Changes of the ultrastructural organization of cells of rats esophagus in the modeling of second-degree esophageal stricture

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Scar strictures that lead to obstruction of the esophagus do not tend to decrease lately, but on the contrary, the number of such patients is increasing, which is caused by the use of a large range of chemicals in human life [4, 8, 10, 24, 27, 30]. The results of treatment of scarring strictures depend on the degree of stenosis. With complete obstruction of the esophagus, the question arises about conducting surgical treatment. Methods of correction of esophageal strictures have a considerable number of postoperative complications and lethal consequences - from 5.0 % to 15.0 %. Therefore, in order to create a unified pathogenetic tactic for the management and treatment of esophageal strictures, we were offered to study the ultrastructural changes of the mucous membrane of the stricture of the second stage during its modeling in the experiment. The purpose of the work is to investigate the dynamics of ultrastructural changes of the mucous membrane of the esophagus wall in the normal and second stage of its stricture. The experimental study was performed on adult white male rats weighing between 250 and 300 g. A total of 16 animals were operated on, which were divided into 2 groups: a control group (6 rats) and a study group (10 rats). The studies were performed under ketamine anesthesia. In animals of the control group performed only laparotomy, followed by layer-by-layer suturing of the anterior abdominal wall. In animals of the study group created a model of obstruction of the esophagus of the second stage. Electron microscopic examination was performed on days 3, 4, and 5 of the experiment, eliminating animals by overdosing on ketamine. As a result of the electron microscopic study of the ultrastructural organization of basal, spinosum, superficial epitheliocytes of stratified squamous epithelium without keratin, smooth muscle myocytes of the muscular plate and contractile elements of the muscular layer of the esophagus of rats with simulated stricture of the second degree revealed dystrophic and destructive disorders that varied in depth and severity. It was established that mitochondrial dysfunction leads to a decrease in the activity of reparative, metabolic and synthetic processes of the cell, which is indirectly manifested by a decrease in ribosomes and polysomes in the cytoplasm, loosening and focal lysis of membranes of the granular endoplasmic reticulum. Stricture of esophagus of the second stage causes activation of catabolic intracellular processes in all cells, which is morphologically confirmed by the appearance in the cytoplasm of secondary lysosomes and inclusions of lipids.

Keywords: esophageal cell ultrastructure, esophageal stricture, mitochondrial dysfunction.

Introduction
Scar strictures that lead to obstruction of the esophagus do not tend to decrease lately, but on the contrary, the number of such patients is increasing, which is caused by the use of a large range of chemicals in human life [4, 8, 10, 24, 27, 30]. The results of treatment of scarring strictures depend on the degree of stenosis. In the first and second stage of esophageal obstruction it is possible to carry out dilatation therapy, with complete obstruction of the esophagus the question arises about conducting surgical treatment [2, 3, 5, 11, 16, 17, 25]. However, both dilatation and operative methods of correcting esophageal strictures still have a significant number of postoperative complications and lethal consequences - from 5% to 15% [1, 6, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 29].
Therefore, in order to create a single pathogenetic tactic for the management and treatment of esophageal strictures, we were offered to study the ultrastructural changes of the mucous membrane of the stage of stricture of the second degree in its modeling in the experiment, which is most common in clinical practice [18, 19, 26].

The purpose of the work is to investigate the dynamics of ultrastructural changes of the mucous membrane of the esophagus wall in the normal and second stage of its stricture.

Materials and methods

The experimental study was performed on adult white rats, males weighing 250 g to 300 g, in accordance with the general principles of animal experiments approved by the First National Congress on Bioethics (Kyiv, 2001) and in accordance with the provisions of the European Convention for the Protection of Vertebrate Animals used for experimental and other scientific purposes (Strasbourg, 1986).

A total of 16 animals were operated on, which were divided into two groups: control (6 rats) and studies (10 rats). Before the experiment began, animals were observed under ketamine anesthesia for a week. The experiments were performed with ketamine anesthesia. In animals, the control group performed only laparotomy, followed by layer-by-layer suturing of the anterior abdominal wall. After days 3, 4, 5 of the experiment, the animals were removed from the experiment by an overdose of ketamine and performed a relaparotomy to collect material for electron microscopic examination - the wall of the unchanged abdominal part of the esophagus. The animals of the study group created a model of second-degree esophageal obstruction as follows: performed a median laparotomy, isolated the abdominal esophagus, and then performed an end-to-end anastomosis with the incision used during the experiment. After a stimulation of ketamine and performed a relaparotomy to collect material for electron microscopic examination - the wall of the second-stage simulated stricture.

