Therapy for hyperthermia-induced seizures in Scn1a mutant rats

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Summary

Purpose: Mutations in the SCN1A gene, which encodes the α1 subunit of voltage-gated sodium channels, cause generalized epilepsy with febrile seizures plus (GEFS+) and severe myoclonic epilepsy of infancy (SMEI). N1417H-Scn1a mutant rats are considered to be an animal model of human FS+ or GEFS+. To assess the pharmacological validity of this model, we compared the efficacies of 8 different antiepileptic drugs (AEDs) for the treatment of hyperthermia-induced seizures using N1417H-Scn1a mutant rats. Methods: AEDs used in this study included valproate, carbamazepine (CBZ), phenobarbital, gabapentin, acetazolamide, diazepam (DZP), topiramate, and potassium bromide (KBr). The effects of these AEDs were evaluated using the hot water model, which is a model of experimental FS. Five-week-old rats were pretreated with each AED and immersed in water at 45°C to induce hyperthermia-induced seizures. The seizure manifestations and video-electroencephalographic recordings were evaluated. Furthermore, the effects of each AED on motor coordination and balance were assessed using the balance-beam test. Key Findings: KBr significantly reduced seizure durations, and its anticonvulsant effects were comparable to those of DZP. On the other hand, CBZ decreased the seizure threshold. In addition, DZP and not KBr showed significant impairment in motor
coordination and balance. **Significance:** DZP and KBr showed potent inhibitory effects against hyperthermia-induced seizures in the *Scn1a* mutant rats, whereas CBZ exhibited adverse effects. These responses to hyperthermia-induced seizures were similar to those in patients with GEFS+ and SMEI. N1417H-*Scn1a* mutant rats may therefore be useful to test the efficacy of new AEDs against FS in GEFS+ and SMEI patients.

**Key words:** Febrile seizure, animal models, *Scn1a* gene, Generalized epilepsy with febrile seizures plus, severe myoclonic epilepsy of infancy
Introduction

Febrile seizures (FS) are the most common convulsive disorder affecting 2–5% of children between the ages of 6 months and 6 years (Verity et al., 1985; Hauser et al., 1994; Offringa et al., 2001). Although most FS are benign, known as simple FS, and do not require treatment, 2–7% of patients with FS subsequently develop epilepsy (Baulac et al., 2004). Generalized epilepsy with febrile seizures plus (GEFS+) is a familial epileptic syndrome characterized by FS persisting beyond 6 years and subsequent development of various types of epilepsy, including generalized tonic-clonic, myoclonic, and absence seizures (Scheffer and Berkovic, 1997). In severe myoclonic epilepsy of infancy (SMEI; also known as Dravet syndrome), repetitive FS begin in the first year of life, and life-threatening status epilepticus is often provoked by fever. Therefore, appropriate treatment of FS is important for patients with GEFS+ and SMEI.

Heterozygous mutations in SCN1A, a gene encoding the α1 subunit in voltage-gated sodium channels (NaV1.1), are responsible for GEFS+ and SMEI. Mutations in SCN1A account for 80% of SMEI cases and 10% of GEFS+ cases (Claes et al., 2001; Ohmori et al., 2002; Hattori et al., 2008). Developments in genetic engineering have enabled the generation of various genetically modified animals, and many researchers can now investigate pathology and new disease treatments using these animals.
Recently, Mashimo et al. generated Scn1a mutant rats (F344/NSlc-Scn1a\textsuperscript{Kyo811}) with the missense mutation, N1417H, using ENU mutagenesis (2008, 2010). These N1417H-Scn1a mutant rats are considered an animal model of human FS+ or GEFS+.

