

## ALAD VDR

### Abstract

### The Effect of ALAD and VDR Polymorphism on the Hematopoietic Biomarkers in Lead Exposed Workers

Sung-Soo Lee, Nam-Soo Kim, Jin-Ho Kim, Yong-Bae Kim, Young Hwangbo,  
Hwa-Sung Kim, Kyu-Dong Ahn, Byung-Kook Lee

*Department of Preventive Medicine, Medical College and Institute of Industrial Medicine,  
Soonchunhyang University*

**Objectives:** This study was conducted with new workers who entered lead industries from 1992 to 2001 to evaluate the genetic susceptibility of ALAD (  $\delta$ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase) and VDR (vitamin D receptor) gene on health effect of lead exposure.

**Methods:** Among the subjects of the database of lead industries at the Soonchunhyang University Institute of Industrial Medicine, only new workers were selected for this study. The total of eligible workers for this category was 3,540 workers, including non lead exposed workers of same lead industries. From stored blood in specimen bank of Soonchunhyang University, genotype of ALAD and VDR were measured using PCR method. Variables for this study were blood lead as an index of lead exposure, ZPP (zinc protoporphyrin in blood), urine ALA (  $\delta$ -aminolevulinic acid), and hemoglobin as an index of hematopoietic effect of lead. Information on sex, job duration, and weight were collected for personal information. The data were analyzed using SAS (version 8.2) with descriptive analysis of t-test and multiple regression analysis.

**Results:** Among 3,540 new employed study subjects during period of 1992-2001, 3,204 workers (90.5%) had ALAD genotype 1-1, while 336 workers (9.5%) had variant type of ALAD (1-2 or 2-2). For VDR genotype, 2,903 workers (89.7%) out of total tested 3,238 workers were belonged to type bb and 335 workers (10.5%) were type bB or BB. The distribution of genotype of ALAD and VDR were not different according to the job duration in male workers, but were different in female workers. The effect of ALAD and VDR genotype on blood lead were positively significant in the analysis of all cumulative data of new employed workers for 10 years. The effect of VDR genotype on blood lead were stronger than that of ALAD. While the variant ALAD gene made decrease of mean ZPP and ALA in urine after controlling for blood lead and other covariate, the variant VDR gene made increased the mean ZPP and ALA in urine in all cumulative data analysis and cross sectional analysis by job duration. For hemoglobin, ALAD and VDR genotype did not affect the mean value.

**Conclusions:** From the above our results, we found that ALAD and VDR genotype exerted significant effect in various way. We confirmed that the finding of a cross sectional study of protective effect of

variant ALAD on the effect of blood lead on blood ZPP in our retrospective study design. It was found that VDR did not exert protective effect for lead exposure as the variant ALAD did.

**Key Words:** ALAD and VDR polymorphism, Blood lead, Hematopoietic biomarkers

Smith (1995) ALAD 가  
 가 ALAD 가  
 ALAD ALAD 가  
 ALAD (multifaceted) 가  
 Vitamin D receptor) 3 VDR (vitamin D receptor) (tibia) (Schwartz, 2000). VDR calcium mineralization reabsorption 95%가 가 VDR  
 -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase (ALAD) vitamin D receptor (VDR) (Weaver, 2003).  
 -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase (ALAD) 가  
 -aminolevulinic acid (ALA) porphobilinogen ALA 가  
 ALAD1 ALAD2 (polymorphism) VDR  
 ALAD1-1, ALAD1-2 ALAD2-2 3가 (Wetmur, 1994).  
 ALAD  
 가 가  
 (Alexander, 1998; Astrin, 1987; Bergdahl, 1997).  
 Wetmur (1991) ALAD (ALAD1-2) 가 1992  
 가 (ALAD1-1) 2001 3,540  
 , Schwartz (1995) 가  
 zinc proto-porphyrin (ZPP) 가 1 2,683

1 ( ) 857  
3,540 ALAD VDR

cycle 59 1.5 , 72 10

(3) DNA  
MspI 2 μ incubation  
buffer (SURE/Cut 5 buffer L) 5 μ PCR tube  
DNA 20 μ 가  
50 μ 37 24

