and attack, and so the production of analgesia during such times would be adaptive. The same considerations would suggest that the analgesia should be terminated when the situation is safe and danger no longer present, and this is what we have found. This would allow the return of recuperative behaviors. It would seem that pain is a finely tuned sensory system, with an interplay of pain-inhibitory and antipain-inhibitory processes determining the intensity of the sensation.

Antianalgesia mechanisms may be important for the development of opiate tolerance and perhaps dependence, because they involve opioid and antiopioid endogenous substances. The spinal application of proglumide and other CCK antagonists reverses and blocks the development of morphine tolerance (3). The implications are that the activation of opiate receptors by morphine triggers CCK release and that each application of morphine with consequent opiatereceptor activation enhances either the output of CCK or the sensitivity of CCK receptors. Thus tolerance develops because the opponent CCK system strengthens with repeated administrations of morphine. In our experiments L-365,260 blocked the effect of the safety signal, which itself interfered with morphine's analgesic action. This suggests that the development of tolerance to morphine might differ, depending on whether morphine is administered in a relatively safe or in a dangerous and fear-arousing environment. Tolerance and perhaps dependence ought to develop more rapidly in a safe environment, where CCK systems are already augmented. Indeed, morphine dependence does not readily develop when morphine is delivered in hospitals, a relatively fear-provoking environment (17). Moreover, morphine reactivity is enhanced by mildly fearful and arousing circumstances (18). Thus, some of the individual differences in the development of opiate tolerance and dependence might be traceable to the stressfulness of the situation in which the morphine is received, and the interplay between endogenous analgesia and antianalgesia mechanisms may be the mediating link.

#### **REFERENCES AND NOTES**

- 1. D. D. Kelly, Ed., Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci. 467 (1986).
- L. R. Watkins, S. N. Suberg, C. L. Thurston, E. S. Culhane, *Brain Res.* 362, 308 (1986); J. E. Zadina, A. J. Kastin, P. K. Manasco, M. F. Pignatiello, K. L. Nastiuk, ibid. 409, 10 (1987).
- 3. P. L. Faris, B. Komisaruk, L. R. Watkins, D. J. Mayer, Science 219, 310 (1983); L. R. Watkins, I. B. Kinscheck, D. J. Mayer, ibid. 224, 395 (1984); N. S. Baber, C. T. Dourish, D. R. Hill, Pain 39, 307 (1989)
- J. Tang, H.-Y. T. Yang, E. Costa, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 81, 5002 (1984); M. Allard, S. Geoffre,
  P. Legendre, J. D. Vincent, G. Simonnet, *Brain Res.* 500, 169 (1989); M. Allard, D. T. Theodosis, P. Rousselot, M. C. Lombard, G. Simonnet, Neuroscience 40, 81 (1991).
- 5. M. J. Millan, Pain 27, 303 (1986).

- 6. E. P. Wiertelak, L. R. Watkins, S. F. Maier, Anim. Learn. Behav., in press; E. P. Wiertelak, L. Subel, S. Maier, L. R. Watkins, Soc. Neurosci. Abstr. 17, 109 (1991). We used adult male Sprague-Dawley rats (450 to 600 g; Holtzman Laboratories) in all procedures. Pain responsivity was measured with the tail flick (TF) test [F. E. D'Amour and D. L. Smith, *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.* **72**, 74 (1941)].
- 7. S. F. Maier, P. M. Rapaport, K. Wheatley, Anim. Learn. Behav. 4, 217 (1976).
- 8. Restrainer training and conditioning sessions were as in (6) above. Animals received a subcutaneous injection of either 2 mg of morphine sulfate per kilogram body weight or an equal volume of saline. Animals were placed in the shock context 15 min after drug injection, and TF latencies were assessed after 10 min. The safety signal was then presented, during which time a further TF latency was recorded to assess the effect of the safety signal.
- q T. L. Yaksh and T. A. Rudy, J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther. 202, 411 (1977); G. W. Pasternak, J. Am. Med. Assoc. 259, 1362 (1988).
- D. R. Hill, T. M. Shaw, G. N. Woodruff, *Neurosci. Lett.* 89, 133 (1988); D. R. Hill and G. N. Woodruff, Brain Res. 526, 276 (1990).
- For example, see J. Rataud et al., Brain Res. 548, 11 315 (1991); J. Harro and E. Vasar, Eur. J. Pharmacol. 193, 379 (1991). The specific CCK-A receptor antagonist MK-329 [R. S. L. Chang and V. J. Lotti, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* **83**, 4923 (1986)] and the specific CCK-B receptor antagonist L-325,260 [V. J. Lotti and R. S. L. Chang, *Eur. J. Pharmacol.* **162**, 273 (1989)] were used to examine the relative importance of these CCK receptor subtypes in the mediation of antianalgesia. Because CCK-B is the predominant receptor subtype found in rat spinal cord, we initially tested a range of L-325.260 doses based on the effective molar dose of the nonselective CCK antagonist proglumide established in a separate study (14). L-325,260 doses of 11.9 ng, 1.19 ng, 0.119 ng, and 0.0119 ng yielded a dose-dependent effect, wherein the lowest dose was ineffective, 1.19 ng was partially effective, and the two highest doses were completely effective in blocking the action of the safety signal. Administration of L-325,260 in the absence of morphine was without effect on pain sensitivity. To test whether CCK-A receptor

