

Anti-inflammatory mechanism and application of mycelial polysaccharides

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Abstract. Studies have shown that mycelial polysaccharides can regulate the body's resistance to inflammation in different ways, this paper briefly describes how the extraction of mycelial polysaccharides can reduce the impact on the performance of mycelium, as well as some of the mycelial polysaccharides on the mechanism of inflammation resistance. In order to provide a theoretical basis for helping mycelial polysaccharides to become good anti-inflammatory drugs.

Keywords: Mycelium, inflammation, review

1. Introduction

Mycelium is a collection of mycelium which has a variety of functions such as consumption of mycelium can prevent Parkinson's disease Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, hypertension, stroke as well as anti-tumour, anti-bacterial, immune-boosting and cholesterol-lowering properties [1], and shiitake mushrooms, as a deep-cultured mycelium, have polysaccharides that can act as immune-boosting agents for macrophages by activating the MAPK pathway[2]. Inflammation is a natural protective response of the innate immune system in response to damage or harmful external stimuli such as pathogens, allergens, infections, irritants, and ultraviolet radiation [3]. A large number of studies at home and abroad have shown that mycelial polysaccharides have a role in anti-inflammation, such as monkey head mushroom polysaccharide extract[4], sidearm mycelial phosphorylated polysaccharides [5], and Poria cocos polysaccharides[6]. Now mycelial anti-inflammation has become a hot research object in the field in recent years, and this paper elaborates on the anti-inflammatory mechanism and application of mycelial polysaccharides.

2. Properties and extraction methods of mycelial polysaccharides

2.1. Structural and chemical properties of mycelial polysaccharides

The structural characteristics of mycelial polysaccharides are usually defined by their average molecular weight, monosaccharide composition and linkages[7]. Different kinds of mycelial polysaccharide extracts have different properties, by studying the aqueous extracts of shiitake mushrooms in which three polysaccharide fractions with different molecular weight sizes were isolated, it was found that the molecular weight was an important factor affecting the biological activity of mushroom polysaccharide fractions, and the polysaccharide with the smallest molecular weight was the most effective in regulating immunity[8]. Meanwhile, the biological activities of mushroom polysaccharides were mainly related to their immunomodulatory and anticancer properties. In addition, mycelial polysaccharides have antiviral effects, lower blood lipids or have antioxidant and antiproliferative activities[9]. Through the research of a large number of researchers at home and abroad, different types of mycelial polysaccharides have different effects. For example, polysaccharides extracted from edible mushroom polysaccharides have biological activities such as enhancing immunity, anti-tumour, anti-radiation, delaying aging and antioxidant activities;[10] *Mycobacterium philippinarum* has a wide range of health-promoting effects, including immunomodulation, anticancer, anti-inflammatory, hepatoprotective, hypoglycemic, hypolipidemic, antioxidant and other biological activities [11].

Table1: Molecular structure of mycelial polysaccharides

No.	Name	Mw (Da)	Monosaccharide composition	Structure features	Bioactivities
1	PLE	1.20*10 ³	Xyl, Man, Fuc, Glu, and Gal with a molar ratio of 2.3:1:6.4:22.1:19.83.	ND	Anti-tumor Immunomodulatory
2	PLP	2.07*10 ⁴	Rha, Man, Ara, Gal, Xyl, and Glu with a molar ratio of 0.82:8.32:1.13:8.06:2.80:78.88.	Glycosidic linkages were mostly 1 → 3, 1 → 6 or 1 → 3,6, main chain of → 3)-β-D Glc-(1 → with → 6)-β-D-Glc-(1 → side chain	Immunomodulatory

Table1: Continued

No.	Name	Mw (Da)	Monosaccharide composition	Structure features	Bioactivities
3	PIP	1.85*10 ⁴	Rha, Man, Ara, Gal, Xyl, and Glu with a molar ratio of 1.31:14.51:2.63:20.65:3.32:57.58.	Glycosidic linkages were mostly 1 → 3, 1 → 6 or 1 → 3,6, main chain of → 3)-β-D Glcp-(1 → with → 6)-β-D-Glcp-(1 → side chain	Immunomodulatory
4	PNW1	3.30*10 ⁴	Glu, Gal, Man, Ara, and Fuc with a molar ratio of 3.26:8.77:6.44:1:1.35.	ND	Anti-tumor、Immunomodulatory
5	PNM1	2.90*10 ⁴	Glu, Gal, Man, Ara, and Fuc with a molar ratio of 20.06:8.72:6.94:1:0.76.	ND	Anti-tumor、Immunomodulatory
6	PNMP1	2.84*10 ⁴	Glu, Gal, Man, and Xyl with a molar ratio of 18.65:41.37:35.41:4.57.	ND	Antioxidant Immunomodulatory
7	PNMP2	3.15*10 ⁴	Ara, Fuc, Glu, Gal, Man, and Xyl with a molar ratio of 5.78:7.24:14.42:41.57:28.62:2.37.	ND	Antioxidant Immunomodulatory
8	PNMP3	2.61*10 ⁴	Ara, Fuc, Glu, Gal, Man, and Xyl with a molar ratio of 3.45:8.44:21.55:36.42:26.58:3.56.	ND	Antioxidant Immunomodulatory

