

Ameliorating Effect of Osteopontin on H₂O₂-Induced Apoptosis of Human Oligodendrocyte Progenitor Cells

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Abstract Recently our group used oligodendrocyte progenitor cells (OPCs) as appropriate model cells to pinpoint the mechanism of the progress of neurodegenerative disorders. In the present study, we focused on the therapeutic role of osteopontin (OPN), a secreted glycosylated phosphoprotein, involved in a number of physiological events including bone formation and remodeling, immune responses, and tumor progression. Protective role of OPN, as a negative regulator of tumorigenesis, has already been clarified. Human embryonic stem cell-derived OPCs were pretreated with OPN before induction of apoptosis by H₂O₂. Data indicated that OPN prohibited cell death and enhanced OPC viability. This effect is achieved through reduction of apoptosis and induction of anti-apoptosis markers. In addition OPN induces expression of several integrin subunits, responsible for OPN interaction. Notably, our findings showed that expression of α V β 1/ β 3/ β 5 and β 8 integrins increased in response to OPN, while treatment with H₂O₂ down-regulated α V β 1/ β 5 and β 8 integrins expression significantly. In conclusion, OPN may act via α V integrin signaling and

trigger suppression of P53-dependent apoptotic cascades. Therefore OPN therapy may be considered as a feasible process to prevent progress of neurodegenerative diseases in human.

Keywords OPC · OPN · H₂O₂ · Apoptosis

Abbreviations

ANOVA	One-way analysis of variance
bFGF	Basic fibroblast growth factor
CNS	Central nervous system
EBs	Embryoid bodies
ECM	Extracellular matrix
EGF	Epidermal growth factor
FITC	Fluorescein isothiocyanate
hESC	Human embryonic stem cell
Lam	Laminin
MBP	Myelin basic protein
MS	Multiple sclerosis
OLs	Oligodendrocytes
OPCs	Oligodendrocyte progenitor cells
OPN	Osteopontin
PBS	Phosphate-buffered saline
PDGF	Platelet-derived growth factor
PLL	Poly-L-laminin
RA	Retinoic acid
RGD	Arg–Gly–Asp
ROS	Reactive oxygen species
RT-qPCR	Real-time quantitative PCR
SEM	Standard error of mean
TRITC	Tetramethyl rhodamine isothiocyanate

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Introduction

In nervous system, axons are insulated by myelin sheaths for efficient transduction of electrical impulses (Miron et al. 2011). Therefore, any destruction in myelin sheaths generates severe conditions termed myelopathies. Inflammatory responses are major pathogenic causes which play significant roles in the progress of myelin degeneration diseases (Glass et al. 2010). Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a chronic autoimmune disease which is associated with inflammation, demyelination, and axon collapse, in which repetitive inflammatory attacks to the myelin sheath give rises to neuron degeneration, and gradually results in sclerotic plaques in central nervous system (CNS) (Dhib-Jalbut 2007). Inversely, remyelination is a natural recovery process by which demyelinated axons are reinvested with new myelin sheaths. Remyelination is a complicated process in CNS, mediated by OPCs which migrate into the lesion sites and proliferate, then subsequently differentiate into mature oligodendrocytes (OLs). Therefore, a significant interaction between OPCs and axonal tracts of neurons is crucial for the completion of successful remyelination (Watzlawik et al. 2010; Stangel and Hartung 2002; Buchet and Baron-Van Evercooren 2009).

Evidence has indicated the involvement of reactive oxygen species (ROS) such as hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) in pathogenesis of MS lesions. H_2O_2 is a by-product of inflammatory responses of macrophage, triggers myelin degradation, hence causes apoptosis of OPCs and OLs leading to neuronal and axonal damage (Wittmann et al. 2012; Baud et al. 2004). Despite exclusive background studies on process of remyelination, the molecular mechanism underlying OPCs biology and survival is still unclear. Understanding of these key processes may have a great value for designing new therapeutics approaches for demyelinating diseases.

In the past few years, extensive studies have implicated that several signaling pathways specifically, integrin signaling has been linked to OPCs survival and is responsible for OPC-mediated remyelination (O'Meara et al. 2010; Milner and Ffrench-Constant 1994; Zhao et al. 2009; Scatena et al. 1998). The cell fate decision is directed by components of the extracellular matrix (ECM) (Sorokin 2010). Hence, functional interaction between cell adhesion receptors expressed by OPCs and ECM is crucial for anti-apoptotic pathways that preserve cell viability in response to apoptosis-induced oxidative stress by H_2O_2 that activates the intrinsic death pathway and leads to the transcriptional activity of p53. Most important adhesion receptors play a major role in signaling pathways. Among them, integrins are important as they trigger the expression and activity of several members of Bcl-2 family proteins and govern inhibition of p53-dependent apoptotic pathways (Sorokin 2010; Mouzannar et al. 2001; Hirrlinger et al. 2002; Kanduc et al. 2002; Polager and Ginsberg 2009).