1) ALAD (Wetmur , 1991)

(1) DNA

15%-K3EDTA Vacutainer

DNA 200  
μ 1.5 ml microcentrifuge tube 25  
μ QIAgen protease K 200 μ AL buffer  
70 10  
Isopropanol (96~100%) 210 μ 가 5  
, 8,000 rpm . 2 ml  
collection tube QIAamp spin column  
, 8,000 rpm

(4) agarose gel  
10 μ 0.5 μ/μ ethidium bromide가  
1.5% agarose gel TBE buffer (Tris base  
0.089 M, boric acid 0.089 M, EDTA 0.002 M)  
150 V 40  
gel UV-trans illuminator 139-473  
DNA  
DNA

Filter

DNA AW buffer  
8,000 rpm 1 2 ,  
13,000 rpm 2  
QIAamp spin column AE buffer 200 μ  
70 incubation 1  
filter 8,000 rpm 1

2) VDR

(1) (Polymerase chain  
reaction; PCR)

ALAD DNA  
Bio RAD Thermal Gene Cyclor

DNA가  
(Polymerase Chain Reaction)

(2) (PCR)  
Bio RAD Thermal Gene

primer ( )  
oligonucleotide primer ,  
4 μg/ml

Cyclor  
primer OPERON (Operon Inc., CA U.S.A)  
oligonucleotide primer

primer PCR  
BsmI-A: 5'-CCC AAC CAT CCC TCT CAG TC-3'  
BsmI-B: 5'-CCC AAC CTC CCT TCC TTT TT-3'

4 μg/μ  
primer  
ALAD-A: 5'-CCCAACCATCCCTCTCAGTC-3'  
ALAD-B: 5'-CCCAACCTCCCTTCTTTT-3'  
10 PCR  
buffer 5 μ, 0.2 mM-dNTP 1 μ, 1-5 u/100  
μ Taq DNA polymerase 0.3 μ (5 unit/μ)  
primer A 1 μ (200  
μg/μ) primer B 1 μ (200 μg/μ) tem-  
plate DNA 3 μ (<1 μg/100 μ 105~106 copies)

10 PCR  
buffer 2 μ, 0.2 mM-dNTP 0.4 μ, 1~5  
u/100 μ Taq DNA polymerase 0.1 μ (5 unit/μ)  
primer A 0.4  
μ (200 μg/μ) primer B 0.4 μ (200 μg/μ)  
template DNA 2 μ (<1 μg/100 μ 105~106  
copies) 20 μ  
PCR 94 3 1 cycle, 94 30  
, 60 30 , 72 1 41  
cycle 59 1.5 , 72 10

50 μ  
PCR 94 3 1 cycle, 94 30  
, 60 30 , 72 1 41

(2) agarose gel

(loading buffer) 2  $\mu$  6 $\mu$  5  $\times$  0.5  $\mu$ / $\mu$   
 ethidium bromide가 1.5% agarose gel 3)  
 comb TBE  
 buffer (Tris base 0.089 M, boric acid 0.089 M, EDTA 0.002 M) polarized Zeeman  
 150 V 40 가 (automic absorption spectrophotometer, Z-8100, Hitachi, Japan)  
 gel Gel document system (autosampler, SSC-200, Hitachi, Japan)가  
 (3) (BsmI) DNA  
 BsmI 0.4  $\mu$  (13 unit/ $\mu$ ) 4) ZPP  
 incubation buffer (SURE/Cut 5 buffer L) 1  $\mu$   
 PCR tube DNA ZPP cover  
 4  $\mu$  가 10  $\mu$  BsmI glass hematoflurometer  
 37 24 , Apal (model: Aviv-206)  
 37 16 agarose gel (Blumberg , 1977).  
 VDR  
 (4) BsmI  
 DNA 825bp BsmI ALA (spectrofluorometer, RF-10A, Shimadzu, Japan)가  
 150-825 BsmI 3 (high performance liquid chromatograph, LC-10AD, Shimadzu, Japan)  
 가 BB 825bp , Bb  
 825, 675, 150 , bb 675, 150