Generally, animal models of human diseases are required to fulfill three criteria, namely face validity, construct validity, and predictive validity (Chadman et al., 2009). Face validity incorporates a conceptual analogy to the symptoms of the human disease. Homozygous N1417H-Scn1a mutant rats exhibited susceptibility to hyperthermia-induced seizures, and their seizures persisted over the age of 5 weeks, whereas WT rats were unaffected. (Mashimo, et al., 2010). Therefore, this model rat showed similar febrile seizures to those seen in patients with GEFS+ and SMEI. Second, construct validity incorporates a conceptual analogy to the cause of the human disease. These rats have an N1417H missense mutation in the causative SCN1A gene of GEFS+ and SMEI. N1417H was not detected in human patients, but the electrophysiological properties of N1417H share a common molecular basis of most of SMEI, and some GEFS+ patients. Namely, the recombinant N1417H-human SCN1A mutation was revealed to have a loss-of-function effect on Na\textsubscript{v}1.1, and the hippocampal neurons of these rats demonstrated impaired biophysical properties of inhibitory GABAergic neurons (Mashimo et al., 2010). We have confirmed that N1417H-Scn1a mutant rats
fulfilled these two criteria in our previous study. Here, we addressed the third criterion, predictive validity. It incorporates the specificity of responses to treatments that are effective in the human disease. We herein evaluated the efficacy of antiepileptic drugs (AEDs) on hyperthermia-induced seizures in the model rats. Potassium bromide (KBr), a traditionally prescribed AED, was found to be as effective as DZP, while CBZ showed adverse effects. These drug-mediated responses to hyperthermia-induced seizures in the new model rats were similar to those in patients with GEFS+ or SMEI.

Materials and Methods

Animals

Male homozygous N1417H-Scn1a mutant rats (F344/NSlc-Scn1a<sup>Kyo811</sup>) (National Bio Resource Project for the Rat in Japan, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan) were used to assess the effects of AEDs against hyperthermia-induced seizures. The susceptibility of wild-type rats to hyperthermia decreases with age, and therefore, these 5-week-old rats showed no indications of hyperthermia-induced seizures, whereas the homozygous N1417H-Scn1a mutant rats demonstrated generalized tonic-clonic seizures induced by hyperthermia until at least 10 weeks of age (Mashimo et al., 2010). The rats were maintained under standard laboratory conditions with a 12-h light/dark cycle and food
and water *ad libitum*. All experiments were performed in accordance with protocols approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee of Okayama University.

*Induction of hyperthermia-induced seizures*

Experimental FS have been extensively studied in a well-established model, in which FS are evoked by exposing the rat pups (postnatal day 8–15) to heated air (Holtzman et al., 1981; Schuchmann et al., 2006), hot water jet on the heads (Ullal et al., 1996), or hot water bathing (Klauenberg and Sparber, 1984). We used hot water bathing from the viewpoint of animal welfare, namely heated air requires longer exposure of the rats to hyperthermic environment and induces more severe seizures compared with hot water bathing (Supplementary Fig. 1). Induction of hyperthermia-induced seizures was performed as described previously, with slight modifications (Mashimo et al., 2010). Hyperthermia was induced by placing the rats in a 19.0 × 24.7 × 15.5 cm water bath (Thermo minder SD mini, Taitec, Japan) filled with water at 45°C to a depth of 6 cm (Fig. 1A). The rats were kept in the water for a maximum of 5 min or until a seizure occurred. We confirmed that immersing the rats in 37°C and 40°C water for 5 min did not evoke seizures (Supplementary Fig. 2). When a seizure occurred, the rats were immediately removed from the bath and monitored until they recovered. Rectal
temperature of the rats was measured immediately after seizure onset using a digital thermometer (BDT-100, Bioresearch Center, Japan) connected to rectal probe (Ret-2, Physitemp, USA). Each rat was assigned a score based on the most severe seizure observed. The seizure parameters were scored as follows: (0) no response; (1) head nodding with brief twitching movements (Fig. 1B); (2) repetitive myoclonic jerks with postural tone (Fig. 1C); (3) jumping and/or running fits (Fig. 1D); (4) generalized tonic-clonic seizure with loss of postural tone (Fig. 1E); and (5) death due to continuous convulsions. Seizure parameters were scored by an investigator who was blinded to the treatment received. All procedures were recorded using a video camera.

