 50% inhibition) of 0.33 mM.

In order to determine whether the inhibition of Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake was attributed to irreversible cell injury, the effect of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> on cell death as measured by trypan blue

exclusion was examined. As shown in Fig. 1A, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> caused cell death in a dose-dependent manner similar to the inhibition of uptake. However, the extent of cell death was much less than that of the uptake.

Phosphate uptake in the presence of Na<sup>+</sup> was significantly reduced by 0.3 mM H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, whereas the uptake in the absence of Na<sup>+</sup> was not substantially altered by H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (Fig. 1B). These data suggest that H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> inhibits the active phosphate uptake driven by the gradient of Na<sup>+</sup> without any effect on Na<sup>+</sup>-independent passive uptake. The uptake in control cells in the absence of Na<sup>+</sup> was 99.04 ± 10.62 pmole/mg/30 min, which was approximately 7.7% of the total uptake (1289.40 ± 24.79 pmole/mg/30 min). Na<sup>+</sup>-independent uptake was therefore not routinely measured.

H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> is converted into hydroxyl radical, a more potent oxidant, in the presence of iron via the Fenton/Haber-Weiss reactions. To confirm the role of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and hydroxyl radical in mediating the inhibition of Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake, effects of the H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> scavenger catalase and the hydroxyl radical scavenger DMTU were examined. H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-induced alteration in Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake was nearly completely prevented by these scavengers (Fig. 2A). A similar protection was also obtained with the iron chelator deferoxamine (Fig. 2B). These results suggest that hydroxyl radicals are responsible for the uptake inhibition. Since hydroxyl radicals are a potent initiator of lipid peroxidation, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-induced inhibition of Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake could be resulted from lipid peroxidation. To test this hypothesis the effect of Trolox on the inhibition of Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake was examined. The antioxidant Trolox (0.5 mM) did not prevent H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-induced inhibition of Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake, indicating that the effect of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> on Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake is not mediated by lipid peroxidation. Similarly, the other lipophilic antioxidants DPPD and BHA at 20 and 50 μM respectively, did not protect against H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-induced inhibition of Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake (data not shown). These results are consistent with those of previous studies (Min *et al.*, 2000). The concentrations of antioxidants used in the



**Fig. 2.** Effects of radical scavengers (A) and antioxidants (B) on H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-induced inhibition of Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake in OK cells. Cells were exposed to 0.3 mM H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 120 min in the presence of 500 units/mL catalase (CAT), 30 mM dimethylthiourea (DMTU), 2 mM deferoxamine (DFO), and 1 mM Trolox (Tro). The uptake was measured for 30 min. Data are mean SE of five experiments. \*P<0.05 compared with control (C). #P<0.05 compared with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> alone.

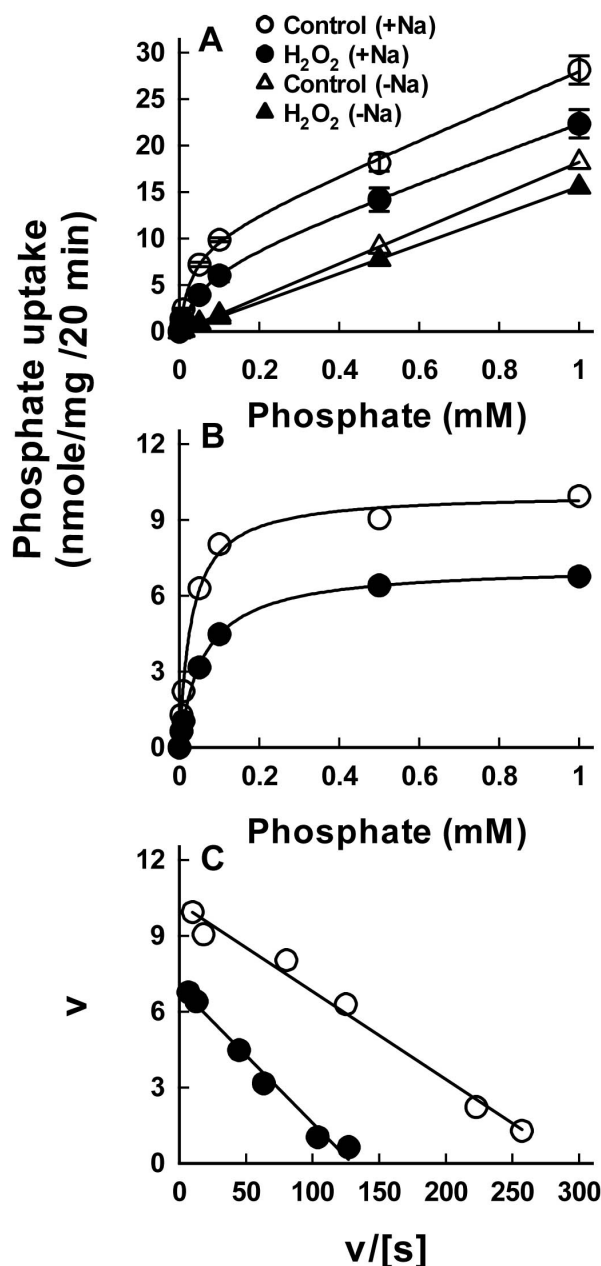
present study was similar to or higher than concentrations that have completely prevent oxidant-induced cell injury and lipid peroxidation (Chen and Stevens, 1991; Kim and Kim, 1996; Robb and Connor, 1998; Lin and Ho, 2000).

