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이학석사학위논문

**Reactive oxygen species promote
heat shock protein 90-mediated
HBV capsid assembly**

**활성산소는 열 충격 단백질 90이
매개하는 HBV 캡시드 조립을 촉진시킨다**

2015 년 8 월

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2015년 8월

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Abstract

Reactive oxygen species promote heat shock protein 90-mediated HBV capsid assembly

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Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection induces reactive oxygen species (ROS) production and has been associated with the development of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). ROS are also an important factor in HCC because the accumulated ROS leads to abnormal cell proliferation and chromosome mutation. In oxidative stress, heat shock protein 90 (Hsp90) and glutathione (GSH) function as part of the defense mechanism. Hsp90 prevents cellular component from oxidative stress, and GSH acts as antioxidants scavenging ROS in the cell. However, it is not known whether molecules regulated by oxidative stress are involved in HBV capsid assembly. Based on the previous study that Hsp90 facilitates HBV capsid assembly, which is an important step for the packing of viral particles, here, we show that ROS enrich Hsp90-driven HBV capsid formation. In cell-free system, HBV capsid assembly was facilitated by ROS with Hsp90, whereas it was decreased without Hsp90. In addition, GSH inhibited the

function of Hsp90 to decrease HBV capsid assembly. Consistent with the result of cell-free system, ROS and buthionine sulfoximine (BS), an inhibitor of GSH synthesis, increased HBV capsid formation in HepG2.2.15 cells. Thus, our study uncovers the interplay between ROS and Hsp90 during HBV capsid assembly.

Keywords: Hepatitis B virus; Capsid assembly; Core protein 149; Reactive oxygen species; Heat shock protein 90; Glutathione

Student Number: 2012-23060

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List of abbreviations

NAC	N-acetyl-L-cysteine
qPCR	Quantitative PCR
CD	Circular dichroism
H ₂ O ₂	Hydrogen peroxide
GSH	Reduced glutathione

Introduction

Hepatitis B virus (HBV), a member of the hepadnaviridae family, has infected over two billion people worldwide [1]. Approximately 240 million HBsAg-positive individuals remain chronically infected and chronic HBV infection is associated with liver disease, including the development of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) and liver cirrhosis [1,2]. HBV generates reactive oxygen species (ROS) through altering mitochondrial function, and ROS can affect viruses by changing the redox state of the cell and by activating transcription factors such as NF- κ B, which elevates the level of viral replication [3,4,5].

HBV has a partially double-stranded DNA genome consisting of four open reading frames (ORF), denoted Cp (core protein), Sp (surface protein), Pol (polymerase), and HBx (X protein) [6]. Following the infection of hepatocytes, the HBV genome is converted into covalently closed circular DNA (cccDNA) by a DNA repair system in the nucleus [7]. Subsequently, pregenomic RNA (pgRNA) is produced from host RNA polymerase, and it is packaged from the core protein with polymerase and other components such as host factors in the cytoplasm.

One of the host factors for HBV capsid formation is heat shock protein 90 (Hsp90). Hsp90 is activated by p23 and ATP to form the Hsp90 complex facilitating maturation of client protein [8], and the activated Hsp90 facilitates HBV capsid assembly in encapsidation [9]. Moreover, Hsp90 is associated with oxidative stress. In oxidative stress, ROS influences Hsp90 protecting activated 20S proteasomes to promote degradation of oxidized substrates [10].

Cells continuously produce ROS, which induce oxidative stress and are neutralized by antioxidant systems, as part of the metabolic process [11]. A low level of ROS is essential in several physiologic processes of the cell including proliferation, apoptosis, cell cycle arrest, etc [12]. At high ROS level, however, ROS causes oxidative stress and a toxic environment to the cells [13]. This stressful condition is known to play a

major role in HCC mainly by enhancing DNA damage and by modifying some key cellular process for development [13].

Virus-induced ROS have an effect not only on infected cells but also on the virus itself. Based on the previous study that HBV-induced ROS can cause HCC [3,4,14] and the expression level of Hsp90 is elevated in HCC tumor tissue [15], we hypothesized that ROS might improve Hsp90-driven HBV production. In this research, we exploited cell-free system and HepG2.2.15 cells to test the functional significance of ROS in Hsp90-driven HBV capsid formation. We aimed to determine the effect of oxidative stress on HBV capsid assembly. Our results showed that HBV capsid formation was increased with ROS-induced changes in the conformation of Hsp90 but was decreased by ROS without the Hsp90. Meanwhile, we also found repressive effect of an antioxidant, glutathione (GSH), on HBV capsid formation. Overall, we discovered a previously uncharacterized relation between ROS and Hsp90 and a function of GSH for the Hsp90-driven HBV capsid assembly.

Materials and Methods

Expression and purification of Cp149, p23, B23, and Hsp90

Cp149, p23, nucleophosmin (B23), and Hsp90 were cloned directly using a pET28b vector for Cp149, p23, and Hsp90 (Novagen) and pET21a vector for B23 (Novagen) respectively. All constructs were transformed into BL21 (DE3) + pLysS E.coli (Novagen), and purified and stored with 10% glycerol at -20°C as previously described [9,16].

Analysis of HBV capsid assembly and sucrose density gradient analysis

To study the effect of capsid formation from 20µM Cp149 dimer with several additives including other proteins (20µM of BSA, B23, Hsp90, p23) and chemicals, such as 0.5mM ATP-r-S (Merck), 2µM geldanamycin (GA, A.G. Scientific, Inc.), 50-200µM hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂, sigma), 200µM *N*-acetyl-L-cysteine (NAC, sigma) and 1mM GSH (sigma), assembly reaction was conducted in assembly buffer as a previous study [17]. Sucrose density gradient analysis was conducted by ultracentrifugation as a previous study [9]. Fraction from 1 to 10 (10-50%) was detected by 15% SDS-PAGE using immunoblot analysis with rabbit polyclonal anti-HBV core antibody (Dako).