The purpose of the work was to investigate the dynamics of ultrastructural changes of the mucous membrane of the esophagus wall of rats.

The method of preparation of the material was that for pre-fixation pieces of tissue after their collection was immediately immersed in 2.5 % buffered solution glutaraldehyde retainer at a temperature of 4°C. After treatment in the buffer solution, the tissue was transferred for fixation in 1 % buffered solution of osmium tetroxide for 3-4 hours, followed by dehydration in alcohols of increasing concentration and acetone. The fabric was placed in a mixture of epoxy resins according to the general principles of animal experiments approved by the First National Congress on Bioethics (Kyiv, 2001) and in accordance with the provisions of the European Convention for the Protection of Vertebrate Animals used for experimental and other scientific purposes (Strasbourg, 1986).

The mitochondria were of various shapes and sizes, moderately swollen. Their matrix had a rough structure with various shapes and sizes, the contents of which were of low electron density. A small number of ribosomes are attached to the membranes of the granular endoplasmic reticulum. Tanks of the granular endoplasmic reticulum were greatly expanded and presented as vacuoles of various shapes and sizes, the contents of which were of low electron density. A small number of ribosomes are attached to the membranes of the granular endoplasmic reticulum. When compared with the control group in the cytoplasm, the number of free ribosomes and the polysomes. Total destruction of the membranes of the granular endoplasmic reticulum in some basal epitheliocytes was observed, secondary lysosomes were detected in the cytoplasm (Fig. 1).

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Results

The study of the ultrastructural organization of the organs of cells of the mucous membrane of the esophagus of the control group of rats indicated the adequacy of the chosen method of histological tissue processing and met modern requirements.

In submicroscopic organization of basal cells of the mucous membrane of the wall of the esophagus of rats on the site of the second-stage simulated stricture, degenerative changes of organelles were combined with the foci of destruction of intracellular membranes. Nuclear chromatin in the basal epitheliocytes was in a condensed state, and its clusters were concentrated along the periphery of the nucleus matrix and evenly distributed along the slice plane. The nuclear membrane, except for the loosening cells, had lysed cells. Perinuclear spaces were moderately expanded. The nuclear matrix was highly enlightenened. In the central region of the matrix were concentrated granules of decondensed chromatin. Tanks of the granular endoplasmic reticulum were greatly expanded and presented as vacuoles of various shapes and sizes, the contents of which were of low electron density. A small number of ribosomes are attached to the membranes of the granular endoplasmic reticulum. When compared with the control group in the cytoplasm, the number of free ribosomes and the polysomes. Total destruction of the membranes of the granular endoplasmic reticulum in some basal epitheliocytes was observed, secondary lysosomes were detected in the cytoplasm (Fig. 1).

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an average electron density. A small number of cristae in the mitochondria were disorganized and deformed, the outer membranes in some mitochondria and the cristae were lysed. Sometimes in the cytoplasm of basal epitheliocytes, mitochondria were present whose cristae were destroyed. Such mitochondria looked like electronically transparent vacuoles (Fig. 2).

The lamellar cytoplasmic Golgi complex was moderately reduced. The parallel orientation of the smooth membranes is impaired. A small number of small vacuoles were found in the location of the plate cytoplasmic Golgi complex. Sometimes the inclusion of lipids was detected in the cytoplasm (Fig. 3).

Violation of the parallel orientation of the tonofibrils was observed. Intercellular spaces remained enlarged. The spinosum epitheliocytes of the esophageal mucosa had a polygonal shape and contained a centrally located nucleus.

The nuclear membrane had deep invaginations, loose structure, and lysis cells. The nuclear matrix was finely granular with an average electron density. Nuclear chromatin was in a decondensed state and its granules were diffusely distributed along the plane of the nucleus slice. The mitochondria were swollen, containing an electron-transparent matrix and single cristae. The outer membranes and cristae of the mitochondria were loosened (Fig. 4).

