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## cDNA Expression Cloning of the IL-1 Receptor, a Member of the Immunoglobulin Superfamily

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Interleukin-1 alpha and -1 beta (IL-1 $\alpha$  and IL-1 $\beta$ ) are cytokines that participate in the regulation of immune responses, inflammatory reactions, and hematopoiesis. A direct expression strategy was used to clone the receptor for IL-1 from mouse T cells. The product of the cloned complementary DNA binds both IL-1 $\alpha$  and IL-1 $\beta$  in a manner indistinguishable from that of the native T cell IL-1 receptor. The extracellular, IL-1 binding portion of the receptor is 319 amino acids in length and is composed of three immunoglobulin-like domains. The cytoplasmic portion of the receptor is 217 amino acids long.

NTERLEUKIN-1 ALPHA AND -1 BETA (IL-1 $\alpha$  and IL-1 $\beta$ ) have multiple biological activities in vivo and in vitro: stimulation of thymocyte proliferation ("lymphocyte activation"), accessory growth factor activity for certain T helper cells (1), stimulation of hematopoietic cell growth and differentiation (2), induction of acute phase protein synthesis, induction of prostaglandin and collagenase synthesis by fibroblasts and chondrocytes, and pyrogenicity (3). Human IL-1 $\alpha$  and IL-1 $\beta$  show low amino acid identity (26%) (4), and yet both bind to the same cell-surface receptor (5, 6). This receptor is an 80-kD glycoprotein (7) with a broad tissue distribution (8), whose signal transduction mechanism is unknown. We isolated a cDNA clone of the IL-1 receptor, using a direct expression strategy, in order to study further its structure and mechanism of action.

As a source of mRNA encoding the IL-1 receptor, we used the cell line EL4 6.1 C10 (9), a subclone of the C57BL/6 mouse thymoma EL4. This cell line expresses about 10,000 surface IL-1 binding sites (8, 10), many more than most other cell lines or tissue types examined (8). Double-stranded cDNA was synthesized from EL4 6.1 C10 polyadenylated RNA (11), ligated into pDC201 (12), which is a vector designed to direct high-level expression of cloned cDNA molecules in mammalian cells, and used to transform Escherichia coli. Pools of 350 transformants were grown, and plasmid DNA was prepared and transfected into COS cells (13). After 3 days we screened for IL-1R cDNA clones by incubating the transfected cell monolayer with <sup>125</sup>I-labeled IL-1 $\alpha$ . The plates were subjected to autoradiography; cells that bound elevated levels of IL-1 appeared as dark foci on a light gray background (Fig. 1B). The background (Fig. 1A) was caused by binding to the



Fig. 1. Isolation of IL-1 receptor cDNA clones by direct expression screening (23). The autoradio-graphed plates of transfected COS cells had been probed with <sup>125</sup>I-labeled IL-1a to detect IL-1 receptor expression. (A) COS cells transfected with vector containing no insert, showing the background level of COS cell IL-1 receptor expression. (B) COS cells transfected with a positive pool of 350 individual cDNA clones, one of which encodes the IL-1 receptor. (C) COS cells transfected with pure clone 78 (IL-1 receptor) DNA.

endogenous COS cell IL-1 receptors (approximately 500 per cell) (14).

One pool out of approximately 150,000 cDNA clones gave a positive signal (Fig. 1B) that was specific, and could be abolished by addition of a 100-fold excess of unlabeled IL-1 $\alpha$  or IL-1 $\beta$  to the <sup>125</sup>I-labeled IL-1 $\alpha$  during the binding incubation (14). Individual colonies from this pool were grown, and DNA from each was transfected into COS cells, until a single colony (clone 78) giving rise to IL-1 binding activity was identified (Fig. 1C).