CD analysis

CD measurements were carried out with a J-815 (Jasco). Spectra were obtained using 1 nm bandwidth, a scan rate of 50nm/min and a response time of 1 s. The quartz cuvette path length was 0.1 cm. The CD measurements were implemented using total protein concentrations of 0.1 mg/ml with 1:1 molar ratio. The solvent was 20mM Tris-

HCl, pH 7.5 without salt, and all CD measurements were performed at 20°C or in 20°C-95°C. Values of a ratio and T_m were measured by SSE software program and denatured protein analysis version 1.01A software program from a J-815 (Jasco).

Quantification of intracellular and extracellular HBV DNA in HepG2.2.15 cells in H₂O₂ treatment

HepG2.2.15 cells were cultured in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium (DMEM, Welgene) added with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS, Invitrogen) at 37°C in 5% CO₂. Intracellular and extracellular HBV DNA in HepG2.2.15 cells after 12 h of treatment with increasing concentration of H₂O₂ were isolated by phenol–chloroform extraction method, and measured by quantitative PCR (qPCR) using a SYBR-Green reaction mixture (Qiagen) as previously described [9]. The primers, F-5'-GTGTCTGCGGCGTTTTATCA-3' and R-5'-GACAAACGGGCAACATACCTT-3', were used to amplify a 98-base pair product from positions 379 to 476 of the HBV genome.

Treatment with inhibitors on HepG2.2.15 cells, and detection of HBV intracellular capsid

HepG2.2.15 cells were treated with chemicals, such as 4μM GA for Hsp90 inhibitor, 30μM buthionine sulfoximine (BS, Santa Cruz Biotechnology Inc.) for inhibitor of glutathione synthesis and 5mM NAC for scavenging H₂O₂. Cells were lysed in lysis buffer containing 50mM Tris–HCl (pH 8.0), 150mM NaCl, 5mM EDTA, and 0.5% NP-40, and centrifuged at 16,000 ×g for 15 min at 4°C to spin down cell debris. Intracellular capsid from the supernatant was separated by electrophoresis on 0.9% agarose gel as a previous study [18] and analyzed by immunoblotting with rabbit polyclonal anti-HBV core antibody (Dako), mouse polyclonal anti-β actin antibody

(Abcam) and rabbit polyclonal anti-Hsp90 antibody (Santa Cruz Biotechnology Inc.).

Statistical analysis

Data of bar graph was expressed as the mean and standard deviation in three independent experiments. The band intensity determined in the ImageMaster 2D Elite software 4.01 (Amersham, Upsala, Sweden). Statistical analysis was performed by SPSS 21.0 software (Chicago, IL, USA) and significance values were set at * $p < 0.05$.

Results

1. ROS increase Hsp90-driven HBV capsid assembly.

Among ROS, H_2O_2 is a relatively mild oxidant and is involved in oxidative stress [19]. In HCC cell lines, H_2O_2 concentration below $300\mu M$ have used to investigate the effect of ROS [20,21,22]. To demonstrate that H_2O_2 affects the function of the Hsp90 complex for capsid assembly, the assembly reaction was conducted with Cp149 in increasing concentrations of H_2O_2 in the presence or absence of the Hsp90 complex. Capsid formation was decreased in the presence of only Cp149 but increased in the presence of both Cp149 and the Hsp90 complex with increasing concentrations of H_2O_2 (Fig. 1A), and a ratio of capsid by Cp149 with the Hsp90 complex / capsid by Cp149 at $200\mu M$ was the highest (Fig. 1B). Moreover, we determined whether this result was derived specifically from the function of the Hsp90 complex, compared with assembly reaction with nucleophosmin (B23) which also acts as a chaperone and increases HBV capsid assembly [16]. In contrast to the Hsp90 complex, capsid formation was decreased with B23 under H_2O_2 treatment (Fig. 1C). To verify the increase of capsid formation induced by H_2O_2 in the presence of the Hsp90 complex, GA, an inhibitor of Hsp90, was applied with increasing H_2O_2 concentration. Despite the presence of the Hsp90 complex, capsid assembly was decreased with increasing H_2O_2 concentrations with GA treatment (Fig. 1D). Thus, these results show that H_2O_2 promotes Hsp90-driven HBV capsid assembly.

