isolate prevalence need to be carried out before the biological significance of the present results can be fully assessed. However, all six virus isolates from the New Guinea populations that we examined had a mutation specifically affecting the dominant EBNA4 epitope for A11-restricted CTL responses. Such viruses may have enjoyed a biological advantage in host populations where the HLA-A11 gene frequency is unusually high. At the same time, the polyclonal nature of the EBV-induced CTL responses would ensure that A11 epitope-loss isolates of EBV remain subject to CTL recognition through other less immunogenic epitopes so that a stable, but more relaxed, virus-host balance could still be achieved.

Observations on the pathogens malaria and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) have provided an indication that HLA-restricted CTL responses may influence the evolution of the host-pathogen relation (19-21). That influence may be seen in the case of malaria as determining the distribution of HLA alleles retained in the population at risk (19, 20) and in the case of HIV as driving virus evolution in the infected host (21). Our results suggest that by examining human populations with limited HLA polymorphism, one may be able to address the same issues in the context of viruses (such as EBV) that are widespread, genetically stable, and not lifethreatening to the immunocompetent host.

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Sweden), 6 mM dithiothreitol, and 45 mM NaCl were added. The reactions were then divided into four portions, mixed with one of the four dideoxynucleotides, and incubated for 5 min at 37°C. An equal volume of deionized formamide containing Blue dextran (5 mg/ml) was added, and the samples were loaded onto a 0.5-mm-thick 6% polyacrylamide-7 M urea gel and run on an A.L.F. DNA sequencer (Pharmacia, Uppsala, Sweden). J. Sample *et al., J. Virol.* **64**, 4084 (1990)

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# Extracellular Access to the Na, K Pump: Pathway Similar to Ion Channel

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In each normal Na,K pump cycle, first three sodium and then two potassium ions are transported; in both cases, the ions become temporarily occluded in pump conformations that isolate them from internal and external solutions. A major charge movement occurs during sodium translocation and accompanies the deocclusion of sodium ions or their release to the cell exterior, or both. The nature of the charge movement was examined by measurement of the unidirectional sodium-22 efflux mediated by Na<sub>i</sub>-Na<sub>o</sub> exchange (Na<sub>i</sub> and Na, are internal and external sodium ions) in voltage-clamped, internally dialyzed squid giant axons in the absence of potassium; in this way the pump activity was restricted to the sodium-translocation pathway. Although electroneutral, the Na, Na, exchange was nevertheless voltage-sensitive: increasingly negative potentials enhanced its rate along a saturating sigmoid curve. Such voltage dependence demonstrates that the release and rebinding of external sodium is the predominant charge-moving (hence, voltage-sensitive) step, suggesting that extracellular sodium ions must reach their binding sites deep in the pump molecule through a high-field access channel. This implies that part of the pump molecule is functionally analogous to an ion channel.

To probe the charge-moving steps in the Na-translocation pathway, we measured the voltage sensitivity of <sup>22</sup>Na efflux mediated by the electroneutral Na<sub>i</sub>-Na $_{0}$  exchange mode (1) of the pump. Pumped  $^{22}$ Na efflux and current were determined in voltage-clamped, internally dialyzed squid giant axons as the components that are sensitive to dihydrodigitoxigenin (H<sub>2</sub>DTG), a rapidly reversible specific inhibitor of the Na, K pump (2, 3). Pump-mediated <sup>22</sup>Na efflux was almost doubled by hyperpolarization from 0 to -60mV (Fig. 1A). The accompanying pump currents were barely detectable at -60 mV and were still very small at 0 mV (Fig. 1B), confirming a predominance (>97% at -60mV and  $\geq$ 90% at 0 mV) of the electroneutral mode of Na<sub>i</sub>-Na<sub>o</sub> exchange.

