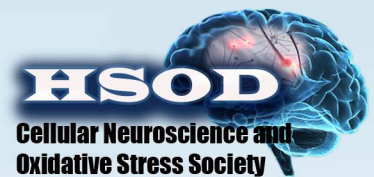
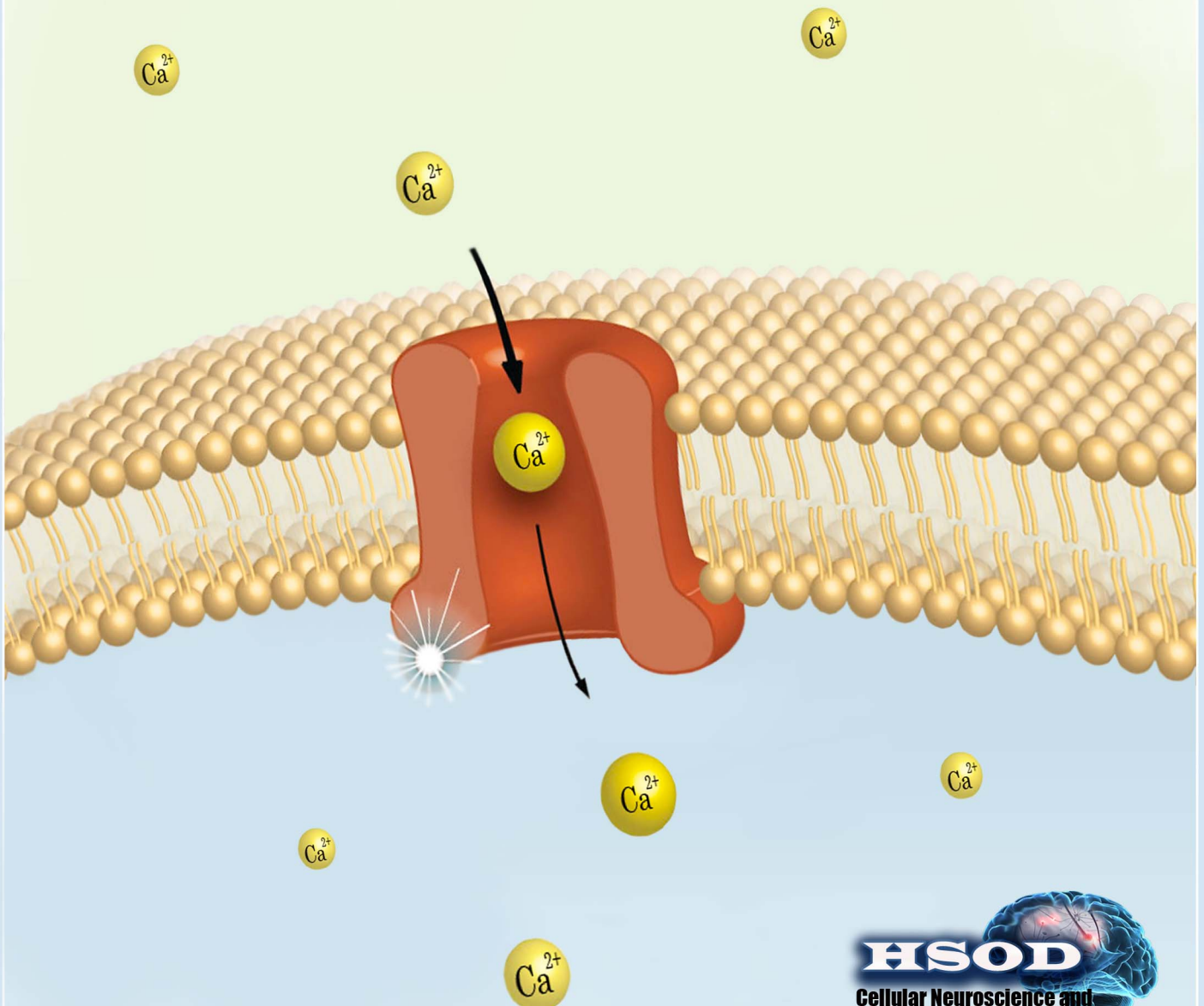