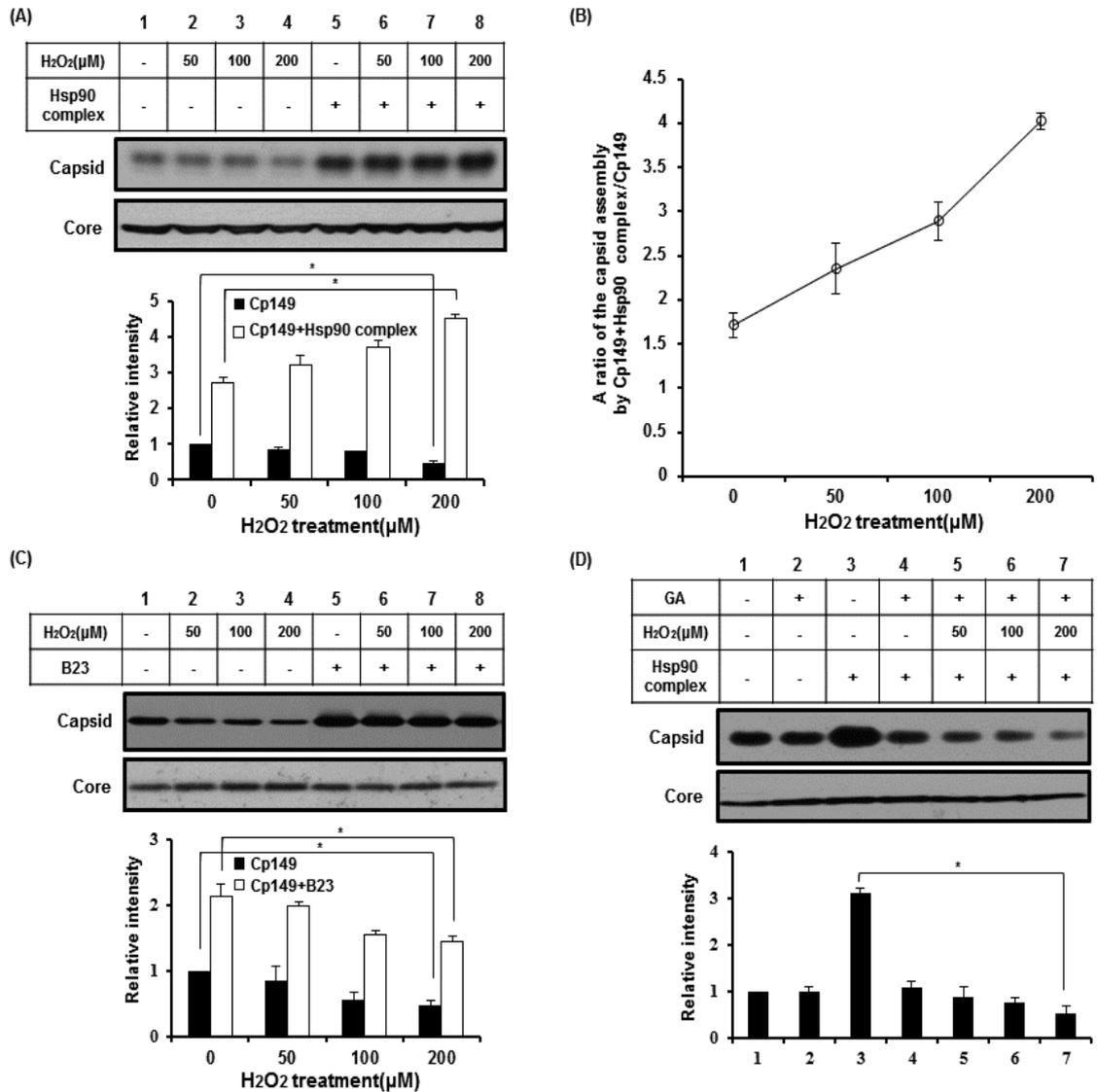


Figure 1. ROS facilitate HBV capsid assembly in the presence of the Hsp90 complex.

(A) For Hsp90 complex formation, 20 μ M Hsp90 was incubated with 20 μ M p23 and 0.5mM ATP-r-S for 30 min at 30°C and mixed with 20 μ M Cp149 dimer in assembly buffer for 30 min at 30°C with increasing concentrations of H₂O₂. (B) A ratio of capsid assembly dependent on the Hsp90 complex was analyzed in experiment for (A). (C)

Increasing concentrations of H₂O₂ were incubated with 20μM B23 and the 20μM Cp149 dimer in same conditions as in (A). (D) 2μM GA was added to Hsp90 with p23 and ATP-r-S for 30 min at 30°C, and this mixture was incubated with Cp149 dimer for 30 min at 30°C with increasing concentrations of H₂O₂. Samples in Fig. 1 were separated by 0.9% native agarose gel electrophoresis, and capsids were detected by immunoblot analysis with an anti-HBV core antibody. Core, the total amount of Cp149, was detected by 15% SDS-PAGE. The graph at the bottom of all gels represents the relative band intensity for each gel. Capsids without any additive were used as a standard (set to 1).

2. Hsp90-driven HBV capsid assembly is increased by ROS pre-treatment at low concentrations.

Because the capsid formation level varied depending on the presence of the Hsp90 complex, we conducted an assembly reaction with Cp149 and the Hsp90 complex to confirm the effect of H₂O₂ applied at different times. We observed the amount of capsids when H₂O₂ was applied to the Hsp90 complex before the assembly reaction with Cp149 (pre-treated H₂O₂) and also when H₂O₂ was applied during the assembly reaction with Cp149 and the Hsp90 complex (post-treated H₂O₂). Capsid assembly was increased with 50μM H₂O₂ in the pre-treatment condition, whereas capsid formation was proportionally increased with increasing concentrations of H₂O₂ in the post-treatment condition (Fig. 2A). Thus, with pre-exposure of the Hsp90 complex to H₂O₂, HBV capsid assembly was increased even at low concentrations of H₂O₂. Furthermore, to confirm the effect of H₂O₂ on facilitating capsid assembly, we performed the assembly reaction using *N*-acetyl-L-cysteine (NAC; sigma), which is a scavenger for H₂O₂, at different times (Fig. 2B). With application of H₂O₂ and NAC together to the Hsp90 complex before the assembly reaction with Cp149 (pre-treated NAC), the amount of capsid did not change when compared to only treatment with NAC but without H₂O₂. However, when NAC was applied when the assembly reaction was conducted with Cp149 and the Hsp90 complex already exposed to H₂O₂ (post-treated NAC), the amount of capsid increased in the H₂O₂ treatment condition more than that in the NAC-only treatment condition without H₂O₂. Thus, these results show that the H₂O₂-treated Hsp90 complex facilitated HBV capsid assembly before NAC treatment.

