

# Inhibition of $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced large-amplitude swelling of liver and heart mitochondria by cyclosporin is probably caused by the inhibitor binding to mitochondrial-matrix peptidyl-prolyl *cis*–*trans* isomerase and preventing it interacting with the adenine nucleotide translocase

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1. Isolated rat liver and heart mitochondria incubated in 150 mM-KSCN or sucrose medium in the presence of respiratory-chain inhibitors showed a large increase in swelling when exposed to 250  $\mu\text{M}$ - $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . Swelling was inhibited by bongkreikic acid and cyclosporin A in both media and by ADP in KSCN medium; the effect of ADP was reversed by carboxyatractyloside. These results demonstrate that this is a suitable technique with which to study the opening of the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced non-specific pore of the mitochondrial inner membrane and implicate the adenine nucleotide carrier in this process. 2. Titration of the rate of swelling with increasing concentrations of cyclosporin showed the number of cyclosporin-binding sites ( $\pm$ S.E.M.) in liver and heart mitochondria to be respectively  $113.7 \pm 5.0$  ( $n = 9$ ) and  $124.3 \pm 11.2$  ( $n = 10$ ) pmol/mg of protein, with a  $K_i$  of about 5 nM. 3. Liver and heart mitochondrial-matrix fractions were prepared free of membrane and cytosolic contamination and shown to contain cyclosporin-sensitive peptidyl-prolyl *cis*–*trans* isomerase (cyclophilin) activity. Titration of isomerase activity with cyclosporin gave values ( $\pm$ S.E.M.) of  $110.6 \pm 10.1$  ( $n = 5$ ) and  $165.4 \pm 15.0$  ( $n = 3$ ) pmol of enzyme/mg of liver and heart mitochondrial protein respectively, with a  $K_i$  of 2.5 nM. The similarity of these results to those from the swelling experiments suggest that the isomerase may be involved in the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced swelling. 4. The rapid light-scattering change induced in energized heart mitochondria exposed to sub-micromolar  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  [Halestrap (1987) *Biochem. J.* **244**, 159–164] was inhibited by ADP and bongkreikic acid, the former effect being reversed by carboxyatractyloside. These results suggest an interaction of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  with the adenine nucleotide carrier when in the 'c' conformation. 5. A model is proposed in which mitochondrial peptidyl-prolyl *cis*–*trans* isomerase interacts with the adenine nucleotide carrier in the presence of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  to cause non-specific pore opening. The model also explains the involvement of the adenine nucleotide translocase in the  $\text{PP}_i$ -mediated cyclosporin-insensitive increase in  $\text{K}^+$  permeability described in the preceding paper [Davidson & Halestrap (1990) *Biochem. J.* **268**, 147–152]. 6. The physiological and pathological implications of the model are discussed in relation to reperfusion injury and cyclosporin toxicity.

## INTRODUCTION

In the preceding paper (Davidson & Halestrap, 1990) we provided evidence that the swelling of mitochondria caused by sub-micromolar  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$  (Halestrap *et al.*, 1986; Davidson & Halestrap, 1987; Halestrap, 1989) might involve both a  $\text{PP}_i$ -dependent mechanism that is insensitive to inhibition by cyclosporin and an additional effect of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  that is inhibited by cyclosporin. It was suggested that the cyclosporin-sensitive mechanism might be similar to that associated with the opening of a non-specific pore at high (supra-physiological)  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  loading of mitochondria, which is also known to be inhibited by cyclosporin (Fournier *et al.*, 1987; Crompton *et al.*, 1987, 1988; Broekemeier *et al.*, 1989). However, at lower  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$  the pore probably remains open only for short periods of time. These are long enough to allow sufficient electrogenic entry of  $\text{K}^+$  to produce the observed swelling but insufficient to allow collapse of the membrane potential and loss of accumulated ions.

It has been shown by several workers that the massive swelling of mitochondria at high  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$  that is associated with the opening of the non-specific pore can be blocked by addition of ADP, ATP and bongkreikic acid and activated by phosphate, palmitoyl-CoA and carboxyatractyloside (Chappell & Crofts, 1965; Haworth & Hunter, 1979; Hunter & Haworth, 1979; Harris *et al.*, 1979; Crompton & Costi, 1988; Le Quoc & Le Quoc, 1988). These effectors all bind to the adenine nucleotide carrier, and this has

led to the suggestion that the conformation of this carrier influences the ability of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  to open the pore (Le Quoc & Le Quoc, 1988). The inhibition of the pore opening by cyclosporin is unlikely to be by binding to the carrier, however, since the number of cyclosporin-binding sites is about 50–100 pmol/mg of protein (Crompton *et al.*, 1988; Broekemeier *et al.*, 1989), which is substantially less than the number of adenine nucleotide translocase molecules, especially in heart mitochondria (Klingenberg, 1976). The only well-characterized cyclosporin-binding protein is cyclophilin, which is now known to be identical with the enzyme peptidyl-prolyl *cis*–*trans* isomerase (Fischer *et al.*, 1989; Takahashi *et al.*, 1989). In *Neurospora crassa* it is known that this enzyme is present in the mitochondrial matrix as well as the cytosol (Tropschug *et al.*, 1988). In this paper we show that in both heart and liver mitochondria the  $K_i$  for cyclosporin inhibition of the matrix peptidyl-prolyl *cis*–*trans* isomerase and the calculated number of binding sites are similar to the  $K_i$  and number of binding sites for the inhibition of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -mediated swelling of de-energized mitochondria in KSCN medium. Furthermore, the conformational change induced by sub-micromolar  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$  in energized heart mitochondria (Halestrap, 1987) is shown to be reversed by ADP, ATP or bongkreikic acid, all of which inhibit large-amplitude swelling. Similarly, the effects of ADP and ATP on the conformational change are blocked by carboxyatractyloside. These results are interpreted in terms of a model in which pore formation results from an interaction of

peptidyl-prolyl *cis-trans* isomerase with the adenine nucleotide carrier when it is in the 'c' conformation and binding  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  but not adenine nucleotides. The model also incorporates a mechanism by which  $\text{PP}_i$  may interact with the adenine nucleotide carrier and induce an increase in  $\text{K}^+$  permeability.

