

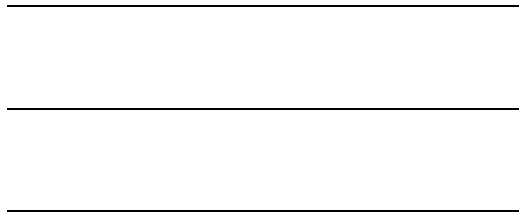
methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase,

cystathionine beta synthase

methionine synthase

homocysteine

methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase,  
cystathionine beta synthase  
methionine synthase  
homocysteine



가

,

,

.

,

.

			1
I.			5
II.			9
1.			9
2.			9
3.			10
4.			13
III.			14
1.	,		14
2.			16
3.			17
4.		homocysteine, folate, vitamin B <sub>12</sub>	
			19
5.			20
6.			
	homocysteine		21
7.	folate	MTHFR 677 genotype	
	homocysteine		22

8.	homocysteine	—	24
IV.	_____		26
V.	_____		30
	_____		34
	_____		40

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## **methylenetetrahydrofolate**

**reductase, cystathionine beta synthase      methionine**

**synthase**

**homocysteine**

hyperhomocysteinemia

, vitamin B<sub>6</sub>, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>,

folate

homocysteine

methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase(MTHFR), cystathionine beta  
synthase(CBS), methionine synthase(MS)

activity

homocysteine

,

,

homocysteine

homocysteine, folate, vitamin B<sub>12</sub> .

DNA MTHFR 677

genotype, MTHFR 1298 genotype, MS 2756 genotype

polymerase chain reaction-restriction fragment length polymorphism  
(PCR - RFLP) CBS 844 68bp insertion

PCR .

45 53 60.8

48.1 homocysteine, folate

. 50% 1

vessel, 2 vessel, 3 vessel , 50%

minimal 22%, 18%, 40%, 20%

2 vessel 3 vessel minimal 1 vessel

homocysteine 가 . folate

2 vessel 3 vessel

. MTHFR 677CC, CT, TT

genotype 33.3%, 48.9%, 17.8%,

35.8%, 41.5%, 22.6% . MTHFR 1298 AA,  
AC, CC genotype 62.2%, 37.8%, 0%,  
62.3%, 34.0%, 3.8% . MS  
2756 AA, AG, GG genotype GG genotype  
68.9%, 31.1%, 84.9%, 15.1%  
AG genotype . 68bp가  
insertion CBS genotype  
. homocysteine MTHFR 677  
genotype CC genotype 10.2  
μmol/L, CT genotype 9.6 μmol/L, TT genotype 12.6 μmol/L TT  
genotype 가 .  
homocysteine  
. folate 25 percentile 4.3 ng/mL  
low, high folate group low folate group MTHFR  
677 genotype homocysteine 가  
high folate group 가 . 가 enzyme

genetic interaction analysis

homocysteine 가 .

가 가

MTHFR 677, 1298 genotype

가 , MTHFR 677

hyperhomocysteinemia .

hyperhomocysteinemia

. folate 가 MTHFR 677

homocysteine

.

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: , , methylenetetrahydrofolate  
reductase, methionine synthase, cystathionine beta synthase,



reductase(MTHFR) . , homocysteine  
 cystathionine beta synthase(CBS) serine cystathionine  
 transsulfuration pathway .  
 가 homocysteinyI - tRNA  
 homocysteine thiolactone  
 .<sup>1,2</sup> homocysteine 가  
 가 <sup>3,4</sup> ,  
 (neural tube defects)<sup>5</sup> , (inflammatory bowel disease)<sup>6</sup>  
 (Alzheimer disease)<sup>7</sup> .  
 homocysteine homocysteine  
 vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, vitamin B<sub>6</sub>, folate 가  
 가 ,  
 homocysteine  
 activity . MTHFR  
 thermolabile variant MTHFR activity가  
 50% 46 thermostability .<sup>8</sup>  
 thermolabile MTHFR autosomal recessive trait  
 5%가 coronary artery disease 가 17%가