In an attempt to gain insight into the mechanisms by which H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> modulates Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake, the effect of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> on the kinetics of Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake was examined. The time course of Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake was linear up to 30 min incubation in cells with or without H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> treatment (data not shown). Based on these findings, the effect of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> on the kinetics of Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake was analyzed by

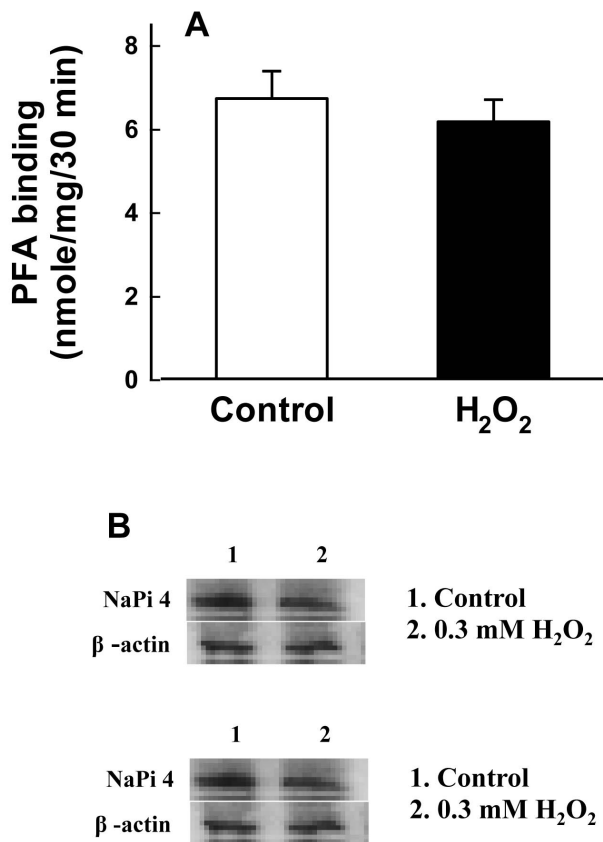
measuring the initial velocity (20 min) of Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake as a function of phosphate concentration in the presence or absence of external Na<sup>+</sup>. The results are summarized in Fig. 3. Total phosphate uptake measured in the presence of external Na<sup>+</sup> increased curvilinearly as the external phosphate concentration increased in control and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-treated cells, whereas the uptake in the absence of Na<sup>+</sup> increased linearly with increasing phosphate concentration in both groups. H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> inhibited the total uptake without a significant change in the Na<sup>+</sup>-independent uptake (Fig. 3A). The Na<sup>+</sup>-dependent uptake, computed by subtracting the uptake in the absence of Na<sup>+</sup> from the total uptake in each group are illustrated in Fig. 3B. An Eadie-Hofstee transformation of the Na<sup>+</sup>-dependent uptake shows that the relationship between the initial rate of phosphate uptake (V) and V/[phosphate] was linear in both control and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-treated cells (Fig. 3C). This indicates that in both cases the Na<sup>+</sup>-dependent phosphate uptake follows a simple Michaelis-Menten kinetics, i.e.,  $V = V_{max} \times [S]/(K_m + [S])$ , where V<sub>max</sub> is the maximal uptake, [S] is the substrate concentration, and K<sub>m</sub> is the apparent Michaelis constant indicating the concentration of phosphate for 1/2V<sub>max</sub>. H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> caused a significant reduction in the V<sub>max</sub> for Na<sup>+</sup>-dependent phosphate uptake ( $5.41 \pm 0.50$  vs.  $12.01 \pm 0.03$  pmole/mg/20 min in control cells), with no change in the apparent K<sub>m</sub> ( $0.050 \pm 0.004$  vs.  $0.042 \pm 0.009$  mM in control cells).

