

# Initial and sustained calcium mobilizations in the parietal cell during stimulations with gastrin, inositol trisphosphate, phorbol ester and exogenous diacylglycerol

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Electron probe X-ray microanalysis revealed that cytoplasmic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  concentration increased in the restricted apical cytoplasm during stimulation of isolated guinea pig parietal cells with gastrin. Furthermore, this study, using  $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , aequorin and fura-2, revealed the mechanism involved in intracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  shifts caused by gastrin and the involvements of inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate ( $\text{IP}_3$ ) and diacylglycerol in producing those shifts. The gastrin-mediated and  $\text{IP}_3$ -sensitive  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  pool was located in the smooth-surfaced membrane-enriched areas and released  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  in the initial phase. Gastrin-mediated  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  mobilization was also evoked by diacylglycerol, comprising an intracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  mobilization followed by a late, sustained and more localised  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry from the extracellular space.

$\text{Ca}^{2+}$  mobilization; Gastrin; Inositol trisphosphate; Diacylglycerol; (Guinea pig parietal cell)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The parietal cell responds to endogenous mediators such as histamine via paracrine, acetylcholine via neurocrine and gastrin via endocrine. These stimulants act upon specific receptors ( $\text{H}_2$  receptor for histamine, muscarinic cholinergic receptor for acetylcholine and gastrin receptor for gastrin) and produce separate second messengers (cyclic AMP for histamine,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry from the extracellular space for acetylcholine and intracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  release from the store(s) for gastrin) [1–3]. Among others, this study describes gastrin-elicited  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  mobilization. Although it has not yet been substantiated that gastrin induces

inositol trisphosphate ( $\text{IP}_3$ ) production, an ATP-dependent and  $\text{IP}_3$ -sensitive  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  pool connected with microfilaments is located in or near the apical portion of the parietal cells that comprises two types of membrane – tubulovesicular and canalicular membranes [4]. In addition, gastrin and  $\text{IP}_3$  share common mechanism(s) in evoking intracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  release from the store(s) through the microtubule-microfilament regulated system [3,4]. Diacylglycerols substituted with long-chain fatty acids potentiate secretion synergistically with  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  by activating protein kinase C [5]. Analogues of diacylglycerols and phorbol ester are known to be capable of activating protein kinase C [6–8]. Protein kinase C is also present in the parietal cell [9], and is probably involved in intracellular mechanisms regulating acid secretion evoked by gastrin [10,11]. Therefore, this study has been focused on defining  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  mobilization in the parietal cell during stimulations with gastrin,  $\text{IP}_3$ , the phorbol ester 12-*O*-tetradecanoyl phorbol-13-acetate (TPA) and the diacylglycerol 1-oleoyl-2-acetyl-glycerol (OAG). This problem has been ap-

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*Abbreviations:* fura-2, 1-(2-(5'-carboxyoxazol-2'-yl)-6-aminobenzofuran-5-oxy)-2-(2'-amino-5'-methylphenoxy)ethane-*N,N,N',N'*-tetraacetic acid; Mops, 3-(*N*-morpholino)propanesulfonic acid

proached via a variety of techniques such as electron microprobing, the use of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -indicating probes (aequorin and fura-2) and isotope  $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$  labelling, including some that employ the use of intact cells, plasmalemmal permeabilized cells or subcellular fractions.

## 2. EXPERIMENTAL

### 2.1. Isolation of parietal cells

Heterogeneous gastric mucosal cells from guinea pig gastric mucosa were prepared as in [12,13]. Enriched cell populations were prepared by Percoll density gradient ultracentrifugation ( $30000 \times g$  for 15 min at  $4^\circ\text{C}$ ). A fraction enriched with parietal cells was recovered at a density of between 1.043 and 1.050 g/ml [14,15].

### 2.2. Electron probe X-ray microanalysis

For electron probe X-ray microanalysis, parietal cells in the resting and stimulated (3 min after gastrin addition) states were placed on copper specimen holders and rapidly frozen by pressing against the wall of a copper block which had been precooled in liquid nitrogen. Cryosectioning of the specimens and electron probe X-ray microanalysis were carried out. Details of the procedures have been reported [16,17].