## EXPERIMENTAL

### Materials

*N*-Succinyl-Ala-Ala-Pro-Phe-*p*-nitroanilide was obtained from Sigma Chemical Co., Poole, Dorset, U.K., and chymotrypsin  $A_4$  was from Boehringer Corp., Lewes, Sussex, U.K. The sources of all other chemicals and biochemicals were as given in the preceding paper (Davidson & Halestrap, 1990). Rat liver and heart mitochondria were prepared by Percoll-gradient centrifugation as described previously (Halestrap, 1987, 1988; Davidson & Halestrap, 1987).

### Methods

**$\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced swelling of de-energized mitochondria.** Mitochondria (5–15 mg of protein) were added to 7.4 ml of buffer containing 150 mM-KSCN, 10 mM-Mops, 5 mM-Tris, 0.5  $\mu\text{g}$  of rotenone/ml and 0.5  $\mu\text{g}$  of antimycin/ml at pH 7.2 and 30 °C. After mixing, 3.6 ml portions of the suspension were added to both sample and reference cuvettes of a split-beam spectrophotometer. Swelling was initiated by addition of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (usually 250  $\mu\text{M}$ ) to the sample cuvette, and the  $A_{520}$  was monitored with an on-line computer. In some experiments KSCN was replaced by 150 mM-sucrose. In order to see swelling of heart mitochondria upon addition of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  alone, it was necessary to store the mitochondria overnight at 0 °C.

**Assay of peptidyl-prolyl *cis-trans* isomerase in mitochondrial-matrix fractions.** Matrix fractions were prepared from both heart and liver mitochondria by digitonin treatment and sonication as described previously (Davidson & Halestrap, 1989). No detectable succinate dehydrogenase activity was present in this fraction, which was therefore devoid of inner-membrane contamination, and assay of lactate dehydrogenase and adenylate kinase activity was used to demonstrate that there was no significant contamination by cytosolic or intermembrane proteins (Vargas, 1982; Davidson & Halestrap, 1989). Citrate synthase activity was measured per mg of mitochondrial protein before subfractionation and per mg of protein in the final matrix preparation. This allowed the activity of peptidyl-prolyl *cis-trans* isomerase in the matrix fraction to be expressed per mg of total mitochondrial protein. No detectable activity of this isomerase was found in the inner-membrane fraction, suggesting that all the isomerase inside the mitochondria was free in the matrix. This was confirmed by demonstrating that the ratio of isomerase to citrate synthase activities in the matrix fraction was the same as that for mitoplasts. Assay of the isomerase was performed at 10 °C essentially as described by Fischer *et al.* (1989). A 3.5 ml portion of buffer (35 mM-Hepes, pH 7.8, containing 0.26 mg of chymotrypsin/ml  $A_4$ ) was added to the sample cuvette of a split-beam spectrophotometer. In order to balance the signal, the reference cuvette contained a previous assay that had reached completion. Where required, mitochondrial-matrix extract (50–300  $\mu\text{g}$  of protein) and cyclosporin were added to the sample cuvette, which was constantly stirred. The  $A_{390}$  was constantly monitored by an on-line computer (14 data points/s). After 30 s 3.5  $\mu\text{l}$  of a solution of *N*-succinyl-Ala-Ala-Pro-Phe-*p*-nitroanilide (25 mM in dimethyl sulphoxide) was added to the sample cuvette through an injection port, and data acquisition continued until the reaction was complete. The reaction proceeds through a burst phase taking 3–5 s, which is due to the rapid hydrolysis of

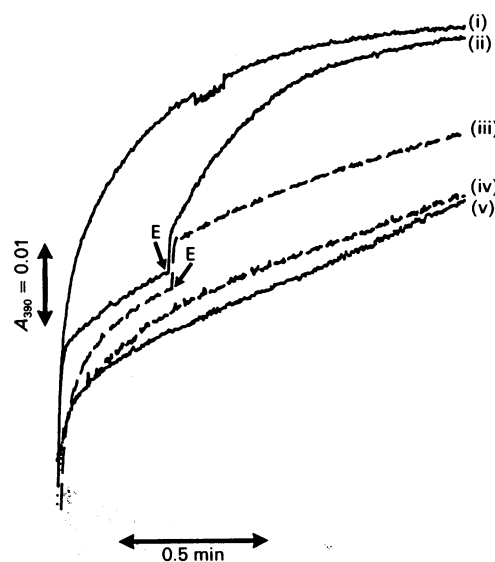


Fig. 1. Assay of peptidyl-prolyl *cis-trans* isomerase and its inhibition by cyclosporin

The assay involves measurement of the increase in  $A_{390}$  resulting from hydrolysis by chymotrypsin of an artificial peptide as described in the Experimental section. In traces (i) and (iv) liver mitochondrial-matrix extract was present at 25  $\mu\text{g}$  of protein/ml from the start of the assay, whereas in traces (ii) and (iii) the extract (E) was added as indicated on the trace. In trace (v) no extract was present. The broken traces (ii and iv) represent experiments where 1  $\mu\text{M}$ -cyclosporin was present in the medium. In all cases the initial burst phase of the hydrolysis of the substrate has been omitted.

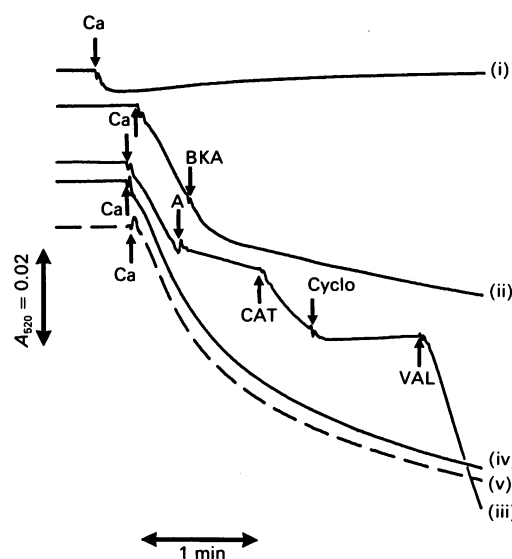


Fig. 2.  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced swelling of de-energized liver mitochondria in 150 mM-KSCN

Mitochondria were incubated in buffered KSCN medium containing respiratory-chain inhibitors in both sample and reference cuvettes of a split-beam spectrophotometer as described in the Experimental section. A decrease in light-scattering is shown as a decrease in  $A_{520}$ . Where indicated, additions were made to the sample cuvette alone: 250  $\mu\text{M}$ - $\text{CaCl}_2$  (Ca), 10  $\mu\text{M}$ -bongkreic acid (BKA), 10  $\mu\text{M}$ -carboxyatractyloside (CAT), 0.2 mM-ADP (A), 1  $\mu\text{M}$ -cyclosporin (Cyclo) and 0.1  $\mu\text{M}$ -valinomycin (VAL). The broken trace (v) shows an experiment where 2 mM-phosphate was present in the medium.

the *trans* isomer of the substrate (85%), followed by a slower phase which is dependent on the isomerization of the *cis* isomer, which is not a substrate for the isomerase, to the *trans* isomer, which is. It is this second phase which is stimulated by peptidyl-prolyl *cis-trans* isomerase in a cyclosporin-sensitive manner, as shown in Fig. 1.