_Treatment with AEDs_

To assess the pharmacological validation of N1417H-Scn1a mutant rats, AEDs which have been established to be effective in patients with GEFS+ and SMEI were chosen. AEDs used in the present study included sodium valproate (VPA-Na; Sigma-Aldrich, Japan), phenobarbital sodium (PB-Na; Wako, Japan), diazepam (DZP; Wako, Japan), carbamazepine (CBZ; Sigma-Aldrich, Japan), acetazolamide sodium (AZA-Na; Diamox, Sanwa, Japan), potassium bromide (KBr; Wako, Japan), topiramate (TPM; Toronto Research Chemicals, Canada), and gabapentin (GBP; Toronto Research Chemicals,
Canada). VPA-Na, PB-Na, AZA-Na, KBr, and GBP were dissolved in saline. CBZ, DZP, and TPM were suspended in 10% polyethylene glycol 400 with saline. The rats were fasted overnight and orally administered each AED. Experimental conditions were determined based on the results of preliminary studies (Supplementary Fig. 3). As the appropriate range of each AED for the model rats is not known, we referred to the doses used to treat human epilepsy. The therapeutic range of each AED was determined according to previous literatures as follows: VPA, 40–120 µg/ml (Schmidt, 2009); CBZ, 4–12 µg/ml (Eadie, 2001); PB, 10–40 µg/ml (Schmidt, 2009); GBP, 2–20 µg/ml (McLean, 1999); AZA, 10–20 µg/ml (Granero et al., 2007); DZP, 0.2–0.6 µg/ml (Ogutu et al., 2002); and KBr, 500–1500 µg/ml (Ryan and Baumann, 1999). In cases where the blood concentration did not reach the therapeutic range, a higher dose was administrated to achieve a concentration higher than the top of the therapeutic range of each AED. Seizures were induced when the blood concentration of each AED elevated to an adequate level. VPA-Na (200 mg/kg) was administered for 30 min; CBZ (200 mg/kg), 120 min; PB-Na (50 mg/kg), 240 min; GBP (100 mg/kg), 90 min; AZA-Na (55 mg/kg), 30 min; DZP (5 mg/kg), 15 min; TPM (80 mg/kg), 90 min; and KBr (1800 mg/kg), 90 min before seizures were induced. Experimental conditions of DZP and TPM administration were determined based on previous studies (Ishihara et al., 2000;
Borowicz et al., 2003; Sendrowski et al., 2007). The temperature threshold was measured using the rectal temperature of the rats immediately after seizure onset, in addition to the duration of the seizure and the seizure severity score. After seizure termination, blood samples were obtained from the tail vein of the rats, and the blood concentration of each AED was then measured. Measurement of the blood concentrations of each AED was performed as described in Supplemental Methods.

Electroencephalography

Ictal electroencephalogram (EEG) patterns were also analyzed for four AEDs (AZA, TPM, DZP, and KBr) which exhibits remarkable therapeutic effects and CBZ, which may aggravate hyperthermia-induced seizures. At 4 weeks of age, the rats were implanted with electrodes for EEG recordings. Under pentobarbital sodium anesthesia (35 mg/kg, i.p.; Nembutal, Abbott Laboratories, USA), the rats were fixed to a stereotaxic apparatus (SR-5M, Narishige, Japan). Stainless steel screw electrodes (2.0 Ø × 0.6 × 1.7 mm; Fukuoka Seimitsu, Japan) were implanted bilaterally into the frontal cortex (AP: +0.5 mm; ML: ±3.0 mm from bregma) and occipital cortex (AP: −7.0 mm; ML: ±3.0 mm from bregma). In addition, a stainless steel screw implanted into the posterior end of the skull served as a reference electrode. This assembly was fixed to the
skull with dental cement (UNIFAST II, GC Dental Products, Japan). After a 1-week recovery period, cortical EEGs were recorded through electroencephalography (Neurofax EEG-1200, Nihon Koden, Japan). The duration of the seizure discharges between seizure onset and termination were analyzed.

**Balance-beam test**

Each AED has various side effects on the central nervous system, gastrointestinal organs, urinary tracts, and so on, especially following chronic use. In the present study, we only assessed the acute effects on motor coordination and balance because AEDs were administered as a single dose. This test was performed as described previously, with slight modifications (Carter et al., 1999; Perez et al., 2005). The beam was 105 cm long, 35 mm wide, and was elevated 100 cm above the ground. A black box (20 × 18 × 30 cm) was set at one end of the beam as the goal. A bright light was situated opposite the goal box to encourage the rats to cross the beam (Fig. 5A). The rats were first trained to traverse the beam and were then tested. Crossing time and the number of footfalls were recorded.

**Statistical analysis**

Data are presented as mean ± SEM. Data analyses were performed using non-repeated
measures ANOVA with Dunnett’s *post hoc* test. Seizure severity scores were analyzed using the Kruskal–Wallis H test together with the Mann–Whitney U test, followed by the Bonferroni correction *post hoc* test. Statistical difference was defined as $p < 0.05$.

