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APPLICATION OF RESONANT RECOGNITION MODEL ANALYSIS TO ZIKA VIRUS ENVELOPE PROTEIN.

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RESUMEN: APLICACIÓN DEL MODELO DE RECONOCIMIENTO RESONANTE AL ANÁLISIS DE LAS PROTEÍNAS DE LA CUBIERTA (E) DEL VIRUS DEL ZIKA

Se aplicó el Método de Reconocimiento Resonante a un grupo de secuencias de aminoácidos de siete proteínas de la capa externa del virus del Zika.

Se identificó un pico principal a la frecuencia resonante de Cosic de $f=0.337$. Este valor se corresponde con una frecuencia electromagnética en el espectro visible (color verde-548 nm).

Nuestros resultados sugieren la posibilidad de irradiar el cuerpo con luz monocromática como una alternativa practicable para tratar la fiebre por virus del Zika, sobre todo para evitar el desarrollo de microcefalia fetal asociada a la infección en pacientes embarazadas.

PALABRAS CLAVE: Modelo de Reconocimiento Resonante, Virus del Zika, Proteína, Frecuencia Electromagnética, Infección.

SUMMARY

Resonant Recognition Model Analysis was applied to a group of seven envelope protein sequences of Zika virus. One main peak was identified at Cosic's Resonant frequency of $f=0.337$. This corresponds to an actual electromagnetic frequency in the visible spectrum (green color-548 nm).

Our results point to the plausibility of whole body irradiation with monochromatic light as a low cost and effective means for treating Zika Fever especially for avoiding fetal microcephaly development among pregnant patients.

Key words: Resonant Recognition Model, Zika Virus, Protein, Electromagnetic Frequency, Infection.

INTRODUCTION

On February 1st, 2016, Zika virus (ZIKV) was declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern¹. The figures of Zika fever (ZF) cases are up to 7 digits globally²⁻⁴, and the hypothesis of association of ZIKV with microcephaly as well as Guillain-Barre and ophthalmic anomalies is receiving mounting support⁵.

A vaccine for ZIKV is not expected before 2019, and currently available antivirals are ineffective. There is concern regarding the efficacy of a ZIKV vaccine for curbing a ZF pandemic. This justifies the search for alternative ways for ZIKV combat. As stated by Malone et al⁶: "In the absence of currently available vaccines, the likely long timeline for vaccine development, and the open questions about the basic pathogenesis of Zika virus infection, parallel development of other prophylactics and therapeutics must be explored."

The idea of applying ideas and concepts from the Resonant Recognition Model (RRM) for infectious diseases control has been proposed for treating Ebola Virus Disease⁷ as well as for malaria⁸⁻⁹. The proposed intervention is to irradiate the host (or the vector) with low power monochromatic radiation at a specific wavelength in the range from ultraviolet to terahertz, depending on the specific process/interaction. Experimental evidence supporting RRM as a universal mechanism for protein-to-protein interaction is ample¹⁰⁻¹²; however the idea of using low-power light for infection treatment has not been tested experimentally yet.

The existence of a mouse model for ZIKV¹³, as well as the possibility to apply affordable radiation sources (e.g. LED's⁷) supports the possibility to test the validity of the hypothesis as well as the plausibility of the proposed procedure.

The main idea of the RRM is that proteins do recognize each other as well as their substrates/receptors via exchanging electromagnetic radiation⁸⁻¹¹. This process follows a resonance scenario, and the exchanged energies are in the range of 10-20-10-18 J (0.1-10 eV)¹⁴.

A key aspect of the RRM approach is to predict the resonant frequencies. The procedure has been introduced by Irena Cosic⁸⁻¹¹. For it, one or various proteins that are determinative for fulfilling a given function are analyzed. We hypothesize that through RRM analysis an alternative procedure for ZF treatment can be proposed. Here we are analyzed the envelope (E) 251-AA protein that plays a main role in the antigenic response as well as in the recognition of the host cell. Our results suggest that irradiation with low power monochromatic light (548nm) could be a useful choice for ZF treatment.

METHODS

Resonant Recognition Model.

The following seven amino acid (AA) sequences for ZIKV (strain Mr 766) envelope (E) proteins were

downloaded from UniProt database:

W8QFD5 - W8QFD5_ZIKV
 W8R1N8 - W8R1N8_ZIKV
 W8Q6P9 - W8Q6P9_ZIKV
 W8Q6P1 - W8Q6P1_ZIKV
 W8QFC5 - W8QFC5_ZIKV
 W8QIQ1 - W8QIQ1_ZIKV
 W8QIP7 - W8QIP7_ZIKV

Each sequence contained 251 AA. Mutations were found in 12 different positions (8%).