### 2.3. $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$ flux by permeable cells

Isolated parietal cells ( $10^6$  cells/ml) were immediately resuspended in a medium resembling the 'cytosol buffer' as in [4,13,14]. After permeabilization of cells with saponin ( $75 \mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ ) for 20 min at  $37^\circ\text{C}$ , the cells were resuspended in the 'cytosolic buffer' without saponin but with 1 mM EGTA, 0.49 mM  $\text{CaCl}_2$ , 1% bovine serum albumin,  $1.0 \mu\text{Ci } ^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $10 \mu\text{M}$  antimycin,  $10 \mu\text{M}$  2,4-dinitrophenol and an ATP-regenerating system (5 mM creatine phosphate,  $50 \mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$  creatine phosphokinase). The medium  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  concentration was set at 180 nM. After the addition of ATP,  $\text{IP}_3$  or gastrin was added at 20 min. The final reaction was stopped by adding 2 ml of the same ice-cold medium without  $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . The cell suspension was placed directly on a Millipore filter under mild suction and radioactivity remaining on the filter was counted as described [4].

### 2.4. Subcellular fractionation

Isolated parietal cells ( $10^7$  cells) were homogenized at  $0-4^\circ\text{C}$  in 2 ml of 0.32 M sucrose buffer with 5 mM Tris-maleate (pH 7.4) in a Teflon-glass homogenizer and the smooth-surfaced membrane-enriched fraction was prepared as described in [13]. This fraction (100  $\mu\text{g}$  protein) was suspended in an incubation buffer consisting of 100 mM KCl, 4.5 mM  $\text{MgSO}_4$ ,  $1.0 \mu\text{M}$   $\text{CaCl}_2$  prepared by  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -EGTA buffer, 20 mM oxalate and  $1.0 \mu\text{Ci } ^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$  in 5 mM Tris-maleate buffer (pH 7.2) in a final volume of 900  $\mu\text{l}$ . Tris-ATP (100  $\mu\text{l}$ ) was added to give a final concentration of 1.5 mM and  $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$  remaining in the vesicles was separated by filtration [13].

### 2.5. $^{125}\text{I}$ -gastrin-binding assay

A parietal cell suspension ( $10^6$  cells) in 1 ml oxygenated Krebs-Ringer-bicarbonate solution (pH 7.4) was incubated with

$0.05 \mu\text{Ci}$  (23 pM)  $^{125}\text{I}$ -labelled human gastrin-17 (spec. act. 2200 Ci/mmol, NEN, USA) for 15 min at  $37^\circ\text{C}$ . The cell suspension was then centrifuged at  $10000 \times g$  for 30 s to separate bound from free hormone and radioactivity in the resultant pellet was counted with a gamma counter (Alloka, USA). Specific binding was expressed as the value without isotope-free gastrin (total binding) minus that with excess unlabelled gastrin (100 nM) (non-specific binding). All data were fitted by least-squares regression from those of the dose-response curve of isotope-free gastrin (from  $10^{-12}$  to  $10^{-7}$  M) on specific  $^{125}\text{I}$ -gastrin binding to parietal cells, the Scatchard plot being represented in fig.2.

### 2.6. Measurement of cytosolic free $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ concentration ( $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i$ )

The method of fura-2 loading has been previously described in gastric chief cells [14] and parietal cells [15]. Fluorescence was recorded with a Hitachi 650-60 fluorescence spectrophotometer equipped to allow for continuous stirring of the sample maintained at  $37^\circ\text{C}$ . Aequorin loading was performed according to [15,18] as a modification of the methods in [19,20]. Aequorin luminescence was determined with a platelet ionized calcium aggregometer (PICA) (Chrono Log, USA) equipped to allow for continuous stirring of the sample maintained at  $37^\circ\text{C}$ .  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i$  was calculated as in [21] by lysing cells using 0.1% Triton X-100 after incorporation of aequorin.

All chemicals and instruments used have been described in [3,4,12-18] unless otherwise stated.

## 3. RESULTS

### 3.1. $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ mobilization during gastrin stimulation (by electron probe X-ray microanalysis)

Representative X-ray spectra from resting and gastrin-treated parietal cells are shown in fig.1. The elemental concentrations of the apical cytoplasm in both resting and stimulated states are also listed in table 1. When treated with gastrin the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  concentration in the apical cytoplasm surrounding the enlarged secretory canaliculi increased after 3 min, indicating that gastrin enhances an increase in cytoplasmic free  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  concentration in the regional areas. Most of the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  seemed to be in a bound form because the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  level is too high for free  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . Simultaneously, there was an increase in  $\text{Na}^+$  and  $\text{Cl}^-$  concentrations while the  $\text{K}^+$  level decreased in the apical cytoplasm during stimulation.

