Revisiting Ankyrin–InsP$_3$ Receptor Interactions: Ankyrin-B Associates With the Cytoplasmic N-Terminus of the InsP$_3$ Receptor

Crystal F. Kline,[1,2] Shane R. Cunha,[1] John S. Lowe,[1,2] Thomas J. Hund,[1] and Peter J. Mohler[1,3]*

[1]Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Cardiology, University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, Iowa City, Iowa 52242
[2]Graduate Program in Molecular Pathology, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, Tennessee 37232
[3]Department of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics, University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, Iowa City, Iowa 52242

Abstract   Inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate (InsP$_3$) receptors are calcium-release channels found in the endoplasmic/sarcoplasmic reticulum (ER/SR) membrane of diverse cell types. InsP$_3$ receptors release Ca^{2+} from ER/SR lumenal stores in response to InsP$_3$ generated from various stimuli. The complex spatial and temporal patterns of InsP$_3$ receptor-mediated Ca^{2+} release regulate many cellular processes, ranging from gene transcription to memory. Ankyrins are adaptor proteins implicated in the targeting of ion channels and transporters to specialized membrane domains. Multiple independent studies have documented in vitro and in vivo interactions between ankyrin polypeptides and the InsP$_3$ receptor. Moreover, loss of ankyrin-B leads to loss of InsP$_3$ receptor membrane expression and stability in cardiomyocytes. Despite extensive biochemical and functional data, the validity of in vivo ankyrin–InsP$_3$ receptor interactions remains controversial. This controversy is based on inconsistencies between a previously identified ankyrin-binding region on the InsP$_3$ receptor and InsP$_3$ receptor topology data that demonstrate the inaccessibility of this lumenal binding site on the InsP$_3$ receptor to cytosolic ankyrin polypeptides. Here we use two methods to revisit the requirements on InsP$_3$ receptor for ankyrin binding. We demonstrate that ankyrin-B interacts with the cytoplasmic N-terminal domain of InsP$_3$ receptor. In summary, our findings demonstrate that the ankyrin-binding site is located on the cytoplasmic face of the InsP$_3$ receptor, thus validating the feasibility of in vivo ankyrin–InsP$_3$ receptor interactions. J. Cell. Biochem. 104: 1244–1253, 2008.   © 2008 Wiley-Liss, Inc.

Key words: trafficking; ankyrin; calcium; cytoskeleton; transport; InsP$_3$ receptor

Calcium release from intracellular endoplasmic/sarcoplasmic reticulum (ER/SR) stores is activated by inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate (InsP$_3$), a second messenger produced via the hydrolysis of phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate (PIP$_2$).

Binding of InsP$_3$ to membrane-associated InsP$_3$ receptors increases InsP$_3$ receptor calcium sensitivity and, in a biphasic manner, induces a stimulatory effect at low calcium concentrations and an inhibitory effect at higher calcium concentrations [Taylor and Laude, 2002]. InsP$_3$ receptor-induced release of calcium from intracellular stores provides positive feedback whereby calcium amplifies its own release. This dynamic interplay allows complex spatial and temporal patterns of intracellular calcium signaling that are necessary for unique cellular functions.

The functional InsP$_3$ receptor complex exists as a homo- or hetero-tetramer of 260 kDa InsP$_3$ receptor subunits. Distinct genes encode three InsP$_3$ receptor isoforms in mammals (types I, II, and III), with splice variants identified for each type [Foskett et al., 2007]. Isoform type and

expression levels vary among cell types: cerebellar Purkinje cells express InsP$_3$ receptor type I almost exclusively, while pancreatic acinar cells express types II and III, and many epithelia express all three isoforms [Bush et al., 1994; Nathanson et al., 1994; Wojcikiewicz, 1995].

InsP$_3$ receptors interact with a number of protein partners [recently reviewed by Foskett et al., 2007]. In 1993, two independent groups identified an interaction between the InsP$_3$ receptor and the adaptor protein ankyrin [Bourguignon et al., 1993a; Joseph and Samanta, 1993]. Specifically, Joseph and Samanta [1993] demonstrated that the InsP$_3$ receptor co-immunoprecipitated with ankyrin-R from brain. Moreover, Bourguignon and Jin [1995] showed that ankyrin-R and InsP$_3$ receptor co-purified from murine T-lymphoma cells, interacted directly with high affinity, and that ankyrin-R inhibited InsP$_3$-binding and InsP$_3$-dependent radiolabeled calcium flux [Bourguignon et al., 1993a,b]. Over the past 15 years, a number of groups have replicated ankyrin–InsP$_3$ receptor interactions using purified proteins, co-immunoprecipitation assays, ^{3}H-InsP$_3$ binding experiments, and pulse-chase biosynthesis experiments [Feng and Kraus-Friedmann, 1993; Tuvia et al., 1999; Hayashi et al., 2000; Hayashi and Su, 2001; Mohler et al., 2003, 2004a,b, 2005; Liu et al., 2007]. Additional evidence for the relevance of the ankyrin–InsP$_3$ receptor interaction comes from mouse models with reduced ankyrin-B expression that display significant defects in InsP$_3$ receptor expression, subcellular localization, and decreased InsP$_3$ receptor post-translational stability [Mohler et al., 2004a].