subtypes were involved, we repeated the experiment with MK-329 at a dose equimolar to 1.19 ng of L-325,260; that is, 1.22 ng of MK-329. This dose was chosen because 1.19 ng of L-325,260 was completely effective in blocking the action of the safety signal. An MK-329 dose equimolar to the higher effective L-325,260 dose (11.9 ng) was not chosen because MK-329 shows only a tenfold difference in specificity for CCK-A, relative to CCK-B, receptors; hence there was too high a likelihood that MK-329 would nonspecifically bind to CCK-B receptors at this higher dose. Because the 1.22 ng of MK-329 dose was totally ineffective in blocking the actions of the safety signal, these data demonstrate the involvement of CCK-B receptors.

- 12. T. L. Yaksh and T. A. Rudy, Physiol. Behav. 17, 1031 (1976). Drug injection into the lumbosacral subarachnoid space was chosen because the TF reflex, which served as our measure of pain responsivity, is controlled at this spinal cord level.
- 13. J. A. Bell and W. R. Martin, Eur. J. Pharmacol. 42, 147 (1977); T. L. Yaksh and R. Noueihed, Annu. Rev. Pharmacol. Toxicol. 25, 433 (1985)
- 14. E. P. Wiertelak, S. F. Maier, L. R. Watkins, in preparation.
- S. Siegel, in Psychopathology in Animals, J. D. 15. Keehn, Ed. (Academic Press, New York, 1979), p. 143; R. L. Solomon and J. D. Corbit, Psychol. Rev. 81, 119 (1974).
- 16. R. C. Bolles and M. S. Fanselow, Behav. Brain Sci. 3. 291 (1980).
- N. E. Zinberg, Drug, Set, and Setting (Yale Univ. Press, New Haven, CT, 1984), p. 12; R. G. Twy-cross, in *Textbook of Pain*, P. D. Wall and R. Melzack, Eds. (Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh, 1984), p. 516; R. Melzack, in Proceedings of the 5th World Congress on Pain, R. Dubner, G. F. Gebhart, M. R. Bond, Eds. (Elsevier, Amsterdam, 1988), p. 4. R. F. Westbrook and J. D. Greeley, *Q. J. Exp.*
- 18. Psychol. 42B (no. 1), 1 (1990).
- This work was supported by NSF grant BNS 19. 88-09527 and National Institute of Mental Health training grant 5T32MH14617-15 to S.F.M. Both L-365,260 and MK-329 were a gift from Merck, Sharp & Dohme Research Laboratories to L.R.W.

6 January 1992; accepted 6 March 1992

# Changes in the Sensory Processing of Olfactory Signals Induced by Birth in Sheep

### K. M. Kendrick,\* F. Lévy, E. B. Keverne

After giving birth, sheep and many other species form a selective bond with their offspring based on the sense of smell. Processing of olfactory signals is altered to allow the animals to perform this selective recognition. Lamb odors have little effect on either neurotransmitter release or electrical activity of neurons in the olfactory bulb before birth. However, after birth there is an increase in the number of mitral cells, the principal cells of the olfactory bulb, that respond to lamb odors, which is associated with increased cholinergic and noradrenergic neurotransmitter release. Selective recognition of lambs is accompanied by increased activity of a subset of mitral cells and release of glutamate and y-aminobutyric acid (GABA) from the dendrodendritic synapses between the mitral and granule cells. The relation between the release of each transmitter after birth also suggests an increased efficacy of glutamate-evoked GABA release.