# Journal of Cellular Neuroscience and Oxidative Stress

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## [ CONTENTS ]

- 588 Melatonin reduces lens oxidative stress level in STZ-induced diabetic rats through supporting glutathione peroxidase and reduced glutathione values  
*Mehmet Cemal Kahya, Mustafa Nazirođlu*
- 595 Is Hypericum perforatum agonist or antagonist of TRPC6 in neurons?  
*Mustafa Nazirođlu*

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Journal of Cellular Neuroscience and Oxidative Stress is an online journal that publishes original research articles, reviews and short reviews on the molecular basis of biophysical, physiological and pharmacological processes that regulate cellular function, and the control or alteration of these processes by the action of receptors, neurotransmitters, second messengers, cation, anions, drugs or disease.

Areas of particular interest are four topics. They are;

**A- Ion Channels** (Na<sup>+</sup>- K<sup>+</sup> Channels, Cl<sup>-</sup> channels, Ca<sup>2+</sup> channels, ADP-Ribose and metabolism of NAD<sup>+</sup>, Patch-Clamp applications)

**B- Oxidative Stress** (Antioxidant vitamins, antioxidant enzymes, metabolism of nitric oxide, oxidative stress, biophysics, biochemistry and physiology of free oxygen radicals)

##### C- Interaction Between Oxidative Stress and Ion Channels in Neuroscience

(Effects of the oxidative stress on the activation of the voltage sensitive cation channels, effect of ADP-Ribose and NAD<sup>+</sup> on activation of the cation channels which are sensitive to voltage, effect of the oxidative stress on activation of the TRP channels in neurodegenerative diseases such Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases)

##### D- Gene and Oxidative Stress

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Ion channels, cell biochemistry, biophysics, calcium signaling, cellular function, cellular physiology, metabolism, apoptosis, lipid peroxidation, nitric oxide synthase, ageing, antioxidants, neuropathy, traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injury, Alzheimer's Disease, Parkinson's Disease.

## Is *Hypericum perforatum* agonist or antagonist of TRPC6 in neurons?

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### Abstract

Transient receptor potential canonical 6 (TRPC6) channel is a family of transient receptor superfamily. Hyperforin is an active component of *Hypericum* species including *Hypericum perforatum* (HPer). In the review paper, the author summarizes the recent information between TRPC6-induced Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry, HPer and hyperforin to understand the etiology of the neurological diseases and potential therapeutic strategies.

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#### List of Abbreviations;

**2-APB**, 2-Aminoethoxydiphenylborane; **BDNF**, brain-derived neurotrophic factor; **DAG**, diacylglycerol; **DRG**, dorsal root ganglion; **Gd<sup>3+</sup>**, gadolinium; **HPer**, *Hypericum perforatum*; **IP<sub>3</sub>**, inositol 1,4,5 triphosphate; **La<sup>3+</sup>**, lanthanum; **TRP**, transient receptor potential; **TRPC6**, transient receptor potential canonical 6; **TRPM2**, transient receptor potential melastatin 2; **TRPV1**, transient receptor potential vanilloid 1; **VGCC**, voltage gated calcium channels

The TRPC6 in several cell types is activated by 4,5 triphosphate (IP<sub>3</sub>) and diacylglycerol (DAG) pathways, although it was inhibited in the cells by several non-specific antagonists including Aminoethoxydiphenyl-borane (2-APB), gadolinium and lanthanum. Results of limited studies indicated that hyperforin caused intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> elevations through TRPC6 activation in neurons although the intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> elevation results were not confirmed in the neurons by several recent studies. Release Ca<sup>2+</sup> from internal stores instead of extracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry through activation of TRPC6 channel in neurons of brain was also reported. The TRPC6-induced Ca<sup>2+</sup> influx was inhibited in brain by active components of some antioxidants.

In conclusion, the present literature information shows that interaction between TRPC6-induced Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry and hyperforin in neurons and cell lines are too complex and it has not been clarified yet.