**Table 1.** Study variables of subjects by type of lead exposure and gender

Variable	Lead exposed (N=2,683)				Control (N=857)			
	Male (N=2,485)		Female (N=198)		Male (N=750)		Female (N=107)	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Age (yrs)	28.8*	7.6	37.9	10.1	32.0*	9.3	28.5	12.0
Weight (kg)	63.3*	8.2	55.7	7.4	65.1*	8.7	52.2	6.5
PbB ( $\mu$ g/dl)	30.2*	14.3	34.0	19.5	14.1*	9.1	8.3	4.8
ZPP ( $\mu$ g/dl)	57.8*	42.9	112.5	76.9	39.3*	11.7	51.8	19.5
ALAU (mg/l)	2.4	4.9	2.3	2.4	1.3	1.1	1.3	0.6
Hemoglobin (g/dl)	15.2*	1.3	12.8	1.3	15.0*	1.2	12.9	1.1
ALAD genotype								
1-1, N (%)								
1-2 or 2-2, N (%)	2,242 (90.2)		182 (91.9)		683 (91.1)		97 (90.7)	
	243 ( 9.8)		16 ( 8.1)		67 ( 8.9)		10 ( 9.3)	
VDR genotype								
bb, N (%)	2,016 (89.6)		173 (87.8)		630 (90.8)		84 (87.5)	
bB or BB, N (%)	235 (10.4)		24 (12.2)		64 ( 9.2)		12 (12.5)	

\*; p<0.05

PbB; Pb in blood

ZPP; zinc protoporphyrin in blood

ALAU; delta aminolevulinic acid in urin

ALAD; delta aminolevulinic acid dehydrogenase

VDR; vitamin D receptor

SD; standard deviation



가 53.1±40.8 µg/dl Wetmur(1994) ALAD  
 가 49.4±34.2 µg/dl  
 (p<0.05). ALAD 9 µg/dl  
 가 VDR 가 ALAD  
 34.2±8.9 µg/dl 가  
 33.9±8.3 µg/dl 가  
 (p<0.05), ZPP ALA Alexander (1998)  
 60.8±52.9 µg/dl 2.1±4.1 mg/l 가  
 53.5±40.8 µg/dl 23.1 µg/dl 가  
 1.8±2.2 mg/l (p<0.05). 28.4 µg/dl ZPP 68.6 µg/dl  
 Table 3 ALAD 57.8 µg/dl Schwartz (1995) 3  
 VDR 290  
 ZPP ALAD 40 µg/dl  
 ALAD, VDR  
 VDR 가 ZPP가  
 ALAD VDR 가  
 ALA 가 가  
 ALAD  
 VDR (2002)  
 ALAD  
 ALAD VDR 가  
 ALAD VDR 가 12.2 µg/dl  
 Schwartz (1995) ZPP  
 Alexander (1998)  
 ZPP 가

Heme -aminolevulinic  
 acid dehydratase  
 ALAD1 ALAD2  
 9:1 (Wetmur ,  
 1991). 2 allele ALAD1-1, ALAD1-2 ALAD VDR  
 ALAD2-2 3 . ALAD VDR ZPP가 (p<0.05)  
 가 VDR  
 15~20% , ZPP가 (p<0.05)  
 (Benkmann , 1983;  
 Sousa , 1991). 3,540  
 가 9.5%  
 Schwartz (1995) 11% ALAD  
 9.0% (Benkmann , ZPP  
 1983). , VDR ZPP 가 가

**Table 3.** Linear regression modelling of effect modification by genotype on blood lead with age, gender, lead exposure, weight