2.2. Extraction and purification methods of mycelial polysaccharides

Currently, common mycelial polysaccharide extraction methods are water extraction, including hot water extraction, dilute alkaline water extraction and dilute acid water extraction[12]. Meanwhile, in order to improve the extraction efficiency of polysaccharides, microwave-assisted extraction (MAE), enzyme-assisted extraction (EAE), ultrasound-assisted extraction (UAE), and subcritical water extraction (SWE) are used[13]. However, as an important step in obtaining polysaccharides, the extraction tends to affect polysaccharides yield, chemical structure, quality, and biological activity [14]. Processes (boiling, bleaching, fermentation) lead to a decrease in the polysaccharide content, the true intake of these macromolecules may vary between the raw and processed forms, and all processes lead to significant changes in the chemical composition of the polysaccharides (reduced content of

proteins and phenolics), so that hot water extraction should not be used[15]. Studies have shown that microwave-assisted water two-phase extraction of polysaccharides from shiitake mushrooms is effective, the method is shorter in time, has higher yields and better selectivity, therefore, it provides a fast and efficient alternative to obtain a more diverse range of polysaccharides from shiitake mushrooms[16]. Different extraction methods were used with different extraction rates, Barbosa et al. used a binary method of hot water and supercritical carbon dioxide to extract polysaccharides from shiitake mushrooms with an extraction rate of 30.69%. Subcritical water extraction was used to extract polysaccharides from flat mushrooms. The highest extraction rate of 78.6% was achieved when the temperature reached 200°C [17].

In conclusion, microwave-assisted aqueous phase extraction of polysaccharides and subcritical water extraction method of polysaccharides extraction has better extraction efficiency, and these two methods can be preferred in the extraction of polysaccharides, for the purification and extraction of polysaccharides the method not only to ensure the quantity at the same time but also to maintain the quality of polysaccharides.

3. Evaluation of anti-inflammatory activity and mechanism of mycelial polysaccharides

3.1. Study of anti-inflammatory mechanism of mycelial polysaccharides

The first immune response in the human body is inflammation (the onset of injury, infection and stress). Macrophages play an important role in pathogen resistance during inflammation [18], polysaccharides inhibit pro-inflammatory cytokines, iNOS, COX-2 and NF- κ B related signalling pathways and interact with the individual's intestinal flora and the immune system to activate STAT3 and autophagy, thereby suppressing inflammation in the organism. Li and shah investigated polysaccharides extracted from apricot abalone [PEPS and sulfo-PEPS (S-PEPS)] and found that S-PEPS had stronger anti-inflammatory activity against RAW 264.7 macrophages. The mycelial cell wall polysaccharide galactosamine galactoglucan (GAG) from *Aspergillus fumigatus* is a pathogen-associated molecular pattern (PAMP) that activates the host NLRP3 inflammasome, and GT4C is a potential synthase of GAG; mechanistically, the galactosamine subunit of the GAG molecule binds to glycosomal proteins, thereby blocking intracellular protein translation and inducing endoplasmic reticulum stress, leading to inflammasome GAG-induced inflammasome activation not only protects mice against *Aspergillus fumigatus* infection (as evidenced by strong virulence of strains lacking GAG and weak virulence of strains overexpressing GAG), but also attenuates DSS-induced colitis in mice by promoting IL-18 production [19].

In summary, mycelial polysaccharides can reduce the release of inflammatory factors by interfering with signalling in the organism as shown in Figure 1, and will also interfere with protein translation to inhibit inflammation.

