[Supplementary Information]

Similarity of therapeutic networks induced by a multi-component herbal remedy, Ukgansan, in neurovascular unit cells

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Supplementary Table 1. Biological properties of the herbal components of UGS.

Supplementary References

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Supplementary Table 3. List of individual chemical compounds included in each functional subcategory of kinase inhibitors.

Supplementary Fig. S1. Full length images of gels of Fig. 1c. HBVP cells were treated with TGF-1 (10 ng/mL) and each herbal extract for 24 h. MMP-9 enzymatic activity was assessed by gelatin zymography using the culture supernatants of each sample. Areas of gelatinase activity were detected as clear bands against the blue-stained gelatin background. Con represents untreated control samples and S represents TGF- β 1-treated samples.

Supplementary Fig. S2. Effects of UGS and its herbal components on LPS-stimulated BV-2 microglia. BV-2 microglial cells were pretreated with each herbal extract for 2 h and then stimulated with LPS (1 μg/mL) for an additional 22 h. The supernatants were collected and applied to ELISA for IL-6. The left panel presents the effects of UGS and the 3 herbal component mixtures (Mix), while the right panel presents the effects of individual herbal components (C1–C7). The white bar (Con) represents untreated control samples and the black bar (S) represents LPS-stimulated samples. Data represent the mean \pm standard error of 3 independent experiments. ###p < 0.01 vs untreated cells; *p < 0.05, **p < 0.01 or ***p < 0.001 vs LPSstimulated cells.

Supplementary Fig. S3. Effects of UGS and its herbal components on the Aß-induced mouse model of Alzheimer's disease. For the immunohistochemistry (IHC) assay, Aβ aggregates (10 μmol per 10% dimethyl sulfoxide in PBS) were injected into the intracerebroventricular (ICV) region of ICR mice in stereotaxic coordinates. Vehicle or each herbal extract was orally administered for 21 days. Expressions of NeuN and desmin in the hippocampus and Iba-1 in the cortex were determined by IHC (magnification, ×200) and then quantified using ImageJ as shown in right panel. Data represent the mean ± standard error of 3 independent experiments. ###p < 0.01 vs untreated samples; *p < 0.05, **p < 0.01 or ***p < 0.001 vs Aβstimulated samples. The length of the scale bar indicates $250 \mu m$.

Recovery rate by herbal components

Supplementary Fig. S4. Therapeutic similarities between neurovascular cell types based on in vitro experiments. HT22, BV-2, and HBVP cells exposed to H₂O₂, LPS, and TGF-β1, respectively were treated with each herbal component. For HT22 cells, cytotoxicity was determined by the CCK assay. For BV-2 cells, the amount of TNF-α was measured. For HBVP cells, MMP-9 enzymatic activity was assessed. The therapeutic effect of each herbal component was measured as recovery ratio compared with untreated cells, then compared among neurovascular cell types.

Supplementary Fig. S5. Functional connections between neurovascular cells based on gene expression. HT22, BV-2, and HBVP cells were exposed to H2O2, LPS, and TGF- β 1, respectively. Total RNA extracts from cultivated cells were analyzed by RNA-seq technology. Gene expression levels were compared with those of control cells to obtain expression ratios. Genes showing expression ratios above 2 or below 0.5 in each experimental condition were identified as DEGs. GO terms associated with DEGs from each stimulated neurovascular cell type were identified with DAVID, and redundancies removed using ReviGO. The resultant GO terms were connected with each other based on the common genes (p < 0.001) included in each pair of GO terms, as determined by the Enrichment Map. Node size and edge thickness represent the number of genes included in a GO term and shared by a pair of GO terms, respectively.

Supplementary Fig. S6. Functional connections between neurovascular cells and mouse hippocampus based on gene expression. HT22, BV-2, and HBVP cells were exposed to H₂O₂, LPS, and TGF-β1, respectively. Mice were injected with Aβ into the intracerebroventricular (ICV) region. Total RNA extracts from cultivated cells and mouse hippocampus were analyzed by RNA-seq technology. Gene expression levels were compared with those of control cells to obtain expression ratios. Genes showing expression ratios above 2 or below 0.5 in each experimental condition were identified as DEGs. GO terms associated with DEGs from each stimulated neurovascular cell type were identified with DAVID and redundancies removed using ReviGO. The resultant GO terms were connected with each other based on the common genes (p < 0.001) included in each pair of GO terms, as determined by the Enrichment Map. Node size and edge thickness represent the number of genes included in a GO term and shared by a pair of GO terms, respectively.

