

Evidence for the Coupling of G_q Protein to D₁-Like Dopamine Sites in Rat Striatum: Possible Role in Dopamine-Mediated Inositol Phosphate Formation

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SUMMARY

The role of G proteins in mediating the coupling of D₁ dopamine receptors to inositol phosphate formation was investigated in rat brain striatum. Pertussis toxin-activated ADP-ribosylation (≥95%) did not affect the ability of the D₁ agonist SKF38393 to stimulate the generation of inositol phosphates in striatal slices. Stimulation of striatal membranes with dopamine in the presence of [³⁵S]GTPγS or [α-³²P]GTP increased guanine nucleotide binding to G_{as}, G_{ai}, and G_{aq} in a concentration-dependent fashion. The activation of G_{as} and G_{aq} was mimicked by the D₁ agonist SKF38393 and blocked by the D₁ antagonist SCH23390. In contrast, the D_{2/3} dopamine receptor agonist

quinpirole stimulated guanine nucleotide binding to G_{ai}, and dopamine-stimulated activation of G_{ai} was attenuated by the D₂ antagonist l-sulpiride. Furthermore, antisera directed against G_{as} or G_{aq} but not G_{ai}, G_{ao}, or G_{az} precipitated specific D₁-like binding sites labeled with [³H]SCH23390. The D₁-like receptors that coprecipitated with G_{as} but not with G_{aq} can be recognized by a specific D₁ dopamine receptor antibody. The data provide evidence to suggest that in addition to coupling to G_s/adenylyl cyclase, D₁-like dopamine sites that couple to G_q may mediate dopamine-stimulated formation of inositol phosphates in the rat striatum.

The coupling of dopamine D₁ receptors to diverse signal transduction pathways is supported by many functional and neurochemical studies (1–5). The dopamine D₁ receptor is a member of the G protein-coupled receptor superfamily and thus is linked to its effector systems via G proteins. Stimulation of G protein-coupled receptors results in the activation of specific heterotrimeric G proteins, leading to the exchange of GTP for GDP on the α subunit and dissociation of the trimer. Both βγ heterodimer and the activated α subunit (G_{α-GTP}) can subsequently interact with intracellular effectors (6–9). The D₁ dopamine receptor-mediated stimulation of adenylyl cyclase is regulated by G_s proteins (10, 11). Recent investigations have demonstrated the involvement of a D₁-like receptor in mediating dopamine-stimulated phosphoinositide hydrolysis in brain tissue (12–16). Evidence showing differential order of potencies and efficacies for a

series of benzazepine compounds in stimulating phosphoinositide metabolism and in activating adenylyl cyclase suggested that the D₁ receptor that is linked to PLC differs from that coupled to adenylyl cyclase (17). Other G protein-coupled receptors were shown to regulate PLC via G_{αq/11} proteins or the βγ dimer (9, 18–20). However, the nature of the G protein that couples the D₁-like dopamine receptor to PLC has not been previously characterized. The data presented in this report demonstrate that D₁-like dopamine receptors in rat striatal membranes couple to both G_{as} and G_{aq} proteins. The results also show that G_{as} couples to the D₁ dopamine receptor and suggest that a D₁-like site that couples to G_q may mediate dopamine-stimulated inositol phosphate formation in striatum.

Materials and Methods

Animals. Male Sprague-Dawley rats (275–450 g) purchased from Zivic-Miller (Zelienople, PA) were housed in groups and maintained at an ambient temperature of 22 ± 1°C with a 12-hr photoperiod with the light period beginning at 6:00 a.m. All rats had ad libitum access to rat chow pellets (Agway Pellets 3000, Agway, Syracuse,

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ABBREVIATIONS: HEPES, 4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazineethanesulfonic acid; KRB, Krebs-Ringers solution; TBS, phosphate-buffered saline; Tween 20; SDS, sodium dodecyl sulfate; PAGE, polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis; ANOVA, analysis of variance; PLC, phospholipase C; PTX, pertussis toxin (islet-activating protein); PBS, phosphate-buffered saline; S-(–)-sulpiride, (–)-5-aminosulfonyl-N-[(1-ethyl-2-pyrrolidiny)methyl]2-methoxybenzamide; *cis*-(Z)-flupenthixol dihydrochloride, (Z)-4-[3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-9H-thioxanthen-9-ylidene]propyl]-1-piperazine-ethanol dihydrochloride.

NY) and tap water. The animals were habituated to this environment for at least 1 week before experiments were conducted.

