Previous studies have demonstrated that bradykinin stimulates the rapid release of inositol 1,4,5 trisphosphate (IP3) from membrane phosphatidylinositol 4,5 bisphosphate (PIP2) in Madin-Darby canine kidney (MDCK) cells. Since current evidence would suggest that the activation of phospholipase C (PLC) is mediated through a guanine nucleotide-binding protein in receptor-mediated activation of PLC, we evaluated the role of guanine nucleotide proteins in receptor-mediated (bradykinin-stimulated) activation of PLC in MDCK cells. Bradykinin at 10^{-7} M produced a marked increase in IP3 formation within 10 s increasing from a basal level of 46.2 to 686.6 pmol/mg cell protein a 15-fold increase. Pretreatment of MDCK cells in culture with 200 ng/ml of pertussis toxin for 4 h reduced the bradykinin-stimulated response to 205.8 pmol/mg protein. A 41-kD protein substrate in MDCK membranes was ADP ribosylated in vitro in the presence of pertussis toxin. The ADP ribosylation in vitro was inhibited by pretreatment of the cells in culture with pertussis toxin. Membranes from MDCK cells incubated in the presence of [3H]PIP2/phosphatidyl ethanolamine liposomes demonstrated hydrolysis of [3H]PIP2 with release of [3H]IP3 when GTP 100 microM or GTP gamma S 10 microM was added. Bradykinin 10^{-7} M added with GTP 100 microM markedly increased the rate of hydrolysis within 10 s, thus demonstrating a similar time course of PLC activation as intact cells. These results demonstrate that [...]

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Bradykinin-activated Membrane-associated Phospholipase C in Madin-Darby Canine Kidney Cells

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Abstract

Previous studies have demonstrated that bradykinin stimulates the rapid release of inositol 1,4,5 trisphosphate (IP3) from membrane phosphatidylinositol 4,5 bisphosphate (PIP2) in Madin-Darby canine kidney (MDCK) cells. Since current evidence would suggest that the activation of phospholipase C (PLC) is mediated through a guanine nucleotide-binding protein in receptor-mediated activation of PLC, we evaluated the role of guanine nucleotide proteins in receptor-mediated (bradykinin-stimulated) activation of PLC in MDCK cells. Bradykinin at 10−7 M produced a marked increase in IP3 formation within 10 s increasing from a basal level of 46.2 to 686.6 pmol/mg cell protein, a 15-fold increase. Pretreatment of MDCK cells in culture with 200 ng/ml of pertussis toxin for 4 h reduced the bradykinin-stimulated response to 205.8 pmol/mg protein. A 41-kD protein substrate in MDCK membranes was ADP ribosylated in vitro in the presence of pertussis toxin. The ADP ribosylation in vitro was inhibited by pretreatment of the cells in culture with pertussis toxin. Membranes from MDCK cells incubated in the presence of [3H]PIP2/phosphatidyl ethanolamine liposomes demonstrated hydrolysis of [3H]PIP2 with release of [3H]IP3 when GTP 100 μM or GTPγS 10 μM was added. Bradykinin 10−7 M added with GTP 100 μM markedly increased the rate of hydrolysis within 10 s, thus demonstrating a similar time course of PLC activation as intact cells. These results demonstrate that bradykinin binds to its receptor and activates a membrane-associated PLC through a pertussis toxin-sensitive, guanine nucleotide protein.

Introduction

The hydrolysis of membrane-associated phosphatidylinositol 4,5 bisphosphate (PIP2)1 to water-soluble inositol 1,4,5 trisphosphate (IP3) can be demonstrated in many cell systems in response to a wide variety of agonists (1–7). In rabbit papillary collecting tubule cells (RPCT) in culture, exposure to bradykinin (BK) initiates the hydrolysis of PIP2 by phospholipase C with rapid formation of inositol 1,4,5 trisphosphate, calcium mobilization, and PGE2 production (8, 9) with an ED50 of ~ 10−8 M BK for all three responses.

