

BBA 73558

## Calcium ionophore-induced changes in $\text{HCO}_3^-$ secretion and $\text{Cl}^-$ absorption in turtle bladder: relation to action of 3-isobutyl-1-methylxanthine

G. Ehrenspeck <sup>a,b</sup> and C. Voner <sup>b</sup><sup>a</sup> Department of Physiology and Biophysics, Case Western Reserve University, School of Medicine, Cleveland, OH  
and <sup>b</sup> Ohio University, College of Osteopathic Medicine, Athens, OH (U.S.A.)

(Received 8 December 1986)

(Revised manuscript received 27 February 1987)

Key words: Calcium ionophore; Bicarbonate secretion; Chloride absorption; Isobutylmethylxanthine; Anion transport; cAMP; (Turtle bladder)

The calcium ionophore A23187 stimulates luminal alkalinization and inhibits  $\text{Cl}^-$  absorption in short-circuited urinary bladders of postprandial or alkalotic turtles. The ionophore appears to mimic the action of the phosphodiesterase inhibitor, 3-isobutyl-1-methylxanthine (IBMX) by its similar effects on  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  secretion and  $\text{Cl}^-$  absorption and by increasing cytosolic cAMP levels of isolated bladder epithelial cells. However, only A23187 (or ionomycin), but not IBMX or cAMP, elevated cytosolic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  of aequorin- or quin2-loaded cells. Since A23187, but not IBMX or cAMP inhibits luminal acidification, we postulate that cytosolic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (1) regulates the acidification process by a cAMP-independent mechanism and (2) controls  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  secretion as well as  $\text{Cl}^-$  absorption, at least in part, via cAMP-mediated pathways.

### Introduction

The turtle bladder, like the mammalian cortical collecting tubule [1,2] is capable of alkalinizing its luminal fluid [3–5] and absorbing  $\text{Cl}^-$  [6]. Luminal alkalinization and  $\text{Cl}^-$  absorption are independent of  $\text{Na}^+$  transport [5,7,8], depend on functional carbonic anhydrase [5,8] and appear to be coupled, in part [9,10], via a  $\text{Cl}^-:\text{HCO}_3^-$  exchange mechanism ([3,4] and Ref. 9 for review). However, the mechanisms of interaction between these two active transport processes and their regulation by intracellular mediators is incompletely understood. That  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and cAMP may influence  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  and  $\text{Cl}^-$  transport is suggested by several observations. First, exposure of bladders to the

well-known phosphodiesterase inhibitor, IBMX, or IBMX plus exogenous cAMP stimulates luminal  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  secretion and inhibits  $\text{Cl}^-$  absorption [5,8,11]. Second, the calcium ionophore, A23187, also accelerates  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  secretion [12], presumably by elevating cytosolic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  levels. Its action differs, however, from that of maneuvers designed to elevate cytosolic cAMP by also eliciting inhibition of luminal acidification [12,13]. To better understand the actions of A23187 and IBMX on anion transport in the turtle bladder, we more closely examined their effects on  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  secretion and  $\text{Cl}^-$  absorption in intact tissues and on cytosolic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and cAMP levels in isolated bladder cells from turtles with defined metabolic acid-base states.

Abbreviation: IBMX, 3-isobutyl-1-methylxanthine.

### Methods

Correspondence: G. Ehrenspeck, Department of Physiology and Biophysics, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, OH 44106, U.S.A.

*Pseudemys scripta* turtles were kept in flowing water at 30–32°C and fed bovine liver supple-

mented with calcium and multivitamins [5,12]. Turtles, killed 18–48 h after feeding were defined as 'postprandial'; those killed after having been fed by stomach tube 45 mmol/kg per day  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  for 4 days were defined as 'alkalotic' [5,12].

Methods for measuring transepithelial potential (PD), short-circuit current ( $I_{sc}$ ), transepithelial resistance ( $R$ ), and  $^{36}\text{Cl}^-$  fluxes have been described [7,10]. Depending on the acid-base status of the animal when killed and with  $\text{Na}^+$  absorption abolished by ouabain and amiloride, bladders bathed in  $(\text{HCO}_3^- + \text{CO}_2)$ -rich medium exhibit either a negative  $I_{sc}$  (serosa electronegative to mucosa), which is a measure of the net luminal acidification rate [5,6,8] or a positive  $I_{sc}$  (serosa electropositive to mucosa), which is a measure of net electrogenic luminal alkalinization [5,8]. Net  $\text{Cl}^-$  transport was determined in bladders from postprandial or alkalotic turtles. Time-control experiments confirmed previous findings [7,10] of stable unidirectional  $^{36}\text{Cl}^-$  fluxes during the 5 h test period. The mucosa-to-serosa and serosa-to-mucosa fluxes were, therefore, determined on adjacent tissue sections from the same bladder.