PTX treatment and measurement of inositol phosphates in brain striatal slices. Brains were removed immediately after decapitation and placed in HEPES bicarbonate buffer composed of (in mM) NaCl 122, MgCl₂ 1.2, KCl 4.9, KH₂PO₄ 1.2, CaCl₂ 1.3, NaHCO₃ 3.6, HEPES 30, and glucose 10 and bubbled for 30 min with 95% O₂/5% CO₂, with pH adjusted to 7.4 at 37°. The striata were dissected, and 350 × 350-μm slices prepared as previously described (12). Slices were washed several times, preincubated in a shaking water bath at 37° for 30 min, washed again, and divided into two portions, with each containing four volumes of fresh buffer. To one portion we added 500 μg/ml PTX, and to the second portion we added an equal volume of the PTX solvent (500 μl of 0.01 M NaPO₄ buffer, pH 7.0, with 0.05 M NaCl). The tubes were incubated in a shaking water bath at 37° and aerated every 30 min with 95% O₂/5% CO₂ for up to 3 hr. Each portion of slices was distributed in 25-μl aliquots (200–250 μg of protein) into 5-ml polypropylene culture tubes containing 150 μl of buffer. The remainder of each set of slices was used to assess *in vitro* PTX catalyzed ADP-ribosylation. The distributed slices were incubated in a shaking water bath at 37°. After 10 min, 25 μl of 9 μM 2-[³H]inositol (17 Ci/mmol, American Radiolabeled Chemicals, St. Louis, MO) was added to each tube, and incubations continued for 30 min. At this point, 5 mM LiCl was added, followed 5 min later by the addition of SKF38393. The final incubation volume was adjusted to 250 μl by the addition of buffer. Incubation was continued for an additional 60 min or as indicated, and the reaction was stopped by mixing the slices with 1 ml of chloroform/methanol/1 M HCl (100:200:1). Inositol phosphates were extracted, separated, and quantified as previously described (12).

ADP-ribosylation with [³²P]NAD. To determine the magnitude of PTX-catalyzed ADP ribosylation, membranes were prepared from striatal slices previously incubated with buffer or 500 μg/ml of PTX for 3 hr. The *in vitro* ADP-ribosylation was carried out according to a modification of a method previously described by Gill and Woolkalis (21). Brain slices were homogenized in 10 volumes of TMES buffer containing 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.6, 1 mM EDTA, 2 mM MgCl₂, 0.01 unit/ml soybean trypsin inhibitor, and 10% sucrose and centrifuged at 1000 × *g* for 5 min. The supernatant was saved, and the pellet was resuspended in 5 volumes of TMES. After centrifugation at 1000 × *g* for 5 min, the supernatant was combined with the first supernatant and centrifuged at 25,000 × *g* for 10 min. The resultant pellet was resuspended in HNT buffer (10 mM HEPES, pH 7.3, 130 mM NaCl, 0.01 unit/ml soybean trypsin inhibitor, and 0.2% Triton X-100), and 1-ml aliquots were frozen and stored at -70°. At the time of the assay, an aliquot was thawed, and the protein concentration was determined according to the method of Lowry *et al.* (22). Fifty micrograms of membrane protein were incubated in a total volume of 10 μl at 25° for 10 min. Ten microliters of [³²P]NAD mixture and 2 μl of PTX were then added (final concentration in each assay in total of 22 μl containing 10 mM HEPES, pH 7.3, 130 mM NaCl, 0.01 unit/ml soybean trypsin inhibitor, 10 mM thymidine, 10 mM dithiothreitol, 20 mM isonicotinic acid hydrazide, 1 mM 3-acetylpyridine adenine dinucleotide, 20 μM [³²P] NAD [10,000 cpm/pmol], 200 μg/ml activated PTX, 0.1% Triton X-100, and 1 mM ATP). Incubation was carried out at 25° for 60 min. The reaction was stopped by the addition of 0.1 ml of ice-cold HEPES buffer, pH 7.3, containing 130 mM NaCl (HN buffer) followed by centrifugation at 16,000 × *g* for 20 min. To separate G_{ai} from G_{ao} in PTX-treated samples, the pellets were resuspended and heated at 75° for 5 min in 15 μl of buffer containing 40 mM Tris-HCl, pH 6.8, 1 mM dithiothreitol, and 2% SDS. Ten microliters of 100 mM *N*-ethylmaleimide were then added, and reaction was performed at 25° for 15 min followed by 2 min of boiling. The samples were solubilized by boiling for 5 min in sample preparation buffer containing 62.5 mM Tris-HCl, pH 6.8, 10% glycerol, 2% SDS, 5% 2-mercaptoethanol, and 0.1% bromphenol blue and subjected to SDS-PAGE. The Coomassie blue-stained gels were dried and subjected to autoradiography. ADP-ribosylation was quantified by den-

sitometric scanning of the autoradiograms (Zeineh Soft Laser Scanning Densitometer, Fullerton, CA).

