

## Neuroprotective Effects of Multi-vitamin Therapy in Transgenic Mouse Model of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

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**Background:** There is no currently effective treatment for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), although this disorder is a progressive neurodegenerative disease resulting in death within several years. Because recent evidence suggests that homocysteine (HC) is highly related to neurodegenerative disorders with aging, we tried to elucidate the effects of multi-vitamin therapy on G93A SOD1 transgenic mice.

**Methods:** We treated this murine model of ALS with multi-vitamin (folic acid 1.97 mg/day, pyridoxine 0.98 mg/day, cyanocobalamin 0.1 mg/day) from 45 days of age, per oral. We performed the rotarod test from postnatal 10<sup>th</sup> week, weekly.

**Results:** We found that multi-vitamin reinforcement significantly prolonged average lifespan and delayed disease onset with improvement of motor performance. However, it did not significantly slow disease progression and statistical differences of weight loss were not observed between in transgenic mice and controls.

**Conclusions:** These results suggest that multi-vitamin can be a potent therapeutic strategy for familial forms of ALS.

**Key Words:** ALS, Copper/zinc superoxide dismutase, SOD1, Vitamin, Homocysteine, Transgenic mice

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(Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, ALS)

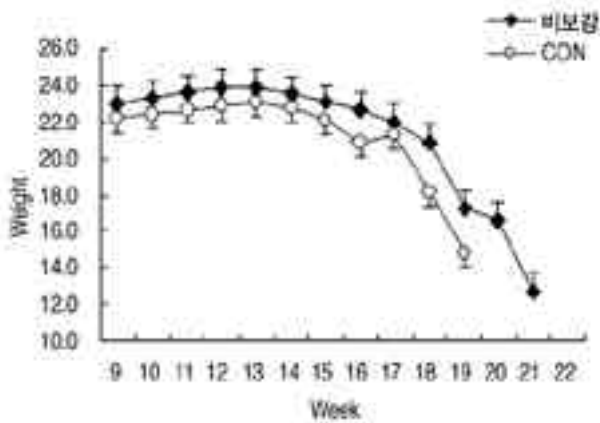
1,2 ALS 90%  
가 ALS (sporadic ALS: SALS) 10%  
가가 ALS (Familial ALS: FALS)  
, FALS 20% Cu/Zn superoxide dismutase (SOD1) (missense mutation) (gain of function)  
FALS SALS  
가  
(patho-

genetic mechanism)  
FALS 1.97 mg, 0.98 mg, B12 0.1 mg  
ALS SALS , SOD1  
<sup>3,4</sup> 가 가  
ALS 가  
ALS 가  
(homocysteine, HC) 10 19  
hydrogen peroxide, hydroxyl radical superoxide reactive oxygen species (ROS) (paralysis of one or both hindlimbs)  
<sup>5</sup> HC (onset of disease) 가 (high frequency)  
(cofactor) HC 가 (hindlimb) (extension) (survival analysis)  
가 가 HC 가 가 30 (sacrificed).  
HC 가 HC 가 2) (Rotarod)  
60 rotarod (motor function test)  
SOD 1 가 가 16 rpm 60  
HC , ALS ALS HC 3 가 rotarod  
2.2 cm 가 (rod) 16 rpm , rotarod  
1 3 가 3  
3 rotarod 3 (disease onset)  
1. 93 (Alanine) (Glycine) SOD1 G93A  
(G93A SOD1 transgenic mice) 3.  
Jackson (Bar Harbor, ME)  
G93A SOD1 B6SJLF1/J pentobarbital (30 mg/kg i.p.) , 0.1M phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) 4% paraformaldehyde 10 4~10 mm  
G93A DNA (Polymerase Chain Reaction, PCR) (enlargement portion)  
12 (light/dark cycle) 4% paraformaldehyde 8 (postfixation).  
(block) (cryoprotection) 30% (sucrose) 24 (dry ice) isopentane  
) 9 , 9 30 μm  
(postnatal) 45 , free-floating method (24~72 , 4 )  
(0.176 mg/ml), (0.088 mg/ml), anti-homocystein antibody (1:500 dilution);  
B12 (cyanocobalamin) (0.0088 mg/ml)

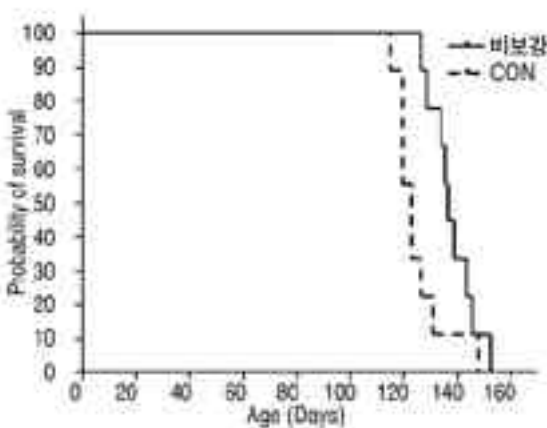
Upstate Biotechnology, NY), monoclonal anti-glial fibrillary acidic protein (GFAP, 1:500 dilution; Sigma), 가 (immunoreactivity), diaminobenzidine (DAB Chromogen; Dakocytomation, CA)

4.