In the cytoplasm there was a large number of parallel-oriented tonofibrils and glycogen granules. Secondary lysosomes were sometimes found in the area of the plate cytoplasmic Golgi complex. Tanks of the granular endoplasmic reticulum were vacuolated, the membranes moderately loosened with lysis cells. Spinosum epitheliocytes with fragmented membranes of the granular endoplasmic reticulum were encountered. Free ribosomes and polysomes are extremely rare in the cytoplasm. Occasions of lipids and secondary lysosomes in the cytoplasm of the spinosum layer epitheliocytes were sometimes found. The intercellular spaces were greatly expanded. Cytoplasmic and intracellular membranes of superficial epitheliocytes are strongly thickened, loosened and osmiophilous.

In smooth muscle myocytes of the muscle plate and the muscle layer of the rat esophagus in the second-degree stricture, the ultrastructural organization had moderately pronounced dystrophic changes. Higher number of nuclear chromatin was in a decondensed state. Separate areas of the nuclear membrane were loosened. There were almost no foci of nuclear membrane lysis. Perinuclear spaces were uniformly expanded. The deformation of the nuclear membrane was observed in the form of its deep invaginations. The cytoplasmic membrane was strongly loosened with areas of lysis (Fig. 5).

The mitochondria had an electron-transparent matrix and contained a small number of shortened cristae. The

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**Fig. 2.** Ultrastructure of basal epitheliocytes of stratified squamous epithelium without keratin with simulated second-degree stricture. Enlightenment of the matrix of mitochondria and destruction of the cristae (arrow). x43000.

**Fig. 3.** Ultrastructure of basal epitheliocytes of stratified squamous epithelium without keratin with simulated second-degree stricture. Inclusion of lipids in the cytoplasm (arrow). x34000.

**Fig. 4.** Ultrastructure of the spinosum epitheliocytes of the stratified squamous epithelium without keratin with simulated second-degree stricture. Nuclear membrane invagination, matrix enlightenment and mitochondrial membrane lysis. x32000.
sites of outer membrane lysis and mitochondrial cristae were relatively rare. The lamellar cytoplasmic Golgi complex was moderately reduced. Single micropinocytotic vesicles were detected near the cytoplasmic membrane.

In the ultrastructural organization of the endothelial cells of the blood capillaries, distinct dystrophic changes were determined in the stricture region. Endotheliocyte nuclei contained condensed chromatin diffusely scattered across the matrix. The nuclear membrane had multiple small invaginations. The mitochondria were small with an electron-transparent matrix and single cristae. Tanks of the granular endoplasmic reticulum were filled with electronically transparent material. In comparison with the group of intact animals, fewer ribosome-bound ribosomes were observed on the surface of the granular endoplasmic reticulum membranes in the animals of the study group. Free-standing ribosomes and polysomes are very rare. In the cytoplasm of the processes of endothelial cells of the blood capillaries were micropinocytotic vesicles.

**Discussion**

As a result of the electron microscopic study of the ultrastructural organization of basal, spinosum, superficial epitheliocytes of stratified squamous epithelium without keratin, smooth myocytes of the muscular plate and contractile elements of the muscular layer of the esophagus of rats with simulated stricture of the second degree revealed dystrophic and destructive disorders that varied in depth and severity. Unlike the first-degree stricture, as shown by Shaprynsky Y.V. et al. in 2013 [21], dystrophic and destructive disorders were more pronounced.

When the esophagus is completely obstructed, that is, in animals with a third-degree modeled stricture, destructive disorders prevail to a greater extent. Stein H. J. et al. (1995) and Shaprynsky Y. V. in 2016 confirmed the fact that the focal lysis was subject to a nuclear membrane, mitochondrial membrane, endoplasmic reticulum and lamellar cytoplasmic Golgi complex [22, 23].

The leading point in the development of these processes in the stratified squamous epithelium without keratin is mitochondrial dysfunction, which morphologically manifests focal destruction of the outer membranes and the cristae. Mitochondrial dysfunction leads to a decrease in the activity of the reparative, metabolic and synthetic processes of the cell, which is indirectly manifested by a decrease in ribosomes and polysomes in the cytoplasm, loosening and focal lysis of membranes of the granular endoplasmic reticulum. As shown in their works Shaprinsky Y. V. et al. [21] and Chandrasoma P.T. et al. [7], in animals with first-degree modeled stricture, there are deformations of the nuclear membrane, mitochondrial membranes, membranes of the granular endoplasmic reticulum and the lamellar cytoplasmic Golgi complex, which is explained by the inclusion of redundant intracellular mechanisms related to the phenomena of piezobiosynthesis. Cells under conditions of insufficient energy supply of metabolic processes use the piezoelectric energy, which occurs during deformation of membranes, which are liquid crystals. In the simulated stricture of the third degree, total lysis of membranes of the granular endoplasmic reticulum was sometimes observed [14, 22, 28].