**Results**

*Effects of AEDs on hyperthermia-induced seizures*

In order to evaluate which AEDs are effective against hyperthermia-induced seizures in *Scn1a* mutant rats, we induced seizures by immersing the rats pretreated with each AED in water at 45°C. The anticonvulsant effects of AEDs were assessed using 4 parameters: incidence of seizure; temperature threshold, calculated from the rectal temperature of the rats immediately after seizure onset; seizure duration; and seizure severity score. DZP and KBr, but no other AEDs, reduced the incidence rate of hyperthermia-induced seizures (Fig. 2A). PB, DZP, TPM, and KBr significantly increased the temperature threshold, whereas CBZ, GBP, and AZA decreased the threshold (Fig. 2B). All AEDs, except CBZ, significantly decreased the seizure duration (Fig. 2C). In particular, AZA, DZP, and KBr shortened the seizure duration dramatically (Fig. 2C). Although DZP and KBr tended to reduce the seizure severity scores, significant changes were not observed (Fig. 2D).
After seizure termination, blood samples were obtained from the tail vein of the rats, and blood concentrations of the AEDs were then measured. Blood concentrations of all AEDs, except those of DZP, increased over the therapeutic range (Table 1). Although the serum level of DZP did not reach the therapeutic range in the 5 mg/kg DZP-treated group, these rats showed ataxia and lethargy in the hot bath; therefore, the dose of DZP was not increased. We couldn’t exclude the possibility that higher doses of some of AEDs may have lead to the different results.

Electroencephalography

Ictal EEG patterns were examined in 5 AEDs (AZA, TPM, DZP, KBr and CBZ). Representative ictal EEG recordings from the rats are shown in Figs. 3 and 4A. It was observed that seizures began as tonic seizures with high frequency spikes, followed by clonic seizures (Fig. 4A). Hyperthermia-induced seizures in Scn1a mutant rats were often provoked as several recurrent seizures with a few seconds interval between the seizures. Before the second tonic-clonic seizure occurs, interictal spikes appear and gradually increase their amplitude. Between the first seizure and the second seizure, high amplitude spikes were associated with myoclonic jerks. We analyzed the duration of the seizure discharges on EEGs between seizure onset and termination (Fig. 4A).
AZA, DZP, and KBr significantly reduced the duration of the seizure discharges, whereas CBZ and TPM showed no significant changes (Fig. 4B).

Balance-beam test

Motor coordination and balance were examined using the balance-beam test for some of the AEDs which showed remarkable inhibitory effects on hyperthermia-induced seizures (Fig. 5A, B). Although control (i.e., untreated) rats walked along the beam with ease, motor deficits were observed in the PB- and DZP-treated groups (Fig. 5C, D). On the other hand, AZA and KBr did not affect motor coordination or balance (Fig. 5 C, D).

Discussion

In total, more than 600 mutations in the SCN1A gene have been identified in patients with SMEI and GEFS+. SCN1A is the most representative mutated gene in human fever-related epileptic syndromes. Patients with SMEI suffer from life-threatening status epilepticus, which is often provoked by fever, and patients with GEFS+ have repetitive FS that can persist beyond 6 years. Therefore, induction of appropriate treatments for FS in the early stages of onset is essential for these patients.
Rodent models harboring the responsible mutant genes are often used to elucidate the molecular pathogenesis and to cultivate novel treatments. *Scn1a* KO mice (Yu et al., 2006; Ogiwara et al., 2007) and R1648H-*Scn1a* mice (Martin et al., 2010) were generated to investigate the *SCN1A* gene. Both types of heterozygous mutant mice exhibited susceptibility to hyperthermia-induced seizures (Oakley et al., 2009; Martin et al., 2010). Homozygous N1417H-*Scn1a* mutant rats in the present study also exhibited susceptibility to hyperthermia-induced seizures.

In the present study, the effects of AEDs on hyperthermia-induced seizures were assessed in homozygous N1417H-*Scn1a* mutant rats. DZP and KBr showed potent effects on hyperthermia-induced seizures in these rats. DZP and KBr demonstrated reduction in the incidence of seizures, increase in the temperature threshold, and shortening of the seizure duration. Furthermore, DZP and KBr also decreased the duration of the seizure discharges on EEG. In the balance-beam test, DZP significantly increased the crossing time and total number of footfalls, whereas KBr did not demonstrate a significant effect on these parameters. Together with the blood level of each AED, these results suggested that DZP in low doses, but not KBr in high doses, influences motor coordination and balance. When the pharmacokinetics between DZP and KBr were compared, DZP was shown to be effective in the short term, whereas KBr
was shown to have a long half-life (12 days) in blood. Development of tolerance to DZP in long-term treatment is well known (Haigh and Feely, 1988). Since DZP is the first choice for treatment of status epilepticus because of its potent anticonvulsant effects, prolonged administration of DZP may decrease the effectiveness of stopping seizures in case of status epilepticus. Therefore, KBr may be recommended for repetitive FS.