Despite overwhelming evidence supporting the ankyrin–InsP$_3$ receptor interaction, questions remain as to the validity of this interaction in vivo. In 1995, an 11-residue motif in the InsP$_3$ receptor (GGVGDVLRKPS corresponding to residues 2,548–2,558 on rat InsP$_3$ receptor I, Fig. 1A-B) was proposed to be the binding site for ankyrin based on its similarity to the ankyrin-binding site on CD44 [Bourguignon and Jin, 1995]. Furthermore, a peptide corresponding to this sequence competed ankyrin–InsP$_3$ receptor interactions and blocked ankyrin-induced inhibitory effects on InsP$_3$ binding and InsP$_3$-dependent calcium release events [Bourguignon and Jin, 1995]. The ankyrin binding site was predicted to reside in the cytosol, allowing for the in vivo interaction of InsP$_3$ receptor and cytosolic ankyrin [Bourguignon and Jin, 1995]. Subsequent studies that resolved InsP$_3$ receptor topology placed the residues 2,548–2,558 on the lumenal side of the InsP$_3$ receptor, which would effectively prohibit in vivo interactions between ankyrin and the receptor. To date, both ankyrin and InsP$_3$ receptor fields remain unclear regarding the feasibility of in vivo ankyrin–InsP$_3$ receptor interactions despite compelling biochemical and animal findings [see comments in Patel et al., 1999; Roderick and Bootman, 2003; Patterson et al., 2004; Vermassen et al., 2004; Mohler et al., 2004a; Foskett et al., 2007].
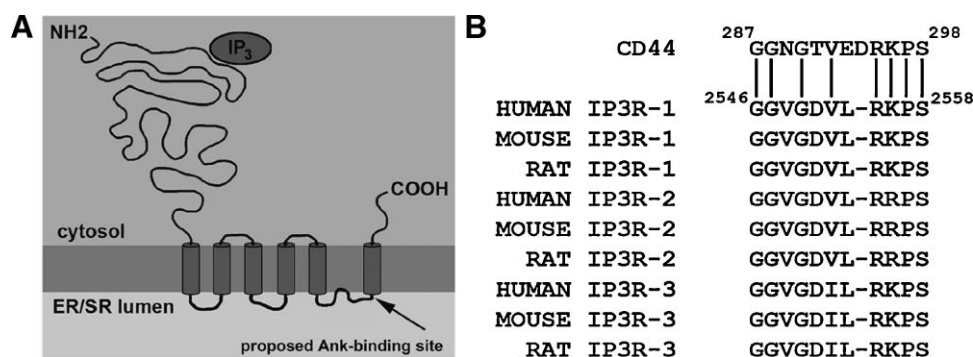

Fig. 1. Domain organization of InsP$_3$ receptor and InsP$_3$ receptor intermolecular interactions. **A:** Domain organization of the InsP$_3$ receptor monomer, depicting membrane topology and cytoplasmic and lumenal protein orientation. Inositol 1,4, 5-trisphosphate (InsP$_3$; oval) activates Ca^{2+} release via binding to an N-terminal region. Arrow denotes location of previously proposed ankyrin-binding motif in C-terminal domain of InsP$_3$ receptor (see B). Note that these residues (rat 2,546–2,558) are located in the ER/SR lumen, inconsistent with an interaction with cytosolic ankyrin. **B:** Ankyrin-binding site in InsP$_3$ receptor identified by sequence similarity with CD44 ankyrin-binding motif. Minimal ankyrin-binding residues on CD44 [Bourguignon and Jin, 1995]. Amino acid sequences below CD44 denote sequence homology of residues in InsP$_3$ receptor C-terminus to the CD44 sequence.

Here, we use two approaches to revisit the structural requirements for ankyrin-binding on the InsP$_3$ receptor. Using yeast two-hybrid and in vitro binding experiments, we map the ankyrin-binding region on the InsP$_3$ receptor type I to residues 955–991. Based on the membrane topology of the InsP$_3$ receptor, these data demonstrate that the ankyrin-binding region is located on the cytoplasmic face of the receptor, validating the feasibility of the in vivo ankyrin–InsP$_3$ receptor interactions.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

InsP$_3$ Receptor/Ankyrin-B Constructs

InsP$_3$ receptor constructs were engineered into pACT2 (Clontech) for yeast two-hybrid assays using standard molecular techniques and full-length rat InsP$_3$ receptor type I as template. InsP$_3$ receptor constructs were also engineered into pcDNA3.1(+) for in vitro translation experiments. Positive clones were analyzed by restriction digestion and subsequently sequenced. For in vitro translation constructs, an additional initiator methionine was introduced at the beginning of the coding sequence of each InsP$_3$ receptor mutant. The membrane-binding domain (plus residues of the spectrin-binding domain) of human 220 kDa ankyrin-B (residues 1–958) was inserted into pGEX-6P1 for expression as a GST-fusion protein. Protein was expressed in BL21(DE3)pLysS cells and purified using glutathione-sepharose.

Protein Expression

In vitro transcription-translation. InsP$_3$ receptor constructs were transcribed and translated using the TNT Coupled Reticulocyte Lysate System (Promega) with 20 μCi of Redivue L-[^{35}S] methionine (GE Healthcare) and 0.75 μg of plasmid DNA.

Full-length InsP$_3$ receptor production. Baculovirus was used to generate full-length InsP$_3$ receptor and a mutant InsP$_3$ receptor lacking amino acids 924–991. Briefly, full-length wild-type or mutant cDNAs (generated from WT InsP$_3$ receptor using standard molecular techniques) were co-expressed in a standard transfer vector (Clontech) with Bsu36I-digested BacPAK6 viral DNA into *Spondoptera frugiperda* cells (Sf21 cells, Clontech) using the BacPAK Baculovirus Expression System (Clontech). Sf21 cells were then infected as

described [Mohler et al., 2005]. Recombinant full-length InsP$_3$ receptor was solubilized from cell membranes as described [Mohler et al., 2005]. Full-length protein expression was confirmed by SDS–PAGE and immunoblot on cell lysates using an affinity-purified InsP$_3$ receptor Ig generated against the distal C-terminus of the receptor[Mohler et al., 2004a]. For binding experiments, equal quantities of cell lysate were added to binding reactions.

In Vitro Binding

GST-ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain was expressed in BL21(DE3)pLysS bacteria, purified using glutathione sepharose (GE Healthcare), and eluted with glutathione. Twenty micrograms of purified GST or GST-ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain were coupled to glutathione sepharose for 2 h at 4°C in binding buffer (50 mM Tris pH 7.4, 1 mM EDTA, 1 mM EGTA, 150 mM NaCl, 0.1% Triton X-100). Following extensive washes in Buffer A (50 mM Tris pH 7.4, 1 mM EDTA, 1 mM EGTA, 500 mM NaCl, 1% Triton X-100), conjugated beads were incubated with InsP$_3$ receptor in vitro translation products representing rat InsP$_3$ receptor amino acids 924–1,582, 924–1,550, 924–1,517, 924–1,454, 924–1,398, 924–1,352, 924–1,297, 924–1,226, 924–1,164, 924–1,125, 924–991, 785–954, 955–1,143, and 2,403–2,575, or full-length InsP3 receptor products generated by baculoviral expression for 4 h at 4°C in binding buffer plus protease inhibitor cocktail (Sigma). Following incubations, binding reactions were extensively washed in Buffer A, eluted, and analyzed by SDS–PAGE. Radiolabeled proteins were detected by phosphorimaging. Full-length InsP$_3$ receptor products were detected by immunoblot using affinity-purified InsP$_3$ receptor Ig.