Fig. 2. Comparison of the IL-1 binding properties of natural and recombinant IL-1 receptors (24). (A) Direct binding of <sup>125</sup>I-labeled IL-1 $\alpha$  to cells expressing native IL-1 receptors (ELA 6.1 C10) or recombinant receptors (COS-IL-1R). (B) Data from (A) replotted in the Scatchard coordinate system. (C) Inhibition of <sup>125</sup>I-labeled IL-1 $\alpha$  binding by unlabeled IL-1 $\alpha$  and IL-1 $\beta$ . c, concentration of IL-1 bound and added to the binding incubation (molar); r, molecules of IL-1 bound per cell; COS-IL-1R, COS cells transfected with clone 78 DNA. All parameter values are given  $\pm$  the standard error.

Fig. 3. RNA blot analysis of IL-1 receptor mRNA. EL4 6.1 C10 RNA (lane 1), EL4 M RNA (lane 2), 3T3 RNA (lane 3), L929 RNA (lane 4), Daha RNA (lane 4). Polyadenylated RNA (20 µg) from the indicated cell lines was loaded in each lane of a 1% formaldehyde-agarose gel (25). After electrophoresis, the RNA was blotted onto Hybond-N (Amer-



sham) and the filter was hybridized at 63°C with the nick-translated insert from clone 78 (5  $\times$  10<sup>5</sup> cpm/ml). The filter was washed at 63°C in 2× saline sodium citrate (SSC).

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The DNA from clone 78, when transfected into COS cells, led to expression of IL-1 binding activity, which was virtually identical to that of EL4 6.1 C10 cells (Fig. 2). The

Α

affinity of <sup>125</sup>I-labeled IL-1 $\alpha$  for each cell type was similar, and binding was completely inhibited by an excess of either unlabeled IL-1 $\alpha$  or IL-1 $\beta$  (Fig. 2C). In addition, after

surface iodination of the transfected COS cells, IL-1 receptor purified by affinity chromatography on IL-1 $\alpha$  columns (15) comigrated on SDS-polyacrylamide gels with the



**Fig. 4.** Sequence of the murine IL-1 receptor cDNA clone (11). (**A**) Schematic diagram of the sequence features. Untranslated regions are lines; the IL-1 receptor coding region is a box. The signal peptide is filled in, the extracellular portion is open, the transmembrane region is stippled, and the cytoplasmic segment is cross-hatched. Inverted triangles above the box show potential *N*-glycosylation sites. Vertical lines indicate cysteine residues, and the cDNA insert of the mouse IL-1 receptor clone 78. Amino acids are

numbered from the NH<sub>2</sub>-terminal amino acid of the mature protein; nucleotides are numbered from the first base of the codon for this amino acid. The arrow marks the site of cleavage of the signal peptide. The 26– amino acid sequence derived from the mature protein by NH<sub>2</sub>-terminal sequencing is underlined with a thick bar. The transmembrane region is thinly underlined. Inverted triangles mark potential sites for *N*-linked glycosylation, and the cysteines believed to be involved in Ig-like intradomain disulfide bonding are boxed. receptor from EL4 6.1 C10 cells, at 80 kD.

At saturating DNA concentrations, the transfected COS cell monolayer expressed, on average, 45,000 sites per cell. Since the parental COS cells expressed only about 500 sites per cell, more than 98% of all IL-1 binding sites in the transfected population were attributable to the expressed product of the cDNA clone. However, flow cytometry with fluorescein-conjugated IL-1a revealed that only 4.2% of the cells stained brightly (14); therefore, those few COS cells that were transfected and expressed the receptor contained on average  $1.1 \times 10^{6}$  IL-1 binding sites, suggesting that the protein encoded by clone 78 can, by itself, bind IL-1 $\alpha$ . Alternatively, if another polypeptide is also required for IL-1 binding, the transfected COS cells must provide this hypothetical second protein in great abundance.

