

Tadalafil improves urethral function in diabetic rats

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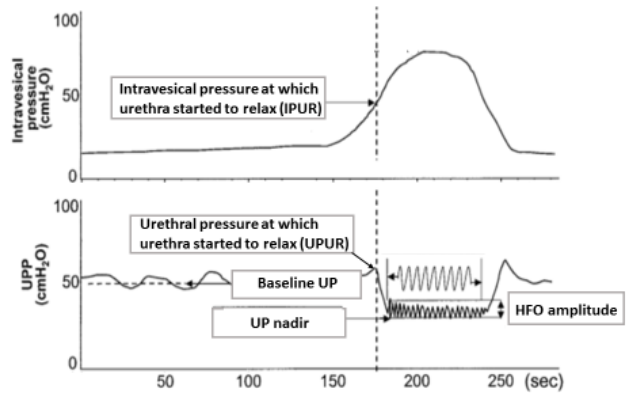
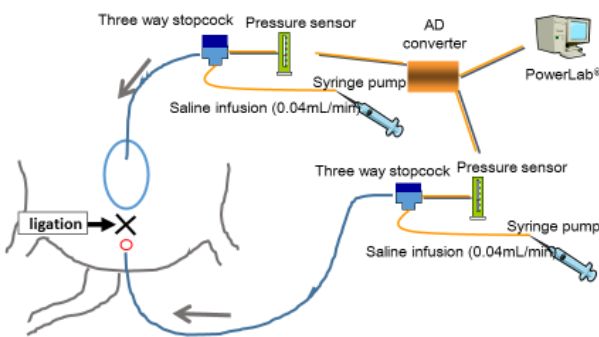


Background

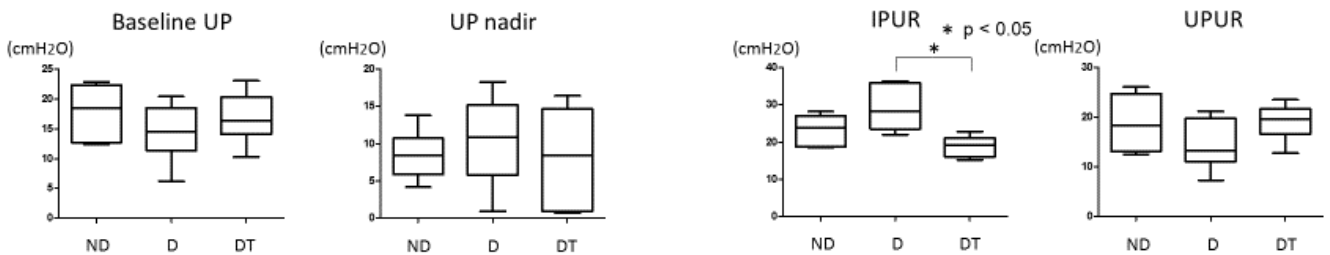
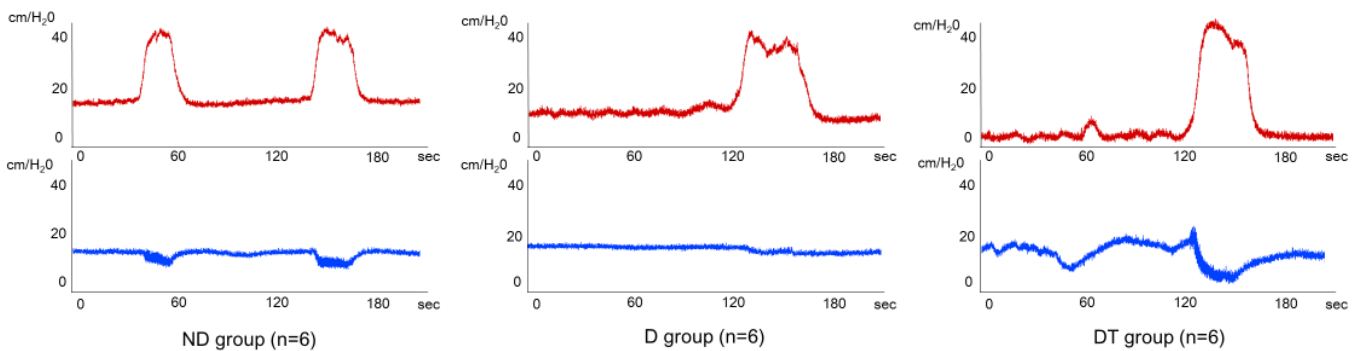
In ICS 2016, we showed that tadalafil improves the bladder's blood supply and lower urinary tract dysfunction in diabetic rats. At that time we evaluated lower urinary tract function by cystometry and mainly looked at bladder function. The result suggested that tadalafil may improve urethral function during micturition. Therefore, we directly measured urethral pressure and investigated the effect of tadalafil on urethral dysfunction in diabetic rats.

Materials and methods

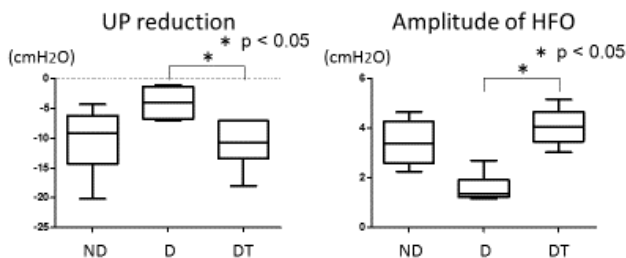
- Female Sprague-Dawley rats
- Diabetes induction: Streptozotocin 65 mg/kg i.p.
- Three groups: Non-diabetes (ND)
- Diabetes (D)
- Diabetes with tadalafil (DT)
- Urethral perfusion pressure (UPP) 7 weeks after diabetes induction
- Tadalafil was orally administrated at 2mg/kg/day for 7 days before the experiment.



Results



IPUR was significantly lower in the DT group than in the D group (18.9 ± 2.9 vs. 29.1 ± 6.6 cmH₂O, $p < 0.05$)



UP reduction and Amplitude of HFO were significantly larger in the DT group than in the D group (-10.9 ± 4.0 vs. -4.0 ± 2.9 cmH₂O, $p < 0.05$; 4.1 ± 0.8 vs. 1.6 ± 0.6 cmH₂O, $p < 0.05$)

Interpretion of results

Urethral relaxation function during micturition was impaired in diabetic rats. This result is consistent with those of our previous study¹⁾ in which we used the same model of diabetes and a different method of measuring urethral pressure. In the same study, we demonstrated that the administration of L-arginine as an NO donor improves urethral function. Tadalafil inhibits PDE5, increases cyclic GMP in smooth muscle, and induces their relaxation of smooth muscle. As a result, tadalafil acts as an NO donor. The administration of tadalafil induced the appropriate start of micturition (opening urethra) and efficient urine flow.

1) Torimoto K, Fraser MO, Hirao Y et al. J Urol. 2004;171(5):1959-64.

Conclusion

Tadalafil improves urethral function during micturition by acting as an NO donor in diabetic rats.