**Molecular Approach to Hypothalamic Rhythms**

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The suprachiasmatic nucleus (SCN) of the hypothalamus is the anatomical seat of the mammalian endogenous biological clock which regulates the temporal expression of hormonal and behavioral circadian rhythms. Light, serotonin and melatonin are the dominant stimuli which affect the phase of the endogenous clock. The grantee has devised strategies to identify molecules that mediate the action of these stimuli within the SCN. The grantee has identified a novel receptor for serotonin, the 5-HT7 receptor, and determined its amino acid structure. Its pharmacological ligand binding properties have been measured and a unique profile of agonists and antagonists defined. These allowed demonstration that the 5-HT7 receptor mediated circadian activity of cultured SCN. The receptor has been shown to couple to activation of adenylyl cyclase and to be synthesized by neurons of the subparaventricular zone immediately dorsal to the SCN. Molecules whose expression within the SCN is activated by light entraining cues have also been identified.
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I. SUMMARY:

The suprachiasmatic nucleus (SCN) of the hypothalamus is the anatomical seat of the mammalian endogenous biological clock which regulates the temporal expression of hormonal and behavioral circadian rhythms. Light, serotonin and melatonin are the dominant stimuli which affect the phase of the endogenous clock. The grantee has devised strategies to identify molecules that mediate the action of these stimuli within the SCN. The grantee has identified a novel receptor for serotonin, the 5-HT7 receptor, and determined its amino acid structure. Its pharmacological ligand binding properties have been measured and a unique profile of agonists and antagonists defined. These allowed demonstration that the 5-HT7 receptor mediated circadian activity of cultured SCN. The receptor has been shown to couple to activation of adenylyl cyclase and to be synthesized by neurons of the subparaventricular zone immediately dorsal to the SCN. Molecules whose expression within the SCN is activated by light entraining cues have also been identified.

II. OBJECTIVES:

The goal of the supported studies is to investigate the molecular mechanism that determine circadian rhythms by isolating cDNA clones of mRNAs expressed in the rodent suprachiasmatic nucleus that encode proteins involved in generating, regulating and responding to circadian environmental cues. In particular, studies are proposed to determine the receptors mediate entrainment by indoleamine neurotransmitters and to find the mRNAs whose expression is mediated by entraining cues, or that cycle circadianly within the SCN, or which are exclusive to the SCN.

III. STATUS:

A. Background

Serotonin applied during subjective day induces phase shifting of the circadian sleep/wake cycle in vivo as well as shifts in the circadian electrical activity of cultured suprachiasmatic nucleus (SCN) slices in vitro. The SCN is known from ablation and transplantation studies to be the brain organ which regulates circadian behaviors. The previous SCN slice work suggested that serotonin mediates the effect by elevation of cAMP concentrations and activation of protein kinase A. We therefore sought a 5-HT receptor associated with the SCN that was coupled to Gs.

We used a PCR-based method and nested pairs of primers corresponding to amino acid sequences conserved among the known (at that time 3) 5-HT receptors of the 7 transmembrane domain, G-coupled protein class, but which distinguished these receptors from non-serotonin receptors of the same class, to identify
clones of four novel putative serotonin receptors encoded by rat hypothalamic mRNAs. Each of the four (5-HT\textsubscript{1f}, 5-HT\textsubscript{5A}, 5-HT\textsubscript{5B} and 5-HT\textsubscript{7}) was shown by sequence and transfection studies to encode a protein of the 7 transmembrane domain receptor class to which, among physiological ligands, only serotonin bound with high affinity. The overall properties (anatomical distribution, pharmacology and physiological coupling) of the 5-HT\textsubscript{1f}, 5-HT\textsubscript{5A} and 5-HT\textsubscript{5B} receptors disqualified them for a primary involvement in circadian physiology.

B. The 5HT\textsubscript{7} Receptor

The properties of 5-HT\textsubscript{7} were, however, consistent with such a role. Northern blotting showed that its mRNA was expressed at its highest concentration in the hypothalamus. Membranes from transfected cells bound serotonin (and various agonists and antagonists) and transfected HeLa cells elevated cAMP concentrations in response to 5-HT\textsubscript{7}, and the agonists 5-CT and 8-OH-DPAT. This effect was antagonized by ritanserin, mesulergine and NAN-190, but not by the β-adrenergic and 5-HT\textsubscript{1A} antagonist pindolol. The primary sequence shared less than 40% identity with known 5-HT receptors.

C. Experimental Implication Of 5-HT\textsubscript{7} In Circadian Rhythm

To test the hypothesis that 5-HT\textsubscript{7} mediates the effect of serotonin in shifting the phase of circadian rhythms, and to rule out the prevailing alternative hypothesis that the effect was mediated by the 5-HT\textsubscript{1A} receptor coupled unconventionally to a stimulatory G protein, we used the SCN slice preparation to assess the effects of a panel of agonists and antagonists that cumulatively could discriminate between these two alternatives as well as eliminate a role for all other known 5-HT receptors. In particular, we found a phase shift in neuronal electrical activity of SCN slices incubated with 5-HT, 5-CT and 8-OH-DPAT. The shift was blocked by cotreatment with ritanserin, but not pindolol. Ritanserin by itself has no effect. Among known 5-HT receptors, this pharmacological profile is exclusively consistent with 5-HT\textsubscript{7}.

D. Studies On The 5-HT\textsubscript{7} mRNA

Northern blotting studies detected the rat 5-HT\textsubscript{7} mRNA most prominently in the hypothalamus, at a lower concentration in the thalamus, and barely detectably in the cerebral cortex, hippocampus and medulla. At this level of detection, no 5-HT\textsubscript{7} mRNA was observed in the cerebellum, striatum, heart, liver or kidney. By PCR analysis, the 5-HT\textsubscript{7} mRNA could be detected in SCN punches and its concentration cycled with highest concentration from punches taken during the dark hours.

By in situ hybridization, thalamic expression was prominent in the anteroventral and paraventricular nuclei, expression
within the hippocampus was predominantly in the CA2 and CA3 pyramidal layers, and cortical expression was in piriform and retrosplenial areas as well as layers II and III of neocortex. Within the hypothalamus several areas were detected, including the anterior area and arcuate nucleus. Strong hybridization was observed in the subparaventricular zone of neurons which lie immediately dorsal to the SCN, receive approximately 75% of its projections, and send some of their projections back to the SCN.

E. Model For Role Of 5-HT In Circadian Regulation

The data suggest that the 5-HT7 receptor is synthesized by subparaventricular zone neurons and cycles in concentration during the day. It is optimally available for binding serotonin at about noon. Binding activates Gs, which stimulates adenylyl cyclase to produce cAMP, which in turn activates PKA. The exact compartmental localization of the receptor within the neuron remains to be elucidated, as do the targets of PKA activation and how they effect a phase shift. Also, the physiological function of 5-HT7 at its other sites of expression is unknown.

F. Isolation Of Human Homolog

The human homolog of 5-HT7 has been isolated by PCR amplification from a human hypothalamus cDNA library. Progress was initially slow because available human libraries proved to be of low quality. We were unable to isolate clones with large inserts by direct screening or to amplify the entire 5-HT7 open reading frame in a single step, probably because full-length clones are rarely or not represented in the libraries. The strategy which proved successful involved stepwise independent amplification of 5' and 3' fragments which overlapped at an internal XhoI site, followed by assembly of the cloned fragments into a baculovirus expression vector. During confirmation of the sequence, a one-base frame shift was detected 4 amino acids from the carboxy terminus. This has been repaired by synthesizing appropriate PCR primers. The final construct in the baculovirus vector is presently undergoing complete sequence analysis for final virus production. At that stage, stable transfected cell lines will also be produced in HeLa cells as a backup to the baculovirus expression clones. Membranes from infected/transfected cells will be useful for identifying new ligands selective for 5-HT7.

G. Immunological Studies

Six synthetic peptides corresponding to non overlapping regions within the rat 5-HT7 amino acid sequence have been conjugated to an immunogenic carrier protein and used to elicit antisera in rabbits (2 rabbits/peptide). Sera have been collected at intervals post immunization and assayed for their
reactivity against the peptide antigens by ELISA: all are positive. A subset have been examined in a preliminary screen by sagittal section of rat brain, and two of these sera are promising in that they recognize neurons in the areas identified by in situ hybridization experiments.

Meanwhile several stably transfected HeLa cell lines expressing the rat 5-HT$_7$ receptor have been generated. These will be grown in the presence of radioactive amino acids and extracts will be used for immunoprecipitation with the antipeptide sera. Specificity will be determined by blocking with the appropriate peptides. Identity of the target will be assumed if there is coincident gel mobility with antisera to independent peptides that is consistent with the known 435 amino acid chain length of the receptor and its probable glycosylation. The latter will be verified by enzymatic deglycosylation. The antisera will then be used to examine immunoreactive structures within the SCN and subparaventricular zone of the hypothalamus, as well as other regions where the 5-HT$_7$ mRNA was detected. These studies will allow precise placement of 5-HT$_7$, within the neural circuitry that generates circadian rhythms, and may give insights into its roles at other sites of expression.

H. Generation of Knock-out mice

The gene encoding the mouse 5-HT$_7$ homolog has been isolated as a λ phage clone and its partial structure determined. A 6 kb fragment carrying the 0.8 kb Exon II (all ORF) 0.5 kb from its 5′ end has been isolated and a diphtheria toxin block ligated to the 5′ end of the fragment. The neo' knockout cassette is presently being modified to produce appropriate restriction sites for insertion into the single KpnI site near the 5′ end of Exon II. The modified gene will then be transfected into embryonic stem cell line ABI, which along with a matched feeder cell line, (SNL 76/7), is presently being cultured in the laboratory. Neo' transfectants that escape diphtheria toxin killing will be assayed by PCR using a primer from within the neo cassette and one from the region of the 5-HT$_7$ gene upstream from that used in the knock-out construct so as to identify transformants in which 5-HT$_7$ has been inactivated by homologous recombination. These will be cultured and injected into mouse blastocysts for production of chimaeric heterozygotes, from which mice homozygous for 5-HT$_7$ null alleles will be bred. The mice will be analyzed for their circadian activity patterns. The anatomical structure of their SCN regions will be examined. SCN slice cultures will be studies for their response to serotonin. Such studies will test the hypothesis that 5-HT$_7$ is the serotonin target that mediates circadian rhythms and may give specific insights into the circuitry involved. In addition, because 5-HT$_7$, expression is restricted to the limbic system, these mice may also shed light on 5-HT involvement in other
behavioral physiologies. The mice will be valuable for assessing the effects of putatively selective 5-HT$_7$ agonists and antagonists, both as models for drug administration, and also for comparing phenotypes of the mutants to physiological responses to the new drugs.

I. Cloning Of Differentially Expressed Genes Within Hamster SCN In Response To Light Entrainment

The SCN is the anatomical seat of the mammalian endogenous biological clock which regulates the temporal expression of hormonal and behavioral circadian rhythms. Previous studies indicate a strong correlation between the rapid and transient expression of mRNAs encoding immediate early genes (e.g., c-fos) and the time of day in which light is able to reset the endogenous pacemaker. Because most immediate early genes encode transcriptional factors, we speculate that a transcriptional cascade may be required for photic entrainment. Therefore, we have initiated a study to identify/clone differentially expressed mRNAs within the hamster SCN in response to photic entrainment. Hamsters were maintained under LD 14:10 for 14 days and then exposed at ZT19 to light for 15 minutes and then placed back into darkness. Micropunched SCNs of sacrificed hamsters at 30-60 minutes (labeled 30C = 30 min control; 30S = 30 min stimulated) and 180-225 minutes (180C and 180S) after light treatment were collected and poly(A) selected RNA extracted. To identify differentially expressed mRNAs a scheme devised for the construction of PCR-based cDNA libraries from small amounts of RNA (30-50 ng) was coupled to a newly developed subtractive hybridization procedure. The cDNA libraries appear representative of mRNA populations: concentrations of c-fos and NGFI-A cDNAs are induced ~10X in 30S vs. 30C and return to near baseline in 180C vs 180S whereas concentrations of c-jun and cyclophilin cDNAs remain unchanged among all four cDNA libraries. 97% of the mRNA mass which was in common between control and light-stimulated libraries was removed by subtractive hybridization. In our initial analysis, several cDNAs unique to 30S and 180S have been obtained and differential expression verified. These clones are presently being investigated in detail. This molecular approach has the potential of identifying the molecular substrate(s) by which light entrains the pacemaker cells within the SCN. Simultaneously, studies to identify mRNAs that cycle in or that are restricted to the SCN are proceeding by the same methodology.

