

## Trimethyltin

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## **Trimethyltin-Induced Hippocampal Neurodegeneration is Possibly Mediated by Induction of Apoptosis**

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**Background :** Trimethyltin (TMT) is a neurotoxicant which produces a distinct pattern of neuronal cell death in the hippocampus following systemic administration of a single dose. However, the mechanism of selective neuronal death remains unclear. We performed this study to elucidate the underlying mechanism of TMT-induced hippocampal neuronal death. **Methods :** The effects of trimethyltin (8.0mg/kg, i.p., single dose) on the hippocampal neurons were investigated in terms of changes in the neurobehavioral status, histologic, and electronmicroscopic findings. **Results :** Behaviorally, TMT treatment caused stereotypic limbic system dysfunction, i.e. tremors, spontaneous seizures, vocalization, hyperactivity, hyperexcitability, intraspecific aggression as described previously. Morphologically, TMT produced prominent neurodegeneration in the dentate gyrus. Widespread, strong glial fibrillary acidic protein (GFAP) immunoreactivity, which was suggestive of reactive astrogliosis, was noted throughout the hippocampal subfields. Many degenerating neurons were TUNEL positive. Electron microscopic findings revealed characteristic features of apoptosis in the dentate granule cells. NADPH-diaphorase positive cells were spared after TMT exposure. **Conclusions :** It is suggested that TMT-induced hippocampal degeneration might be a useful *in vivo* model for the study of learning and memory, neuronal-glial interactions, and selective neuronal apoptosis.

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**Key Words :** Trimethyltin (TMT), Selective neurodegeneration, Hippocampus, Dentate granule cells, Apoptosis

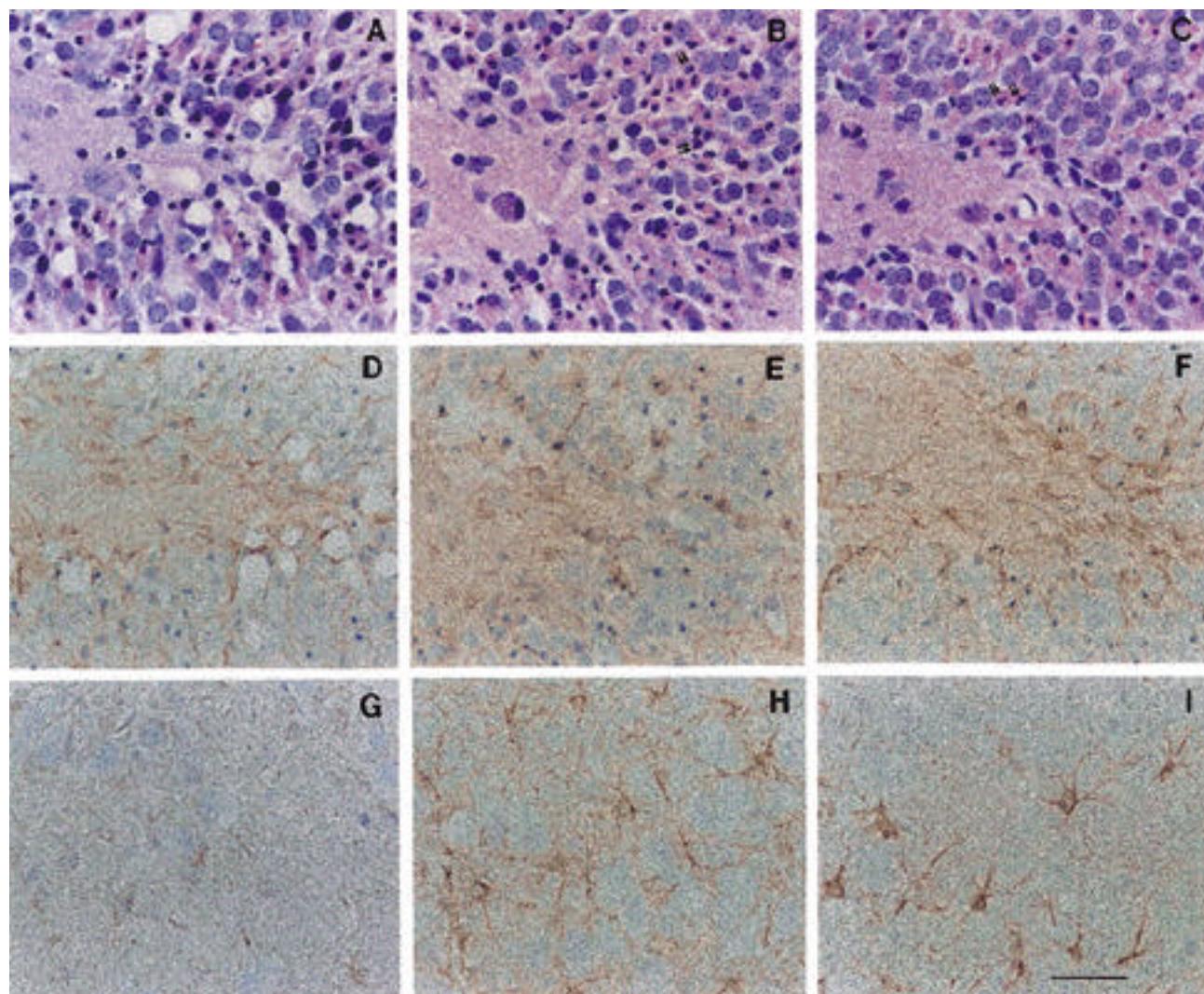
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861