### 3.2. $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ mobilization brought about by $\text{IP}_3$ and gastrin

Fig.2A depicts ATP-dependent  $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$  uptake by the subcellular fraction (smooth-surfaced membrane fraction) obtained from sucrose density gradient centrifugation. The cholesterol (mmol)/

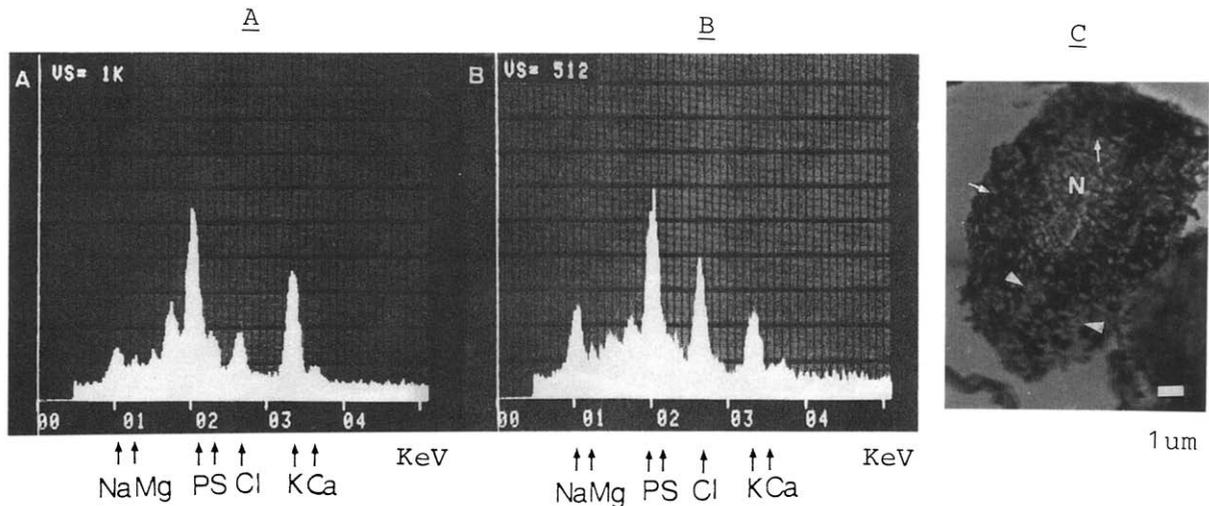


Fig.1. X-ray spectra from resting apical cytoplasm (A) and gastrin ( $10^{-8}$  M)-stimulated apical cytoplasm (B). Spectra are representative of at least 6 similar determinations. (C) Electron micrograph of a resting parietal cell from a non-fixed frozen thin section. N, nucleus; arrow, mitochondria; arrowhead, apical cytoplasm.

phospholipid (mmol) ratio of this fraction, measured by using  $\text{FeCl}_3/\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  (cholesterol) [22] and by the procedure of Bartlett (phospholipid) [23], was 57.8% ( $1.156 \pm 0.070$ ;  $n = 9$ ) of that measured by microsomes which contained abundant plasma membrane vesicles (2000,  $n = 2$ ). The functions and characteristics of ATP-dependent  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  uptake by vesicles obtained here were distinguishable from those by plasmalemma because of their requirement for oxalate and insensitivity to saponin [13]. The  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ionophore A23187 plus EGTA, but not EGTA alone, led to a rapid release of  $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$  accumulated in vesicles, indicating that the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  sequestered by ATP exists in internal store(s) and is not bound to their exterior. The ATP-dependent  $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$  uptake by smooth-surfaced membrane vesicles from a parietal cell [with ATP  $1.27 \pm 0.05$  ( $n = 18$ ), without ATP  $0.05 \pm 0.02$  ( $n = 18$ ) fmol/cell per 20 min, respectively] was very similar to that taken up by a single plasmalemmal permeabilized (with saponin) and mitochondrial poisoned (using antimycin and 2,4-dinitrophenol) parietal cell [with ATP  $1.56 \pm 0.60$  ( $n = 3$ ), without ATP  $0.306$  ( $n = 2$ ) fmol/cell per 20 min, respectively; see fig.2D]. Therefore, it seems that the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  mobilization in permeable cells may reflect that in non-mitochondrial location(s) such as smooth-surfaced

membranes. As shown in fig.2D, there was rapid uptake of  $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$  by permeable cells following addition of ATP, reaching a steady state at 20 min. At 20 min,  $\text{IP}_3$  was added, leading to a 53% loss of cellular  $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$  content over a 1 min period [from  $1.56 \pm 0.60$  to  $0.65 \pm 0.04$  ( $n = 3$ ) fmol/cell per min]. The  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  release promoted by  $\text{IP}_3$  was