PFA acts as a specific, competitive, and reversible inhibitor of Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi cotransport across the renal brush-border membrane and has been employed as a probe for studies of this transport system (Szczepanska *et al*, 1986; Szczepanska *et al*, 1989). Therefore, we examined the effect of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> on PFA binding in OK cells. The results depicted in Fig. 4A indicated that PFA binding was not different between control and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-treated cells. These data suggest that H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-induced reduction in V<sub>max</sub> of Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi uptake is not attributed to a decrease in the number of Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi cotransporters.

Expression of the NaP<sub>i</sub>-4 protein in OK cells was also



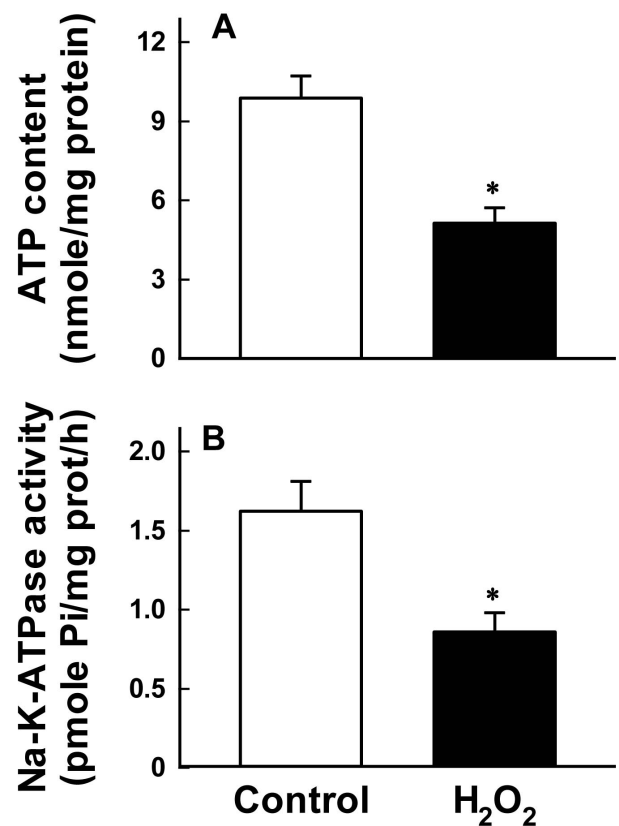
**Fig. 3.** Initial rate of phosphate uptake in control and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-treated cells as a function of phosphate concentrations. (A) Cells were exposed to 0.3 mM H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 120 min and the uptake was measured for 20 min in a buffer with or without Na<sup>+</sup> (replaced by NMG). (B) Na<sup>+</sup>-dependent uptake was calculated by subtracting the uptake in the absence of Na<sup>+</sup> from the total uptake. Data are mean  $\pm$  SE of eight experiments. (C) Data of the Na<sup>+</sup>-dependent uptake presented according to Eadie-Hofstee transformation of Michaelis-Menten equation. In this plot, the intercept of the line with Y-axis represents V<sub>max</sub> and the slope indicates the K<sub>m</sub> for phosphate.



**Fig. 4.** (A) Effect of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  on phosphonoformic acid (PFA) binding in OK cells. Cells were exposed to 0.3 mM  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  for 120 min, and PFA binding was measured for 30 min. Data are mean  $\pm$  SE of five experiments. (B) Effect of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  on expression of the  $\text{Na}^+$ -dependent phosphate transporter (NaPi-4) protein. Cells were exposed to 0.3 mM  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  for 120 min, and the expression of NaPi-4 protein was analyzed by immunoblotting using an affinity pure polyclonal antibody.

analyzed by immunoblotting. As shown in Fig. 4B, treatment with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  did not cause any change in NaPi-4 protein. Together with data from kinetic analysis and PFA binding assay, these results suggest that  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ -induced inhibition in  $\text{Na}^+$ -Pi uptake is not a result of a decrease in the number of the transporters.

Since maintenance of intracellular  $\text{Na}^+$  gradient needed to drive  $\text{Na}^+$ -dependent cotransport requires normal activity of the  $\text{Na}^+$ -pump,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  treatment may reduce  $\text{Na}^+$ -Pi uptake through the inhibition of  $\text{Na}^+$ -pump activity.



**Fig. 5.** Effect of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  on ATP depletion in whole cells (A) and  $\text{Na}^+$ - $\text{K}^+$ -ATPase activity in disrupted cells (B). Cells were exposed to 0.3 mM  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  for 120 min, and ATP content and the enzyme activity were measured. Data are mean  $\pm$  SE of five experiments. \* $P < 0.05$  compared with control.