Yeast Two-Hybrid

Following one round of AH109 transformation to ensure that none of the plasmids induced autoactivation, 0.05 μg of pACT2 DNA carrying the InsP$_3$ receptor insert and 0.05 μg of pAS2-1 DNA carrying ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain were co-transformed into AH109 yeast (in the presence of herring sperm DNA) using a standard lithium acetate protocol and cultured at 30°C on YPD media lacking leucine (−L), lacking tryptophan (−T), and lacking both leucine and tryptophan (−LT). Double transformants (identified as colonies capable of growth

on media lacking both leucine and tryptophan (−LT)), were further selected on media lacking adenine, histidine, leucine, and tryptophan (−AHLT). The positive control was a co-transformation of 0.05 μg of TD1-1 and 0.05 μg of pVA3 and the negative control was a co-transformation of TD1-1 and pLAM5. Transformants exhibiting growth on −AHLT media following 3−5 days of 30°C incubation were considered positive interactions.

RESULTS

Ankyrin-B Interacts With the InsP$_3$ Receptor Cytoplasmic N-Terminal Domain

We used the yeast two-hybrid system to revisit the structural requirements on the InsP$_3$ receptor for ankyrin-binding. We previously demonstrated ankyrin-B associates with the InsP$_3$ receptor via its membrane-binding domain [Mohler et al., 2004a]. We expressed the ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain fused to GAL4 DNA-binding domain (yeast two-hybrid "bait"). InsP$_3$ receptor constructs generated from rat InsP$_3$ receptor I [identical cDNA used as in Bourguignon and Jin, 1995] were fused to GAL4 activation domain (yeast two-hybrid "prey"). InsP$_3$ receptor constructs were designed based on prior limited trypsin proteolysis mapping [Yoshikawa et al., 1999] to preserve the major folding domains of the InsP$_3$ receptor in our binding assays (Fig. 2). Due to the large size of the InsP$_3$ receptor cytoplasmic N-terminus, this region was subdivided into seven fragments (see Fig. 2B).

We detected no interaction between ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain and an InsP$_3$ receptor fusion protein containing the proposed ankyrin binding site at residues 2,548−2,558 [InsP$_3$ receptor construct 2,543−2,750; see Fig. 2B−D; Bourguignon and Jin, 1995]. Instead ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain interacted with an InsP$_3$ receptor fusion protein containing residues 924−1,582 (Fig. 2B−D, note significant growth on −AHLT plate in 2C). No interactions were detected between ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain and InsP$_3$ receptor fusion proteins using InsP$_3$ receptor 1−346, 1−923, 347−923, 1,581−1,931, 1,581−2,210, and 1,932−2,210, even though all constructs were expressed in yeast (note −LT plates in Fig. 2C). These data demonstrate that a large N-terminal region of rat InsP$_3$ receptor I contains the ankyrin-B binding motif.

Moreover, these data demonstrate that the ankyrin-binding region resides on the cytoplasmic face of the InsP$_3$ receptor.

Defining the Minimal Binding Region on InsP$_3$ Receptor for Ankyrin-B

Our initial binding assays identified a domain within the N-terminal region of the InsP$_3$ receptor (residues 924−1,582) that is required for ankyrin-binding (see Fig. 2). However, due to the large size of the InsP$_3$ receptor N-terminus, we were interested in further narrowing the ankyrin-binding region. We used standard molecular biology techniques to create additional InsP$_3$ receptor prey plasmids based on residues 924−1,582 (Fig. 3). Ten additional mutants were engineered and screened for interaction in yeast against the ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain (Fig. 3). As shown in Figure 4A, all 10 InsP$_3$ receptor truncated constructs bound to the ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain. Even the smallest construct, corresponding to InsP$_3$ receptor I residues 924−991, displayed significant ankyrin-binding activity (Fig. 4A).

We performed yeast two-hybrid analyses with an additional InsP$_3$ receptor construct that lacked residues 924−977 (Fig. 3, construct 978−1,582) to determine whether these residues were necessary for the ankyrin-B−InsP$_3$ receptor interaction. While we observed co-expression of InsP$_3$ receptor construct 978−1,582 with ankyrin-B in AH109 cells (see −LT plate, Fig. 4B), we were unable to detect binding of this GAL4-fusion protein with the ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain (note −AHLT plate, Fig. 4B). Our combined data demonstrate that InsP$_3$ receptor residues within 924−991 are necessary, and sufficient, for interaction with ankyrin-B in the context of yeast.