The primary amino acid sequences were transformed into a numerical series following the Resonant Recognition Model (RRM) methodology⁸⁻¹¹. For it, to each of the 20 amino acids in the entire sequence an electron-ion interaction potential (EIIP) value was assigned (Table 1).

Amino Acid	EIIP
S	0.0829
T	0.0946
Q	0.0761
Y	0.0516
G	0.005
A	0.0373
V	0.0057
L	0.0000
I	0.0000
C	0.0829
M	0.0823
P	0.0198
F	0.0946
W	0.0548
K	0.0371
D	0.1263
E	0.0058
R	0.0959
H	0.0242
N	0.0036

Table 1. EIIP values for each amino acid¹⁰.

This value represents the average energy state of all of the valence electron associated with that amino acid.

The obtained numerical series was treated as a time series. Power spectrum was estimated for each sequence using a SciLab program based on Fourier analysis. For finding the consensus spectrum, all the six cross spectral vectors were submitted to scalar cross multiplication. The obtained product is considered as the consensus spectrum.

The RRM frequency was converted to a true electromagnetic frequency by determining the appropriate wavelength using the empirical function proposed by Cosic¹⁰: $fRRM = 201/\lambda$

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION.

RRM analysis revealed a major peak at $fRRM=0.367$. This peak could be regarded as the main candidate for further studies. This frequency corresponds to wavelength values of 548 nm (green color of visible light respectively).

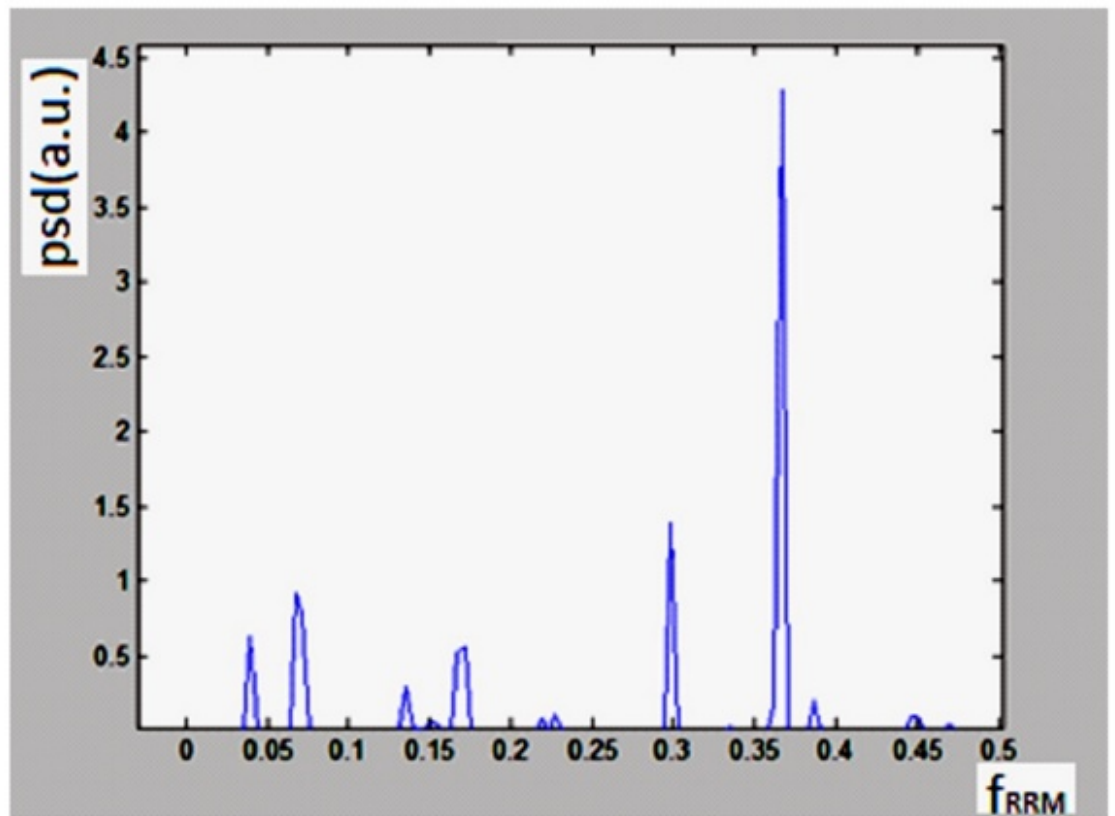


Figure 1. Consensus spectrum for the six ZIKV Envelope AA sequences studied.
Note the main peak at the RRM frequency of $f_{RRM}=0.367$