Because the principal voltage-sensitive step is believed to occur late in the Na exit pathway (4, 5), the kinetic scheme below is sufficient to account for the influence of membrane potential on electroneutral Na<sub>i</sub>-Na<sub>o</sub> exchange:

$$E \xrightarrow{n \operatorname{Na}_{1}} E \operatorname{Pn} \operatorname{Na} \xrightarrow{k_{2}} E \operatorname{Pn} \operatorname{Na} \xrightarrow{k_{2}} n \operatorname{Na}_{0}$$

where n is the apparent molecularity (6) of the interaction between Na, or Na, and each pump molecule (nonphosphorylated, E; phosphorylated, E-P). Voltage sensitivity arises because the first-order (7) rate constants  $k_i$  and  $k_{-i}$  (i = 1 or 2) may be exponential functions of membrane poten-

tial: as the potential becomes more negative, they may decrease  $\{k_i = k_i^0 \exp[(1 - \delta_i)z_iU]\}$  or increase  $[k_{-i} = k_{-i}^0 \exp(-\delta_i z_iU)]$ (8) with a steepness governed by  $z_i$ , which corresponds to a valence or equivalent charge, and by a symmetry factor  $\delta_i$  ( $0 \leq \delta_i$ )  $\leq$  1), which apportions voltage dependence between forward and reverse transitions (5). Because Na<sub>i</sub>-Na<sub>o</sub> exchange obligatorily includes transitions through both steps in both directions, it must vanish if any of the four rate constants falls to zero or if either  $k_{-1}$  or  $k_2$  becomes large enough to kinetically trap all the enzyme at one end of the reaction sequence. Thus, in general, the rate of any electroneutral exchange that involves charge movement is expected to show a bell-shaped voltage dependence, declining to zero at extreme positive and negative potentials (Table 1) (9).

We tested the voltage dependence of Na<sub>i</sub>-Na<sub>o</sub> exchange-mediated <sup>22</sup>Na efflux against these predictions. Because the background, H<sub>2</sub>DTG-insensitive <sup>22</sup>Na efflux was practically unaffected by membrane potential over the entire range explored, the sharp reduction of <sup>22</sup>Na efflux accompanying a positive voltage shift from 0 to +30mV, before addition of H<sub>2</sub>DTG, and subsequent asymptotic increase in response to stepwise hyperpolarization to -75 mV (Fig. 2A) could be attributed to changes in the rate of Nai-Nao exchange. If the plateau that is approached near -50 mV, and apparently extends as far as -90 mV (Figs. 2A and 3B), were to be maintained at even more negative potentials, then voltage sensitivity of all rate constants other than  $k_{-2}$ could be ruled out (Table 1) [indeed, a least squares fit to the data at 400 mM Na<sub>o</sub> (Fig. 3B) that permited voltage sensitivity of both  $k_2$  and  $k_{-2}$  yielded a value of 0.95 for  $\delta_2$ , indistinguishable from 1.0].

The sigmoid shape of the flux-voltage curve (Fig. 3B) therefore leads us to conclude that voltage sensitivity resides predominantly, if not exclusively, in the backward pseudo first-order rate constant  $k_{-2} = k_{-2}^0 \exp(-zU)$  (Na<sub>o</sub> rebinding), whereas the forward rate constant,  $k_2$  (Na release), and all preceding rate constants ( $k_1$  and  $k_{-1}$  in scheme 1) appear to be virtually independent of voltage. Because  $k_{-2}$ , but not  $k_2$ , is a function of the Na concentration ([Na]) at the binding site, this apparent asymmetry is readily explained if the Na<sub>o</sub>-binding re-

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action occurs within the transmembrane electric field (Fig. 2B), so that the probability of each external Na ion binding to the pump is multiplied by a Boltzmann coefficient,  $\exp(-\lambda U)$  [ $\lambda$  is the fraction of membrane voltage dropped between the external medium and the binding site (10)], as if the local [Na] at the binding site varies with membrane potential. In other words,





extracellular Na ions must approach their binding sites through a narrow, high-field access channel in the pump molecule. No influence of voltage on Na release is observed because ion migration along the access channel, although voltage sensitive, is expected to occur orders of magnitude faster than the reaction that limits Na release (rate constant  $k_2$ ).