**Keywords:** TRPC6, *Hypericum perforatum*, Hyperforin, Calcium ion, Neuron.

## Introduction

Transient receptor potential (TRP) superfamily is containing 28 channels in the seven families; TRPA (Ankyrin), TRPC (canonical), TRPM (Melastatin), TRPV (Vanilloid), TRPML (mucolipin), TRPN (NOMPC), and TRPP (polycystin) (Naziroğlu et al., 2012). The TRPC family can be divided into 4 groups as TRPC1, TRPC2, TRPC4/5, and TRPC3/6/7 according to their amino acid sequences and functional similarities. The Na<sup>+</sup> and Ca<sup>2+</sup> permeable canonical transient receptor potential (TRPC) channels subfamily are expressed in different tissues including brain synapses (Zhou et al., 2008), dentate gyrus (Kim and Kang, 2015) and dorsal root ganglion (DRG) (Alessandri-Haber et al., 2009). There is growing evidence that transient receptor potential channel 6 (TRPC6) mediates receptor-operated cation entry and is critically involved in numerous physiological processes. Recent studies have provided important insights into the role of TRPC6 in neuronal diseases. For instance, it was demonstrated that TRPC6 channel has also a critical role in promoting neuronal survival against brain injury (Guo et al., 2017).

Hyperforin is a pharmacologically active component of the medicinal plant *Hypericum perforatum* (HPer) (Apaydin et al., 2016). HPer and hyperforin have strong antioxidant and anti-inflammatory effects in treatment of experimental disease models such as inflammatory diseases (Naziroğlu et al., 2014a and b), peripheral pain (Naziroğlu et al., 2014c; Özdemir et al., 2016; Uslusoy et al., 2017) and brain disease (Galeotti, 2017).

Result of a study indicated TRPC6 activator role of HPer and hyperforin in neurons (Leuner et al., 2007), although results of some studies did not confirm the idea (Friedland and Harteneck, 2015). Contrary, some antioxidants inhibited Ca<sup>2+</sup> influx through inhibition of TRPC6 blocker in brain of mice (Guo et al., 2017). There are also some reports on hyperforin-induced intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> release from brain mitochondria without activation of TRPC6 (Tu et al., 2010).

I provide an overview on current knowledge regarding the interaction between TRPC6-induced Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry and hyperforin to understand the etiology of the neurological diseases and potential therapeutic strategies.

## Role of TRPC6 in neuron

TRPC family members including TRPC6 have inositol 1,4,5 triphosphate (IP<sub>3</sub>) receptor binding sites in the C-tail of the channels, and calmodulin binds to this peptide sequence in a Ca<sup>2+</sup> dependent manner (Winn et al., 2006). G protein-dependent molecular signaling mechanisms such as diacylglycerol (DAG) and Ca<sup>2+</sup> store depletion have also activator role on TRPC6. Therefore, intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> concentration has important role on the activation of TRPC6 in neurons (Pfister et al., 2015). Intracellular 1-oleoyl-2-acetyl-sn-glycerol and 1,2-dioctanoylglycerol organic chemicals which were produced in cells from DAG species have TRPC6 activator role in neurons. Result of a recent study was indicated TRPC6 activator role small molecules larixol in HEK293 cells (Urban et al., 2016).

There are non-specific TRPC6 channel inhibitor chemicals. In addition to inhibition of IP<sub>3</sub> receptors, 2-Aminoethoxydiphenylborane (2-APB) is an antagonist of TRPC6 in neurons (Sekaran et al., 2007). Lanthanides such as lanthanum (La<sup>3+</sup>) and gadolinium (Gd<sup>3+</sup>) are commonly used blockers of nonselective calcium channels and the TRPC6 channel is also inhibited by La<sup>3+</sup> and Gd<sup>3+</sup> (Jung et al., 2003).

