

VDAC Possessions are Partial by the Source of its Purification

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ABSTRACT - The Voltage Dependent Anion-Selective Channel (VDAC), the most copious protein of the outer mitochondrial membrane (OMM), customs the major tube for metabolite transport across this membrane. It has also been exposed to be involved in cell death gesticulating complete interaction with other proteins like Hexokinase and by facilitating release of apoptogenic proteins like cyt c from mitochondria. As in case of other channel proteins, functional classification of purified reconstituted protein by using electrophysiological techniques can be used in development of VDAC targeted drugs. Here we report electrophysiological properties of VDACs that is one of the target for cancerous cells purified from dissimilar sources.

Keyword - VDAC, BLM, Mitochondria, Bacterial appearance, Purification.

I. INTRODUCTION

The Voltage Dependent Anion Channel (VDAC) is the most copious Outer Mitochondrial Membrane (OMM) protein and is the primary route for transference of metabolites from mitochondria to cytosol and vice versa. Newly many studies have recognized that VDAC is an imperative component of many signaling pathways fundamental pathophysiological situations including cancer and neurodegeneration. One hallmark of these pathophysiological circumstances is perturbation of the communications among VDAC and its cellular partners. For example, the Warburg Consequence in cancer features improved VDAC-Hexokinase (HxK) interactions which compare with elevated glycolysis even under normoxic environments. Correspondingly, interaction of VDAC with peripheral benzodiazepine receptor (PBR) has been shown to be imperative for controlling cell death. Apart from its communication with other proteins, overexpression and oligomerization of VDAC has also been shown to be significant for induction of cell death. As a result VDAC has been reception attention as an unexploited drug target in recent years. 3-bromopyruvate, which panels cell death by disorderly VDAC-HxK interaction, is in phase I clinical trials.

VDACs decontaminated from a variety of sources have been categorized using circular dichroism (CD), nuclear compelling resonance (NMR) and electrophysiological techniques like the planar bilayer membrane (BLM). CD spectra begin that all categorized VDACs comprise mostly β sheet with a small helical content. Thus, electrophysiological representation on planar membranes can be used to recognize putative cooperating partners and pharmacological agents. VDAC isoforms from many organisms oscillating from fungi to mammals have been purified. The protein is either cleansed from mitochondria directly or is heterologously articulated in bacteria or yeast. In this study we have compared electrophysiological features of human, rat, yeast and rice VDAC isoform purified from dissimilar sources. We have observed many comparisons along with some significant differences which could be of position for pharmacological characterization of potential VDAC based drugs.

II. MATERIAL AND METHODS

Cloning of hVDAC1: hVDAC1 gene was improved from hVDAC1- pBS by using advancing primer with BamHI site AAAGGGATCCTGGCTGTGCCAC and reverse primer with XhoI site ACCGCTCGAGTGCTTGAAATTCC. The PCR product, which had hVDAC1 cDNA deprived of a stop codon, was cloned into pET21a(+) vector in frame with His-tag, between BamHI and XhoI sites. Clones with hVDAC1-His6x-pET21a (+) were established by sequencing. OsVDAC4-His6x-pET-20b+ construct were industrialized as described earlier in Godbole et al.

Bacterial expression and purification of OsVDAC4 and hVDAC1: OsVDAC4-His6x-pET-20b+ and hVDAC1-His6x-pET21a (+) constructs were malformed into *E. coli* host strain BL21 (DE3)-pLysS and grown in the presence of 100 µg/ml ampicillin and 25 µg/ml chloramphenicol at 37°C with some modifications. Temporarily, expression of hVDAC1-His6x was induced by 1 mM IPTG at 37°C. OsVDAC4 and hVDAC1 protein were purified by the protocol published in Godbole et al, with some modifications. Briefly, expression of hVDAC1-His6x was induced by accumulation of 1 mM IPTG to transformed bacterial culture grown at 37°C to a final A_{600} of 0.4 - 0.5. After 3 hrs, the cells were harvested and lysed using 20 ml of lysis buffer (50 mM TrisHCl pH-8, 2 mM EDTA, 20% sucrose, 12.5 µg/ml lysozyme) tracked by sonication. Inclusion bodies were detached from the cell lysate then solubilised in buffer containing 6 M GnHCl. Protein was purified by means of Cobalt-Mac column (Co-Mac, Novagen USA) in HPLC. Protein fractions were collected in a gradient of 0 mM and 100 mM Imidazole with 4.5 M GnHCl, 100 mM NaCl, 20 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0. Protein concentration was measured by Bradford assay. Protein fractions were concentrated to 6 - 8 mg/ml by centrifugation in Centricon 30 tubes. LDAO was added to a final concentration of 2% and GnHCl removed by dialysis against loading buffer. Proteins were stored at -80°C at a concentration of 1 - 5 mg/ml.