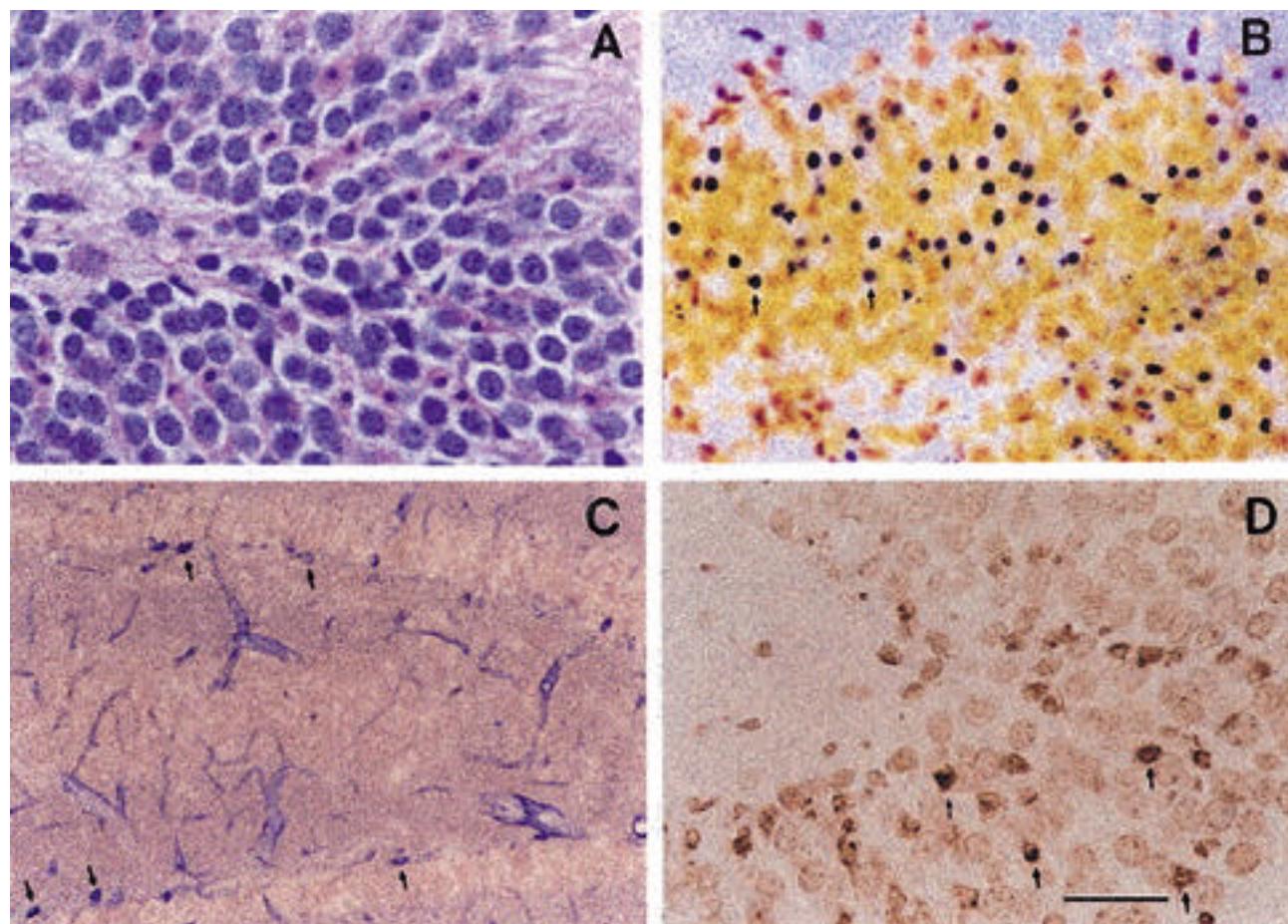
### Trimethyltin

poly-L-lysine coated slide	phate buffer, pH7.2)				
mounting	0.1 M PB	30	3	1	%
3) Silver impregnation methods	Osmium tetroxide		1		0.1
Scallet	M PB	15	3	ethanol	
4 % paraformaldehyde	oxide	20	3	propylene	
series-1,000	. <sup>11</sup>	Epon: propylene oxide		(Polyscience)	
free-floating section	Vibratome	1	(1:2), 2	(1:1), 12	(2:1)
ml 0.75 % silver nitrate, 2.5 ml 0.5 % cupuric		60	3	Epon 2	
nitrate, 4 ml pyridine	5			1 μm	
9 % sodium hydroxide, 16 % (w/v) ammonium				toluidine blue (1 % borax)	hot
nitrate, 50 % (w/v) silver nitrate impregnating				plate (60 )	
solution 10	1.2 %			2	
ammonium nitrate†					50 nm
gelatin coated slide	6 ml 37				60
% formaldehyde, 40 ml 95 % ethanol, 280 ml dd				nm	copper grid
water 0.2 g anhydrous citric acid	pH			uranyl acetate	lead citrate
5.8~6.1	dd water	가			(Hitachi H-7100, Tokyo, Japan)
400 ml	.			80 KV	
4) TUNEL staining					
	fragmented DNA				
	in situ DNA fragmentation				
detection 가	TdT-mediated dUTP nick end				
labeling (TUNEL) technique	labeling (TUNEL) technique				
radish peroxidase	sensitivity가	"In			
Situ Cell Death Detection Kit, POD"					
60 oven 20 가					
(rehydration)					
proteinase K (20 ug/ml in 10 mM					
Tris/HCl, pH 8.0) 30 37					
PBS	endogenous peroxidase				
0.3 % H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> -methanol	37				
30	.	TdT, reaction			
buffer TUNEL reaction mixture					
37 60 . PBS 3					
Converter-POD 37 30					
DAB-substrate 12					
graded alcohol Xylene					
coverslip . Frozen section thymus					