Fig. 1. Reversible stimulation of electroneutral Nai-Nao exchange by 60-mV hyperpolarization. (A) Addition of 10 µM dihydrodigitoxigenin (H<sub>2</sub>DTG) (hatched bars) reduced <sup>22</sup>Na efflux into 400 mM Na, K-free seawater by only 8.8 (a) and 7.7 pmol cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> (c) at 0 mV, but by 15.7 (b) and 16.2 pmol cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> (d) at -60 mV. Subsequent exposure to 100 µM H<sub>2</sub>DTG (e) and then 100 µM ouabain (a supramaximal dose) (f) demonstrates that 10 µM H<sub>2</sub>DTG inhibited ~90% of total steroid-sensitive 22Na efflux. Temperature, 21.0°C. (B) Small shifts in holding current ( $\Delta I$ ) upon application of 10  $\mu$ M H<sub>2</sub>DTG at 0 and -60 mV, from the experiment in (A). Values for  $\Delta I$  were -0.035 and -0.043 $\mu$ A cm<sup>-2</sup> at 0 mV, reflecting inhibition of a small residual outward pump current, which was probably mediated by electrogenic 3Na,-2Na exchange (26). At -60 mV,  $\Delta I$  was even smaller, -0.010 and  $-0.013 \ \mu\text{A} \ \text{cm}^{-2}$ , despite the larger H<sub>2</sub>DTG-sensitive <sup>22</sup>Na efflux.

Fig. 2. Saturable voltage dependence of <sup>22</sup>Na efflux mediated by Na-Na, exchange. (A) The membrane potential was varied between +30 and -75 mV in 15-mV increments (upper line) before and during exposure (hatched bar) to 100  $\mu$ M H<sub>2</sub>DTG, which caused no measurable  $\Delta I$  (not illustrated). Temperature, 21.0°C. (B) Access-channel model for electroneutral Na-Na, exchange dictated by the saturable voltage dependence of <sup>22</sup>Na efflux in (A). The simplified scheme lumps together enzyme forms (box) involved in the ATP- and Na,-binding, phosphorylation, and occlusion reactions because [Na], [ATP], and [ADP] were held constant in these experiments and because charge translocation is thought to accompany or follow deocclusion of the Na ions (4, 5). This model reduces to scheme 1 when the rate constants  $k_1$ ,  $k_{-1}$ , and  $k_2$  are voltage independent ( $k_1$  and  $k_{-1}$  represent lumped values for all rate constants up to and including  $k_i$  and  $k_{-i}$ ; the pseudo first-order reverse rate constant  $\vec{k_{-2}}$ alone is voltage-sensitive ( $\delta_2 = 1$ ) because external Na ions reach their binding sites a fractional distance  $\lambda$  into the membrane field, yielding  $k_{-2} = k'_{-2}$  [Na]<sup>n</sup><sub>o</sub> exp( $-n\lambda U$ ), where  $k'_{-2}$  is a voltage-independent second-order rate constant (27).