Purification of VDAC from Rat liver mitochondria and from Yeast mitochondria: Both purified mitochondrial pellets were nurtured for 30 min at 4°C in solubilisation buffer (10 mM Tris pH 7, 1 mM HEPES, 0.15 mM PMSF, 2% LDAO, protease cocktail). Solubilized mitochondria were centrifuged at 20000 x g for 10 min at 4°C. Supernatant was loaded on dry packed column of hydroxyapatite/celite (2:1). Flow through and other segments were composed. VDAC was found in flow through. Amount of VDAC in nominated fractions was estimated by Bradford assay (Bangalore Genei, Bangalore). The fractions were concentrated by using Centricon 30 tubes to adjust concentration of VDAC to 1-5 mg/ml. The protein was stored at -80°C.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Purification of VDAC: In this study, as designated in material and methods labelled in material and methods, we have used previously published protocols to purify VDAC isoforms from four diverse organisms namely rat VDAC (rVDAC), yeast VDAC (yVDAC), human VDAC1 (hVDAC1) and rice VDAC4 (OsVDAC4). rVDAC and yVDAC were isolated from mitochondria from rat liver and yeast cells respectively. hVDAC1 and OsVDAC4 were heterologously expressed in *E. coli* BL21 (DE3) and purified from inclusion bodies (Fig 1C, D). While protein could be purified both from mitochondria and from inclusion bodies, the yield was significantly greater in the latter.

Electrophysiological characteristic of VDACs: All four purified proteins implanted into 1,2-diphytanoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphocholine (DPhPC) bilayers and single channels could be categorized in all the cases. Prior incubation of proteins at a concentration of 6-13 pmol/ml in buffer containing 1 mg/ml of appropriate sterol and 2% LDAO was necessary for proper channel development. Channel conductance and voltage dependence of all VDACs was in accordance with reported values. In large part, voltage dependence is symmetric for all four VDACs and is thus similar to previously reported VDACs but differs sharply from voltage gated cation channels.

Interestingly, while single channel conductance and the overall voltage-dependence of conversions into sub conductance states were broadly comparable for all the tested VDACs, the dynamics we observe is strikingly dissimilar. Proteins cleansed from mitochondria display rapid transitions among substates at the appropriate voltages, whereas the proteins purified from inclusionbodies stay in a given substate for an extended period of time before sample another conductance state.