Madin-Darby canine kidney (MDCK) cells assumed to be of distal tubular or cortical collecting duct origin (10–15) also respond to BK with a rapid increase in IP3 production in sufficient amount to account for the observed intracellular calcium mobilization (16, 17). In these cells the hydrolysis of PIP2 can also be explained by activation of a phospholipase C initiated by the kinin. Two types of phospholipase C enzymes have been described. A membrane-bound form (18, 19) that is coupled to receptors and is phosphoinositide specific and activated by membrane guanine nucleotide-binding protein, and, a soluble enzyme isolated from human platelets and calf brain (20–26), which is also activated by guanine nucleotides, is calcium dependent and relatively specific for polyphosphoinositides.

Currently, there is strong evidence from studies in many tissues that receptor coupling to phospholipase C is mediated by a guanine nucleotide (GTP)-binding protein (G) (27–34). To study the role of these GTP-binding proteins, islet-activating protein (IAP) (pertussis toxin), which produces ADP ribosylation of the α-subunit of Gi and inactivates its biological activity, has been extensively utilized. In neutrophils (35–42), mast cells (43), and human leukemic cells HL-60 (44, 45), chemotactic peptide-induced PIP2 hydrolysis and IP3 formation, calcium mobilization, and arachidonic acid release were greatly inhibited by pretreatment of the cells with pertussis toxin. This suggests that a pertussis toxin substrate couples the receptor for f-Met-Leu-Phe, to phospholipase C.

Whether the GTP-binding protein that interacts with phospholipase C is identical with Gi (41) has not been ascertained. In neutrophils, pretreatment with pertussis toxin is associated with ADP ribosylation of a single membrane-bound protein (relative molecular mass 41 kD) characterized as the α-subunit of Gi. When Gi (isolated from brain) was added to pertussis toxin-pretreated membranes, f-Met-Leu-Phe-binding affinity and GTPase activity were restored (46).

Previous studies from our laboratory in RPCT demonstrate that pretreatment with IAP inhibits IP3 labeling, calcium mobilization, and PGE2 production after stimulation with BK.

We designed the present studies to determine whether BK-stimulated PIP2 hydrolysis and IP3 formation in MDCK cells were influenced by pertussis toxin pretreatment and to test the hypothesis that in an in vitro system of MDCK plasma membranes, the BK receptor is coupled to a membrane-bound PIP2 phospholipase C through a GTP-binding protein.

Methods

Materials. D-myo[2-3H]inositol-1-phosphate, D-myo[2-3H]inositol 1,4 bisphosphate, and D-myo[2-3H]inositol 1,4,5 trisphosphate (IP3) were obtained from Amersham Corp., Arlington Heights, IL. [3H]phosphatidylinositol 4,5 bisphosphate (PIP2) and [α-32P]NAD were

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1. Abbreviations used in this paper: BK, bradykinin; G, guanine nucleotide-binding protein; Gi, inhibitory guanine nucleotide binding protein; IAP, islet-activating protein; IP3, inositol 1,4,5 trisphosphate; MDCK, Madin-Darby canine kidney (cells); PIP2, phosphatidylinositol 4,5 bisphosphate; RPCT, renal papillary collecting tubule (cells); TFA, trifluoroacetyl.
obtained from New England Nuclear, Boston, MA. IAP was purchased from List Biochemical, Campbell, CA. Bradykinin (BK), phosphatidyl ethanolamine (PE), PIP₂, GTP, GTP₇S, alkaline phosphatase, and cell culture additives were all purchased from Sigma Chemical Company, St. Louis, MO. MDCK cells were obtained from American Type Culture Collection, Rockville, MD.

