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### Research Article

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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 (IP<sub>3</sub>) from membrane phosphatidylinositol 4,5 bisphosphate (PIP<sub>2</sub>) 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<sup>-7</sup> M produced a marked increase in IP<sub>3</sub> 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 [<sup>3</sup>H]PIP<sub>2</sub>/phosphatidyl ethanolamine liposomes demonstrated hydrolysis of [<sup>3</sup>H]PIP<sub>2</sub> with release of [<sup>3</sup>H]IP<sub>3</sub> when GTP 100 μM or GTPγS 10 μM was added. Bradykinin 10<sup>-7</sup> 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 (PIP<sub>2</sub>)<sup>1</sup> to water-soluble inositol 1,4,5 trisphosphate (IP<sub>3</sub>) 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 PIP<sub>2</sub> by phospholipase C

with rapid formation of inositol 1,4,5 trisphosphate, calcium mobilization, and PGE<sub>2</sub> production (8, 9) with an ED<sub>50</sub> of ~ 10<sup>-8</sup> 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 IP<sub>3</sub> production in sufficient amount to account for the observed intracellular calcium mobilization (16, 17). In these cells the hydrolysis of PIP<sub>2</sub> 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 PIP<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis and IP<sub>3</sub> 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 IP<sub>3</sub> labeling, calcium mobilization, and PGE<sub>2</sub> production after stimulation with BK.

We designed the present studies to determine whether BK-stimulated PIP<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis and IP<sub>3</sub> 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 PIP<sub>2</sub> phospholipase C through a GTP-binding protein.

## Methods

**Materials.** D-myo[2-<sup>3</sup>H]inositol-1-phosphate, D-myo[2-<sup>3</sup>H]inositol 1,4 bisphosphate, and D-myo[2-<sup>3</sup>H]inositol 1,4,5 trisphosphate (IP<sub>3</sub>) were obtained from Amersham Corp., Arlington Heights, IL. [<sup>3</sup>H] phosphatidylinositol 4,5 bisphosphate (PIP<sub>2</sub>) and [α-<sup>32</sup>P]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; IP<sub>3</sub>, inositol 1,4,5 trisphosphate; MDCK, Madin-Darby canine kidney (cells); PIP<sub>2</sub> phosphatidylinositol 4,5 bisphosphate; RPCT, renal papillary collecting tubule (cells); TFA, trifluoroacetyl.

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obtained from New England Nuclear, Boston, MA. IAP was purchased from List Biochemical, Campbell, CA. Bradykinin (BK), phosphatidyl ethanolamine (PE), PIP<sub>2</sub>, GTP, GTP $\gamma$ S, 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 IP<sub>3</sub> isolation.** MDCK cells were maintained in culture as previously described (10). For the current studies, cells were grown to confluency in 25-cm<sup>2</sup> culture flasks for 48 h in serum-free media and preincubated in the presence and absence of IAP (200 ng/ml) for 4 h before stimulation with BK 10<sup>-7</sup> M. Under these conditions pertussis toxin produced a 70% inhibition of IP<sub>3</sub> labeling, calcium mobilization, and PGE<sub>2</sub> production in RPCT 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 [<sup>3</sup>H]IP<sub>3</sub> to monitor recovery and retention volume. Samples were then applied to 0.3-ml amino columns (Supelco, Bellefonte, PA) washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, and the inositol polyphosphates were eluted with 600  $\mu$ l of 1.5 M ammonium hydroxide. IP<sub>3</sub> was then isolated 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 [<sup>3</sup>H]IP<sub>3</sub> 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 hexadeuterated inositol before alkaline phosphatase hydrolysis and then desalted on Bio Rex MSZ 501 mixed bed resin (Bio-Rad Laboratories, Richmond, CA) and lyophilized. 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 d<sub>0</sub>-inositol, and m/z 647, ion-monitored for TFA d<sub>6</sub>-inositol.

**Determination of pertussis toxin substrate.** ADP ribosylation of proteins in cell membranes was determined by measuring the [<sup>32</sup>P]-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  $\mu$ l at 30° for 30 min in buffer containing 100 mM potassium phosphate, pH 7.5; 5 mM magnesium chloride; 2 mM ATP; 20 mM thymidine; 10  $\mu$ M [<sup>32</sup>P]NAD; and 10  $\mu$ g 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-cm<sup>2</sup> 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 resuspended in Tris buffer.