[³⁵S]GTPγS and [³²P]GTP binding to G proteins and immunoprecipitation. Crude membrane preparations were obtained from rat brain striata, and GTP binding studies were performed by a previously described procedure (23). All procedures were carried out at 4° unless otherwise indicated. Brain striatal tissues were homogenized in 10 volumes of ice-cold homogenization buffer containing 25 mM HEPES, pH 7.4, 100 mM sucrose, 1 mM EGTA, 0.2% 2-mercaptoethanol, 50 μg/ml leupeptin, 25 μg/ml pepstatin A, 0.01 unit/ml soybean trypsin inhibitor, and 0.04 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride using glass/glass homogenizer. The tissue homogenate was centrifuged for 5 min at 750 × *g* (4°). The resultant supernatant was then centrifuged for 10 min at 48,200 × *g* (4°). The pellet was resuspended in 10 volumes of KRB containing 20 mM HEPES, pH 7.4, 154 mM NaCl, 4.8 mM KCl, 1.2 mM KHPO₄, 1.2 mM MgCl₂, 0.5 μg/ml leupeptin, 25 μg/ml pepstatin A, 0.01 unit/ml soybean trypsin inhibitor, and 0.04 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride and used as the crude membrane preparation. Protein concentrations were determined according to the method of Lowry *et al.* (22). The assay mixture (250 μl) containing 200 μg of membrane protein and 2 nM [³⁵S]GTPγS was incubated for 5 min at 25° followed by incubation in the absence or presence of agonist for 5 min. In the experiments in which receptor antagonists were applied, membranes were incubated with antagonists for 10 min before exposure of [³⁵S]GTPγS (15 min before exposure to the agonist). The reaction was terminated by the addition of 750 μl ice-cold KRB containing 1 mM EGTA followed by centrifugation at 16,000 × *g* for 5 min. The pellet was solubilized and immunoprecipitated with antisera directed against specific G_α peptides as described previously (23). The resulting pellet containing the antigen/antibody complex was resuspended in KRB by brief sonication, and radioactivity was measured by liquid scintillation spectrometry. The radioactivity precipitated by normal rabbit serum was considered background and subtracted from all agonist-stimulated values.

In a separate experiment, membranes (200 μg) were incubated with KRB containing 5 nM GTP for 2 min followed by an additional incubation with 50 nM of [³²P]GTP (20 μCi) for 3 min in the absence (control) or presence of 10 μM of dopamine (total incubation volume, 250 μl). The reaction was terminated by dilution with 750 μl of ice-cold Mg²⁺-free, KRB containing 1 mM EGTA, mixed, placed on ice, and immediately centrifuged at 16,000 × *g* for 5 min. The obtained pellets were solubilized and subjected to immunoprecipitation with specific anti-G_α antisera (24, 25) using the procedure described previously (23, 26). The [³²P]guanine nucleotide bound proteins were separated by SDS-PAGE (10% polyacrylamide gel) according to Laemmli (27). The Coomassie blue-stained gels were dried and subjected to autoradiography. The autoradiograms were analyzed by densitometric scanning.

Coprecipitation of [³H]SCH23390-bound receptor with discrete G_α proteins. Determination of the linkage between receptor and G proteins was carried out according to a modification of a method previously described by Matesic *et al.* (28). Crude striatal membranes were prepared by homogenizing brain striata in 10 volumes of 25 mM HEPES, pH 7.5, buffer containing 2 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM EDTA, 0.2% 2-mercaptoethanol, 50 μg/ml leupeptin, 25 μg/ml pepstatin A, 0.01 unit/ml soybean trypsin inhibitor, and 0.04 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride using glass/glass homogenizer. Homogenate was centrifuged at 750 × *g* for 5 min, and supernatant was centrifuged for 10 min at 48,200 × *g*. Membranes were washed, resuspended in immunoprecipitation buffer containing 100 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 200 mM NaCl, 2 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM EDTA, 0.2% 2-mercaptoethanol, 50 μg/ml leupeptin, 25 μg/ml pepstatin A, 0.01 unit/ml soybean trypsin inhibitor, and 0.04 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride, and the concentration of membrane proteins was determined according to the method of Lowry *et al.* (22). Two hundred micrograms of membrane proteins were solubilized in 1 ml of the immunoprecipitation buffer with 0.2% cholate and 0.5% digitonin.

Immunoprecipitation with antisera against specific G_α proteins was carried out according to a procedure described previously (23). Solubilized tissues were precleared by the addition of normal rabbit serum (1:100 dilution) at 4° for 60 min followed by a 30-min incubation with 100 μ l of a 10% suspension of protein A-bearing *Staphylococcus aureus* cells (Pansorbin cells, Calbiochem). The suspension was centrifuged (at 4°), and the supernatant combined with anti-serum (1:1000 dilution) raised against specific peptides of G_α proteins (DuPont) for 3 hr at 4° followed by an additional 30-min incubation with 100 μ l Pansorbin. After centrifugation and washing, the pellet obtained from each tube was suspended in 500 μ l of binding buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 5 mM $MgCl_2$, 1 μ M mesulergine) and incubated for 30 min with 1 nM [3H]SCH23390 at 30°. Nonspecific binding was defined by the addition of 1 μ M *cis*-(Z)-flupenthixol. The reaction was terminated by the addition of 9 ml of ice-cold binding buffer and immediately vacuum filtered over Whatman GF/F filters. The amount of radioactivity on filter was assessed by liquid scintillation spectrometry, and specific [3H]SCH23390 binding was determined.

In a separate experiment, total specific [3H]SCH23390 binding was determined in striatal membranes. Two hundred micrograms of membrane proteins were solubilized in 100 μ l of the immunoprecipitation buffer with 0.2% cholate and 0.5% digitonin and precleared with normal rabbit serum (1:100 dilution) by incubation at 4° as described above. The resultant supernatant was combined with 400 μ l of binding buffer (final concentrations in the assay mixture were 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 5 mM $MgCl_2$, 1 μ M mesulergine) and incubated for 30 min with 1 nM [3H]SCH23390 at 30°. Nonspecific binding was defined by the addition of 1 μ M *cis*-(Z)-flupenthixol. The reaction was terminated by filtering over 10-kDa molecular weight cutoff filters (Cole-Parmer instrument Co., Niles, IL). The amount of radioactivity on filter was measured by liquid scintillation spectrometry, and specific [3H]SCH23390 binding was determined.