Cell culture and IP₃ isolation. MDCK cells were maintained in culture as previously described (10). For the current studies, cells were grown to confluency in 25-cm² culture flasks for 48 h at serum-free media and preincubated in the presence and absence of IAP (200 ng/ml) for 4 h before stimulation with BK 10⁻⁶ M. Under these conditions pertussis toxin produced a 70% inhibition of IP₃ labeling, calcium mobilization, and PGE₂ production in RPTC in culture (data not presented). The reaction was terminated after 10 or 60 s by addition of 5% perchloric acid to a final concentration of 2.5% perchloric acid. Cells were then scraped from the flask, the suspension was centrifuged, and the pellet was assayed for protein (47). The supernatant was adjusted to pH 6 with a saturated solution of potassium bicarbonate and spiked with [³²P]IP₃ to monitor recovery and retention volume. Samples were then applied to 3.3-mi amino columns (Supelco, Bellefonte, PA) washed with H₂O, and the inositol polyphosphates were eluted with 800 µl of 1.5 M ammonium hydroxide. The eluate was then desalted by HPLC. Chromatography was performed on a Pharmacia Mono Q HR 5/5 anion exchange column (Pharmacia Fine Chemicals, Piscataway, NJ) using two Waters 6000 A pumps and U6K injector (Waters Instruments, Rochester, MN). The mobile phase consisted of 10 mM Tris base, pH 8.5 (buffer A) and 500 mM sodium sulfate in buffer A (48). The gradient was increased linearly from 25 to 150 mM sodium sulfate over 25 min. Samples coeluting with authentic [³²P]IP₃ were collected, alkaline phosphatase (25 U/ml) was added, and fractions were incubated at 37°C for 3 h to remove phosphate groups. The inositol released was measured by negative ion chemical ionization mass spectrometry as previously described (16). Briefly, samples were spiked with 20 ng of hexadecuterated inositol before alkaline phosphatase hydrolysis and then desalted on Bio Rex MSZ 501 mixed bed resin (Bio-Rad Laboratories, Richmond, CA) and lyophillized. The lyophilized samples were converted to the hexafluoroacetyl (TFA) derivatives and introduced into the gas chromatography in derivatizing reagent. The inositol mass was calculated from the ratio between m/z 642, ion-monitored for TFA d6-inositol, and m/z 647, ion-monitored for TFA d6-inositol.

Determination of pertussis toxin substrate. ADP ribosylation of proteins in cell membranes was determined by measuring the [³²P]-NAD incorporation catalyzed by pertussis toxin in vitro (43). MDCK cells incubated in the presence and absence of IAP (200 ng/ml) for 2 h were suspended in ice-cold buffer consisting of Tris HCl 25 mM, pH 7.4; EDTA 1 mM; dithiothreitol 1 mM; and aprotinin 100 U/ml. Cellular homogenates were prepared with a Dounce homogenizer (five strokes) and pelleted by centrifugation at 100,000 g for 30 min. The membrane pellet was incubated in a final volume of 100 µl at 30°C for 30 min in containing 100 mM potassium phosphate, pH 7.5; 5 mM magnesium chloride; 2 mM ATP; 20 mM thymidine; 10 µM [³²P]-NAD; and 10 µg of cholera or pertussis toxin. A control in the absence of toxin was run in parallel. The reaction was terminated with 10% TCA, and the protein was precipitated, collected by centrifugation, and washed with diethylether to remove the TCA. The protein precipitate was dissolved in SDS sample buffer and the proteins separated by molecular mass on an 11% polyacrylamide SDS-containing gel by method of Laemmli (49). The gels were then stained, destained, dried, and autoradiographed.

Preparation of MDCK plasma membranes and membrane vesicles. MDCK cells were grown to confluency in 75-cm² culture flasks and plasma membranes were prepared as previously described for fibroblasts (50). The monolayers were washed twice with calcium- and magnesium-free phosphate buffer and rinsed once with a 20 mM Tris maleate buffer containing 0.5 mM EGTA and 0.5 mM EDTA. Cells were then scraped with a rubber policeman into Tris buffer and disrupted by Dounce homogenization (50 strokes). The broken cell preparation was centrifuged at 500 g for 5 min to remove nuclei and unbroken cells. The supernatant was centrifuged at 11,000 g for 15 min and the pellet was enriched in plasma membranes was suspended in Tris buffer.