Liposomes were prepared by mixing 40 nmol PIP<sub>2</sub>, 400 nmol PE, and 3  $\times$  10<sup>6</sup> cpm [<sup>3</sup>H]PIP<sub>2</sub> in CHCl<sub>3</sub>:MeOH (2:1) and then evaporated under nitrogen. 20 mM Tris maleate, pH 7.4, was then added to yield 1 nmol [<sup>3</sup>H]PIP<sub>2</sub> with 10 nmol PE per 40- $\mu$ l 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 [<sup>3</sup>H]IP<sub>3</sub> produced from [<sup>3</sup>H]PIP<sub>2</sub> added as exogenous substrate. The reaction was carried out in tubes containing membrane protein (50  $\mu$ g), 20 mM Tris maleate, pH 7.4; 100 nM free calcium (adjusted with Ca<sup>2+</sup>/EGTA buffer); and in the presence or absence of GTP 100  $\mu$ M, GTP $\gamma$ S 10  $\mu$ M and BK 10<sup>-7</sup> M. The reaction was initiated by addition of 50  $\mu$ l of the plasma membranes to the labeled liposomes in a final volume of 100  $\mu$ l. The reaction was carried out at 37°C for 10 and 60 s of incubation and terminated by the addition of ice-cold CHCl<sub>3</sub>, MeOH, H<sub>2</sub>O (1:2:1). [<sup>3</sup>H]IP<sub>3</sub> was isolated by HPLC as previously described except that the buffer used as the mobile phase was changed to 20 mM ethanolamine, 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 Ca<sup>2+</sup>.

## 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

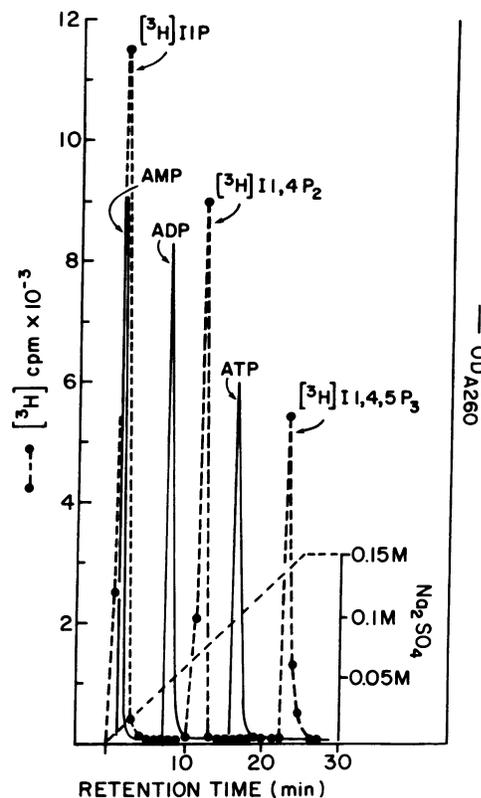
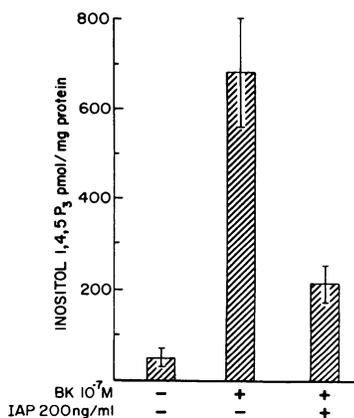


Figure 1. HPLC separation of inositol polyphosphates. The retention times for the inositol phosphates were: IP<sub>1</sub>, 2 min; I1,4P<sub>2</sub>, 12 min; I1,4,5 P<sub>3</sub>, 24 min.