In sheep, an enduring bond between a mother and her lambs is established very rapidly, usually within 3 hours of parturition (1). Before giving birth, pregnant ewes find the smell of amniotic fluid repulsive and are indifferent toward, or violently reject, approaches by lambs. Immediately

after the fetal membranes rupture, however, the ewe is attracted to the smell of amniotic fluid (2) and, within a few minutes of birth, starts to lick and sniff her newborn lamb and encourages it to adopt a standing posture and suckle. The ewe's interest in lambs and her ability to selec-

SCIENCE • VOL. 256 • 8 MAY 1992

tively recognize her own offspring depend on the effect of parturition to trigger her interest in their sensory cues, which are primarily olfactory (3). During parturition, signals from the stimulation of the vagina and cervix feed back to the brain to induce the ewe both to become maternally responsive toward lambs and to form a selective bond with them (4). Profound neurochemical changes occur in the olfactory bulb of the sheep as a result of parturition or artificial stimulation of the vagina and cervix (5). We therefore investigated how the organization of olfactory processing in the brain is altered electrophysiologically and neurochemically to accommodate the animal's behavioral requirement of recognizing its own lambs.

Electrophysiological recordings were made from olfactory bulb neurons in the same four conscious Dalesbred ewes before and after they gave birth. During recordings, the ewes were comfortably suspended in a canvas hammock (6). Single-cell activity was recorded extracellularly with glass-coated tungsten microelectrodes introduced into the olfactory bulbs with a hydraulic microdrive by means of 18-gauge stainless steel guide tubes surgically implanted directly above the lobes (7).

A total of 188 cells responded differentially to the various chemical and biological odors presented (105 recorded before birth and 83 after birth) (8). Histological examination revealed that these cells were located mainly in the mitral cell layer. In recordings made during the last 2 months of pregnancy, none of these cells responded preferentially to lamb or amniotic fluid odors (Fig. 1A). Indeed, in only 11 cells (10%) were these odors capable of eliciting any significant change in firing rate. The majority of cells (72%) responded preferentially to food odors, and some responded to wool or amyl acetate (Fig. 1A). Between 3 days and 4 weeks after birth, there was a dramatic increase in the proportion of cells in the same area of the olfactory bulb that responded preferentially to lamb odors (60%) (P < 0.05). The majority of cells that responded to lamb odors (70%) did not differentiate between the odor of the ewe's own lamb and that of an alien lamb (Fig. 1B) and were remarkably resistant to habituation (9). However, a proportion of the cells (30%) did respond preferentially to the odor of the ewe's own lamb (Fig. 1C), and in all cases

\*To whom all correspondence should be addressed.

the smell of the lamb's wool was almost as effective a stimulus as that of the whole lamb. A small proportion of cells was also found that responded preferentially to amniotic fluid odors (11%) (Fig. 1A). There was a large reduction in the number of cells that responded primarily to food odors (11%) (P < 0.05), whereas the proportion that responded primarily to amyl acetate and adult wool odors remained unchanged. These results indicate that, although the odors of lambs have almost no influence on the activity of olfactory bulb neurons during the period before birth, when lambs have no behavioral attraction, they are the most potent olfactory stimulus of those tested in the period after birth, when the recognition of lamb odors has a very high behavioral priority. Moreover, a proportion of cells responds preferentially to the odor of the lamb with which the ewe has formed a selective bond.

The olfactory bulb is a relatively simple trilaminar structure, and its network comprises three basic neural types (Fig. 2E). The mitral cells, which show this increased responsiveness to lamb odors after birth, receive and transmit olfactory signals, and their activity is modulated at their apical dendrites by periglomerular cells and at their lateral dendrites by granule cells (10). Intrinsic connections within this network contain both excitatory and inhibitory amino acid transmitters and dopamine (11). Transmission among neurons in the network is further influenced by centrifugal projections from noradrenergic (12), cholinergic (13), and serotonergic (14) neurons that lie deep in the brain.