, coronary artery disease 가 coronary artery stenosis severity 가 .<sup>9</sup>

thermolabile MTHFR MTHFR gene 677

nucleotide가 cytosine thymine

222 codon alanine valine thermolabile MTHFR

.<sup>10</sup> folate가 homozygote

mutation hyperhomocysteinemia

. Thermolabile MTHFR ,

<sup>11</sup>,

.<sup>12</sup> MTHFR

1298 nucleotide가 adenine cytosine

homocysteine, folate, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>

.<sup>13</sup>

Transulfuration pathway

CBS gene 833 nucleotide

thymine cytosine homocystinuria

CBS enzyme activity .

68bp insertion

(844ins68)

homocysteine

controlled study가

. Methionine synthase (MS)

homocysteine

open reading frame 2756 nucleotide

adenine guanine

919 codon aspartate가

glycine

. DD homozygote 가

hyperhomocysteinemia

, vascular disease neural tube

defect

.<sup>14</sup>

MTHFR, CBS, MS gene

가

,

가

.

가 MTHFR C677T

가

homocysteine

,

가

homocysteine

가

homocysteine

.

homocysteine



homocysteine, folate, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>

MTHFR, CBS,

MS

, 가

II.

1.

45 ,  
50% ( , ,  
) .  
53 .

2.

8  
, , , , ,  
, , , Hitachi 747  
(Hitachi Ltd., Tokyo, Japan) . - 70  
homocysteine, folate, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>  
homocysteine fluorescence polarization immunoassay  
(Automated IMX<sup>®</sup> immunoassay system; Abbott Laboratories, Abbott  
Park, USA) folate vitamin B<sub>12</sub>  
Access<sup>®</sup> Chemiluminescent Immunoassay System (Beckman Coulter,  
Inc., Brea, USA) .

3.

Genomic DNA (High Pure PCR Template Preparation Kit; Roche Diagnostics GmbH, Mannheim, Germany)

EDTA . MTHFR C677T polymorphism

PCR - RFLP PCR 100 ng genomic DNA, Taq

DNA polymerase (Takara biomedical Inc., Kyoto, Japan) 1 U, 10 mM

Tris (pH 8.3), 1.5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 50 mM KCl, 0.2 mM dNTP 0.2

μM primer (forward, 5' - tga agg aga agg tgt ctg cgg ga - 3'; reverse

5' - agg acg gtg cgg tga gtg tg - 3') 25μℓ

5 96 predenaturation , 93 50 ,

55 50 , 72 30 35

72 7 postextension . PCR 10μℓ 10X

restriction buffer 8.5μℓ HinfI(10unit/μℓ, Takara biomedical Inc.,

Kyoto, Japan) 1.5μℓ 37 overnight incubation

. HinfI 198bp PCR CC genotype

, TT genotype 175bp 23bp, CT genotype 198bp,

175bp, 23bp .

MTHFR A1298C polymorphism PCR - RFLP

PCR 100 ng genomic DNA, Taq DNA polymerase 1 U, 10 mM Tris (pH 8.3), 1.5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 50 mM KCl, 0.2 mM dNTP 0.2 μM primer (forward, 5' - ctt cta cct gaa gaa gag caa gtc - 3' ; reverse, 5' - cat gtc cac agc atg gg - 3')

3 95 predenaturation, 95 1, 55  
 2, 72 2 30 72 5  
 postextension . PCR 10μl 10X restriction buffer

8.5μl MboII(10unit/μl, New England Biolabs, Inc., Beverly, USA)  
 1.5μl 37 1

incubation . MboII 256bp PCR AA  
 genotype 176bp 30, 28, 22bp ,

CC genotype 204bp, 30bp, 22bp .