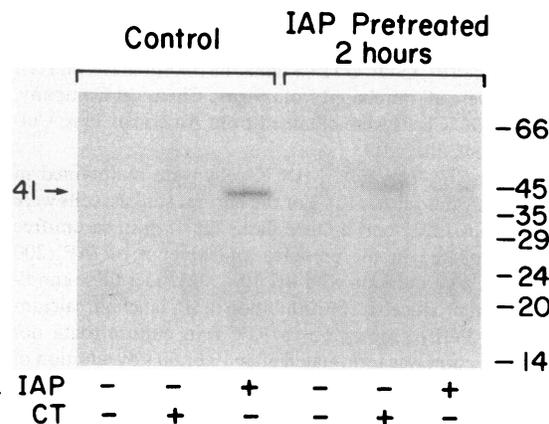
isomer away from the 1,3,4 isomer, which migrated ahead of the 1,4,5 isomer, and also to perform alkaline phosphatase hydrolysis of the phosphate groups. We also observed as in platelets (51) that samples prepared from acid digests of IP<sub>3</sub> yielded threefold higher basal values (unstimulated cells) 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 IP<sub>3</sub>.

The initial experiments were designed to evaluate the effect of IAP in the formation of intracellular IP<sub>3</sub>. After 4 h of incubation, MDCK monolayers were washed three times with Krebs buffer and stimulated with BK 10<sup>-7</sup> M. BK 10<sup>-7</sup> M produced a marked increase in IP<sub>3</sub> 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 IP<sub>3</sub> 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 PIP<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis after bradykinin stimulation with a 15-fold increase in the intracellular IP<sub>3</sub>. The difference between this study and our earlier study (16) is in the basal level of IP<sub>3</sub>. The current HPLC system while it does not totally resolve 1,3,4 IP<sub>3</sub> from 1,4,5IP<sub>3</sub> 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 1,3,4IP<sub>3</sub> isomer. The experiments also demonstrated that the increase in PIP<sub>2</sub> 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 [ $\alpha$ -<sup>32</sup>P]NAD. The <sup>32</sup>P content of the membrane protein fractions was then analyzed by SDS/polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis. As shown in Fig. 3, a protein of *M<sub>r</sub>* 41 kD 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 IP<sub>3</sub> formation by 75% might suggest there was another G pro-



**Figure 2.** Inhibition of BK-stimulated IP<sub>3</sub> formation with IAP. MDCK cells were incubated in media alone or preincubated with IAP for 4 h. This represents the mean of duplicate determinations from five separate experiments.

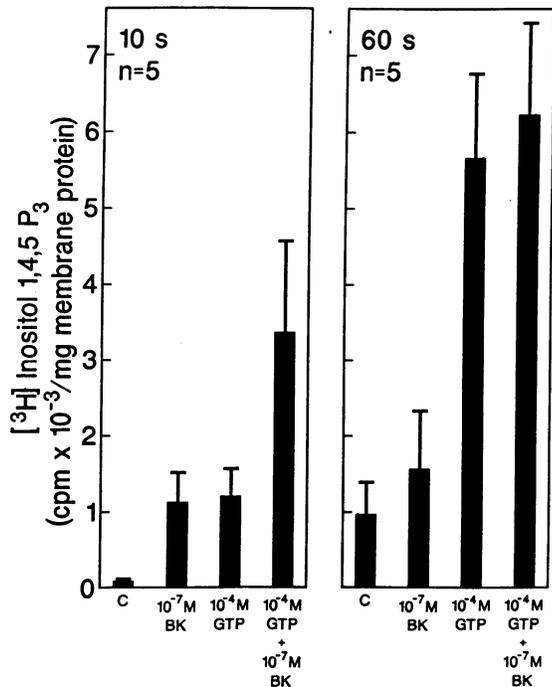


**Figure 3.** ADP ribosylation of a 41-kD protein in MDCK membranes by pertussis toxin. Membranes from MDCK cells were prepared from cells that were incubated in the presence or absence (control) of IAP 200 ng/ml for 2 h. MDCK membranes were then incubated with [ $\alpha$ -<sup>32</sup>P]NAD in the presence or absence of cholera toxin (CT) and pertussis toxin (IAP) as described in Methods. *M<sub>r</sub>* markers given in kilodaltons.

tein involved which was not pertussis toxin sensitive. When IAP was replaced by cholera toxin in the incubation mixture, another protein with *M<sub>r</sub>* of 45 kD was also ADP ribosylated though less intensely than the 41-kD protein with IAP. When MDCK membranes were prepared from IAP-pretreated cells in culture, the IAP-induced <sup>32</sup>P labeling of the *M<sub>r</sub>* 41-kD protein was significantly decreased. These results suggest that IAP catalyzes transfer of the ADP ribose moiety of NAD to a 41-kD protein of MDCK cell membranes.