PB, VPA and TPM also showed efficacy for preventing hyperthermia-induced seizures. AZA and GBP decreased the seizure threshold but shortened the duration of seizures. However, the molecular mechanisms that induce hyperthermia-induced seizures and terminate seizures remain unknown. The results presented here suggest that the mechanisms that increase the seizure threshold and terminate seizures are different. Although AZA is mainly used for treating absence seizures, its ability to shorten seizures is remarkable. Hyperthermia-induced respiratory alkalosis involves the onset of hyperthermia-induced seizures (Schchmann et al., 2006), and metabolic acidosis terminates seizures and prevents seizure progression (Ziemann et al., 2008). AZA, a carbonic anhydrase inhibitor, is known to cause metabolic acidosis. In fact, AZA-Na (55 mg/kg) decreased the peripheral venous blood pH of rats from 7.38 ± 0.01 to 7.22 ± 0.01 within 30 min of oral administration. This acidosis may have been partially responsible for decrease in the seizure duration in the AZA-treated group. These
findings suggest that AZA is useful for terminating prolonged seizures, but not for inhibiting seizure onset.

Almost all AEDs have a partial effect on hyperthermia-induced seizures. CBZ, on the other hand, significantly reduced the seizure threshold, suggesting that CBZ may aggravate hyperthermia-induced seizures because of its sodium channel blocking effects (Macdonald et al., 2002).

Taken together, KBr and DZP are first-line treatments for hyperthermia-induced seizures in Scn1a mutant rats; PB, TPM and VPA are second-line treatments. It was observed that AZA suppressed and CBZ aggravated hyperthermia-induced seizures. However, how much of these results in the Scn1a mutant rats mimic the results of human epilepsy with SCN1A mutation? In patients with SMEI, of which more than 80% have a mutation in SCN1A, benzodiazepines and VPA are effective in preventing seizures (Ceulemans et al., 2004). KBr also improved generalized tonic-clonic seizures, generalized clonic seizures, and complex partial seizures (Oguni et al., 1994). KBr is known to induce several adverse effects such as drowsiness, headache, acneiform rashes, and loss of appetite. The significant toxicity associated with their use and the availability of safer AEDs may lead to a decrease in the use of KBr. The inhibitory effects of TPM as monotherapy were almost equal to those induced by VPA and PB.
The clinical efficacy of TPM as adjunctive therapy has been reported in SMEI patients (Nieto-Barrera et al., 2000, Coppola et al., 2002). Regarding the adverse effects of CBZ in the model rats, CBZ also aggravated seizures in patients with SMEI and GEFS+ (Guerrini et al., 1998; Horn et al., 1986). These reports in humans are consistent with the results presented here in the Scn1a mutant rats. Scn1a mutant rats seem to considerably reflect the pathogenesis of human SCN1A mutation-associated epilepsy. Considering the many differences, such as the way of treatment, treatment dose, type of seizure, age, gender, genetic background, and environmental factors, these rats may be useful for screening new AEDs or novel treatments for FS associated with SCN1A mutations in order to predict drugs that might be effective in human patients.
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We confirm that we have read the Journal’s position on issues involved in ethical publication and affirm that this report is consistent with those guidelines.

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest: None of the authors has any conflict of interest to disclose.
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Horn CS, Ater SB, Hurst DL (1986) Carbamazepine-exacerbated epilepsy in children


**Figure Legends**

**Figure 1.** Hyperthermia-induced seizures in *Scn1a* mutant rats. (A) Hyperthermia was induced by placing the rats in a water bath filled with water at 45°C. (B) Head nodding and brief twitching movements were classified as a score of 1. (C) Repetitive myoclonic jerks of the forelimbs with a postural tone were classified as a score of 2. (D) Jumping and/or running fits were classified as a score of 3. (E) Generalized tonic-clonic seizures with loss of postural tone were classified as a score of 4.