Liposomes were prepared by mixing 40 nmol PIP₂, 400 nmol PE, and 3 x 10⁶ cpm [³²P]PIP₂ in CHCl₃:MeOH (2:1) and then evaporated under nitrogen. 20 mM Tris maleate, pH 7.4, was then added to yield 1 nmol [³²P]PIP₂ with 10 nmol PE per 40-µl aliquot and sonicated for 5 min at room temperature.

Assay of phospholipase C activity. Membrane-associated phospholipase C activity was determined by measuring the amount of [³²P]PIP₂ produced from [³²P]PIP₂ added as exogenous substrate. The reaction was carried out in tubes containing membrane protein (50 µg), 20 mM Tris maleate, pH 7.4; 100 mM free calcium (adjusted with Ca²⁺/EGTA buffer); and in the presence or absence of GTP 100 µM, GTP₇S 10 µM and BK 10⁻⁷ M. The reaction was initiated by addition of 50 µl of the plasma membranes to the labeled liposomes in a final volume of 100 µl. The reaction was carried out at 37°C for 10 and 60 s of incubation and terminated by the addition of ice-cold CHCl₃, MeOH, H₂O (2:1:1). [³²P]PIP₂ was isolated by HPLC as previously described except that the buffer used as the mobile phase was changed to 20 mM ethanolicine, pH 9.5, and counted by liquid scintillation spectrometry. An aliquot of the membrane preparation was removed for protein determination. Similar experiments were carried out in presence of varying concentrations of GTP and Ca²⁺.

Results

The HPLC anion exchange system of separation of the polyphosphoinositides used in the present study is depicted in Fig. 1. This allowed us to isolate the inositol 1,4,5 trisphosphate

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![Figure 1](image-url)
isomer away from the 1,3,4 isomer, which migrated ahead of the 1,4,5 isomer, and also to perform alkaline phosphatase hydrolysis of the phosphate groups. We also observed as in platelets (51) that samples prepared from acid digests of IP3 yielded threefold higher basal values (unstimulated) of inositol that did those from alkaline phosphatase digested samples. This could possibly be explained by the greater selectivity of alkaline phosphatase for phosphomonoester linkages. The nucleotides AMP, ADP, ATP were also separated in this system from IP3.

The initial experiments were designed to evaluate the effect of IAP in the formation of intracellular IP3. After 4 h of incubation, MDCK monolayers were washed three times with Krebs buffer and stimulated with BK 10⁻⁷ M. BK 10⁻⁷ M produced a marked increase in IP3 formation within 10 s from a basal level of 46.2 to 686.6 pmol/mg protein. Pretreatment with IAP (200 ng/ml for 4 h) reduced this stimulation to 205.8 pmol/mg protein (n = 5) (Fig. 2). The increase in IP3 formation in response to BK was significant at the P < 0.01 level, and the IAP-treated level was significantly different from BK alone at P < 0.01 level and from basal level at P < 0.05 level. Larger doses of IAP do not reduce this level completely to basal and the maximum inhibition in our hands was 75%. The experiments carried out in intact MDCK cells demonstrated a marked stimulation of PIP2 hydrolysis after bradykinin stimulation with a 15-fold increase in the intracellular IP3. The difference between this study and our earlier study (16) is in the basal level of IP3. The current HPLC system while it does not totally resolve 1,3,4 IP3 from 1,3,5,1P3 is much better than our previous HPLC system, which did not separate the two isomers. Thus the basal level was significantly influenced by a contribution from the 1,3,4IP3 isomer. The experiments also demonstrated that the increase in IP3 hydrolysis with BK stimulation was dependent on an intact GTP-binding protein which was inhibitable by pertussis toxin.

**IAP-catalyzed ADP ribosylation of MDCK membrane protein.** ADP ribosylation of MDCK membranes was carried out with [α-³²P]NAD. The ³²P content of the membrane protein fractions was then analyzed by SDS/polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis. As shown in Fig. 3, a protein of Mr 41 kDa was labeled in vitro only when IAP was present in the reaction mixture. We could completely inhibit the ADP ribosylation in vitro by pretreatment of cells IAP. This fact coupled with the observation that we could maximally inhibit BK-stimulated IP3 formation by 75% might suggest there was another G protein involved which was not pertussis toxin sensitive. When IAP was replaced by choler toxin in the incubation mixture, another protein with Mr of 45 kDa was also ADP ribosylated though less intensely than the 41-kDa protein with IAP. When MDCK membranes were prepared from IAP-pretreated cells in culture, the IAP-induced ³²P labeling of the Mr 41-kDa protein was significantly decreased. These results suggest that IAP catalyzes transfer of the ADP ribose moiety of NAD to a 41-kDa protein of MDCK cell membranes.