Clone 78 contained a cDNA insert of roughly 2.35 kbp, which was used as a probe in RNA blot analysis. It hybridized to an EL4 6.1 C10 RNA that had an electrophoretic mobility slightly less than that of 28S ribosomal RNA (Fig. 3, lane 1), and which was undetectable in an IL-1 receptornegative variant of EL4, EL4 M (Fig. 3, lane 2). The probe hybridized to a similarly sized RNA in the mouse fibroblast cell lines 3T3 and L929 (Fig. 3, lanes 3 and 4). The 3T3 cells, which have approximately ten times more surface IL-1 receptors per cell

| Α              |   |   |   |
|----------------|---|---|---|
| I<br>II<br>III | DIRKOPLTPN-<br>GSOVOPYVSYE<br>IQQIONVTGQE | KMHGDT-@I<br>KDENNELP/VQ<br>SDLVYWKWNGSE@E& | Y K N D S K T P I S A D R D<br>Y K N - C K - P L L L D N V<br>N D P F L A E D Y |
|                | В   | • •   | С   |
|                | S®①HQQNEH<br>SF®GVKDK<br>QFVEHPSTKRK      | QWEVPAKVE<br>QLVRNVAEE<br>YTLITTQNDSEVKSQ   | -@\$©Y\$¥\$ÇI\$ZRN<br>-HR©D\$Y1\$CRMSY<br>FYRYP\$CI\$V\$ZKN                     |
|                | D   | E   | F   |

Fig. 5. Relation of the NH<sub>2</sub>-terminal portion of the IL-1 receptor to the Ig superfamily. (A) Alignment of the three domains of the IL-1 receptor. Residues present in more than one domain are stippled. The geometric symbols enclose residues conserved in all members of the Ig superfamily  $(\diamond)$ , V domains  $(\bigcirc)$ , C1 domains  $(\bigcirc)$ , V and C1 domains  $(\bigtriangledown)$ , V and C2 domains  $(\bigcirc)$ . Stretches of amino acids involved in  $\beta\mbox{-strand}$  formation are underlined and labeled B to F; see (17) for full discussion. (B) Scores generated by the computer program ALIGN (18) when the three IL-1 receptor domains are compared with one another and with other members of the Ig superfamily. Scores above 3.00 are boxed, and are statistically significant. The Ig superfamily sequences were from GenBank or from the sources in (17), except for hc-fms, mPDGFR, hCEA, and hCD3 $\gamma$  (26). Nomenclature is as given in (17). The ALIGN program was run using the parameters given in (17). For the IL-1 receptor, the search strings used were: domain I, amino acids 23-80; domain II, amino acids 122-180; domain III, amino acids 228-296. Definitions: human, h; murine, m; rat, r; rabbit, rb; carcinoembryonic antigen, CEA; a1B-glycoprotein, a1B-GP; Fc receptor, FcR; cluster designation, CD; immunoglobulin, Ig; constant region, C; variable region, V; T cell antigen receptor, TcR;  $\beta$ 2-microglobulin,  $\beta$ 2-MG; poly immunoglobulin receptor, Poly IgR; major glycoprotein of peripheral myelin, P<sub>0</sub> MP; and leukocyte common antigen, LCA.

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than do L929 cells (8), also contained more of the hybridizing RNA (Fig. 3). The correlation of receptor expression with abundance of hybridizing RNA is further evidence that clone 78 is derived from IL-1 receptor mRNA. As the size of the mRNA is at least 5 kb, clone 78 contains only a portion of it.

The 2.35-kb insert of clone 78 was subcloned and sequenced by standard techniques. The sequence had a single open reading frame of 576 amino acids (Fig. 4). To confirm that this reading frame encodes the IL-1 receptor, we purified the receptor protein to homogeneity from detergent extracts of EL4 6.1 C10 cells, and obtained the sequence of the NH<sub>2</sub>-terminal 26 amino acids. This corresponded exactly to part of the amino acid sequence deduced from the open reading frame of the cDNA clone (Leu<sup>1</sup> through Lys<sup>26</sup>; Fig. 4).