MS A2756G polymorphism PCR - RFLP PCR

100 ng genomic DNA, Taq DNA polymerase 1 U, 10 mM Tris (pH 8.3), 1.5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 50 mM KCl, 0.2 mM dNTP 0.2 μM primer (forward, 5' - tgt tcc cag ctg tta gat gaa aat c - 3' ; reverse, 5' - gat cca aag cct ttt aca ctc ctc - 3')

5 96 predenaturation, 96

30 , 61      30 , 72      30      30  
 72      5      postextension      .      PCR      10 $\mu$ l      10X  
 restriction buffer 8.5 $\mu$ l      HaeIII(10unit/ $\mu$ l, Takara biomedical Inc.,  
 Kyoto, Japan) 1.5 $\mu$ l      37      2  
 incubation      . HaeIII      211bp      PCR      AA  
 genotype      , GG genotype      131bp      81bp  
 .  
 CBS gene      68bp insertion      PCR      100 ng  
 genomic DNA, Taq DNA polymerase 1 U, 10 mM Tris (pH 8.3), 1.5 mM  
 MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 50 mM KCl, 0.2 mM dNTP      0.2  $\mu$ M      primer (forward,  
 5' - ctg cct tga gcc ctg aag cc - 3' ; reverse, 5' - cgt cct gtc cag cac  
 cgt - 3')      25 $\mu$ l      3      95  
 predenaturation      , 92      1 , 52      1 , 72      1  
 35      72      7      postextension      .  
 68bp insertion      227bp      PCR  
 159bp      .

4.

SPSS software (version 9.0 for Windows; SPSS Inc.,

Chicago, IL, USA)

creatinine, homocysteine, folate, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>

two sample t - test, genotype chi - square

test homocysteine

homocysteine

folate

homocysteine

one - way ANOVA

### III.

#### 1.

,  
48.1 60.8  
creatinine 가  
.  
50%  
3 가  
40% . homocysteine folate  
, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>  
(Table 1).

Table 1. Clinical and biochemical data of study population

Characteristics	Control group (n=53)	Patient group (n=45)
Age, years	48.1 ± 11.7	60.8 ± 9.6 <sup>a</sup>
M/F, %	45.3 / 54.7	66.7 / 33.3
Total cholesterol, mg/dL	203.53 ± 32.2	185.6 ± 38.8
LDL - cholesterol, mg/dL	117.4 ± 29.6	105.7 ± 29.8
HDL - cholesterol, mg/dL	56.5 ± 13.1	46.6 ± 12.8
Triglycerides, mg/dL	123.2 ± 89.4	131.9 ± 76.4
Total protein, g/dL	7.5 ± 0.47	6.8 ± 0.48
Albumin, g/dL	4.4 ± 0.26	4.1 ± 0.35
Creatinine, mg/dL	0.85 ± 0.18	1.06 ± 0.29 <sup>a</sup>
Total homocysteine, μ mol/L	10.3 ± 2.93	10.6 ± 4.19
Folate, ng/mL	5.9 ± 2.4	6.1 ± 2.7
Vitamin B <sub>12</sub> , pg/mL	496.1 ± 152.8	726.4 ± 351.8 <sup>a</sup>
No. of stenosed coronary artery		No. of patients (%)
minimal		9 (20%)
1		10 (22%)
2		8 (18%)
3		18 (40%)

Data are expressed as mean ± standard deviation (SD); <sup>a</sup> p - value < 0.05

by two sample t - test



2.

가 50% minimal CAOD 1  
 low grade , 2  
 high grade folate high grade  
 (p - value 0.04) homocysteine high grade  
 (p - value 0.095)

(Table 2).

Table 2. Biochemical data of patient group in disease severity

	Low grade (n=19)	High grade (n=26)	p - value <sup>a</sup>
Total cholesterol, mg/dL	179.4 ± 46.0	189.9 ± 33.3	0.414
LDL - cholesterol, mg/dL	100.4 ± 34.0	109.8 ± 26.1	0.340
HDL - cholesterol, mg/dL	44.9 ± 11.9	47.8 ± 13.5	0.468
Total homocysteine, umol/L	9.44 ± 3.01	11.4 ± 4.74	0.095
Folate, ng/mL	6.31 ± 2.16	5.95 ± 2.99	0.040
Vitamin B12, pg/mL	608.7 ± 249.2	812.3 ± 393.5	0.645

Data are expressed as mean ± standard deviation (SD); <sup>a</sup> p - value by two sample t - test

3.