Phospholipase C activity in MDCK membranes was assayed by fixing the calcium concentration to 100 nM utilizing an EGTA⁻/Ca²⁺ buffer at a pH of 7.4. The amount of [³H]IP3 formed after incubation with exogenous [³H]PIP2/PE liposomes was estimated after extraction from the membranes, HPLC separation as before, and liquid scintillation spectrometry.

Under these conditions, BK 10⁻⁷ M stimulated [³H]IP3 production 10-fold. Addition of 100 μM GTP stimulated IP3 release 12-fold. However, the addition of BK potentiated the production of [³H]IP3 by GTP alone (3,376 vs. 1,210 cpm/mg membrane protein), an effect which was significantly different at 10 s but not 60 s (Fig. 4). Similar observations were seen by substituting GTP γS for GTP (data not shown). The significant stimulation of IP3 formation seen at 10 s of incubation with BK alone could be due to the presence of small amounts of GTP in our membrane preparation. Fig. 5 illustrates the time course of hydrolysis of exogenous [³H]PIP2. As previously observed, the stimulation of IP3 formation in response to BK and GTP is rapid and detected as early as 10 s. The dose dependency of this response to the concentration of GTP in the incubation is shown in Fig. 6. In these experiments we could show that GTP was converted to GDP by monitoring the elution off the ion exchange column at 260 nm. Thus there appears to be GTPase activity in our membrane preparations. However, since we are not dealing with the purified G-protein, we cannot conclude on the basis of our experiments if the GTPase activity resides in the G protein itself or is due to other GTPases in the membrane. In addition, we were only able to
We report here the presence of a membrane-associated phospholipase C in intact MDCK cells that in the presence of bradykinin initiates the hydrolysis of PIP$_2$ with the rapid formation (10 s) of IP$_3$. This response is inhibited by pretreatment of these cells with IAP (200 ng/ml), thus suggesting a role for a guanine nucleotide protein in receptor-mediated transmembrane signaling.

Parallel studies in MDCK membranes showed that in the presence of 100 nM free Ca$^{2+}$ concentration, mimicking the physiological Ca$^{2+}$ concentration in unstimulated cells, guanine nucleotides (GTP or GTP$\gamma$S) stimulated PIP$_2$-phospholipase C activity with the rapid formation of $[^3H]$IP$_3$ as early as 10 s of incubation, but the addition of BK 10$^{-7}$ M potentiated GTP-facilitated IP$_3$ formation. Pretreatment of intact MDCK cells before the membrane preparation abolished both guanine nucleotide and agonist stimulation of $[^3H]$IP$_3$ formation over the 60-s time course of our experiment. These results are consistent with the results obtained in intact MDCK cells and suggest the presence of a GTP-binding protein that couples the BK receptor to the activation of a membrane-bound phospho-

**Discussion**

![Figure 6. Dose dependency of $[^3H]$IP$_3$ formation with GTP concentration.](image)

![Figure 7. Ca$^{2+}$ dependency of BK-induced IP$_3$ formation.](image)

**Figure 4.** $[^3H]$IP$_3$ formed in response to guanine nucleotides and BK. MDCK membranes were incubated with $[^3H]$PIP$_2$:PE liposomes for the indicated times in the presence of a free calcium concentration of 100 nM (EGTA/Ca$^{2+}$ buffer) under control conditions, C; with BK 10$^{-7}$ M; GTP 100 µM alone; or GTP 100 µM and BK 10$^{-7}$ M. Results are expressed as cpm of $[^3H]$IP$_3$ per mg protein from five different experiments.