Table 1

Concentration of Na, Mg, P, S, Cl, K and Ca in the apical cytoplasm of isolated parietal cells measured by electron probe X-ray microanalysis

	Apical cytoplasm	
	Resting state (A)	Stimulated state (B)
Na	34 $\pm$ 4	49 $\pm$ 8 <sup>a</sup>
Mg	17 $\pm$ 2	29 $\pm$ 4
P	83 $\pm$ 13	96 $\pm$ 7
S	10 $\pm$ 6	27 $\pm$ 6
Cl	24 $\pm$ 6	86 $\pm$ 17 <sup>a</sup>
K	107 $\pm$ 12	55 $\pm$ 11 <sup>a</sup>
Ca	1.0 $\pm$ 0.3	5.2 $\pm$ 1.6 <sup>a</sup>
n	(10)	(6)

Values are means  $\pm$  SD (mmol/kg wet wt). Dry mass fraction of the apical cytoplasm was 25%. B: gastrin ( $10^{-8}$  M)-stimulated apical cytoplasm. Significant difference was calculated from each corresponding resting value (<sup>a</sup>  $P < 0.05$ ) using the unpaired *t*-test

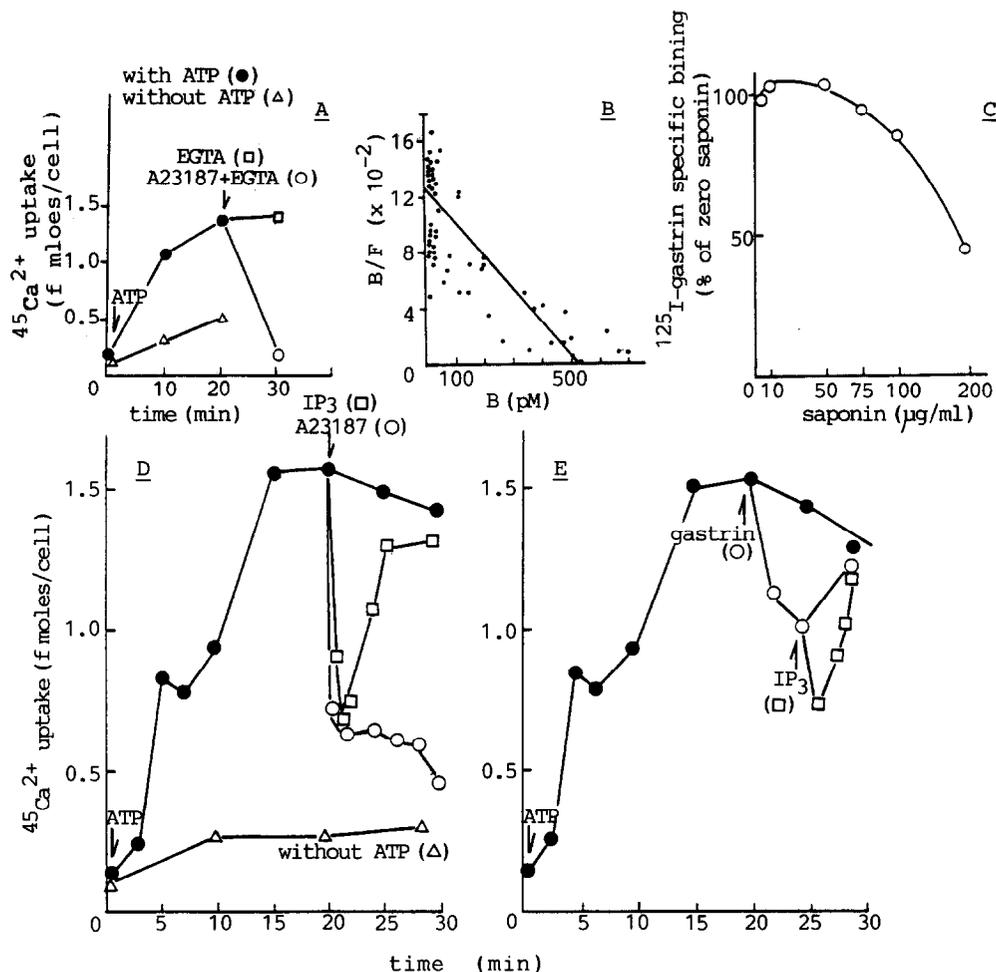


Fig.2.  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  mobilization brought about by  $\text{IP}_3$  and gastrin in the parietal cell. Time course of ATP-dependent  $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$  uptake into smooth-surfaced membrane-enriched vesicles (A). Scatchard representation (B). Effects of saponin on  $^{125}\text{I}$ -gastrin binding to cells (C).  $^{125}\text{I}$ -gastrin binding is expressed as the specific binding at 15 min. 100% corresponds to  $^{125}\text{I}$ -gastrin-specific binding in the absence of saponin.  $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$  released by  $\text{IP}_3$  and gastrin, accumulated by ATP in saponin-permeabilized cells (D,E). Concentrations of reagents: 1.5 mM ATP, 5  $\mu\text{M}$   $\text{IP}_3$ , 5  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  A23187, 10 nM gastrin. Each datum is a representation from 4 separate experiments.

transient, since a rapid reuptake of  $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$  during the 14 min period after  $\text{IP}_3$  stimulation was manifested. A23187 caused the release of  $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$  by 5 min after stimulation [to  $0.62 \pm 0.04$  ( $n = 12$ ) fmol/cell per 5 min] without promoting  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  reuptake. As shown in fig.2B, there exists a gastrin receptor in the parietal cell for which the  $K_d$  (dissociation constant) amounts to  $4.098 \times 10^{-9}$  M, the number of binding sites being 79000 from a single cell [bound( $B$ )/free( $F$ ) =  $-0.000244B + 0.128000$  ( $n = 58$ ), correlation coefficient for the relation ( $r$ ) = 0.755 ( $p < 0.001$ ).