Supplementary Fig. S7. Therapeutic similarities between neurovascular cell types based on gene expression. Gene expression ratios were measured in HT22, BV-2, and HBVP cells exposed to H₂O₂, LPS, and TGF-β1, respectively, by RNA-seq technology. For hippocampal tissue, mice were injected with Aβ into the intracerebroventricular (ICV) region. DEGs were defined as genes showing expression ratios above 2 or below 0.5 in each stimulated neurovascular cell type. Recovered genes were defined as those whose expression levels were restored to normal level (expression ratio between 0.5 and 2). By measuring the similarity between each pair of herbal components (Mix1, Mix2, Mix3, and C7) in terms of commonly recovered genes, therapeutic networks were constructed. Node size and edge thickness represent the number of genes recovered by each herbal component and the number of shared recovered genes between two herbal components, respectively. The structure of the therapeutic network obtained from each neurovascular cell type was then compared with those from other cell types to obtain correlation patterns between neurovascular cell types.

Supplementary Fig. S8. Therapeutic similarities between neurovascular cells based on pathway activity. Pathway activities from stimulated neurovascular cells were calculated by linearly combining the expression levels of the genes included in each pathway. As in the case of gene expression, by measuring the similarity between each pair of herbal components in terms of commonly recovered pathways, therapeutic networks were constructed. Differentially regulated pathways were selected as pathways with FDR ≤ 0.01 in stimulated neurovascular cells. Among such differentially regulated pathways, a 50% reduction in activity by herbal components was considered pathway activity recovery. Node size and edge thickness represent the number of pathways recovered by each herbal component, and the number of shared recovered pathways between two herbal components, respectively. The structure of the therapeutic network obtained from each neurovascular cell type was then compared with those from other cell types to obtain correlation patterns between neurovascular cell types.

Supplementary Fig. S9. Regulation of phosphorylation by UGS and its components. The phosphorylation status of signaling proteins was measured using antibody array technology in stimulated neurovascular cells. Protein phosphorylation levels were compared with those of control samples to obtain phosphorylation ratios. A phosphorylation profile was obtained by hierarchically clustering approximately 310 proteins showing significant variation (standard deviation > 1.0) over all neurovascular cell types. The red and green colors reflect high and low protein phosphorylation, respectively, as indicated by the scale bar.

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Supplementary Fig. S10. Regulation of phosphorylation by UGS and its components. The distribution of significant pathways (FDR < 0.01) from SPIA was displayed in connection with neurovascular cell types.

Supplementary Fig. S11. Regulation of phosphorylation by UGS and its components. Relationships between neurovascular cell types were measured in terms of their FDR values for common pathways (FDR < 0.01).

Supplementary Fig. S12. Regulation of phosphorylation by UGS and its components. Enriched phospho-based pathways (FDR < 0.01) from SPIA were hierarchically clustered based on FDR values.

Supplementary Fig. S13. Correlation patterns between neurovascular cell types based on FDR distribution. Enriched phospho-based pathways (FDR < 0.01) in stimulated neurovascular cell types were identified with SPIA. On these enriched phospho-pathways, the effects of herbal components were measured in terms of FDR values. Correlation patterns among FDR values were then measured between neurovascular cell types.

Supplementary Fig. S14. Major modules from neurovascular cells. Modules were identified with the Reactome FI Cytoscape plugin program, using the DEGs from each neurovascular cell type. Expression levels are depicted in red and blue for up- and downregulated genes, respectively.

Supplementary Fig. S15. Expressional levels of marker genes of neurovascular cells in hippocampal mouse tissues. Neuronal markers, such as Eno2 (51), Rbfox3 (NeuN) (52), Map2 (53), and Tubb3 (54), were highly expressed when compared with markers of pericytes and Aβ-activated microglia in hippocampal mouse tissues. Gene expression levels were measured by FPKM (Fragments Per Kilobase of transcripts per Million mapped reads) from QuantSeq analysis. Iba1, CD11b, CD45, and TMEM119 were used as markers of activated microglia. PDGFRB, NG2, and desmin were used as markers of pericytes. The averaged value for all spots of genes was used as a control.

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