## RESULTS

### Swelling of de-energized liver and heart mitochondria induced by $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ in KSCN and sucrose media

The data of Fig. 2 show that, when liver mitochondria are incubated in 150 mM-KSCN in the presence of rotenone and antimycin and exposed to 250  $\mu\text{M}$ - $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , there is a decrease in light-scattering ( $A_{520}$ ) caused by their swelling (trace iv). Since

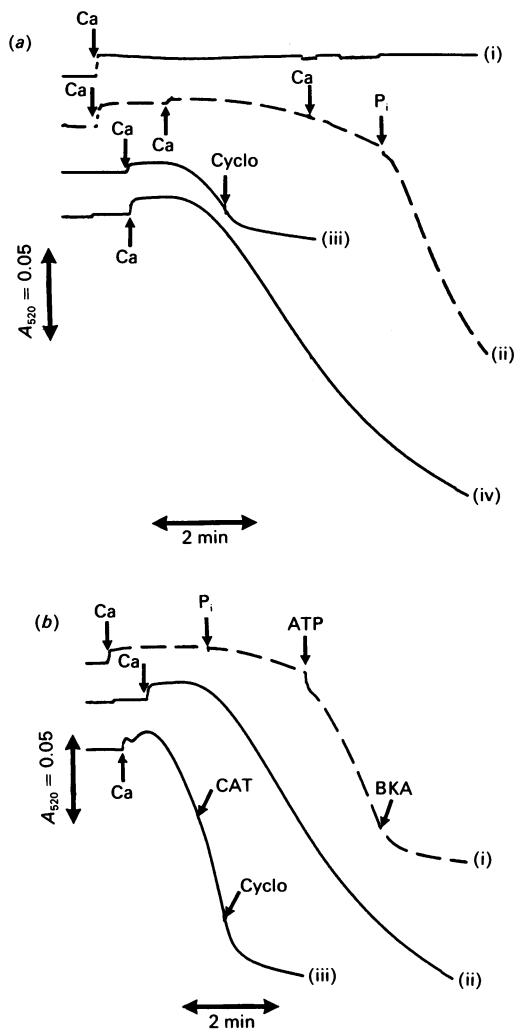


Fig. 3.  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced swelling of de-energized liver mitochondria in sucrose medium

Mitochondria were incubated in buffered sucrose medium (150 mM, except for trace i in a, which was 300 mM-sucrose) containing respiratory-chain inhibitors as described in the Experimental section and the legend to Fig. 2. Phosphate ( $\text{P}_i$ ; 2 mM) was present in all cases except the broken traces (a,ii and b,i) where it was added as indicated at 2 mM and 0.25 mM respectively. Further additions were made to the sample cuvette alone as shown: 500  $\mu\text{M}$ - $\text{CaCl}_2$  (Ca), 5  $\mu\text{M}$ -bongkreic acid (BKA), 5  $\mu\text{M}$ -carboxyatractyloside (CAT), 1 mM-ATP, 0.5  $\mu\text{M}$ -cyclosporin (Cyclo). For trace b,iii, 0.2 mM-ADP was present from the start of the experiment.

the mitochondria are freely permeable to the  $\text{SCN}^-$  anion, this indicates that  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  increases the permeability of the mitochondrial inner membrane to  $\text{K}^+$ , whose rate of entry into the mitochondria determines the rate of swelling under these conditions (see Davidson & Halestrap, 1987). Thus addition of valinomycin also produced rapid swelling (trace iii). The effect of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  was almost totally inhibited by 1  $\mu\text{M}$ -cyclosporin (traces i and iii), by 10  $\mu\text{M}$ -bongkreic acid (trace ii) and by 0.2 mM-ADP (trace iii) or -ATP (results not shown). The effect of ADP was reversed by 10  $\mu\text{M}$ -carboxyatractyloside (trace iii). In these respects the swelling has the same characteristics as that induced in energized mitochondria upon loading with excess  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (see the Introduction), but with the exception that phosphate is not required (trace v compared with trace iv). We have also demonstrated that  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$  cannot substitute for  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (results not shown); this is also the case in energized mitochondria (Pfeiffer *et al.*, 1979; Beatrice *et al.*, 1980).

In Fig. 3 we demonstrate that swelling of de-energized mitochondria can also be induced by  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  under similar conditions in sucrose medium. It was found that hypo-osmotic sucrose media (150 mM) gave better results than in iso-osmotic media (Fig. 3a, trace i compared with trace iv) and that phosphate greatly stimulated under these conditions (Fig. 3a, trace ii compared with trace iv). Once again cyclosporin totally inhibited swelling (Fig. 3a, trace iii). However, swelling was stimulated by ATP (Fig. 3b, trace i) or ADP (Fig. 3b trace, iii); this stimulation could be inhibited by bongkreic acid (Fig. 3b, trace i), but not by carboxyatractyloside (Fig. 3b, trace iii). A possible explanation for the opposite effects of ATP and ADP in the two media is offered in the Discussion section. In both media, heart mitochondria showed  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced swelling similar to that observed for liver mitochondria. However, it was found necessary to leave heart mitochondria for 12 h at 0 °C before  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  alone could induce swelling. This technique has been shown by others to increase the sensitivity of mitochondria towards  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced swelling (Pfeiffer *et al.*, 1979), and it is known that fresh heart

