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Hydrogen Sulfide in Redox Biology Part A

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Enrique Cadenas and Lester Packer



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METHODS IN ENZYMOLOGY

Hydrogen Sulfide in Redox Biology Part A

Edited by

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METHODS IN ENZYMOLOGY

Hydrogen Sulfide in Redox Biology Part A

METHODS IN ENZYMOLOGY

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PREFACE

Hydrogen sulfide is viewed as the third gasotransmmitter, gaseous signaling molecule, together with nitric oxide and carbon monoxide. The cellular sources of hydrogen sulfide involve enzymes of the trans-sulfuration pathway CBS (cystathionine β -synthase), CSE (cystathionine γ -lyase), and 3MST (3-mercaptopyruvate sulfur-transferase). Storages of hydrogen sulfide occur in mitochondria (iron–sulfur clusters of enzymes) and cytosol (bound sulfane sulfur). Of course, the release of hydrogen sulfide from these storages is tightly regulated by several pathophysiological processes.

In addition to the myriad of effects arising from hydrogen sulfide as a signaling molecule, it also protects against oxidative stress and glutamate toxicity, inhibits the release of insulin, preserves mitochondrial function, and is a modulator of inflammatory responses. These pleiotropic effects of hydrogen sulfide have been the subject of numerous investigations in the last years and are largely accounted for by as its role as a gaseous signaling molecule. Hydrogen sulfide may act alone or in conjunction with other gasotransmitters and, in doing so, it regulates a number of physiological processes and is involved in some stages of the pathogenesis of several diseases.

These volumes of *Methods in Enzymology* were designed as a compendium for hydrogen sulfide detection methods, the pharmacological activity of hydrogen sulfide donors, the redox biochemistry of hydrogen sulfide and its metabolism in mammalian tissues, the mechanisms inherent in hydrogen sulfide cell signaling and transcriptional pathways, and cell signaling in specific systems, such as cardiovascular and nervous system as well as its function in inflammatory responses. Three chapters are also devoted to hydrogen sulfide in plants and a newcomer, molecular hydrogen, its function as a novel antioxidant.

In bringing these volumes of *Methods in Enzymology* to fruition, credit must be given to the experts in various aspects of hydrogen sulfide research, whose thorough and innovative work is the basis of these *Methods in Enzymology* volumes. We hope that these volumes will be of help to both new and established investigators in the field.

ENRIQUE CADENAS
LESTER PACKER

CONTENTS

Contributors Preface	xi xv
Section I Hydrogen Sulfide Detection Methods	
1. Mechanistic Chemical Perspective of Hydrogen Sulfide Signaling	3
Péter Nagy	
 Introduction Bioavailability of Sulfide—The Signal Inorganic Polysulfides Sulfide Signaling Via Protein Sulfhydration Sulfide Signaling via Sulfide—Hemeprotein Interactions Conclusions Acknowledgments References 	5 5 9 13 18 23 24 24
 Measurement of H₂S In Vivo and In Vitro by the Monobromobimane Method Xinggui Shen, Gopi K. Kolluru, Shuai Yuan, and Christopher G. Kevil 	31
 Introduction Experimental Methods Summary Acknowledgment References 	32 35 43 43
3. Hydrogen Sulfide Detection Using Nucleophilic Substitution-Cyclization-Based Fluorescent Probes Bo Peng and Ming Xian	47
 Introduction Design and Synthesis of the Probes Chemistry and Properties of the Probes Applications of the Probes in H₂S Imaging in Cell-Based Experiments Conclusions Acknowledgments References 	48 49 50 55 60 61