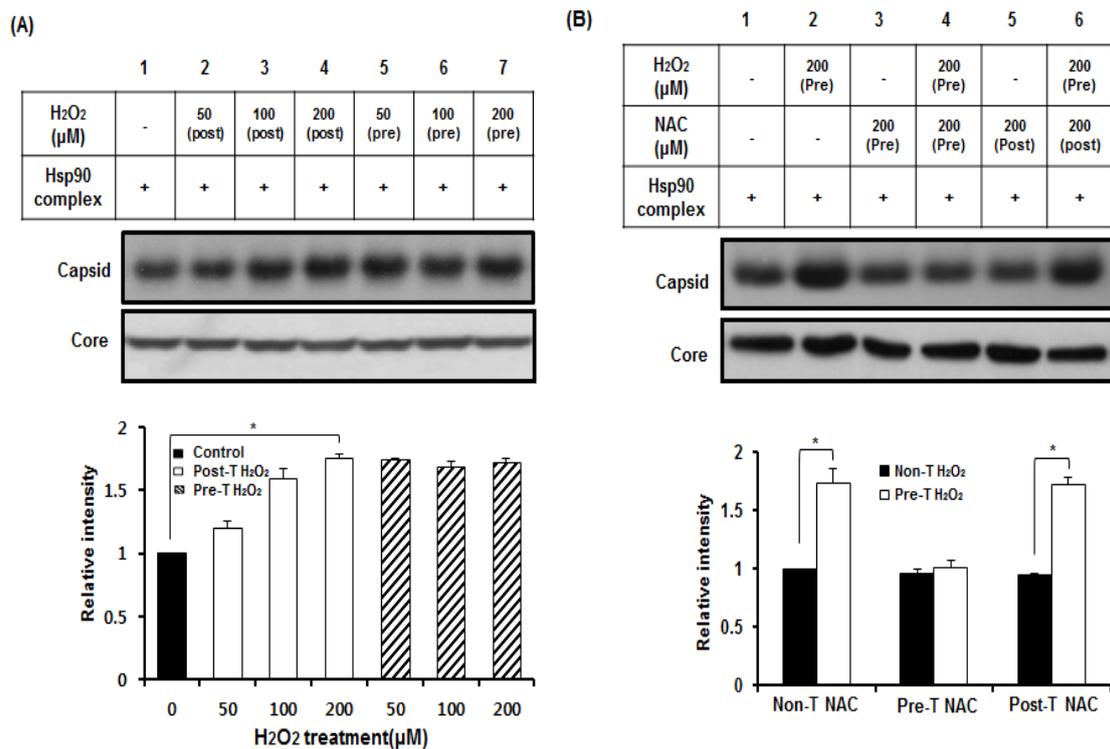


Figure 2. Pre-treatment of the Hsp90 complex with low concentrations of ROS facilitates HBV capsid assembly.

(A) HBV capsid assembly with pre-treated H₂O₂ was compared with that under post-treated H₂O₂, where pre-treated H₂O₂ (Pre-T H₂O₂) was treatment of Hsp90 complexes with H₂O₂ before mixing with the Cp149 dimer and post-treated H₂O₂ (Post-T H₂O₂) was treatment of Hsp90 complexes and Cp149 dimer together with H₂O₂. Lane 1, capsids formed from Hsp90 complex and Cp149 dimer (control); lanes 2–4, capsids formed from Hsp90 complex and Cp149 dimer with post-treated H₂O₂ (0–200μM); lanes 5–7, capsids formed from Hsp90 complex and Cp149 dimer with pre-treated H₂O₂ (0–200μM). (B) These conditions were compared with HBV capsid assembly with pre- and post-treated NAC. Pre-treated NAC (Pre-T NAC) was treatment of Hsp90 complexes with NAC before mixing with the Cp149 dimer. Post-treated NAC (Post-T

NAC) was NAC treatment of the Hsp90 complex and Cp149 dimer together. The H₂O₂ concentration applied to all samples was 200μM and non-T NAC means non-treatment with NAC. Lane 1, capsids formed from Hsp90 complex and Cp149 dimer (control); lane 2, capsids formed from Hsp90 complex and Cp149 dimer with pre-treated H₂O₂; lane 3, capsids formed from Hsp90 complex and Cp149 dimer with pre-treated NAC; lane 4, capsids formed from Hsp90 complex and Cp149 dimer with pre-treated H₂O₂ and pre-treated NAC; lane 5, capsids formed from Hsp90 complex and Cp149 dimer with post-treated NAC; lane 6, capsids formed from Hsp90 complex and Cp149 dimer with pre-treated H₂O₂ and post-treated NAC. All reaction conditions, detection, and analysis for (A) and (B) were the same as those in Fig. 1.

3. GSH inhibits Hsp90-driven HBV capsid assembly.

ROS constitutively induce and activate enzyme glutathione reductase, which produces GSH from GSSG [23]. To test the effect of GSH on Hsp90-driven HBV capsid assembly, we exploited cell-free system. In the reaction of the Hsp90 complex with Cp149, the amount of capsid was decreased by treatment with GSH (Fig. 3A, lane 4). Moreover, with GSH treatment after inhibition of the Hsp90 complex by GA, capsid formation was decreased similarly to capsid formation in the absence of the Hsp90 complex (Fig. 3A, lane 5). Also, BSA (control), Hsp90 complex, and Hsp90 complex with GSH were added to Cp149, and the amount of capsid was assessed over 120 min. In the presence of the Hsp90 complex, GSH treatment resulted in slower capsid formation than only Hsp90-treated capsid formation (Fig. 3B). Moreover, a sucrose density gradient analysis showed that the amount of capsid formed was decreased by GSH with the Hsp90 complex (Fig. 3C-E). Thus, these results show that GSH inhibits the function of Hsp90 in facilitating capsid assembly.