So far, this seems to be the first attempt to apply RRM to the study of Zika envelope proteins. This structural protein was picked for this study given its key role in viral invasion. The envelope plays a major role in the conformation of the outer part of the virus. The outer part acts as an antigen for antigen-antibody reactions, as well as in the interaction with the host membrane receptors during the entry of the virion into a human cell. Hence, countering the function of the envelope could be among the most effective ways of fighting ZIKV virulence.

Specifically, we are suggesting irradiating the patient with light at this wavelength. According to the RRM, exchange of photons between envelope proteins and host membrane receptors are required for local recognition between the main actors of the viral invasion. The presence of light coming from an external source should disrupt the recognition, and thus counter virion entrance into the cell. Given that wavelength would be expected between 500 nm and 700 nm (on the basis of the results presented here), a plausible intervention would be a whole body irradiation to patients. Considering the risk of microcephaly in newborns, the possibility to apply this treatment to pregnant patients should be especially considered.

The feasibility of this procedure is supported by the fact that exposure of the human skull to blue (465 nm) LEDs with a luminous flux density of about $10 \text{ W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}$ elicits discernable changes throughout the brain as inferred by fMRI activity¹⁵. The availability of mouse model for ZIKV could provide a means for testing the plausibility of the proposed intervention. Following suggestion by Murugan et al, the application of monochromatic or narrow band, LED-generated wavelengths might attenuate the adverse activities associated to ZIKV. The procedure would be non-invasive, relatively inexpensive, and if successful would support the alternative model that molecular reactions can be simulated or virtually controlled by the equivalent electromagnetic energy.

One of the most concern-sensitive issues of ZF is its association with microcephalia in children born from pregnant mothers with ZF. Exposing the mother's womb to monochromatic light could be a practical outcome from the present study. As reported, LED-generated photons at wavelengths between 630 and 800 (nm) can travel 23 cm through the surface tissue and muscle between input and exit at a photo-detector¹⁶. This distance (23 cm) is compatible with the size of a pregnant uterus and thus can provide support for the technical feasibility of the proposed approach. Given the availability of animal models for ZF13, pre-clinical studies might be carried out at a relatively low cost.

CONCLUSIONS:

The application of RRM analysis to the envelope protein of ZIKV allowed identifying a candidate resonant frequency at $fRRM=0.367$; this corresponds to visible light at 548 nm.

These results suggest that whole body irradiation with low power monochromatic sources could be a practical solution, especially for avoiding fetal microcephaly development from pregnant patients.

Testing the plausibility of the proposed method is possible using a mouse model for the disease.

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El modelo de reconocimiento resonante que propone el Dr. Hernández Cáceres ha sido modelizado ya para *Plasmodium* por su propio grupo de la Universidad "Diez de Octubre" de La Habana. Como cualquier contribución debiera ser probado en algún modelo plausible.

Su planteamiento para minimizar la microcefalia en el contexto de la infección por Zika resulta inédito hasta el momento presente. Ya conocíamos su aplicación en el campo de algunos enzimas víricos como las proteasas de los retrovirus. Desde nuestra Revista su difusión permitirá que otros investigadores planteen cuestiones o matices a su propuesta.

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El artículo Application of Resonant Recognition Model Analysis to Zika Virus Envelope Protein del Profesor José Luis Hernández Cáceres, propone un análisis teórico respecto de la posibilidad de utilizar energía electromagnética en el rango de la luz visible como una herramienta potencialmente terapéutica contra la infección por el virus Zika.

El virus Zika es particularmente preocupante por relacionarse con el desarrollo de anomalías en el desarrollo como la microcefalia. Este interesante y novedoso análisis a través del modelo de reconocimiento resonante, sugiere que potencialmente se podría intervenir con la sola aplicación de luz a la longitud de onda y potencia adecuadas, sin reacciones adversas para la madre y el feto. Es un aporte a la discusión científica.