To further understand how the mitral cells



increase their responsiveness to lamb odors, we used in vivo microdialysis to measure their effect on the release of acetylcholine (ACh), amino acid, and monoamine transmitters in the olfactory bulb before and after birth. In this part of the study, nine adult Clun Forest ewes were anesthetized 4 to 6 weeks before giving birth (7) and implanted bilaterally over the olfactory bulbs with 18-gauge stainless steel guide tubes placed with x-ray guidance. The guide tubes were inserted through the nasal sinus and directed at right angles to the rostral pole of the bulb. In this way, the microdialysis probes (CMA-10, 4-mm membrane length, CMA/Microdialysis, Stockholm, Sweden) preferentially sampled the external plexiform layer and monitored the neurotransmitter interactions between granule and mitral cells. Neurotransmitter release in response to lamb odors was measured 4 to 24 hours before birth and again in the same ewes 24 hours after birth. Samples were collected at 5-min intervals before, during, and after a 10-min exposure to lamb odors. Neurotransmitter concentrations were measured by high-performance liquid chromatography (15). Behavioral tests were given to all the ewes 6 hours after birth to confirm that they had all formed a selective recognition bond with their lambs.

After parturition, when ewes had established a selective bond with their lambs, the odors of these lambs, but not those of alien ones, increased the release of both the excitatory amino acid glutamate (Fig. 2A) and the inhibitory one,  $\gamma$ -aminobutyric acid (GABA) (Fig. 2B). Release of another intrinsic transmitter, dopamine, was not influenced by lamb odors. These changes in glutamate and GABA release occurred only during the first 5 min of exposure to the lamb odor, and the increase of GABA after

Fig. 1. The effects of birth on the responses of mitral cells to odors. (A) Percentage of mitral cells (mean ± SEM) that responded preferentially [with a significantly greater change in response than to other odors (t test)] to the different classes of odor used. Open histograms represent data from 105 cells recorded before birth (baseline rate, 5.6  $\pm$  0.5 Hz) and closed histograms from 83 cells after birth (baseline rate,  $4.7 \pm 0.6$  Hz; n = 4 animals). Asterisk, P < 0.05 compared to values obtained before birth (paired t test). (B) Change in firing rate of 38 mitral cells recorded after birth that responded preferentially to all lamb odors (baseline rate, 4.5 ± 0.9 Hz). Asterisk, P < 0.05 compared to all other odors except alien lambs or a ewe's own lamb; #, P < 0.05compared to wool, human, food, or amyl acetate. (C) Change in firing rate of 11 mitral cells recorded after birth that responded preferentially to own lamb odors (baseline rate, 5.0 ± 1.2 Hz). Statistics are as in (B): +, P < 0.05compared to all odors including alien lamb. Open bars, prepartum; dark bars; postpartum.

K. M. Kendrick, Agricultural and Food Research Council, Institute of Animal Physiology and Genetics Research, Babraham, Cambridge CB2 4AT, United Kingdom.

F. Lévy, Laboratoire de Comportement Animal, Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, Nouzilly, 37380 France.

E. B. Keverne, Subdepartment of Animal Behavior, University of Cambridge, Madingley, Cambridge CB3 8AA, United Kingdom.

birth was significantly greater than that of glutamate (mean  $\pm$  SEM = 89  $\pm$  33.4% for GABA; 52  $\pm$  25.8% for glutamate; P < 0.05, Wilcoxon test). Basal release of GABA and glutamate in the period after birth was also significantly higher than in the period before birth (Fig. 2, A and B), and, again, this change in GABA release was significantly greater than that of glutamate (117.1  $\pm$  20.5% for GABA; 61.2  $\pm$  18.6% for glutamate; P < 0.05).

