Thermotherapy-induced reduction in glioma invasiveness is mediated by tumor necrosis factor-alpha

L.J. Qin¹, T. Zhang¹, Y.S. Jia², Y.B. Zhang¹, Y.X. Zhang¹ and H.T. Wang¹

¹School of Basic Medical Sciences, North China University of Science and Technology, Tangshan, China
²College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, North China University of Science and Technology, Tangshan, China

Corresponding authors: L.J. Qin / Y.X. Zhang
E-mail: qinlijuan_1@163.com / zhangyzx_1@163.com

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ABSTRACT. Thermotherapy has been proven to be effective for the treatment of various tumors, including glioma. We determined whether tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF-α) is involved in the regulation of the biological processes of glioma development. Reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) and immunocytochemistry were used to investigate the levels of TNF-α mRNA and heat shock factor-1 (HSF1) protein, respectively, in glioma cells. Radioimmunoassay was used to dynamically monitor the contents of TNF-α in the nutrient fluid of C6 cells after thermotherapy treatment. Crystal violet staining was used to determine glioma invasiveness. The most obvious increases in HSF1 protein and TNF-α mRNA in C6 cells were observed at 30 and 60 min after thermotherapy, respectively. In addition, the radioactivity of TNF-α in the culture fluid of the C6 cells reached a peak after 120 min of thermotherapy. In addition, glioma invasiveness decreased and the concentration of TNF-α reached a maximum after 120 min of thermotherapy. Our results show that the decrease in thermotherapy-mediated glioma invasiveness is due to the
accelerated release of TNF-α, which could promote the release of HSF1 from neurospongioma cells.

**Key words:** Tumor necrosis factor-α; TNF-α; Heat shock factor-1; HSF1; Thermotherapy; Glioma invasiveness