

Analysis of the effect of parathyroid hormone (PTH)
treatment on osteoblastogenesis from leptin
receptor-positive mesenchymal stem cells
(副甲状腺ホルモンによる Leptin 受容体陽性間葉系幹細胞の
骨芽細胞分化機構の解析)

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Analysis of the effect of parathyroid hormone (PTH)
treatment on osteoblastogenesis from leptin
receptor-positive mesenchymal stem cells

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Bone marrow mesenchymal stem and progenitor cells (BM-MSPCs) maintain homeostasis of bone tissue by providing osteoblasts. Although studies have suggested that MSPCs are observed as leptin receptor (LepR)-positive cells in BM, these cells still contain non-MSPC populations. On the other hand, genetic lineage tracing approaches revealed that intermittent parathyroid hormone (iPTH) treatment induced osteoblastic differentiation from BM-MSPCs. However, little is known about the mechanistic

details of these process in vivo. Here, we demonstrate that the LepR+MSPC population contains Runx2-GFP^{low} sub-population, which possesses higher stem cell activity, than the Runx2-GFP⁻ stromal population. In response to iPTH treatment, LepR+MSPCs differentiate into Type I collagen α (Coll)+mature osteoblasts. Along with osteoblastogenesis, the number of Coll+ mature osteoblasts increased around the bone surface, although most were characterized as quiescent cells. However, the

number of LepR+MSPCs also increased in the vicinity of bone tissue, and the cell cycle was accelerated in these cells by iPTH treatment. The expression levels of osteoblastic markers were increased in the LepR+MSPC population in response to iPTH treatment. In contrast, the expression levels of markers for adipocytes decreased in this population. Altogether, our re-

sults indicate that Runx2 is weakly expressed in the LepR+MSPC population without osteoblastic commitment, and iPTH treatment expanded the LepR+MSPC population and skewed their lineage differentiation from adipocytes toward osteoblasts through cell cycle withdrawal.