Since 90% of the  $^{125}\text{I}$ -gastrin could bind to 75  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  saponin-treated cells ( $10^6$  cells), permeable cells might retain the ability to react to gastrin with  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  release (fig.2C). The protein content of a parietal cell is 7.9 ng [13]. Since saponin permeabilization was accomplished at a concentration of 75  $\mu\text{g}/7$  mg protein per ml in hepatocytes [24] and 50  $\mu\text{g}/4.5$  mg protein per ml in gastric chief cells [14], about 10  $\mu\text{g}$  saponin/mg protein cells per ml appears to be suitable for investigation of cell function in the permeabilized system. When gastrin was added to the incubation medium

20 min after ATP addition, there was a 25% loss of  $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$  followed by reuptake of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  to the pre-stimulation value. When  $\text{IP}_3$  was added after gastrin, there was a further  $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$  release and the sum of the  $^{45}\text{Ca}^{2+}$  released by gastrin plus  $\text{IP}_3$  was almost the same as that released by  $\text{IP}_3$  alone (fig.2E).

### 3.3. $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ mobilization brought about by TPA, OAG and gastrin

Fig.3 shows the  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i$  transient measured by using aequorin. TPA, OAG and gastrin each led to an increase in  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i$  in both the presence and absence of medium  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . The magnitude of the medium  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -independent increase in  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i$  evoked by these ligands was similar to that ob-

served with medium  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , suggesting that the initial peak of the aequorin signal is due to the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  released from the intracellular store(s). However, in the presence of medium  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , the TPA, OAG or gastrin-induced aequorin signal did not return to the pre-resting level and maintained a small elevation of  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i$ . This sustained but small increase in  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i$  might be due to the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entered from the extracellular space, since addition of the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry blocker lanthanum after peak formation immediately decreased the aequorin signal to the pre-resting level, and the medium  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -independent but transient increase in aequorin signal was followed by a return to the pre-resting level. The  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ionophore ionomycin-induced increase in  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i$  was almost dependent on medium  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ .

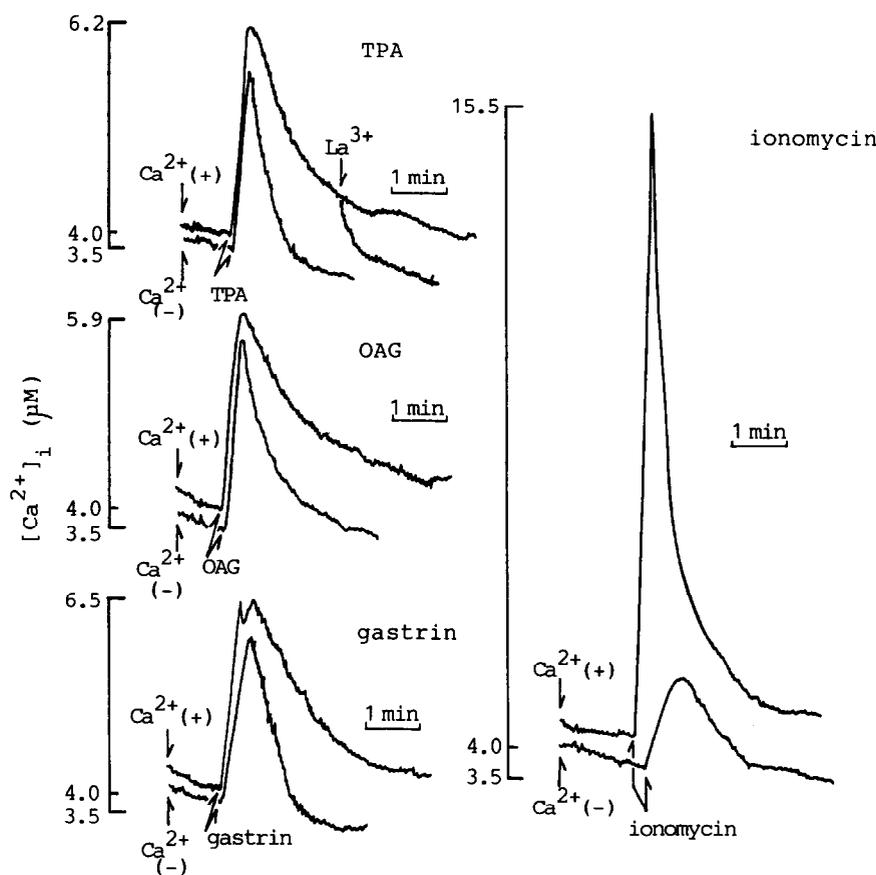


Fig.3. Cytoplasmic free  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  concentration in response to gastrin (10 nM), TPA (100 nM), OAG (100  $\mu\text{M}$ ) or ionomycin (1  $\mu\text{M}$ ) as measured with aequorin.  $\text{La}^{3+}$ , lanthanum chloride at 100  $\mu\text{M}$ . Measurements with  $\text{La}^{3+}$  required depletion of  $\text{PO}_4^{2-}$  from the medium to prevent  $\text{La}^{3+}$  precipitation. Medium  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (+) or (-) was 1 mM  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and 1 mM  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  plus 2 mM EGTA in Mops-Tyrode's solution, respectively. The trace is representative of at least 4 similar experiments.

In the presence of medium  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , ionomycin caused a brisk rise to a peak and the following sharp decay of the aequorin signal, reflecting a system in which  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  rapidly enters the cytosol, providing a rapid but high peak of level and diffusing throughout the cytosol without mediating ATP-promoted  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  removal. This might be identical with the fact that the ionomycin-induced increase in  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i$  measured by fura-2 was maintained without a return to the resting level (see fig.4), since the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  gradient has dissipated throughout the cytoplasm [13].

To determine whether gastrin, TPA and OAG share common  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  pathway(s), parietal cells were prestimulated with TPA (or OAG) and gastrin added after  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i$  had attained a value close to the steady-state level (table 2). Pre-stimulation of parietal cells with TPA (or OAG) substantially

reduced the response to gastrin, and vice versa, suggesting that TPA and OAG act on the same  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  pathway(s) as gastrin. This effect was not due to the consumption of aequorin in response to the initial stimulation, since the addition of ionomycin was still capable of eliciting an increase in  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i$  following prestimulation that was equal to the response to ionomycin without prestimulation.

The  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i$  response to gastrin monitored with fura-2 also demonstrated stimulation of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  mobilization from intracellular store(s) (fig.4). This increase in  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i$  in response to gastrin (by fura-2) was lower relative to that observed with aequorin measurement [with medium  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , from  $205.96 \pm 15.37$  to  $251.98 \pm 37.72$  nM ( $n = 5$ ); without medium  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $186.04 \pm 23.40$  to  $226.55 \pm 8.55$  nM ( $n = 4$ )]. TPA and OAG did not produce any  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i$  changes at least as estimated from