Integrin receptors are heterodimeric membrane proteins containing α and β subunits. Mammalian cell contains eighteen types of α and β subunits. Combination of one α subunit with one β subunit makes 24 different types of integrin receptors. Upon binding of ECM ligands to integrins, assembling of the integrin cytoplasmic domains occurs which induces migration, proliferation, and cell survival, for remyelination. OPCs express αv subunit of integrin in a complex with β subunit no. 1, 3, 5, and 8 in a specific set of developmentally regulated pattern depending on the stage of cellular differentiation. These cells also express $\alpha 6$ subunit. It is demonstrated that α subunits specify integrin complexes to specific ECM components (O'Meara et al. 2010; Milner and Ffrench-Constant 1994; Zhao et al. 2009). For example, αv subunits specify integrin attachment to Arg–Gly–Asp (RGD) sequence—containing ligands such as Osteopontin (OPN) (Sodek et al. 2000). Osteopontin is a matricellular class of phosphorylated acidic glycoprotein that has several pleiotropic functions in physiological events, including inflammatory responses (Denhardt et al. 2001). Previous studies have indicated that OPN is one of the five most abundant transcripts, which is expressed extensively in MS lesions (Hur et al. 2007). However, the detailed roles of the protein in CNS remain unclear. In vivo studies for evaluation of OPN expression showed that OPN is secreted by astrocytes and microglial cells during demyelination, suggesting a novel stimulator role for OPN in promoting myelination and demyelination. Therefore, this factor enhances the expression of myelin basic protein (MBP) and increases myelin membrane formation, as well as differentiation and migration of OPCs (Zhao et al. 2008; Selvaraju et al. 2004; Merrill et al. 2003). OPN interacts with integrins αv ($\beta 1$, $\beta 3$, or $\beta 5$) and ($\alpha 4$, $\alpha 5$, $\alpha 8$, or $\alpha 9$) $\beta 1$ and induces specific integrin signaling in cell. Several studies have demonstrated that OPN delivers a pro-survival, anti-apoptotic signal to the cell. Further researches have indicated significant up-regulation of αv integrin expression during remyelination, strongly suggesting a significant role for αv integrins in regeneration of nervous tissues (Geissinger et al. 2002; Schordan et al. 2011; Song et al. 2008; Burdo et al. 2007; Behera et al. 2009). Accordingly, the aim of this study was to assess whether OPN plays a specific role in scavenging pathways in response to H_2O_2 -induced apoptotic OPCs.

Materials and Methods

Ethical Standards

Permission to study human cell line was approved by the Royan institute ethics committee and therefore was performed in accordance with the ethical standards laid down in the 1964 Declaration of Helsinki and its later amendments.

Human Embryonic Stem Cell (hESC) Culture and Differentiation into Oligodendrocyte Lineage Cells

Royan H6 hESCs line was used in this study. This cell line was acquired from Department of Stem Cells and Developmental Biology at Cell Science Research Center (Royan Institute for Stem Cell Biology and Technology, Tehran, Iran) as described (Peymani et al. 2017; Pouya et al. 2011). Cells were cultured in GRM medium including DMEM/F12 supplemented with 2% (v/v) B27, 1% (v/v) N2, platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF) (Sigma, P3076), and epidermal growth factor (EGF, 20 ng/mL; Sigma) (Peymani et al. 2017), E9644. Differentiation procedure into OPCs and OLs lineage cells (Fig. 1) was started according to the previous protocol (Peymani et al. 2017; Pouya et al. 2011).

H₂O₂ Treatment

Differentiated OPCs were seeded in 96-well tissue culture plate which had been coated with matrigel (Sigma-Aldrich, E1270) and incubated at 37 °C overnight to allow cell adherence. Then, cells were treated with H₂O₂ in a serial concentration at 100, 200, 400, 800, 1600, and 3200 μM. One day after treatment, cell survival assay was performed. Finally, a concentration of 3200 μM was selected as optimal amount of H₂O₂ capable to decrease 50% of OPCs survival.