Because the GABA-containing granule cells are intrinsic bulbar neurons excited by mitral cells and provide feedback inhibition to the mitral cells by way of reciprocal dendrodendritic synapses, the proportionately higher release of GABA compared to glutamate might be explained in terms of a changed efficacy of glutamate at these synapses after birth. We further examined this possibility by comparing the regression slopes for the two transmitters in the periods before and after birth. Glutamate and GABA release were correlated both before and after birth in all animals (Fig. 3). A similar relation did not occur with the centrifugal inputs to the bulb because glutamate release was not always correlated with that of ACh, norepinephrine (NE), or serotonin. Although both glutamate and GABA release were positively correlated before and after birth, the regression slopes for the two periods were significantly different (Fig. 3). This overall increase in both glutamate and GABA release in the period after birth is synonymous with more mitral cell activity in response to lamb odors, whereas the significant shift in the regression slope may be a result of an increased efficacy of glutamate in promoting GABA release. Such enhancement of neurotransmission at the granule to mitral cell synapses after birth, and in response to the odor of the animal's own lamb, may not simply produce more inhibition but could result in a change in the firing frequency of those neurons that are coded for the odor of the lamb (16). This situation would then produce a bias in the network with respect to these odors.

These findings reveal a change in the processing of biologically relevant odors in the olfactory bulb of the ewe after birth. Changes in bulbar neuronal activity occur as part of a learning process induced by mating in mice (17), by stroking of rat pups at birth (18), and by aversive conditioning of rabbits (19) to odors. Lesions of the noradrenergic projections to the bulbs prevent olfactory learning (20) and the ewe's selective recognition of her lambs (21). In sheep, the centrifugal projections also provide an increase in NE and ACh release in the bulb at birth (5). During the 24-hour period before parturition, presentation of a lamb before a ewe giving birth does not affect NE or ACh release in the ewe's olfactory bulb, although by 24 hours after birth, it stimulates the release of both neurotransmitters (Fig. 2, C and D). These centrifugal projections are essential for olfactory memory formation



The capacity of olfactory bulb circuits to respond to sensory information, contingent upon parturition, in such a way that plastic changes render the processing of olfactory information different on subsequent exposures to the stimuli, is similar to the plasticity that occurs in the hippocampus as revealed by long-term potentiation (LTP) (22). Indeed, the olfactory bulbs have much in common with the CA3 region of the hippocampus. Both olfactory mitral and hippocampal pyramidal cells fire in bursts (23) and are susceptible to seizure (24). Blockage of GABA facilitates both olfactory recognition and LTP in hippocampal CA3 neurons, and these processes are dependent on NE (25). Not only has evolution been conservative in its neural mechanisms for learning (the combination of noradrenergic, GABAcontaining, and glutamatergic synapses frequently occurs in learning mechanisms) (26) but, in this particular case, changes in neural processing of importance for lamb recognition occur at the initial relays in the olfactory system. Learning abilities in animals are adaptive specializations shaped by natural selection to solve specific problems posed by their environment (27). For sheep, the elec-



**Fig. 2.** The effects of birth on neurochemical release in response to lamb odors. Concentrations of glutamate (mean  $\pm$  SEM) (**A**), GABA (**B**), ACh (**C**), and NE (**D**) in sequential 5-min microdialysis samples taken from the olfactory bulbs of nine sheep during exposure to lamb odors (for 10 min) 4 to 24 hours before birth (dotted line) and 24 hours after birth (solid line). The periods of exposure to lamb odors are indicated by horizontal black bars. Double asterisks, P < 0.01; single asterisk, P < 0.05 compared to the two control samples immediately before odor stimulation. Results are an overall mean concentration from both olfactory bulbs. A ewe's own lamb and alien lamb odors were presented in a random order. (**E**) Schematic drawing showing the olfactory bulb and the synaptic organization of its neurotransmitters (in parentheses). Solid arrows, excitatory connections; hollow arrows, inhibitory connections.



**Fig. 3.** A regression analysis of mean glutamate and GABA concentrations in microdialysis samples taken from the olfactory bulbs before and after birth. Glutamate and GABA release are significantly correlated before (r = 0.78, df = 8, regression coefficient =  $25 \pm 7$ , 95% confidence limits = 0.28 to 0.93, P = 0.008) and after birth (r = 0.77, df = 11, regression coefficient =  $49 \pm 12$ , 95% confidence limits = 0.38 to 0.92, P = 0.002), but the slopes are significantly different (df = 21, t = 3.34, P = 0.003).

trophysiological and neurochemical changes that occur in the olfactory bulb after birth represent such an adaptive specialization in response to a behavioral requirement of the selective recognition of their own offspring.