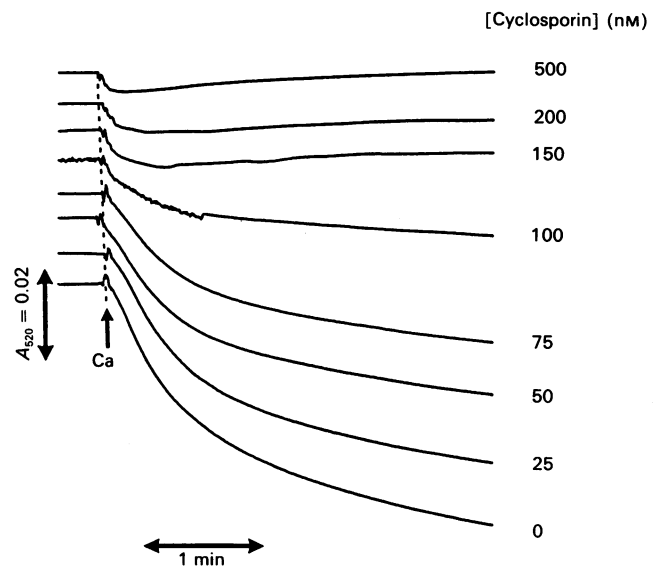
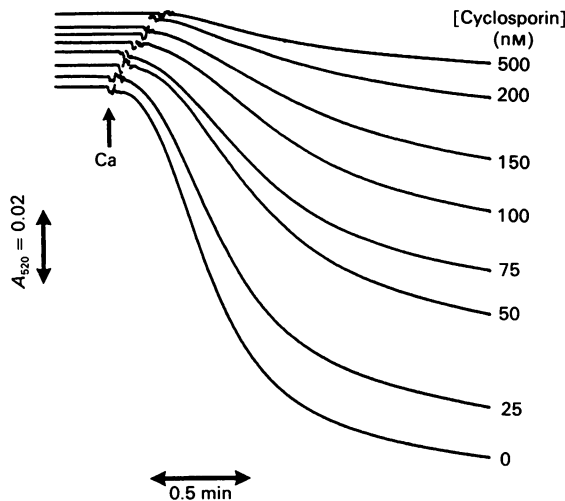


Fig. 4. Inhibition of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced swelling of de-energized liver mitochondria by cyclosporin

Experimental details were the same as for Fig. 2, but the buffer contained cyclosporin at the concentration shown. Rat liver mitochondria were present at 1.18 mg/ml and swelling was initiated with 250  $\mu\text{M}$ - $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ .

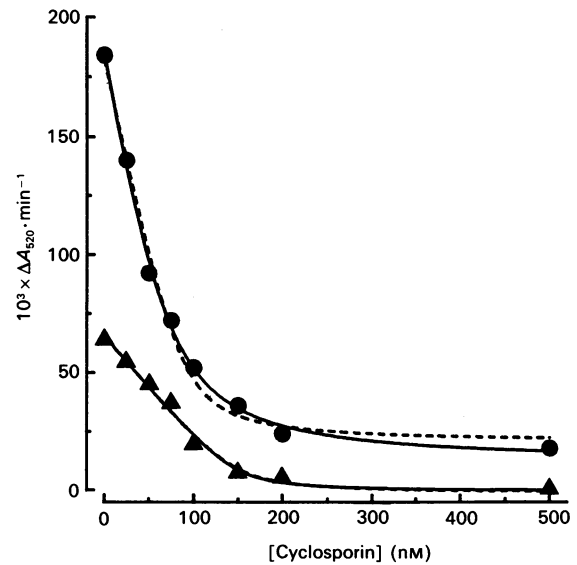


**Fig. 5.** Inhibition of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced swelling of de-energized heart mitochondria by cyclosporin

Experimental details were the same as for Fig. 4. Rat heart mitochondria, aged overnight at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ , were present at  $0.86\text{ mg/ml}$  and swelling was initiated with  $250\ \mu\text{M-Ca}^{2+}$ .

mitochondria are much less sensitive to  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced swelling than are those from liver (Palmer & Pfeiffer, 1981). Aging was used in preference to treatment of mitochondria with *t*-butyl hydroperoxide, which also sensitizes mitochondria to  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced permeability changes (Beatrice *et al.*, 1982; Crompton *et al.*, 1987, 1988; Crompton & Costi, 1988; Broekemeier *et al.*, 1989).

The data of Figs. 4 and 5 show the progressive inhibition of the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced swelling of de-energized liver and heart mitochondria respectively by increasing concentrations of cyclosporin. Differentiation of the time course of swelling was performed in order to measure the maximal rate of swelling (excluding the first 10 s, where addition artefacts obscured the true rate). In Fig. 6 the maximal rates of swelling are plotted against the cyclosporin concentration for the data from both Figs. 4 and 5. It is clear that the inhibition of swelling was linear with respect to the cyclosporin concentration until 50% inhibition or more had been reached. Linear extrapolation of the data of Fig. 6 to 100% inhibition yields values for the number of cyclosporin-sensitive sites of about 125 pmol/mg of protein for both liver and heart mitochondria. It was found that the concentration of cyclosporin giving half-maximal inhibition was dependent on the mitochondrial protein concentration used (results not shown). This suggests stoichiometric binding of cyclosporin to a binding protein with a  $K_i$  considerably less than the concentration of binding sites. Mathematical analysis of these binding curves can be performed as described in the preceding paper (Davidson & Halestrap, 1990), and values for the  $K_i$  and total number of binding sites can be calculated. Results for the experiment shown are given in the legend to Fig. 6, and a summary of results for several preparations of heart and liver mitochondria performed at different protein concentrations is given in Table 1. One problem with this mathematical analysis is that the derived values for the  $K_i$  and total number of binding sites are mutually inter-related. Thus it is possible to achieve quite good fits to the data by either increasing  $K_i$  and decreasing the total number of binding sites, or vice versa. Thus we have also fitted the data by fixing the  $K_i$  at 5 nM, an average value of the derived  $K_i$  values, since it can be argued that  $K_i$  must be the same in all experiments. This procedure, by removing one variable



**Fig. 6.** Concentration-dependence of the inhibition of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced swelling of liver and heart mitochondria by cyclosporin

The traces of Figs. 4 and 5 were differentiated and the maximal rates of swelling occurring after the first 10 s were calculated. The data were fitted mathematically to the equation for a very tight-binding inhibitor as described in the text. The continuous lines represent the theoretical curves for the derived parameter values where the computer was allowed to estimate both the  $K_i$  and the total number of binding sites. For the data shown, the values for  $K_i$  and concentration of cyclosporin-binding sites ( $\pm$ S.E.) for liver mitochondria ( $\blacktriangle$ ) were  $3.79 \pm 5.19\text{ nM}$  and  $147 \pm 18\text{ nM}$  respectively, and the values for heart mitochondria ( $\bullet$ ) were  $13.8 \pm 4.7\text{ nM}$  and  $71 \pm 10\text{ nM}$ . The dashed lines are for the fit when  $K_i$  was fixed at 5 nM, as discussed in the text; the derived concentrations of cyclosporin-binding sites for liver and heart mitochondria were  $146 \pm 14$  and  $89 \pm 7\text{ nM}$  respectively. Values from several experiments are given as means  $\pm$  S.E.M. in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Summary of the derived values for the  $K_i$  for cyclosporin and the number of cyclosporin-binding sites involved in the inhibition of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced swelling of energized and de-energized liver and heart mitochondria and of their peptidyl-prolyl *cis-trans* isomerase