Variable	coefficient	SE	p-value	R <sup>2</sup>
<b>LogZPP</b>				
Model 1				0.50
PbB ( µg/dl)	0.0210	0.0005	0.0000	
ALAD12 (Yes=1, No=0)	-0.0731	0.0207	0.0004	
Model 2				0.50
PbB ( µg/dl)	0.0210	0.0005	0.0000	
ALAD12 (Yes=1, No=0)	-0.0793	0.0412	0.0542	
PbB x ALAD12	0.0002	0.0013	0.8610	
Model 3				0.51
PbB ( µg/dl)	0.0209	0.0005	0.0000	
VDR23 (Yes=1, No=0)	0.0564	0.0207	0.0065	
Model 4				0.51
PbB ( µg/dl)	0.0206	0.0005	0.0000	
VDR23 (Yes=1, No=0)	-0.0088	0.0398	0.8254	
PbB x VDR23	0.0024	0.0012	0.0552	
<b>LogALAU</b>				
Model 1				0.23
PbB ( µg/dl)	0.0202	0.0012	0.0000	
ALAD12 (Yes=1, No=0)	-0.0685	0.0519	0.1870	
Model 2				0.23
PbB ( µg/dl)	0.0208	0.0012	0.0000	
ALAD12 (Yes=1, No=0)	0.0423	0.0920	0.6461	
PbB x ALAD12	-0.0043	0.0029	0.1452	
Model 3				0.25
PbB ( µg/dl)	0.0212	0.0012	0.0000	
VDR23 (Yes=1, No=0)	-0.0089	0.0515	0.8621	
Model 4				0.25
PbB ( µg/dl)	0.0212	0.0012	0.0000	
VDR23 (Yes=1, No=0)	-0.0152	0.0952	0.8733	
PbB x VDR23	0.0002	0.0030	0.9378	
<b>Hemoglobin</b>				
Model 1				0.25
PbB ( µg/dl)	0.0097	0.0016	0.0000	
ALAD12 (Yes=1, No=0)	0.0838	0.0746	0.2614	
Model 2				0.25
PbB ( µg/dl)	0.0101	0.0017	0.0000	
ALAD12 (Yes=1, No=0)	0.1806	0.1477	0.2216	
PbB x ALAD12	-0.0036	0.0047	0.4478	
Model 3				0.26
PbB ( µg/dl)	0.0097	0.0017	0.0000	
VDR23 (Yes=1, No=0)	0.1086	0.0740	0.1422	
Model 4				0.26
PbB ( µg/dl)	0.0098	0.0018	0.0000	
VDR23 (Yes=1, No=0)	0.1351	0.1423	0.3427	
PbB x VDR23	-0.0010	0.0045	0.8277	

ALAD Onalaja Claudio (2000)  
 VDR ALA 가 가 ALAD  
 ,  
 가 가  
 ALAD 가  
 가  
 ALAD  
 가 가  
 ZPP ALAD 가  
 ALAD 가  
 ZPP 가  
 VDR 가 가  
 ZPP가 가  
 VDR ALAD 가  
 vitamin D VDR 가  
 D  
 3가  
 VDR  
 : 가  
 VDR 1992 1  
 가 2001 1 3,540  
 (Schwartz , 2000a; Schwartz , 2000b)  
 VDR 가 ALAD VDR ,  
 VDR  
 ZPP  
 :  
 VDR , ZPP  
 ALAD ALA,  
 ALAD VDR heme  
 ALAD t-  
 가 Kim (2004)  
 ALAD  
 : 3,540 ALAD  
 가 ALAD (1-1 ) 가 3,204 (90.5%)  
 , (1-2 2-2 ) 가  
 가 336 (9.5%) , VDR  
 VDR (bb ) 가 3,238 2,903  
 (89.7%) , (bB BB) 가  
 ALAD VDR 335 (10.5%)  
 ALAD VDR  
 ZPP ALAD  
 ZPP

VDR ZPP 가 가  
 ALAD VDR  
 ALA  
 : ALAD  
 가  
 VDR ALAD

Alexander BH, Checkoway H, Costa-Mallen P, Faustman EM, Woods JS, Kelsey KT, Netten C, Costa LG. Interaction of blood lead and  $\delta$ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase genotype on markers of heme synthesis and sperm production in lead smelter workers. *Environ Health Perspect* 1998;106(4):213-6.