positive control negative control TdT					
enzyme					
humidified chamber					



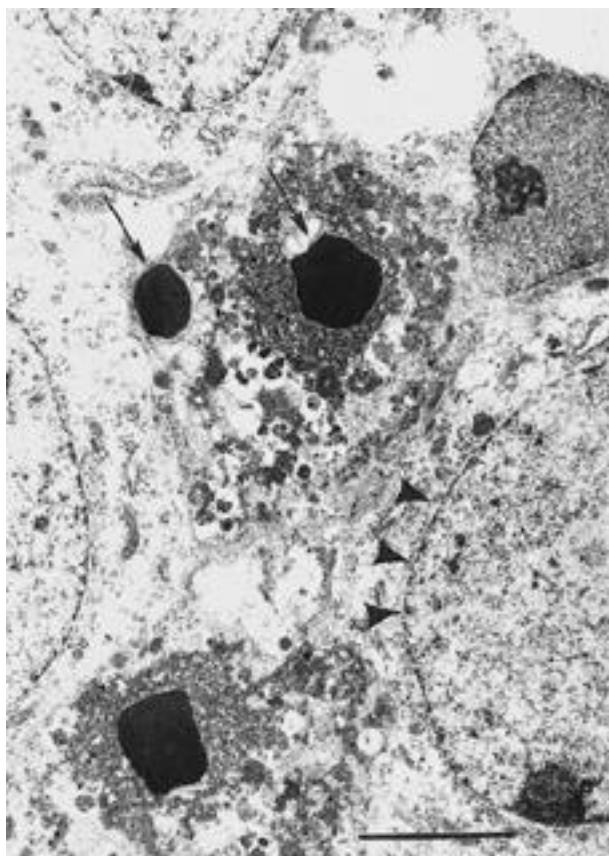
**Figure 1.** Photomicrographs of H & E stained (A-C) and GFAP immunostained sections of the hippocampus 2 (A, D, G), 4 (B, E, H), and 7 (C, F, I) days after TMT intoxication. Numerous degenerating neurons are evident in the dentate granule cells. Double arrows indicate segmented nuclei with eosinophilic cytoplasm, which are suggestive of apoptosis (A, C). Note the difference in immunoreactivity between day 2 (D, G) and day 7 (F, I). Reactive hypertrophied astrocytes with apparently stronger GFAP immunoreactivity are seen at day 7 (I). Original magnification,  $\times 400$  (bar=32  $\mu\text{m}$ ).

TMT  
 (Fig. 2C).  
 3.  
 mg/kg  
 TMT  
 TUNEL  
 TUNEL  
 TUNEL  
 (Fig. 2B)  
 apoptotic body  
 가  
 (Fig. 3).  
 12  
 24  
 trimethyltin (TMT)  
 TMT  
 TMT  
 LD50 12.6  
 4  
 2,3,9,10,12  
 TMT  
 TMT  
 TMT  
 4,5  
 TMT  
 TMT  
 TMT  
 2  
 Ishida



**Figure 2.** Photomicrographs of hippocampal sections stained with H & E (A), silver impregnation (B), NADPH-diaphorase (C), and TUNEL (D) methods 7 days after TMT treatment. Degenerating neurons are scattered in H & E stained section (A) which are more evident with degeneration-specific silver impregnation staining (arrow heads in B). NOS containing neurons (arrows in C) are spared after TMT intoxication. Some of the degenerating neurons are positively stained with TUNEL methods (arrows in D). Magnification, A, B, D,  $\times 400$ , C,  $\times 100$  (bar=40  $\mu\text{m}$ ).