We used in vitro binding assays to confirm the yeast two-hybrid mapping data. Briefly, InsP$_3$ receptor truncation constructs were sub-cloned into an expression plasmid containing a T7 promoter for in vitro transcription/translation (in the presence of ^{35}S-methionine). Following the generation of radiolabeled InsP$_3$ receptor products, the reactions were purified and incubated with either GST or GST-ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain (generated and purified from bacteria). Following the binding reaction and extensive washes, bound radiolabeled InsP$_3$ receptor products were eluted and analyzed by SDS−PAGE and phosphorimaging
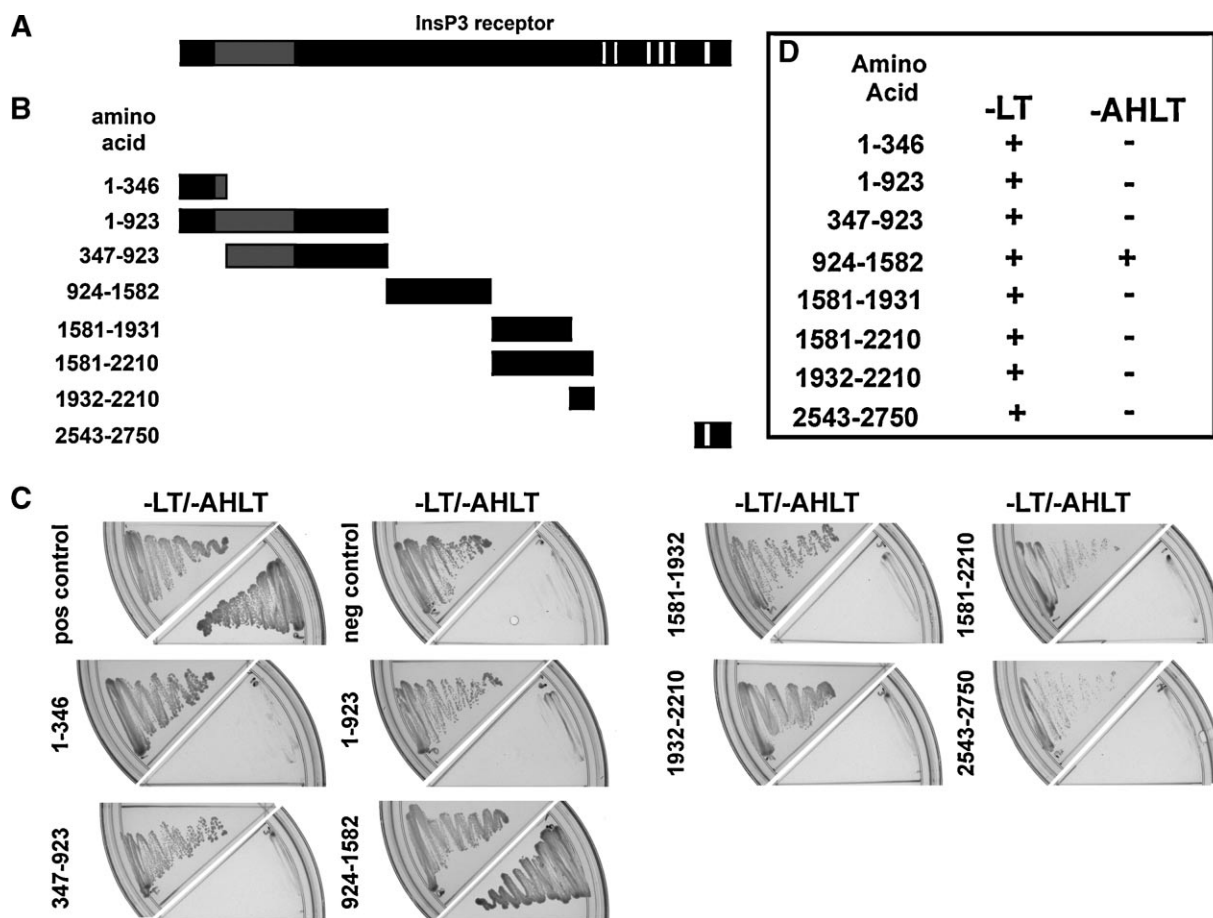
Fig. 2. Identification of requirements on InsP₃ receptor for ankyrin-B association. **A:** Diagram of the InsP₃ receptor monomer [da Fonseca et al., 2003]. Gray box represents InsP₃ binding domain and white boxes represent transmembrane domains. **B:** InsP₃ receptor yeast two-hybrid constructs. Fragments of the cytoplasmic regions of the InsP₃ receptor monomer used in the initial assessment of the structural requirements of InsP₃ receptor for interaction with ankyrin-B. InsP₃ receptor construct 2,543–2,750 contains the previously predicted ankyrin-binding domain [Bourguignon and Jin, 1995]. Constructs were designed based on identified structural folding boundaries defined by limited trypsin digestion [Yoshikawa et al., 1999]. **C:** AH109 yeast were co-transformed with ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain (bait) and a unique InsP₃ receptor construct (prey). Co-expression of bait and prey proteins was confirmed by inoculating onto −LT media. Positive interactions were determined by growth on −AHLT media after 5 days incubation. TD1-1 served as bait for both the positive and negative controls, while pVA3 and pLAM5 were used as prey for the positive and negative controls, respectively. **D:** Summary data for ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain–InsP₃ receptor interactions.

(see Materials and Methods). Consistent with prior experiments performed in yeast, in vitro binding experiments demonstrated binding of all InsP₃ receptor truncation constructs (including InsP₃ receptor 924–991 see Fig. 5A,B) with GST-ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain. We observed no binding of control GST with any InsP₃ receptor product (Fig. 5A,B).

To validate our binding results in the context of a full-length InsP₃ receptor we used baculoviral expression (in Sf21 cells) to generate full-length InsP₃ receptor [Cardy et al., 1997] and an InsP₃ receptor mutant lacking residues 924–991 (InsP₃ receptor Δ924–991, Fig. 5C). Approximately equal amounts of InsP₃ receptor proteins were incubated to immobilized GST or GST-ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain. Following extensive high salt washes, bound protein was eluted and analyzed by SDS–PAGE and immunoblot using affinity-purified InsP₃ receptor Ig. While we observed association of wild-type full-length InsP₃ receptor with ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain, no association was detected between ankyrin and InsP₃ receptor Δ924–991 (Fig. 5C). Together, our binding data clearly demonstrate that InsP₃
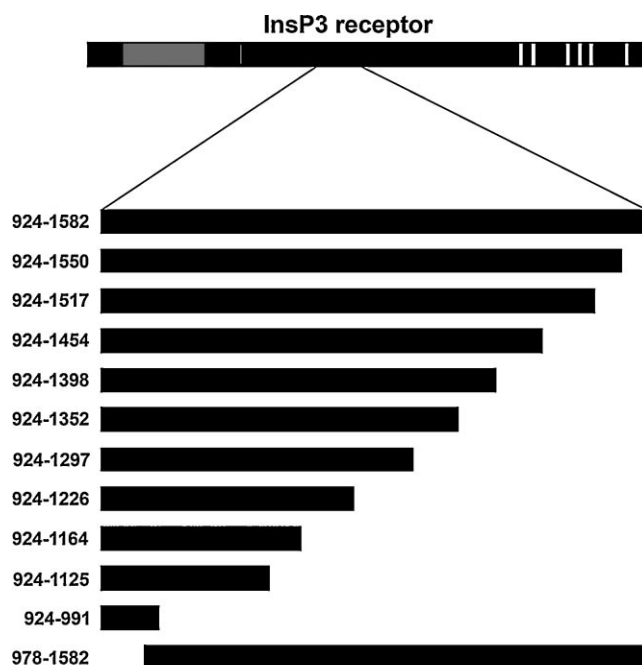
InsP3 receptor

Fig. 3. Identification of minimal requirements on InsP$_3$ receptor for ankyrin-binding. Eleven InsP$_3$ receptor truncation constructs were generated to define the minimal structural requirements on InsP$_3$ receptor for ankyrin-binding. Constructs represent truncations based on rat InsP$_3$ receptor I residues 924–1,582.

receptor residues 924–991 are necessary and sufficient for ankyrin-B–InsP$_3$ receptor interaction.