Accumulating evidence indicates that TRPC6 plays a critical role in neuronal development and most of paper on TRPC6 in neuron and brain are related with neuronal development and brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF) formation. For example, the hyperforin treatment induced modification of rat hippocampal pyramidal neurons such as the neurite spine density, numbers of dendritic branch points and dendritic length through activation of TRPC6 channel (Liu et al., 2015). Gene transcription activator role of hyperforin through activation of TRPC6 channel were recently indicated in HEK293 cells (Thiel and Rössler, 2017).

## Hypericum perforatum and cations

The medicinal plant HPer is also known as St John's worth which has been used as an antidepressant with few side-effects for a long time (Apaydin et al., 2016; Galeotti, 2017). The main components of HPer are hypericin, pseudohypericin, flavonoids, phloroglucinols, hyperforin, and adhyperforin (Apaydin et al., 2016) and they have strong antioxidants effects in treatment of experimental disease models such as pain

and brain disease (Nazıroğlu et al., 2014a; Özdemir et al., 2016; Uslusoy et al., 2017; Galeotti, 2017).

Inhibitor role of HPer on uptake of aminergic transmitters such as serotonin and noradrenaline into synaptic nerve endings has been known for a long time (Müller, 2003). Neuroprotective action of hyperforin through inhibition of monoamine oxidase was also reported within last decades (Soto-Otero et al., 2001). It has also stimulator role on the intracellular sodium ion concentration through increasing level of extracellular neurotransmitters such as acetylcholine, GABA and glutamate (Kaehler et al., 1999; Kiewert et al., 2004; Treiber et al., 2005). Inhibitor role of hyperforin on voltage gated calcium channels (VGCC) in P-type VGCC of cerebellar Purkinje neurons was also reported (Fisunov et al., 2000).

### **Hypericum perforatum and TRPC6**

As it was mentioned above, the Na<sup>+</sup> and Ca<sup>2+</sup> permeable TRPC6 channel is belonging to the superfamily of TRP. There is growing evidence that the TRPC6 mediates receptor-operated cation entry and is critically involved in numerous physiological processes (Malczyk et al., 2017). Recent studies have provided important insights into the role of TRPC6 in normal physiology and neuronal diseases.

Role of hyperforin and HPer on TRPC6 was summarized in Table 1. Hyperforin caused intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> elevations through activation of TRPC6 in PC12 cells (Leuner et al., 2007), although other effects of hyperforin are described which might also participate in its pharmacological actions. However, remaining TRPC subfamily members such as TRPC1, TRPC3, TRPC4, TRPC5, and TRPC7 are not affected or activated by the hyperforin (Leuner et al., 2007). Releasing Ca<sup>2+</sup> and Zn<sup>2+</sup> from isolated brain mitochondria of C57BL/6/J mice embryos were measured by using fluorescein dyes namely Fluo-4 and FluoZin-3, respectively and the hyperforin induced mitochondrial membrane depolarization through releasing both ions from mitochondria (Tu et al., 2010). Contrary, depletion of intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> stores with the thapsigargin (sarco/endoplasmic reticulum Ca<sup>2+</sup>-ATPase pump inhibitor) did not affect hyperforin-induced intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> transients, although hyperforin increased Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry through TRPC6 channel activation in the primary

hippocampal neurons of mice (Leuner et al., 2013). Decrease of indomethacin-induced Ca<sup>2+</sup> mobilization in Caco-2 cell line was reported by quercetin as a component of HPer (Carrasco-Pozo et al., 2012). Increase of intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> concentration was indicated in hyperforin treated-cortical neurons by using Ca<sup>2+</sup> sensitive probe Fluo-4. However, the increase was not decreased by incubation of Gd<sup>3+</sup> as a potent blocker of TRPC channels (Tu et al., 2009), suggesting that it could release Ca<sup>2+</sup> from internal stores. Recently it was reported that hyperforin induces TRPC6-independent hydrogen ion currents in HEK-293 cells, cortical microglia, chromaffin cells and lipid bilayers (Sell et al., 2014). No association between hyperforin-induced TRPC6 activation and oxidative stress in neonatal pig glomerular mesangial cell was reported (Soni and Adebisi, 2016). Contrary, TRPC6 degradation in cortical neuron of cerebral ischemia-induced rat was reduced at 24 hours of cerebral ischemia by hyperforin treatment (Lin et al., 2013). Down-regulated protein expression of TRPC6 was also indicated in depression-induced rats (Liu et al., 2015).

