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Biochemistry and Molecular Biology School of Life Sciences Center of Protein Science Peking University Beijing, China

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Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology State University of New York Stony Brook, NY, USA

Bengt Fadeel

Division of Molecular Toxicology Institute of Environmental Medicine Karolinska Institutet Stockholm, Sweden

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Biochemistry Department National University of Singapore Singapore, Singapore

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Department of Medical Biochemistry and Biophysics Karolinska Institutet Stockholm, Sweden

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Laboratory of Biochemistry National Cancer Institute National Institutes of Health Bethesda, Maryland, USA

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Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology State University of New York at Stony Brook Stony Brook, New York, USA

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Laboratory of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Center for Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute, US

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Biotech Research and Innovation Centre University of Copenhagen Copenhagen, Denmark

Carlos Martínez-A

Department of Immunology and Oncology National Center for Biotechnology Campus Universidad Autonoma 28049 Madrid, Spain

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Cellular Organization and Signalling Group National Centre for Biological Science (NCBS), UAS-GKVK Campus Karnataka, India

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James M. Ntambi

Departments of Biochemistry and Nutritional Sciences University of Wisconsin-Madison Madison WI 53706, USA

Sten Orrenius

Institutet of Environmental Medicine Karolinska Institutet Stockholm, Sweden

Jacques Pouysségur

UMR 6543 CNRS Centre Antoine Lacassagne Nice, France

Igor Stagljar

Department of Molecular Genetics and Biochemistry University of Toronto Toronto, Ontario, Canada

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Isaac P. Witz

Tel Aviv University Tel Aviv, Israel

Correspondence regarding production may be sent to:

Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications, Elsevier Inc.

525 B Street, Suite 1800, San Diego, California 92101-4495, USA Telephone +1 (619) 699-6857, Fax +1 (619) 699-6859, E-mail bbrc@elsevier.com



Cover photo. Hypothetical model of the mechanisms involved in AIF processing and release. Exposure of NSCLC cells to the protein kinase C inhibitors, staurosporine or PKC412, results in a hyperpolarization of the plasma membrane. As a consequence, the hyperpolarization-activated HCN2 channel opens and permits Ca²⁺ to enter the cell. Both plasma membrane hyperpolarization and the activation of HCN2 channel are inhibited by Cs⁺. The resulting Ca²⁺ elevation in the cytosol also translocates to the intermembrane space of the mitochondria and results in the activation of calpain as well as enhanced ROS formation. The calcium chelator, BAPTA is able to inhibit both calpain activation and ROS accumulation, whereas only the latter is inhibited by NAC and Trolox. AIF is cleaved by mitochondrial calpain-I. This cleavage is prevented by PD150606, a selective calpain inhibitor. Cleaved AIF is released into the cytosol and translocates to the nucleus, where it contributes to chromatin condensation and highmolecular weight DNA fragmentation. Nuclear translocation of AIF can be inhibited by binding to Hsp70 in the cytosol. (BBRC Volume 396, pages 95–100). It is reproduced by kind permission of the authors – Sten Orrenius, et al.