Immunoblot analysis. Immunoprecipitants derived from 200 μ g of membrane proteins or 25 μ g of membrane proteins were solubilized in sample preparation buffer, and proteins were separated by SDS-PAGE (12% polyacrylamide gel) according to Laemmli (27). Proteins were transferred electrophoretically to a nitrocellulose membrane. The completeness of transfer was checked by Coomassie blue staining of the gel. The membranes were incubated at 4° overnight with 10% nonfat dry milk in phosphate buffered saline to block nonspecific sites, washed with 0.1% TBS, and incubated for 2 hr with monoclonal antibody against D_1 dopamine receptors (29) (1:1000 in 1% TBS), and unbound antibody was washed out with 1% TBS. After a 60-min incubation with horseradish peroxidase-conjugated anti-mouse IgG (Amersham) (1:10,000 in 1% TBS), the blots were washed with 3% TBS for 20 min followed by four 5-min washes. The immunoreactive proteins were detected by the enhanced chemiluminescence Western blot detection system (Amersham/Searle Corporation, Des Plaines, IL) and visualized by 2-min exposure to film.

Materials. For these studies, dopamine HCl, soybean trypsin inhibitor, 3-acetylpyridine adenine dinucleotide, dithiothreitol, *N*-ethylmaleimide, thymidine, isonicotinic acid hydrazide, and the buffer reagents were purchased from Sigma Chemical Co. (St. Louis, MO). The chemicals used for inositol phosphate isolation and determination were purchased from Fisher Scientific (Pittsburgh, PA). Mesulergine HCl, *S*-($-$)-sulpiride, *cis*-(Z)-flupenthixol dihydrochloride, and anti-human dopamine D_1 receptor monoclonal antibody were purchased from RBI (Natick, MA). PTX was purchased from List Biological Laboratories (Campbell, CA). Normal rabbit serum and Pansorbin were purchased from Calbiochem (La Jolla, CA). SKF38393 HCl, quinpirole HCl (LY171555), and SCH23390 hemimaleate were generously supplied by SmithKline Beecham (King of Prussia, PA), Lilly Pharmaceutical (Indiana, IN) and Schering Corp. (Bloomfield, NJ), respectively. [3S]GTP γ S (1311 Ci/mmol), [α - ^{32}P]GTP (3000 Ci/mmol), SCH23390 [*N*-methyl- 3H] (71.3 Ci/mmol), and the antisera to G_{as} (RM/1), $G_{ai(1,2)}$ (AS/7), G_{ao} (GC/2), and G_{aq} (QL) were purchased from DuPont (Boston, MA). Antisera to G_{az}

(#2919) was kindly provided by Dr. David Manning (University of Pennsylvania).

Drugs used for GTP binding studies were dissolved in KRB buffer. Radiolabeled probes and antisera were stored at -70° until needed. All drug solutions were freshly prepared and stored on ice for the duration of the experiment.

Statistical analysis. Statistical comparisons of group mean values were performed either by ANOVA followed with Dunnett's test where appropriate or by planned comparisons, as specified in the figure legends.

Results

Dopamine-activated phosphoinositide hydrolysis in striatum is not affected by PTX. Brain striatal slices incubated with 500 μ g/ml PTX showed $98.3 \pm 1.7\%$ (three experiments) ADP-ribosylation of G_{ai}/G_{ao} after 3 hr of incubation with the toxin. The basal accumulation of inositol phosphates in striatal slices was unaltered by PTX treatment. Moreover, the increase in inositol phosphates induced by the D_1 dopamine receptor agonist SKF 38393 was also unaffected by $G_{i/o}$ ADP-ribosylation (Table 1).

Effects of dopamine on GTP binding to G proteins in striatum. Incubation of striatal membranes with [α - ^{32}P]GTP and Mg^{2+} followed by immunoprecipitation with specific anti- G_α antisera and separation on SDS-PAGE yielded a single ^{32}P -labeled band for each antisera. The G_{as} , G_{ai} , G_{ao} , G_{az} , and G_{aq} bands displayed apparent molecular masses of 45, 41, 40, 41, and 41 kDa, respectively (Fig. 1). Stimulation of membranes with dopamine increased [α - ^{32}P]GTP binding to G_{as} , G_{ai} , and G_{aq} (Fig. 1). Western blot analyses confirmed the presence of these G_α proteins in striatum; their respective molecular masses were identical to the bands labeled by [^{32}P]guanine nucleotide (data not shown). These results together therefore suggest that dopamine receptors in striatum are coupled to G_s , G_i , and G_q .

Incubation of striatal membranes with [^{35}S]GTP γ S also resulted in a Mg^{2+} -dependent labeling of the α subunits of G_s , G_i , G_o , G_z , or G_q , which were precipitated by antisera directed against the respective proteins. Dopamine increased [^{35}S]GTP γ S binding to G_{as} , G_{ai} , and G_{aq} in a concentration-dependent fashion with EC_{50} values of 10–20 nM. Maximal stimulation of G_s/G_i and G_q by dopamine was obtained at 1 and 10 μ M, respectively (Fig. 2).