MTHFR 677 CC, CT, TT genotype 33.3%, 49.9%,  
17.8% 35.8%, 41.5%, 22.6% (p - value  
0.733). MTHFR 1298 AA, AC, CC genotype  
62.2%, 37.8%. 0.0% 62.3%, 34.0%, 3.8%  
(p - value 0.407). MS genotype GG genotype  
AA, AG genotype  
68.9% 31.1% , 84.9% 15.1%  
(p - value 0.049). CBS genotype  
68bp insertion 가 (Table 3).

Table 3. Prevalence of MTHFR C677T, A1298C, MS A2756G, CBS 844 ins68bp genotype in study population.

	Patient, n (%)	Control, n (%)	<sup>2</sup>
<b>MTHFR 677</b>			
CC	15 (33.3)	19 (35.8)	0.733
CT	22 (48.9)	22 (41.5)	
TT	8 (17.8)	12 (22.6)	
<b>MTHFR 1298</b>			
AA	28 (62.2)	33 (62.3)	0.407
AC	17 (37.8)	18 (34.0)	
CC	0 (0.0)	2 (3.8)	
<b>MS 2756</b>			
AA	31 (68.9)	45 (84.9)	0.049
AG	14 (31.1)	8 (15.1)	
GG	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	
<b>CBS 844</b>			
NN <sup>a</sup>	45 (100.0)	53 (100.0)	
NI	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	
II	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	

<sup>a</sup> N, normal sequence; I, insertion

4. homocysteine, folate, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>

MTHFR, MS genotype

homocysteine, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, folate

MTHFR 677 TT genotype homocysteine 가  
가 (Table 4).

Table 4. Correlation of genetic polymorphism and serum homocysteine, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, folate concentration

	Homocysteine ( $\mu\text{mol/L}$ )	Vitamin B <sub>12</sub> (pg/mL)	Folate (ng/mL)
<b>MTHFR 677</b>			
CC (n=34)	10.2 $\pm$ 4.0	623.2 $\pm$ 276.4	6.25 $\pm$ 3.01
CT (n=44)	9.6 $\pm$ 2.3	623.3 $\pm$ 271.6	6.10 $\pm$ 2.25
TT (n=20)	12.6 $\pm$ 4.3	518.4 $\pm$ 331.0	5.38 $\pm$ 2.12
p value <sup>a</sup>	0.007	0.348	0.463
<b>MTHFR 1298</b>			
AA (n=61)	10.8 $\pm$ 3.3	571.5 $\pm$ 282.7	5.76 $\pm$ 2.61
AC (n=35)	9.95 $\pm$ 4.0	650.8 $\pm$ 297.2	6.30 $\pm$ 2.32
CC (n=2)	8.3 $\pm$ 0.4	671.0 $\pm$ 47.9	6.85 $\pm$ 3.75
p value <sup>a</sup>	0.401	0.405	0.520
<b>MS 2756</b>			
AA (n=76)	10.3 $\pm$ 3.0	597.6 $\pm$ 276.3	6.01 $\pm$ 2.61
AG (n=22)	10.8 $\pm$ 5.2	616.6 $\pm$ 325.1	5.87 $\pm$ 2.18
p value <sup>a</sup>	0.542	0.785	0.817

<sup>a</sup> p value by one - way ANOVA

5.

4 MTHFR,  
MS 가 MTHFR  
677TT, MTHFR 1298AC, MS 2756AG genotype  
(Table 5).

Table 5. Genetic polymorphism according to severity of coronary stenosis.

		minimal	1 - VD <sup>a</sup>	2 - VD	3 - VD	<i>P</i> - value <sup>b</sup>
MTHFR 677	CC	3 (33.3%)	2 (20.0%)	3 (37.5%)	7 (38.9%)	0.936
	CT	5 (55.6%)	7 (70.0%)	3 (37.5%)	7 (38.9%)	
	TT	1 (11.1%)	1 (10.0%)	2 (25.0%)	4 (22.2%)	
	Total	9	10	8	18	
MTHFR 1298	AA	5 (55.6%)	5 (50.0%)	7 (87.5%)	11 (61.1%)	0.564
	AC	4 (44.4%)	5 (50.0%)	1 (12.5%)	7 (38.9%)	
	Total	9	10	8	18	
MS 2756	AA	7 (77.8%)	6 (60.0%)	7 (87.5%)	11 (61.1%)	0.566
	AG	2 (22.2%)	4 (40.0%)	1 (12.5%)	7 (38.9%)	
	Total	9	10	8	18	