IV. PUBLICATIONS:


V. PERSONNEL:

The following individuals have worked on the projects solely or partly supported by this grant

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VI. INTERACTIONS:

Society for Research on Biological Rhythms, Amelia Island (Erlander)
Elba International Neuroscience Program, Marino di Campo, Italy (Sutcliffe)
World Congress on Psychiatric Genetics, New Orleans, (Sutcliffe)
Departments of Anatomy, Cell Biology and Physiology, UCLA (Sutcliffe)
Society for Neuroscience, Washington, DC (Sutcliffe, Erlander, deLecea, Dopazo)
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VII. INVENTIONS:

None
Molecular Approach to Hypothalamic Rhythms:
Isolation of Novel Indoleamine Receptor Genes

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Abstract
We have utilized polymerase chain reaction with primers corresponding to conserved amino acid sequences within membrane-spanning regions of known serotonin receptors to identify clones of four putative new indoleamine receptors. We have determined complete amino acid sequences of these four receptors, which fall into three subfamilies; two of these subfamilies are novel. The sites of expression within the brain have been determined for each of the genes. Expression in mammalian cells demonstrates that each new protein is a receptor for serotonin and that each has a distinct pharmacology when compared to known receptors. Two of the new receptors are coupled to cyclic adenosine monophosphate, one negatively (G,) and one positively (G,). The latter is a candidate for the serotonin receptor that mediates phase advances in circadian rhythms of the suprachiasmatic nucleus.

Key words 5-HT, serotonin, cAMP, G-protein-coupled receptor, cDNA cloning, PCR

The phases of endogenous circadian rhythms are modulated by the indoleamine neurohormonal transmitters serotonin (5-hydroxytryptamine, or 5-HT) and melatonin (Cassone, 1990; Krause and Dubocovich, 1990; Miller and Fuller, 1990; Medanic and Gillette, 1992; Edgar et al., 1993; Prosser et al., 1993). Biochemical studies indicate that the mechanism by which 5-HT and melatonin cause phase shifts in the suprachiasmatic circadian pacemaker is in part mediated by G-protein-associated receptors (Carlson et al., 1987; Medanic and Gillette, 1992; Prosser et al., 1993). Application of 5-HT to the in vitro suprachiasmatic nucleus (SCN) preparation (reviewed by Gillette, 1991) induces phase advances in spontaneous neuronal activity during subjective day; pharmacological studies indicate that 5-HT exerts this action via a 5-HT, or 5-HT, receptor (Medanic and Gillette, 1992; Prosser et al., 1993).

Genes encoding several subtypes of 5-HT receptors have been cloned, and except for 5-HT, all encode G-protein-associated molecules that span the plasma membrane seven times (Lubbert et al., 1987; Julius et al., 1988; Pritchett et al., 1988; Albert et al., 1990; Hamblin and Metcalf, 1991; Voigt et al., 1991; Hartig et al., 1992; McAllister et al., 1992). No gene encoding a melatonin receptor has yet been isolated; however, there is a melatonin receptor in the SCN (Vaneček, 1988), and melatonin binding to its receptor has been shown to mediate pertussis-toxin-sensitive inhibition of cyclic adenosine monophosphate (cAMP) accumulation (Carlson et al., 1989), suggesting that the receptor is a G-protein-coupled protein from the same protein superfamily. These data suggested to us that a study of
molecules expressed within the SCN that are related to 5-HT receptors might lead to identification of proteins involved in the mediation of indoleamine signaling in relation to rhythmicity, and also suggested a molecular strategy that would allow their identification.

STRATEGY

To isolate clones of indoleamine-binding receptors belonging to the superfamily of G-protein-associated receptors, we refined the strategy reported by Libert et al. (1989), who demonstrated that clones of novel members of this superfamily could be isolated through the use of degenerate primers corresponding to conserved regions of transmembrane domains (TMDs) III and VI in a polymerase chain reaction (PCR). We have extended this approach by performing two sequential rounds of nested PCR on a rat hypothalamic complementary DNA (cDNA) template (hypothalami were dissected during the middle of the subjective day and the middle of the subjective night in rats entrained to an LD 12:12 cycle), using degenerate primers in the second round of PCR that correspond to conserved residues specific to indoleamine-binding receptors. Our strategy increased the probability of isolating only indoleamine-binding receptors and amplifying indoleamine-binding receptors encoded by messenger RNAs (mRNAs) of low abundance, and decreased the probability of cloning artifactual cDNAs.

Two different variations of this general strategy were used to isolate clones of four novel indoleamine-binding receptors, designated as MR77, MR22, REC17, and REC20. The specific design that led to the subsequent cloning of MR77, MR22, and REC17 from hypothalamic cDNA was a first round of PCR using degenerate primers corresponding to conserved regions in TMDs III and VI of both catecholamine and 5-HT receptors. This was followed by a second round of PCR using a degenerate primer corresponding to a conserved region of TMD V, specific only to 5-HT receptors, in conjunction with the same TMD III primer used in the first round of PCR (Erlander et al., 1993; Lovenberg et al., 1993a).

For isolating REC20, we performed the first round of PCR-mediated hypothalamic cDNA amplification (here we used cDNA from rat cortex and striatum as well) using degenerate primers corresponding to regions of TMD III and TMD VII conserved among catecholamine and 5-HT receptors. The second PCR round used a degenerate primer corresponding to residues in TMD V specific to MR22 and REC17 in conjunction with the already used TMD VII primer (Lovenberg et al., 1993b).

SEQUENCE ANALYSIS

By performing these amplification strategies, we obtained PCR-derived cDNAs and used them as probes to screen a rat hypothalamus cDNA library (MR22, REC17, and REC20) or rat genomic library (MR77) to obtain clones spanning the entire protein-coding regions. We determined their nucleotide sequences and found that each putatively encoded a protein with the amino acid sequence characteristic of members of the G-protein-coupled, seven-TMD receptor superfamily. A search of the protein and nucleic acid data bases with the primary structures of these four putative receptors revealed that MR77 has significant amino acid sequence identity with known 5-HT receptors that are coupled to the inhibition of adenylate cyclase: human 5-HTIE = 55%, dog 5-HTID = 48%, and rat 5-HTIB = 46%. In contrast, MR22, REC17, and REC20 have 30–35% amino acid sequence identity with catecholamine and 5-HT receptors alike, with none exhibiting dominant similarity. However,
dentification. R22 and REC17 have 68% mutual sequence identity. These observations suggest that MR77 is a member of the 5-HT1E subfamily; that MR22 and REC17 form a new subfamily; and that REC20 falls into a subfamily by itself (Erlander et al., 1993; Lovenberg et al., 1993a,b).

mRNA DISTRIBUTIONS

We performed Northern blots with rat poly(A)-selected RNA extracted from eight brain regions (cortex, hypothalamus, thalamus, hippocampus, striatum, pons, medulla, and cerebellum) and from heart, liver, and kidney (Erlander et al., 1993; Lovenberg et al., 1993a,b). MR22 mRNA was detected only in the hippocampal sample. REC17 mRNAs were detected in hippocampus > cortex = thalamus = pons = striatum = medulla. REC20 mRNAs were found in hypothalamus = thalamus > pons > hippocampus. MR77 was not detected in any of the tissues examined by this method; however, by using a semiquantitative PCR technique, we found MR77 mRNAs in cortex = striatum = hippocampus > thalamus = pons > hypothalamus > cerebellum. None of the receptor mRNAs was detected in heart, liver, or kidney.

MR22, REC17, MR77, AND REC20 ARE ALL 5-HT RECEPTORS

To determine the ligand(s) for these four putative receptors empirically, we subcloned their cDNAs into a eucaryotic expression vector and transiently expressed the encoded protein in CosM6 cells. We found that broken cell preparations from transfected cells containing either MR22, REC17, MR77, or REC20 exhibited saturable binding for [125I]LSD, whereas mock-transfected cells exhibited no measurable [125I]LSD binding (Erlander et al., 1993; Lovenberg et al., 1993a,b). [125I]LSD has been shown previously to be a nonselective 5-HT-ergic ligand with high affinity (K_D < 10 nM) for all known 5-HT receptors except 5-HT_1B (K_D = 10–1000 nM; Peroutka, 1990). The calculated equilibrium dissociation constant (K_D) for the individual receptors is as follows: MR22 = 2.0 nM, REC17 = 0.64 nM, MR77 = 14 nM, and REC20 = 1.5 nM. We next tested the ability of several biogenic amine neurotransmitters to displace [125I]LSD binding from these receptors. 5-HT was able to displace [125I]LSD binding to all receptors; the neurohormones melatonin, dopamine, and epinephrine had no measurable effects.

PHARMACOLOGICAL PROFILE AND CLASSIFICATION

To relate each of these receptors to known members of the 5-HT receptor family, we performed three analyses. We determined the ability of selective 5-HT agonists and antagonists to displace LSD from the membrane preparations. We compared their primary structures with other known 5-HT receptors by a dendrogram analysis (Fig. 1). We also expressed each receptor in HeLa cells to determine its ability to mediate cAMP accumulation.

[125I]LSD binding to the MR77 protein is sensitive to sumatriptan, a 5-HT_1B agonist, but insensitive to 5-carboxyamidotryptamine (5-CT), a mixed 5-HT_1B/1D agonist, and 8-OH-DPAT, a 5-HT_1A agonist (Lovenberg et al., 1993a). The pharmacological profile of MR77 is similar to that of the 5-HT_1E receptor. Because MR77 has greatest identity (55%) with a recently cloned 5-HT_1E receptor, we conclude that we have identified a second member of the 5-HT_1E family and have designated MR77 as the 5-HT_1E receptor. This rela-
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summarize what is known about MR77, MR22, REC17, and REC20. REC20 is a particularly good candidate for the receptor mediating 5-HT-induced phase advances in the SCN, given that Medanic and Gillette (1992) have demonstrated in an in vitro preparation of the SCN that a 5-HT-induced phase shift in electrical activity during subjective day is mediated by a 5-HT receptor that potently binds 8-OH-DPAT and 5-CT. In addition, these workers have shown that an increase in the cAMP concentrations during the same window of time during the subjective day results in a similar phase shift. REC20 is an appealing candidate for the relevant receptor, because it binds these 5-HT₁A agonists but, unlike 5HT₁A, is coupled to increases in cAMP. Future studies are directed toward determining whether REC20 mRNA is present in the SCN (it is expressed in the hypothalamus, whereas 5-HT₁A mRNAs were undetectable in the SCN by in situ hybridization; Roca et al., 1992), followed by use of pharmacological tools to discriminate functional responses mediated by REC20 and 5-HT₁A receptors within the in vitro SCN preparation.

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MOLECULAR APPROACH TO HYPOTHALAMIC RHYTHMS

particularly


Two members of a distinct subfamily of 5-hydroxytryptamine receptors differentially expressed in rat brain

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ABSTRACT We report two serotonin (5-hydroxytryptamine, 5-HT) receptors, MR22 and REC17, that belong to the G-protein-associated receptor superfamily. MR22 and REC17 are 371 and 357 amino acids long, respectively, as deduced from nucleotide sequence and share 68% mutual amino acid identity and 30–35% identity with known catecholamine and 5-HT receptors. Saturable binding of 125I-labeled (+)-lysergic acid diethylamide to transiently expressed MR22 in COS-M6 cells was inhibited by ergotamine > methysergide > methiothepin > 5-carboxamidotryptamine > 5-HT. For REC17, the rank of potency was ergotamine > 5-carboxamidotryptamine > methiothepin > methysergide > 5-HT. Both were insensitive to 5-HT1A, 5-HT1D, or 5-HT2 serotoninergic ligands [8-hydroxy-2-(di-n-propylamino)tetralin, sumatriptan, and 1-(2,5-dimethoxy-4-iophenyl)-2-aminoisonapron]. The mRNAs encoding MR22 were detected in the CA1 region of hippocampus, the medial habenula, and raphe nuclei. In contrast, mRNAs encoding REC17 were found throughout the rat central nervous system. We propose that REC17 and MR22, designated as 5-HT5a and 5-HT5b, represent a distinct subfamily of 5-HT receptors.