Pharmacological characterization of dopamine-induced potentiation of [^{35}S]GTP γ S binding to G_{aq} in striatal membranes. Activation of the D_1 receptors with the specific D_1 agonist SKF38393 induced concentration-de-

TABLE 1
Effects of PTX treatment on basal and SKF38393-stimulated [3H]inositol phosphate formation in brain striatal slices

Slices were prelabeled with [3H]inositol for 30 min, 5 mM LiCl was added, and 5 min later 500 μ M of SKF38393 was added. Incubations were continued for an additional 60 min, and formed inositol phosphates were determined. Values are the mean \pm standard error for four rats. No differences in SKF38393-induced response was observed between saline- and PTX-treated tissues by the two-tailed Student's *t* test.

	[3H]inositol phosphate	
	Basal	SKF38393
	dpm/mg protein	
Control	4010 \pm 410	10,310 \pm 490
PTX	3600 \pm 240	10,550 \pm 610



Fig. 1. Dopamine-stimulated [α - 32 P]GTP binding to membrane G α proteins. Membranes prepared from striata were labeled with 50 nM of [α - 32 P]GTP (10 μ Ci) and incubated with 10 μ M of dopamine (D) or buffer solution (B). The [α - 32 P]guanine nucleotide-labeled G α proteins were immunoprecipitated with the indicated anti-G α antisera followed by separation on 10% SDS-PAGE and autoradiography. Each autoradiogram is representative of five experiments. The apparent molecular masses for G α _s, G α _i, G α _o, G α _z, and G α _q are 45, 41, 40, 41, and 41 kDa, respectively. Dopamine increased [α - 32 P] guanine nucleotide binding to G α _s, G α _i, and G α _q by 350%, 320%, and 180%, respectively.

pendent increases in [35 S]GTP γ S binding to G α _s and G α _q (Fig. 3A). In contrast, stimulation of striatal D₂ receptors with quinpirole increased [35 S]GTP γ S binding to G α _i in a concentration-related fashion (Fig. 3B). The selective interaction of striatal D₁ and D₂ receptors with G α /G α _q and G α _i proteins, respectively, was confirmed by blockade of the respective responses by specific D₁ and D₂ receptor antagonists. Although pretreatment of striatal membranes with the D₁ antagonist SCH23390 blocked dopamine-mediated activation of G α _s and G α _q, the dopamine-induced increase in [35 S]GTP γ S binding to G α _i was selectively inhibited by the D₂ antagonist l-sulpiride (Fig. 3C). These results are in agreement with previous data that indicate that striatal D₁ and D₂ dopamine receptors are linked to G α _s and G α _i, respectively (23, 30). They also indicate that the D₁-like dopamine receptors may also couple to G α _q in the rat striatum.