#### **REFERENCES AND NOTES**

- 1. P. Poindron and P. Le Neindre, Adv. Study Behav. 11, 75 (1980).
- F. Lévy, P. Poindron, P. Le Neindre, *Physiol. Behav.* 31, 687 (1983).
- F. V. Smith, C. Van Toller, T. Boyes, *Anim. Behav.* 14, 120 (1966); B. A. Baldwin and E. Shillito, *ibid.* 22, 220 (1974).
- E. B. Keverne, F. Lévy, P. Poindron, D. R. Lindsay, Science 219, 81 (1983); K. M. Kendrick, F. Lévy, E. B. Keverne, *Physiol. Behav.* 50, 595 (1991).
- K. M. Kendrick, E. B. Keverne, C. Chapman, B. A. Baldwin, *Brain Res.* **439**, 1 (1988); *ibid.* **442**, 171 (1988); K. M. Kendrick, F. Lévy, E. B. Keverne, *Curr. Sep.* **10**, 96 (1991).
- The method for recording the activity of single cells in the brain of the conscious sheep is as described [K. M. Kendrick and B. A. Baldwin, in *Methods in Neuroscience*, P. M. Conn, Ed. (Academic Press, San Diego, 1991), vol. 4, pp. 3–14].
- General anesthesia was induced with an intravenous injection of 400 mg of sodium methohexitone and then with an injection of halothane. Full sterile precautions were taken during surgery, and the animals were allowed 3 to 4 weeks to recover.
- 8. A differential response to odors was defined as a significant neuronal response to some, but not all, of the odor stimuli tested. A total of 107 cells did not fulfill this criterion (60 before birth and 47 after birth). Odor stimuli included three foods (oats. hay, and nuts), amniotic fluid from an alien lamb. a human hand, wool shorn from an unfamiliar adult female sheep, amyl acetate, and lamb's wool, either shorn or on the lamb. After birth, the wool fibers of both alien lambs and a ewe's own lambs were used as stimuli. The stimuli were presented for 10 s on two or three occasions and in random order (for statistics the firing rate during the previous 10 s (20 0.5-s bins) was compared to that during the odor stimulus (20 0.5-s bins). At least 1 min was allowed to elapse between successive odor stimuli.
- Although firing rate changes in response to odors were based only on the duration of a 10-s stimulus, the responses of the cells to food odors before birth, and to lamb odors after birth, could be maintained for several minutes or more without significant habituation.
- 10. G. M. Shepherd, Physiol. Rev. 52, 864 (1972)
- 11. K. Mori, Prog. Neurobiol. (Oxford) 29, 275 (1987).
- 12. M. T. Shipley, F. G. Halloran, J. de la Torre, Brain Res. 329, 294 (1985).
- D. A. Godfrey, C. D. Ross, F. M. Matschinsky, Neuroscience 5, 273 (1980).
- R. Gervais, S. Araneda, J. F. Pujol, Electroencephalogr. Clin. Neurophysiol. 57, 462 (1984).
- K. M. Kendrick, in *Microdialysis in the Neuro-sciences*, T. Robinson and J. Justice, Eds. (Elsevier, Amsterdam, 1991), pp. 327–348.
- 16. J. G. Taylor and E. B. Keverne, *Biol. Cybern.* 64, 301 (1991).
- A. E. Rosser and E. B. Keverne, *Neuroscience* 15, 1141 (1985).
   D. M. Sulliver and M. Lear, *Data Basic Res* 25, 2013
- R. M. Sullivan and M. Leon, *Dev. Brain Res.* 35, 301 (1987).
  W. J. Freeman and W. Schneider, *Psychophysiol*-
- w. 5. Freeman and w. Schneider, *Psychophysiology* 19, 44 (1982).
  E. B. Keverne and C. de la Riva, *Nature* 296, 148
- (1982); R. A. Sullivan, D. A. Wilson, M. Leon, J. Neurosci. 9, 3998 (1989); C. Gray, W. J. Freeman, J. E. Skinner, Behav. Neurosci. 100, 585 (1986).
- D. Pissonier *et al.*, *Physiol. Behav.* **35**, 361 (1985).
  R. G. M. Morris, E. Anderson, G. S. Lynch, M. Baudry, *Nature* **319**, 774 (1986).
- 23. G. Buzsaki, Neuroscience 31, 551 (1989).
- 24. M. Higaskima, Exp. Brain Res. 72, 37 (1988).
- 25. P. K. Stanton and J. M. Sarvey, J. Neurosci. 5,

2169 (1985).