Serotonin (5-hydroxytryptamine, 5-HT) regulates a wide variety of sensory, motor, and behavioral functions in the mammalian central nervous system. This biogenic amine neurotransmitter is synthesized by neurons in the raphe nuclei of the brainstem that project throughout the central nervous system, with the highest density in basal ganglia and limbic structures (1). Serotonergic transmission is thought to be involved with a variety of behaviors and psychiatric disorders including anxiety, sleep regulation, aggression, feeding, and depression (2, 3). Understanding how 5-HT mediates its diverse physiological actions requires the identification and isolation of the pertinent 5-HT receptors.

Molecular cloning has indicated that 5-HT receptors belong to at least two protein superfamilies: G-protein-associated receptors, which have seven putative transmembrane domains (TMDs) (5-HT1A/B/C/D/E, 5-HT2), and rat stomach fundus; refs. 4–18), and ligand-gated ion-channel receptors, which have four putative TMDs (5-HT1; ref. 19). Libert et al. (20) demonstrated that novel G-protein-associated receptors could be identified by DNA polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification using degenerate primers corresponding to strongly conserved sequences within their TMDs. We have refined this strategy so as to target 5-HT-like receptors specifically. We report here the identification of a subfamily of 5-HT receptors whose members belong to the G-protein-associated superfamily.8

MATERIALS AND METHODS

PCR Cloning and Library Screening. PCR on poly(A)-enriched RNA from dissected rat hypothalamai was performed exactly as described (21). The products were ligated into pBluescript (Strategene) and used to transform Escherichia coli DH5α bacteria. Cloned DNA was used to probe an amplified rat hypothalamic cDNA library (4 × 106 recombinants in the unamplified library) that was constructed in λZAPII.

Anchored PCR. Poly(A)-enriched RNA from rat brain was converted to first-strand cDNA by using random hexamer oligonucleotide primers and Moloney murine leukemia virus reverse transcriptase. The cDNAs were tailed with dGTP by terminal deoxynucleotidyltransferase. Anchored PCR (22) was performed using this dG-tailed cDNA as template. For MR22, a primer complementary to nt 385–404 (5'-GGATCCATGCTTCTGCGG-3') of known MR22 sequence and an anchored primer (5'-GACCCCCGGAGCTCAAGCTTCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCC-3') were used in an anchored PCR. Ten percent of the product was subjected to gel electrophoresis and transferred onto nitrocellulose, and the filter was hybridized with a radioactively labeled oligonucleotide representing nt 320–340 of the MR22 sequence. A major band of ~400 bp was detected. The remaining product was digested with HindIII, the restriction fragments were separated by electrophoresis, and the 400-bp fragment was excised and subcloned into the HindIII site of pBluescript KS for nucleotide sequencing. For the REC17 anchored PCR, a primer complementary to nt 621–645 of REC17 was used and the radiolabeled REC17-specific probe was complementary to nt 557–571. A major band of ~700 bp hybridized to the labeled probe and was excised, subcloned, and sequenced as described for MR22.

Expression in COS-M6 Cells. COS-M6 cells (subclone of COS-7) or HeLa cells were transfected with pDP5HT1a (23), pCMV4MR22 (MR22 cDNA), pCMV4REC17 (REC17 cDNA), or pBCLIBeta2 (24) as described (21). Binding experiments using 125I-labeled (+)-lysergic acid diethylamide (125I-LSD) were performed exactly as reported (21).

RNA Blots. Total RNA was isolated from frozen tissues of adult Sprague-Dawley rats by extraction with guanidinium isothiocyanate (25). Oligo(dT)-cellulose chromatography (26) was used to enrich for poly(A)+ RNA. For RNA blots, 10 μg of poly(A)+ RNA was loaded per lane, except 1.3 μg for the medulla sample, and was subsequently resolved by electrophoresis in a 1.2% agarose/1.2 M formaldehyde gel, transferred to nitrocellulose membrane, and hybridized to either 32P-labeled MR22 cDNA (entire insert) or the 3' untranslated region of REC17 (nt 1200–1719). To confirm that similar amounts of intact RNA were loaded in each gel lane, blots

Abbreviations: 5-HT, 5-hydroxytryptamine (serotonin); TMD, transmembrane domain; LSD, (+)-lysergic acid diethylamide.

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8The sequences reported in this paper have been deposited in the GenBank database (accession nos. L10072 for MR22 and L10073 (for REC17)).
were stripped and hybridized with a 32P-labeled cDNA probe for ubiquitously expressed cyclophilin mRNA (27).

**In Situ Hybridization.** Free-floating in situ hybridization was performed as adapted from Gahl and Isackson (28) and described by Leece et al. (29). Coronal sections, 25 μm thick, from four young adult Sprague-Dawley rats were hybridized at 55°C for 16 hr. 32P-labeled single-stranded RNA probes at 1.5 × 10^6 cpm/ml. Free-floating sections were then digested with RNase A at 4 μg/ml in 50 mM Tris-HCl/0.5 M NaCl/5 mM EDTA, pH 7.5, for 1 hr at 37°C. Washes were performed in 50% formamide/75 mM NaCl/7.5 mM sodium citrate, pH 7/14 mM 2-mercaptoethanol at 60°C for 3 hr and 15 mM NaCl/1.5 mM sodium citrate, pH 7/0.5% sodium N-lauroylsarcosine at 68°C for 1 hr. Sections were mounted on coated slides, dehydrated, and exposed to Kodak XAR acids (Fig. 2). The amino acid sequences of the putative N-glycosylation site is circled, and putative protein kinase colonies and thus eliminated clones corresponding to the N-glycosylation site.
other known G-protein-associated receptors gave qualitatively similar results, although the identities were in the 40–48% range, with none exhibiting dominant similarity. Thus, the MR22 and REC17 proteins are probable G-protein-associated receptors, each much more related to known receptors for various ligands. Consequently, sequence analysis does not allow us to postulate the identity of the endogenous ligands interacting with MR22 and REC17.

**MR22 and REC17 Are 5-HT Receptors.** To determine the ligand(s) for MR22 and REC17 empirically, we subcloned the two cDNAs into a eukaryotic expression vector (pCMV4) and transiently transfected COS-M6 cells. We found that broken-cell preparations from transfected cells containing either MR22 or REC17 exhibited saturable binding for 5-HT, a nonselective serotonergic ligand. For MR22, the calculated equilibrium dissociation constant (Kd) was 4.8 nM, while for REC17 it was 1.7 nM. To compare these values with those of known 5-HT receptors, we measured the saturation binding of 5-HT to membranes prepared from 3T3 mouse fibroblasts stably expressing the rat 5-HT1C and 5-HT2 receptors.

We tested the ability of several cationic neurotransmitters to inhibit binding of 5-HT to these receptors (Table 1). 5-HT at 380 nM competed for half (IC50) of 5-HT binding to REC17; the calculated Ki is 239 nM. For MR22, the IC50 for 5-HT was considerably higher, 1613 nM (Ki is 1333 nM). We measured the competition binding of 5-HT to membranes prepared from 3T3 fibroblasts stably expressing the rat 5-HT1C and 5-HT2 receptors and obtained similar Ki values, 92 nM and 1021 nM, respectively. Neither dopamine, norepinephrine, nor melatonin at ≤1 μM inhibited 5-HT binding to REC17 or MR22 detectably.

The affinity of representative serotonergic receptor ligands was determined by their ability to compete for the specific binding of 5-HT (Table 1). Both MR22 and REC17 generally had similar, though not identical, pharmacological profiles. Ergot alkaloids, and in particular, ergotamine, were the most potent ligands. However, within this compound class there were some notable differences. Thus, methysergide exhibited at least 5-fold selectivity for REC17, whereas neither receptor recognized metergoline or mesulergine. Although both MR22 and REC17 bound 5-carboxamidotryptamine with high affinity, the agonist binding profile of these receptors was easily differentiated from that of the 5-HT1D and 5-HT1A receptors in that both MR22 and REC17 were insensitive to sumatriptan and yohimbine (5-HT1D ligands) and 8-hydroxy-2-(di-n-propylamino)tetrindole (5-HT1A ligand). Finally, 5-HT2-selective [1-2,5-dimethoxy-4-iodoophenyl]-2-aminopropanyl zacopride, dopamine, norepinephrine, and melatonin.

**5-Carboxamidotryptamine.**
three distinct RNAs of 1.5, 1.8, and 3.0 kb that were detectable only in the hippocampal sample (Fig. 3). This was somewhat surprising, given that we originally isolated the MR22 PCR cDNA and the subsequent cDNA clone from a hypothalamic cDNA library. The probable explanation is that MR22 is expressed in the hypothalamus but at a level below detection by Northern blots; this is consistent with our tryptamine, which shows activity greater than or equal to that of 5-HT receptors has been based on their pharmacological properties (33). Thus, the cellular localization of MR22 mRNA is consistent with our Northern blot data. Our preliminary in situ hybridization data for REC17 are also consistent with our Northern data; REC17 mRNAs were detectable in many regions of the rat central nervous system (piriform cortex, hippocampus, amygdala, septum, and several thalamic nuclei; data not shown). A survey will be presented elsewhere.

We conducted in situ hybridization studies using a sensitive method (28, 29) to determine the cellular location of MR22 mRNAs within rat brain (Fig. 4). The most intense hybridization was in the hippocampus, medial and lateral habenular nuclei (Fig. 4 A, C, and D), and raphe nuclei (data not shown). Within the hippocampus, MR22 mRNA was exclusively detected in the CA1 region and subiculum; within CA1, MR22 hybridization was most prominent over the pyramidal layer (Fig. 4 B and E). Very low silver grain densities, just above background, were found in piriform cortex and supraoptic nucleus of hypothalamus (data not shown). Thus, the cellular localization of MR22 mRNA is consistent with our Northern blot data. Our preliminary in situ hybridization data for MR22 are also consistent with our Northern data; MR22 mRNAs were detectable in many regions of the rat central nervous system (piriform cortex, hippocampus, amygdala, septum, and several thalamic nuclei; data not shown). A survey will be presented elsewhere.

With the advent of molecular cloning, 5-HT receptor classification has changed from being based purely on pharmacological properties to being based on the cloning of multiple receptors. The cloning of MR22 and REC17 has allowed for the study of their cellular localization and the identification of their functional properties.

**Classification of MR22 and REC17 Within the G-Protein-Associated 5-HT Receptor Family.** Historically, the classification of 5-HT receptors has been based on their pharmacological properties (33). Thus, 5-HT1-like receptors are (i) potently antagonized by methiothepin and/or methysergide, (ii) not antagonized by molecules binding specifically to 5-HT2, and (iii) very sensitive to the agonist 5-carboxamidotryptamine, which shows activity greater than or equal to that of 5-HT (34). With the advent of molecular cloning, 5-HT receptor classification has changed from being based purely on pharmacological properties to being based on the cloning of multiple receptors. The cloning of MR22 and REC17 has allowed for the study of their cellular localization and the identification of their functional properties.
**Fig. 5.** Dendrogram of the G-protein-associated 5-HT receptor family based on amino acid sequence similarity. Length of each horizontal line is inversely proportional to primary structure identity. Species from which primary structures were derived: 5-HT_{1A,1B,1C,2} rat; 5-HT_{1E} human; 5-HT_{1D,1F,2} dog.

on pharmacological criteria to a more structurally based definition. Hartig (35) and Peroutka (36) have suggested that the receptor nomenclature for 5-HT receptors be primarily based on amino acid sequence. The use of primary structure to catalog 5-HT receptors is appealing because it allows an absolute identification of each 5-HT receptor.

By pharmacological criteria both MR22 and REC17 would probably fall into the 5-HT_{1A}-like class because of their antagonism by methiothepin and agonism by 5-carboxamidotryptamine. We compared their sequences to those of all known 5-HT receptors, using PILEUP (Genetics Computer Group, University of Wisconsin), which ranked (by pairwise sequence identity) each receptor in relation to the others being examined. When the relationships were plotted as a dendrogram (Fig. 5) in which sequence identity is inversely proportional to the length of the horizontal line, REC17 and MR22 were seen to form a distinct subfamily between that of the 5-HT_{1A}-like (5-HT_{1A,1B,1D,1E}) and 5-HT_{2A}-like families (5-HT_{2A,2B}). The primary structure and pharmacological profiles of MR22 and REC17 are consistent with the hypothesis that these receptors belong to a distinct subfamily with 5-HT_{1A}-like class pharmacology. Because the primary structures of REC17 and MR22 are distinct from those of known 5-HT receptors, we propose that REC17 and MR22 be designated as 5-HT_{14} and 5-HT_{18}, respectively. Plassat et al. (37) recently identified the apparent mouse homolog of REC17, which they referred to as 5-HT_{14}.