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Fig. 3. Voltage-dependent stimulation of Na,-Na exchange by Na.. (A) The <sup>22</sup>Na efflux at 100, 200, and 400 mM Na, tested at 0 and -60 mV, without and with 100  $\mu$ M H<sub>2</sub>DTG (hatched bars). Temperature, 25.1°C. (B) Summarized relative flux-voltage data at four [Na], from nine axons. Voltage dependence of H2DTG-sensitive 22Na efflux at 400 mM Na, (•), normalized to the flux at -60 mV (O), from four runs in three axons (including that in Fig. 2A) at 20.9° to 21.4°C. In three of the runs, a repeat of the voltage steps after washout of H<sub>2</sub>DTG allowed interpolation of flux values so we could correct for the slight rundown (≤5% per hour). Six other axons [including that in (A)] yielded, with the protocol of (A), the data at 100 (▲), 200 (□), and 300 (△) mM Na<sub>a</sub>: four axons provided data at -60 mV, three at -30 mV, four at 0 mV, and one at +15 mV. For each axon, at a given voltage, the H<sub>a</sub>DTG-sensitive <sup>22</sup>Na efflux values at the various [Na], were normalized to the flux at 400 mM Na, at that voltage. Interpolation permitted us to correct for rundown (~14 to 30% per hour at the higher temperatures, 23.0° to 25.2°C, in these Na<sub>o</sub> dependence experiments) the flux values at  $\bar{400}$  mM  $\mathrm{Na}_{\mathrm{o}}$  used for each normalization. All these individually normalized (by axon and by potential) data sets, including the 400 mM Na, data, were simultaneously fit by least squares to the expression for unidirectional Na efflux for the model in Fig. 2B,  $\Phi = \Phi_{max}/\{1 + [K_{0.5}^0]$  $\exp(\lambda U)$ ]<sup>n</sup>/[Na]<sup>n</sup><sub>0</sub>], and constrained to 1.0 at the reference point (V = -60 mV, [Na]<sub>o</sub> = 400 mM), yielding the three curves. For clarity, we omitted the curve (but not the data) at  $[Na]_{o} = 300 \text{ mM}$ . Least squares parameter values (± SD) were n =1.80 ± 0.13,  $\lambda$  = 0.69 ± 0.04, and  $K_{0.5}^0$  = 335 ± 8 mM.

The binding of Na ions within the membrane field should make a rise in [Na], or a negative shift of membrane potential kinetically equivalent (11) because both enhance Na, binding. This prediction was verified. Three [Na], levels were tested without and with H<sub>2</sub>DTG, first at 0 mV and then at -60 mV (Fig. 3A). The influence of [Na], on <sup>22</sup>Na efflux through the pump was strong at both potentials, whereas the background <sup>22</sup>Na efflux (pump-inhibited by H<sub>2</sub>DTG) was relatively independent of  $[Na]_{o}$ . At 0 mV, the pump-mediated <sup>22</sup>Na efflux was activated almost linearly by Na, whereas the larger efflux at -60 mV increased nonlinearly with [Na], and approached saturation near 400 mM Na<sub>o</sub>. A fit of the simplest access channel model (Fig. 2B) to all the data yielded a value of 0.69 for  $\lambda$  and showed that, as predicted, doubling [Na], caused a parallel positive shift of the flux-voltage curve by an amount  $(RT/\lambda F)$  ln2, which equals 26 mV in this instance (Fig. 3B) (12).

Voltage dependence of the apparent affinity for an ion has been observed previously for the proton pump (13), Na-Ca exchanger (14), and Na,K pump (15); also, access channel, or "ion well" (5, 11, 13), mechanisms were postulated. However, in general, voltage-induced shifts of apparent affinity for activation of electrogenic transport are, by themselves, insufficient to distinguish voltage dependence of the penultimate (or earlier) step from that of the final ion release and rebinding step (16). Kinetic analysis of the voltage dependence of an electroneutral exchange permitted that distinction to be made here, as also made recently for the red blood cell anion exchanger (17).

The strong apparent asymmetry of the voltage sensitivity echoes that of the relax-

**Table 1.** Predicted behavior, at extreme negative  $(V = -\infty)$  or positive  $(V = +\infty)$  membrane potentials, of the magnitude of the rate constants  $k_1$ ,  $k_{-1}$ ,  $k_2$ , and  $k_{-2}$  and of the relative unidirectional Na<sub>i</sub>-Na<sub>o</sub> exchange flux ( $\Phi_{\rm rel}$ ) for scheme 1, calculated from

$$\Phi_{\rm rel} = [1/k_1 + 1/k_{-1} + 1/k_2 + 1/k_{-2} + k_{-1}/(k_1k_2) + k_2/(k_{-1}k_{-2})]^{-1}$$

Symmetry factor  $\delta_1$ , stands for  $\delta_1$  (when  $z_1 > 0$  and  $z_2 = 0$ ) or  $\delta_2$  (when  $z_1 = 0$  and  $z_2 > 0$ ).