**Figure 2.** Comparison of effects of AEDs on hyperthermia-induced seizures in *Scn1a* mutant rats. (A) Suppression rate of seizures (%). (B) Temperature threshold. Rectal temperature of the rats was measured immediately after seizure onset (C) Seizure duration (D) Seizure severity score. Untreated (Cont., n = 9), VPA-Na (200 mg/kg, n = 8), CBZ (200 mg/kg, n = 7), PB-Na (50 mg/kg, n = 7), GBP (100 mg/kg, n = 7), AZA-Na (55 mg/kg, n = 12), DZP (5 mg/kg, n = 7), TPM (80 mg/kg, n = 8), and KBr (1800 mg/kg, n = 7). Data are mean ± SEM. *p < 0.05, **p < 0.01 compared to controls (untreated).

**Figure 3.** Representative ictal EEG patterns of a hyperthermia-induced seizure after
treatment with each AED. The top and bottom traces were from the frontal and occipital cortices, respectively.

**Figure 4.** A representative ictal EEG of a hyperthermia-induced seizure from *Scn1a* mutant rats. (A) A seizure began as tonic seizures (the first arrow) with high frequency spikes, followed by clonic seizures. Hyperthermia-induced seizures were often provoked as several recurrent seizures with a few seconds interval between the seizures. Before the second tonic seizure occurs (the second arrow), high amplitude spikes were associated with myoclonic jerks. The asterisk (*) indicates myoclonic jerks. After the termination of seizures, repetitive spikes continued for several seconds with no seizure manifestations (B) The duration of the seizure discharges between seizure onset (the first arrow) and termination (the third arrow) was measured. Untreated (Cont., n = 8), CBZ (200 mg/kg, n = 6), AZA-Na (55 mg/kg, n = 7), TPM (80 mg/kg, n = 6), DZP (5 mg/kg, n = 8), and KBr (1800 mg/kg, n = 7). Data are mean ± SEM. *p < 0.05, **p < 0.01 compared to controls (untreated).

**Figure 5.** Balance-beam test apparatus for measuring motor coordination and balance. (A) A bright light was placed opposite the black box to encourage the rats to perform
the task. The time they took to cross the beam was recorded. (B) The number of times
the hind limb slipped off the beam was counted. (C) Time to cross the beam after
treatment with each AED. (D) Number of footfalls while crossing the beam after
treatment with each AED. Untreated (Cont., n = 14), PB-Na (50 mg/kg, n = 15),
AZA-Na (55 mg/kg, n = 14), DZP (5 mg/kg, n = 7), and KBr (1800 mg/kg, n = 10).

Data are mean ± SEM. *p < 0.05, **p < 0.01 compared to controls (untreated).
Table 1. Blood concentrations of antiepileptic drugs immediately after hyperthermia-induced seizures in Scn1a mutant rats.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>n</th>
<th>Dose (mg/kg)</th>
<th>Blood level (µg/ml)</th>
<th>Therapeutic range (µg/ml)</th>
<th>References</th>
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<tr>
<td>VPA</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>174.7 ± 22.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>CBZ</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>13.2 ± 1.7</td>
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<td>PB-Na</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>40.3 ± 0.8</td>
<td>12–30</td>
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<td>GBP</td>
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<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>AZA-Na</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>49.8 ± 4.0</td>
<td>10–20</td>
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<td>DZP</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.15 ± 0.04</td>
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<td>TPM</td>
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<td>n.d.</td>
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<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>KBr</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1800</td>
<td>1769.1 ± 204.7</td>
<td>500–1500</td>
<td>Ryan and Baumann, 1999</td>
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Data are mean ± SEM.
Figure 1
Figure 2
Figure 3

Untreated

CBZ (200 mg/kg)

AZA-Na (55 mg/kg)

TPM (80 mg/kg)

DZP (5 mg/kg)

KBr (1800 mg/kg)
Figure 4

A

Frontal cortex

Occipital cortex

Onset of the first tonic-clonic seizure

Termination of seizures

Onset of the second tonic seizure

1 mV

5 s

B

Duration of seizures on EEG (s)

Cont  CBZ  AZA  TPM  DZP  KBr

** ** **
Figure 5

A

B

C

D

![Bar charts showing crossing time and number of footfalls for different groups: Cont, PB, AZA, DZP, KBr.](image)

- Crossing time (s)
- Number of footfalls