Data for the energized liver mitochondria are taken from experiments described in the preceding paper (Davidson & Halestrap, 1990), and the remaining data were obtained as described in the present paper. Values are expressed as means  $\pm$  S.E.M. for  $n$  experiments, each involving a separate preparation of mitochondria or matrix extract. The two values for the number of cyclosporin-binding sites represent those derived with the  $K_i$  fixed at 5 nM or with the  $K_i$  calculated from the best data fit as described in the legend to Fig. 6. The mean of the latter  $K_i$  value is given in the Table.

Conditions	$K_i$ (nM)	Cyclosporin-binding sites (pmol/mg of mitochondrial protein)		
		Variable $K_i$	$K_i$ at 5 nM	$n$
Liver				
KSCN swelling	$4.1 \pm 2.5$	$124.1 \pm 8.7$	$113.7 \pm 5.0$	9
Energized swelling	$5.3 \pm 1.65$	$127.9 \pm 13.9$	$122.3 \pm 10.7$	10
Isomerase	$2.3 \pm 0.77$	$110.6 \pm 10.1$	$87.7 \pm 11.4$	5
Heart				
KSCN swelling	$14.2 \pm 2.45$	$103.7 \pm 12.2$	$124.3 \pm 11.2$	10
Isomerase	$2.6 \pm 1.63$	$165.4 \pm 15.0$	$131.3 \pm 12.2$	3

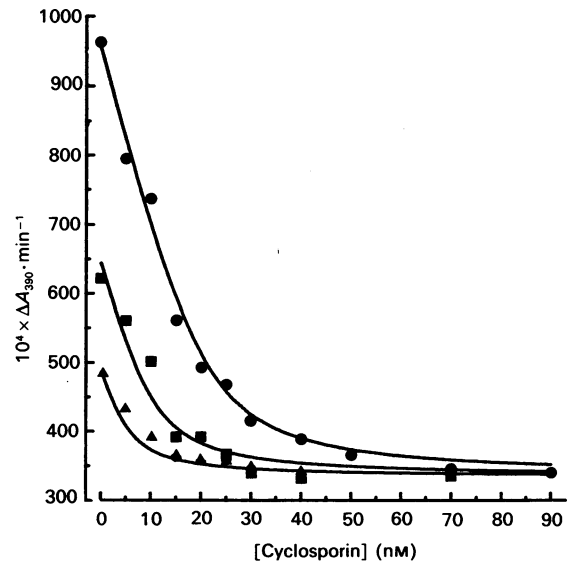
parameter from the analysis, simplifies the fit and thus improves the confidence limits of the derived parameter values, including that for the number of binding sites. The dashed lines in Fig. 6 represent these fits, and combined data are given in Table 1.

**Inhibition of mitochondrial-matrix peptidyl-prolyl *cis-trans* isomerase by cyclosporin**

The presence of peptidyl-prolyl *cis-trans* isomerase in liver mitochondrial matrix was demonstrated in Fig. 1, where it was also shown to be inhibited by cyclosporin. It should be stressed that the contamination of the matrix extract by cytosolic, membrane or intermembrane enzymes was negligible, as judged by lactate dehydrogenase, succinate dehydrogenase and adenylate kinase activities (see Davidson & Halestrap, 1989). Thus the peptidyl-prolyl *cis-trans* isomerase activity measured does represent matrix activity. In order to calculate the amount of enzyme present in both heart and liver matrix, the activity of the enzyme was titrated with different cyclosporin concentrations as shown in Fig. 7. At least two different protein concentrations were used within each experiment. By incorporating the protein concentration as a second *x* variable in the analysis, the confidence limits on the derived values for  $K_i$  and total number of binding sites were improved. Mean values from several experiments are given in Table 1, and are similar to the values obtained for the de-energized swelling. We have been unable to show any significant effect of either EGTA (0.5 mM) or  $Ca^{2+}$  (0.01–1 mM) on the enzyme activity.

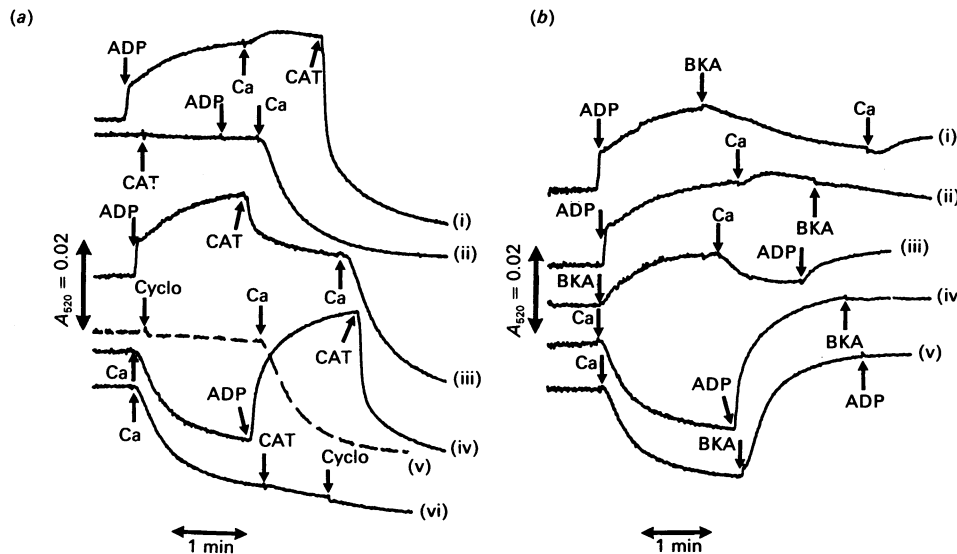
**Effect of substrates and inhibitors of the adenine nucleotide translocase on the conformational change induced in heart mitochondria by  $Ca^{2+}$**