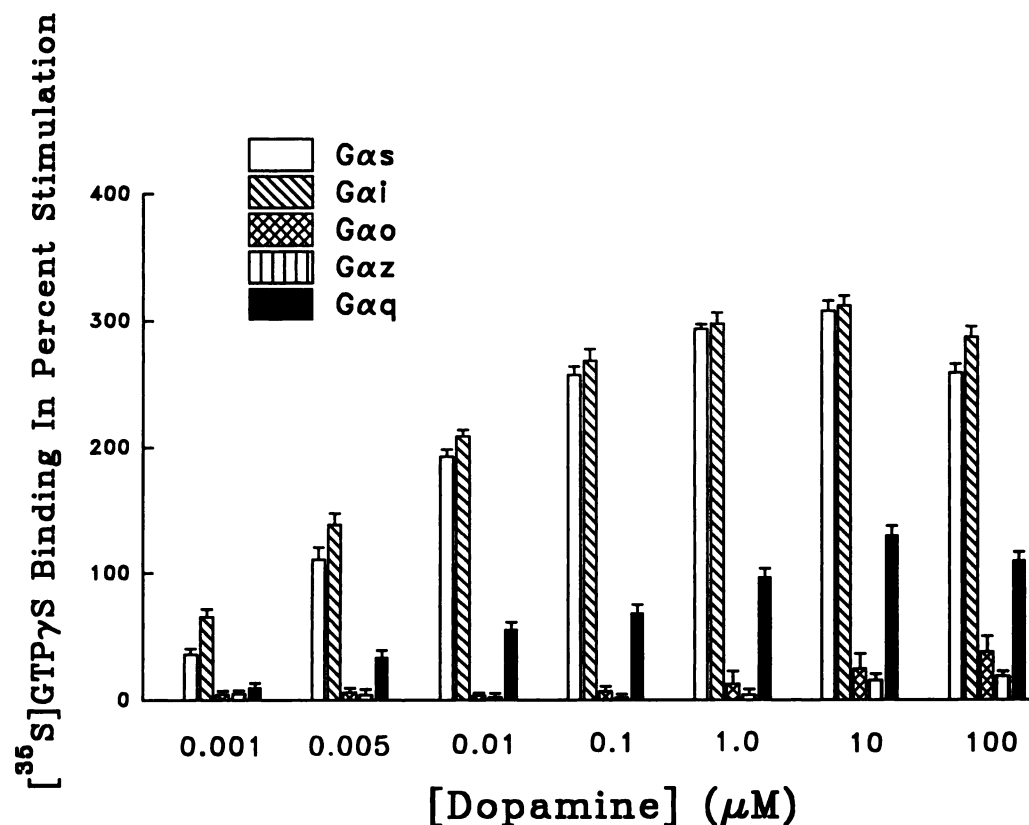


Fig. 2. Concentration-response relationship for dopamine-stimulated [35 S]GTP γ S binding to G α proteins in rat brain striatal membranes. Membranes prepared from rat brain striata were incubated with increasing concentrations of dopamine in the presence of 2 nM [35 S]GTP γ S. Immunoprecipitated 35 S-labeled G α _s, G α _i, G α _o, G α _z, and G α _q were assessed. Basal [35 S]GTP γ S binding to the G α proteins (in cpm) were G α _s, 355.7 \pm 18.8; G α _i, 402.7 \pm 11.4; G α _o, 429.4 \pm 19.5; G α _z, 250.3 \pm 24.6; and G α _q, 303.6 \pm 11.9. The data expressed as increases in [35 S]GTP γ S binding in the presence of dopamine compared with binding in the absence of the transmitter is depicted as the mean \pm standard error obtained from five separate determinations. Statistical comparison by ANOVA indicated that dopamine significantly increased [35 S]GTP γ S binding to G α _s, G α _i, and G α _q in striatum (p < 0.01).

Coprecipitation of D₁ dopamine receptors with G α _s and G α _q proteins in striatal membranes. The possibility that D₁ dopamine receptors are directly coupled to G proteins was tested by coprecipitation of receptors with anti-G α protein antibodies. The results summarized in Fig. 4 demonstrate that antisera against G α _s and G α _q but not G α _i, G α _o, or G α _z precipitated specific D₁ receptor binding sites labeled by the selective D₁ receptor ligand [3 H]SCH23390. Preincubation of the membranes with 100 μ M of Gpp(NH)p before immunoprecipitation prevented the precipitation of specific [3 H]SCH23390 binding sites with the G α _s and G α _q antisera. The association of specific D₁-like dopamine sites, measured using 1 nM [3 H]SCH23390, with G α _s and G α _q proteins was 22% of total specific D₁ binding sites in solubilized striatal membranes. Anti-G α antisera precipitants were also blotted with a monoclonal antibody against the D₁ dopamine receptor. Fig. 5 illustrates that the D₁ dopamine receptor antibody recognized a single protein band with an apparent molecular mass of \sim 60 kDa in striatal membranes, which was also found in the anti-G α _s precipitant but not in any of the other G α antisera precipitants assessed. These results are in good agreement with those obtained in the GTP binding assays (Figs. 1–3) and demonstrate that in striatal membranes G α _s and G α _q couple to D₁-like dopamine sites and that the D₁ dopamine receptor is associated with G α _s but not with G α _q or the other tested G α proteins (Fig. 5).

Discussion

The results demonstrate that dopamine receptors couple to a number of G proteins in a receptor-subtype-related manner. Thus, increases in [35 S]GTP γ S or [α - 32 P]GTP binding to G α _s/G α _q and G α _i are mediated via activation of D₁ and D₂