<sup>a</sup>VD, vessel disease; <sup>b</sup> p value by chi square test

6.

homocysteine

MTHFR, MS genotype

homocysteine

(Table 6).

n 가

가

MTHFR 677 genotype

homocysteine

(p value 0.016).

Table 6. Geometric mean and standard deviation of serum homocysteine for each MTHFR, MS genotypes versus coronary angiographic findings.

	Coronary angiographic findings				
	minimal	1 - VD	2 - VD	3 - VD	Total
MTHFR genotype					
677CC	8.93 ± 1.67 (3)	8.77 ± 2.06 (2)	9.43 ± 2.52 (3)	13.48 ± 7.24 (7)	11.13 ± 5.41 (15)
677CT	8.38 ± 0.84 (5)	8.43 ± 1.19 (7)	13.42 ± 4.53 (3)	9.56 ± 1.98 (7)	9.46 ± 2.54 (22)
677TT	14.39 ± 0.00 (1)	19.81 ± 0.00 (1)	11.74 ± 7.42 (2)	10.98 ± 3.53 (4)	12.70 ± 4.77 <sup>1</sup> (8)
MS genotype					
1298AA	9.23 ± 2.90 (5)	10.96 ± 5.08 (5)	11.87 ± 4.57 (7)	10.98 ± 2.25 (11)	10.89 ± 3.51 (28)
1298AC	9.24 ± 1.32 (4)	8.31 ± 1.35 (5)	8.95 ± 0.00 (1)	12.06 ± 7.90 (7)	10.11 ± 5.21 (17)
MS genotype					
2756AA	9.42 ± 2.45 (7)	8.63 ± 1.41 (6)	11.41 ± 4.70 (7)	10.33 ± 1.73 (11)	10.04 ± 2.81 (31)
2756AG	8.58 ± 1.38 (2)	11.14 ± 5.86 (4)	12.16 ± 0.00 (1)	13.08 ± 7.83 (7)	10.11 ± 5.21 (14)

The number of subjects given is in parentheses;<sup>1</sup> p value 0.016 by one - way ANOVA

7. folate MTHFR 677 genotype homocysteine

folate 25 percentile 4.3 ng/mL

low folate group high folate group

MTHFR 677 genotype homocysteine

. Low folate group CT, TT genotype

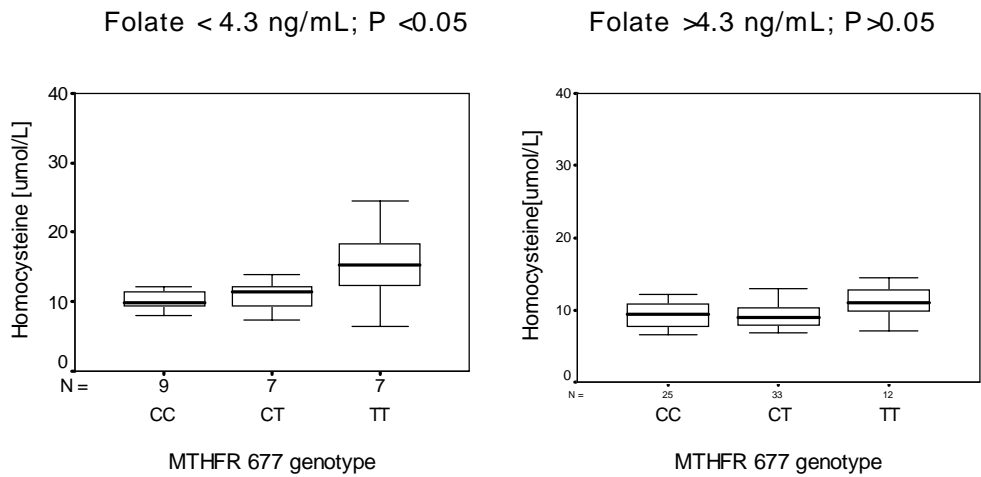
CC genotype homocysteine

가 (p value 0.022). high folate group MTHFR

677 genotype (p value

0.298)(Fig. 1).