![Figure 5. Time course of $[^3H]$IP$_3$ formation. Membranes from MDCK were incubated in a 100 nm free Ca$^{2+}$ buffer under control conditions; in the presence of GTP 100 µM (GTP), and in the presence of GTP 100 µM plus BK 10$^{-7}$ M (GTP + BK). Results are expressed as cpm of $[^3H]$IP$_3$ per mg protein and are representative of four different experiments.](image)

![Figure 8. Bradykinin Activates Phospholipase C in Madin-Darby Cells](image)
lipase C. A 41-kD pertussis toxin substrate detected by SDS polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis in our MDCK membrane preparation would suggest that this protein could be the α-subunit of Gi, which is ribosylated when the cells in culture are pretreated with IAP.

The role of guanine nucleotides in regulating calcium-mobilizing receptors was suggested by early studies (28, 52) where it was demonstrated that guanine nucleotides could promote mast cell secretion and stimulation of diacylglycerol formation from permeabilized platelets. A more direct demonstration that guanine nucleotides regulated the activity of a membrane-bound PLC comes from studies in blowfly salivary gland membranes and polymorphonuclear leukocyte membranes (36, 53–55). In these studies a guanine nucleotide dependency of agonist action on PI2 breakdown was observed, and is similar to our observations in the current studies. Current available data suggest that receptor coupling to phospholipase C is mediated through a GTP-binding protein. In neutrophils the G protein is ADP ribosylated and inactivated by pertussis toxin and the ribosylated subunit has a molecular mass similar to the α-subunit of Gi. In other cell systems as pituitary GH3 (55), pancreatic acinar (57), and liver (58), the G protein involved in Ca2+ mobilization appears to be insensitive to pertussis toxin treatment, suggesting that it is distinct from Gi or that the pertussis toxin does not penetrate the cell. Thus, at present it is not clear whether there are differences in the nature of the G protein that couples receptors to phospholipase C in different cell types or whether there is a similar G-binding protein that differs from Gi in its susceptibility to ribosylation and inactivation by pertussis toxin (59). The possibility of different molecular forms of pertussis toxin-sensitive GTP-binding proteins has recently been demonstrated (60).

In these experiments we can demonstrate that the membrane preparation contains the BK receptor, the GTP-binding protein, and a membrane-associated phospholipase C. On addition of GTP to the membranes in the presence of exogenous PI2 substrate, GTP increases the rate of hydrolysis of the PI2 substrate. Furthermore, the addition of BK further stimulates the initial rate of PI2 hydrolysis, thus demonstrating an increase in the rate of hydrolysis over and above that due to GTP alone. This difference was marked at 10 s with a threefold increase but was no longer significant at 60 s. These observations are similar to the intact MDCK cells when BK stimulates IP2 formation at 10 s and is back to control by 60 s. Previous studies in neutrophils and fibroblasts (50, 54, 55) did not separate the different isomers for IP2, when the guanine nucleotide-dependent activation of phospholipase C was studied.

Calcium-dependent stimulation of PI2 hydrolysis by GTP + BK was observed only at low free Ca2+ concentrations which were fixed by Ca2+/EGTA buffers to mimic cytoplasmic calcium. This low requirement for Ca2+ in the BK activation of PI2 hydrolysis by membrane phospholipase C is consistent with the observation that phospholipase C acting on PI2 as the substrate can proceed at nanomolar Ca2+ concentrations and even in the presence of EGTA (61). This guanine nucleotide dependency of BK stimulation was clearly demonstrated under these conditions.

We propose a model of cell activation in MDCK cells (Fig. 9). Bradykinin (BK) couples to the receptor through a guanine nucleotide protein (GNP), with activation of a membrane-bound phospholipase C (PLC) and subsequent hydrolysis of PI2 and rapid formation of IP3 and diacylglycerol (DAG). This activation is inhibited by pertussis toxin (IAP), which causes ADP ribosylation of a 41-kD protein similar to the α-subunit of Gi.

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References


Bradykinin Activates Phospholipase C in Madin-Darby Cells