Concluding Remarks. Previously cloned 5-HT receptors have fallen into either 5-HT_{1A} or 5-HT_{2A} families by both significant sequence identity and pharmacological profiles. The two 5-HT receptors reported here have no greater sequence identity to the known 5-HT receptors than to other previously cloned cation-binding receptors. Our data also suggest that these two putative G-protein-associated receptors are not coupled to adenylyl cyclase activity. The molecular cloning of all 5-HT receptors will enable pharmacologists to study each receptor in isolation; this in turn will allow the development of rational drug design, therefore leading to successful therapeutic reagents.

We thank Ana Dopazo for providing her rat hypothalamic cDNA library. Dolan Pritchet for his generous contribution of the 5-HT_{1A} receptor gene. Lee Limbird for providing COS-M6 cells and provid-
A Novel Adenylyl Cyclase–Activating Serotonin Receptor (5-HT7) Implicated in the Regulation of Mammalian Circadian Rhythms

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Summary

We report the cloning and characterization of a novel serotonin receptor, designated as 5-HT7, which is coupled to the stimulation of adenylyl cyclase. 5-HT7 mRNA is expressed discretely throughout the CNS, predominantly in the thalamus and hypothalamus. 5-HT7 has a unique pharmacological profile that redefines agonist and antagonist classification of ligands previously thought to be “selective.” The circadian phase of spontaneous neuronal activity of the rat suprachiasmatic nucleus of the hypothalamus advances in response to serotonin ligands with a pharmacological profile consistent exclusively with that of 5-HT7. These findings suggest a physiological role in the regulation of circadian rhythms for one subtype of serotonin receptor, 5-HT7, and provide a pharmacological test to evaluate its role in other neuronal systems.

Introduction

The circadian organization of behavior has long been studied in an effort to understand how complex organisms anticipate and adapt to the social and light/dark cues they encounter on a daily basis. When circadian rhythmicity is disturbed, humans suffer from mental fatigue and depression (Schwartz, 1993). In mammals, the endogenous clock controlling circadian rhythms is located in the suprachiasmatic nuclei (SCN) of the hypothalamus (Ralph et al., 1990). Several factors, including neurohumoral agents, light, activity, and diet, influence the endogenous clock (Russak and Zucker, 1979; Meijer and Rietveld, 1989). One factor, the neurotransmitter serotonin (5-hydroxytryptamine [5-HT]), has been shown in vivo and in vitro to reset or phase shift circadian rhythms of neuronal activity in the SCN (Prosser et al., 1990; Medanics and Gillette, 1992; Shibata et al., 1992; Tominaga et al., 1992; Prosser et al., 1993; Edgar et al., 1993).

Serotonergic pathways emanate primarily from the midbrain raphe nuclei and terminate throughout the brain, including the SCN of the hypothalamus (Jacobs and Azmitia, 1992; Zifa and Fillion, 1992). Physiological actions of 5-HT are transduced through receptors located on both pre- and postsynaptic neuronal membranes. Presently, 11 distinct mammalian genes encoding G protein-coupled 5-HT receptors have been cloned: five receptors (5-HT1A,1B,1D,1E) are coupled to the inhibition of adenylyl cyclase (Albert et al., 1990; Voigt et al., 1991; Zgombick et al., 1991; McAllister et al., 1992; Amlajky et al., 1992; Lovenberg, et al., 1993), three (5-HT2A,2B) are coupled to phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate hydrolysis (Julius et al., 1988; Pritchett et al., 1988; Fuguet et al., 1992), two (5-HT3,5B) have unknown coupling mechanisms (Plazzat et al., 1992; Erlander et al., 1993), and one (5-HT6) is coupled to the stimulation of adenylyl cyclase (Monsma et al., 1993). In addition, the 5-HT1F receptor gene has been cloned, and this receptor belongs to the family of ligand-gated ion channels (Maricq et al., 1991).

Previous work has shown that the mRNAs encoding the 5-HT1B and 5-HT1D receptors are expressed in the SCN (Roca et al., 1992, Soc. Neurosci., abstract). However, current pharmacological evidence is not consistent with a role for either of these receptor subtypes in 5-HT-induced circadian phase shifts. Therefore, to understand the role of 5-HT in circadian rhythms and hypothalamic functions in general, we initiated research aimed at the discovery of novel G protein-coupled receptors expressed within the hypothalamus. Our initial results, described elsewhere, led to the discovery of 5-HT1F, a novel member of the 5-HT1 receptor family (Lovenberg et al., 1993), and 5-HT5A and 5-HT5B, members of a new 5-HT receptor family (Erlander et al., 1993). Although mRNAs encoding these receptors have distinct distributions within the rat CNS and unique pharmacological properties, none of their features suggested a role in circadian rhythms. To identify additional members of the recently characterized family of 5-HT receptors, we designed a polymerase chain reaction (PCR)-based cloning strategy. We describe here the cloning and functional expression of a gene encoding a putatively G protein-coupled 5-HT receptor (5-HT7) that is linked to the stimulation of adenylyl cyclase. Additionally, we provide evidence that 5-HT7 may mediate 5-HT-induced phase shifts of the circadian rhythm of spontaneous neuronal activity within the SCN.

Results and Discussion

Targeted Cloning Strategy for G Protein–Coupled Receptors

We used a PCR strategy similar to that previously described (Libert et al., 1989; Lovenberg et al., 1993; Erlander et al., 1993) to target and identify a novel G
protein-coupled receptor. Briefly, degenerate oligonucleotide primers corresponding to the conserved amino acid sequences in putative transmembrane domains III and VII of all known 5-HT receptors were used in a PCR to amplify specific cDNAs from rat brain. The product was used as template for a second PCR using a set of highly degenerate primers corresponding to regions conserved only between the residues (Asp-164, Pro-254, Tyr-262, Phe-339, Trp-343, 435 amino acids) of the longest open reading frame, which begins with methionine. The region surrounding the codon ATG for translation initiation conforms with the consensus sequence described by Kozak (1984). The putative transmembrane spanning regions are underlined. Potential sites for N-linked glycosylation, protein kinase C phosphorylation, and CAMP-dependent phosphorylation are marked by circles, squares (T), and triangles (s), respectively.

Figure 1. Hydrophobicity analysis of the REC20 amino acid sequence predicted the presence of seven major membrane-spanning hydrophobic domains. As shown in Figure 1, the putative receptor encoded by REC20 contains potential sites for N-linked glycosylation and protein kinase C phosphorylation. REC20 also contains the transmembrane-specific amino acid residues (Asp-164, Pro-254, Tyr-262, Phe-339, Trp-343, 435 amino acids) of the longest open reading frame, which begins with methionine. The region surrounding the codon ATG for translation initiation conforms with the consensus sequence described by Kozak (1984). The putative transmembrane spanning regions are underlined. Potential sites for N-linked glycosylation, protein kinase C phosphorylation, and CAMP-dependent phosphorylation are marked by circles, squares (T), and triangles (s), respectively.

Since the 3.6 kb clone contained more than 600 bp of apparent 5' untranslated sequence, we used an anchored PCR protocol to determine the actual 5' end of the nRNA. From whole-brain cDNA, we could confirm the existence of an mRNA that terminated 116 bp upstream from the first initiation codon. We have included only those 116 bp in Figure 1, as it has yet to be confirmed whether the remaining 500 bp of the original clone is part of an actual mRNA. (Never-
The REC20 amino acid sequence was compared with clozapine. Although no preferential homology with any known 5-HT receptor subgroup (5-HT-drol, 39%; 5-HT1A, 37%; 5-HT1C, 39%; 5-HT2A, 33%) was observed, this is consistent with the observation that longer REC20 RNAs exist. More importantly, literature values. We believe that this is a reflection of the use of [3H]LSD to label the receptors. As a point of interest, REC20 exhibits high affinity for the antipsychotic agent clozapine (<50 nM; data not shown). It remains to be determined whether REC20 is a physiological substrate for in vivo actions of clozapine.

REC20 Is Positively Coupled to Adenylyl Cyclase
To determine the signal transduction pathway of REC20 activation, HeLa cells were transfected with the receptor gene, and cyclic AMP (cAMP) accumulation in response to 5-HT agonists was measured as previously described (Baron and Siegel, 1989). cAMP accumulation in REC20-transfected cells increased in a dose-dependent manner in response to 5-HT, 5-Ct, and 8-OH-DPAT (Figure 2A). The rank order of potency (5-Ct > 5-HT > 8-OH-DPAT) for these agonists was the same as that for receptor binding, with IC50 values of 13 ± 2 nM, 156 ± 37 nM, and 2,345 ± 940 nM, respectively (n = 3). The observation that these values are all about 15- to 20-fold higher than the IC50 values for competition with [3H]LSD binding may reflect low affinity binding states, since agonists exhibit different binding profiles in whole-cell versus membrane preparations. Additionally, as discussed below, antagonist Kc values are identical between binding and functional assays.

Stimulation of cAMP accumulation by 5-Ct was competitively blocked by the 5-HT1C antagonist mesulergine, the 5-HT1C antagonist ritanserin, and the 5-HT1A antagonist NAN-190 (Glennon et al., 1988) (Figure 2B), but not by the 5-HT1A antagonist pindolol at 10 μM (data not shown). To characterize the kinetic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ligand</th>
<th>REC20 IC50 (nM ± SE)</th>
<th>5-HT1A IC50 (nM ± SE)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5-Ct</td>
<td>0.83 ± 0.3</td>
<td>21 ± 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methiothepin</td>
<td>1.30 ± 0.1</td>
<td>16 ± 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-HT</td>
<td>9 ± 2</td>
<td>245 ± 77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mesulergine</td>
<td>17 ± 3</td>
<td>&gt;1000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metergoline</td>
<td>30 ± 17</td>
<td>500 ± 46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methysergide</td>
<td>32 ± 1</td>
<td>&gt;1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ergotamine</td>
<td>32 ± 7</td>
<td>5 ± 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ritanserin</td>
<td>60 ± 21</td>
<td>&gt;1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-OH-DPAT</td>
<td>98 ± 7</td>
<td>49 ± 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAN-190</td>
<td>145 ± 10</td>
<td>0.6*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buspirone</td>
<td>687 ± 44</td>
<td>126 ± 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zacopride</td>
<td>&gt;1000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sumatriptan</td>
<td>&gt;1000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pindolol</td>
<td>&gt;1000</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norepinephrine</td>
<td>&gt;1000</td>
<td>&gt;1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dopamine</td>
<td>&gt;1000</td>
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Binding was analyzed as described by Baron and Siegel (1990). CosM6 cells were transfected with expression vectors (pCMV4 containing either REC20 or 5-HT1A (Kobilka et al., 1987) cDNAs. Cell membranes were labeled with [3H]LSD in the presence of various concentrations of unlabeled ligands. IC50 values represent the concentrations of ligands (nM ± SE) at which binding of [3H]LSD could be reduced by 50%.

* Glennon et al., 1988.
mechanism of the blockade of adenyl cyclase activity, we conducted detailed concentration-response curves for 5-CT in the presence of 0, 100, 300, and 1500 nM mesulergine. In the presence of the antagonist, there was a concentration-dependent rightward shift in the EC_{50} for 5-CT (values were 13, 196, 700, and 3754 nM, respectively), unaccompanied by changes in either maximal responses or the Hill slope. Transformation of the data by the method of Arunlakshana and Schild (1949) yielded a line of slope 1.09 and x-intercept of 8.79. These data are consistent with mesulergine being a competitive inhibitor with apparent K_{i} of 8.5 nM. This value is nearly identical to the K_{i} value obtained for mesulergine in the binding assays (8.8 nM). This confirms the competitive and specific nature of these antagonist interactions.

Overall, these findings raise issues related to previous discriminations of 5-HT function through the use of available "selective" ligands, which must now be reinterpreted with respect to REC20, a receptor that operates by an effector-coupling mechanism distinct from that of 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{1C} receptors. We have not tested whether REC20 couples to other second messenger systems such as phospholipase C or phospholipase A_{2}. It may be interesting to test this in other cell types.