We propose a model in the Discussion section which involves peptidyl-prolyl *cis-trans* isomerase interacting with the adenine nucleotide carrier in the presence of  $Ca^{2+}$ . This requires that  $Ca^{2+}$  interacts with the carrier. In heart mitochondria we have shown previously that  $Ca^{2+}$  causes a large and rapid decrease in light-



**Fig. 7. Concentration-dependence of the inhibition of liver mitochondrial-matrix peptidyl-prolyl *cis-trans* isomerase by cyclosporin**

Assay of the isomerase was performed as described in the Experimental section and the legend to Fig. 1. Liver mitochondrial-matrix extract was present from the start of the assay at 13.5 (▲), 27 (■) and 54 (●) μg of protein/ml. The rate of change of  $A_{390}$  was calculated 10 s after substrate addition, at which time the burst phase of the reaction was essentially complete. The lines shown represent the fit of the data to the equation for inhibition of an enzyme by a very tight-binding inhibitor, but including the protein concentration as a second *x* variable as described in the text. The derived values ( $\pm$ s.e.) for the  $K_i$  and number of cyclosporin-binding sites were  $2.10 \pm 0.78$  nM and  $384 \pm 46$  pmol/mg of matrix protein respectively. Mean values from several experiments are shown in Table 1, where results are expressed in terms of total mitochondrial protein to allow comparison with the data from the mitochondrial-swelling experiments.



**Fig. 8. Effects of ADP, carboxyatractyloside, bongkrekcic acid and cyclosporin on the conformational change of isolated rat heart mitochondria induced by  $Ca^{2+}$**

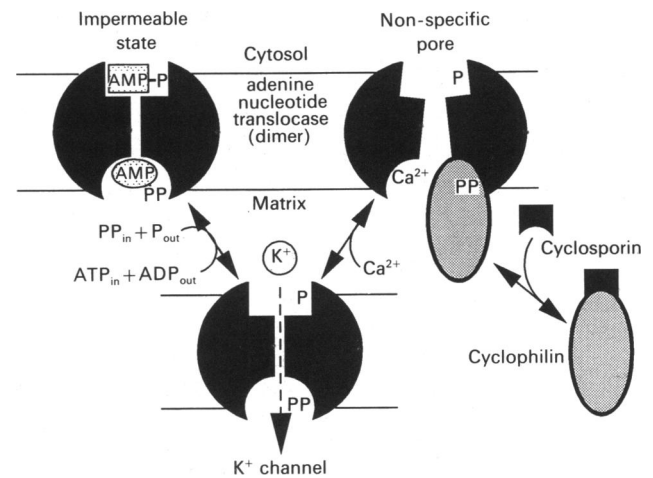
Heart mitochondria (final concn. approx. 2 mg of protein/ml) were incubated in a split-beam spectrophotometer at 30 °C in buffer containing 125 mM-KCl, 10 mM-Mops, 5.5 mM-Tris, 0.5 mM-EGTA, 5 mM-sodium glutamate and 1 mM-L-malate, pH 7.2. Conformational changes were detected as changes in light-scattering ( $A_{520}$ ), which were shown previously to occur in the absence of any change in mitochondrial volume (Halestrap, 1987). Where indicated, additions were made to the sample cuvette as follows: 1 μM- $Ca^{2+}$  (Ca), 10 μM-bongkrekcic acid (BKA), 10 μM-carboxyatractyloside (CAT), 0.2 mM-ADP and 1 μM-cyclosporin (Cyclo).

scattering ( $A_{520}$ ), with a  $K_{0.5}$  of  $0.3 \mu\text{M}$ . However, unlike the light-scattering change associated with swelling, this was not accompanied by a change in matrix volume, and thus probably reflects a conformational change of the mitochondria (Halestrap, 1987). It has been shown by others that ATP, ADP, carboxyatractyloside and bongkreikic acid also produce substantial light-scattering changes in heart mitochondria, which are associated with changes in the conformation of the adenine nucleotide translocase (Klingenberg *et al.*, 1971; Stoner & Sirak, 1973*a,b*; Scherer & Klingenberg, 1974). The results presented in Fig. 8 confirm these observations, but in addition illustrate the interaction between these substrates and inhibitors of the carrier and the conformational change induced by  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . The decrease in light-scattering induced by  $1 \mu\text{M}\text{-Ca}^{2+}$  was prevented by ADP, but this effect was reversed by the presence of carboxyatractyloside (Fig. 8*a*, traces i–iii). If ADP was added after  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , the light-scattering increased again, reaching the same level as observed in the absence of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . Subsequent addition of carboxyatractyloside after the ADP caused a decrease in light-scattering, to give a value equivalent to that observed with  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  alone (Fig. 8*a*, trace iv). In the absence of ADP, carboxyatractyloside had little or no effect on light-scattering (Fig. 8*a*, traces v and vi). Fig. 8(*b*) contains data to illustrate the effects of bongkreikic acid. This inhibitor caused an increase in light-scattering as found by previous workers, but subsequent addition of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  gave little change in light scattering (Fig. 8*b*, trace iii). Furthermore, addition of bongkreikic acid after the decrease in light-scattering induced by  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  caused a reversal of this effect and an increase in light-scattering to values similar to those seen with bongkreikic acid added in the absence of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (Fig. 8*b*, trace v). This effect of bongkreikic acid was similar to that of ADP (Fig. 8*b*, trace iv) and these two agents had no additive effect in the presence of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (Fig. 8*b*, traces iii and iv). All the above data imply that the light-scattering change induced by  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  is the consequence of an interaction of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  with the 'c' conformation of the adenine nucleotide carrier. This is stabilized by carboxyatractyloside and reversed by bongkreikic acid or ADP, which stabilize the 'm' conformation of the carrier. In Fig. 8(*a*) we also illustrate the lack of any substantial effect of cyclosporin on the conformational change induced by  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (traces v and vi). Nor was there any effect of this agent on the light-scattering changes observed in the presence of ADP, bongkreikic acid or carboxyatractyloside (results not shown). There was consistently a very slow decrease in light-scattering induced by cyclosporin itself, however, as illustrated in Fig. 8(*a*), trace v.