To examine the preservative effects of OPN, matrigel-coated culture plates were coated again with a serial concentration of recombinant OPN (R&D Systems) in a range of 12.5, 50, 100, and 200 ng/mL for 1 h at 4 °C prior to cell seeding. Oxidative stress was induced by addition of H₂O₂ (3200 μM). Next day, cell viability assay was

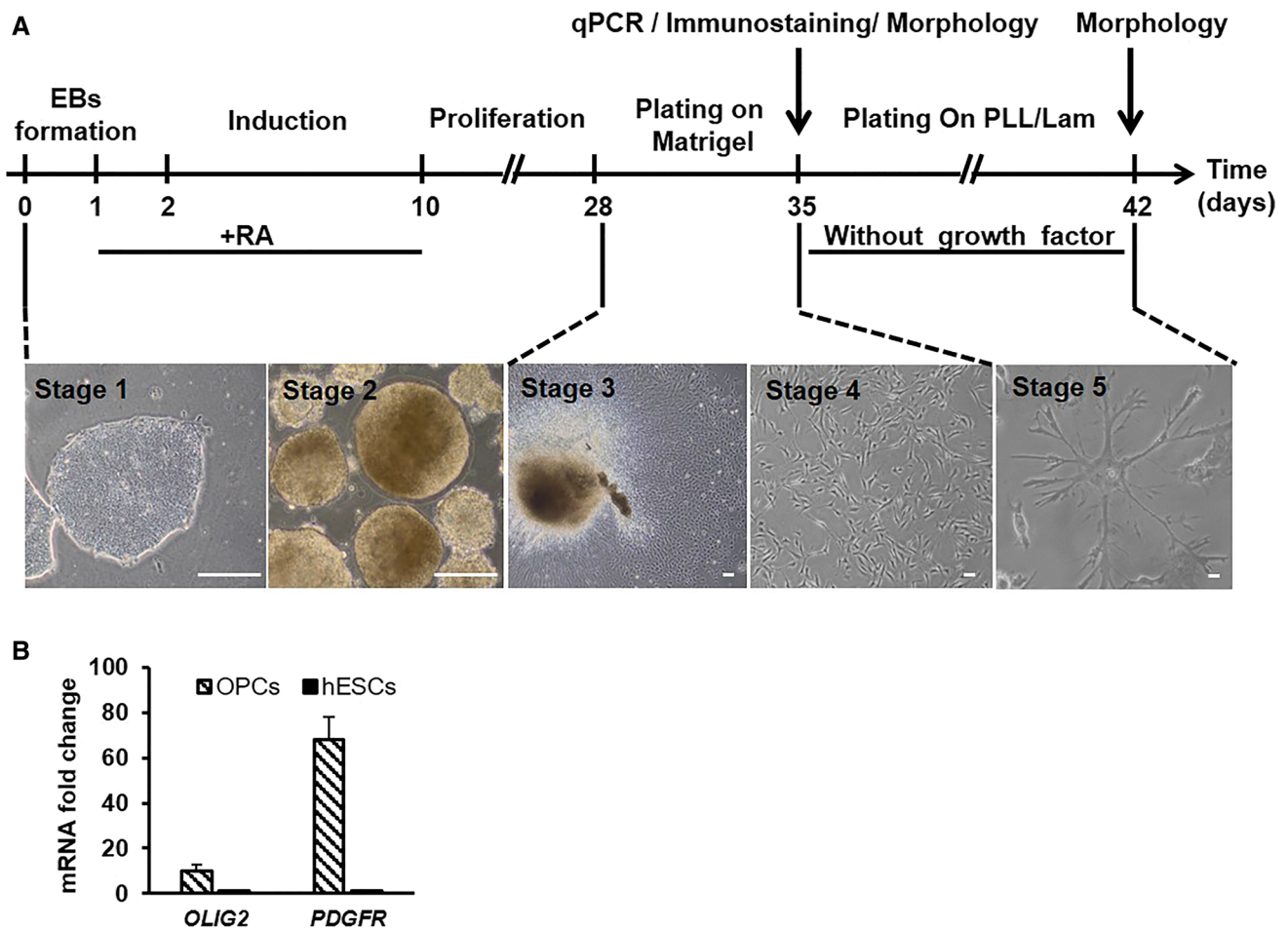


Fig. 1 Schematic representation of hESCs differentiation to OPCs. **a** HESCs were cultured in specific medium to produce EBs (stage 1). EBs were treated with a cocktail of EGF and RA for neural differentiation (stage 2) and gradually the size of the EBs increased (stage 3). EBs were plated again on matrigel in the presence of EGF to generate OPCs as described earlier (stage 4) (Peymani et al. 2017). Finally cells displayed oligodendroglial morphology (stage 5). **b** Express-

sion level of OPCs markers, *PDGFR* and *OLIG2* were assessed both in OPCs and hESCs (RH6 cell line). As shown there was a sharp increase in *OLIG2* and *PDGFR* in OPCs with respect to the hESCs. All relative expressions were quantified and normalized with *GAPDH* transcript level. Represented value bars are the mean of triplicate independent experiments \pm SEM. Bar is 100 μm

carried out to find effective concentration of OPN to preserve the cell viability. As the most effective concentration of OPN was 12.5 ng/mL, this concentration was used for the rest of experiments.