TMT	(9 mg/kg),	4	14
CA3 CA4	pentylenetetrazol		
(seizure susceptibility)	TMT	4	<sup>13</sup>
가			
	<sup>5</sup>		
Ishida			(Fig. 1).
	TMT 10 mg/kg 1		4 mg/kg
	4	70	
	, TMT triethyltin		
TMT	1	90 % (9/10)	,
			(pyriform cortex),
	,		
TMT		TMT	2
			70
가			
Whittington	<sup>13</sup>	TMT	<sup>9</sup> TMT
CA3a,b	3		Chang <sup>14</sup>
	stratum lucidum		
		TMT 3.0 mg/kg	12
nals) 가	(band of degenerating termi-		
가			48
	9		
		,	



**Figure 3.** Electronmicrograph of degenerating granule cells. Apoptotic bodies are seen in shrunken cytoplasm (arrows). Compare the intact nuclear membrane of normal cells (arrowheads). Bar=4 μm.

(endoplasmic reticulum) (vac-  
uolation) .<sup>14</sup>

Chang 14  
Chang 14  
가  
가

TUNEL DNA apoptotic body

간 TMT

TMT

1

. Coupling subtractive hybridization with molecular cloning techniques

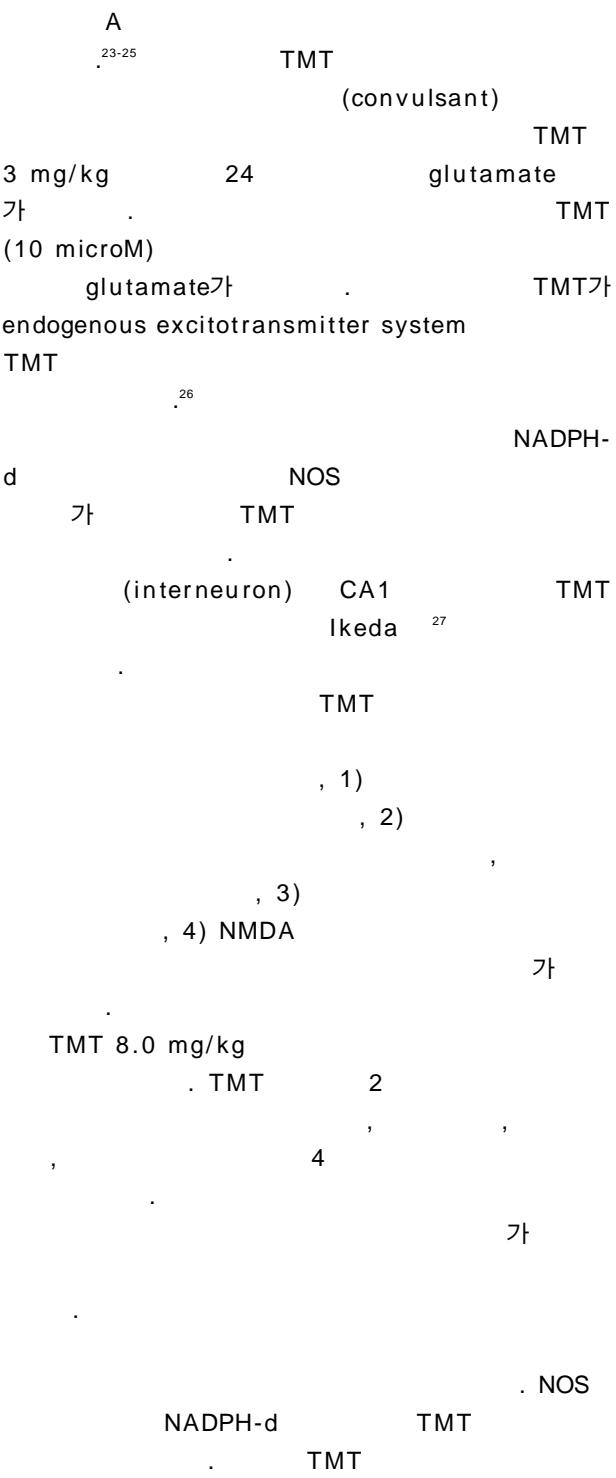
TMT 2.9-kB cDNA가

88

가 ‘stannin

Stannin

J Korean Neurol Assoc / Volume 17 / November, 1999



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