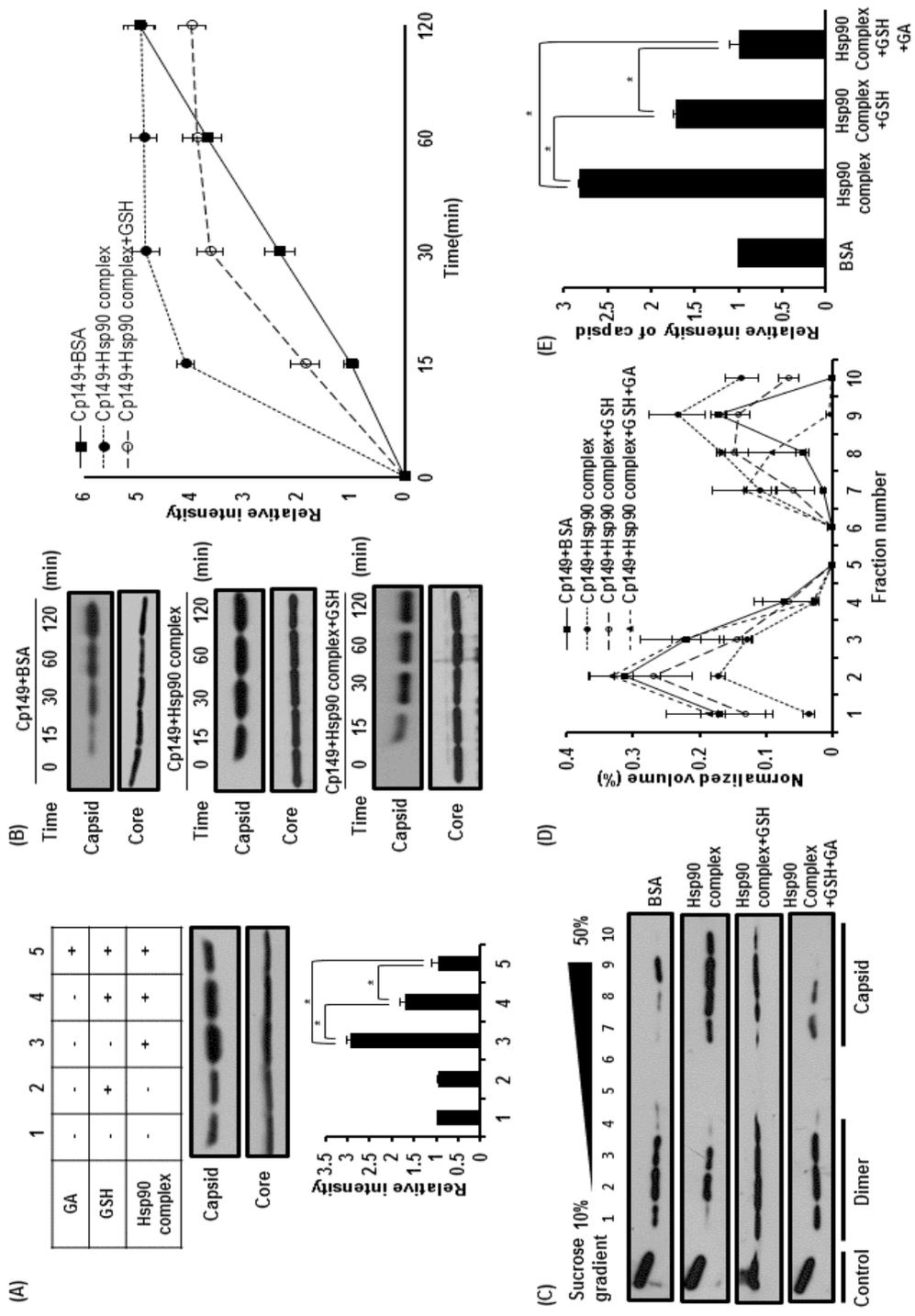


Figure 3. GSH inhibits the function of the Hsp90 complex in facilitating HBV capsid assembly.

(A) 20 μ M Cp149 dimer was independently mixed with the 20 μ M Hsp90 complex, 1mM GSH, and 2 μ M GA, and the assembly reaction was performed with these mixtures for 30 min at 30°C. Capsid without any additive (lane 1) was used as a standard (set to 1).

(B) Capsid formation was monitored for 120 min after addition of 20 μ M BSA, Hsp90 complex, and Hsp90 complex with GSH to the Cp149 dimer. The band intensity for capsids with BSA treatment for 15 min was used as a standard and assigned a value of 1. Samples for (A and B) were analyzed as Fig. 1.

(C) 20 μ M Cp149 dimer was mixed with 20 μ M BSA, Hsp90 complex, Hsp90 complex with 1mM GSH, and GA-treated Hsp90 complex with 1mM GSH independently, and incubated to permit capsid assembly for 30 min at 30°C. With these four samples, a sucrose density analysis was performed. 5% of the total volume of each sample was subjected to immunoblot analysis with an anti-HBV core antibody. (D) The graph shows each band pattern from the fraction of the gel in (C). (E) This graph presents a comparison of each amount of capsid from the sucrose density analysis (fractions 7-10). BSA was used as a control and the amount of capsid after addition of BSA was also given a value of 1.

4. HBV DNA and capsid assembly levels are increased in ROS- and BS-treated HepG2.2.15 cells.

HepG2.2.15 cells derived from HepG2 cells produce HBV particles [24]. To investigate the effect of ROS in HepG2.2.15 cells, HepG2.2.15 cells were treated with an increased concentration of H₂O₂ and *N*-acetyl-L-cysteine (NAC) which is scavenger for H₂O₂. The level of extracellular and intracellular HBV DNA and capsid in HepG2.2.15 cells was increased by increasing concentration of H₂O₂ but not changed in NAC pre-treatment (Fig. 4A and B). Furthermore, examining that Hsp90 played an important role in this effect, HepG2.2.15 cells were treated with GA and/or H₂O₂. The amount of HBV DNA and capsid was decreased in GA and H₂O₂ co-treated HepG2.2.15 cells in addition to only GA-treated HepG2.2.15 cells (Fig. 4C and D). Also, to test the effect of glutathione as an antioxidant on Hsp90 with regard to the amount of HBV genome and capsid in HepG2.2.15 cells, HepG2.2.15 cells were treated with GA and/or BS. Compared with HepG2.2.15 cells without any additive (control), the level of intracellular and extracellular HBV DNA and capsid increased with BS treatment but decreased with GA and BS co-treatment (Fig. 4E and F). Thus, these results indicate that H₂O₂ and GSH contribute to modulation of HBV capsid formation in HepG2.2.15 cells through Hsp90.