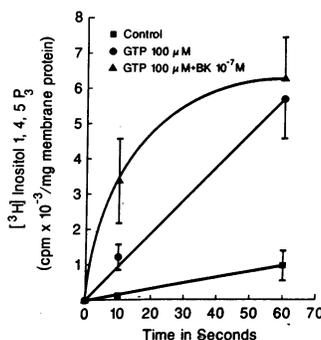
Phospholipase C activity in MDCK membranes was assayed by fixing the calcium concentration to 100 nM utilizing an EGTA<sup>+</sup>/Ca<sup>2+</sup> buffer at a pH of 7.4. The amount of [<sup>3</sup>H]IP<sub>3</sub> formed after incubation with exogenous [<sup>3</sup>H]PIP<sub>2</sub>/PE liposomes was estimated after extraction from the membranes, HPLC separation as before, and liquid scintillation spectrometry.

Under these conditions, BK 10<sup>-7</sup> M stimulated [<sup>3</sup>H]IP<sub>3</sub> production 10-fold. Addition of 100  $\mu$ M GTP stimulated IP<sub>3</sub> release 12-fold. However, the addition of BK potentiated the production of [<sup>3</sup>H]IP<sub>3</sub> 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  $\gamma$ S for GTP (data not shown). The significant stimulation of IP<sub>3</sub> 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 [<sup>3</sup>H]PIP<sub>2</sub>. As previously observed, the stimulation of IP<sub>3</sub> 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

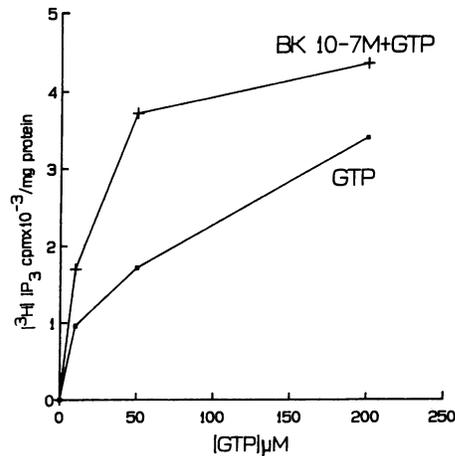


**Figure 4.** [ $^3\text{H}$ ]IP $_3$  formed in response to guanine nucleotides and BK. MDCK membranes were incubated with [ $^3\text{H}$ ] PIP $_2$ :PE liposomes for the indicated times in the presence of a free calcium concentration of 100 nM (EGTA/Ca $^{2+}$  buffer) under control conditions, C;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

demonstrate an increase in BK-induced [ $^3\text{H}$ ]PIP $_2$  hydrolysis over and above that of GTP alone at low Ca $^{2+}$  concentration (Fig. 7). At 0 Ca $^{2+}$  no hydrolysis was observed and at 2  $\mu\text{M}$  Ca $^{2+}$  BK caused no hydrolysis over and above that produced by GTP alone. These observations are similar to the observation by Magnaldo et al. (50). When MDCK membranes were prepared from pertussis toxin-treated cells the stimulation of GTP plus bradykinin was inhibited at 10 s of incubation (Fig. 8) and this inhibition persisted at 60 s (data not shown). These results in MDCK cell membranes are consistent with the observations in intact MDCK cells where BK stimulates a very rapid hydrolysis of PIP $_2$  with formation of IP $_3$  through a GTP-binding protein that couples the bradykinin receptor to a membrane-bound phospholipase C.



**Figure 5.** Time course of [ $^3\text{H}$ ]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  $\mu\text{M}$  (GTP), and in the presence of GTP 100  $\mu\text{M}$  plus BK 10 $^{-7}$  M (GTP + BK). Results are expressed as cpm of [ $^3\text{H}$ ]IP $_3$  per mg protein and are representative of four different experiments.