Cell Survival Assay

One day after treatment, cell viability was measured by a colorimetric assay using MTS assay as described (Peymani et al. 2017).

Caspase Activity Assay

Caspase activation was measured with Caspa-Tag™ Caspase-3/7 In Situ Assay Kit, Fluorescein (APT403, Millipore) according to the manufacturer's protocol. Briefly, 24 h after treatment, cells were transferred to sterile tubes and incubated with FLICA reagent as permeable irreversible caspase inhibitor in darkness. One hour after incubation, cells were washed twice and incubated with PI solution. Cellular viability was assessed by FACS Caliber flow cytometer (BD Biosciences), and data were processed according to ModFit LT version 4.0 program as reported previously (Kajabadi et al. 2015).

RNA Isolation and Real-Time Quantitative PCR (RT-qPCR)

RNA isolation and cDNA production was carried out as described (Peymani et al. 2017). Expression of integrin subunits α_v and $\beta/1/3/5/8$ at three stages of the oligodendrocyte differentiation was quantified by RT-qPCR as well as several apoptotic genes including *P53*, *BCL-2*, *BCL-XL*, *BAX*, and *BID* using specific primers (Table 1).

Statistical Analysis

Microsoft Excel (2010) and SPSS software were used to express data as mean \pm SEM (standard error of mean) from three independent replicated observations. One-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) was performed to identify statistical differences among data at the level of $p < 0.05$.

Results

Differentiation and Characterization of hESCs into OPCs and OLs

Figure 1a illustrates the schematic representation of the differentiation procedure and the morphology of cells at different stages. According to the protocol that reported previously (Peymani et al. 2017; Pouya et al. 2011), hESCs

Table 1 Primer list

Gene	Primer sequence (5'–3') F: forward and R: reverse	Annealing temperature (°C)	Length of product (bp)
<i>GAPDH</i>	F: CCACTCCTCCACCTTTGACG R: CCACCACCTGTTGCTGTAG	60	170
α_v integrin	F: ATCGTTTCCATTCCACTGC R: GGGTTTCCAAGGTCACATAC	60	128
$\beta1$ integrin	F: GTAGCAAAGGAACAGCAGAG R: GTAGTAGAGGTCAATGGGATAG	60	150
$\beta3$ integrin	F: TCCATAGCACCTCCACATACC R: GCACTTATTCCCAGCCAACTC	60	134
$\beta5$ integrin	F: ATTGGCTGGCGAAAGGATG R: CAAGGCAAGGGATGGATAGTC	60	177
$\beta8$ integrin	F: TTTTCTCCCCTGACTTTTCG R: CCTCCTTCTGGTGTATCTATG	58	232
<i>BID</i>	F: GCCTTCATATCATCCACAC R: CTGCTGTAAGACCATCCT'	54	196
<i>BAX</i>	F: CGCCCTTTTCTACTTTGC R: CGGAGGAAGTCCAATGTC	57	102
<i>BCL2</i>	F: GGAGAGTGCTGAAGATTGATG R: AGTCTACTTCTCTGTGATGTTG	60	122
<i>BCLXL</i>	F: CCCTTCCTTCCATCCCTAC' R: TAGCCAGTCCAGAGGTGAG	60	120
<i>P53</i>	F: GCTGGTTAGGTAGAGGGAGTTG R: GTGTGGGATGGGGTGAGATTC	64	110

were passaged at start point and cultured to form EBs (Stage 1). At the next stage, the induction of neuroglial differentiation was performed by treating with retinoic acid (RA; Sigma) for nine days (Stage 2). This process results in the appearance of yellow spheres. Cellular proliferation step started after removal of RA, and yellow spheres were cultured in EGF supplemented GRM with for next 18 days. In this stage, the size of EBs increased (Stage 3). On day 28 from the starting point, free-floating spheres were plated on matrigel followed by adherence of EBs. The differentiated cells started to migrate outward from the plated spheres and were proliferated in the culture. Morphology of these cells was similar to immature bipolar and multipolar OPCs (Stage 4). To estimate OLs maturation, EGF was removed from the medium and cells were re-plated on poly-L-laminin (PLL)/Lam (laminin) substrate for three weeks. Ultimately, plated cells displayed oligodendroglial morphology (stage 5) (Fig. 1a). Differentiated bipolar cells obtained from stage 4 were analyzed by immunofluorescence staining for expression of typical markers of OPCs. As previously described, expression of the OPCs markers, A2B5 and PDGFR α , was evident in the cell while no GFAP-positive cell was detected. Also myelination was observed in OLs (Peymani et al. 2017; Pouya et al. 2011). Additionally, RT-qPCR for *OLIG2* and *PDGFR* confirmed the recent data obtained by immunostaining (Fig. 1b). Data confirmed appropriate OPCs induction in this study.