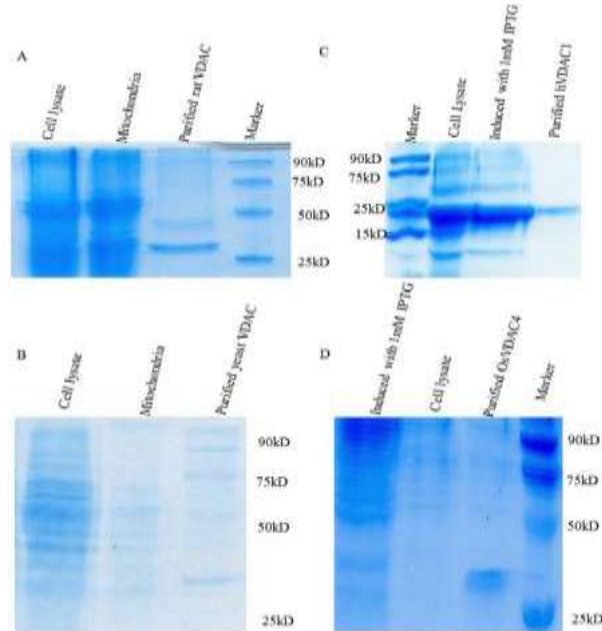


Fig. 1: Purification of VDACs from different sources

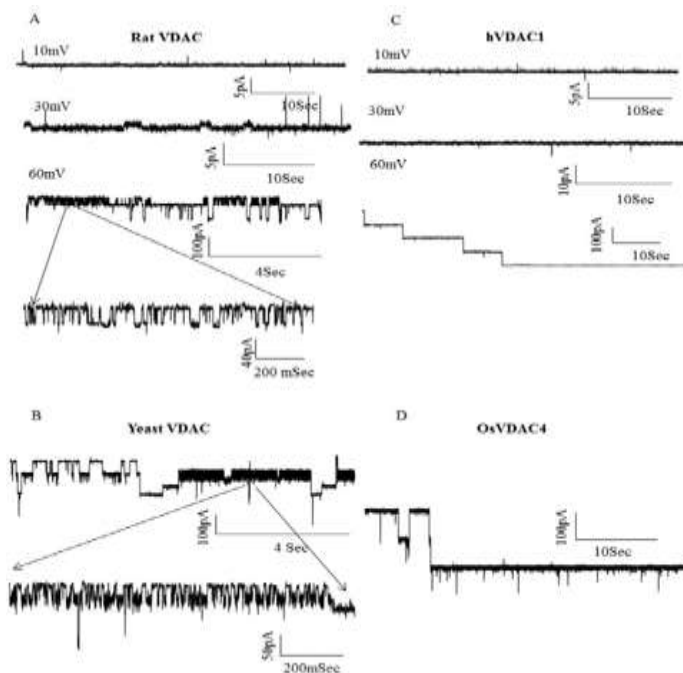


Fig. 2: Functional characterization of VDACs purified from different sources by using BLM.

We illustrate this by analyzing the dwell times in subconductance state 1 it also referred to as the Closed State in many publications. Single channels of rVDAC and of yVDAC in skins held at +60 mV undergo transition primarily among the Open State and Subconductance State 1 or Closed State. The dwell time histogram for Subconductance State 1 can be fit well with a single exponential yielding mean occupancy times of 75.8 ± 6.6 and 103.3 ± 6.3 ms for rat and yeast VDACs, respectively. Very few transitions were detected with hVDAC1 or OsVDAC4. In both cases multiple subconductance States were observed. Here the paucity of events prohibited an accurate estimate of occupancy times, but a rough estimate with the limited number of events yields values of 867.4 ± 49.7 and 876.4 ± 37.9 ms (Fig 3C and D). The raw data undoubtedly reveals the dramatic alteration in dynamics between the two sets of proteins.

Functional classification of ion channels is commonly done by electrophysiological techniques. Several electrophysiological parameters like channel conductance, ion selectivity, open prospect and dwell time can be studied by using apposite techniques. Any channel altering agent would affect one or more of these features. Thus a drug candidate can be characterized by assessing its ability to alter the channel physiology.

Auxiliary, in a review, Marco Colombini has piercing out that VDAC dwell time can be affected when elevated voltage is applied for stretched durations. Our data demonstrate that the two VDACs cleaned from inclusion bodies have suggestively slower dynamics than the two purified from their native mitochondrial membranes. Published data for rat VDAC purified from rat liver mitochondria, and for yeast VDAC purified from mitochondria are consistent with our dwell time estimates, although this parameter has not been reported on. Additionally, published data on mVDAC1 decontaminated from yeast mitochondria after heterologous expression show transitions into the Closed State with extents of a few hundred milliseconds, while those on hVDAC1 and mVDAC1 sanitized from inclusion bodies exhibition very few transitions with residence times of the order of a second. mVDAC1 and hVDAC1 share 99% sequence identity, portentous that the difference in observed physiology could be due to the purification protocol. Our conclusions are suggestive of a “memory effect” in VDAC that is the observed dynamics of the channel in BLM appears to be powerfully predisposed by the method of purification. As such, it will be imperative to keep in mind the purification protocol when appraising data on VDAC reconstructed into artificial membrane systems.

IV. CONCLUSION

VDACs disinfected from both the sources showed preserved voltage dependence and channel conductance, though they showed important modification in dynamics. VDAC purified from mitochondria had relatively short habitation of each electrophysiological state equated to protein purified from inclusion bodies. Our results recommend that the source of sanitized protein could be critical for some characteristics of channel function.

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