	Azide-Based Fluorescent Probes: Imaging Hydrogen Sulfide	
	in Living Systems	63
	Vivian S. Lin, Alexander R. Lippert, and Christopher J. Chang	
	1. Introduction	64
	2. Fluorescent Azide-Based H ₂ S Probes	66
	3. In Vitro Characterization of Probes	69
	4. Detection of H ₂ S in Live Cells Using Fluorescent Probes	72
	5. Conclusions	77
	Acknowledgments	78
	References	78
5.	Chemiluminescent Detection of Enzymatically Produced H ₂ S	81
	T. Spencer Bailey and Michael D. Pluth	
	1. Introduction	82
9	2. Chemiluminescent Probes for the Determination of Sulfide	85
	3. Examples of Routine Probe Usage	89
	4. Detection of Enzymatically Produced H ₂ S	92
	5. Conclusions	95
	Acknowledgments	96
	References	96
	Quantification of Hydrogen Sulfide Concentration Using Methylene Blue and 5,5'-Dithiobis(2-Nitrobenzoic Acid)	
	Methods in Plants	101
	Zhong-Guang Li	
>	1. Theory	102
2	2. Equipment	103
	3. Materials	104
2	4. Protocol 1	105
	5. Step 1: Quantification of H ₂ S Concentration Using MB Method	106
(5. Protocol 2	107
	7. Step 1: Quantification of H_2S concentration using 5,5'-dithiobis	
	(2-nitrobenzoicacid) method	108
	Acknowledgment	110
-	References	110
	H₂S Analysis in Biological Samples Using Gas	
	Chromatography with Sulfur Chemiluminescence Detection	111
,	Victor Vitvitsky and Ruma Banerjee	
6	1. Introduction	112
	2. Principle of the GC-Coupled Sulfur Chemiluminescence Method	112

	 Protocol for GC-Coupled Sulfur Chemiluminescence Detection of H₂S Analysis of Biological Samples Additional Technical Details Acknowledgment References 	114116122122122
Ну	tion II drogen Sulfide Donors and Their Pharmacological tivity	
	Use of Phosphorodithioate-Based Compounds as Hydrogen	107
	Sulfide Donors	127
	Chung-Min Park and Ming Xian	
	1. Introduction	128
	2. Synthesis of Phosphorodithioate-Based Donors	129
	3. Measurements of H ₂ S Generation from the Donors Using	
	Fluorescence Methods	133
	4. H ₂ S Release from the Donors in Cultured Cells	135 138
	5. Donor's Activity Against H ₂ O ₂ -Induced Cell Damage	140
	6. Summary	140
	Acknowledgments References	140
	nelelences	1 10
9.	GYY4137, a Novel Water-Soluble, H ₂ S-Releasing Molecule	143
	Peter Rose, Brian W. Dymock, and Philip K. Moore	
	1. Introduction	144
	2. Why Slow Releasing H ₂ S Donors?	146
	3. The Development and Characterization of GYY4137	147
	4. Facile Synthesis and Chemical Characterization of GYY4137	148
	5. Biological Effects of GYY4137: An Overview and Potential Role in Disease?	149
	6. The Effect of GYY4137 in Nonmammalian Systems	159
	7. Conclusion	161
	References	162
10	Neuroprotective Effects of Hydrogen Sulfide in Parkinson's	
	Disease Animal Models: Methods and Protocols	169
	Xue Xue and Jin-Song Bian	
	1. Introduction	170
	2. PD Animal Models	170
	3. H ₂ S and Its Releasing Compound Treatment	176
	4. Behavior Tests	177