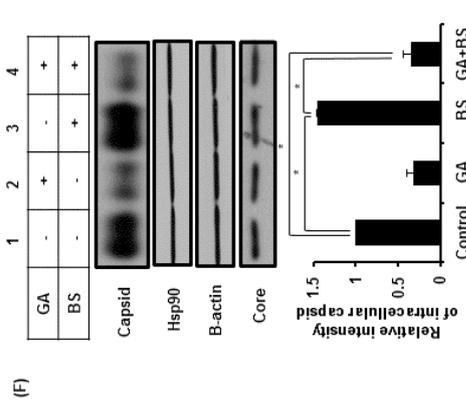
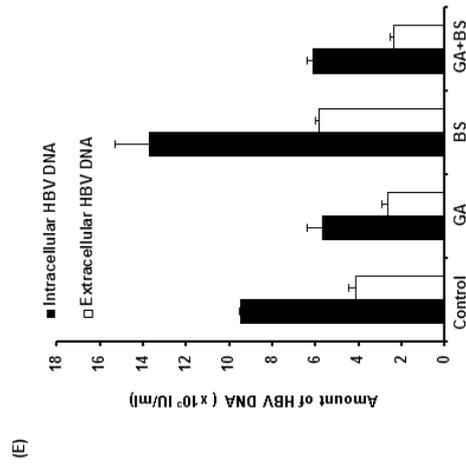
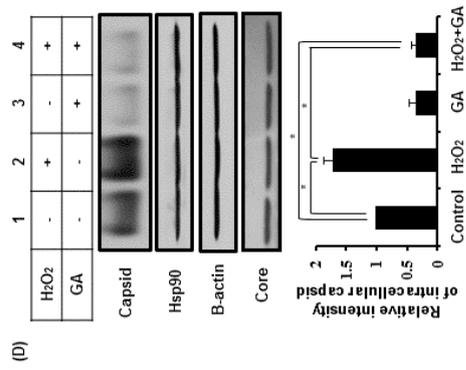
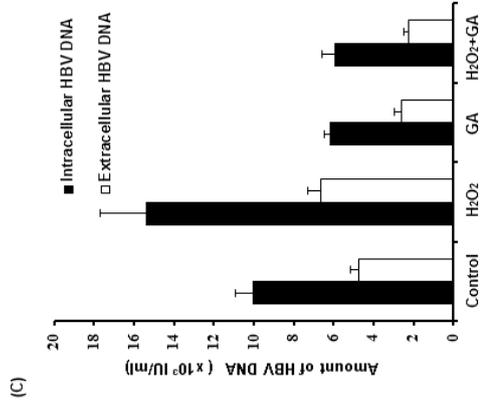
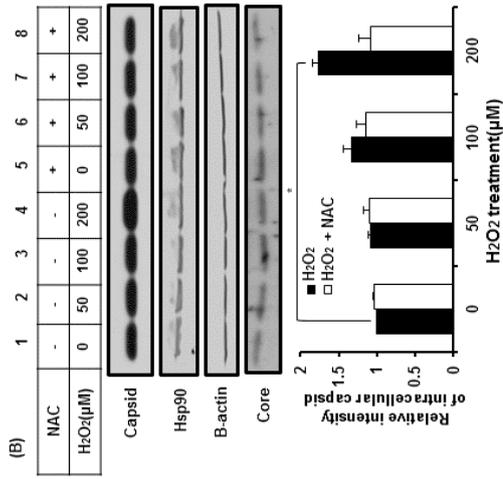
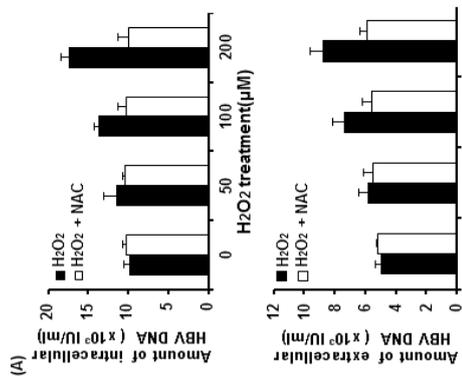


Figure 4. HBV DNA and capsid assembly levels are elevated by BS and increasing concentrations of ROS in HepG2.2.15 cells.

(A) HepG2.2.15 cells were pretreated with 5mM NAC for 1 h before treatment with H₂O₂, and then increasing concentrations of H₂O₂, 50 to 200μM, were applied for 12 h. Intracellular and extracellular HBV DNA were measured by qPCR in HepG2.2.15 cells and media. (B) HepG2.2.15 cells were treated with H₂O₂ and NAC as in (A) and analyzed by 0.9% agarose electrophoresis for HBV capsid detection. (C) HepG2.2.15 cells were treated with 4μM GA and/or 200μM H₂O₂. The cells were pretreated with 4μM GA for 24 h before H₂O₂ treatment, and then 200μM H₂O₂ were treated in the cells for 12 h. Intracellular and extracellular HBV DNA levels were quantified by qPCR. (D) The same conditions as in (C) were applied to HepG2.2.15 cells and analyzed by immunoblotting of a 0.9% agarose gel for capsids (E) HepG2.2.15 cells were treated with 4μM GA and/or 30μM BS for 24 h, and extracellular and intracellular HBV DNA levels were measured by qPCR. (F) 4μM GA and/or 30μM BS was applied to HepG2.2.15 cells for 24 h, and HBV capsids were analyzed in a 0.9% native agarose gel using immunoblot analysis. Hsp90, β-actin, and core protein in Fig.4 were detected by immunoblot analysis after separation by 12% SDS-PAGE. B-actin was used as a control.

5. ROS and GSH induce conformation change of Hsp90 complex.

To demonstrate the conformation change of the Hsp90 complex by H₂O₂ and GSH, the conformations of the Hsp90 complex were examined by CD analysis. The Hsp90 complex showed spectra typical of helix-containing proteins, with a negative peak at 208 nm and 220 nm and a positive peak at 195 nm (Fig. 5A and B, trace A) [25]. H₂O₂ treatment of the Hsp90 complex resulted in a slight change in shape of the spectrum with a 10% decreased α -helix ratio (Fig. 5A and Table. 1). This spectral pattern for the conformation change was similar to that in a previous study showing conformation changes in Hsp90 caused by ATP [26]. Moreover, we observed that GSH treatment increased the ratio of the α -helix by 16.1% in the Hsp90 complex (Fig. 5B and Table. 1). To investigate the effect of H₂O₂ and GSH on Hsp90-driven capsid stability, we examined the change of CD spectrum in 220nm with increasing temperature, 20°C to 95°C. Among the capsid with non-, GSH-, and H₂O₂-treated Hsp90 complex, capsid with H₂O₂-treated Hsp90 complex started to denature at the highest temperature, and a T_m value for capsid with H₂O₂-treated Hsp90 complex was the highest (Fig. 5C and Table. 2). These results suggest that H₂O₂ induces the conformation change in the Hsp90 complex and finally resulted in the increased stability of the capsid.