Finally, to narrow the ankyrin-binding domain on the InsP$_3$ receptor, we performed in vitro binding reactions using GST-ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain and in vitro translation products of each half of the identified ankyrin-binding domain (InsP$_3$ receptor residues 924–991). Specifically, we generated in vitro translation products for InsP$_3$ receptor residues 785–954 (contains InsP$_3$ receptor 924–954) and 955–1,143 (contains InsP$_3$ receptor residues 955–991, Fig. 6A). Larger products were used to incorporate additional methionine residues for in vitro translation as well as increase polypeptide size for SDS–PAGE analysis. InsP$_3$ receptor 955–1,143 associated with ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain (Fig. 6B,C). In contrast, InsP$_3$ receptor residues 785–954 lacked ankyrin-binding activity (Fig. 6B,C). Consistent with our yeast two-hybrid data (Fig. 2), an InsP$_3$ receptor C-terminal construct (2,403–2,575) containing the previously predicted ankyrin-binding motif [Bourguignon and Jin, 1995] also lacked ankyrin-binding activity. Our new data clearly demonstrate that the minimal structural requirements for InsP$_3$ receptor

binding of ankyrin-B (InsP$_3$ receptor residues 955–991) reside in the cytoplasmic N-terminal domain of InsP$_3$ receptor.

DISCUSSION

The current study was designed to evaluate the amino acid requirements on InsP$_3$ receptor for ankyrin-B interaction. Consistent with prior studies, we observed interaction between ankyrin-B and the InsP$_3$ receptor [Feng and Kraus-Friedmann, 1993; Joseph and Samanta, 1993; Bourguignon et al., 1993a, 1993b; Tuvia et al., 1999; Hayashi et al., 2000; Hayashi and Su, 2001; Mohler et al., 2003, 2004a,b, 2005; Liu et al., 2007]. However, our data establish that ankyrin interacts with the cytoplasmic and not the lumenal face of the InsP$_3$ receptor. Specifically, ankyrin-B interacts with the cytoplasmic N-terminal domain of the InsP$_3$ receptor within residues 955–991. The new InsP$_3$ receptor cytosolic ankyrin-binding region is consistent with in vivo ankyrin–InsP$_3$ receptor interactions.

All three major InsP$_3$ receptor isoforms associate with ankyrin-B [Mohler et al., 2004a]. Furthermore, the expression of the three InsP$_3$ receptor isoforms is reduced in
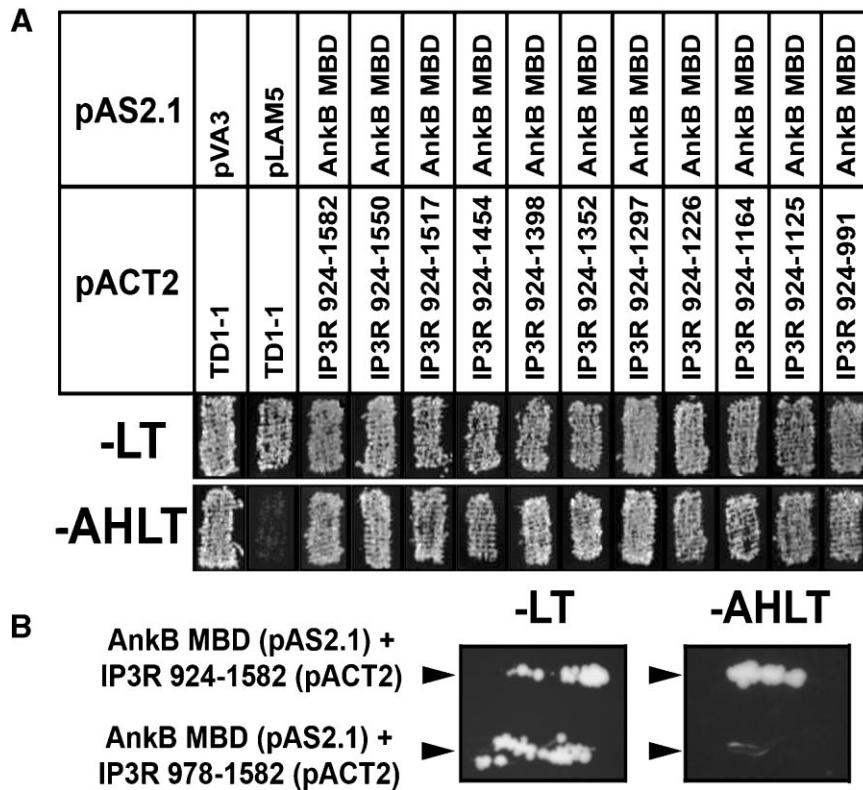
Fig. 4. Defining the minimal ankyrin-binding site on InsP$_3$ receptor N-terminus. A: Ankyrin-B membrane binding domain (bait) and a series of InsP$_3$ receptor constructs (prey, see Fig. 3) were co-transformed into AH109 yeast to identify a minimal region of the InsP$_3$ receptor responsible for interaction with ankyrin-B. Co-transformants were selected on −LT media and analyzed for HIS3 reporter gene activation by evaluating growth on −AHLT after 5 days incubation. Positive interaction is seen with all constructs, with the smallest interacting region of the InsP$_3$ receptor corresponding to amino acids 924–991. Note that this region is located on the cytoplasmic N-terminus of the InsP$_3$ receptor. B: InsP$_3$ receptor lacking residues 978–1,582 fails to interact with ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain in yeast. Positive control for experiments was InsP$_3$ receptor 924–1,582. Positive interaction was assessed after 5 days on −AHLT medium.