**REC20 by Current Nomenclature**

Is the 5-HT_{7} Receptor

The current classification proposed for 5-HT receptors subdivides them into subgroups based on both functional and structural criteria (Humphrey et al., 1993). 5-HT_{1} receptors share structural similarity and are all linked to the inhibition of adenyl cyclase. The 5-HT_{2} receptors stimulate phosphoinositide metabolism. The 5-HT_{3} receptor shares considerable sequence and functional similarity with this group (5-HT_{3A} formerly 5-HT_{3A}, and 5-HT_{3B} formerly 5-HT_{3B}) and is now proposed to be classified as the 5-HT_{3} receptor (Humphrey et al., 1993). The 5-HT_{1} receptor is a ligand-gated ion channel with no structural similarity to G protein-coupled receptors. The putative 5-HT_{2} receptor, which has been proposed to stimulate adenyl cyclase, has only been identified pharmacologically and is yet to be cloned. The recently identified 5-HT_{6} receptors have unique structural properties and, as of yet, have not been functionally linked to any second messenger signaling systems. Recently, a novel serotonin recep-
tor (5-HT6) that is positively coupled to adenylyl cyclase was described. The 5-HT6 designation has previously been applied to a novel mouse receptor, which has been subsequently identified as the 5-HT6R (5-HT6) receptor (Amlaiky et al., 1992; Adham et al., 1993). Although REC20 also stimulates adenylyl cyclase, since it is structurally unique, we have classified it provisionally as a new subtype, 5-HT7.

The primary sequence relationship of the entire 5-HT receptor family is graphically illustrated as a dendrogram (Figure 3) that includes the three cloned Droso phila 5-HT receptors, 5-HT-dro1, 5-HT-dro2A, and 5-HT-dro2B. A dendrogram represents a pairwise comparison of amino acid sequences that matches sequences on the basis of similarity with each other compared with the group. It is not the equivalent of a phylogenetic tree. It is clear from this analysis that REC20 represents a separate class of 5-HT receptors. The 5-HT7 designation for REC20 was chosen over 5-HT6, because the pharmacological properties and anatomical distribution (see below) of REC20 vary greatly from those of the putative 5-HT6. We also chose not to classify REC20 as a second 5-HT6 receptor because there is little structural or sequence similarity to make it an immediate family member. Ultimately, the research community will dictate whether the 5-HT receptor nomenclature will base the numerical designation solely on sequence relationships or on a functional (second messenger coupling) grouping. Thus, all adenylyl cyclase-activating receptors may eventually fall into the general class of 5-HT6 receptors. However, to avoid misunderstandings about the identity of REC20, we consider that its uniqueness presently merits separate classification as 5-HT7.

5-HT7 mRNAs Are Predominantly Expressed in the Thalamus and Hypothalamus

We determined by Northern blot analysis the anatomical distribution of 5-HT7 mRNA expression in rat brain and in peripheral tissues. The 5-HT7, clone hybridized to at least two mRNAs between 3 kb and 4.2 kb in length, predominantly in the hypothalamus and thalamus, with significantly lower concentrations in hippocampus, cortex, and medulla (Figure 4). No detectable 5-HT7 mRNA were found in cerebellum, striatum, heart, liver, or kidney (Figure 4), or in adrenal glands, testes, ovaries, or spleen (data not shown).

To define the anatomical distribution further, we used in situ hybridization in brain sections from adult rats. 5-HT7 expression was prominent in the thalamus, particularly in the anteriorventral and paraventricular thalamic nuclei (Figures 5B, 5D, and 5E). Hybridization was also detected in the hippocampus, predominantly in the pyramidal cell layer of the CA2 and CA3 fields (Figures 5D and 5E). In addition, 5-HT7 mRNA was detectable in the piriform and retrosplenial cortices, as well as in layers II and III of the neocortex (Figures 5A–5D). Moderate expression was found in the anterior hypothalamic area, arcuate nucleus (Figure 5G), and other hypothalamic nuclei. We have been unable to establish definitively whether 5-HT7 mRNA is expressed in the SCN. Expression of 5-HT7 mRNA was detected by PCR amplification from histoch emically identified SCN tissue punches (data not shown). However, we have not consistently detected 5-HT7 in the SCN by in situ hybridization, perhaps because expression is near the threshold of detection by this method. The issue of 5-HT7 expression in the SCN will be resolved when antisera specific for the 5-HT7 receptor protein become available.

5-HT7 Is a Candidate for Mediating 5-HT-Induced Phase Shifts of Neuronal Activity in the SCN

A number of the aspects of 5-HT pharmacology, as well as the finding that 5-HT mRNA is expressed in the hypothalamus, particularly in neurons surrounding and possibly within the SCN, led us to hypothesize that 5-HT7 may mediate the observed serotonergic regulation of circadian rhythms. Previous investigations have demonstrated that 5-HT agonists induce phase shifts in behavioral circadian rhythms in rats (Edgar et al., 1993) and spontaneous activity of rat SCN neurons in vitro (Prosser et al., 1990). Both in vivo and in vitro studies support the hypothesis that the 5-HT7 or a 5-HT7-like receptor mediates the action of 5-HT in the SCN (Medanic and Gillette, 1992; Shibata et al., 1992; Tominaga et al., 1992; Prosser et al., 1993).

Using the in vitro rat hypothalamic slice preparation, Prosser et al. (1990) initially demonstrated that a 5-HT agonist, quipazine, induced phase advances in neuronal activity during subjective day. Medanic and Gillette (1992) subsequently demonstrated that application of 5-CT, 8-OH-DPAT, or 5-HT induced a phase advance in neuronal activity during subjective day; the optimal time of administration for the se rone
Figure 5. In Situ Hybridization of Rat Brain Coronal Sections with a REC20 Riboprobe

Autoradiograms show intense hybridization in the anteroventral thalamic nucleus (B, E, and E'), paraventricular thalamic nucleus (D), and CA3 field of the hippocampus (D, F, and F'). Moderate signals were found in the outer layers of the cerebral cortex (A-D). Prominent hybridization within the hypothalamus was observed in the arcuate nucleus (G and G). Arc, arcuate nucleus; AV, anteroventral thalamic nucleus; TT, tenia tecta; Pir, piriform cortex; Cx, cerebral cortex; Tha, thalamus; Hyp, hypothalamus. Bars, 2 mm (A-D); 150 μm (E-G).

Figure 6. Effects of Serotonergic Agents on SCN Neuronal Activity In Vitro

Plotted are the 2 hr means ± SEM of neuronal activity recorded in single experiments from SCN after vehicle treatment (A), treatment with 5 μM 8-OH-DPAT (B), cotreatment with 1 μM pindolol and 5 μM 8-OH-DPAT (C), and cotreatment of 10 μM ritanserin and 5 μM 8-OH-DPAT (D). Horizontal bars: time of lights off in donor colony (subjective night); vertical bars: time of treatment; dotted line: mean time of peak in untreated slices; closed circles: firing rate.
toned agents was CT7 (7 hr after lights on in a 12 hr light: 12 hr dark cycle). Prosser et al. (1993) demonstrated that the 5-HT phase advances are not generated by the 5-HTIA agonist CGS12066B or 5-HT1C agonist 1-(2,3-dimethoxy-4-bromophenyl)-2-amino propane (DOB), or by the 5-HT1B antagonist 3-tropanylindole-3-carboxylate (IC5285-930). Such advances are antagonized by the nonspecific antagonist metergoline and the specific 5-HT1A antagonist NAN-190. This pharmacological profile was previously consistent only with 5-HT1A receptor involvement. However, our current studies indicate that this profile is more consistent with 5-HT1 activation.

To discriminate between the alternative hypotheses of 5-HT1A versus 5-HT1 receptor involvement, we performed pharmacological analysis designed to differentiate between 5-HT1A and 5-HT1 receptors. Using the in vitro hypothalamic slice preparation (for review see Gillette, 1991), we found that, as previously described (Prosser et al., 1990), 8-OH-DPAT applied at CT7 caused a 3 hr phase advance in spontaneous neuronal activity (Figure 6B), compared with a control preparation receiving no drug (Figure 6A). Pindolol, which has high affinity for 5-HT1A receptors (Kd = 24 nM; Guan et al., 1992) but not for 5-HT1 receptors (Kd > 1000 nM; Table 1) at 1 μM, a concentration that should completely saturate 5-HT1A receptors, had no effect on the phase shift (Figure 6C). Ritanserin, an antagonist with high affinity for 5-HT1A receptors (Kd = 60 nM; Table 1) but not 5-HT1A (>1000 nM), completely antagonized the action of 8-OH-DPAT (Figure 6D). Application of ritanserin alone had no effect (data not shown). Although ritanserin is also a high affinity 5-HT1C agonist, 8-OH-DPAT has very little affinity for 5-HT1C receptors (Pazos et al., 1985). Furthermore, DOB, a potent 5-HT1C agonist, is completely ineffective in this paradigm (Prosser et al., 1993). These antagonist studies strongly suggest that 5-HT1A cannot be the receptor that mediates the observed 5-HT-induced phase advance. However, the 5-HT1 receptor remains a candidate.

Further evidence in support of the 5-HT1 receptor comes from signal transduction studies of Prosser and Gillette (1989), who demonstrated that application of cAMP analogs or phosphodiesterase inhibitors can mimic the effect of 5-HT. Importantly, the effectual peak of cAMP sensitivity during subjective day matches that of 5-HT. Furthermore, Prosser et al. (1992, Soc. Neurosci., abstract) have demonstrated that the competitive inhibitor of cAMP (Rp-AMP) and the protein kinase A inhibitor (H8) block quipazine-induced phase advances during subjective day. The above studies, in combination, suggest that the signal transduction pathway induced by 5-HT proceeds via stimulation of adenylyl cyclase, followed by an increase in intracellular cAMP and a subsequent activation of protein kinase A. This signal transduction pathway is consistent with the effector-coupling mechanism of 5-HT. In contrast, both rat 5-HT1A expressed in GH3 pituitary cells (Albert et al., 1990) and human 5-HT1A expressed in HeLa or COS-7 cells (Fargin et al., 1989) mediate inhibition of intracellular cAMP accumulation.

Conclusion

We have identified a novel serotonin receptor, 5-HT1, that is coupled positively to cAMP. A variety of 5-HT ligands, notably 5-HT1A agonists and 5-HT1C antagonists, exhibit high affinity for 5-HT1. The mRNA encoding the 5-HT1 receptor is detected only in the brain with the highest levels of expression in the thalamus and hypothalamus. The unique pharmacological profile and the positive coupling to cAMP together make 5-HT1 a candidate for mediating serotonin-induced circadian phase shifts during the subjective day. It remains to be determined whether 5-HT1 is in the SCN itself or only in surrounding tissue and how the mechanism of phase shifting works. The 5-HT1 receptor may prove to be a valuable target for selective compounds for the treatment of jet lag or sleep disorders of circadian nature.

Experimental Procedures

Cloning Strategy and Sequence Analysis

Oligonucleotides of degenerate sequence were synthesized corresponding to conserved transmembrane domains I-III of known 5-HT receptors (AiAA/SLDRY and WLGCVLSNSLF, respectively, with the TM VII oligonucleotide as the reverse complement). These oligonucleotides were used to amplify a rat brain cDNA template (pool of whole brain, hypothalamus, hippocampus, and cerebral cortex). The products of this reaction were then used as template in a second reaction with the same TM VII oligonucleotide, but with the 5' oligonucleotide corresponding to a region (FVYWKFK) downstream of TM V, conserved only between the 5-HT1A and 5-HT1B receptors. The TM V and TM VII oligonucleotides contained restriction endonuclease sites at their 5' ends (SalI-KpnI and Xbal, respectively). The products of the second reaction were subcloned into pbLueScript (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA) and used to transform DH5α cells (BRL, Bethesda, Md). Lifts from approximately 1000 colonies were probed with a mixture of radiolabeled 20-mer oligonucleotides specific to 5-HT1A and 5-HT1B receptors. Two colonies did not hybridize and were picked and grown, and the sequence of the plasmid inserts was determined. One insert, REC20, was radiolabeled and used to screen a rat hypothalamus cDNA library. Positive clones were purified, digested with EcoRI, and subcloned into pbLueScript, and their sequence was determined according to the dideoxy termination method (Sanger et al., 1977) using specific oligonucleotide primers.