For cytosolic cAMP and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  determinations bladder epithelial cells were isolated by the method of Schwartz et al. [14], employing collagenase (65 U/ml) and 1% albumin. Cell viability, evaluated with Trypan blue or Acridine orange/ethidium bromide [15] varied from 80 to 95%.

For cAMP determinations, isolated cells were resuspended in the same  $\text{Na}^+$  ( $\text{Cl}^- + \text{HCO}_3^-$ ) medium used for the transport studies and incubated with the test substances at room temperature. The drug exposure interval (7–10 min) coincided with peak changes in the cAMP levels of the isolated cell preparations and was similar to that required for a maximal change in the  $I_{sc}$  by IBMX and about 1/3 that for A23187, respectively. Treatment was stopped with the addition of 1 ml ice-cold 6% trichloroacetic acid. Samples were disrupted for 2 min at 0–4°C in a Polytron (Brinkman) and assayed for cAMP by radioimmunoassay (Becton Dickenson). Protein was determined by the method of Bradford [16].

Cytosolic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  was determined by two independent techniques, serving as controls for each other. In one approach, adapted from Borle and Snowdowne [17], packed cells were suspended in

an equal volume of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -free, hypotonic bathing medium containing 10–15  $\mu\text{g}$  aequorin and incubated for 2 min at 4°C. Normal solution osmolality was then reestablished, trapping aequorin in the cells. After equilibration for 1 h in  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -rich,  $\text{Na}^+$  ( $\text{Cl}^- + \text{HCO}_3^-$ ) medium the aequorin-loaded cells were transferred to a flow-through cuvette, held in place by glass wool, and continuously perfused with or without test agents. Aequorin luminescence was measured by photomultiplier tube [17].

Intracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  was also measured with the fluorescent calcium indicator quin2 [18] by a method slightly modified from that of Cannon et al. [19]. Briefly, cells were incubated for 1 h at room temperature in 40  $\mu\text{M}$  quin2/AM in  $(\text{HCO}_3^- + \text{CO}_2)$ -free and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -poor medium (less than 10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) to reduce cell clumping, and then washed and resuspended several times in  $(\text{HCO}_3^- + \text{CO}_2)$ -free medium containing 2 mM  $\text{CaSO}_4$ . To minimize errors from any quin2 leaking out of cells, the cells ( $1\text{--}2.5 \cdot 10^6$ ) were centrifuged for 2 s in an Eppendorf microcentrifuge and resuspended in 2 ml bathing medium immediately before each  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  determination. Fluorescence was measured at 22°C with an Aminco-Bowman spectrofluorometer (excitation, 339 nm; emission, 492 nm) equipped with a cuvette stirrer. Calibration of quin2 fluorescence was performed with digitonin (50  $\mu\text{M}$ ) and EGTA (25 mM) and cytosolic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  calculated as described by Tsien et al. [18] with a  $K_d$  value for quin2 of 105 nM at 22°C [20]. Data were corrected for minor autofluorescence or quench of additives. Because of the intrinsic fluorescence of A23187 [21], the calcium ionophore, ionomycin, was substituted in this series of experiments.

### Solutions

Intact bladder epithelia and isolated cells were bathed in  $\text{Na}^+$  ( $\text{Cl}^- + \text{HCO}_3^-$ ) medium containing in mM: NaCl, 21;  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , 20;  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , 30; KCl, 4;  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , 0.8;  $\text{CaSO}_4$ , 2.0;  $\text{K}_2\text{HPO}_4$ , 0.65;  $\text{KH}_2\text{PO}_4$ , 0.1; glucose 11; osmolality was adjusted to 220 mosM/kg with sucrose; equilibrated with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ -saturated 95%  $\text{O}_2$ /5%  $\text{CO}_2$ ; final pH was 7.2–7.3 at 22–25°C. The cell isolation medium contained in mM: NaCl, 101; KCl, 4;  $\text{K}_2\text{HPO}_4$ , 0.65;  $\text{KH}_2\text{PO}_4$ , 0.1; glucose, 11; sucrose, 20; bub-

bled with 100% O<sub>2</sub> at pH 7.2–7.3 at 22–25°C. In the quin2 experiments substitution of HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> by SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> and equilibrating the medium with 100% O<sub>2</sub> reduced cell aggregation.