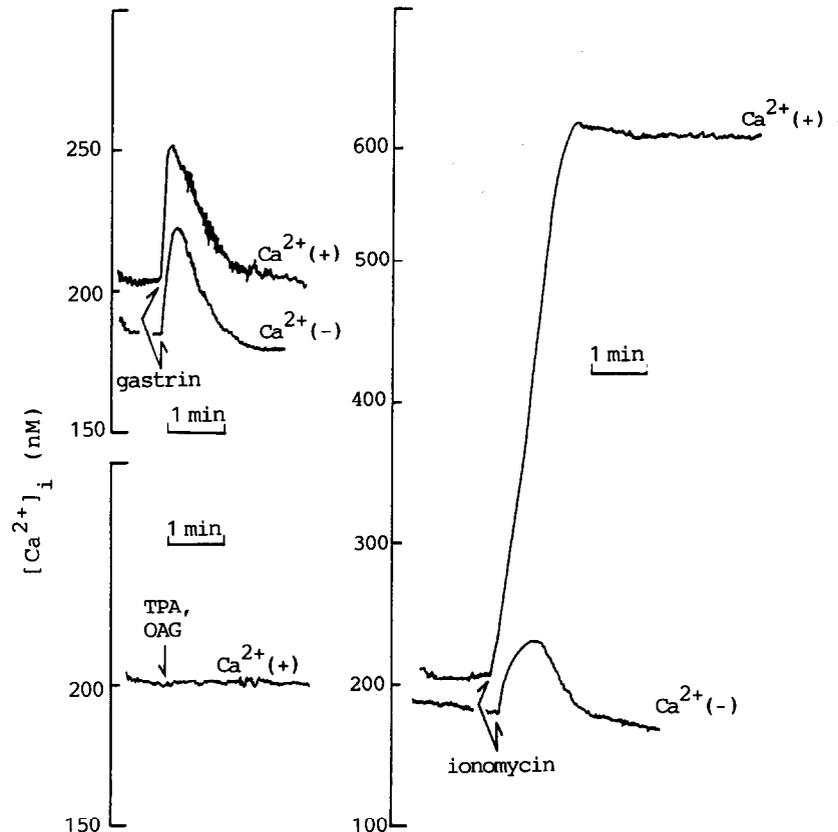


Fig.4. Cytoplasmic free  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  concentration in response to gastrin (10 nM), TPA (100 nM), OAG (100  $\mu\text{M}$ ) or ionomycin (1  $\mu\text{M}$ ) as measured by fura-2. Medium  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (+) or (-) was 1 mM  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and 0 mM  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  plus 1 mM EGTA in Mops-Tyrode's solution, respectively.  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i$  was calculated using the formula in [30]. The trace is representative of at least 4 similar experiments.

Table 2

Secretagogue-induced  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$  change after prestimulation of aequorin-containing parietal cells with each ligand

Ligands	$\Delta[Ca^{2+}]_i$ increase ( $\mu M$ ) (stimulated cells minus resting cells)			
	Control (each ligand)	After TPA	After OAG	After gastrin
TPA	2.20	0	0	0
OAG	1.90	0	0	0.18
Gastrin	2.50	0	0.25	0
Ionomycin	11.50	11.31	12.89	12.00

Concentrations of reagents: TPA, 100 nM; OAG, 100  $\mu M$ ; gastrin, 10 nM; ionomycin, 1  $\mu M$ . Medium  $Ca^{2+}$  was 1.0 mM. Stimulation by each ligand was carried out after 1 min when the cells were firstly stimulated by either TPA, OAG or gastrin.

Data represent means from 2 separate experiments

determinations with fura-2. The result suggests that fura-2 and aequorin provide information about different aspects of  $Ca^{2+}$  homeostasis during TPA (and/or OAG) stimulation. In the presence of medium  $Ca^{2+}$  ionomycin caused a large increase in  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$  without decay of the fura-2 signal after peak formation [from  $205.96 \pm 15.37$  to  $634.67$  nM ( $n = 2$ )].