- A. Artola and W. Singer, *Nature* 330, 649 (1987).
  P. Rozin, in *Neural Mechanisms of Learning and Memory*, M. R. Rozenweig and E. L. Bennet, Eds. (Cambridge Univ. Press, Cambridge, 1976), pp. 3–48.
- This work was supported by an Agricultural and Food Research Council grant (E.B.K.), a Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food commission (K.M.K.), and a Royal Society Travel grant (F.L.).

2 December 1991; accepted 11 March 1992

initial chronic phase, which may last for

several years, committed myeloid progenitor

cells that retain their ability to differentiate

increase in number. Progression of the dis-

ease is marked by accelerated growth of

immature myeloid or lymphoid cells that no

longer differentiate. The presence of Ph<sup>1</sup> and

the p210<sup>bcr-abl</sup> protein in cells during both

chronic phase and acute blast crisis suggests

that bcr-abl expression is an important factor

stimulate the growth of MPPCs or if other

genetic alterations that precede the forma-

tion of Ph<sup>1</sup> are responsible for the expansion

of the MPPC clone observed in CML (6). In

vivo murine studies have shown that bcr-abl

can induce various hematopoietic malignan-

It is not known if bcr-abl can directly

in CML pathogenesis (5).

## Initiation of Deregulated Growth of Multipotent Progenitor Cells by *bcr-abl* in Vitro

### Mikhail L. Gishizky and Owen N. Witte

Expression of the *bcr-abl* oncogene in multipotent progenitor cells (MPPCs) is implicated as a key event in the development of chronic myelogenous leukemia. Bone marrow enriched for MPPCs was infected with a retrovirus that carried *bcr-abl*. The mixed-lineage colonies that resulted were responsive to growth factors and could differentiate. These cells later became growth factor-independent but, when injected into severe combined immunodeficient mice, were not leukemogenic. Thus, the presence of *bcr-abl* alone does not cause growth factor independence, although it initiates a stepwise process. This system may prove useful in the study of other oncogenes that cause leukemia.

The Philadelphia chromosome (Ph<sup>1</sup>) is the molecular hallmark of human chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML) (1, 2). A consequence of this interchromosomal translocation is the formation of the chimeric *bcr-abl* oncogene (3); the product of this *bcr-abl* gene (p210) is an activated form of the *c-abl* protein tyrosine kinase (4). Human CML exhibits a biphasic clinical course that originates with a clonal expansion of a pluripotent or multipotent hematopoietic progenitor cell (MPPC) (1). During the disease's

M. L. Gishizky, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

O. N. Witte, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

Fig. 1. Detection of bcr-abl in agar colonies using PCR. Each lane represents analysis of an individual agar colony. DNA from each agar colony was prepared and analyzed by PCR as described (22). The presence of the bcr-abl gene was evaluated with specific oligonucleotides that amplify a unique 200-bp fragment of this gene. Samples were subjected to 45 cycles of amplification according to the following protocol: 30 s at 93°C, 30 s at 59°C, and 15 s at 72°C. One-fifth of each reaction was run on a 2.5% agarose gel, and the specific amplified product was detected as a single ethidium bromide-stained band. The gel contains two rows



of samples; arrows mark the migration of the *bcr-abl*-specific band. The identity of the band was confirmed by DNA hybridization analysis with a <sup>32</sup>P-labeled oligonucleotide specific to an internal region of the amplified *bcr-abl* segment. +, 10 ng of genomic DNA from a *bcr-abl*-transformed lymphoid cell line; -, 10 ng of genomic DNA from a nontransformed mast cell line.

SCIENCE • VOL. 256 • 8 MAY 1992