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Effect of intranasal stem cell administration on the nigrostriatal system in a mouse model of parkinson's disease (Article)

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Abstract

Parkinson's disease (PD) is the second most common neurodegenerative disease worldwide. It affects the locomotor **system**, leading to a final severe disability through degeneration of dopaminergic neurons. Despite several therapeutic approaches used, no treatment has been proven to be effective; however, **cell** therapy may be a promising therapeutic method. In addition, the use of the **intranasal (IN)** route has been advocated for delivering various therapies to the brain. In the present study, the **IN** route was used for **administration** of mesenchymal **stem** cells (MSCs) **in a mouse** model of PD, with the aim to evaluate **IN** delivery as an alternative route for **cell** based therapy **administration** in PD. The PD model was developed in C57BL/6 mice using intraperitoneal rotenone **administration** for 60 consecutive days. MSCs were isolated from the mononuclear **cell** fraction of pooled bone marrow from C57BL/6 mice and incubated with micrometer-sized iron oxide (MPIO) particles. For **IN administration**, we used a 20 µl of 5x10⁵ **cell** suspension. Neurobehavioral assessment of the mice was performed, and after sacrifice, brain sections were stained with Prussian blue to detect the MPIO-labeled MSCs. In addition, immunohistochemical evaluation was conducted to detect tyrosine hydroxylase (TH) antibodies in the corpus striatum and dopaminergic neurons in the substantia nigra pars compacta (SNpc). The neurobehavioral assessment revealed progressive deterioration in the locomotor functions of the rotenone group, which was improved following MSC **administration**. Histopathological evaluation of brain sections in the rotenone+MSC group revealed successful delivery of MSCs, evidenced by positive Prussian blue staining. Furthermore, rotenone treatment led to significant decrease in dopaminergic neuron number in SNpc, as well as similar decrease in the corpus striatum fiber density. By contrast, in animals receiving **IN administration** of MSCs, the degeneration caused by rotenone treatment was significantly counteracted. In conclusion, the present study validated that **IN** delivery of MSCs may be a potential safe, easy and cheap alternative route for **stem cell** treatment in neurodegenerative disorders. © 2017, Spandidos Publications. All rights reserved.

Author keywords

Animal model; **Intranasal**; Parkinson's disease; **Stem** cells

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