Upstream of the  $NH_2$ -terminal leucine of the mature receptor is a presumed signal peptide, and potential initiating methionine residues at positions -19 and -16. The sequences surrounding each methionine do not correspond well to the consensus sequence (GCCGCCRCC<u>ATGG</u>) for good translation initiation sites (16), making it difficult to predict which one would actually be used. For simplicity, we assume translation initiates at the distal residue ( $Met^{-19}$ ). An in-frame stop codon lies three codons upstream of  $Met^{-19}$ . The amino acid sequence surrounding Leu<sup>1</sup> is typical of signal peptide cleavage sites (16).

The mature protein has one extended stretch of uncharged amino acids, from Asp<sup>320</sup> to Tyr<sup>340</sup>. This presumed transmembrane region contains three cysteine residues that could be involved in either lipid derivatization or covalent binding to other proteins. NH<sub>2</sub>-terminal to this segment is a stretch of 319 amino acids that contains all seven of the potential N-linked glycosylation sites; thus, this portion of the molecule may lie exterior to the cell and be responsible for IL-1 binding. The IL-1 receptor is glycosylated on asparagine residues (15), and the removal of the carbohydrate with N-glycanase decreases the size of the receptor from 80 kD to 62 kD (15), close to the 64,598 daltons predicted from the cDNA sequence. The COOH-terminal, presumably cytoplas-

| В   |   |  |   |
|---|---|--|---|
|   | Murine IL-1 Receptor Domains  |  |   |
| mIL-1R (I)<br>mIL-1R (II)<br>mIL-1R (III)   | I<br>3.7<br>1.3   | II<br>4.2  | III   |
| C2 Domains  |   |  |   |
| hc-fms (I,II,III,IV)<br>mPDGFR (I,III)<br>cN-CAM (IV)<br>rMAG (III,IV)<br>hCEA (II,III,IV,V)<br>halb-GP (III)<br>mFcR (I,II)<br>rCD2 (II)<br>hCD3¢  | $\begin{array}{c} 1 \cdot 0 , 1 \cdot 3 \overline{3.1} \\ 1 \cdot 6 \\ 3 \cdot 2 \\ 1 \cdot 7 , 1 \cdot 6 \\ 2 \cdot 5 , 2 \cdot 1 \overline{3.3} \\ 1 \cdot 9 \\ 2 \cdot 9 \overline{3.3} \\ 0 \cdot 5 \\ 1 \cdot 2 \\ 1 \cdot 2 \\ 0 \cdot 5 \\ 1 \cdot 2 \\ 6 \cdot 6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{c} 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 6 \\ 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \\ 3 \cdot 0 \\ 3 \cdot 0 \\ 3 \cdot 0 \\ 3 \cdot 0 \\ 2 \cdot 3 \\ 3 \cdot 0 \\ 2 \cdot 1 \\ \hline \\ 3 \cdot 6 \\ 2 \cdot 3 \\ 3 \cdot 0 \\ \hline \\ 3 \cdot 0 \\ \hline \end{array} 2 \cdot 8 \\ \hline \\ 3 \cdot 1 \\ \hline \\ 3 \cdot 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{c} 1.4, 0.8, \overline{(3.1, 4.1)}\\ \overline{(3.5)}, 2.8\\ 4.1\\ 2.4, 0.0\\ \overline{(3.0)}, 2.3, \overline{(3.4)}, 2.1\\ 3.6\\ 2.5, 1.4\\ 1.1\\ 2.9\\ 2.7\end{array}$  |
| Cl Domains  |   |  |   |
| hIg C lambda<br>hIg C kappa<br>hIg C heavy (I,III)<br>hTcR beta<br>mTcR gamma<br>hβ2-MG<br>hMHC I alpha 3<br>hMHC II beta 2<br>hCDl alpha 3   | 2.1<br>2.3<br>2.2,0.9<br>1.2<br>2.6<br>1.7<br>2.0<br><u>3.7</u><br>2.4  | 2.7<br>2.9<br>4.1,4.9<br>3.7<br>1.8<br>2.3<br>2.4<br>3.7<br>1.1  | 3.9       2.9         3.6       2.9         5.7       2.2         0.2       3.6         3.2       4.4   |
| V Domains   |   |  |   |
| mIg V lambda<br>hIg V heavy<br>mTCR V alpha<br>hTCR V beta<br>hCD4 (I)<br>rCD8 (chain I)<br>rCD8 (chain I)<br>rBPOly IGR (III)<br>rMRC OX-2 (I)<br>rP <sub>0</sub> MP<br>rTMY-1<br>hc-fms (V) | 2.8<br>3.5<br>3.8<br>4.7<br>3.8<br>5.0<br>2.3<br>2.9<br>2.1<br>1.2  | 2.9<br>2.6<br>2.8<br>1.8<br>2.9<br><u>3.6</u><br>2.2<br><u>4.8</u><br>2.1<br><u>3.0</u><br>2.4<br><u>3.8</u>   | $\begin{array}{c} 2 \cdot 0 \\ \hline 3 \cdot 9 \\ 2 \cdot 3 \\ \hline 2 \cdot 5 \\ \hline 4 \cdot 0 \\ 3 \cdot 2 \\ \hline 5 \cdot 2 \\ \hline 1 \cdot 4 \\ \hline 3 \cdot 1 \\ 1 \cdot 7 \\ 1 \cdot 8 \\ 2 \cdot 2 \end{array}$ |
| ∆S-S Domains  |   |  |   |
| rCD2 (I)<br>mPDGFR (IV)<br>hCEA (I)   | $\begin{array}{c} 2.6\\ \hline 4.5\\ 1.0 \end{array}$   | 2.1<br>0.9<br>1.0  | 2.9<br>1.1<br>2.3   |
| Negatives   |   |  |   |
| hIL-2R (p55)<br>LCA<br>hCD5   | a<br>a<br>a   | a<br>1.5<br>0.9  | 1.2<br>a<br>0.5   |