tissues derived from ankyrin-B$^{+/−}$ or ankyrin-B$^{−/−}$ (null) mice [Mohler et al., 2004a]. Therefore, the precise binding site on the InsP$_3$ receptor is likely a conserved motif within the receptor subtypes (Fig. 6A). While a previous study proposed that ankyrin directly associated with InsP$_3$ receptor at a site based on limited sequence similarity to an ankyrin-binding region of CD44 [Bourguignon and Jin, 1995], it is now clear that most ankyrin-binding proteins do not display conserved sequence binding motifs [reviewed in Bennett and Baines, 2001]. Instead, ankyrin-binding proteins associate with unstructured and non-conserved protein motifs [reviewed in Bennett and Baines, 2001]. We previously identified a series of positively charged residues on the ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain that are essential for InsP$_3$ receptor binding. Based on these data, we predict that ankyrin-B will likely interact with

a conserved, negatively charged site within the 955–991 region of the InsP$_3$ receptor. Future goals will be to further refine the binding site for ankyrin and to analyze the cellular targeting of an InsP$_3$ receptor that lacks ankyrin-binding. Unfortunately, due to the homo- and hetero-trimeric organization of the InsP$_3$ receptor protein complex, these experiments will unlikely be straightforward. Additionally, using current viral technologies, it is difficult to express full-length InsP$_3$ receptor mutants in primary cells.

Ankyrins likely play multiple roles in normal InsP$_3$ receptor function. Based on work from multiple labs, ankyrin has a central role in the targeting of InsP$_3$ receptor to endoplasmic/sarcoplasmic reticulum membrane domains in both non-excitable and excitable tissues [Feng and Kraus-Friedmann, 1993; Joseph and Samanta, 1993; Bourguignon et al., 1993a,b;
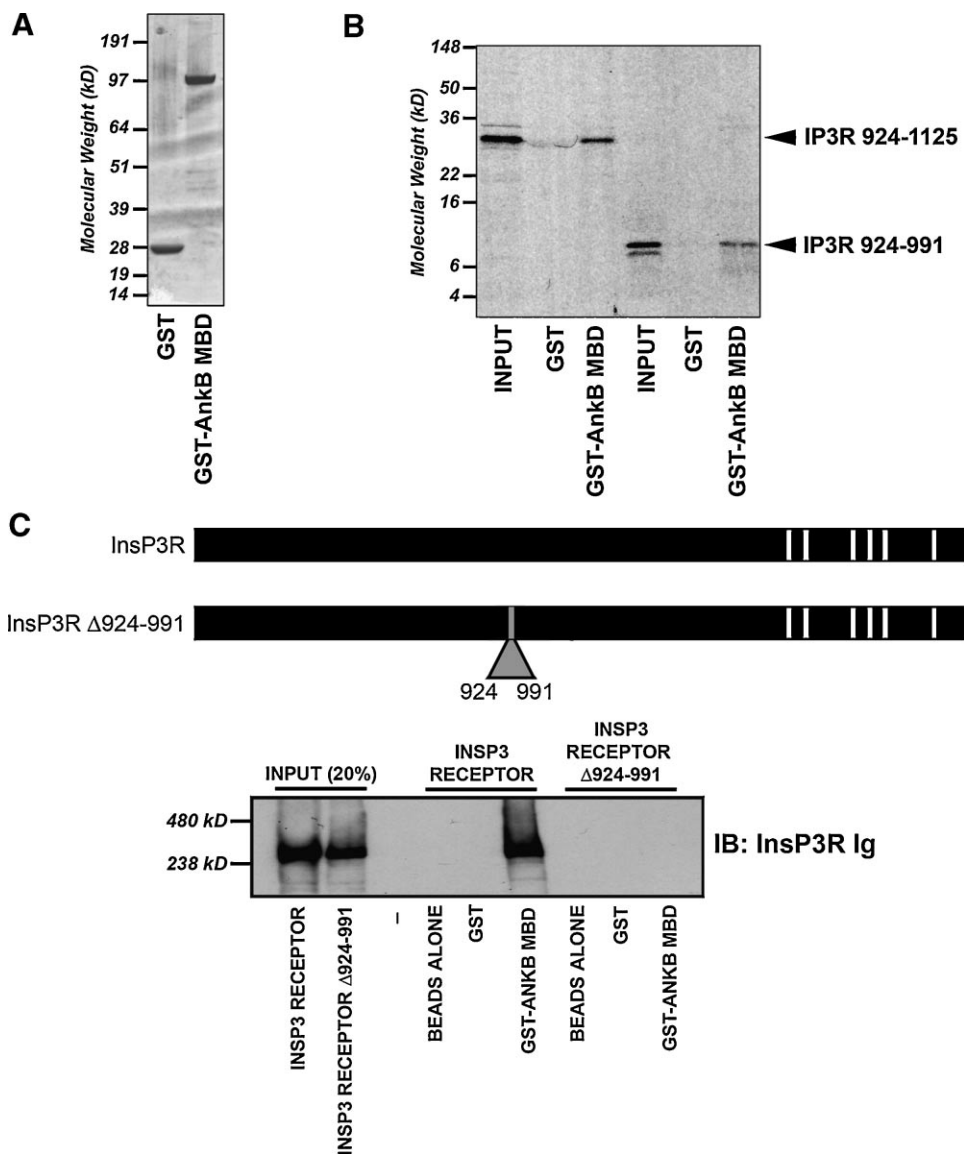
Fig. 5. InsP$_3$ receptor residues 924–991 are required and sufficient for ankyrin-B association. **A:** Coomassie Blue stained gel depicting purified GST and GST-ankyrin-B (10 μg of each protein) membrane-binding domain (InsP$_3$ receptor binding domain on ankyrin-B). **B:** InsP$_3$ receptor residues 924–991 are sufficient to mediate interaction of InsP$_3$ receptor with ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain. Constructs shown in Figure 3 and this figure were inserted into pcDNA3.1(+) and in vitro transcribed/translated in the presence of ^{35}S-methionine. Products were used in binding experiments with purified GST or GST-ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain. Shown are representative experiments from two radiolabeled N-terminal samples including 924–991 and 924–1,125. We observed no binding of InsP$_3$ receptor constructs with GST alone. **C:** Full-length InsP$_3$ receptor Δ924–991 lacks ankyrin-B-binding activity. Full-length InsP$_3$ receptor and InsP$_3$ receptor Δ924–991 were generated using baculovirus (Sf21 cells) and individually incubated with GST-ankyrin-B membrane-binding domain immobilized on gluta-thione sepharose. Bound protein was eluted and analyzed by immunoblot using affinity-purified InsP$_3$ receptor Ig (generated against InsP$_3$ receptor C-terminal domain). Input equals 20%.

