

INTRODUCTION

Bioactive peptides are encrypted within the primary of **food proteins** where they remain inactive until realise by hydrolysis. **Antihypertensive peptides** are those peptides which have the ability to modulate the activity of the enzymes and receptors that regulate human **blood pressure**. They could modulate the **renin-angiotensin system (RAS)** and other pathways like **arginine-nitric oxide system**.

This project focuses on describing the main peptides and protein hydrolysates **production methods** and their subsequent *in vitro* and *in vivo* **activity essays**. Also, it describes which **molecular targets** such **ACE** inhibits and how. And, finally, it classifies hypotensive peptides according to their **protein source**.

METHODOLOGY

- Bibliographic search of reviews and research articles in databases.
- Reading and abstracting the collected literature in order to elaborate the written review.

Keywords: antihypertensive peptides, ACE-inhibitor peptides, food proteins, protein hydrolysates

HYPERTENSION PHISIOPATHOLGY & PEPTIDES ACTION MECHANISMS

THE RENIN-ANGIOTENSINE SYSTEM & ARGINE-NITRIC OXIDE SYSTEM PAHTWAYS

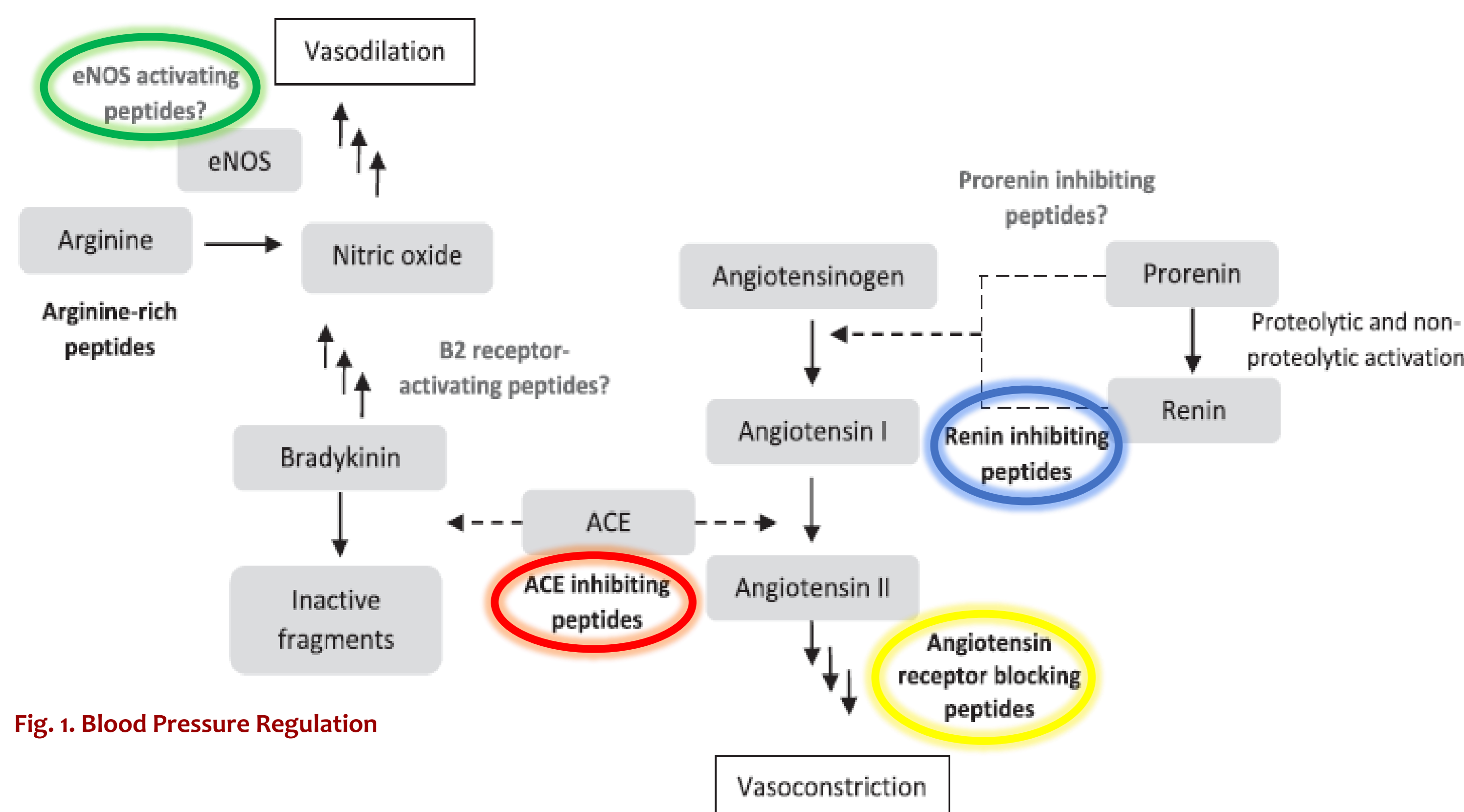


Fig. 1. Blood Pressure Regulation

ACE INHIBITION

The **primary structure** of peptides is a relevant factor to search potentially ACE inhibitors. **Statistical modelling** plus *in vitro* essays are used to identify the active peptides sequence with **peptides databases** help. The results obtained for ACE-inhibitors are:

- BBCAAs like Valine & Isoleucine
- AAAs like Phenylalanine, Tryptophan
- C-terminal Proline

* Wu et al., & Sagardia et al. reveal the importance of **C-terminal sequence**.

- C2 (aa +)
- C4 (Trp)

