Supplementary Materials: Fasting Enhances the Contrast of Bone Metastatic Lesions in 18F-Fluciclovine-PET: Preclinical Study Using a Rat Model of Mixed Osteolytic/Osteoblastic Bone Metastases

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Materials and Methods

Triple-tracer autoradiography

Triple-tracer autoradiography was performed using trans-1-amino-3-fluoro [1-14C] cyclobutanecarboxylic acid (14C-fluciclovine), [5,6-3H]-2-Fluoro-2-deoxy-D-glucose (3H-FDG), and 99mTc-hydroxymethylene diphosphonate (99mTc-HMDP) in a breast cancer bone metastatic rat model to visually compare the distribution of each tracer in identical lesions. After administering the tracers (see article text), the animals were euthanized under anesthesia by drawing blood from the abdominal aorta. The tibiae and femora were removed and subsequently frozen in isopentane/dry ice for 10 s. They were embedded in Super Cryoembedding Medium (SCEM) (Section-Lab, Hiroshima, Japan) and frozen again in isopentane/dry ice until the SCEM set. The frozen samples were placed in the chamber of a CM3050S cryostat (Leica Microsystems, Tokyo, Japan) at -20°C for at least 30 min and sectioned using the cryostat at −20 °C with an adhesive film (Cryofilm Type 2C(9), Section-Lab) using Kawamoto's film method [1]. Fifteen serial sections (12 sections of 5 µm slices, and 3 sections of 10 µm slices for the histological and autoradiography specimens, respectively) were prepared. Each section was mounted on a glass slide. To obtain images generated by the 99mTcisotope, SR imaging plates (IPs) (FUJIFILM Corporation, Tokyo, Japan) were exposed for 1 h to dried 10 μm slices wrapped in a 12 μm thick polyester film (Lumirror; S10#12; TORAY Industries, Tokyo, Japan), which absorbs low-energy 3H isotopes. Under these conditions, 14C caused no blackening of the SR-IP, even after a 1 h exposure. This factor, thus, excluded cross-contamination by 14C in the ^{99m}Tc autoradiographs. The next two frozen sections adjacent to the ^{99m}Tc-autoradiographed section were stored at -20°C for 5 days to allow complete 99mTc decay. Following this procedure, TR-IPs (FUJIFILM Corporation) were exposed to dried sections with and without the 12 µm thick polyester film for 7 days to obtain ¹⁴C images and ³H + ¹⁴C mixed images, respectively [2]. The IPs were developed using a FLA-7000 imaging analyzer (GE Healthcare, Little Chalfont, UK). The ³H images were finally generated by subtracting the ¹⁴C images from the ¹⁴C + ³H images using ImageJ software (version 1.48; National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, USA). All images were processed using ImageJ software. 14C, 3H, and 99mTc images obtained from a serial section were stacked in a single window using the "Stack" function of the ImageJ software. For image registration of the three images, each was positioned precisely by using several internal soft/hard tissue landmarks with characteristic anatomical information (except for lesions), such as growth plate, a portion of cortical bone of tibiae/femora (ex. distal end), patellae, cartilaginous tissue, and the region-of-interest (ROI) analysis was conducted. The ROIs were manually drawn around each lesion while referring to the histological images from hematoxylin-eosin (H&E) and toluidine blue (TB) staining. In each model, the lesions corresponding to 99mTc-HMDP accumulation, except for physiological accumulation (e.g., growth plates, the tendon at the tibia) were defined as new bone formation. Furthermore, three square, circular, or polygonal ROIs of random sizes were manually positioned on the normal regions of muscle surrounding tibiae and/or femora (ex. quadriceps femoris muscle, gastrocnemius muscle) and the average ROI count from the three ROIs was calculated as the background radioactivity.

Results

Histological analysis

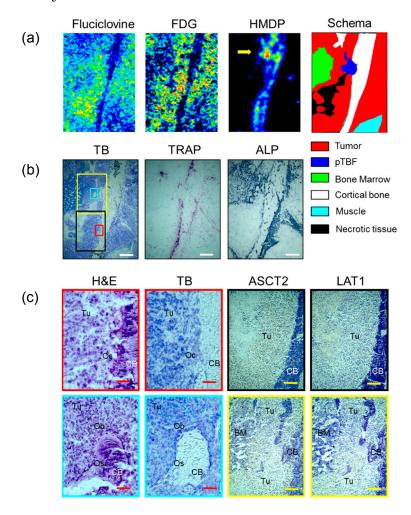


Figure S1. Comparison of tracer accumulations of ¹⁴C-fluciclovine, 2-deoxy-2-¹⁸F-fluoro-D-glucose (³H-FDG) and ^{99m}Tc-hydroxymethylene diphosphonate (^{99m}Tc-HMDP), and the histological characteristics of typical osteolytic and osteoblastic lesions in a representative breast cancer bone metastasis model rat that was fasted. (**a**) The enlarged autoradiograms and schema and (**b**) the histological images (toluidine blue (TB), tartrate-resistant acid phosphatase (TRAP), alkaline phosphatase (ALP)) correspond to the green frame on the schema in Figure 2a are represented. The lesions corresponding to ^{99m}Tc-HMDP-positive were considered peri-tumor bone formation (pTBF) in osteoblastic lesions (yellow arrows). (**c**) The high-power microscopic fields (hematoxylin and eosin (H&E), TB, alanine-serine-cysteine transporter 2 (ASCT2), L-type amino acid transporter 1 (LAT1)) correspond to the black, red, yellow, and cyan frames on the TB image in Figure S1b are shown. The red, yellow, and white scale bars on each panel correspond to 50 μm, 200 μm, and 500 μm, respectively. BM: bone marrow, CB: cortical bone, Ob: osteoblasts, Oc: osteoclasts, Os: osteoids, Tu: tumor.

References

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- 2. Obata, T.; Iwamoto, K.; Shiraiwa, Y.; Nakajima, E.; Kawai, K.; Shindo, H. Instruments for radiation measurement in biosciences. Series 3. Radioluminography. 17. Analysis of double-labelled samples by the imaging plate (IP). *Radioisotopes* **2000**, *49*, 623–636.