#### Source of materials

Turtles were obtained from Kons Scientific, Germantown, WI. Ionophore A23187 was a generous gift of Dr. R. Hamill, Eli Lilly & Co., Indianapolis, IN. Ionomycin was purchased from Calbiochem-Behring, San Diego, CA; collagenase (Type IV), bovine serum albumin (Fraction V), and IBMX from Sigma Chemical Co., Saint Louis, MO; and quin2/AM acetoxymethyl ester from Amersham, Arlington Heights, IL.

## Results

#### Effects of A23187 on Cl<sup>-</sup> and HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> transport

Paired bladder sections from postprandial turtles were incubated in Na<sup>+</sup> (Cl<sup>-</sup> + HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>) medium containing 0.2 mM ouabain and 0.1 mM amiloride in the serosal and mucosal fluid, respectively. A23187 added to the mucosal bathing fluid rapidly inhibited the net Cl<sup>-</sup> absorption as summarized in Fig. 1 and Table I. The decline of the  $I_{sc}$  to zero and its subsequent reversal in polarity together with the fall in the transepithelial resistance illustrate the change from an initial state of net mucosal acidification ( $-I_{sc}$ ) to one of net alkalization ( $+I_{sc}$ ) [5,8,12]. The calcium ionophore's effect was also examined in bladders of alkalotic turtles (Table I). In these bladders the A23187-sensitive Cl<sup>-</sup> transport was (1) similar in magnitude to that of postprandial bladders and (2) comparable to the effect produced by IBMX on Cl<sup>-</sup> transport (Fig. 2). IBMX (0.1 mM) also decreased net Cl<sup>-</sup> absorption from  $13.8 \pm 6.4 \mu A$  to  $2.1 \pm 0.9 \mu A$  in 90 min ( $n = 4$ ), confirming the results of Durham and Matons [9].

#### Effect of IBMX and A23187 on cellular cAMP

Since both these agents had similar effects on HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> secretion and Cl<sup>-</sup> absorption, their relative effect on cellular cAMP was compared. As shown in Table II, IBMX or calcium ionophore alone had a small, but statistically insignificant effect on cAMP levels. When present together, however, they significantly increased the level of cAMP.

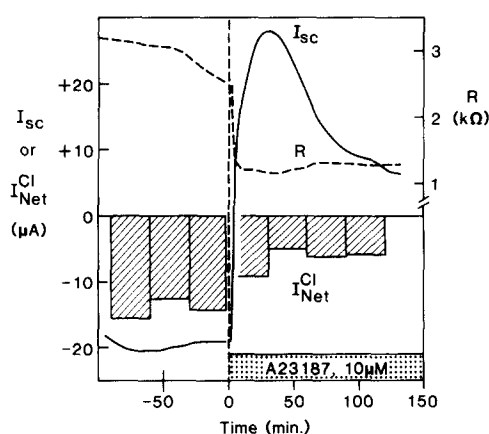


Fig. 1. Effect of A23187 on the anion-dependent  $I_{sc}$ ,  $R$ , and net Cl<sup>-</sup> flux. Paired bladder sections (1.5 cm<sup>2</sup>) from a postprandial turtle were bathed by symmetrical Cl<sup>-</sup>-rich, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>-rich medium containing 0.2 mM ouabain in serosal fluid and 0.1 mM amiloride in mucosal fluid. Ionophore (10 μM) was added to the mucosal fluid. A negative value of  $I_{sc}$  denotes a net flow of negative charge from mucosal to serosal fluid or positive charge in the reverse direction. Potential difference can be estimated from  $I_{sc} \times R$ . Net Cl<sup>-</sup> absorption, plotted as columns, was calculated from the unidirectional Cl<sup>-</sup> fluxes measured in 30 min intervals [8].

