Clenbuterol enhances the production of kynurenic acid in brain cortical slices and glial cultures

Elżbieta Luchowska¹, Renata Kloc¹, Sebastian Wnuk¹, Bartosz Olajossy¹, Marian Wielosz¹, Ewa M. Urbańska¹,²

¹Department of Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology, Sukiennice Medical School, Jaczewskiego 6, PL 20-090 Lublin, Poland
²Department of Toxicology, Institute of Agricultural Medicine, Jaczewskiego 2, PL 20-950 Lublin, Poland

Correspondence: Ewa M. Urbańska, e-mail: emurban@poczta.onet.pl

Abstract:
The effect of a β2-adrenergic agonist, clenbuterol on the production of a glutamate receptor antagonist, kynurenic acid was studied in vitro. Clenbuterol enhanced the production of kynurenic acid in brain cortical slices (0.1–1.0 mM) and in glial cultures (1–50 μM). Timolol, a non-selective β2-adrenergic antagonist prevented this effect. The presented data indicate a novel mechanism of action of β2-adrenoceptor agonists and suggest that an increased formation of the endogenous glutamate receptor antagonist, kynurenic acid could partially contribute to their neuroprotective activity.

Key words:
β-adrenergic agonist, kynurenic acid, glial culture, in vitro