viii Contents

 5. Immunohistochemical Assay 6. Brain H₂S Activity Tests 7. Prospects of H₂S Therapy on PD and Conclusions Acknowledgment References 	178 180 182 184 184
Section III Hydrogen Sulfide Metabolism in Mammalian Tis	ssues
11. Assay Methods for H ₂ S Biogenesis and Catabolism Enzy	
Ruma Banerjee, Taurai Chiku, Omer Kabil, Marouane Libiad, Nicole Motl, and Pramod K. Yadav	
1. Introduction	189
2. Assays for H ₂ S Biogenesis	191
3. Assays for Enzymes Involved in H ₂ S Catabolism	195
Acknowledgments	199
References	199
12. Oxidation of H ₂ S in Mammalian Cells and Mitochondria	
Abbas Abou-Hamdan, Hala Guedouari-Bounihi, Véronique Lenoi	G.
Mireille Andriamihaja, François Blachier, and Frédéric Bouillaud	
1. Introduction	202
2. Sulfide in the Context of Mitochondrial Bioenergetics	203
3. Practical Issues	208
4. Sulfide Oxidation Experiments	214
5. Treatment, Expression, and Interpretation of Results	222
6. Originality and Interest with Regard to Bioenergetics	225
Acknowledgments	227
References	227
13. Redox Regulation of Mammalian 3-Mercaptopyruvate	
Sulfurtransferase	229
Noriyuki Nagahara, Masatoshi Nagano, Takaaki Ito, and Hidenori	Suzuki
1. Introduction	230
2. Redox Regulation of Cysteine Metabolism and MST	235
3. Regulation of MST Activity via Redox-Sensing Molecular Switche	es 235
4. MST Knockout Mouse	245
5. Other Investigation	251
References	252

14. Role of Human Sulfide:Quinone Oxidoreductase in H ₂ S	
Metabolism	255
Michael R. Jackson, Scott L. Melideo, and Marilyn Schuman Jorns	
1. Introduction	256
2. Expression of Human SQOR in E. coli	257
3. Purification of Recombinant Human SQOR	257
4. Catalytic Assays	259
5. Spectral Properties of Recombinant Human SQOR	260
6. Survey of Potential Sulfane Sulfur Acceptors for Human SQOR	261
7. Spectral Course of SQOR Catalytic Assays with Sulfite, Cyanide,	
or Sulfide as Sulfane Sulfur Acceptor	263
8. Steady-State Kinetic Parameters for H ₂ S Oxidation by SQOR with	
Sulfite, Cyanide, or Sulfide as Sulfane Sulfur Acceptor	265
9. Role of Human SQOR in H ₂ S Metabolism	267
Acknowledgment	268
References	269
15. H ₂ S Regulation of Nitric Oxide Metabolism	271
Gopi K. Kolluru, Shuai Yuan, Xinggui Shen, and Christopher G. Kevil	
1. Introduction	272
2. Techniques Determining Enzymatic Activity and Expression of NOS	275
3. Detection of NO and Its Metabolites	278
4. Novel Adducts from H ₂ S-NO Interactions	287
5. Conclusion	292
Acknowledgments	293
References	293
Author Index	299
Subject Index	317



Hydrogen Sulfide Detection Methods





Mechanistic Chemical Perspective of Hydrogen Sulfide Signaling

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Contents

1.	Introduction	5
2.	Bioavailability of Sulfide—The Signal	5
	2.1 Endogenous sulfide production	6
	2.2 Sulfide catabolism	8
	2.3 Endogenous sulfide buffers	9
3.	Inorganic Polysulfides	9
	3.1 Biological relevance	9
	3.2 Speciation and redox capacity of polysulfides	10
	3.3 Polysulfide formation by sulfide oxidation	11
	3.4 Stability of polysulfides	12
4.	Sulfide Signaling Via Protein Sulfhydration	13
	4.1 Mechanisms of persulfide formation	14
5.	Sulfide Signaling via Sulfide-Hemeprotein Interactions	18
	5.1 Sulfide mediates heme protein functions	19
	5.2 Heme proteins generate sulfide oxidation products	21
	5.3 Antioxidant properties of sulfide via reduction of metal	
	centers with higher oxidation states	22
6.	Conclusions	23
Acknowledgments		
References		

Abstract

Hydrogen sulfide is now a well-appreciated master regulator in a diverse array of physiological processes. However, as a consequence of the rapid growth of the area, sulfide biology suffers from an increasing number of controversial observations and interpretations. A better understanding of the underlying molecular pathways of sulfide's actions is key to reconcile controversial issues, which calls for rigorous chemical/biochemical investigations.

Protein sulfhydration and coordination/redox chemical interactions of sulfide with heme proteins are the two most extensively studied pathways in sulfide biochemistry. These pathways are important mediators of protein functions, generate bioactive