#### Effects of IBMX and A23187 on cytosolic Ca<sup>2+</sup>

A typical tracing of the light emission from aequorin loaded cells is shown in Fig. 3. Perfusion of cells for 25–35 min with IBMX failed to increase the aequorin photoluminescence. A23187, on the other hand, produced a rapid rise in the aequorin signal followed by a decline in luminescence upon perfusion of cells with medium devoid of ionophore. IBMX plus 1 mM 8-*p*-chlorophenyl cAMP also had no effect on the aequorin signal (data not shown). The ionophore also elicited an increase in aequorin luminescence when cells were perfused by Ca<sup>2+</sup>-free medium (Fig. 4). This indicates (1) the existence of an intracellular source of exchangeable Ca<sup>2+</sup> and (2) that the lack of effect by IBMX on Ca<sup>2+</sup> levels was not due to a complete depletion of intracellular, exchangeable pools of Ca<sup>2+</sup> during cell isolation and aequorin incorporation.

The amount of aequorin in the bladder cell preparation was too low for determining baseline Ca<sup>2+</sup> levels. It was possible, therefore, that the lack of effect of IBMX on cytosolic Ca<sup>2+</sup> reflected an already elevated cytosolic Ca<sup>2+</sup> activity result-

TABLE I

EFFECT OF A23187 ON TRANSEPITHELIAL  $I_{sc}$ , RESISTANCE, AND  $Cl^-$  FLUXES

Mean values  $\pm$  S.E. for  $n$  = number of mated pairs of hemi-bladder sections ( $1.5 \text{ cm}^2$ ). Values of unidirectional and net  $Cl^-$  flux before ionophore addition were determined from the two 30 min sampling periods immediately prior to addition of drug; values of  $Cl^-$  flux after ionophore addition were determined from the data of the two sampling periods 90–150 min after ionophore addition. Net  $Cl^-$  fluxes were calculated from the individual flux differences of mated hemi-bladder sections.

State of turtle	Before/after	MS flux ( $\mu A$ )	SM flux ( $\mu A$ )	Net flux ( $\mu A$ )	$I_{sc}$ ( $\mu A$ )	$R$ ( $k\Omega$ )
Postprandial ( $n = 7$ )	before	$17.1 \pm 6.1$	$1.8 \pm 0.3$	$15.2 \pm 6.0$	$-20.7 \pm 2.4$	$2.1 \pm 0.2$
	after	$8.8 \pm 2.2$	$3.1 \pm 0.7$	$5.7 \pm 2.1$	$+1.6 \pm 4.4$	$1.4 \pm 0.2$
	difference	$8.3 \pm 3.9$	$1.3 \pm 0.5$	$9.5 \pm 4.0$	$21.3 \pm 4.0^*$	$0.7 \pm 0.2$
	difference (%)	$40.7 \pm 5.4^*$	$72.0 \pm 17.9^{**}$	$58.6 \pm 6.3^*$	—	$30.8 \pm 4.5^*$
Alkalotic ( $n = 5$ )	before	$17.3 \pm 4.9$	$1.9 \pm 0.9$	$15.4 \pm 4.5$	$-12.0 \pm 3.3$	$3.1 \pm 0.2$
	after	$7.1 \pm 2.2$	$2.1 \pm 0.6$	$5.0 \pm 3.9$	$+4.2 \pm 4.1$	$1.9 \pm 0.2$
	difference	$10.2 \pm 3.1$	$0.2 \pm 0.5$	$10.4 \pm 2.7$	$16.2 \pm 4.1^{**}$	$1.2 \pm 0.2$
	difference (%)	$63.2 \pm 9.9^*$	$26.6 \pm 19.6$	$74.6 \pm 2.2^*$	—	$37.6 \pm 6.5^*$

\*  $P < 0.001$ ;

\*\*  $P < 0.01$  according to Student's  $t$ -test of paired data.

ing from an imperfectly resealed plasma membrane. This argument is, however, not supported by the results obtained with quin2. Loading of cells with this calcium indicator does not involve osmotic stress.

The mean resting cytosolic  $Ca^{2+}$  level of quin2-loaded cells was  $112.1 \pm 7.3 \text{ nM}$  ( $N = 12$ ), a value similar to that reported for cells of turtle and toad bladder [19,20] and of other systems [18].