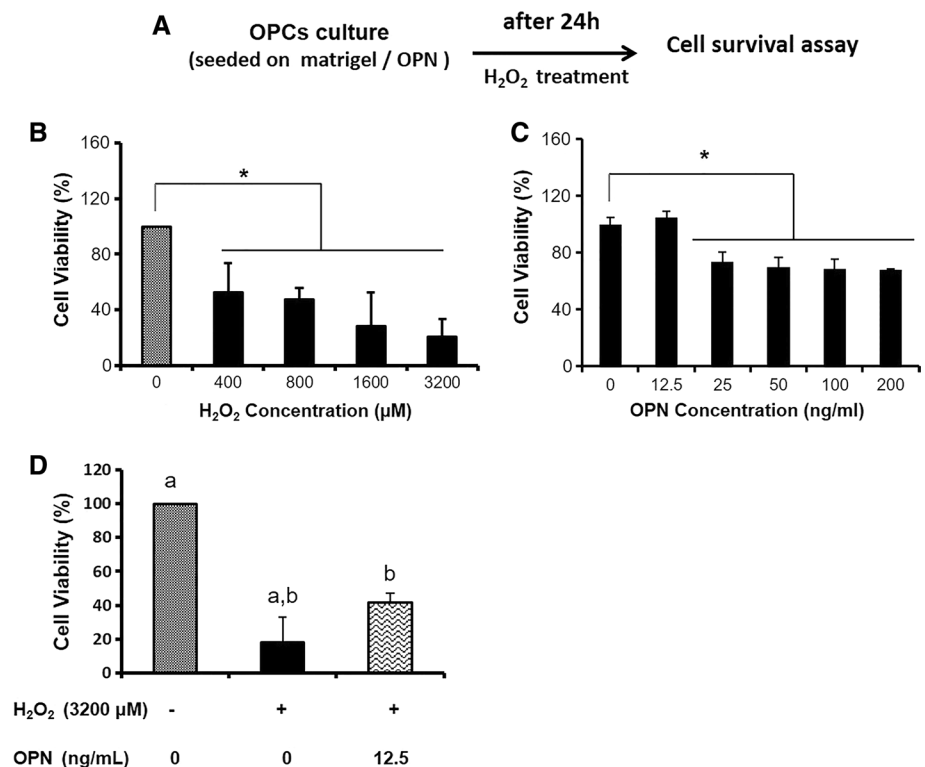
Preservative Effects of OPN on Survival of H₂O₂ Treated OPCs

Initially, cells were treated with different concentrations of H₂O₂ as depicted in Fig. 2a. MTS assay showed that H₂O₂ induced a dose-dependent decrease in OPCs viability. Maximal effect of H₂O₂ on cell survival was achieved at 3200 μ M of H₂O₂ (Fig. 2b). This concentration of H₂O₂ was repeated in the rest of experiments. Next, cells were pretreated with a several OPN concentrations prior to H₂O₂ exposure to avoid toxicological concentrations of OPN. Results indicated that OPN had no significant cytotoxicity effects on cells when used at concentration of 12.5 ng/mL. (Fig. 2c). This concentration of OPN prevented cytotoxicity of H₂O₂ (approximately 25% with respect to concentration of 0 ng/mL of OPN) (Fig. 2d). Therefore, 12.5 ng/mL of OPN was used for the rest of the experiments.

Effects of OPN on H₂O₂-Induced Caspase Activation in OPCs

Caspase activation is considered as an important event in induction of apoptotic pathways (Kanduc et al. 2002). Therefore, caspase activity assay was performed to indicate whether OPN (12.5 ng/mL) prevented caspase activation of H₂O₂ (3200 μ M)-induced apoptosis. As shown in Fig. 4, activity of caspase 3 was low in untreated OPCs (approximately 14%) while H₂O₂ treatment induced this activity

Fig. 2 H₂O₂ modulated viability of OPCs. **a** A schematic diagram of cell pretreatment with OPN prevented the cell toxicity effect of H₂O₂. **b** OPCs were treated with H₂O₂, 24 h before cell number assay. As evident, maximal effect of H₂O₂ on cell survival was achieved at 3200 μ M. **c** Cells were pretreated with a several OPN concentrations prior to H₂O₂. As shown OPN had no significant cytotoxicity effects on cells when was used at a concentration of 12.5 ng/mL. **d** OPN enhanced the survival rate of H₂O₂-treated OPCs. As evident, 12.5 ng/mL concentrations of OPN reversed the cytotoxic effect H₂O₂ (3200 μ M). Represented value bars are the mean of triplicate independent experiments \pm SEM. Similar alphabets indicate significant difference between the same samples at $p < 0.05$



significantly (approximately 92%). Interestingly, OPN pretreatment remarkably decreased the rate of caspase 3 activation near to 58% (Fig. 3).