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mic, part of the protein contains 217 amino acids.

The extracellular portion of the IL-1 receptor is organized into three domains, similar to those of members of the immunoglobulin (Ig) gene superfamily (Fig. 5A). Immunoglobulin-like domains typically possess only minimal amino acid similarity but share a common three-dimensional structure consisting of two  $\beta$  sheets held together by a disulfide bond (17). The cysteine residues involved in formation of this disulfide bond, as well as a few other critical residues, are highly conserved and occur in the same relative position in almost all members of the family (17). Members of the Ig superfamily include not only Ig constant and variable regions but also a number of other cell surface molecules. In particular, certain other hormone receptors, such as those for platelet-derived growth factor and colonystimulating factor 1, also share Ig homology (17)

Comparison of the three IL-1 receptor domains with one another using the ALIGN program (18) shows that domains 1 and 2 are related (alignment score = 3.7), as are domains 2 and 3 (alignment score 4.2); but that domains 1 and 3 are less similar (alignment score 1.3). Alignment scores of >3.00 are considered significant (18). Comparison of each domain with selected members of the Ig superfamily, however, reveals significant matches by all three domains (Fig. 5B). The closest relationships, as percentage amino acid identity between the ILl receptor and other members of the Ig superfamily, are domain 1 with rat CD8 chain II (31.6%), domain 2 with human Ig Cyl (31.6%), and domain 3 with human T cell receptor CB (33.3%).

How the cytoplasmic domain functions in signal transduction is unknown. Computer searches of the August 1987 edition of GenBank, the April 1987 edition of the European Molecular Biology Laboratory databases, and the June 1987 edition of the National Biomedical Research Foundation protein database have not revealed significant similarity to any currently available sequences. No sequences typical (19) either of protein tyrosine kinases or of protein tyrosine kinase acceptor sites are present. The sequence Lys-Lys-Ser-Arg-Arg (amino acids 429 to 433) resembles a protein kinase C acceptor site (19); phosphorylation at this position may regulate either the activity or the cell surface expression of the IL-1 receptor.

