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Effect of ephedrine on morphine antinociception and tolerance induced to morphine antinociception in mice

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OBJECTIVES: In the previous study it has been shown that adrenergic drugs have antinociceptive effect. Ephedrine (ephedrine sulfate) is both an α and a β adrenergic agonist; in addition, it enhances release of norepinephrine from sympathetic neurons. Opioids have different side effects, particularly respiratory depression and dependency. The purpose of the present study was to determine the possible action of ephedrine on morphine antinociception and tolerance induced to morphine antinociception. **METHODS:** To measure antinociception, different doses of morphine (3, 6 and 9 mg/kg, ip), ephedrine (10, 20, 30 mg/kg, ip) and ephedrine (10, 20, 30 mg/kg, ip) + morphine (3, 6 mg/kg, ip) were injected. To develop a tolerance to morphine, antinociception animals received morphine (30 mg/kg, ip) once a day for four days. A test dose of morphine (9 mg/kg, ip) was tested on day 5 (24 h after the last dose of 50 mg/kg morphine). **RESULTS:** Intraperitoneal (ip) injection of different doses of morphine (3, 6 and 9 mg/kg, ip), ephedrine (10, 20, 30 mg/kg, ip) induced a dose dependent antinociception. The responses induced by morphine were increased by ephedrine. Morphine (3mg/kg, ip) in combination with ephedrine (10 mg/kg, ip) tended to elicit higher response (equal to morphine 6 mg/kg). Different doses of ephedrine (10, 20, 30 mg/kg, ip) showed a significant ($P < 0.001$) decrease on morphine tolerance. **CONCLUSION:** It can be concluded that stimulation of adrenergic receptors are at least part of the ephedrine antinociception, and stimulation of these receptors attenuate tolerance induced to morphine antinociception. **Key Words:** Morphine, Tolerance, Antinociception, Ephedrine.

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()

() ()
(-)

(Ephedra)

()



β α

1R, 2S

()

\pm °C

cut off

()

(-)

(G.Streuli & Co.AG, Uznach) mg/ml

(-)

(NYCOMED Austria GmbH , Linz, Austria)

Mean \pm S.E.

ANOVA

Tukey

P<0.05

()

α

(α_2 α_1)



(mg/kg, ip)

(mg/kg, ip)

()

β

α

()

()

(p<0.01)

(ml/kg, ip)

(analgesic β -adrenoceptors)

β

()

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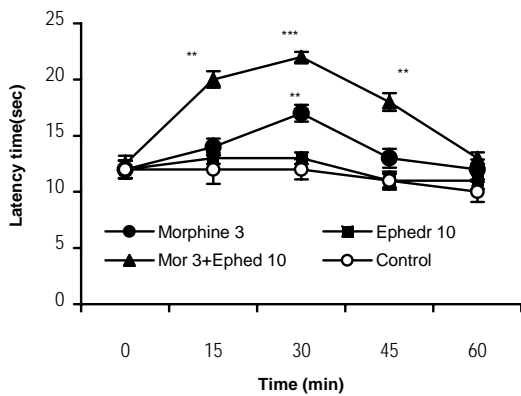
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(mg/kg, ip)

()

(mg/kg, ip)
mg/kg (P<0.05)

(5-HT NE)

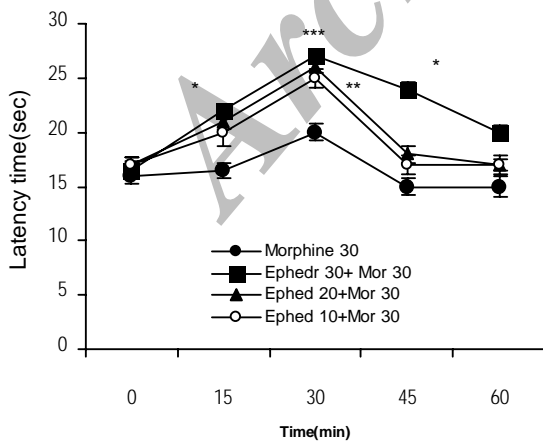


(mg/ kg ,ip) :
 (mg/ kg ,ip)
 Mean± SE
 . (** P < 0.01 , *** P < 0.001)