Hyperforin is strong antioxidant component of HPer and expression level of TRPC6 is increased in PC12 cells by the antioxidant hyperforin treatment (Leuner et al., 2007). Calycosin is also antioxidant medicinal plant component and it exerted neuroprotective effects against cerebral ischemia by inhibiting calpain activity and increasing the expressions of TRPC6 level (Guo et al., 2017). Similarly, the some TRP channels such as TRP melastatin 2 (TRPM2) and TRP vanilloid 1 (TRPV1) channels are also inhibited in neurons by the hyperforin and HPer treatments (Nazıroğlu et al., 2014a; Özdemir et al., 2016; Uslusoy et al., 2017; Galeotti, 2017). It seems that the inhibitor roles of HPer and hyperforin are cell specific and they are inhibitor of TRP channels including the TRPC6 instead of activator of TRPC6 in neuronal cells.

**Table 1:** Effects of Hypericum perforatum (HPer) and hyperforin on Ca<sup>2+</sup> and TRPC6 in different cells.

Drug	Material	Value(s) and Effect	Reference
Hyperforin	PC12 cells	Intracellular Ca <sup>2+</sup> elevations	Leuner et al., (2007)
Hyperforin	Mice cortical neurons	Release Ca <sup>2+</sup> from internal stores but no TRPC6 activation	Tu et al., (2009)
Hyperforin	Isolated brain mitochondria	Mitochondrial membrane depolarization through releasing zinc and calcium ions from these intracellular organelles.	Tu et al., (2010)
HPer Hyperforin	Cerebellar Purkinje neurons	Inhibition of P-type VGCC currents	Fisunov et al., (2000)
Hyperforin	Primary hippocampal neurons	Depletion of intracellular Ca <sup>2+</sup> stores did not affect hyperforin-induced Ca <sup>2+</sup> transients but TRPC6 channel is activated by hyperforin.	Leuner et al., (2013)
Quercetin	Caco-2 cell line	Decrease of indomethacin-induced Ca <sup>2+</sup> mobilization	Carrasco-Pozo et al., (2012)
Hyperforin	HEK-293 cells, cortical microglia, chromaffin cells and lipid bilayers	TRPC6-independent hydrogen ion currents	Sell et al., (2014)
Hyperforin	Cortical neuron of cerebral ischemia-induced rat	TRPC6 degradation	Lin et al., (2013)
HPer	Rat DRG	Inhibitor role on Ca <sup>2+</sup> influx through inhibition of TRPM2	Naziroğlu et al. (2014c)
Hyperforin	Neonatal pig glomerular mesangial cell	No association between hyperforin-induced TRPC6 activation and oxidative stress	Soni and Adebisi, (2016)
HPer	Rat DRG	Inhibitor role on Ca <sup>2+</sup> influx through inhibition of TRPM2 and TRPV1	Özdemir et al., (2016)
Hper	Rat DRG and sciatic nerve	Inhibitor role on Ca <sup>2+</sup> influx through inhibition of TRPM2 and TRPV1	Uslusoy et al., (2017)

### In conclusions and future directions

Reports on TRPC6 and intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> concentration are conflicting. According to the conflicting results, the mechanisms of hyperforin on TRPC6 are not fully understood and its effect on the channel seems cell specific and different from antioxidant effect on TRPM2 and TRPV1 in sciatic nerve and DRG neurons. Results of recent studies indicate role of oxidative stress on the activation of TRPC6 in kidney cells (Zhao et al., 2015; Ma et al., 2016), although there is no report on oxidative stress-dependent activation of TRPC6 in brain and neurons. The subject should be clarified by future studies. Therefore, the subject is important to understand the etiopathogenesis of oxidative stress-induced neurological diseases through activation of TRPC6.

### Declaration of interest:

There is no conflict interest and financial support in the study

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# Journal of Cellular Neuroscience and Oxidative Stress

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