Anchored PCR

Poly(A)-selected RNA extracted from rat brain was converted to
first strand cDNA using random hexamer oligonucleotide primers and Moloney murine leukemia virus reverse transcriptase (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA), and the CDAs were subsequently tailed with dGTP using terminal transferase. Anchored PCR (Frohman et al., 1987) was performed using this dG-tailed cDNA as template. A primer complementary to nucleotides 138-167 (5'ACGGAGATGGCCGTAGAGG-3') of known REC20 (Figure 1) sequence and an anchored primer (5'-CACCAGGAGGACCTCAAGCTT(C-)-3') were used in an anchored PCR. Ten percent of the product was separated by gel electrophoresis and transferred onto nitrocellulose, and the filter was hybridized with a radiactively labeled oligonucleotide representing nucleotides 118-129 of the REC20 sequence. A major band of approximately 180 bp was detected. The remaining product was digested with HindIII and separated by electrophoresis, and the 180 bp fragment was excised and subcloned into the HindIII site of pBluescriptKS+ for nucleotide sequence determination.

Expression in CosM6 Cells

CosM6 cells (a subclonal line of COS-7 cells, obtained from Edith Womack in the laboratory of J. L. Goldstein, University of Texas Health Sciences, Dallas, and generously provided by L. E. Limbird, Vanderbilt University) or HeLa cells were transfected with pDP5HT1a (Kobikia et al., 1987) or pCMV4REC20 (REC20 cDNA) as described (Lovenberg et al., 1993). [3H]LSD binding was performed exactly as reported (Lovenberg et al., 1993), as adapted from Baron and Siegel (1990). NAN-190, 8-OH-DPAT, zacopride, and pindolol were purchased from Research Biochemicals Inc. (Natick, MA); 5-HT, norepinephrine, and dopamine were purchased from Sigma (St. Louis, MO); clonidine, mesulergine, and methysergide were generous gifts from Sandoz Pharmaceuticals; Sumatriptan, ergotamine, and metergoline were generously provided by Glaxo, Janssen, and Chemodyne, respectively. 3-CT was prepared by Dr. R. Bernotas (Marion Merrell Dow Research Institute, Cincinnati, OH). CAT accumulation experiments were performed exactly as described in Lovenberg et al. (1993), as adapted from Baron and Siegel (1989).

Schild regression analysis was performed as described by Arunlakshana and Schild (1949). K_i values for ligand-binding antagonists were determined by the method of Cheng and Prusoff (1973), in which K_i = IC50(1 + [C]/Ko), with [C] as the [3H]LSD concentration.

RNA Blots

Total RNA was isolated from frozen tissues of adult Sprague-Dawley rats by extraction with guanidinium isothiocyanate (Chirgwin et al., 1979). Oligo(dT)-cellulose chromatography (Aviv and Leder, 1972) was used to enrich for poly(A)+ RNA. For RNA blots, 5 μg of poly(A)+ RNA were loaded per lane and subsequently resolved by electrophoresis on a 1.2% agarose, 1.2 M formaldehyde gel, transferred to nitrocellulose membrane, and hybridized to a full-length [32P]-labeled REC20 cDNA. To confirm that similar amounts of intact RNA were loaded in each gel lane, blots were stripped and hybridized with a [32P]-labeled cDNA probe for ubiquitously expressed cyclophilin mRNA (Danielson et al., 1988).

In Situ Hybridization

Free-floating in situ hybridization was performed as adapted from Gall and Jacksson (1989). Coronal sections, 25 μm thick, from four young adult Sprague-Dawley rats (sacrificed during daytime) were hybridized at 55°C for 16 hr with [35S]-labeled single-stranded RNA probes at 1.5 × 10^6 cpm/ml. Free-floating sections were then digested with RNase A at 4 μg/ml in 50 mM Tris-HCl, 0.5 M NaCl, 1 mM EDTA (pH 7.5) for 1 hr at 37°C. Washes were performed in 50% formamide, 75 mM NaCl, 7.5 mM sodium citrate (pH 7.0), and 14 mM 2-mercaptoethanol at 60°C for 3 hr. Further washes were carried out in 15 mM NaCl, 15 mM sodium citrate (pH 7.0), 0.5% sodium N-laurylsarcosine at 60°C for 1 hr. Sections were mounted on coated slides, dehydrated, and exposed to Kodak AR film for 5 days at room temperature. Autoradiography was performed by dipping slides in Ilford K5 emulsion diluted 1:1 with water and exposing them with desiccant at 4°C for 5 weeks. Slides were developed in Kodak D19, counterstained, and mounted in Permount.

Spontaneous Neuronal Activity of SCN Slices

The procedures used in slice preparation and maintenance, electrophysiological recordings, and data analysis are published elsewhere (Green and Gillette, 1982; Prosser et al., 1991). Slice treatment consisted of stopping perfusion and replacing bath medium for 1 hr with medium containing no additional compounds (control) or 8-OH-DPAT. In blocking experiments, the bath medium was first replaced for 15 min with perfusion medium containing either pindolol or ritanserin (dissolved in 100% ethanol and then diluted to the proper concentration), followed by replacement for 1 hr with medium containing 8-OH-DPAT and either pindolol or ritanserin, followed by an additional 15 min treatment with medium containing pindolol or ritanserin. This was followed by the normal perfusion medium.

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INTRODUCTION

One of the goals of our research is the identification of genes associated with particular behaviors as a mechanism for understanding some of the biochemical processes that underlie those behaviors. We have a specific interest in genes that subserve hypothalamic function, particularly those which may be involved in the control of endogenous circadian rhythms. As an initial approach to identifying genes expressed in the hypothalamus, we targeted the cloning of genes encoding receptors for the neurotransmitters, serotonin (5-HT) and melatonin, both of which are known to affect hypothalamic function and also to play roles in the control of circadian rhythms (Miller and Fuller, 1990; Cassone, 1990).

At the outset of this work, genes encoding three G-protein-coupled 5-HT receptors (5-HT1A, 5-HT1C, and 5-HT7) had been isolated by Kobilka et al. (1987), Lubbert et al. (1987), Fargin et al. (1988), Julius et al. (1988), and Pritchett et al. (1988). No gene encoding a melatonin receptor has yet been isolated, although there is a melatonin receptor in the suprachiasmatic nucleus (SCN) of the hypothalamus (Vanecek, 1988) and melatonin binding to its receptor has been shown to mediate pertussis toxin-sensitive inhibition of cAMP accumulation (Carlson et al., 1989), suggesting that the receptor is a G-protein-coupled protein from the same protein superfamily. Since serotonin and melatonin are derived from tryptophan and have similar molecular structures, we reasoned that a study of receptor genes expressed within the hypothalamus and related to serotonin receptors might lead to identification of proteins involved in the mediation of hypothalamic indoleamine signaling.

All known G-protein-coupled receptors have a predicted topology that includes seven membrane-spanning domains which are highly conserved, particularly among members of various receptor subfamilies. Specific regions of these membrane-spanning domains contain the ligand (neurotransmitter) recognition sites. In 1989, Libert et al. demonstrated that, through the use of polymerase chain reaction (PCR), novel G-protein-coupled receptors could be amplified using degenerate primers corresponding to conserved regions of transmembrane domains (TMDs) III and VI.

To isolate clones of indoleamine-binding receptors belonging to the superfamily of G-protein-associated receptors, we have modified the approach originally described by Libert et al. (1989). We performed two sequential rounds of nested PCR on a rat hypothalamic cDNA template using degenerate primers in the second round of PCR that corresponded to conserved residues of indoleamine-binding receptors that were absent from other subtypes of receptors in this superfamily. This new strategy took advantage of the observation that 5-HT receptors are highly conserved in TMD V, but differ from other receptors in the same area. Thus, by designing one primer which was specific for the TMD V of 5-HT receptors, we increased the probability of isolating only indoleamine-binding receptors and decreased the probability of cloning cDNAs for other types of receptors. This strategy made it reasonable to characterize each novel receptor encountered with the expectation that its ligand was an indoleamine.

Employing two different variations of this refined strategy, we have isolated clones of four novel indoleamine-binding receptors originally designated as MR77, REC17, MR22 and REC20. All of these receptors turned out to be 5-HT receptors, each with a unique pharmacological profile and central nervous system distribution. These were subsequently named 5-HT1, 5-HT2, 5-HT3, and 5-HT4, respectively. Of the four receptors, one (5-HT3) is expressed most abundantly in the hypothalamus, where we have evidence that it plays a role in the serotonergic regulation of circadian rhythms.
STRATEGY

The specific design which led to the subsequent cloning of MR77, MR22 and REC17 from hypothalamic cDNA was a first round of PCR using degenerate primers corresponding to conserved regions in TMDs III and VI of both catecholamine and 5-HT receptors. This was followed by a second round of PCR using a degenerate primer corresponding to a conserved region of TMD V, specific only to 5-HT receptors, in conjunction with the same TMD III primer used in the first round of PCR (Fig. 1) (Lovenberg et al., 1993a; Erlander et al., 1993).

For isolating REC20, we performed the first round of PCR-mediated cDNA amplification using degenerate primers corresponding to regions of TMD III and TMD VII conserved among catecholamine and 5-HT receptors. The second PCR round used a degenerate primer corresponding to residues in TMD V specific to MR22 and REC17 in conjunction with the already-used TMD VII primer (Lovenberg et al., 1993b).

SEQUENCE ANALYSIS

The PCR-derived cDNAs which resulted from these amplification strategies were used as probes to screen a rat hypothalamus cDNA library (for MR22, REC17 and REC20) or rat genomic library (for MR77) to obtain clones spanning the entire protein coding regions. The putative proteins encoded by the nucleotide sequences shared several amino acid sequence characteristics of members of the G-protein-coupled, seven-TMD receptor superfamily. A search of the protein and nucleic acid databases with the primary structures of these four putative receptors revealed that MR77 has significant amino acid sequence identity with known 5-HT receptors that are coupled to the inhibition of adenylate cyclase: human 5-HT₁ᵣ = 55%, dog 5-HT₁₀ = 48% and rat 5-HT₁ᵣ = 46%. In contrast, MR22, REC17 and REC20 have 30-35% amino acid sequence identity with catecholamine and 5-HT receptors alike, with none exhibiting overall dominant similarity. However, when specific segments of the TMDs were examined, particularly TMD V, the receptors more closely resembled 5-HT receptors than catecholamine or other receptors. These observations suggest that MR77 is a member of the 5-HT₁ᵣ subfamily, that MR22 and REC17, which have 68% mutual sequence identity form a new subfamily, and that REC20 falls into a subfamily by itself (Lovenberg et al., 1993a,b; Erlander et al., 1993).

MR22, REC17, MR77 AND REC20 ARE ALL 5-HT RECEPTORS

To determine the ligand(s) for these four putative receptors empirically, we subcloned their cDNAs into a eucaryotic expression vector and transiently expressed the encoded protein in CosM6 cells. We found that membranes prepared from transfected cells containing either MR22, REC17, MR77 or REC20 exhibited saturable binding for [³²P]-LSD whereas membranes frommock-transfected cells exhibited no measurable [³²P]-LSD binding (Lovenberg et al., 1993a,b: Erlander et al., 1993).

[³²P]-LSD has been shown previously to be a non-selective serotonergic ligand with high affinity (Kᵣ < 10 nM) for all known 5-HT receptors except 5-HT₁ᵣ (Kᵣ < 10-1000 nM; Peroutka, 1990). The calculated equilibrium dissociation constant (Kᵣ) for the individual receptors is as follows: MR22 = 2.0 nM, REC17 = 0.64 nM, MR77 = 14 nM and REC20 = 1.5 nM. We next tested the ability of several biogenic amine neurotransmitters to displace [³²P]-LSD binding from these receptors. Serotonin was able to displace [³²P]-LSD binding to all receptors, whereas the neuropeptides melatonin, dopamine and epinephrine had no measurable effects.

