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**Biomedical Research**

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[\[PDF \(3153K\)\]](#) [\[References\]](#)**The involvement of urothelial  $\alpha_{1A}$  adrenergic receptor in controlling the micturition reflex**Haruko Yanase<sup>1)</sup>, Xiaojun Wang<sup>1)</sup>, Yoshiharu Momota<sup>1)</sup>, Toshie Nimura<sup>1)</sup> and Masahito Kawatani<sup>1)</sup>

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**ABSTRACT**

The current study was undertaken in an attempt to characterize the functional properties of urothelial  $\alpha_{1A}$  adrenergic receptors, especially in modulating the micturition reflex. The expression of  $\alpha_{1A}$  receptors in rat bladder was analyzed by immunohistochemistry and Western blotting. As a functional study, we obtained continuous infusion cystometrograms in conscious rats using noradrenaline (NA) and subtype selective  $\alpha_1$  adrenergic receptor antagonists, tamsulosin ( $\alpha_{1A}/\alpha_{1D}$  selective) and silodosin ( $\alpha_{1A}$  superselective).  $\alpha_{1A}$  receptors were immunohistochemically detected in rat urothelium. Intravesical infusion of NA (60  $\mu$ M) significantly shortened the intercontraction interval (ICI). Pretreatment with tamsulosin at a dose of 0.4  $\mu$ g/kg i.v. abolished intravesical NA infusion-induced reduction of ICI. Neither intravesical infusion of tamsulosin (20  $\mu$ M) nor that of silodosin (0.2  $\mu$ M) significantly altered ICI. After intravesical infusion of silodosin, intravesical NA infusion did not affect ICI. Urothelial  $\alpha_{1A}$  receptors might modulate bladder afferent activity under pathophysiological conditions with augmented concentrations of NA in blood or urine.

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