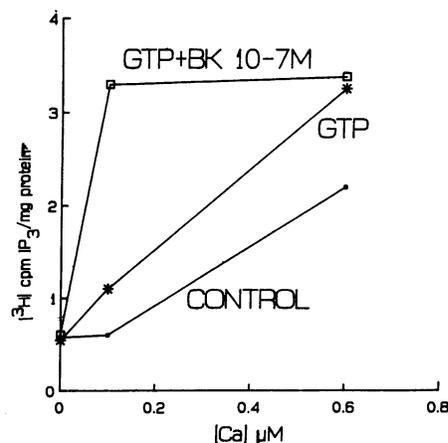


**Figure 6.** Dose dependency of [ $^3\text{H}$ ]IP $_3$  formation with GTP concentration.

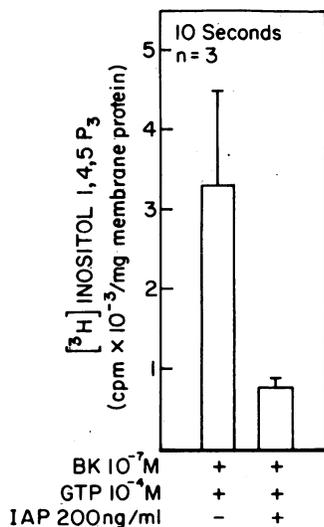
## Discussion

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 $\gamma\text{S}$ ) stimulated PIP $_2$ -phospholipase C activity with the rapid formation of [ $^3\text{H}$ ]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 [ $^3\text{H}$ ]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-



**Figure 7.** Ca $^{2+}$  dependency of BK-induced IP $_3$  formation.

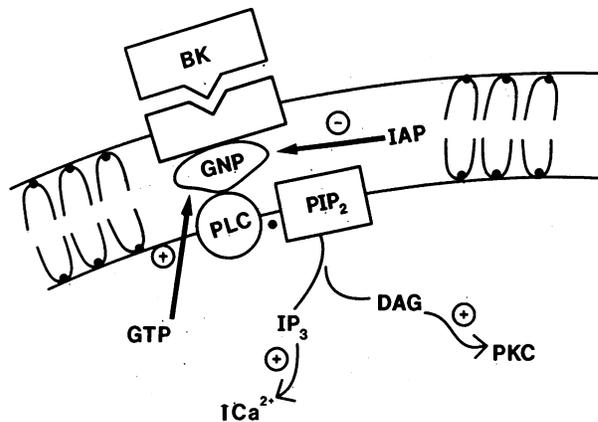


**Figure 8.** Inhibition of [<sup>3</sup>H]IP<sub>3</sub> formation with IAP. Phospholipase C activity was measured in MDCK membranes as described in Methods in the presence and absence of IAP. The guanine nucleotide dependence of BK stimulation of phospholipase C was measured as the amount of [<sup>3</sup>H]IP<sub>3</sub> formed per mg of protein. This represents the mean of three separate experiments in duplicate.

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  $\alpha$ -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 PIP<sub>2</sub> 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 very similar to the  $\alpha$ -subunit of Gi. In other cell systems as pituitary GH<sub>3</sub> (56), pancreatic acinar (57), and liver (58), the G protein involved in Ca<sup>2+</sup> 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 PIP<sub>2</sub> substrate, GTP increases the rate of hydrolysis of the PIP<sub>2</sub> substrate. Furthermore, the addition of BK further stimulates the initial rate of PIP<sub>2</sub> 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



**Figure 9.** Model of receptor coupling to membrane-bound phospholipase C. PKC, phosphokinase C.

increase but was no longer significant at 60 s. These observations are similar to the intact MDCK cells when BK stimulates IP<sub>3</sub> 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 IP<sub>3</sub>, when the guanine nucleotide-dependent activation of phospholipase C was studied.

Calcium-dependent stimulation of PIP<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis by GTP + BK was observed only at low free Ca<sup>2+</sup> concentrations which were fixed by Ca<sup>2+</sup>/EGTA buffers to mimic cytoplasmic calcium. This low requirement for Ca<sup>2+</sup> in the BK activation of PIP<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis by membrane phospholipase C is consistent with the observation that phospholipase C acting on PIP<sub>2</sub> as the substrate can proceed at nanomolar Ca<sup>2+</sup> 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 binding protein (GNP), with activation of a membrane-bound phospholipase C (PLC) and subsequent hydrolysis of PIP<sub>2</sub> and rapid formation of IP<sub>3</sub> and diacylglycerol (DAG). This activation is inhibited by pertussis toxin (IAP), which causes ADP ribosylation of a 41-kD protein similar to the  $\alpha$ -subunit of Gi.

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