OPN Protected Cells from H₂O₂-Induced Apoptosis via Modulation Apoptotic Genes

Since H₂O₂ is one of the inducers of P53-dependent apoptosis (Mouzannar et al. 2001), we evaluated the expression level of P53 in OPCs culture. Results revealed increased transcript level of P53 in H₂O₂ (3200 μM)-treated OPCs, whereas OPN (12.5 ng/mL) reversed this up-regulation (Fig. 5). Previous studies indicated once P53 was activated; it regulates the expression level of Bcl-2 family members (pro-apoptotic and anti-apoptotic genes) (Mouzannar et al. 2001). Here, we demonstrated increased expression levels of pro-apoptotic genes (*BAX* and *BID*) in H₂O₂-treated OPCs, whereas OPN significantly decreased the expression level of anti-apoptotic genes. In contrast, transcript levels of *BCL-2* and *BCL-XL* (anti-apoptotic genes) were suppressed remarkably upon H₂O₂ treatment and increased by OPN pretreatment (Fig. 4).

Expression Analysis of αv, β1-, β3-, β5-, and β8- Integrins During Differentiation of hESCs to OPCs and OLs

RT-qPCR was performed to evaluate transcript levels of OPN interacting integrins in hESCs, OPCs, and OLs. Data revealed that expression levels of αv have no significant change in hESCs vs OPCs, but up-regulated considerably in OLs. Expression pattern analysis of β1 and β8 showed an increasing trend during differentiation of hESCs into OPCs

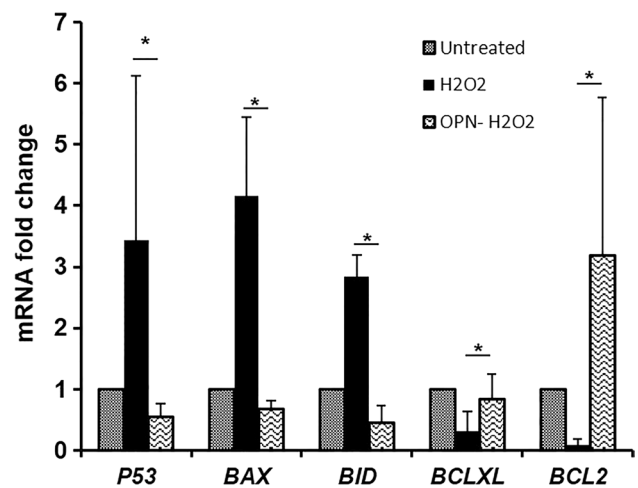


Fig. 4 OPN modulated apoptotic regulator markers in H₂O₂-treated OPCs. The expression level of pro-apoptotic genes (*BAX* and *BID*), *BCL-2* and *BCL-XL* (anti-apoptotic genes), and *P53* was checked. As indicated, H₂O₂ increased *P53*, *BAX*, and *BID* transcript levels significantly. On the other hand, transcript level of *BCL-2* and *BCL-XL* decreased. Pretreatment with OPN modulate expression levels of these genes when samples were treated with H₂O₂. In this experiment 12.5 ng/mL of OPN was implemented. The concentration of H₂O₂ was 3200 μM. Star indicates significant difference between samples at $p < 0.05$

and OLs, while β3 has significant change in hESCs vs OPCs and down-regulated considerably in OLs (Fig. 5).

Modulation in Transcript Levels of αv-, β1-, β3-, β5-, and β8- Integrins Upon H₂O₂-Induced Apoptosis in the Presence and Absence of OPN

OPN is an ECM ligand which exerts its function through interacting with integrins (Denhardt et al. 2001). To