Ultrastructural changes of smooth myocyte organelles and cross-striated muscle fibers in the region of the second-degree esophageal stricture indicate a decrease in the contractile capacity of these cells. Submicroscopic disorders of the endothelial cells of the capillary bed of the esophagus are characterized by a decrease in the electron density of the cytoplasm due to the development of intracellular edema, the absence in the cytoplasm of appendages of endothelial cells of micropinocytosis vesicles, which is characteristic for the decrease in the activity of transcellular transport of substances, water and electrolytes up to its termination under the condition of modeling of the third-degree esophageal stricture [22]. That is, the organelles of smooth myocytes and skeleton muscles and endothelial cells of the esophageal capillary are undergoing similar changes.

The esophageal stricture of the second stage causes activation of catabolic intracellular processes of the mucus membrane epithelium, which is structurally confirmed by the appearance of secondary lysosomes in the cytoplasm and inclusions of lipids. With third-degree stricture, there is an even greater increase in catabolic processes, and the changes become irreversible [22]. And disturbances of submicroscopic architectonics of rat esophagus cells with simulated first-degree stricture are reversible after elimination of an external, negative factor [21].

In the future, we also plan to investigate the ultrastructural changes of esophageal cells in the dynamics after removal of the stricture.

**Conclusions**

1. It is established that in the area of the simulated stricture of the second degree, degenerative and destructive...
disorders of the ultrastructural organization of the epithelial cells of the stratified squamous epithelium without keratin, smooth muscle cells of the muscular plate and contractile elements of the muscular layer of the esophagus, which vary in degree and depth, develop.

2. Mitochondrial dysfunction is a major element in the cytoplasm of secondary lysosomes and lipid inclusions.

3. The esophageal stricture of the second stage causes activation of catabolic intracellular processes in all cells, which is morphologically confirmed by the appearance in the cytology of secondary lysosomes and lipid inclusions.

References


ИЗМЕНЕНИЯ УЛЬТРАСТРУКТУРНОЙ ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ КЛЕТОК ПИЩЕВОДА КРЫС ПРИ МОДЕЛИРОВАНИИ СТРИКТУРЫ ПИЩЕВОДА ВТОРОЙ СТЕПЕНИ

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Рубцовые стриктуры, которые приводят к непроходимости пищевода, в последнее время не имеют тенденции к уменьшению, а наоборот, количество таких больных увеличивается, что обусловлено использованием большого спектра химических веществ. Клеточные изменения в рубцово-перерожденных областях пищевода могут привести к непроходимости пищевода. Эти изменения могут быть причинами развития непроходимости в пищеводе.

Мета работы: исследовать динамику ультраструктурных изменений слизистой оболочки пищевода и оценить их клиническую значимость.

Материалы и методы: исследовали ультраструктурные изменения слизистой оболочки пищевода крыс при моделировании стриктуры пищевода второй степени. Для экспериментального моделирования стриктуры пищевода второй степени использовали технику верхнегастрального дуоденосцепт. У животных контрольной группы проводили однорядную гастродуоденостомию, а у животных экспериментальной группы - рубцово-перерожденную пищеводную стриктуру.

Результаты исследования: у животных контрольной группы наблюдалось умеренное утолщение базальной мембраны эпителиоцитов и увеличение количества эозинофильных включений в клетках. У животных экспериментальной группы отмечалось значительное утолщение базальной мембраны эпителиоцитов, увеличение количества эозинофильных включений и развитие гранулярного эндоплазматического ретикулума.

Заключение: ультраструктурные изменения слизистой оболочки пищевода при моделировании стриктуры пищевода второй степени могут быть использованы для диагностики и прогнозирования развития непроходимости пищевода.

Ключевые слова: слизистая оболочка пищевода, ультраструктура, стриктура пищевода, морфофункциональные изменения.