Astrin KH, Bishop DF, Wetmur JG, Kaul B, Davidow B, Desnick RJ.  $\delta$ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase isozymes and lead toxicity. *Ann N Y Acad Sci* 1987;5(4):23-9.

Benkmann HG, Bogdanski P, Goedde HW. Polymorphism of  $\delta$ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase in various populations. *Hum Hered* 1983;33:62-4.

Bergdahl IS, Gerhardsson L, Schutz A, Desnick RJ, Wetmur JG, Skerfving S.  $\delta$ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase polymorphism: Influence on lead levels and kidney function in humans. *Arch Environ Health* 1997;52:91-6.

Blumberg WE, Eisinger J, Lamola AA, Zuckerman DM. Zinc protoporphyrin level in blood determination by a portable hematofluorometer; A screening device for lead poisoning. *J Lab Clin Med* 1977;89:712-23.

Onalaja AO, Claudio L. Genetic susceptibility to lead poisoning. *Environ Health Perspect* 2000;108(Suppl 1):23-8.

Kim HS, Lee SS, Kim YB, Hwangbo Y, Lee GS, Ahn KD, Jang BK, Lee BK. The effect of ALAD polymorphism on the relationship of blood and bone lead with hematologic biomarkers in lead exposed workers. *Korean J Occup Environ Med* 2001;13(1):75-86.(Korean)

Kim HS, Lee SS, Lee GS, Hwangbo Y, Ahn KD, Lee BK. The protective effect of  $\delta$ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase 1-2 and 2-2 isozymes against blood lead with higher hematologic parameters. *Environ Health Perspect* 2004;112(5):538-41.

Schwartz BS, Lee BK, Stewart W, Ahn KD, Springer K, Kelsey KT. Associations of  $\delta$ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase genotype with plant, exposure duration, and blood lead and zinc protoporphyrin levels in Korean lead workers. *Am J Epidemiol* 1995;142:738-45.

Schwartz BS, Lee BK, Stewart W, Sithisarankul P, Strickland PT, Ahn KD.  $\delta$ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase modifies four-hour urinary lead excretion after oral administration of demercaptosuccinic acid. *Occup Environ Med* 1997;54:241-6.

Schwartz BS, Stewart WF, Kelsey KT, Simon D, Park S, Links JM, Todd AC. Associations of tibial lead levels with BsmI polymorphisms in the vitamin D receptor in former organolead manufacturing workers. *Environ Health Perspect* 2000a;108(3):199-203.

Schwartz BS, Lee BK, Lee GS, Stewart WF, Simon D, Kelsey KT, Todd AC. Associations of blood lead, dimercaptosuccinic acid-chelatable lead, and tibial lead with polymorphisms in the vitamin D receptor and  $\delta$ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase genes. *Environ Health Perspect* 2000b;108(10):949-54.

Weaver VM, Schwartz BS, Ahn KD, Stewart WF, Kelsey KT, Todd AC, Wen J, Simon DJ, Lustberg ME, Parsons PJ, Silbergeld EK, Lee BK. Associations of renal function with polymorphisms in the  $\delta$ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase, vitamin D receptor, and nitric oxide synthase genes in Korean lead workers. *Environ Health Perspect* 2003;111(13):1613-9.

Smith CM, Wang X, Hu H, Kelsey KT. A polymorphism in the  $\delta$ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase gene may modify the pharmacokinetics and toxicity of lead. *Environ Health Perspect* 1995;103:248-53.

Sousa M, Silva M, Duarte A, Azevedo E.  $\delta$ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase (ALAD) polymorphism in mixed Brazilian from the State of Bahia. *Gene Geogr* 1991;5:33-8.

Wetmur JG, Lehnert, Desnick RJ. The  $\delta$ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase polymorphism; higher blood lead levels in lead workers and environmentally exposed children with the 1-2 and 2-2 isozymes. *Environ Res* 1991;56:109-19.

Wetmur JG. Influence of the common human  $\delta$ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase polymorphism on lead body burden. *Environ Health Perspect* 1994;102(suppl 3):215-9.