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Kinetics of Caspase7 Thermal Inactivation

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Abstract

Caspase 7 is a cysteine protease that induces programmed cell death in the internal pathway of apoptosis. The active enzyme consists of a homodimer of a hetero dimer. Thus, we sought to determine the mechanism of inactivation, i.e. aggregation versus the loss of the qurternary structure. For this purposee, recombinant caspase7 protein was expressed and purified by affinity chromatography method. The purified enzyme was subjected to elevated temperatures for a period of 0 to 16 hours. Then the enzymatic activities of aliquates withdrawn at certin time points were measure by the hdrolysis of the chromogenic substrate DEVD-pNA monitored at 405 nm. The enzyme was completely inactive following 10 hours incubation at 37 degrees. SDS-PAGE analysis of the samples revealed no hydrolysis of the proteins due to self celavage or by proteases that migh be presnt as minor impurities. Analysis of the kinetics of enzyme inactivation by fitting to 1st and 2st degree equations showed that that enzyme inactivation follows the 1st degree equation. This indicates that either the hetero dimer is being dissociated or homodimer is falling apart leading to loss of activity.

Key words: Caspase7, Inactivation, Denaturation





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References

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[1] Dicleli M, Bruneau M. Seismic performance of single-span simply supported and continuous slabon-girder steel highway bridges. Journal of Structural Engineering, ASCE; 121(10): 1497-1506, 1995.

[2] AASHTO. LRFD bridge design specifications (4th ed.). Washington (DC): American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials; 2007.

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