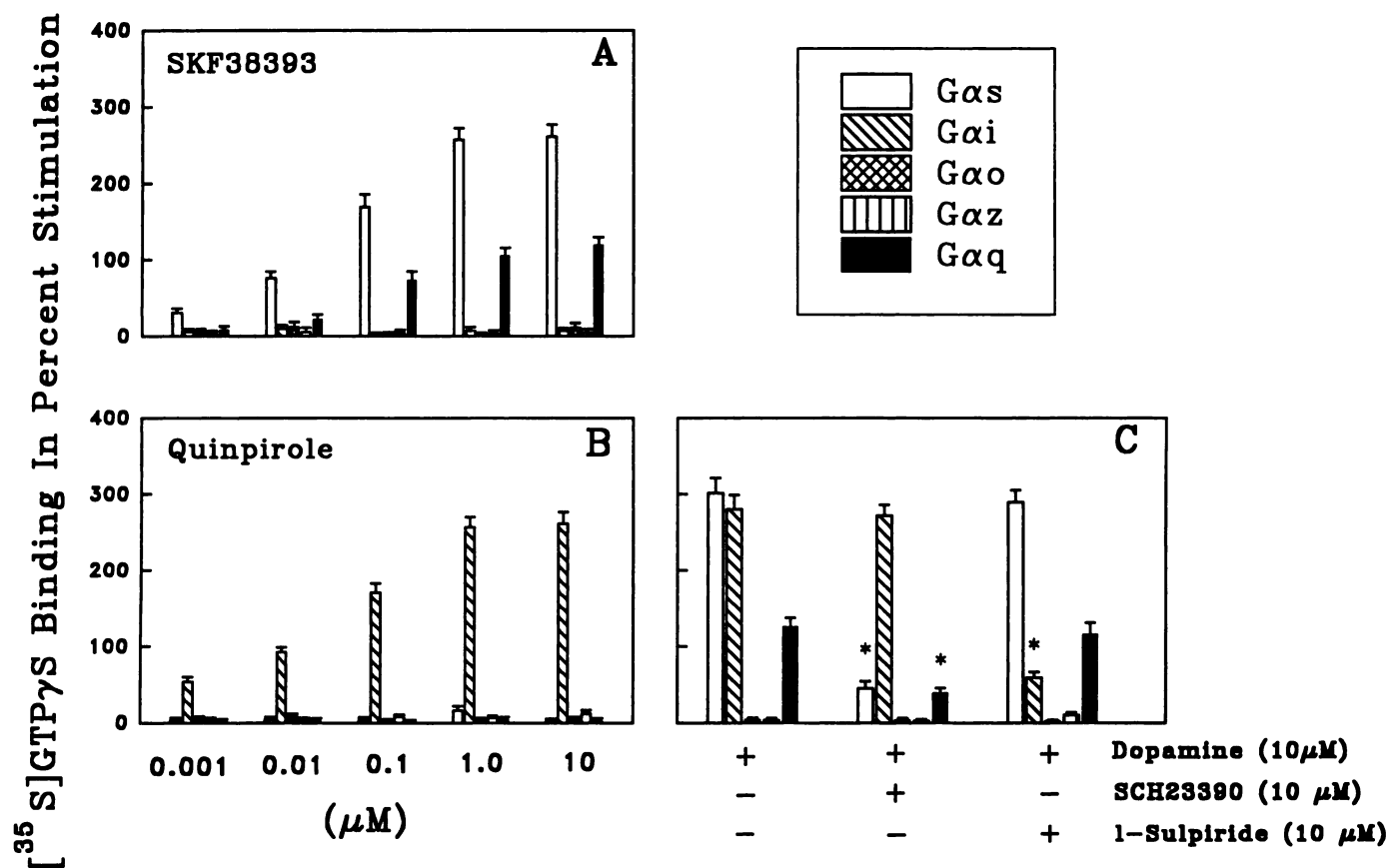


Fig. 3. Pharmacological characterization of dopamine receptor-stimulated [35 S]GTP γ S binding to G_{α} proteins in rat striatal membranes. Membranes were incubated with dopamine or with dopaminergic agonists in the presence of 2 nM [35 S]GTP γ S, and [35 S]-labeled G_{α} proteins were assessed by immunoprecipitation. Incubation with 0.001–10 μ M of the D_1 and D_2 receptor agonists SKF38393 (A) and quinpirole (B), respectively, increased [35 S]GTP γ S binding to G_{α_s} / G_{α_q} and G_{α_i} in a concentration-dependent manner ($p < 0.01$, ANOVA). Pretreatment with 10 μ M of the dopamine D_1 and D_2 receptor antagonists SCH23390 and l-sulpiride (C) resulted in blockade of the dopamine-induced activation of the G_{α_s} / G_{α_q} and G_{α_i} responses, respectively (*, $p < 0.01$, Dunnett's test). Neither SCH23390 nor l-sulpiride affected basal [35 S]GTP γ S binding. Data are expressed as mean \pm standard error percent increase in [35 S]GTP γ S binding produced by the indicated drugs compared with basal binding obtained from four determinations.

receptors, respectively. This specificity is indicated by the activation profiles of the specific dopamine D_1 and D_2 receptor agonists SKF38393 and quinpirole and by the blockade observed with the selective antagonists SCH23390 and l-sulpiride. These findings are in accord with our previous observations regarding the coupling of D_1 and D_2 dopamine receptors to G_{α_s} and G_{α_i} proteins, respectively (23, 30), and with the well-characterized roles of these proteins in the regulation of adenylyl cyclase by D_1 and D_2 dopamine receptors (10, 11, 31–35). The present data also raise the possibility that D_1 dopamine receptor-mediated generation of inositol phosphates occurs via the coupling of dopamine D_1 -like receptors to a PTX-insensitive G_{α_q} protein. This possibility is in agreement with the emerging role of G_{α_q} in mediating the activation of other neurotransmitter-stimulated PLC systems (18–20) and is also in concert with the previous demonstration that dopamine-stimulated phosphoinositide metabolism is resistant to PTX-catalyzed ADP-ribosylation (36). The finding of coupling of D_1 -like receptors to G_{α_s} and G_{α_q} in striatum is consistent with data that indicate that this brain area is rich in D_1 dopamine receptors (37–39). In addition, the presence of D_1 dopamine receptors that stimulate both adenylyl cyclase (10, 30, 40) and phosphoinositide hydrolysis (12, 13) agree well with the notion that striatal D_1 -like do-

