Cold atmospheric plasma causes a calcium influx in melanoma cells triggering CAP-induced senescence

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Supplementary information

Supplement 1. Schematic figure. Experimental set up for direct **(A)** and indirect **(B)** plasma treatment during Ca²⁺ time lapse imaging. PE stands for polyethylene.

Supplement 2. Excitation spectrum of fura-2 in pbECS is not changed by CAP exposure. The excitation spectrum of fura-2 diluted in pbECS with and without Ca^{2+} was measured before and after treatment with 30 s CAP. The spectra were measured three times and normalized to the isosbestic point at 360 nm. Fluorescence emission was collected above 440 nm (long-pass filter).

Supplement 3. The majority of the Ca²⁺ response is reached faster by indirect CAP treatment than by direct CAP treatment. A,B) Overlay of cytoplasmic Ca²⁺ measurement by direct CAP treatment with 30 s exposure and by indirect CAP treatment with 120 s exposure of Mel Im (A, n = 660 and 485) and Mel Juso (B, n = 492 and 321). For better illustration, the moment of application of the CAP-treated pbECS solution and the start of direct CAP treatment were set at zero. C,D) Calculation of the ratio between Δ 30 s/ Δ 180 s. Data are shown as mean and 99% confidence interval.

Supplement 4. Application of pbECS treated with CAP for 0–120 s. The application of untreated pbECS does not trigger a Ca^{2+} influx in Mel Im (A, n = 182) and Mel Juso (B, n = 377). In contrast to responses in all cells at the application of pbECS pretreated with CAP for 120 s, only 6% of Mel Im cells (n = 185) react to pbECS pretreated with CAP for 60 s and 2% to CAP for 30 s (n = 252). Mel Juso cells did not respond with Ca²⁺ influx when exposed to pbECS pretreated for 60 s and 30 s (n = 305 and 371).

Supplement 5. CAP exposure causes no membrane damage. Measurement of intracellular propidium iodide positive cells (PI+) by flow cytometry. PI was added direct after 30 s CAP treatment of Mel Im (A, n = 3 experiments) and Mel Juso (B, n = 3 experiments). The percentage of PI positive cells of untreated cells was compared to the CAP-treated cells. Representative cytograms of PI fluorescence vs. FL1-H (height) channel fluorescence were exemplary shown. Data are shown as mean \pm SEM.

Supplement 6. CAP induces senescence in melanoma cells on different ways. A) Mel Im (n = 3 experiments) and Mel Juso (n = 3 experiments) were simultaneously loaded with the Ca²⁺ chelator BAPTA AM (10 μ M) and mRNA expression of p21 and p16 was determined 48 h after CAP treatment and compared with the respective controls with or without BAPTA AM pretreatment. **B,C**) Senescence-associated β-galactosidase staining of Mel Im (n = 5, one run) 48 h after CAP exposure for 30 s with or without BAPTA AM (10 μ M) pretreatment. Representative pictures were taken with a 20x magnification in bright field illumination. Senescent cells showed a blue staining due to senescence-associated β-galactosidase activity. Data are mean ± SEM (**C**).