Fig. 1. Influence of MTHFR 677 genotype on homocysteine concentration in study population, divided into group with low and high folate concentration.





8. homocysteine

MTHFR 677 genotype, 1298 genotype, MS 2756 genotype

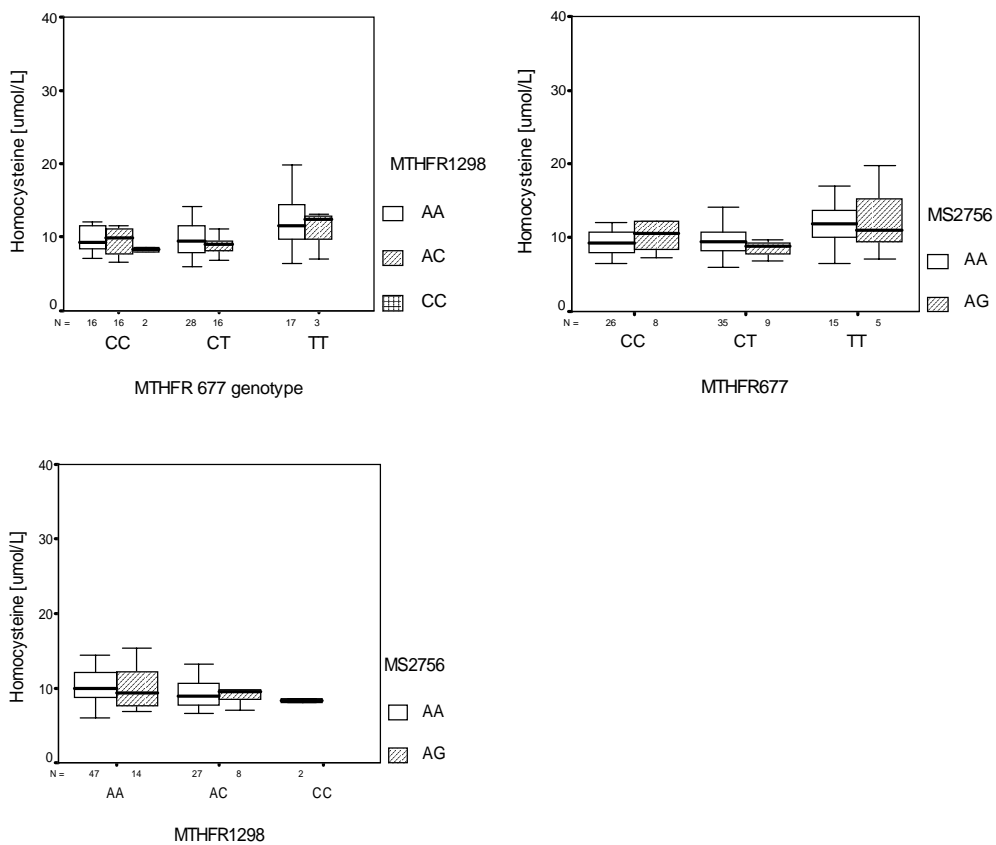
homocysteine

MTHFR 677 genotype homocysteine 가

2가

homocysteine 가 (Fig. 2).

Fig. 2. Genetic interaction analysis. Median homocysteine levels in the combination of MTHFR 677 genotypes vs. MTHFR 1298 genotypes, MTHFR 677 genotypes vs. MS 2756 genotypes and MTHFR 1298 genotypes vs. MS 2756 genotypes.