PHARMACOLOGICAL PROFILE AND CLASSIFICATION

To determine how each of these receptors related to known members of the 5-HT receptor family, we performed three analyses. First, we compared their primary structures with other known 5-HT receptors by a dendrogram analysis. Since we started this project, eight additional 5-HT receptors have been cloned, including three Drosophila receptors, 5-HTdrol, 5-HTdro2A and 5-HTdro2B (Voigt et al., 1991: Zgombick et al., 1991; Hamblin and Metcalf, 1991; McAllister et al., 1992; Foguet et al., 1992; Monsma et al., 1993) (for review of current nomenclature see Humphrey et al., 1993). The entire receptor family is depicted in Fig. 2. Second, we determined the ability of selective 5-HT agonists and antagonists to displace [³²P]-LSD from the membrane preparations. Third, we also expressed each receptor in HeLa cells to determine its ability to mediate cAMP accumulation.

MR77 = 5-HT₁ᵣ
[³²P]-LSD binding to membranes containing the MR77 protein is sensitive to sumatriptan, a 5-HT₁ᵣ agonist, but...
insensitive to 5-carboxyamidotryptamine (5-CT), a mixed 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> agonist, and 8-OH-DPAT, a 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> agonist (Lovenberg et al., 1993a). The pharmacological profile of MR77 is similar to that of the 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> receptor. Because MR77 has greatest identity (55%) with a recently cloned 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> receptor we conclude that we have identified a second member of the 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> family and have designated MR77 as the 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> receptor. This relationship is illustrated in the dendrogram shown in Fig. 2. As indicated, MR77 belongs to the general 5-HT<sub>1</sub> (5-HT<sub>1A/K<sub>1</sub>M</sub>) family. In functional terms, we have demonstrated that MR77 (5-HT<sub>1A</sub>) mediates the inhibition of cAMP accumulation in HeLa cells, presumably through a G<sub>i</sub>-protein. This is also consistent with the findings that all other members of the 5-HT<sub>1</sub> family mediate the inhibition of adenylate cyclase. The mouse and human homologs of 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> have also been identified (Amlaiky et al., 1992; Adham et al., 1993; Lovenberg et al., 1993a).

REC17 and MR22 are the 5-HT<sub>5A</sub> and 5-HT<sub>5B</sub> receptors

REC17 and MR22 have similar pharmacological profiles to one another (Erlander et al., 1993) which do not readily fit to any pharmacologically defined 5-HT receptor profile. Both receptors are sensitive to ergotamine, 5-CT and methiothepin, but insensitive to sumatriptan and 8-OH-DPAT. This is consistent with their primary structural relationships with other known 5-HT receptors. As shown in the dendrogram, the primary structures of REC17 and MR22 lie in between those of the 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> and 5-HT<sub>1D</sub> (5-HT<sub>1D</sub>) families. We are unable to link either REC17 or MR22 to a functional response such that neither receptor mediated stimulation or inhibition of cAMP accumulation in HeLa cells. Thus, REC17 and MR22 may couple to a second messenger other than cAMP. We propose that REC17 and MR22 are two members of a new subfamily of 5-HT receptors, designated as 5-HT<sub>1</sub> (5-HT<sub>1</sub>).

Comparison of the REC20 primary structure with other known 5-HT receptors indicates it forms a new subfamily (Fig. 2). In addition, REC20 has a pharmacological profile that is unique (Lovenberg et al., 1993b). Displacement of [<sup>3</sup>H]-LSD binding to REC20 is sensitive not only the 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> agonists 8-OH-DPAT and 5-CT but also sensitive to the 5-HT<sub>1D</sub> antagonist ritanserin. Furthermore, REC20 binding is insensitive to the 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> antagonist, pindolol. This unusual combination of agonist and antagonist affinities has provided a valuable means to discriminate REC20 function in vitro and in vivo. Functionally, REC20 stimulates the accumulation of cAMP in HeLa cells. Thus, unlike all other known 5-HT receptors, REC20 couples to a G<sub>i</sub>-protein. Based on the novel functional and structural features of REC20, we classified it as a novel 5-HT receptor, 5-HT<sub>1</sub>.

mRNA DISTRIBUTIONS

We performed Northern blots with rat poly(A)-selected RNA extracted from eight brain regions (cortex, hypothalamus, thalamus, hippocampus, striatum, pons, medulla and cerebellum) and heart, liver and kidney (Lovenberg et al., 1993a,b; Erlander et al., 1993). MR22 (5-HT<sub>5B</sub>) mRNA was detected only in the hippocampal sample. REC17 (5-HT<sub>5A</sub>) mRNAs were detected in hippocampus > cortex = thalamus = pons = striatum = medulla. REC20 (5-HT<sub>1</sub>) mRNAs were found in hypothalamus = thalamus > pons = hippocampus. MR77 (5-HT<sub>1A</sub>) mRNA was not detected in any of the tissues examined by
We have presented here the description of four novel serotonin receptor clones. Isolation of a mouse "5-HT1-like" serotonin receptor because it binds these receptors abundantly expressed in the hypothalamus. In addition, we noticed that the agonists that activate 5-HT, are the same agonists that induce phase shifts in circadian electrical activity in SCN slices of mice in vitro and in vivo when applied during subjective day (Medanic and Gillette, 1992; Prosser et al., 1993; Edgar et al., 1993). These effects have previously been thought to be mediated by 5-HT, receptors, however no 5-HT, receptor mRNA has been detected in the SCN (Roca et al., 1992). In addition, it has been shown that an increase in cAMP concentrations during the same window of time during subjective day results in a similar phase shift (Prosser and Gillette, 1989). 5-HT, is an attractive candidate for the relevant receptor because it binds these 5-HT, agonists, but unlike 5-HT, is coupled to increases in cAMP. To discriminate between the 5-HT, and 5-HT, receptors we examined the effects of pindolol and ritanserin on the 5-HT-induced phase shifts. We found (Lovenberg et al., 1993b) that the phase shifts were not blocked by pindolol, but were blocked by ritanserin. The agonist and antagonist profiles for the phase shift match those of the 5-HT, receptor, but not that of the 5-HT, or any other known receptor. These findings strongly suggest that 5-HT, is the receptor that mediates circadian phase advances during the subjective day.

**CONCLUSION**

We have presented here the description of four novel serotonin receptors. There are several aspects of this work that should be highlighted. At a basic level, this work demonstrates how structural information can be rationally used to identify new molecules at a genetic level. At a physiological level, we have demonstrated the existence of four serotonin receptors in the central nervous system. These discoveries should allow for a better understanding of how singular serotonin system mediates behavioral phenomena. More specifically, we have presented evidence implicating the 5-HT, receptor in the control of endogenous circadian activity of hypothalamic neurons. This will provide impetus for further study of the control of circadian rhythms by serotonin and may in fact provide a therapeutic target for manipulating mammalian circadian rhythms.

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Chromosomal Mapping of Mouse Genes Expressed Selectively within the Central Nervous System

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We have used RFLP analysis on DNA from a panel of interspecific (C57BL/6J × Mus spreitus) F1 × M. spreitus backcross offspring to assign the genes encoding 10 neuron-specific mRNAs and 2 loci corresponding to cyclophilin 2-related sequences to the mouse chromosomal map. The Pst1 locus encoding the forebrain-enriched protein kinase C substrate RC3, a component of dendritic spines, mapped to proximal Chr 9. The Camkl locus encoding the calmodulin-binding protein kinase-like vesicle protein IG5 mapped to distal Chr 9. The Gng7 locus encoding the γ7 G-protein subunit, highly enriched in the striatum and presumptively coupled to dopamine receptors, mapped to mid-Chr 10. The Htr1f, Htr5a, Htr5b, and Htr7 loci, encoding four serotonin receptors, mapped to Chr 16, 5, 1, and 19, respectively. The Pepib locus, encoding a CD26 ectopeptidase-like neuronal membrane protein activated by kainate and long-term potentiation, mapped to Chr 5. The D2sutt1e and Cpu3 loci, encoding neural proteins of unknown functions, mapped to Chrs 2 and 9, respectively. Two cyclophilin 2-related loci, Cphn2-r1 and Cphn2-r2, mapped to different regions of Chr 9. Comparison of these 12 newly mapped loci with the existing mouse map and known regions of syntenic homology with the human map, along with the known features and expression profiles of the products of these genes, suggests a few candidates for mouse mutations and human neurological and immunological deficits, including the Tourette syndrome and Bloom syndrome genes.

INTRODUCTION

The assembly of a database that includes the chromosomal location of each gene, the identity and nature of each gene product, and the anatomical and developmental windows of the product's expression will provide a firm foundation for understanding how the genome directs the formation and function of mammalian organisms. A substantial portion, perhaps as many as half, of mammalian genes are expressed selectively in the central nervous system (CNS), many with restricted expression within the CNS (Sutcliffe, 1988). We have pursued a systematic study to identify and elucidate the structures of mRNAs with selective expression within the rat CNS and the natures of their protein products. Here, we report chromosomal mapping studies of the mouse homologues of 10 novel genes encoding brain-enriched mRNAs and also the gene encoding cyclophilin 2. Our purpose is twofold. First, some insights as to the physiological functions of the genes might be gained were they to correspond to loci for which mouse neurological mutants or human neurological deficits had already been identified. Second, a thorough correlation of the genetic blueprint to its biochemical output is necessary for the full value of the Genome Project to be realized.

There are several defects in fairly ubiquitously expressed genes that manifest anatomically selective pathologies, such as the Lesch–Nyhan and Huntington diseases (Wu and Meltin, 1993; Huntington’s Disease Collaborative Research Group, 1993). Thus, genetically determined selective pathology is not necessarily a result of mutation in a gene with restricted expression. However, mutations in genes whose expression is anatomically restricted are expected usually to give rise to focal pathologies, and examples abound. For instance, there are several defects in genes expressed specifically in the retina (rds, rd, opsin) that cause retinal degenerations or forms of blindness (Travis et al., 1989; Farrar et al., 1991; Kajiwara et al., 1991, 1993; Nichols et al., 1993; Wells et al., 1993; Bowes et al., 1990; Thaddeus et al., 1990), and defects in the oligodendrocyte-specific genes Mbp and Plp lead to dysmyelination (Roach et al., 1985; Nave et al., 1987). Therefore, genes with restricted sites of expression merit consideration as candidates for diseases corresponding focal pathologies. There will be exceptions; for example, a mutation in the pituitary-specific transcription factor Pit-1/GHF-1 causes a pa-
thology involving multiple organ systems (Tatsumi et al., 1992).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Probe preparation. The inserts (usually full-length) of the cDNA clones (source references in Table 1) were released from their vectors by digestion with an appropriate restriction endonuclease and, after electrophoretic separation, were isolated from low-melting-point agarose gels by excision and heating. Aliquots (50 ng) were labeled by the random hexamer primer method (Feinberg and Vogelstein, 1983) and separated from unincorporated label by exclusion from Sephadex G-50. Salmon sperm DNA was added as carrier at 200 μg/ml. The probe was denatured by boiling and cooled on ice immediately before hybridization.

Restriction fragment length polymorphism (RFLP) detection. Genomic DNA samples (5 μg) from each parent and backcross individual (see below) were digested to completion with the restriction endonuclease EcoRI and separated by electrophoresis on 0.8% agarose/1× TBE gels run for 16–18 h at 1–1.5 V/cm. The gels were photographed and DNA nicked by ultraviolet irradiation, denatured in alkali, neutralized, and transferred by capillary action in 20× SSC to Biotrans nylon membranes (ICN, Irvine, CA). Filters were rinsed briefly in 20× SSC and washed at 68°C in 0.2X SSC, 0.2% SDS. Filters were exposed to Kodak XAR-5 film in the presence of two Dupont-Cronex Lightning Plus screens for 2–7 days at -70°C. After exposure, filters were stripped in 19× SSC, 0.1% SDS, washed at 68°C in 0.2× SSC, and exposed to Kodak film (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA). Prehybridization, hybridization, and filter washing were performed as described (Southern, 1975), with the final wash at 68°C in 0.2× SSC, 0.2% SDS. Filters were exposed to Kodak XAR-5 film in the presence of two Dupont-Cronex Lightning Plus screens for 2–7 days at -70°C. After exposure, filters were stripped in boiling 5 mM potassium phosphate buffer (pH 7.0–7.5) for 10 min. Filters were reused 6–7 times. Approximate fragment sizes, scoring fragments, and probe sources are indicated in Table 1.