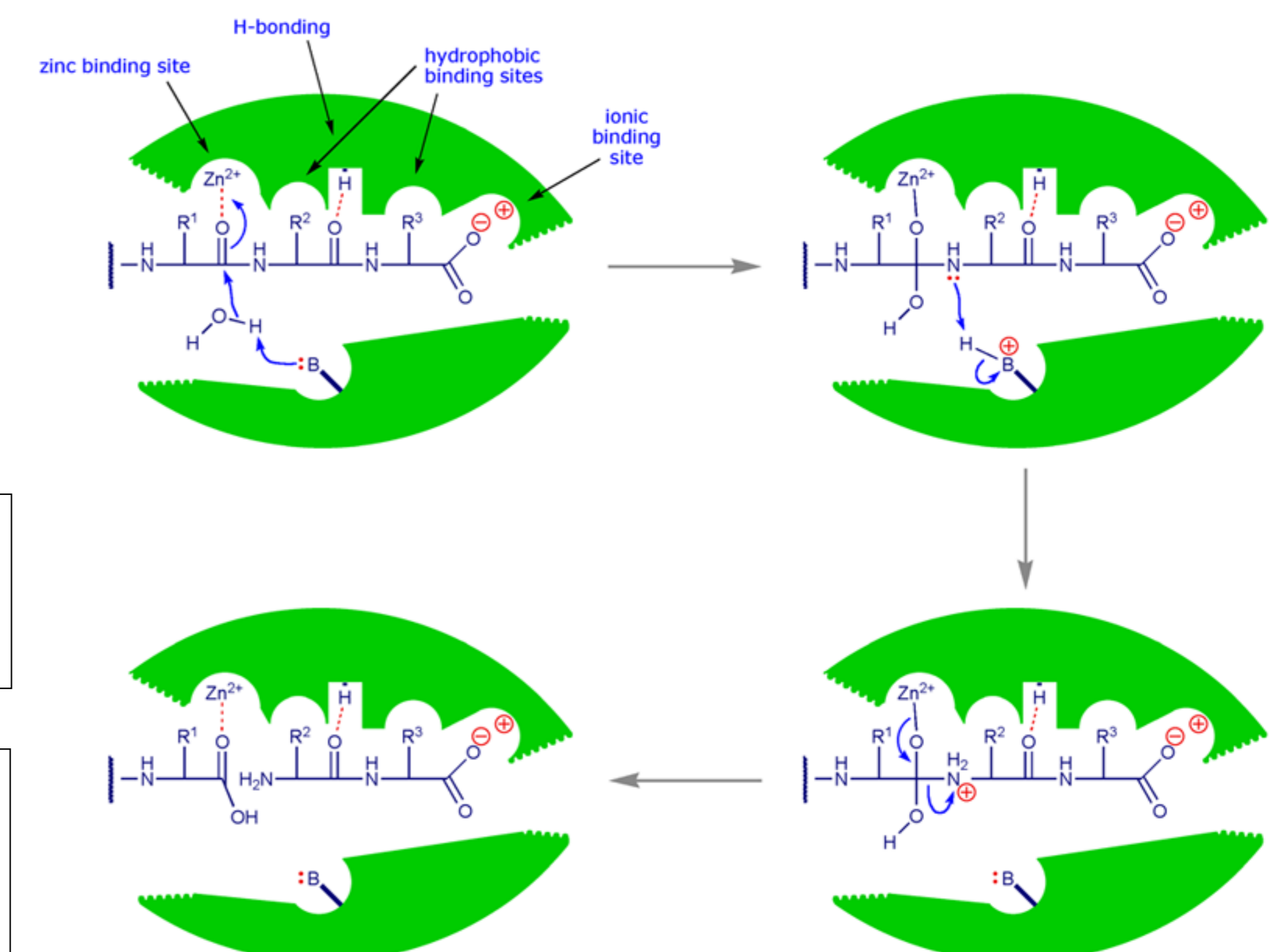


Fig. 2. ACE inhibitors action mechanism

Examples of antihypertensive peptides depending on molecular targets

- ➔ -Collagen hydrosilate inhibits competitively. (1)
- ➔ -Egg albumen peptides from lysozyme inhibits no competitively. (2)
- ➔ Pea protein hydrosilate studied with SHR model and human. (3)
- ➔ Egg pentapeptide (RVPSL) reduce mRNA expression. (4)
- ➔ Egg peptide (Arg-Val-Pro-Ser-Leu) reduce renal AT-II renal RNAm expression. (4)
- ➔ Lactoferrin milk peptide block AT-II. (5)
- ➔ Amarant glutenin digested by tripsin induce NO production. (6)

FROM PROTEIN SUBSTRATE TO COMERCIAL PRODUCTS

PROTEIN SOURCE

The population ingest an average of **50-70 g of protein per day**. Some of antihypertensive peptides had been found intrinsically in natural products, such as fermented food like tofu or cured meats. The most studied food groups are **milk** and **eggs**, but recently scientists have been studying another kind of animal and vegetable proteins.

PROTEIN HYDROLIS

- **Chemic hydrolysis:** Use of **acid** and **alkali** solutions. Bad specificity.
- **Enzymatic hydrolysis:** Use of **proteases** and **peptidases** (optimal T° & pH). **Enzyme cleavage** is very important to originate bioactive peptides.
- **Microbial fermentation:** During the fermentation, some **bacteria** and **yeast** secrete **exoproteases** that digest food proteins.
- **Recombinant DNA technology:** Genetic recombination is used to achieved DNA which will express a novel mRNA, translating a novel protein. Emerging methodology.

COMERCIAL PRODUCT

Name	Product type	Active sequence(s)
Calpis®	Fermented milk product	VPP, IPP
Vasotensin®	Bonito protein hydrolyzate	LKPNM, LKP
Peptide C12®	Casein hydrolyzate	FFVAPFPEVFGK