Symmetry factor	$z_1 > 0, z_2 = 0$			$z_1 = 0, z_2 > 0$			
	<i>k</i> <sub>1</sub>	<i>k</i> _1	$\Phi_{\rm rel}$	k <sub>2</sub>	k_2	$\Phi_{\rm rel}$	
	$V = -\infty$						
$\delta_{i} = 0$	0	$k_{-1}^{0}$	0	0	$k_{-2}^0$	0	
$0' < \delta_{1} < 1$	0	œ '	0	0	ຜ້	0	
$\delta_{i} = 1$	$k_1^0$	00	0	kg	00	finite	
,		$V = + \infty$					
$\delta_i = 0$	00	$k_{-1}^{0}$	finite	00	$k_{-2}^0$	0	
$0' < \delta_{1} < 1$	00	ວ່	0	00	0	0	
$\delta_{i} = 1$	$k_1^0$	0	0	$k_2^0$	0	0	

ation rates of transient pump charge movements induced by voltage jumps, also in K-free solution (18–20). Asymmetric voltage sensitivity of rate constants is also a central feature of the simplest kinetic models that mimic the effect of voltage on the inhibition of forward Na,K exchange by Na<sub>o</sub> (21, 22). Enhanced binding of Na<sub>o</sub> on hyperpolarization thus readily accounts for the ability of Na<sub>o</sub> or hyperpolarization not only to accelerate electroneutral Na<sub>i</sub>-Na<sub>o</sub> exchange (described here) and backward Na,K cycling (19, 23) but also to inhibit forward Na,K cycling (2, 21).

The fits to the data (Fig. 3B) indicate that more than half the transmembrane voltage drops between the exterior and the Na binding sites, implying that the Na,K pump molecule incorporates a structure functionally analogous to an ion channel. Whether it bears any relation to the ouabain-sensitive channels formed when Na,K pumps are exposed to palytoxin (24) or when bilayers are treated with partially purified Na,K pumps (25) remains to be determined.

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- 3. Giant axons from the souid. Loligo pealeii, were internally dialyzed and voltage clamped, and 2 <sup>2</sup>Na efflux and holding current were measured continuously as described (2). The standard artificial seawater was K- and Cl-free and contained 400 mM sodium isethionate, 75 mM calcium sulfamate, 1 mM 3,4-diaminopyridine, 5 mM tris-Hepes (pH = 7.7) and 0.2 µM tetrodotoxin. In seawaters with lowered [Na], N-methyl-p-glucamine (NMG) sulfamate replaced Na isethionate. The K- and Cl-free internal solution contained 43.7 mM Na Hepes, 91 mM NMG Hepes, 150 mM glycine, 50 mM phenylpropyltriethylammonium sulfate [to block K channels; C. M. Armstrong, J. Gen. Physiol. 58, 413 (1971)], 5 mM tris ATP, 5 mM tris adenosine disphosphate (ADP), 15 mM Mg Hepes, 5 mM dithiothreitol, 1.25 mM Na5-diadenosine pentaphosphate (to inhibit adenylate kinase), 0.1 mM sodium atractyloside (to inhibit mitochondrial nucleotide transport), and 2.5 mM BAPTA [1,2 bis(2-aminophenoxy) ethane N,N,N',N'tetraacetic acid] [to minimize Na-Ca exchange; R. DiPolo and L. Beaugé, *J. Gen. Physiol.* **90**, 505 (1987)]. Osmolality of all solutions was 925 to 935 mosm kg-1. Temperature was 21° to 25°C. The H<sub>2</sub>DTG was added to seawater from a 0.1 M stock solution in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO). In controls, 0.1% DMSO did not alter <sup>22</sup>Na efflux or holding current. Further experiments confirmed that, under these conditions, as expected for electroneutral Na,-Na, exchange, the H2DTG-sensitive 22Na efflux was sensitive to removal of intracellular Mg or ADP [P. De Weer, J. Gen. Physiol. 56, 583 (1970); I. M. Glynn and J. F. Hoffman, J. Physiol. London 218, 239 (1971)] and was activated by relatively high [Na]<sub>o</sub> (Fig. 3) [P. J. Garrahan and I. M. Glynn, ibid. 192, 159 (1967)]
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- 7.  $k_1$  and  $k_{-2}$  are pseudo first-order rate constants that incorporate [Na]<sup>n</sup> and [Na]<sup>n</sup><sub>o</sub>, respectively.
- 8. Here, U = VF/RT, where V is membrane potential,