The cDNA clone we have isolated encodes a polypeptide that binds both forms of IL-1 in a manner quantitatively indistinguishable from that of the receptor on EL4 6.1 C10 cells. This suggests that no other protein is required for IL-1 binding. It is not known whether the binding activity is a property of the monomer or of multimeric forms of the receptor.

A second class of higher affinity  $(K_{\rm a} \sim 10^{11} M^{-1})$  IL-1 receptors has been reported (10, 20). We have not found such receptors on our subclone of EL4 6.1 C10 cells, although we can detect them in concanavalin A-stimulated primary murine spleen cells (14). The nature and relevance of these higher affinity receptors is unknown. However, since there is only one class of IL-1 receptor present in our EL4 6.1 C10 cell line, and the binding of IL-1 to these receptors is sufficient to induce the EL4 cells to secrete T cell growth factor activity (21), the molecule we have cloned must be the functional IL-1 receptor (or, alternatively, the IL-1 binding subunit of a hypothetical functional IL-1 receptor complex). The IL-1 receptor described here, unlike the p55 subunit of the IL-2 receptor, has a cytoplasmic domain large enough in principle to possess some IL-1-regulated enzymatic activity. Whether the cloned IL-1 receptor molecule is functional in signal transduction can now be addressed by appropriate transfection experiments.

IL-1 receptors on B cell lines and fibroblasts differ in size or binding properties, or both, from those on EL4 cells (5, 20, 22). Further comparison of these receptors to the T cell IL-1 receptor may provide insight into the relation between the structure and function of this molecule.

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- 11. Double-stranded, blunt-ended cDNA was synthesized from EL4 6.1 C10 polyadenylated RNA as described [U. Gubler and B. J. Hoffman, Gene 25, 263 (1983); cDNA Synthesis System, Amersham International (1985); J. Sims, unpublished data] with random hexanucleotide primers (Pharmacia) The blunt-ended cDNA was fractionated by size on an agarose gel, and material larger than 1600 bp was eluted, ligated into Sma I-cleaved, dephosphorylated pDC201, and transformed into competent DH5α *E. coli* cells [D. Hanahan, *J. Mol. Biol.* **166**, 557 (1983)]. The transformed cells were plated on ampicillin, pooled in groups of 350 and grown in L broth for DNA extraction [H. C. Birnboim and J. Doly, Nucleic Acids Res. 7, 1513 (1979)]. Clone 78 was identified as described in Fig. 1 and its restriction

map was determined by standard techniques. DNA sequencing [F. Sanger, S. Nicklen, A. R. Coulson, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 74, 5463 (1977); M. D. Biggin, T. J. Gibson, G. F. Hong, ibid. 80, 3963 (1983)] was done on selected restriction fragments subcloned into M13mp18 and mp19 vectors [J Norrander, T. Kempe, J. Messing, Gene 26, 101 (1983)]. The entire clone was sequenced on both strands and across all internal restriction sites used in subcloning. Protein sequencing was performed as described (4).