Evolus®	Fermented milk product	VPP, IPP
Tensiocontrol®	Egg protein hydrolyzate	RADHPEL, YAEERYPL, IVF
Biozate®	Whey protein hydrolyzate	Whey peptides
Lowpept®	Casein hydrolyzate	RVLGV, AVFYPEL

Before commercialisation of novel products is necessary exhaustive investigations to prove the antihypertensive effects in **humans** and the **minimum doses** needed.

ASSAY TESTING

In vitro

The reduced or potentiated activity of a enzyme involved in blood pressure modulation could be estimated by different methods, like **spectrophotometry**, **HPLC** or **fluorometry**.

In vivo

Consist on proving the antihypertensive peptides effects, like the measure of systolic and diastolic blood pressure, in **spontaneous hypertensive rats** modelling (SHR).

CONCLUSIONS

There are multitude of different antihypertensive peptides. Those hypotensive peptides could be classified according to their **natural source** (e.g. milk), their **production method** (e.g. enzymatic hydrolysis), the **molecular targets** that they modulate (e.g. ACE) or the correspondent **activity assays** to evaluate their antihypertensive potential (e.g. SHR).

Also, one key is their **bioavailability**. Some of they are not available to be absorbed by intestinal epithelium, or they could be digested by endogens enzymes and become inactive.

FUTURE PRESPECTIVES

Anyway, antihypertensive peptides are a suitable tool to **reduce the blood pressure**. In the near future they could **substituted synthetics drugs**. For now, more research, concerning the **structural requirements** for modulating the biological targets is needed. As well as **humans essays** that demonstrate the healthy properties of peptides **reducing** the incidence of **hypertension**.

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