## DISCUSSION

### Nature of the cyclosporin-sensitive and -insensitive mechanisms of mitochondrial swelling

In the preceding paper (Davidson & Halestrap, 1990) we provided evidence that  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  at physiological concentrations causes swelling of energized liver mitochondria *in vitro* and *in situ*, primarily through a cyclosporin-insensitive mechanism involving  $\text{PP}_i$ , but that an additional cyclosporin-sensitive pathway also operates and becomes dominant at a higher (supra-physiological)  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$ . We have also suggested previously that the swelling of mitochondria caused by an increase in matrix  $[\text{PP}_i]$  is due to an interaction of  $\text{PP}_i$  and  $\text{P}_i$  with the adenine nucleotide carrier (Davidson & Halestrap, 1987; Halestrap & Davidson, 1989). Recent evidence supports a sequential model for the adenine nucleotide carrier with the simultaneous occupation by ATP and ADP of both an inner and an outer nucleotide-binding site (Sluse *et al.*, 1989; Vignais *et al.*, 1989). However, phosphate and  $\text{PP}_i$  can both act as weak substrates for the adenine nucleotide carrier (Asimakis & Aprille, 1980;



**Scheme 1.** Possible involvement of the adenine nucleotide translocase in the  $\text{PP}_i$ -mediated cyclosporin-insensitive  $\text{K}^+$ -channel formation and the cyclosporin-sensitive  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -mediated non-specific pore formation

AMP-P, AMP-PP, P and  $\text{PP}_i$  represent ADP, ATP,  $\text{P}_i$  and  $\text{PP}_i$  respectively. In all cases the carrier is assumed to be in the 'c' conformation, although this is not essential for the cyclosporin-insensitive mechanism, since bongkreikic acid-induced swelling is not prevented by cyclosporin. A detailed explanation of the scheme is given in the text.

Krämer, 1985; Halestrap & Davidson, 1989). We propose that, when both  $\text{PP}_i$  and phosphate occupy these inner and outer substrate-binding sites respectively, a channel through the transporter is exposed which is normally blocked by the presence of the nucleotide moiety of the substrates. This channel is of sufficient diameter to allow the electrogenic uptake of  $\text{K}^+$  ions, as illustrated in Scheme 1. Since the affinity of the carrier for  $\text{PP}_i$  and phosphate is substantially less than that for ADP and ATP (see Halestrap & Davidson, 1989), the  $\text{K}^+$  channel will only open relatively infrequently, so preventing a massive increase in  $\text{K}^+$  permeability and catastrophic swelling. This  $\text{PP}_i$ /phosphate-mediated swelling is insensitive to cyclosporin, and can occur in the presence of either bongkreikic acid or carboxyatractyloside. The latter observation implies that such swelling is insensitive to whether the carrier is in the 'm' or the 'c' conformation.

However, our present data indicate that  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  must have an additional effect on  $\text{K}^+$  permeability that cannot be explained by increases in matrix  $[\text{PP}_i]$  alone, but which is inhibited by cyclosporin. This process was studied in the present paper by measuring the swelling (decrease in light-scattering at 520 nm) of de-energized mitochondria exposed to  $250 \mu\text{M}\text{-Ca}^{2+}$  in KSCN medium. The responses seen under such conditions were highly reproducible and appeared to mimic those seen in energized mitochondria loaded with large quantities of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . The opposing effects of carboxyatractyloside and adenine nucleotides or bongkreikic acid on this large-amplitude swelling and the requirement for phosphate again argue for an involvement of the adenine nucleotide translocase in this process, perhaps when the carrier is in the 'c' conformation with phosphate and  $\text{PP}_i$  replacing ADP and ATP. The data of Fig. 8 add weight to this proposal, since they show more directly that  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  may interact with the adenine nucleotide translocase in the 'c' conformation. Thus  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  induces a conformational change that is reversed by ADP or bongkreikic acid, but not by carboxyatractyloside, which prevents the effect of ADP.

Two features of the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced swelling of de-energized mitochondria in KSCN medium are not the same as that seen in

sucrose medium. Firstly, phosphate is required to obtain swelling in sucrose medium, but not in KSCN medium. This could be explained if  $\text{SCN}^-$  could substitute for phosphate binding to the external substrate-binding site at the high concentration (150 mM) of KSCN used. Secondly, the inhibitory effect of ADP on the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced swelling of de-energized mitochondria in KSCN medium is similar to the effect seen in energized mitochondria, but is replaced by a stimulatory effect of ADP in the sucrose medium under de-energized conditions. This might be explained by the generation of a membrane potential by the entry of  $\text{SCN}^-$  into the mitochondria, similar to that seen in energized mitochondria but not possible under de-energized conditions in sucrose medium. The re-orientation of the carrier from the 'm' to the 'c' conformation and the relative binding affinities of the inner and outer binding sites for adenine nucleotides are influenced by the membrane potential (see Klingenberg, 1976). Thus it is possible that in the absence of a membrane potential ADP and ATP can allow interconversion of any carrier trapped in the 'm' conformation into the 'c' conformation, which then activates swelling. It is noteworthy that Crompton & Costi (1990) also report that ADP is able to increase the permeability coefficient of de-energized mitochondria made permeable with  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  treatment.

#### Peptidyl-prolyl *cis-trans* isomerase involvement in $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -mediated swelling and its inhibition by cyclosporin

It remains to be explained how cyclosporin might interact with this system to inhibit swelling. Four observations are significant. Firstly, cyclosporin is known to interact with the enzyme peptidyl-prolyl *cis-trans* isomerase, otherwise known as cyclophilin (Fischer *et al.*, 1989; Takahashi *et al.*, 1989). In the present paper we have shown that this enzyme is present in liver and heart mitochondria, as it is in mitochondria from *Neurospora crassa* (Tropschug *et al.*, 1988). Secondly, we have shown that the  $K_i$  for inhibition of swelling by cyclosporin is similar to the  $K_i$  value of about 5 nM for inhibition of the mitochondrial-matrix isomerase (see Table 1). A value of 2.6 nM for the  $K_i$  of cyclosporin for the cytosolic enzyme has been reported by others (Tropschug *et al.*, 1988). Thirdly, the calculated number of cyclosporin-binding sites involved in the inhibition of swelling of both liver and heart mitochondria (about 125 pmol/mg of protein) is very close to the amount of the isomerase present in the matrix calculated from the cyclosporin data (see Table 1). These values are slightly higher than the values of about 40 and 80–90 pmol/mg of heart and liver mitochondrial protein respectively that have been reported by others (Crompton *et al.*, 1988; Broekemeier *et al.*, 1989), but this may be explained by the use of Percoll-gradient centrifugation in the preparation of mitochondria in the present studies. This has the effect of removing substantial membrane contamination from the mitochondria and thus enriching the true mitochondrial protein as a percentage of the total protein content of the mitochondrial preparation (see Halestrap, 1988). Fourthly, the proposed structure for the adenine nucleotide carrier places highly conserved proline residues at the end of three of the transmembrane  $\alpha$ -helices as they emerge on the matrix surface of the membrane (Aquila *et al.*, 1987; Klingenberg, 1989). Furthermore, an additional proline residue (residue 61) on the matrix side, but not thought to be membrane-associated, is adjacent to a lysine (residue 62) which can only be covalently modified by pyridoxal phosphate when the carrier is in the 'c' conformation with carboxyatractyloside bound (Bogner *et al.*, 1986).