- The plasmid pDC201 was assembled from (i) the 12 SV40 origin of replication, enhancer, and early and late promoters; (ii) the adenovirus-2 major late promoter and tripartite leader; (iii) SV40 polyadenylation and transcription termination signals; (iv) adenovirus-2 virus-associated RNA genes (VAI and VAII); and (v) pMSLV (27). The multiple cloning site contained sites for Kpn I, Sma I, and Bgl II. Details of the construction of pDC201 are available on request.
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- 23. COS cells were grown and transfected as described (27) with the DNA from a 1.5-ml culture of plas-mid-containing *E. coli*. After 72 hours culture supernatants were discarded, and dishes were washed once with phosphate-buffered saline (pH 7.4) (PBS) containing 1% bovine serum albumin (BSA) and 0.1% sodium azide (binding buffer). To each dish was added 3 ml of binding buffer containing  $^{125}\mathrm{I-}$  labeled recombinant IL-1 $\alpha$  (3  $\times$  10 $^{-10}$  M) (5). After 2 hours at 8°C, the dishes were washed once with binding buffer, twice with PBS, and then fixed by incubation for 30 min at room temperature with 2.5% glutaraldehyde in PBS. The fixed preparations were stained with methylene blue to visualize the cell monolayer (to ensure an even distribution of cells), washed, and air-dried. The vertical edges of the culture dishes were removed and the bound <sup>125</sup>Ilabeled IL-1a was visualized by autoradiography
- (Kodak XR-OMAT film for 72 hours at  $-70^{\circ}$ C). 24. COS cells were transfected with vector pDC201 containing the murine IL-1 receptor cDNA insert (clone 78) or with control vector containing no insert as described in Fig. 1. After 72 hours of culture, cells were washed once with 10 ml of PBS, and then treated for 20 min at 37°C with an EDTA solution (0.005M in PBS, pH 7.4), and harvested. EL4 6.1 C10 cells and EL4 M cells were grown and harvested as described (15). For binding assays, COS cells were resuspended at  $1.7 \times 10^{\circ}$  cell/ml with EL4 M (1.5 × 10<sup>7</sup> cell/ml) cells as carriers. EL4 M and EL4 6.1 C10 were resuspended at  $1.5 \times 10^{7}$  cell/ml. All cell suspensions were made and binding assays done in RPMI 1640, 10% BSA, 0.1% sodium azide, 20 mM Hepes, pH 7.4. Binding incubations with <sup>125</sup>I-labeled IL-1 $\alpha$  or <sup>125</sup>I-labeled IL-1 $\alpha$  and unlabeled IL-1 $\alpha$  or IL-1 $\beta$  were done as described (5). Data were analyzed and theoretical curves calculated and plotted with RS/1 (Bolt, Berand and Newman) as described (7). In the competi-tion experiment the free <sup>125</sup>I-labeled IL-1 $\alpha$  concen-tration was 7.7 × 10<sup>-10</sup>*M*. On the transfected COS cells the maximal binding was  $2.98\pm0.3\times10^4$  molecules per cell (no inhibition) and the back-

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ground (measured in the presence of  $6 \times 10^{-7}M$ unlabeled IL-1 $\alpha$ ) was 921 ± 60 molecules per cell (100% inhibition). On the EL4 6.1 C10 cells maximal binding was 1.33 ± 0.02 × 10<sup>4</sup> molecules per cell and background (see above) was 47 ± 2 molecules per cell:

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## Intervacuole Exchange in the Yeast Zygote: A New Pathway in Organelle Communication

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A new pathway of vesicle traffic between organelles has been identified. The vacuoles (lysosomes) of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* zygotes rapidly exchange their contents at a specific point in the cell cycle. With the use of fluorescence microscopy, "tracks" were observed that connect the original parental vacuoles to the newly forming bud vacuoles. These observations suggest that vacuole-derived vesicles rapidly move along the tracks in both directions, equilibrating vacuole contents. This rapid vesicle movement may be responsible for vacuole formation in newly developing cells.

ELL DIVISION REQUIRES THAT ALL cellular constituents be replicated and segregated faithfully. Whereas mitosis ensures the equal partitioning of chromosomes between two daughter cells, little is known about how other cellular components are segregated. Previous observations of yeast vacuoles strongly suggest that their distribution between mother and daughter cells does not occur by a random process (1). Saccharomyces cerevisiae grows by an asymmetric process of budding. The bud receives a small vacuole when it is approximately 1% of the mother cell volume (1). Although obvious growth is seen only in the bud vacuole and there is no synchronous fragmentation of the maternal vacuole, about 50% of the bud's vacuole contents are derived directly from the mother cell vacuole (1, 2). To account for this pattern of inheritance, we proposed that vacuole formation entails continual vesicular traffic between the mother and bud vacuoles. We now report that parental vacuoles within a zygote mix their contents without fusing, presumably by a vesicle-mediated process. This "communication" between parental vacuoles may be related to the process of vacuole formation.

