

EFFECTS OF CHOLECYSTOKININ–OCTAPEPTIDE, OXYTOCIN, 8–1–LYSINE–VASOPRESSIN AND THYMOPENTIN ON HUMAN DISEASED GALLBLADDER *IN VITRO*

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Experiments were designed to evaluate the relative contributions of acetylcholine and histamine to the contractile process induced by cholecystokinin–octapeptide as well as the effects of oxytocin, 8–1–lysine–vasopressin and thymopentin on the resting tone of the human diseased gallbladder *in vitro*. The antimuscarinic drugs, atropine and pirenzepine and the antihistamine, pyrilamine did not significantly affect the concentration–dependent contractions to cholecystokinin–octapeptide. It follows, therefore, that acetylcholine and histamine are not associated with cholecystokinin–octapeptide–induced contractions. 8–1–Lysine–vasopressin, but not oxytocin and thymopentin, relaxed the contractions of human diseased gallbladder strips induced by supramaximal concentrations of histamine. The inhibitory effect was concentration–dependent. Finally, 8–1–lysine–vasopressin, oxytocin and thymopentin did not affect the resting tone of the human diseased gallbladder *in vitro*.

Key words: Human gallbladder – Cholecystokinin–octapeptide – Oxytocin – Vasopressin – Thymopentin

INTRODUCTION

The effects of cholecystokinin–octapeptide (CCK–OP) on the human gallbladder have already been studied, although there is no evidence that CCK–OP