Genetic mapping and linkage analysis. The 11 cDNAs were mapped on a panel of 94 (C57BL/6J × SPRET/Ei) F, × SPRET/Ei interspecific backcross progeny that have been typed for over 500 genetic markers. This panel will be described in more detail in the future (E. Birkenmeier, L. B. Rowe, J. H. Nadeau, et al., manuscript in preparation). The reference markers used for this study (Table 2; Fig. 1) include Pssl locus (for postsynaptic spine-i RC3 probe) and D9Mit8, which were typed by us using the protocol of Dietrich et al. (1992). The chromosomal locations of these loci are known (Dietrich et al., 1992; Frankel et al., 1989a,b; 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993). The endogenous MLVs were typed by one of us (Frankel et al., 1990), and the SSLP markers by Dr. J. H. Nadeau (pers. comm.) with the exceptions of D9Mit18, D9Mit17, Tfr(D9Mit24), and D10Mit8, which were typed by us using the protocol of Dietrich and colleagues (1992).

The 11 cDNAs mapped to seven different mouse chromosomes each linked, with a high degree of confidence (LOD 9 or higher), to a known marker. The two-point linkage data are shown in Table 2. Because five of the loci were on Chr 9, a linkage map for this chromosome is also provided (Fig. 2). The computer program RI Manager (Manly and Elliott, 1991) was used to assist in linkage analysis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

To identify RFLPs that distinguish parental pairs, we digested genomic DNA from Mus musculus C57BL/6J (B6) and Mus spretus (SPRET) with the restriction endonuclease EcoRI. Southern blots prepared from the digested samples were probed with several of the cDNA clones listed in Table 1. For each probe examined, an EcoRI polymorphism was detected. Therefore, DNA from a panel of 94 (B6 × SPRET) F, × SPRET backcross offspring was digested with EcoRI, and the digested samples were used, along with digested parental samples, to prepare Southern blots. These were probed sequentially with the cDNA clones discussed below. All 11 cDNAs that we have examined to date exhibited EcoRI RFLPs (Table 1) that distinguished the two parental samples. These RFLPs were followed in the interspecific backcross panel to establish genetic linkage (Table 2, Figs. 1 and 2).

RC3: The Pssl Locus on Chr 9

The brain-specific RC3 mRNA, highly enriched in cerebellum, striatum, and hippocampus, but absent from cerebellum, encodes a 78-amino-acid protein that is a substrate for protein kinase C and binds calmodulin in the absence of calcium (Watson et al., 1990; Baudier et al., 1991; Gerendasy et al., 1992). The RC3 protein is found, both by immunoelectron microscopy and subcellular fractionation studies, to be highly concentrated in postsynaptic structures, particularly dendritic spines, in which neurochemical signaling related to protein kinase C and calmodulin-binding may occur (Watson et al., 1992b; Coulter et al., 1992). Consistent with its dendritic spine localization, RC3’s postnatal-onset synthesis is severely and reversibly depressed by hypothyroidism, a condition known to decrease spine density (Munoz et al., 1991; Ruiz-Marcos et al., 1988). Accumulating evidence from biochemical and electrophysiological studies (Gerendasy et al., 1992; Klann et al., 1992; Cohen et al., 1993) indicates that RC3 couples second-messenger systems to the processes of postsynaptic plasticity and long-term potentiation. RC3 has been independently discovered in several laboratories, where it is variously known as neurogranin (Baudier et al., 1991), BICKS (Coggins et al., 1991), P17 (Klann et al., 1992), and clone 140 (Rhyner et al., 1990).

The Pssl locus (for postsynaptic spine-i RC3 probe) mapped to Chr 9 and did not recombine in 94 progeny with D9Mit2 (3.1-cM upper 95% confidence limit; Figs. 1 and 2, Table 2). Although there are no known neurological mouse mutations in this region of mouse Chr 9, Pssl is in a 12-cM region of linkage conservation with human Chr 11q22–q23, where ataxia telangiectasia complementation groups A, C, and D have been localized (Gatti et al., 1988; Lambert et al., 1991).

1G5: The Camkl Locus on Chr 9

The brain-specific, postnatal-onset 1G5 mRNA, enriched in forebrain and hypothalamus but absent from cerebellum, encodes a 504-amino-acid protein whose amino terminal 300 residues are highly similar to serine/threonine protein kinases, particularly (39% identity) Type II calcium/calmodulin-dependent protein kinase (Godbout et al., 1993). The 1G5 protein is associated with membranes and vesicles in both axons and dendrites. Despite considerable sequence conservation with protein kinases, some critical ATP-binding residues are missing from 1G5, and recombinantly expressed 1G5 is inactive in protein kinase assays, although it binds calmodulin in the presence of calcium
(Godbout et al., 1993). The accumulated evidence suggests that the 5-HTA receptor (below). Second-messenger signaling via the 5-HTA receptor can also contribute to the regulation of the G-protein coupling to the striatal-specific adenylate cyclase, AC₆₆₅ (Watson et al., 1993).  

GnG7 (for G-nucleotide-binding protein gamma7 subunit) maps to mid-Chr 10, about 11.8 cM proximal to the polytropic provirus Pltr-6, and 7.7 cM proximal to Distal Chr 16, 7.9 cM proximal to the polytropic provirus Pmu-14. The only mouse mutation that resides in this region of Chr 9 is the 5-HT₆₅ receptor (Htr₆). The human homologue of Gng7 could reside either on human Chr 19p or 12q.  

5-HT₁F Receptor: The Htr1f Locus on Chr 16  

We have characterized four novel receptors for serotonin (5-HT₆) of the seven putative transmembrane receptor class. The 366-residue 5-HT₁F receptor (our clone MR77), coupled to inhibition of adenylate cyclase in response to serotonin, is expressed at low concentrations throughout the brain, with greatest expression in cerebral cortex, hippocampus, and striatum (Lovenberg et al., 1993b; Adham et al., 1993; Amlaiky et al., 1992).  

Htr1f (for 5-HT₁F receptor 1f MR77 probe) maps to a region on Chr 16, 7.3 cM proximal to the polytropic provirus Pmu-14. The only mouse mutation that resides in this region of the chromosome is dwarf (dw), which is the result of a mutation in the Pit-1 gene (Camper et al., 1990). Although the genetic map of mouse Chr 16 is rather sparse, the human homologue of Htr1f is likely to map to human Chr 3.  

5-HT₆₅ Receptor: The Htr5a Locus on Chr 5  

The 357-residue 5-HT₆₅ receptor (our clone REC17) is distributed throughout the CNS. Its closest known relative is the 5-HT₆₅ receptor (below). Second-messenger coupling is not known for either of these receptors (Erlander et al., 1993; Plassat et al., 1992).
ar recombination, the 95% upper confidence limit (CI) obtained using a
function for the 113426b gene maps to Chr 7q36 and might result from an endoplasmic reticulum and the cytoplasmic surfaces of the mouse reeler (rl), which is currently placed, however, near the centromere than Htr5a maps. Htr5a mRNAs are especially enriched in cortex and hippocampus.

The 371-residue 5-HT\textsubscript{3} receptor (our clone MR22) is 8.8 cM distal to the endogenous provirus Mpmv-3 and 6.4 cM proximal to Mpmv-7. The only mRNAs encoding this receptor are detected immunohistochemically in situ in hippocampus, anterior pituitary, and at extremely low concentrations in adrenal glands. Within brain, the mRNAs are especially enriched in hippocampus, anterior pituitary, and at extremely low concentrations in adrenal glands. Within brain, the mRNAs are especially enriched in cortex and hippocampus.

Note. Two-point linkage data for cDNA loci are shown giving the number of recombinants (rec) between locus pairs, the total number of recombinants (total), the frequency of recombination (rf \times 100), the standard error \(\pm \text{SE}(\text{CI})\), or, in the case of no recombination, the 95% upper confidence limit (CI) obtained using a one-tailed test. The lod score for linkage was calculated according to Bishop (1985). Loci are listed from centromere to telomere.

**5-HT\textsubscript{3} Receptor: The Htr5a Locus on Chr 1**

Htr5a (for 5-HT receptor 5a REC17 probe) was closely linked to Peplb (see below) on mouse Chr 5, with no recombinants in 62 backcross progeny (4.7-cM upper 95% confidence limit). This position is 3.3 cM distal to D5Mit1 and 6.4 cM proximal to Mpmv-7. The only mouse neurological mutation in this region of the chromosome is reeler (rl), which is currently placed, however, more toward the centromere than Htr5a maps. Htr5a maps near the border of conserved homology with human Chr 7 and 4p16. The human homologs are detected immunohistochemically in association with the cytoplasmic face of the rough endoplasmic reticulum and the cytoplasmic surfaces of vesicles within postsynaptic terminals (Danielson et al., 1989; unpublished studies). No function for the 1B426b protein is known.

**BPL: The Peplb Locus on Chr 5**

The brain-specific BPL mRNA, expressed widely in brain, but especially enriched in hippocampus, striatum, and medial habenula, encodes an 803-residue protein.
that shares 30% identity with the membrane-anchored ectopeptidase CD26, which in T-cells binds to the specific tyrosine phosphatase CD45 (de Lecea et al., 1993). The mRNA has been studied independently by Wada and colleagues (1992) and referred to as DPPX-S/L. Despite the considerable sequence identity with dipeptidyl peptidases, recombinant BPL demonstrates no peptidase activity, presumably due to the absence of a critical residue from its active site. Expression of the BPL mRNA in hippocampal neurons is stimulated severalfold by injection of the excitotoxin kainate and also in long-term potentiation (de Lecea et al., 1993). No explicit model for BPL function has yet been proposed.

**Peplb** (for peptidase-like brain protein) mapped to proximal Chr 5, with no recombinants in 94 progeny (3.1-cM upper 95% confidence limit) with the endogenous xenotropic provirus Xmv-15 or Htr5a (see above). **Cpu3**: The Cpu3 Locus on Chr 9

The Cpu3 mRNA, brain specific with enrichment in striatum, pons, and medulla, but low in cerebellum, encodes a novel highly charged 81-amino-acid protein of unknown function (Watson et al., 1992a; unpublished data).

Cpu3 (for caudate putamen-enriched 3) mapped 6.6 cM distal to D9Mit17, probably quite near the telomere of Chr 9 (Fig. 2; Table 2). This region of the mouse genome is homologous with human Chr 3p.

**Cyclophilin 2: Two Cphn2-rs Loci on Chr 9**

The CPH2 mRNA, expressed ubiquitously in rodent tissues, encodes a 208-residue protein that shares 64% identity with cyclophilin 1. The CPH2 protein, which binds cyclosporin A and has cyclosporin A-inhibitable peptidyl-prolyl cis-trans isomerase activity, is associated with the endoplasmic reticulum (Hasel et al., 1991; Price et al., 1991).

The CPH2 cDNA probe for cyclophilin 2 hybridized with two distinctly segregating fragments. The first, Cphn2-rs1 (for cyclophilin 2-related sequence 1) mapped to proximal Chr 9, 18.1 cM proximal to D9Mit2 (Table 2), placing it very near the centromere and the murine curly whiskers (cw), the "tail hair depletion" allele of which has an uncharacteristic immune response to certain polysaccharide antigens (Les and Roths, 1975; Roths, 1978). The second, Cphn2-rs2 (for cyclophilin 2-related sequence 2), mapped in the middle of Chr 9, 4.6 cM proximal to D9Mit8 and 2.6 cM distal to the endogenous provirus Xmv-15. This location makes the human homologue likely to be on Chr 15q, which may be of interest because Bloom syndrome, a dwarfism that is accompanied by severe immune defects, maps to Chr 15q26.1. The relationship between the two Cphn2-rs loci and the true CPH2 structural gene is not yet known.

**CONCLUSIONS**

We have assigned the genes encoding 10 neuron-specific mRNAs and two cyclophilin 2-related loci to the mouse chromosomal map using RFLP analysis on a panel of 94 interspecific backcross mice. For 8 of these assignments, the probes hybridized to restriction fragments that were apparently identical between B6 and...
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30,000 mRNAs expressed by the central nervous system (Sutcliffe, 1988). Ultimately, the construction of accurate physical maps and contigs of whole mammalian chromosomes, represented on hybridizable filters as yeast artificial chromosome inserts, will obviate the need for traditional genetic mapping of cloned cDNAs. Until such time, the methodology of single-stranded sequence polymorphism (Orita et al., 1989ab), utilizing the polymerase chain reaction and primer pairs from the 3' untranslated regions of the cDNA sequences, is more efficient than conventional hybridization for large-scale mapping and may be the method of choice for future chromosomal mapping of expressed sequences.

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