IV.

hyperhomocysteinemia

, neural tube defect, Alzheimer

. Homocysteine

homocysteine

.<sup>22-24</sup>

.<sup>25</sup> European concerted action program<sup>26</sup>

hyperhomocysteinemia 12 umol/L Framingham

Heart Study 가 11.4 umol/L

가 homocysteine 10 umol/L

.<sup>27</sup> hyperhomocysteinemia

homocysteine 가 15 - 30 umol/L <sup>28</sup>

hyperhomocysteinemia CBS,

MTHFR, MS enzyme enzyme activity , vitamin B6,

vitamin B12, folate .

homocysteine

가 가 homocysteine 가 가 .

가 .

Homocysteine

가 가 MTHFR

677 codon cytosine thymine

37 MTHFR activity가 50%

hyperhomocysteinemia . MTHFR C677T

genotype (CC, CT, TT) 33.3%, 48.9%,

17.8%, 35.8%, 41.5%, 22.6%

genotype homocysteine 가 10.2, 9.6, 12.6

umol/L CC genotype

MTHFR C677T genotype hyperhomocysteinemia

가 . MTHFR 1298 condon adenine

cytosine MTHFR enzyme activity가 50 - 60%  
 , CBS 844 68bp insertion  
 MS 2756 codon adenine guanine  
 hyperhomocysteinemia 가 .  
 MTHFR A1298C genotype (AA, AC, CC)  
 62.2%, 37.8%, 0%, 62.3%, 34.0%, 3.8%  
 CC genotype  
 . MTHFR A1298C genotype  
 homocystine . MS A2756G genotype (AA, AG,  
 GG) GG genotype  
 68.9%, 31.1%, 84.9%, 15.1% AG genotype  
 . MS A2756G genotype  
 homocysteine . CBS 844 codon  
 68bp insertion MS 2756 GG genotype  
 . MTHFR C677T  
 homocysteine 가 가 .  
 hyperhomocysteinemia folate vitamin B<sub>6</sub>,

vitamin B<sub>12</sub> (enzyme cofactor)가  
 folate vitamin B<sub>12</sub> . folate 25  
 percentile 4.3 ng/mL low folate group  
 MTHFR C677T genotype homocysteine 가  
 CBS, MS . ,  
 folate 가 MTHFR 677 TT genotype  
 genotype homocysteine 가 가  
 . folate deficiency 5 - methyltetrahydrofolate  
 (5 - MTHF) homocysteine methionine  
 remethylation transsulfuration pathway  
 5 - MTHF transsulfuration pathway S - adenosylmethionine  
 (SAM) demethylation SAM  
 homocysteine 가 가 가 .  
 vitamin B<sub>12</sub> deficiency  
 vitamin B<sub>12</sub>가  
 vitamin B<sub>12</sub> homocysteine  
 remethylation homocysteine 가 가  
 5 - MTHF transsulfuration pathway가

activation      vitamin B<sub>12</sub> deficiency      folate deficiency

hyperhomocysteinemia가 .

가      가

homocysteine      homocysteine

MTHFR, CBS, MS 가

homocysteine .

homocysteine

.      가      가

.

V.

가

hyperhomocysteinemia    homocysteine    MTHFR,

CBS, MS    , folate, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>

homocysteine, folate, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>    PCR    PCR - RFLP

MTHFR C677T, MTHFR A1298C, MS A2756G, CBS 844 ins68

1.    45    53    homocysteine

10.6 ± 4.19, 10.3 ± 2.93 umol/L    가    .

2.    50%

minimal, 1 vessel, 2 vessel, 3 vessel    20%, 22%,

18%, 40%    2 vessel, 3 vessel    minimal,

1 vessel    homocysteine    (11.4 ± 4.47 vs.

9.44 ± 3.01)가    ,

folate    (5.95 ± 2.99 vs. 6.31 ± 2.16)



3. MTHFR 677 CC, CT, TT genotype 33.3%, 48.9%, 17.8%, 35.8%, 41.5%, 22.6%

MTHFR 1298 AA, AC, CC genotype

62.2%, 37.8%, 0%, 62.3%, 34.0%, 3.8%

. MS 2756 AA, AG, GG genotype

GG genotype

AA, AG genotype

68.9%, 31.1%,

84.9%, 15.1%

AG

genotype

(p - value 0.049).