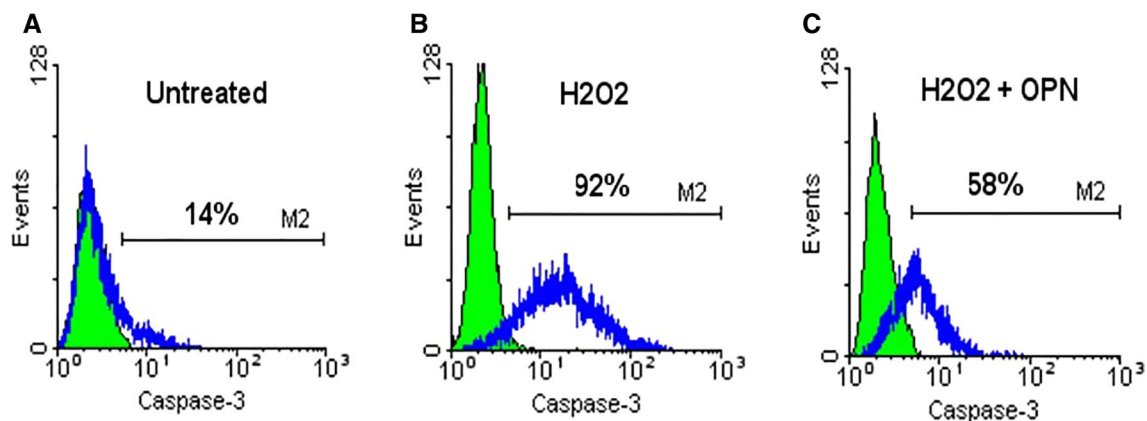


Fig. 3 Flow cytometry assessments indicated that OPN prevented inductive effects of H₂O₂ mediated induced caspase activation. Caspase activity assay in untreated cells (a) was compared with treated OPCs with H₂O₂ (3200 μM) in ± OPN (12.5 ng/mL) (b, c). As

shown, activity of caspase 3 was low in untreated OPCs (approximately 14%, a), while H₂O₂ treatment induced this activity significantly (approximately 92%, b). Interestingly, OPN pretreatment remarkably decreased the rate of caspase 3 activation near to 58% (c)

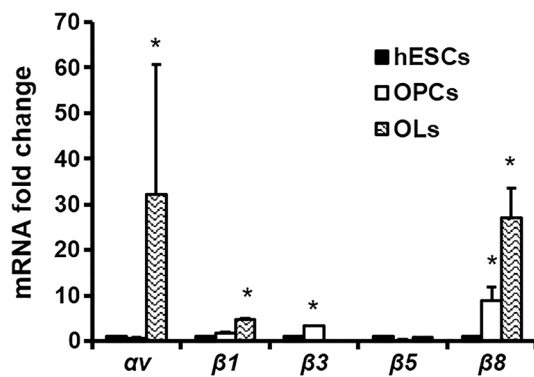


Fig. 5 Expression analysis of αv , $\beta 1$ -, $\beta 3$ -, $\beta 5$ -, and $\beta 8$ - integrins during differentiation of hESCs to OPCs and OLs. RT-qPCR was performed to evaluate transcript levels of OPN interacting integrins in hESCs, OPCs, and OLs. Data revealed that expression level of αv has no significant change in hESCs versus OPCs but, it up-regulated considerably in OLs. Expression pattern analysis of $\beta 1$ and $\beta 8$, showed an increasing trend during differentiation of hESCs into OPCs and OLs. All relative expressions were quantified and normalized with *GAPDH* transcript level. Represented value bars are the mean of triplicate independent experiments \pm SEM. Star indicates significant difference between samples at $p < 0.05$

elucidate whether the expression of OPN interacting integrins (αv -, $\beta 1$ -, $\beta 3$ -, $\beta 5$ -, and $\beta 8$) modulate with H_2O_2 treatment, this experiment was performed. Data indicated that OPN treatment induced expression of αv -, $\beta 1$ -, $\beta 3$ -, and $\beta 8$ -integrins, except $\beta 5$ (Fig. 6a). Moreover, H_2O_2 treatment reduced the expression levels of αv -, $\beta 1$ -, $\beta 5$ -, and $\beta 8$ -. Interestingly, this significant reduction was suppressed when cells were pretreated with OPN except for the case of $\beta 5$ (Fig. 6b).

Discussion

OPN is a secretory glycosylated phosphoprotein, involved in a number of physiological events including bone formation and remodeling, immune responses, and tumor progression. The protective function of OPN, as a negative regulator of tumorigenesis, was already investigated which acts through inactivation of caspase 8 (Kim et al. 2009). Recent studies have revealed that increasing of OPN expression contributes to anti-apoptotic effects through expression or activity of other mediators including AKT, mTOR, PTEN, and β -catenin (Zahed Panah et al. 2017; Hsu et al. 2014). Also, neuroprotective role of OPN has been well defined (Albertsson et al. 2014) as well as positive effects of OPN on survival, proliferation, migration, and neuronal differentiation of NSC (Rabenstein et al. 2015). Anti-apoptotic effect of OPN was assessed in this study on H_2O_2 -treated OPCs. To perform this experiment, hESC-derived OPCs were yielded as previously described and characterized. Both staining (Peymani et al. 2017) and RT-qPCR confirmed