The two parental vacuoles in a zygote can be distinguished by mating an *ade2* strain with an *ADE* strain. Vacuoles of *ade2* yeast accumulate a fluorescent dye when the cells are deprived of adenine. Synthesis of the dye is suppressed by adenine, and the previously accumulated dye is stable (1, 3). When yeast zygotes first form, the endogenous *ade2* fluorophore remains with the original parental vacuole (Fig. 1, a and b). The fluorophore appears in the *ADE* parental vacuoles sometime after bud formation (Fig. 1, c to f). Often vesicles can be seen along a "path" from each major vacuole into the bud (Fig. 1c). Although the vacuole contents mix, the original parental vacuoles never fuse (Fig. 1, e and f).

The transfer of vacuole contents occurs at a specific point in zygote development. Zygotes were scored both for bud size and for dye transfer (Fig. 2). At 2.9 hours after mating, most of the zygotes had no bud or a small bud. None of the zygotes scored had dye present in the ADE parental vacuoles. In contrast, many of the zygotes scored at time points ranging from 3.4 to 4.8 hours after mating had mixed the contents of the parental vacuoles. In all of the zygotes with no bud and most of the zygotes with a small bud, the ade2 fluorophore appeared exclusively in the ade2 parental vacuole. In contrast, both parental vacuoles are labeled in almost all of the large-budded zygotes. In zygotes with medium-sized buds, about 50% have label in both parental vacuoles. From these observations we conclude that transfer of fluorescent dye to the unmarked parental vacuole generally occurs when the bud is medium-sized. To more precisely determine the size of the bud at transfer, we observed and photographed individual zygotes until fluorescence appeared in the ADE parental vacuole. During observations of nine such zygotes, we measured the size of the bud at the time that transfer occurred. The volume of the bud at transfer was  $9 \pm 3\%$  (SD) of the zygote (two fused parental cells plus the bud). Buds eventually grow to a maximum volume of  $31 \pm 4\%$ (SD) of the zygote. Thus, transfer occurs when the bud is about one-third of its final volume. In addition, transfer occurs in a



Fig. 1. Zygotes observed after mating ade2 yeast with ADE yeast. The zygotes in this figure are oriented such that the two parental lobes are positioned on the vertical axis and the bud emerges on the horizontal axis. DBY1398 [MATa ade2 ura3] were grown in yeast extract-pep-tone dextrose (YEPD) (21) for 3 days until the vacuoles were highly fluorescent. One milliliter of culture was diluted into 25 ml of YEPD with adenine (160  $\mu$ g/ml) to a final concentration of  $2 \times 10^7$ cells per milliliter. The culture was aerated at 30°C for 2 hours, then mixed with an equal volume of a culture of X2180-1B and  $[MAT\alpha]$ (Yeast Genetics Stock Center) at the same cell concentration. Cells

were incubated with slow shaking at 30°C. Under these conditions, zygotes were observed in 2.5 to 3 hours. Glass slides were treated with concanavalin A (0.5 mg/ml) before application of cells (5). Fluorescence of the cells was observed as described (1). In addition, the cells were illuminated with visible light so that the cell outlines could be seen. (a, c, and e) Fluorescence micrographs. (b, d, and f) The corresponding Nomarski photographs. (a) In zygotes with no bud, and most zygotes with a small bud, the endogenous ade2 fluorescence is confined to the original ade2 parental vacuole. (c) In approximately one-half of the zygotes with a medium-sized bud, fluorescence is seen in both parental vacuoles and in the bud. In addition, vesicles or fluorescent trails appear to connect these areas. (e) When the bud is large, most zygotes contain fluorescence in both parental vacuoles as well as in the bud and the fluorescent trails are no longer visible.

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