Per1 Plays as Immediate Early Gene in Serum-shocked Cells: An Integrative Role of Per1 in Cellular Senescence

Su-Jin Lee and Yonggeun Hong*

Department of Physical Therapy, Cardiovascular & Metabolic Disease Research Center, College of Biomedical Science and Engineering, Gimhae 621-749, Korea

Per1 is one of the biological clock gene which control of circadian rhythm in the individual cells. In this study, we shows that per1 gene expression plays as immediately early gene as like other such a genes in serum-shocked cells. Also, Cells entering state of senescence undergo a permanent cell cycle arrest, accompanied by a functional and morphological changes. Senescence of cells occurs following an extended period of proliferation in culture or in response to various physiologic stress, yet little is known about the role this phenomenon plays in vivo. The study of senescence has focused largely on its hypothesized roles as a barrier to extended cell division, governed by a division-counting mechanism in the cellular functional retardation due to shortening telomere length. Here, we discuss the biological functions of cellular senescence and suggest that it should be viewed in terms of its role as a general cellular stress response program, rather than strictly as a barrier to unlimited cycles of cell growth and division. We also discuss the relative roles played by biological clock gene, specifically per1 gene expression and telomere uncapping in the induction of senescence.

Key words) Biological clock, Per1 gene, Circadian rhythm, Cell growth and division, Cellular senescence

Supported by the Research Project on the Production of Bio-organs (No. 200508010801) Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and the Inje University Research Foundation.