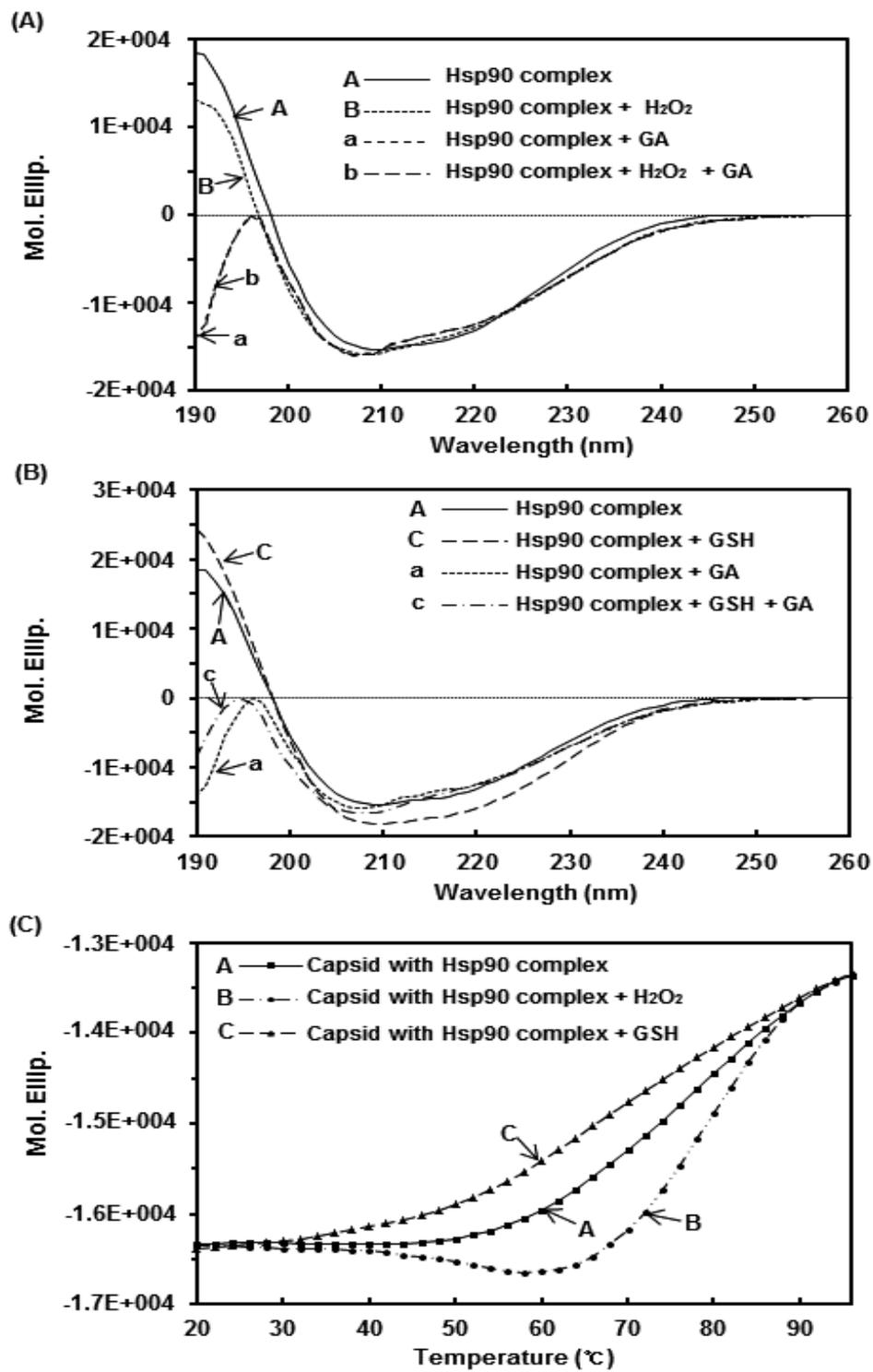


Figure 5. Conformation of Hsp90 complex is changed by ROS and GSH.

(A) All the samples were analyzed by CD in 20mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5 with Hsp90 complex with 200 μ M H₂O₂ and/or 2 μ M GA. Spectra were obtained using a 1 nm bandwidth, a scan rate of 50 nm/min, and a response time of 1 s. Trace A, Hsp90 complex alone; trace B, H₂O₂-treated Hsp90 complex; trace a, GA-treated Hsp90 complex; trace b, GA-treated Hsp90 complex with H₂O₂. (B) All condition for analysis was the same with (A). Trace A, Hsp90 complex alone; trace C, 1mM GSH-treated Hsp90 complex; trace a, GA-treated Hsp90 complex; trace c, GA-treated Hsp90 complex with 1mM GSH. The ratio of secondary structure in the Hsp90 complex was shown in Table 1. (C) Changes in molar ellipticity of capsid with H₂O₂-treated, GSH-treated and non-treated Hsp90 complex with elevating temperature in 220nm. CD spectra of samples were recorded as temperature was increased. All samples were subjected to heat treatment in 20mM Tris-HCl pH7.5 in 20°C to 95°C. Spectra were obtained using a 1 nm bandwidth, a temperature slope of 5°C/min, and a response time of 1 s. The values of T_m are listed in Table 2.

Table. 1. Estimation of secondary structure in Hsp90 complex

Reaction Components	A-helix (%)	B-sheet (%)	Turn (%)	Random (%)
Hsp90 complex	15.5	44.5	3.7	36.3
Hsp90 complex + H ₂ O ₂	14.1	41.6	6.3	38
Hsp90 complex + GA	11	42	15.4	31.6
Hsp90 complex + GA + H ₂ O ₂	11	42.1	15.4	31.5
Hsp90 complex + GSH	18	40.6	3.7	37.7
Hsp90 complex + GA + GSH	9.5	47.2	10.7	32.7

A result of CD analysis in Fig 5 A and B was used for estimation of secondary structure in Hsp90 complex in SSE software program. A ratio of α -helix, β -sheet, turn, and random coil was measured and the sum of each ratio for one sample is 100%.

