Excitatory effect of KR-25018 and capsaicin on the isolated guinea pig bronchi

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We investigated the peripheral excitatory effect of capsaicin and KR-25018, a newly synthesized capsaicin derivative which demonstrated to have a potent analgesic activity. KR-25018 and capsaicin were found to be both potent efficacious contractors of isolated guinea pig bronchial smooth muscle. KR-25018 was equipotent with capsaicin and [Sar⁹,Met(O₂)¹¹]-substance P, 10-fold more potent than histamine and 10-fold less potent than $[\beta - Ala^8]$ -neurokinin A(4-10), and their $-\log(M)EC_{50}$ values were 6.94 ± 0.08 , 6.86 ± 0.05 , $6.96\pm$ 0.07, 5.64 ± 0.04 , 7.96 ± 0.02 , respectively. Contractile responses to KR-25018 and capsaicin were potentiated by phosphoramidon $(1 \mu M)$, an inhibitor of neuropeptide-inactivating endopeptidase, but completely abolished in a calcium-free medium. These responses to KR-25018 and capsaicin were unaffected by the NK-1 antagonist CP96345 $(1 \mu M)$, partially inhibited by the NK-2 antagonist SR48968 (1 \mu M) but almost completely abolished by a combination of the antagonists. A vanilloid receptor antagonist capsazepine competitively antagonized the responses to both KR-25018 and capsaicin (pA₂: aganst KR-25018, 5.98 ± 0.47 ; against capsaicin, 5.80±0.31), and a capsaicin-sensitive cation channel antagonist ruthenium red caused significant reduction in the maximum responses to KR-25018 and capsaicin (pD'₂: against KR-25018, 4.61± 0.33; against capsaicin 4.96±0.21). In conclusion, the present results suggest that KR-25018 and cpasaicin act on the same vanilloid receptor inducing the influx of calcium through ruthenium red-sensitive cation channel and produce contractile responses via the release of tachykinins that act on both NK-1 and NK-2 receptor subtypes.