Moreover, calcium ionophore again increased the light emission of quin2-loaded cells, whereas IBMX did not (Fig. 5). As verified on suspensions of unloaded cells (Fig. 5) and cell-free bathing media (data not shown), the small elevation in fluorescence intensity after addition of IBMX was caused by IBMX autofluorescence. Forskolin, a potent activator of adenylate cyclase [22] and stimulator of  $HCO_3^-$  secretion in the turtle bladder

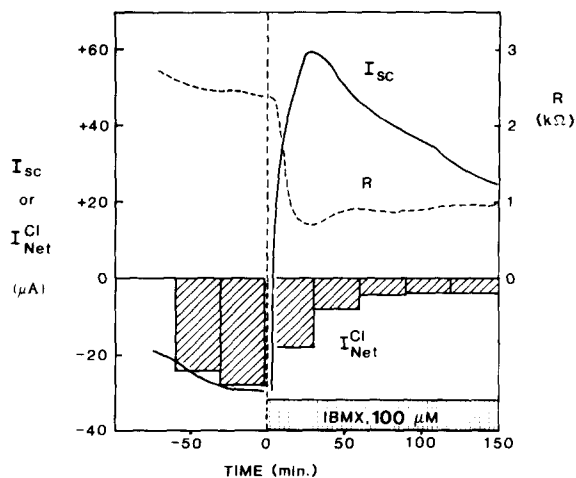


Fig. 2. Effect of IBMX on the anion-dependent  $I_{sc}$ ,  $R$ , and net  $Cl^-$  flux of an alkalotic turtle. Sign convention and other experimental details as described in Fig. 1.

TABLE II

## EFFECT OF IBMX AND A23187 ON CELLULAR cAMP LEVELS

Mean values  $\pm$  S.E. for  $n = 7$  duplicate cAMP determinations on five separate cell isolations. Relative cAMP levels represent the ratio of cAMP levels in the presence of the indicated agent(s) to that in cells simultaneously incubated without drugs (controls). Control cAMP level was  $23.0 \pm 6.4 \text{ pmol/mg protein}$ . Cells (about  $5 \cdot 10^6$  in 1 ml medium) from bladders of four postprandial turtles were incubated 7–10 min at  $22\text{--}25^\circ\text{C}$  with  $100 \mu\text{M}$  IBMX and/or  $10 \mu\text{M}$  A23187. At these concentrations the drugs elicited maximal changes in the electrophysiological parameters (See also Refs. 8 and 12).

Condition	Relative cAMP levels
Control	1
+ IBMX	$2.0 \pm 0.7$
+ A23187	$1.6 \pm 0.4$
+ IBMX + A23187	$3.1 \pm 0.8^*$

\*  $P < 0.05$  compared to control.

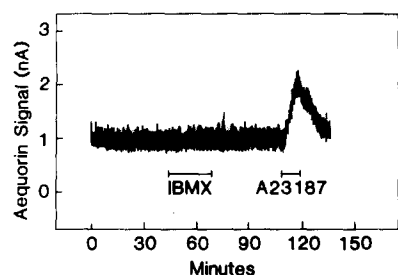


Fig. 3. Effect of IBMX and calcium ionophore on cytosolic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  of aequorin-loaded cells (representative of five experiments). Cells were perfused at room temperature with  $\text{Na}^+$  ( $\text{Cl}^- + \text{HCO}_3^-$ ) medium at 1 ml/min. IBMX (100  $\mu\text{M}$ ) or A23187 (1  $\mu\text{M}$ ) were added to the perfusate during the time marked by the horizontal lines below the trace. Background current was 0.2  $\mu\text{A}$ .

(unpublished data), but which does not fluoresce, at a concentration of 1  $\mu\text{M}$  also failed to alter the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  levels (data not shown). The relative  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  level after IBMX, i.e., the quin2 fluorescence emission after the addition of IBMX to that before IBMX, corrected for IBMX fluorescence, was  $1.00 \pm 0.01$  ( $n = 12$ ).