Table. 2. Calculation of Tm values

Reaction Components	Tm (°C)
(A) Cp149+Hsp90 complex	68.98±0.261628
(B) Cp149+Hsp90 complex + H ₂ O ₂	74.42±0.419307
(C) Cp149+Hsp90 complex + GSH	59.18±0.153448

Tm Values for capsid with only Hsp90 complex, H₂O₂-treated Hsp90 complex, and GSH-treated Hsp90 complex were measured for Fig. 5C in denatured protein analysis version 1.01A software program. Tm, midpoint of the thermal transition

Discussion

In HBV capsid assembly, we discovered an effect of H₂O₂ on the Hsp90 complex for HBV capsid assembly, which was increased by 67%, 71% in cell-free system in addition to cell culture system respectively (Fig. 1 and 4). However, capsid assembly was not increased by H₂O₂ in the Hsp90 complex treated by GA, which induces conformation change of Hsp90 leading to catalytically inactive form [27]. This result suggests that the only active form of Hsp90 contributes to the increase in capsid formation by H₂O₂. In addition, previous study demonstrated that a decrease of HBV particle by GA in HepG2.2.15 cells was derived from the result of inhibition of HBV capsid formation [9]. Therefore a decrease of HBV capsid formation by GA with H₂O₂ means that H₂O₂ facilitates HBV capsid formation via Hsp90. Together with a previous study showing that Hsp90 interacted with the HBV core protein and HBV Pol [9,28,29], extensive research is necessary to understand the process of HBV replication by H₂O₂ via Hsp90.

Virus infection is associated with GSH and ROS. Previous studies have shown that cultured cells infected with Sendai virus, HIV, influenza virus, or HCV have decreased intracellular GSH levels, resulting in increasing ROS levels [3,30,31,32,33]. Our results showed that GSH decreased HBV capsid assembly by 42% (Fig. 3). Moreover, in HepG2.2.15 cells, HBV capsid assembly was increased by 44% after BS treatment but decreased by 66% after treatment with both BS and GA (Fig. 4). This result indicates that GSH contributes to reduced production of HBV particles through Hsp90. Previous report showed that GSH levels were significantly low from HBV infection at the beginning of the disease [34]. Low GSH and high ROS level following HBV infection may cause to facilitate HBV capsid assembly. Therefore, we suggest that HBV capsid assembly is dependent on cellular redox state.

H₂O₂ oxidizes cysteine sulfhydryl groups to several oxidized forms such as disulfide bonds [19] and GSH reduces disulfide bonds as an electron donor [19,35,36]. Therefore, we assumed that H₂O₂ and GSH induced conformation changes in the Hsp90 complex. CD analysis data showed that GA treatment induced a decrease in the ratio of α -helices of the Hsp90 complex as H₂O₂ treatment (Fig. 5), indicating that H₂O₂ might induce conformation changes of the Hsp90 complex in favor of capsid assembly with stability regardless of a variation of the ratio of α -helices for that. Thus, we suggest that changes of disulfide formation on the Hsp90 complex may lead to the increase or decrease of HBV capsid assembly.

Our findings have a practical ramification for the better understanding of improved production of HBV by ROS. When taken together, our results demonstrated that a cooperative effect of ROS and Hsp90 through ROS-induced Hsp90 conformation change is a critical event during the process of HBV production. Given that capsid assembly is crucial for completion of the HBV life cycle, an increase of HBV capsid assembly by ROS is important for virus production. Furthermore, our findings also show repressive effect of HBV capsid assembly caused by antioxidant, GSH. Further studies are needed to understand how the ROS-Hsp90 partnership are related to the development of HCC, and testing compounds that block ROS production may be a novel approach for minimizing the generation of HBV particles.

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국문초록

B형 간염 바이러스는 활성산소를 생성하고, 간암발전과 밀접한 관련이 있다. 축적된 활성산소는 비정상적인 세포를 증식시키고 염색체 변이를 유도하기 때문에 간암으로의 진행에 있어서 중요한 요소이다. 이러한 산화적 스트레스에서, 열 충격 단백질90 과 글루타치온은 산화적 환경으로부터 세포의 방어기작을 담당한다. 열 충격 단백질90은 산화적 스트레스 환경에서 세포의 구성성분들을 보호하고, 글루타치온은 활성산소를 제거하는 항산화물질로서의 역할을 한다. 하지만 산화적 스트레스와 관련된 이러한 분자들이 B형 간염 바이러스의 캡시드 조립과 연관되어 있는지는 아직까지 알려진 바가 없다. 캡시드 조립은 B형 간염 바이러스 입자 패키징에 중요한데, 열 충격 단백질90이 B형 간염 바이러스의 캡시드 조립을 촉진시킨다는 이전연구결과를 근거로 하여, 우리는 활성산소가 열 충격 단백질90을 통해 캡시드 조립을 더욱 촉진시킨다는 사실을 증명하였다. Cell-free 시스템에서, 활성산소는 열 충격 단백질90과 함께 B형 간염 바이러스의 캡시드 형성을 촉진시키지만, 열 충격 단백질90이 없을 때에는 캡시드 형성을 감소시켰다. 게다가 글루타치온은 열 충격 단백질90의 기능을 억제하여 B형 간염 바이러스의 캡시드 조립을 감소시켰다. Cell-free 시스

템에서의 결과와 마찬가지로, 활성산소와 글루타치온의 억제물질인 buthionine sulfoximine (BS)는 HepG2.2.15세포에서 B형 간염 바이러스의 캡시드 형성을 증가시켰다. 이와 같이 우리는 B형 간염 바이러스의 캡시드가 조립되는 동안 활성산소와 열 충격 단백질90은 상호작용을 한다는 사실을 밝혔다.

주요어: B형 간염 바이러스, 캡시드 조립, 끝을 자른 코어 149 단백질, 활성산소, 열 충격 단백질90, 글루타치온

학번: 2012-23060