

P016 Transient proatherogenic changes in triglyceride-rich lipoprotein subfractions in endotoxic rats
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Bacterial infection elicits hypertriglyceridemia attributed to increased hepatic production of VLDL particles and decreased peripheral metabolism. High levels of circulating large TG-rich VLDLs are associated with atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease. Still, little is known about the lipid distribution among lipoprotein subclasses during the septic response.

To address this, rats were made endotoxic by *Escherichia coli* lipopolysaccharide (LPS) injection, which mimics the hyperlipidemic septic response. After 8 or 18 h, an on-line dual enzymatic method for simultaneous quantification of cholesterol and TG in 20 HPLC-separated lipoprotein fractions was used to assess the lipoprotein lipid profile.

The marked rise in serum TG was mainly associated with large VLDL particles after 8 h, and with medium and small VLDL particles after 18 h of LPS administration. The major cholesterol increase also appeared in large VLDLs at 8 h and besides this at 18 h, in the medium-size particles.

Hence, we show that, in rats, infection promotes a transient proatherogenic VLDL profile.

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