9 가



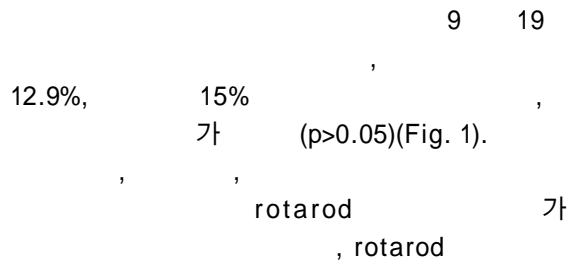
**Figure 1.** Time course of disease progression in G93A SOD1 mice monitored with Body weight measurement (n=9 per treatment group). Body weight monitored weekly. There is no significant difference both groups in body weight. Body weight of multi-vitamin-treated (closed symbols) and saline-treated mice (open symbols) are shown as mean  $\pm$  SEM. Statistical analysis (Man-Whitney U test) showed  $p > 0.05$  for bodyweight.



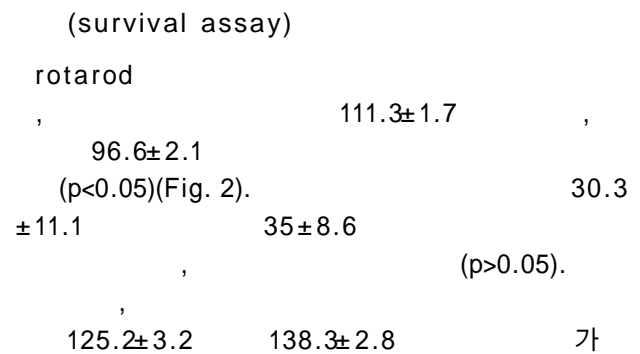
**Figure 2.** Effects of multi-vitamin treatment on survival of G93A transgenic mice (n=9 per treatment group). The age of death, defined as the time mice were unable to roll over themselves within 30 seconds, was recorded for both groups. Results are shown for G93A transgenic mice receiving saline (dashed line) or multi-vitamin (solid line). The analysis was performed using the Kaplan-Meier method. Statistical analysis using a log-rank test showed  $p < 0.05$  for survival.

Kaplan - Meier survival analysis (Log - Rank test)가 rotarod Mann - Whitney U test Graphpad Prism for Windows (version 4.0)

1.



2.



**Figure 3.** The effect of multi-vitamin treatment on motor function in G93A SOD1 transgenic mice from 70 days of age (n=9 per treatment group). There is an improvement in rotarod test. Rotarod performance of multi-vitamin-treated (closed symbols) and saline-treated mice (open symbols) are shown as mean  $\pm$  SEM. (\* $p < 0.05$ , Man-Whitney U tests).

( $p < 0.05$ ).

3.

가 rotarod

( $p < 0.05$ )(Fig. 3).

4.

G93A SOD1

120

(immunohistochemistry)

GFAP

GFAP

가 ALS

가

HC

ALS

G93A SOD1

가

(gliosis)

HC

HC

(methionine)

가

(thiol) 가

(autoxidation)

(superoxide)

gen peroxide)

reactive oxygen species (ROS)

가

, DNA

(nitrogen oxide, NO)

(peroxynitrite, ONOO-)

(methionine)

HC

HC MTHFR, cyathionine -synthase (CBS), methionine synthase (MS)