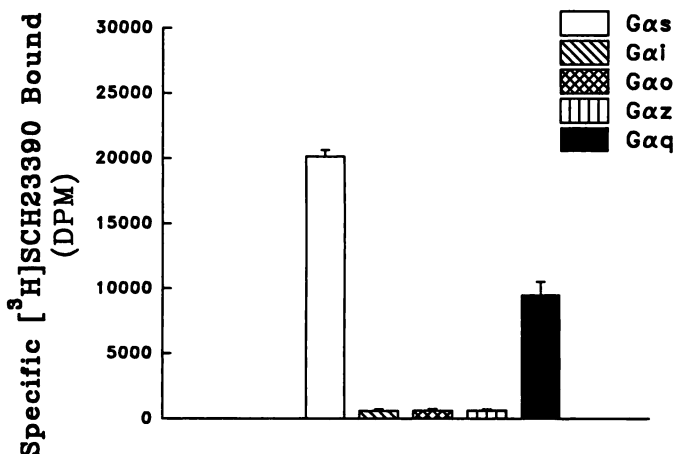


Fig. 4. Dopamine D_1 receptors couple to G_{α_s} and G_{α_q} proteins in striatum. Striatal membranes were solubilized and subjected to immunoprecipitation with anti-peptide antisera raised against G_{α_s} , G_{α_i} , G_{α_o} , G_{α_z} , or $G_{\alpha_q/11}$. The immunocomplexes were incubated with 1 nM [3 H]SCH23390 and 1 μ M mesulergine with or without 1 μ M *cis*-(Z)-flupentixol for 30 min at 30°. Each bar represents the mean \pm standard error counts obtained from five determinations, each performed in duplicate. Bound [3 H]SCH23390 was assessed by counting the radioactivity collected on GF/F filters. Specific [3 H]SCH23390 binding was observed to be associated only with G_{α_s} and G_{α_q} proteins.

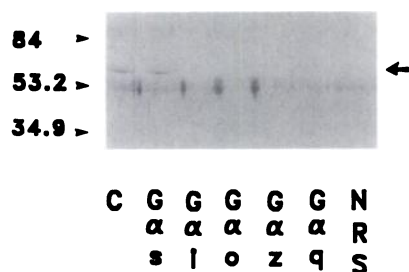
DOPAMINE D₁ RECEPTOR

Fig. 5. G_s- but not G_q-coupled striatal dopamine D₁ receptors can be recognized by anti-human dopamine D₁ receptor antibody. Striatal membranes were solubilized and subjected to immunoprecipitation with anti-peptide antisera raised against G_{as}, G_{ai}, G_{ao}, G_{az}, or G_{aq}/11. The immunocomplexes were then separated on 10% SDS-PAGE and transferred onto nitrocellulose membrane. After overnight blocking with 10% nonfat dry milk containing 1% TBS at 4°, the membrane was washed and subsequently incubated with anti-human dopamine D₁ receptor antibody (1:1000) at room temperature for 2 hr followed by 1-hr incubation with horseradish peroxidase-conjugated anti-mouse IgG. The signal was visualized using enhanced chemiluminescence (Amersham). A single 60-kDa protein was observed in 25 µg of striatal membranes (C) and in the anti-G_{as} precipitant (G_{as}).

pamine receptors may be linked to two different G proteins. The present results, in addition to directly showing that D₁-like dopamine sites are coupled to G_{as} and G_{aq}, suggest that these G proteins may couple to at least two independent D₁-like sites. Although the D₁ dopamine receptor that was identified by a selective receptor antibody under basal conditions couples to G_{as}, other [³H]SCH23390-labeled sites are associated with G_{aq} proteins. This heterotrimeric membrane protein may couple a D₁-like dopamine receptor to PLC and thus stimulates the generation of the second messengers inositol phosphates and diacylglycerol. The possibility that dopamine-stimulated cAMP and inositol phosphate formation are mediated via two distinct sites was previously suggested by a differential order of potencies of a series of benzazepine-derived D₁ dopamine receptor agonists in stimulating these two effector systems (17). This possibility is also generally supported by other findings that report that D₁ dopamine receptor-mediated behaviors (3) and other neurochemical effects are not mediated via cAMP (41–43). The present data therefore raise the possibility that some of the D₁-mediated effects may be transduced via G_q. The suggestion that D₁ dopamine receptor-mediated activation of G_q protein and inositol phosphate formation are mediated via the same site is tempered by the large discrepancy in apparent EC₅₀ values for these two effects. This discrepancy may, however, be related to the very different assay conditions under which these receptor-stimulated effects were obtained. Although receptor coupling to G_q proteins was examined in membrane preparations, inositol phosphate accumulation was investigated in brain slices. In addition, the differences may be related to the different durations of incubation with agonists that are inherent to the two experimental systems.

G proteins dictate the specificity and functions of downstream intracellular effectors. Thus, identification of the interaction of a particular dopamine receptor with its G protein is an important step in unraveling the signal transduction cascades by which specific dopamine receptor subtypes exert

their effects. The finding presented here lend support to the suggested heterogeneity of the signaling pathways for the dopamine receptors. The results indicate that in addition to the classic D₁ dopamine receptor/G_s/adenylyl cyclase cascade, dopamine D₁-like receptors couple to G_q protein, and this coupling may in turn modulate dopamine-stimulated phosphoinositide hydrolysis. Furthermore, the dissimilarity in pharmacological characteristics of these D₁-like dopamine receptor systems (17) and the fact that the D₁ dopamine receptor identified by a selective D₁ dopamine receptor antibody coprecipitated with G_{as} but not with G_{aq} may suggest that the D₁ dopamine sites that activate adenylyl cyclase and those linked to G_q that may modulate PLC activity are distinct molecular entities.

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