Tuvia et al., 1999; Hayashi et al., 2000; Hayashi and Su, 2001; Mohler et al., 2003, 2004a,b, 2005; Singleton and Bourguignon, 2004; Liu et al., 2007]. Moreover, ankyrin isoforms presumably stabilize the receptor in close proximity with effector and regulatory proteins [Lencesova et al., 2004; Mohler et al., 2005; Bhasin et al., 2007; Liu et al., 2007].

In summary, our new data identifies the ankyrin binding region on the endoplasmic/sarcoplasmic reticulum InsP$_3$ receptor. Consistent with an in vivo association of cytosolic
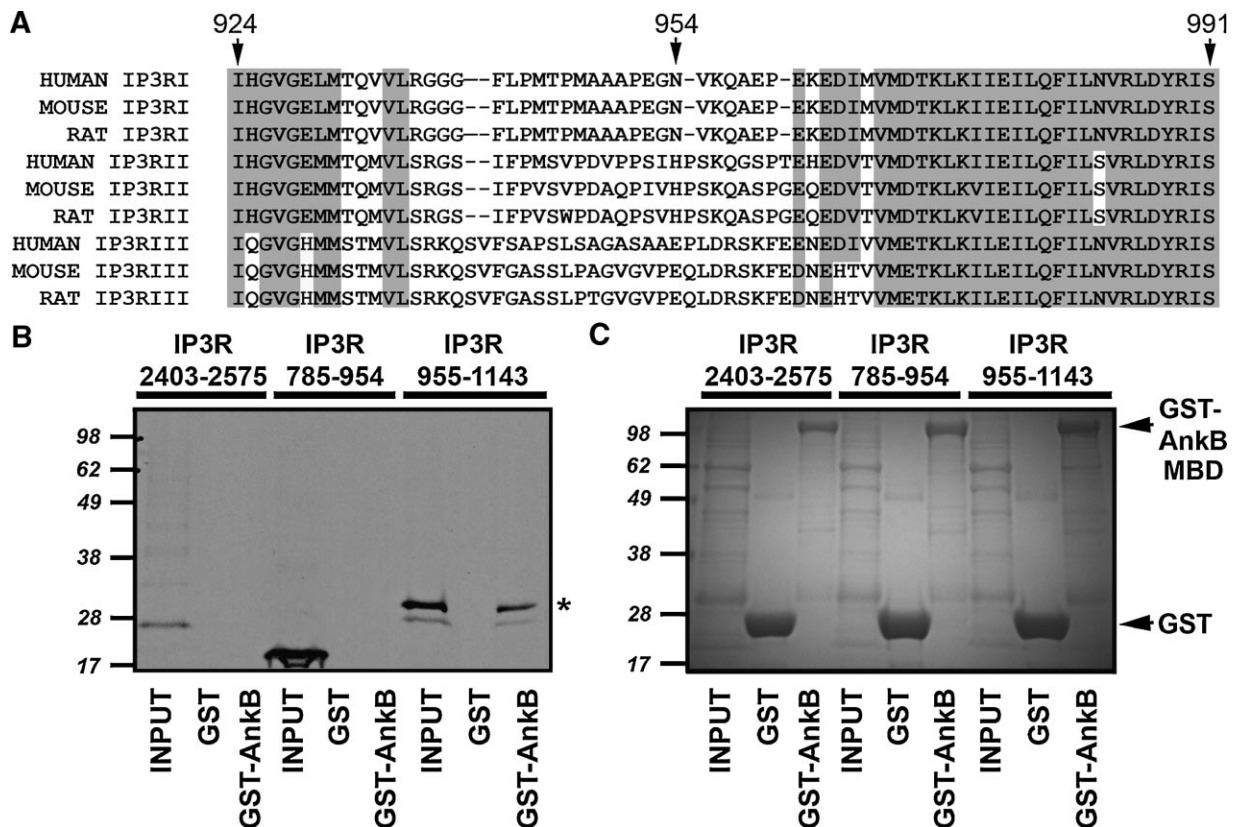
Fig. 6. Ankyrin-B associates with InsP$_3$ receptor residues 955–991. **A**: Alignment of ankyrin-binding domain of InsP$_3$ receptor. Sequences of human, mouse, and rat InsP$_3$ receptor I, II, and III. Note high sequence conservation in N- and C-terminal regions of the domain. Residue numbers are based on rat InsP$_3$ receptor amino acid sequence. **B**: InsP$_3$ receptor ankyrin-binding domain (rat InsP$_3$ receptor residues 924–991) was split into two constructs and in vitro translated in the presence of ^{35}S-methionine.

An InsP$_3$ receptor C-terminal domain construct (residues 2,403–2,575) containing the previously predicted ankyrin-binding domain was also in vitro translated. Radiolabeled proteins were incubated with purified GST or GST-ankyrin-B membrane binding domain (GST-AnkB). Bound proteins were eluted and analyzed by SDS–PAGE and phosphorimaging. **C**: Gel used in binding studies was stained with Coomassie Blue to demonstrate protein purity and equal protein concentrations.

ankyrin and the InsP$_3$ receptor, our data demonstrate that ankyrin-B directly associates with residues 955–991 in the cytoplasmic N-terminal domain of InsP$_3$ receptor.

REFERENCES

Bennett V, Baines AJ. 2001. Spectrin and ankyrin-based pathways: Metazoan inventions for integrating cells into tissues. Physiol Rev 81:1353–1392.