Reduction in  $\text{Na}^+$ -pump activity could be resulted from ATP depletion and/or direct inhibition of  $\text{Na}^+$ - $\text{K}^+$ -ATPase in whole cells. To test the possibility, we measured ATP content in whole cells and  $\text{Na}^+$ - $\text{K}^+$ -ATPase activity in disrupted cells. Both ATP content and  $\text{Na}^+$ - $\text{K}^+$ -ATPase activity were decreased approximately 50% of control in cells treated with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (Fig. 5).

#### IV. Discussion

The mechanism by which oxidants alter membrane transport functions in renal proximal tubular cells is not clearly defined. Previous studies have shown that oxidants

inhibit  $\text{Na}^+$ -dependent solute transport by lipid peroxidation and direct damage of the transport protein (Jourdeuil *et al*, 1993) and disruption of normal ion gradients resulting from ATP depletion and inactivation of  $\text{Na}^+$ - $\text{K}^+$ -ATPase (Andreoli *et al*, 1993).

In the present study, we demonstrate that membrane transport function such as  $\text{Na}^+$ -Pi transport is inhibited in response to oxidant stress. The extent of the inhibition was much larger than that in cell death, suggesting that most of the uptake inhibition is not attributed to irreversible cell death.  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ -induced inhibition of  $\text{Na}^+$ -Pi uptake was completely prevented by the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  scavenger catalase, the hydroxyl radical scavenger DMTU, and the iron chelator deferoxamine. These data indicate that the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  inhibition is mediated by the intracellular generation of an iron-dependent hydroxyl radical.

Because hydroxyl radicals are a potent initiator of lipid peroxidation, the inhibition of  $\text{Na}^+$ -Pi uptake induced by  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  could be resulted from lipid peroxidation. However, the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  inhibition was not altered by antioxidants. Therefore, it is likely that  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  inhibits  $\text{Na}^+$ -Pi uptake through a lipid peroxidation-independent mechanism.

Effects of oxidants on kinetic analysis of membrane transport were studied in  $\text{Na}^+$ -glucose uptake by brush-border membrane vesicles (Jourdeuil *et al*, 1993) and organic anion uptake by renal proximal tubular cells (Takeda *et al*, 2000). They found that oxidants cause a significant reduction in  $V_{\text{max}}$  of these transport systems without any change in  $K_{\text{m}}$ . The effect of oxidants on the kinetics of  $\text{Na}^+$ -Pi uptake in OK cells has not been explored until now. In the present study, the  $V_{\text{max}}$  of  $\text{Na}^+$ -Pi uptake was significantly reduced in cells treated with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ , whereas the  $K_{\text{m}}$  value remained unchanged. In the kinetic analysis of carrier-mediated transport, the  $V_{\text{max}}$  is determined by two factors: firstly, the capacity of the carrier system and, secondly, the proportion of adsorbed molecules which dissociate in a forward direction in unit time. The former depends mainly on the number of carrier sites per unit area of membrane. The

latter depends on (1) the probability of a substrate molecule to dissociate from a carrier site in a given time, and (2) the rate of turnover of carrier across the membrane. Since the  $K_{\text{m}}$  for phosphate in the present study was not changed, it is unlikely to have altered carrier-substrate dissociation. Therefore, the decrease in  $V_{\text{max}}$  could be attributed to reduction in the number of functional carrier units or the rate of turnover. Assuming that PFA binding provides an accurate estimate of the number of  $\text{Na}^+$ -Pi transport (Szczepanska *et al*, 1987), the results of PFA binding studies (Fig. 4A) indicate that the decrease in  $V_{\text{max}}$  may be mediated by a decrease in the turnover rate but by not the number of functional carrier units. This assumption was supported by an immunoblotting assay (Fig. 4B).

The present study demonstrates that the principal mechanism of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ -induced modulation in  $\text{Na}^+$ -Pi uptake is the decrease in  $\text{Na}^+$ -pump activity resulting from ATP depletion and direct inhibition of  $\text{Na}^+$ - $\text{K}^+$ -ATPase (Fig. 5), consistent with previous studies in LLC-PK1 cells (Andreoli *et al*, 1993). It is not certain, however, whether  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ -induced ATP depletion was attributed to impairment of ATP synthesis resulting from mitochondrial damage and/or to activation of poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP). Since PARP catalyzes the transfer of ADP-ribose from NAD to protein with the concomitant release of nicotinamide, the activation of this enzyme results in depletion of NAD and a consequent reduction in ATP. In previous study,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  produces activation of poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase (Min *et al*, 2000). Such a reduction in functional  $\text{Na}^+$ -pump activity may contribute to the decrease in  $V_{\text{max}}$ .

In conclusion,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  reduced  $\text{Na}^+$ -Pi uptake through the inhibition of function  $\text{Na}^+$ -pump activity. Such effects are mediated by iron-dependent hydroxyl radical generation, but not attributed to lipid peroxidation or mostly irreversible cell death.



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