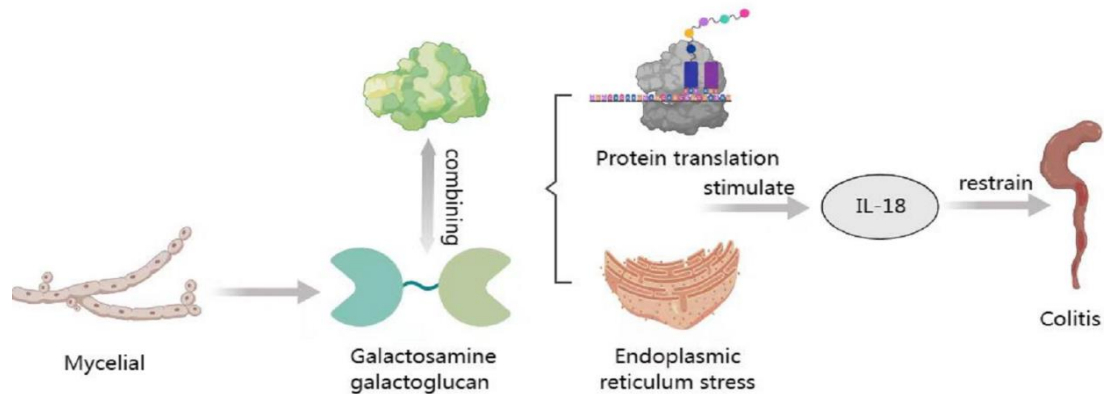


Figure 1: Mechanisms of mycelial inhibition of inflammation

4. Research on the application of mycelial polysaccharides in inflammation models

4.1. Anti-inflammatory effects of mycelial polysaccharides in animal models

Studies have shown that the anti-inflammatory effects of mycelium in animal models present different effects under different conditions, e.g. Ying Yang, Jing Ji et al. conducted a study on natural polysaccharides against alcoholic liver injury and found that Polysaccharides of *L. barbarum* (LBP) mediated ethanol-induced hepatic inflammation through inhibition of the thioredoxin-interacting protein (TXNIP) and nod-like receptor 3 (NLRP3) inflammatory vesicles, which mediates the attenuation of ethanol-induced liver injury, and is thus resistant to alcoholic liver injury.[20] Meng Meng et al. studied *Ganoderma lucidum* polysaccharides (GLP) against Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and showed that GLP inhibits the proliferation and migration of RA synovial fibroblasts (RASf) and regulates the proliferation and differentiation of dendritic cells, which are the antigen presenting cells. and finally promotes the formation of osteoblasts, thereby protecting bone and articular bone.[21] Huaping Li, Yanbo Feng, and Wenxue Sun concluded that phosphorylated *Lateralia* spp. have better anti-inflammatory effects than ordinary *Lateralia* spp. injected into mice in controlled experiments. Xuejing Jia, Lishuai Ma et al. studied *Poria coconut* polysaccharides (pcp) and found that PC-II (a water-soluble (1,3)- α -D-galactose) in pcp could inhibit the production of IFN-induced inflammation marker IP-10 in a dose-dependent manner, thereby anti-inflammatory.

5. Clinical application and prospect of mycelial polysaccharides

At this stage, mycelial polysaccharide anti-inflammatory has entered into clinical use with a large scope for development, e.g., the pharmacological effects of APSs have been demonstrated at the molecular, cellular, and animal levels, however, a few cases have been reported of their use in clinical adjuvant therapy or in the treatment of major diseases. [22] Although much progress has been made in

the study of methods for the extraction, isolation and purification of EFPs, it is necessary to continue the search for simpler, more efficient and cheaper methods for the large-scale production of high-quality EFPs in the pharmaceutical and functional food industries. [23] Since EFP has high biological activity, it is important to establish an efficient and economical extraction method. At the same time, attention should be paid to improving the purity of polysaccharides, obtaining homogeneous polysaccharides, and studying their physicochemical properties and bioactivities in order to maximise the value of EFP. Since EFP has high biological activity, it is important to establish an efficient and economical extraction method. At the same time, attention should be paid to improving the purity of polysaccharides, obtaining homogeneous polysaccharides, and studying their physicochemical properties and biological activities to maximise the value of EFP.

6. Conclusion

At present, with the in-depth study of mycelial polysaccharides, the anti-inflammatory effect of mycelial polysaccharides has become clearer, and different extraction methods affect the properties of mycelial polysaccharides to varying degrees, which in turn affects their anti-inflammatory effect. Different mycelial polysaccharides alleviate or resist different inflammation in different ways, and there are many differences in their mechanism of action, but studies have shown that mycelial polysaccharides have a certain effect on anti-inflammation. Therefore, it is now possible to explore in more depth how the extraction of polysaccharides can reduce polysaccharide loss, as well as reduce the effect of extraction on polysaccharide properties. Some of the mycelia have only been tested for anti-inflammatory effects for the time being, but the specific polysaccharides have not been detected, so this area can also be studied in depth at this time.

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