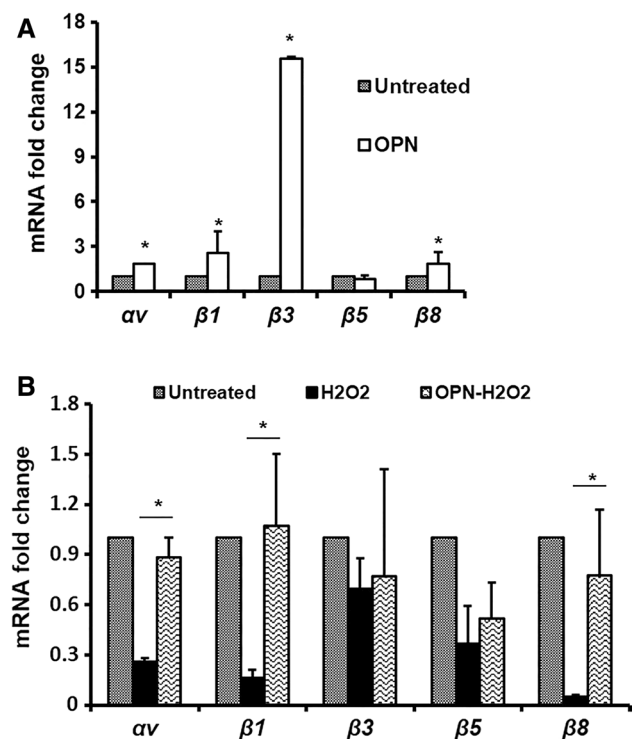


Fig. 6 OPN increased transcript level of interacting integrins in H_2O_2 -treated OPCs. **a** OPN induced mRNA level of αv -, $\beta 1$ -, $\beta 3$ -, and $\beta 8$ - integrins, except $\beta 5$ in OPN-treated OPCs. **b** Moreover, H_2O_2 treatment reduced the expression levels of αv -, $\beta 1$ -, $\beta 5$ -, and $\beta 8$ -, while OPN was able to reverse this reduced expression levels of αv -, $\beta 1$ -, $\beta 8$ -, except $\beta 3$ and $\beta 5$. All relative expressions were quantified and normalized with *GAPDH* transcript level. Represented value bars are the mean of triplicate independent experiments \pm SEM. Star indicates significant difference between samples at $p < 0.05$

the production of appropriate OPCs which were capable to differentiate into OLs as already elucidated (O'Meara et al. 2010; Milner and Ffrench-Constant 1994; Peymani et al. 2017; Pouya et al. 2011). At the next step, OPCs were used as a model cell to study the protective role of OPN against H_2O_2 -induced apoptotic condition. In order to examine this hypothesis, stress oxidative was induced by treatment of the cell with H_2O_2 . As caspases are central component of apoptosis (Dash 1994), caspase activity assay was carried out to confirm the occurrence of apoptosis. Our data indicated that caspase activation occurred upon H_2O_2 treatment (92%) delineating H_2O_2 -induced apoptosis of the cell. Pro-survival role of OPN was testified in similar condition and strongly indicated the protective effect of OPN against apoptotic conditions. Furthermore, apoptosis is triggered by activation of tumor suppressor P53, a transcription factor, in response to various stress signals, including H_2O_2 (Polager and Ginsberg 2009). Data indicated apoptosis was mediated by the induction in P53 transcript levels. In this respect, OPN was able to reverse H_2O_2 -induced expression level of *P53*. P53 regulates the expression of several apoptotic targets including

Bcl-2 family genes pathways (Polager and Ginsberg 2009). Therefore, the expression of *BAX* and *BID* as were assessed and showed to be up-regulated in response to H_2O_2 , and inversely anti-apoptotic factors as *BCL-2* and *BCL-XL* were down-regulated. OPN reversed these outcomes. To answer how the cells regulate their fate in response to OPN pre-treatment, transcript levels of several integrin subunits responsible for OPN interaction were measured. Notably, our findings showed that expression of $\alpha V \beta 1/\beta 3/\beta 5$ and $\beta 8$ integrins (in the context of OPN) elevated in response to OPN alone and treatment with H_2O_2 down-regulated $\alpha V \beta 1/\beta 5$ and $\beta 8$ integrins expression significantly. In conclusion, OPN may act via αV integrin signaling and trigger the suppression of p53-dependent apoptotic cascades. However, further experiments are required to elucidate the detailed mechanism of OPN in prevention of cytotoxicity. In the present article, we demonstrated that OPN plays a role preventing OPCs apoptosis. However, this is necessary to show that survivor OPCs are capable to differentiate in OLs. This could be a key point that should be examined in further experiments.

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Author Contributions NM was involved in concept and design, acquisition, analysis and interpretation of data, and drafting of the manuscript. MP was involved in supervision, and contributed to the design of work, analysis, and interpretation of data, and drafted sections of manuscript. HG was involved in supervision and contributed to design of work. KG was involved in supervision, and contributed to the design of work, analysis, and interpretation of data, critical revision of the manuscript for important intellectual content, and finalized the manuscript. AG contributed to design the work. AKE was involved in acquisition of data and drafted sections of manuscript. MHNE was involved in supervision, and contributed to the design of work, administrative, technical, or material support.

Compliance with Ethical Standards

Conflict of interest The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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