Bhasin N, Cunha SR, Mudannayake M, Gigena MS, Rogers TB, Mohler PJ. 2007. Molecular basis for PP2A regulatory subunit B56{alpha} targeting in cardiomyocytes. Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol 293:H109–H119.

Bourguignon LY, Jin H. 1995. Identification of the ankyrin-binding domain of the mouse T-lymphoma cell inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate (IP3) receptor and its role in the regulation of IP3-mediated internal Ca2+ release. J Biol Chem 270:7257–7260.

Bourguignon LY, Iida N, Jin H. 1993a. The involvement of the cytoskeleton in regulating IP3 receptor-mediated internal Ca2+ release in human blood platelets. Cell Biol Int 17:751–758.

Bourguignon LY, Jin H, Iida N, Brandt NR, Zhang SH. 1993b. The involvement of ankyrin in the regulation of inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate receptor-mediated internal

Ca2+ release from Ca2+ storage vesicles in mouse T-lymphoma cells. J Biol Chem 268:7290–7297.

Bush KT, Stuart RO, Li SH, Moura LA, Sharp AH, Ross CA, Nigam SK. 1994. Epithelial inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate receptors. Multiplicity of localization, solubility, and isoforms. J Biol Chem 269:23694–23699.

Cardy TJ, Traynor D, Taylor CW. 1997. Differential regulation of types-1 and -3 inositol trisphosphate receptors by cytosolic Ca2+. Biochem J 328(Pt 3):785–793.

da Fonseca PC, Morris SA, Nerou EP, Taylor CW, Morris EP. 2003. Domain organization of the type 1 inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate receptor as revealed by single-particle analysis. Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 100:3936–3941.

Feng L, Kraus-Friedmann N. 1993. Association of the hepatic IP3 receptor with the plasma membrane: Relevance to mode of action. Am J Physiol 265:C1588–C1596.

Foskett JK, White C, Cheung KH, Mak DO. 2007. Inositol trisphosphate receptor Ca2+ release channels. Physiol Rev 87:593–658.

Hayashi T, Su TP. 2001. Regulating ankyrin dynamics: Roles of sigma-1 receptors. Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 98:491–496.

Hayashi T, Maurice T, Su TP. 2000. Ca(2+) signaling via sigma(1)-receptors: Novel regulatory mechanism affecting intracellular Ca(2+) concentration. J Pharmacol Exp Ther 293:788–798.

Joseph SK, Samanta S. 1993. Detergent solubility of the inositol trisphosphate receptor in rat brain membranes. Evidence for association of the receptor with ankyrin. J Biol Chem 268:6477–6486.

Lencesova L, O'Neill A, Resneck WG, Bloch RJ, Blaustein MP. 2004. Plasma membrane-cytoskeleton-endoplasmic reticulum complexes in neurons and astrocytes. J Biol Chem 279:2885–2893.

Liu XL, Miyakawa A, Aperia A, Krieger P. 2007. Na,K-ATPase generates calcium oscillations in hippocampal astrocytes. Neuroreport 18:597–600.

Mohler PJ, Schott JJ, Gramolini AO, Dilly KW, Guatimosim S, duBell WH, Song LS, Haurogne K, Kyndt F, Ali ME, Rogers TB, Lederer WJ, Escande D, Le Marec H, Bennett V. 2003. Ankyrin-B mutation causes type 4 long-QT cardiac arrhythmia and sudden cardiac death. Nature 421:634–639.

Mohler PJ, Davis JQ, Davis LH, Hoffman JA, Michaely P, Bennett V. 2004a. Inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate receptor localization and stability in neonatal cardiomyocytes requires interaction with ankyrin-B. J Biol Chem 279:12980–12987.

Mohler PJ, Splawski I, Napolitano C, Bottelli G, Sharpe L, Timothy K, Priori SG, Keating MT, Bennett V. 2004b. A cardiac arrhythmia syndrome caused by loss of ankyrin-B function. Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 101:9137–9142.

Mohler PJ, Davis JQ, Bennett V. 2005. Ankyrin-B coordinates the Na/K ATPase, Na/Ca exchanger, and InsP(3) receptor in a cardiac T-tubule/SR microdomain. PLoS Biol 3:e423.

Nathanson MH, Fallon MB, Padfield PJ, Maranto AR. 1994. Localization of the type 3 inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate receptor in the Ca2+ wave trigger zone of pancreatic acinar cells. J Biol Chem 269:4693–4696.

Patel S, Joseph SK, Thomas AP. 1999. Molecular properties of inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate receptors. Cell Calcium 25:247–264.

Patterson RL, Boehning D, Snyder SH. 2004. Inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate receptors as signal integrators. Annu Rev Biochem 73:437–465.

Roderick HL, Bootman MD. 2003. Bi-directional signalling from the InsP3 receptor: Regulation by calcium and accessory factors. Biochem Soc Trans 31:950–953.

Singleton PA, Bourguignon LY. 2004. CD44 interaction with ankyrin and IP3 receptor in lipid rafts promotes hyaluronan-mediated Ca2+ signaling leading to nitric oxide production and endothelial cell adhesion and proliferation. Exp Cell Res 295:102–118.

Taylor CW, Laude AJ. 2002. IP3 receptors and their regulation by calmodulin and cytosolic Ca2+. Cell Calcium 32:321–334.

Tuvia S, Buhusi M, Davis L, Reedy M, Bennett V. 1999. Ankyrin-B is required for intracellular sorting of structurally diverse Ca2+ homeostasis proteins. J Cell Biol 147:995–1008.

Vermassen E, Parys JB, Mauger JP. 2004. Subcellular distribution of the inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate receptors: Functional relevance and molecular determinants. Biol Cell 96:3–17.

Wojcikiewicz RJ. 1995. Type I, II, and III inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate receptors are unequally susceptible to down-regulation and are expressed in markedly different proportions in different cell types. J Biol Chem 270:11678–11683.

Yoshikawa F, Iwasaki H, Michikawa T, Furuichi T, Mikoshiba K. 1999. Trypsinized cerebellar inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate receptor. Structural and functional coupling of cleaved ligand binding and channel domains. J Biol Chem 274:316–327.