

Remote ischemic preconditioning

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Remote Ischemic Preconditioning (RIPC) is a technique that involves limiting blood flow to a remote organ (such as an arm or leg) in order to induce a state of “ischemic tolerance” in a critical organ (such as the heart or brain), making it more resistant to injury during a subsequent ischemic event. This is achieved by applying brief, repeated cycles of ischemia (restriction of blood flow) followed by reperfusion (restoration of blood flow) to the remote organ. RIPC has shown promise in reducing the risk of ischemic injury in various medical settings, including heart surgery, cardiac arrest, and stroke.

Remote ischemic preconditioning (RIPerC) is a novel neuroprotective method against [cerebral infarction](#) that has shown efficacy in animal studies but has not been consistently neuroprotective in [clinical trials](#).

Otsuka et al. focused on the temporal regulation of [ischemia-reperfusion](#) by RIPerC to establish an optimal method for RIPerC. [Rats](#) were assigned to four groups: 10 min [ischemia](#), 5 min [reperfusion](#); 10 min ischemia, 10 min reperfusion; 5 min ischemia, 10 min reperfusion; and no RIPerC. RIPerC interventions were performed during [ischemic stroke](#), which was induced by a 60-min left [middle cerebral artery occlusion](#). [Infarct](#) volume, sensorimotor function, [neurological deficits](#), and cellular expressions of brain-derived neurotrophic factor ([BDNF](#)), B-cell lymphoma 2 ([Bcl-2](#)), Bcl-2-associated X protein ([Bax](#)), and [caspase](#) 3 were evaluated 48 h after the induction of ischemia. Terminal deoxynucleotidyl transferase-mediated dUTP-biotin nick-end labeling (TUNEL) was also performed. RIPerC of 10 min ischemia/10 min reperfusion, and 5 min ischemia/10 min reperfusion decreased infarct volume, improved sensorimotor function, decreased Bax, caspase 3, and TUNEL-positive cells, and increased BDNF and Bcl-2 expressions. Our findings suggest RIPerC with a reperfusion time of approximately 10 min exerts its neuroprotective effects via an anti-apoptotic mechanism. This study provides important preliminary data to establish more effective RIPerC interventions ¹⁾

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Otsuka S, Itashiki Y, Tani A, Matsuoka T, Takada S, Matsuzaki R, Nakanishi K, Norimatsu K, Tachibe Y, Kitazato R, Nojima N, Kakimoto S, Kikuchi K, Maruyama I, Sakakima H. Effects of different remote ischemia preconditioning methods on cerebral infarct volume and neurological impairment in rats. Sci Rep. 2023 Feb 7;13(1):2158. doi: 10.1038/s41598-023-29475-2. PMID: 36750711.

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