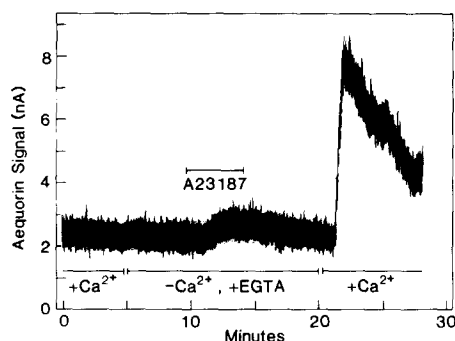


Fig. 4. Effect of A23187 on cytosolic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  of aequorin-loaded cells bathed by  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -free medium (representative of two experiments). Conditions were similar to those described under Fig. 3. Cells were initially perfused with  $\text{Na}^+$  ( $\text{Cl}^- + \text{HCO}_3^-$ ) medium containing  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (2 mM), then in the same medium devoid of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and containing EGTA (2 mM), and finally with  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -rich medium again. A23187 (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) was added 5 min after cells were exposed to  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -free medium. The increased aequorin signal after replacement of the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -free perfusion medium with  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -rich solution indicates retention of ionophore by the cells. The lag times of about 1 min in the aequorin signal represent, in part, the time required for replacement of the perfusate in the sample cuvette. The decay in the ionophore-elicited signal is probably due the loss of ionophore from the cells, consumption of aequorin, and reuptake of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  by calcium storage sites.

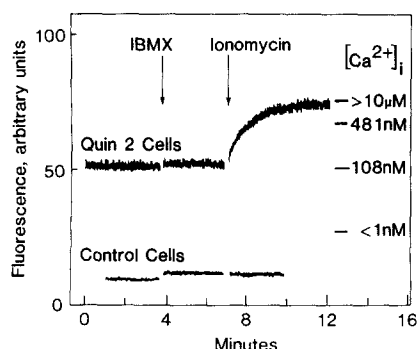


Fig. 5. Effect of IBMX and calcium ionophore on cytosolic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  of quin2-loaded cells. Cuvette containing  $1.2 \cdot 10^6$  cells in 2 ml  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ -free NaCl bathing medium. Similar results were obtained with cells bathed by  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ -rich NaCl medium. However, in the  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ -free NaCl bathing medium the cells seemed to aggregate less or more slowly than in  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ -rich medium, resulting in significantly lower noise in the quin2 signal. IBMX and ionomycin were added to give final concentrations of 100 and 1  $\mu\text{M}$ , respectively.

## Discussion

In the intact epithelium of the turtle bladder the calcium ionophore A23187 stimulated mucosal alkalization and inhibited  $\text{Cl}^-$  absorption in the absence of transepithelial gradients of these anions, thus mimicking the effects of IBMX and cAMP on these transport processes [5,8,9]. The ionophore's stimulation of the alkalization current and decrease in transepithelial resistance in the presence of ambient  $\text{Cl}^-$  are similar to its effects on these parameters in the absence of  $\text{Cl}^-$  [12]. These results are predicted by the hypothesis of  $\text{Cl}^-$ -independent, electrogenic and active  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  secretion in this tissue [8–10,12].

How  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and cAMP modify  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  and  $\text{Cl}^-$  transport is unclear. The fall in transepithelial resistance evoked by A23187 and IBMX in the present study was similar in magnitude to that elicited by these agents under  $\text{Cl}^-$ -free bathing conditions and is consistent with other evidence [5,12] for an increase in a  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ -selective conductance in the apical membrane [11,23]. An increase in apical  $\text{Cl}^-$  permeability could give rise to the increased serosa-to-mucosa  $\text{Cl}^-$  flux after A23187 (Table I) or IBMX/cAMP [9], but cannot account for the major inhibition of the mucosa-to-serosa  $\text{Cl}^-$  flux. A cAMP-sensitive  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ -selective con-

ductance [11], a relatively nonselective conductance for  $\text{Cl}^-$  and  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  [23], and a  $\text{Cl}^-$  pump [9] have been postulated for the apical membrane. The postulated plasma membrane location of these anion pathways, however, is based on indirect methods [9–11,23]. Conclusive evidence of their localization requires the development of specific techniques for measuring the electrical parameters and  $\text{Cl}^-$  levels of cells that make up less than 15% of the turtle bladders' epithelium [14].