102

F is the Faraday constant, R is the gas constant, and T is absolute temperature;  $k_{i}^{0}$  and  $k_{i}^{0}$ , define values at zero membrane potential; z, is  $\bar{known}$  to be positive for Na translocation (4, 5)

- As shown in Table 1, Na,-Na, exchange flux is 9. predicted to saturate at extreme positive potentials if  $\delta_1 = 0$  (only  $k_1$  affected by potential) and extreme negative potentials if  $\delta_2 = 1$  (only  $k_{-2}$ affected by potential) but to decline toward zero at extreme positive and negative potentials for all other values of  $\delta_i$ . It can also be shown that (i) <sup>22</sup>Na efflux-voltage plots must be bell-shaped (flux vanishes at the voltage extremes) in all cases in which both steps are voltage sensitive ( $z_1 > 0$ and  $z_2 > 0$ ), regardless of the values of  $\delta_{...}$  and (ii) insertion of electroneutral transitions between steps one and two does not alter the results in Table 1, but (iii) insertion of a voltage-sensitive step, irrespective of the value of its  $\delta$ , again causes the exchange to cease at both voltage extremes. In other words, only when  $k_{\rm first}$  (Na, binding) or  $k_{-\rm last}$  (Na, rebinding) is the sole voltage-sensitive step in the reaction chain will saturating exchange rates be observed at extreme potentials; all other models predict bellshaped flux-voltage plots.
- 10. Voltage independence of  $k_1$  and  $k_{-1}$  implies that no charge movement accompanies translocation of *n*Na ions through the remaining  $(1 - \lambda)V$ , presumably because equal but opposite charges are supplied by the ion binding sites (4, 5).
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- 20. Although the voltage-induced transient pump currents (18, 19) relax relatively slowly (~40 s<sup>-</sup> at 0 mV and 20°C), they are still readily explained by our model (Fig. 2B) provided that the rate constants for occlusion and deocclusion ( $k_1$ and  $k_{-1}$ ) and for Na<sub>o</sub> rebinding and release ( $\dot{k}_{-1}$ ) and  $k_2$  have appropriate magnitudes. According to our model ing to our model, a voltage jump is expected to cause a virtually instantaneous charge movement (obscured by the membrane-capacitance current) as Na ions migrate along the access channel in response to the field change. The ensuing redistribution of enzyme intermediates subsequent to Na<sub>o</sub> rebinding or release would induce a much slower, hence detectable, charge transient reflecting further Na-ion move ment along the access channel, now rate-limited by the conformational changes [P. Läuger and H.-J. Apell, Biochim. Biophys. Acta 944, 451 (1988)].
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- 26. The small pump current at 0 mV is unlikely to reflect Na,K exchange because K contamination of the nominally K-free seawater was ~25 µM whereas, under these conditions, the half-activating [K]<sub>o</sub> is 4 mM (2), but it is presumably mediated by electrogenic 3Na<sub>1</sub>-2Na<sub>o</sub> exchange [K. H. Lee and R. Blostein, *Nature* **285**, 338 (1980); H.-J.