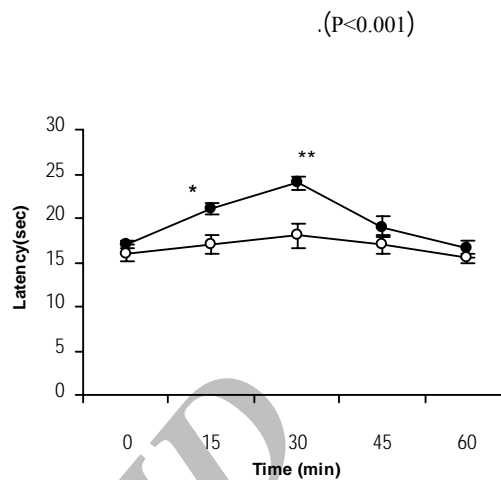
(mg/kg 10, 20, 30 ip)

(mg/kg, ip)
 (mg/kg, ip)
 (mg/kg,ip)
 (mg/kg,ip)

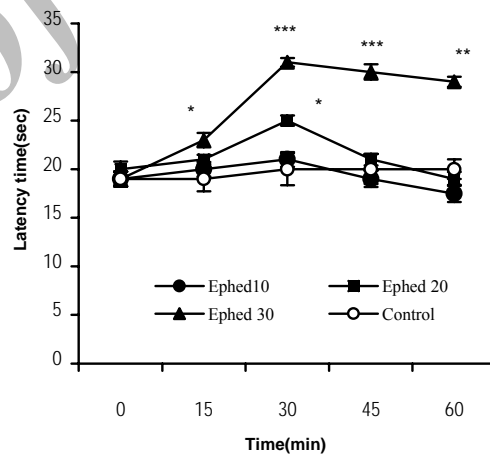
(P<0.001)
 mg/kg



(10,20,30mg/ kg ,ip)
 Mean± SE
) ** P < 0.01 , *** P < 0.001
 (30mg/kg)



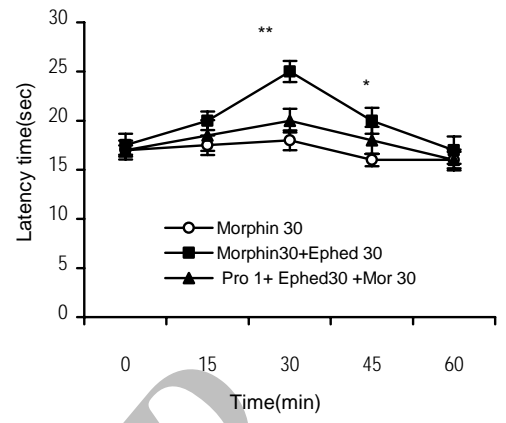
(9 mg/ kg ,ip) :
 () ()
 Mean± SE
 * P < 0.05 , ** P < 0.01 .



10, 20, 30 mg/
 Mean± SE : (kg ,ip)
 * P < 0.05 , ** P < 0.01 , *** P < 0.001 .

(mg/kg, ip) (mg/kg, ip)

mg/kg ()



Mean \pm SE (1 mg/kg, ip) : (30 mg/kg) * P < 0.05, ** P < 0.01.

α_2

()

α_2

()

α_2

β α_2

(mg/kg, ip)

mg/kg ()

(P < 0.01)

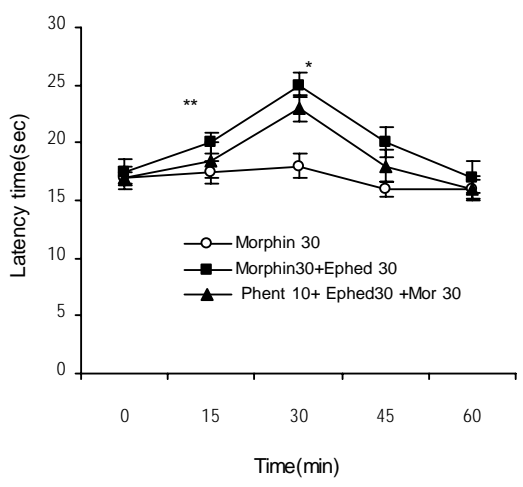
β

mg/kg

NMDA

()

cAMP up regulation



(mg/kg, ip) : (mg/kg)

* P < 0.05, ** P < 0.01 . Mean \pm SE

(AC)

) AC

Na⁺

()

μ

β

cAMP

AC

cAMP

β

cAMP

α

) cAMP

(cAMP

α_1)

(β_2 β_1 α_2)

(β)

(α)

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