In the light of these observations we have proposed a model for the swelling of mitochondria observed under conditions of high  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  loading, which is summarized in Scheme 1. It is suggested that when the adenine nucleotide translocase is in 'c' conformation it can bind  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , as indicated by the data of Fig.

8. Under these conditions, when  $\text{PP}_i$  and phosphate, rather than adenine nucleotides, are bound to the substrate-binding sites, it is proposed that one of the proline residues is able to bind to the matrix peptidyl-prolyl *cis-trans* isomerase. This interaction might cause disruption of the carrier structure sufficient to create a pore. Cyclosporin, by binding to the enzyme, would cause it to dissociate from the carrier and so block the pore. It would seem unlikely that the enzyme is able to catalyse isomerization of a peptidyl-prolyl bond within the carrier, since cyclosporin is able to stop further swelling immediately, as shown in Fig. 2. If isomerization had taken place, inhibition of swelling would occur slowly only as spontaneous *cis-trans* isomerization reformed the carrier's native conformation. In addition if isomerization were involved, the effect of the enzyme would be strictly catalytic and the maximal rate of swelling observed would be related more to the amount of adenine nucleotide carrier present than to the activity of the isomerase. Thus it would be hard to explain how the swelling of heart mitochondria, which possess at least 5 times the amount of the adenine nucleotide translocase as do liver mitochondria (Klingenberg, 1976), shows a similar inhibition profile with respect to cyclosporin concentration as do liver mitochondria. Nor would such a mechanism be expected to give linear relationships between the inhibition of swelling and the cyclosporin concentration.

An additional effect of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  that is probably a prerequisite for swelling of fresh mitochondria under energized conditions is the activation of mitochondrial phospholipase  $A_2$  and resultant accumulation of unsaturated fatty acids (Beatrice *et al.*, 1980). These act like carboxyatractyloside on the adenine nucleotide translocase (see Le Quoc & Le Quoc, 1988), enhancing the formation of the 'c' conformation and swelling. This explains why phospholipase  $A_2$  inhibitors are effective inhibitors of the swelling (Broekemeier *et al.*, 1985).

#### Physiological and pathological implications

At the sub-micromolar  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$  that occurs in stimulated cells and was used in isolated energized mitochondria to mimic the effects of hormones on mitochondrial volume (Halestrap *et al.*, 1986; Davidson & Halestrap, 1987, 1988, 1990), most of the swelling seen appears to occur through the  $\text{PP}_i$ -dependent cyclosporin-insensitive pathway. The small portion of the swelling that is cyclosporin-sensitive will represent the disruption of the carrier structure for very short periods of time. This could allow significant electrogenic uptake of  $\text{K}^+$  to occur, driven by the membrane potential and the high  $[\text{K}^+]$ , but uptake of sucrose would be minimal before the pore closed again. It would also explain why little swelling is seen in sucrose buffer compared with KCl buffer (Halestrap *et al.*, 1986). However, it is of interest that  $^{14}\text{C}$  sucrose introduced into hepatocytes by electropermeabilization does enter the mitochondria over a period of hours (Tolleshaug & Seglen, 1985). This would be predicted if occasional transient opening-up of the carrier structure occurred. It is possible that such occasional opening of a pore in the inner membrane is important for the mitochondria to avoid build-up of waste products for which there are no specific transporters. A major risk of cyclosporin therapy is liver and kidney damage, which appears to be associated with mitochondrial dysfunction (Aupetit *et al.*, 1988; Boelsterli *et al.*, 1988; Borel, 1989). Prevention of pore opening and loss of such waste products might account for this damage. The new immunosuppressant drug FK506 has fewer such side-effects, and we have demonstrated recently that it does not protect the mitochondria against  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -induced damage, nor does it inhibit mitochondrial peptidyl-prolyl *cis-trans* isomerase (Kay *et al.*, 1990).

When mitochondrial  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$  increases, especially when adenine nucleotides are depleted, as occurs in hypoxia and subsequent re-

oxygenation (Sordahl & Stewart, 1980; Asimakis & Sordahl, 1981; LaNoue *et al.*, 1981; Watanabe *et al.*, 1983), the statistical probability of the pore being open would increase sufficiently to allow massive swelling to occur. The effects would be exacerbated by stimulation of phospholipase A<sub>2</sub> as outlined above. Fatty acids are known to accumulate in ischaemic tissue (Smith *et al.*, 1980). Furthermore, lipid peroxides can increase in hypoxia and re-oxygenation as the result of free-radical formation (de Groot & Noll, 1987; Bindoli, 1988), and these are excellent substrates for the mitochondrial phospholipase A<sub>2</sub> (Van Kuijk *et al.*, 1987). Re-esterification, which would normally occur, will be inhibited by the lack of ATP (Pfeiffer *et al.*, 1979; Beatrice *et al.*, 1980).

Consideration of all the above factors suggests that opening of the mitochondrial pore may well be the basis of the mitochondrial damage occurring in reperfusion injury, as has been suggested by others (Crompton & Costi, 1988; Broekemeier *et al.*, 1989). It is of interest that pretreatment of dogs with cyclosporin before their livers were subjected to ischaemia was found to increase greatly the chances of complete recovery (Hayashi *et al.*, 1988).

### Conclusion

We believe that the adenine nucleotide translocase is involved in the mechanism of both physiological and pathological forms of mitochondrial swelling. The mechanism that we have outlined would give the appearance of an electrogenic K<sup>+</sup> pore at low [Ca<sup>2+</sup>] but a non-specific pore at high [Ca<sup>2+</sup>]. This is what is observed. The model, summarized in Scheme 1, also explains why both processes require phosphate, and are inhibited by cyclosporin, bongkrekic acid and adenine nucleotides and activated by carboxyatractyloside and oxidative stress. It is presented as a plausible hypothesis which requires further testing.

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