CBS

genotype

68bp insertion

4.

homocysteine

MTHFR

C677T

CC genotype

10.2 umol/L, CT genotype

9.6 umol/L, TT genotype

12.6

umol/L TT genotype

가

folate, vitamin B<sub>12</sub>

가

5.

homocysteine .

6. folate 25 percentile 4.3 ng/mL

low, high folate group low folate

group MTHFR C677T

homocysteine 가 high

folate group 가 .

7. genetic interaction

analysis homocysteine

가 .

MTHFR C677T, A1298C

MS A2756G, CBS

644ins68 , MTHFR C677T

hyperhomocysteinemia .

hyperhomocysteinemia

가 가

. folate 가 MTHFR C677T

homocysteine

MTHFR 677 TT genotype folate

가 .

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## Abstract

**Genetic variation of the methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase, cystathionine beta synthase and methionine synthase gene in Korean patients with coronary artery obstructive disease and its correlation to homocysteine level**

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Homocysteine has been recognized as an independent cardiovascular risk factor. Moderate hyperhomocysteinemia with homocysteine levels within the range of 15 to 30  $\mu\text{mol/L}$  may result from a variety of causes including genetic factors, nutritional factors (e.g. folate, vitamin B<sub>6</sub> and B<sub>12</sub>) and

renal insufficiency. Genetic factors that contribute to the etiology of hyperhomocysteinemia include common polymorphisms of key enzymes involved in homocysteine metabolism such as methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase (MTHFR) C677T, A1298C, cystathionine beta synthase (CBS) 844 ins 68, methionine synthase (MS) A2756G.

To assess the influence of these polymorphisms on the homocysteine level, we determined the biochemical marker, such as total cholesterol, creatinine, homocysteine, folate, vitamin B<sub>12</sub> and the prevalence of MTHFR C677T, A1298C, CBS 844 ins 68, MS A2756G, in 45 patients with angiographically documented coronary artery disease and compared it to that in 53 healthy controls. The results were as follows.

1. There were no significant difference in homocysteine, folate and other biochemical marker between patients and controls. But vitamin B<sub>12</sub> and creatinine level was significantly higher in patients.
2. Homocysteine level of patients with high grade coronary stenosis (i.e. 2 vessel or 3 vessel) were slightly higher compared to that of low grade coronary stenosis (i.e. minimal or 1 vessel).

3. There were no significant differences in the prevalence of the different genotypes between patients and controls. Of the controls 35.8% were homozygous for the MTHFR 677C allele, 41.5% were heterozygous, and 22.6% were homozygous for the 677T allele. And 62.3% were homozygous for the MTHFR 1298A allele, 34.0% were heterozygous, and 3.8% were homozygous for the 1298T allele. In MS 2756G allele, 84.9% were homozygous for the 2756A allele, 15.1% were heterozygous form. No homozygous for the 2756G allele was found. In CBS 844, 68bp inserted form was not found.
4. The mean homocysteine level was significantly higher in individuals who were homozygous for the MTHFR 677T allele compared with individuals homozygous for MTHFR 677C allele or heterozygous form ( $P = 0.007$ ). But there were no significant differences in other polymorphisms.
5. We could confirm that the MTHFR 677 mutation contributes to a further increase of homocysteine level in individuals with low folate (<25 percentiles).

6. Genetic interaction analysis was carried out to determine the genotype effects on homocysteine levels become more distinct with gene - gene interaction. But every combination of gene was not significantly increase homocysteine levels.

The prevalence of MTHFR C677T, A1298C polymorphism in Korean was similar to that of population reported to date. But the prevalence of CBS 644ins68, MS A2756G polymorphism is lower. We could confirm that among the studied polymorphism, the MTHFR C677T mutation is the only major genetic determinant of the plasma homocysteine level. And its effect was more intensified in combination with low folate levels.

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Key Words: Coronary artery occlusive disease, Homocysteine, Methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase, Methionine synthase, Cystathionine beta synthase, Genetic polymorphism