Although in the intact epithelium IBMX or A23187 each changed electrical transport parameters in less than 1 min, in isolated cells they did not elevate cAMP to significant levels, when added separately. This result, however, is not unexpected: (1) Resting adenylate cyclase activity is probably relatively low so that inhibition of phosphodiesterase by IBMX would result in localized increases of cAMP sufficient to modify transport, but too small to detect by a measurement of total cellular cAMP. (2) In the presence of functional phosphodiesterase, probably activated by A23187 via Ca-calmodulin (24), a stimulation of adenylate cyclase by A23187-elevated  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  would be expected to yield a transient increase in cAMP, difficult to detect when averaged over the entire cell population [25,26]. Conversely, upon inhibition of phosphodiesterase by IBMX, a  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -mediated stimulation of adenylate cyclase would be expected to produce a measurable increase in cellular cAMP content. This prediction was confirmed by the data of Table II.

Of major interest are the findings that (1) A23187 in the presence of IBMX caused a small, but significant increase in cellular cAMP, and (2) IBMX and cAMP did not alter the cytosolic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  levels of aequorin- or quin2-loaded cells. The apparent additive nature of the actions by ionophore and IBMX on cellular cAMP is consistent with the increased stimulation of the ionophore-induced alkali secretion by IBMX [12]. How  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  increases cAMP in the turtle bladder is not known. Based on its actions in other systems, one route could be activation of adenylate cyclase via a calmodulin dependent pathway [24]. A norepinephrine-sensitive adenylate cyclase and cAMP-dependent protein kinase have been found in the apical membrane fraction of turtle bladder epithelial cells [27], but their involvement in the

regulation of anion transport has not been established. Regulation of  $\text{Na}^+$  transport, however, appears unlikely, since IBMX was found to have no effect on the  $\text{Na}^+$ -dependent  $I_{\text{sc}}$  [8].

Whether the change in cAMP associated with a change in  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  is a unique or essential step in the sequence of events leading to stimulation of alkali secretion and inhibition of  $\text{Cl}^-$  absorption or whether  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  can also alter these transport processes directly or by other routes (e.g., via  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -dependent protein kinase C) remains unclear. Pretreatment of bladders with cordycepin or *N*<sup>6</sup>-phenylisopropyl adenosine, inhibitors of adenylate cyclase in fat cells [28], failed to demonstrate a requirement for cAMP, since these compounds did not inhibit the alkali secretion current.

A major problem at present is the sparsity of firm information on hormonal messengers that might influence  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  secretion and  $\text{Cl}^-$  absorption in the turtle bladder by cAMP or  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -mediated pathways and which would help in the identification of the type of synarchic regulation [24] present. It was recently reported, however, that vasoactive intestinal peptide stimulated  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  secretion. Since vasoactive intestinal peptide mimicked the effect of exogenous cAMP, including its failure to inhibit acidification [11], it would not be expected to elevate  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  levels. This prediction, consistent with the hormone's action in other systems [29] was confirmed in quin2-loaded cells in which the relative  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  activity ( $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  after/ $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  before vasoactive intestinal peptide) was  $0.98 \pm 0.02$  ( $n = 3$ ).

Although cytosolic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  was determined in cell suspensions consisting of several epithelial cell types [14,31], available evidence [19] suggests that the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  levels observed with quin2, in large part, reflect those of the cells thought to be responsible for acid-base transport, the so-called mitochondrion-rich cells [11,14,19,31]. These cells, which also contain high levels of carbonic anhydrase [14], a potent esterase, were found by Cannon et al. [19] to exhibit a preferential and acetazolamide-sensitive loading of quin2. The membrane-permeant ester of this  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  indicator is cleaved by cytoplasmic esterase activity, trapping the dye inside the cells [18].

In summary, the results indicate a correlation between changes in cellular cAMP and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and

changes in  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  secretion and  $\text{Cl}^-$  absorption. In light of earlier findings that (1) calcium ionophore A23187 [12,13], but not IBMX and/or exogenous cAMP [5,8,9,23,30], inhibits mucosal acidification, (2) whereas both A23187 [12] and IBMX (and cAMP) [5,8,23] stimulate mucosal alkalization, we propose as a working hypothesis that cytosolic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  regulates the acidification process by cAMP-independent paths and regulates  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  secretion and  $\text{Cl}^-$  absorption, in part, by modulating cAMP levels. The present findings form the basis for subsequent biochemical analyses of the sequence of molecular events leading to the regulation of  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  and  $\text{Cl}^-$  transport in this urinary epithelium.