#### 4. DISCUSSION

Since in the gastric parietal cell an ATP-dependent and  $IP_3$ -sensitive  $Ca^{2+}$  pool connected with microfilaments is in the apical portion and gastrin induces intracellular  $Ca^{2+}$  release from the store(s) through the cytoskeletal-regulated system [3,4,12], it seems likely that the gastrin-elicited  $Ca^{2+}$  release from the store(s) is mediated by  $IP_3$ . This was further justified by the fact that the sum of the  $Ca^{2+}$  released from the store(s) by gastrin and  $IP_3$  was constant in saponin-permeabilized cells. The constant but non-additive effect on  $Ca^{2+}$  release from the store(s) induced by the combination with gastrin and  $IP_3$  implies that gastrin-induced  $Ca^{2+}$  release occurs at the  $IP_3$ -sensitive  $Ca^{2+}$  pool, since if the  $Ca^{2+}$  release elicited by gastrin and that mediated by  $IP_3$  occur via different pathways, a further amount of  $Ca^{2+}$  release should be observed. Parietal cells containing aequorin showed high rates of utilization corresponding to 3–4.5  $\mu M$  (assuming intracellular  $[Mg^{2+}]$

to be 1 mM) as compared to an estimate of 0.2  $\mu M$  using fura-2. The reason for this high value is not clear and the precise location of aequorin in parietal cells introduced by means of the dimethyl sulfoxide technique is uncertain. However, it seems unlikely that the high  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$  is due to increased permeability in light of the fact that in the absence of medium  $Ca^{2+}$ , the resting  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$  indicated by aequorin luminescence is of the order of micromolar and that a transient increase in  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$  is detectable upon stimulation of these parietal cells with gastrin, TPA or OAG. This in turn suggests the possibility that there are  $Ca^{2+}$  gradients in the cytoplasm with inhomogeneity in  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$ . The diacylglycerols, therefore, induce  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$  changes that can only be detected with aequorin and are too localized to be detected with fura-2. A similar phenomenon was observed in aequorin-containing platelets introduced by EGTA at low temperature [19,25]. The elevation of localized  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$  brought about by TPA or OAG follows a similar pathway(s) of  $Ca^{2+}$  mobilization to that of gastrin, via intracellular  $Ca^{2+}$  release from the store(s) and the subsequent late, sustained and more localized elevation of  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$  due to the  $Ca^{2+}$  entered from the extracellular space, since prestimulation of cells with TPA or OAG prevented the increase in the gastrin-elicited aequorin signal and vice versa.

The small increase in  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$  in response to gastrin monitored with fura-2 is likely to be due to  $IP_3$ -mediated  $Ca^{2+}$  release from the store(s) independently of that induced by TPA (or OAG).

The  $Ca^{2+}$  shifts caused by gastrin and the involvements of  $IP_3$  and protein kinase C in producing those shifts may contribute to production of the gastrin-induced biphasic acid secretion that comprises two components: an initial acid secretion that is independent of and a sustained response that does depend on medium  $Ca^{2+}$  [12]. Furthermore, X-ray spectra indicate that the gastrin-mediated and possibly  $IP_3$ -sensitive  $Ca^{2+}$  pool is in or near the apical portion of the gastric parietal cell, since a 5-fold increase could be detected in  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$  in the restricted apical cytoplasm in individual cells during gastrin stimulation.

The source of the TPA (or OAG)-sensitive and aequorin-detectable  $Ca^{2+}$  changes has not yet been established, however, the prolonged but more localized elevation of  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$  brought about by

TPA (or OAG) or gastrin is mediated by the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry from the extracellular space. It seems that the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  which entered from the extracellular space during a late phase plays an essential role in causing and maintaining sustained acid secretion [12]. The transient aequorin signal may reflect the rapid  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  removal brought about by TPA (or OAG), since it enhances  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  efflux in other types of cell [27]. This signal could result from the action of protein kinase C rather than being required for its activation. Our X-ray spectra showed that gastrin led to an increase in concentration of cytoplasmic  $\text{Na}^+$  simultaneously with increasing  $\text{Cl}^-$  and decreasing  $\text{K}^+$  in the cytoplasm, suggesting the possibility that the cytoplasmic pH change, such as that due to  $\text{Na}^+\text{-H}^+$  antiport, is correlated with  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry in a sustained phase, as proposed in [26]. Taken together, the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  cycling in gastric parietal cells appears to proceed along the following steps [3,4,12,13]. (i)  $\text{IP}_3$ -induced  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  release from the store(s), presumably smooth-surfaced membranes in the apical portion(s); (ii)  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  efflux from the cell by a calmodulin-regulated  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  pump or by a  $\text{Na}^+\text{-Ca}^{2+}$  antiporter; (iii) a late, sustained and more localized  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry from the extracellular space and the subsequent  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  efflux from the cell, that may be induced by diacylglycerol; (iv) ATP-dependent  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  re-uptake into the deleted pool(s) by the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entered from the extracellular space. This process may be enhanced by hormone dissociation from the receptor [28,29], leading to termination of the cell response.

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