INDUCTION OF APOPTOSIS IN HUMAN LEUKEMIA CELL LINE (HL60) BY ICD-85 (VENOM DERIVED PEPTIDES)

Navidpour S1, Zare Mirakabadi A1, Shahramyar Z1, Morovvati H2
1Department of Venomous Animals and Antivenom Production, Razi Vaccine and Serum Research Institute, Kraj, Iran.
2Quality control department, Razi Vaccine and Serum Research Institute, Kraj, Iran

ABSTRACT

Our previous studies revealed an inhibitory effect of ICD-85 (Venom derived peptides) on breast cancer cell line MDA-MB231. ICD-85 was also confirmed by in vivo studies to suppress the breast tumor in mice. However, the exact mechanism of ICD-85 was unknown. Hence, the present study was undertaken to assess the mechanism of ICD-85 effect as an anti-proliferative agent of cancer cells. The effect of ICD-85 on proliferation of HL-60 cancer cells was determined by using the MTT assay. The morphological changes of ICD-85 treated HL-60 cells were observed under transmission electron microscope (TEM). DNA fragmentation analysis was also carried out using gel electrophoresis. ICD-85 induced marked concentration inhibition of HL60 cell proliferation with an IC50 value of 0.04µg/ml following 24 h incubation. ICD-85 treated cells when compared with untreated cells, showed nuclear material condensation, endoplasmic reticulum dilation, mitochondria swelling or degradation, increased cytoplasmic vacuoles, reduction or disappearance in cytoplasmic process and decreased nuclear/cytoplasmic ratio was observed. The characteristic DNA ladder formation of ICD-85 treated cells in agarose gel electrophoresis confirmed the results obtained by electron microscopy. The results of the present study indicated that ICD-85 inhibited the cancer cell proliferation by inducing cell apoptosis.
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