Apell, V. Haring, M. Roudna, Biochim. Biophys. Acta 1023, 81 (1990)]. In all such experiments, H<sub>2</sub>DTG-sensitive <sup>22</sup>Na efflux and  $\Delta I$  averaged  $14.0 \pm 1.1 \text{ pmol cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ and } -0.010 \pm 0.003$  $\mu$ A cm<sup>-2</sup> (±SEM, *n* = 7), respectively, at -60 mV, and 9.5  $\pm$  0.6 pmol cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> and -0.034  $\pm$ 0.003  $\mu$ A cm<sup>-2</sup> (n = 8) at 0 mV, indicating that even at 0 mV, electrogenic 3Na,-2Na, exchange could have contributed, on average, ≤10% to the H<sub>2</sub>DTG-sensitive <sup>22</sup>Na efflux.

- 27. The model is reduced to scheme 1 by setting  $k^0$ , =  $k'_{-2}$  [Na]<sup>n</sup><sub>0</sub> and  $z_2 = n\lambda$
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## Developmental Regulation of Neural Response to FGF-1 and FGF-2 by Heparan Sulfate Proteoglycan

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Murine neural precursor cells and cell lines derived from them are stimulated by members of the heparin-binding fibroblast growth factor (FGF) family. The activity of FGF is regulated by heparan sulfate proteoglycans (HSPGs), and this interaction is an essential prerequisite for the binding of growth factor to the signal transducing receptors. Messenger RNA for FGF-2 was detectable in the neuroepithelium at embryonic day 9, and the HSPGs produced by these cells at this time preferentially bound FGF-2. However, at embryonic day 11, when messenger RNA for FGF-1 was first detectable, there was a switch in the binding specificity of the HSPG to FGF-1. Thus, a single species of HSPG undergoes a rapid, tightly controlled change in growth factor-binding specificity concomitant with the temporal expression of the FGFs.

 ${f T}$ he mammalian central nervous system is developmentally derived from the cells of the neural tube. The heparin-binding growth factors FGF-1 and FGF-2 are potent developmental regulators of the proliferation, migration, and differentiation of murine neural precursor cells (1). FGF activity is regulated in part by heparin analogs such as the glycosaminoglycan (GAG) heparan sulfate (2). HSPGs are a highly diverse group of macromolecules, each of which consists of a core protein to which highly sulfated GAG side chains of heparan sulfate are covalently attached (3). They are ubiquitous constituents of mammalian cell surfaces and of most extracellular matrices, including the specialized basal laminae that surround neural tissue (2, 4). FGF binding to HSPGs appears to offer protection against proteolytic degradation, thus creating a reservoir of growth factor in tissues (5). More recent studies have demonstrated

SCIENCE • VOL. 260 • 2 APRIL 1993

that HSPG-FGF interaction is an essential prerequisite for the presentation and subsequent binding of growth factor to signal transducing receptors (6). However, the timing of expression of the FGFs and HSPGs and the interactions between them during the early proliferative phases of brain development remain largely unknown.

To determine the precise timing of the expression of FGF-1 and FGF-2 during neural development, we performed specific amplification of the mRNA sequences for these factors on mesencephalic and telencephalic neuroepithelial tissue at embryonic days 9, 10, 11, and 13 (E9, E10, E11, and E13) by polymerase chain reaction (PCR). The two factors were expressed in different temporal patterns: FGF-2 mRNA was readily detectable at E9 and throughout subsequent ages, but FGF-1 mRNA was detectable only from E11 on (Fig. 1). Immunohistochemical studies with antibodies to FGF support this differential pattern of expression (7). A similar differential expression of the FGFs was observed in a cell line originally derived from E10 neuroepithelium, 2.3D (1). At low cell density, this cell line expressed only FGF-2 mRNA. In contrast, when these cells were maintained

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