. DNA

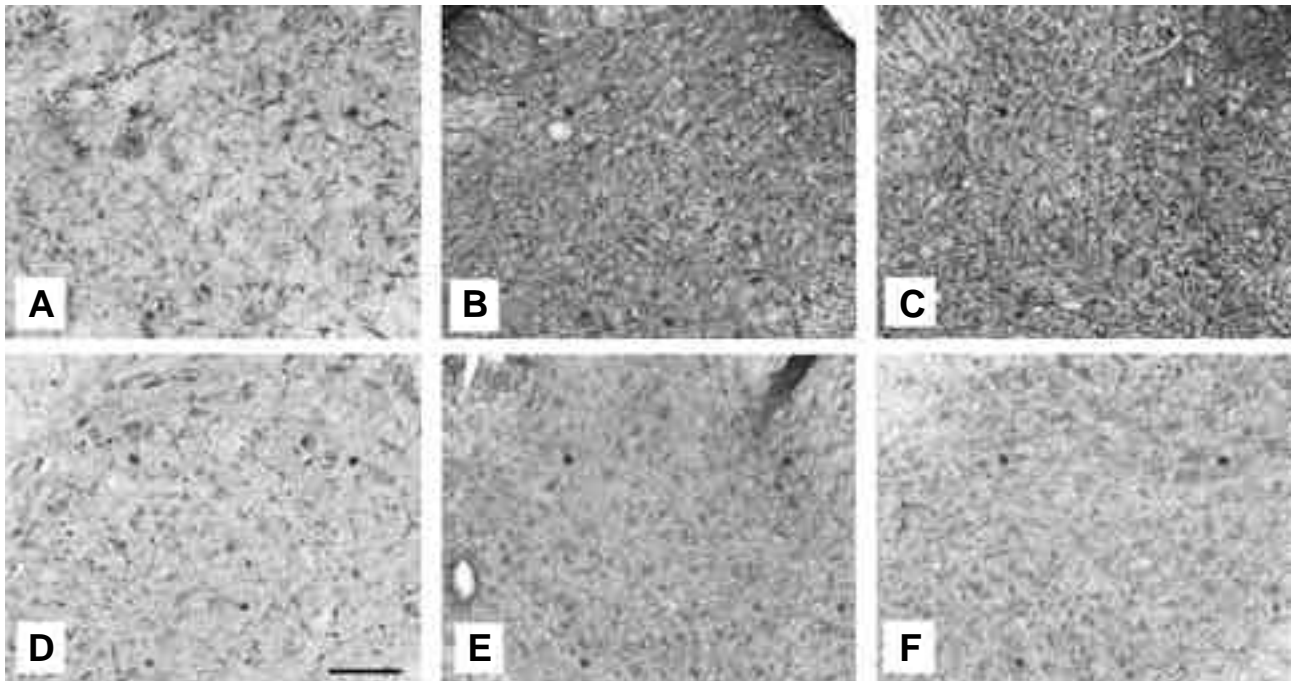
DNA

가 가

가 DNA

NMDA

(glutamate)



**Figure 4.** Effects of multi-vitamin treatment in G93A SOD1 transgenic mice. Immunostaining was performed in the spinal cords of G93A transgenic mice and wild-type mice (non-transgenic littermate) at 120 days of age. Sections of lumbar spinal cords were immunostained with GFAP (A, B, C) and anti-homocysteine antibody (D, E, F). Multi-vitamin-treatment did not reduce GFAP (marker of astrocytosis) (C) in the ventral horn of the lumbar spinal cord of G93A transgenic mice at 120 days of age, compared with wild-type (A) and Saline-treated G93A SOD1 transgenic mice (B). However, multi-vitamin attenuated immunoreactivity for anti-homocysteine antibody (F) in the ventral horn of the lumbar spinal cord of G93A transgenic mice at 120 days of age, compared with wild-type (D) and Saline-treated G93A SOD1 transgenic mice (E). Scale bar = 100  $\mu$ m.

(agonist) .<sup>14</sup> , 10 E  
 HC 가 .<sup>7</sup> ALS 가  
 가 , (hyperhomocysteine ALS 가  
 mia) (atherosclerosis) ALS 가  
 HC 가 (15~20 mmol/l) B12, C, E .<sup>15</sup>  
 , in vitro in vivo  
 가 ALS 가  
 .<sup>6-9</sup> , HC  
 가 30% , HC (Pyridoxal ALS  
 phosphate), B12 HC 가 ALS , GFAP  
 .<sup>10-12</sup> , HC B6 ( ) , HC  
 (cystathionine) ALS  
 (cysteine) (apoptosis)  
 (transamina B12 HC  
 tion) , B12 HC  
 .<sup>8</sup> , ALS  
 HC ALS , A4V SOD1  
 HC , HC  
 .<sup>13</sup> , HC  
 SOD1 ,  
 (antioxidant) (copper  
 chelator) ,  
 (blocker) NOS (inhibitor)  
 NO dependent Guanylyl cyclase  
 .<sup>12</sup> , HC  
 SOD1 (loss of  
 function) ,  
 , ALS HC  
 HC 가 가 ALS  
 가  
 HC 가  
 ALS HC  
 , ALS  
 HC ,  
 가 가  
 ALS  
 가 가  
 C, E, B12  
 ALS  
 가

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