### Acknowledgements

The authors thank Dr. K.W. Snowdowne for the gift of aequorin and help in the aequorin studies and Dr. A.B. Borle for the use of his laboratory, Dept. of Physiology, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, PA 15261. This study was supported by a grant-in-aid from the American Heart Association with funds contributed, in part, by the Central Ohio Chapter.

### References

- McKinney, T.D. and Burg, M.B. (1978) *J. Clin. Invest.* 61, 1421–1427
- Stone, D.K., Seldin, D.W., Kokko, J.P. and Jacobson, H.R. (1983) *J. Clin. Invest.* 71, 1505–1508
- Cohen, L. (1980) *Am. J. Physiol.* 239, F167–174
- Leslie, B.R., Schwartz, J.H. and Steinmetz, P.R. (1973) *Am. J. Physiol.* 225, 610–617
- Satake, B., Durham, J.H., Ehrenspeck, G. and Brodsky, W.A. (1983) *Am. J. Physiol.* 244, C259–269
- Brodsky, W.A. and Schilb, T.P. (1966) *Am. J. Physiol.* 210, 987–996
- Brodsky, W.A., Durham, J. and Ehrenspeck, G. (1979) *J. Physiol.* 287, 559–573
- Ehrenspeck, G. (1982) *Biochem. Biophys. Acta* 684, 219–227
- Durham, J.H. and Matons, C. (1984) *Biochim. Biophys. Acta* 769, 297–310
- Ehrenspeck, G. and Voner, C. (1985) *Biochim. Biophys. Acta* 817, 318–326
- Brodsky, W.A., Matons, C. and Durham, J.H. (1985) *Fed. Proc.* 44, 1365
- Ehrenspeck, G. (1983) *Biochim. Biophys. Acta* 732, 146–153
- Arruda, J.A.L. (1979) *Pflugers Arch.* 381, 107–111
- Schwartz, J.H., Bethencourt, D. and Rosen, S. (1982) *Am. J. Physiol.* 242, F627–F633
- Lee, S.-K., Singh, J. and Taylor, R.B. (1975) *Eur. J. Immunol.* 5, 259–262
- Bradford, M. (1976) *Anal. Biochem.* 72, 248–254
- Borle, A.B. and Snowdowne, K.W. (1984) *Am. J. Physiol.* 247, C396–C408
- Tsien, R.Y., Pozzan, T. and Rink, T.J. (1982) *J. Cell. Biol.* 94, 325–334
- Cannon, C., Van Adelsberg, J., Kelly, S. and Al-Awqati, Q. (1985) *Nature* 314, 443–446
- Crutch, B. and Taylor, A. (1983) *J. Physiol.* 295, 109P.
- Case, G.D., Vanderkooi, J.M. and Scarpa, A. (1974) *Arch. Biochem. Biophys.* 162, 174–185
- Seamon, L.B. and Daly, J.W. (1981) *J. Cyclic Nucleotide Res.* 7, 201–224
- Stetson, D.L., Beauwens, R., Palmisano, J., Mitchell, P.P. and Steinmetz, P.R. (1985) *Am. J. Physiol.* 249, F546–F552
- Rasmussen, H. (1981) *Calcium and cAMP as synarchic messengers*. pp. 86–92, John Wiley & Sons, New York
- Field, M., Sheerin, H.E., Henderson, A. and Smith, P.L. (1975) *Am. J. Physiol.* 229, 86–92
- Schimmel, R.J. (1984) *Am. J. Physiol.* 246, C63–C68
- Brodsky, W.A., Cabantchik, Z.I., Davidson, M., Ehrenspeck, G., Kinne-Saffran, E.M. and Kinne, R. (1979) *Biochim. Biophys. Acta* 556, 490–508
- Fain, J.N., Pointer, R.H. and Ward, W.F. (1972) *J. Biol. Chem.* 247, 6866–6872
- Said, S.I. (1980) in *Gastrointestinal Hormones* (Glass, G.J.G., ed.), pp. 246–265, Raven Press, New York
- Sabatini, S. (1985) *Kidney Int.* 27, 25–30
- Stetson, D.L. and Steinmetz, P.R. (1985) *Am. J. Physiol.* 249, F553–F565