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The Integrin $\alpha_v\beta_5$ Is Expressed on Avian Osteoclast Precursors and Regulated by Retinoic Acid

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Abstract

Osteoclasts arise by proliferation, differentiation, and subsequent fusion of marrow-derived precursors, all processes requiring attachment to matrix. Integrins are important mediators of cell-matrix recognition and bone is rich in proteins containing the Arg-Gly-Asp motif, recognized primarily by α_v integrins. Thus, we determined if avian osteoclast precursors express integrins capable of mediating initial attachment to matrix proteins. Early, marrow-derived osteoclast precursors, when first isolated, contain no detectable $\alpha_v\beta_3$, but express an α_v integrin with an 80 kDa associated β subunit. Immunoprecipitation with an antibody raised against the conserved β_5 cytoplasmic tail sequence indicates the α_v associated the integrin is $\alpha_v\beta_5$. Retinoic acid is a resorptive steroid, and its exposure to early osteoclast precursors prompts a time- and dose-dependent decrease in $\alpha_v\beta_5$ expression, while simultaneously stimulating $\alpha_v\beta_3$ expression. Northern analysis reveals that retinoic acid decreases β_5 steady-state mRNA, nontranscriptionally, without altering that of α_v . The finding $\alpha_v\beta_5$ expression decreases under the influence of retinoic acid, an osteoclastogenic steroid, while those of $\alpha_v\beta_3$ rise, suggests that these closely related integrins play separate and complementary roles during osteoclast differentiation.

INTRODUCTION

The Osteoclast is a multinucleated bone-resorbing cell generated by fusion of mononuclear precursors, which are members of the monocyte/macrophage family.(1,2) These precursors arise from hematopoietic stem cells which differentiate under the influence of various cytokines and steroid hormones.(1,3,4) We have shown, in an avian osteoclast-generating system,(5) that surface expression of the functional osteoclast integrin $\alpha_v\beta_3$ is regulated by 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃(1,25(OH)₂D₃), (6–8) a hormone stimulating maturation of osteoclast precursors.(4,9) Induction of the integrin by the steroid involves transactivation of both the α_v (8) and β_3 (7) genes, thereby precluding determination of which subunit is rate limiting for $\alpha_v\beta_3$ expression.

Like 1,25(OH)₂D₃, retinoic acid, another member of the steroid superfamily,(10) stimulates bone resorption *in vivo*(11) and *in vitro*.(3,4,12,13) Furthermore, the retinoid and secosteroid share similarity in their mode of action. Thus, they bind to specific receptors, the vitamin D receptor and retinoic acid receptor, respectively, forming heterodimers with the retinoid X receptor (RXR).(14–16) The heterodimers, once bound to DNA sequences in the regulatory

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regions of target genes, act as transcriptional regulators.(15,16) Based on this information, we postulated that retinoic acid may also increase $\alpha_v\beta_3$, and find this to be the case. Moreover, the retinoid, like the vitamin D metabolite, transactivates the avian β_3 gene, but, in contrast to 1,25(OH) $_2$ D $_3$, does so without altering α_v transcription, indicating that at least in the case of retinoic acid, $\alpha_v\beta_3$ expression is regulated by the β subunit.

The integrin $\alpha_v\beta_5$, like $\alpha_v\beta_3$, recognizes the Arg-Gly-Asp (RGD) amino acid motif.(17,18) Furthermore, human monocytes, cells ontogenetically related to osteoclast precursors, express $\alpha_v\beta_5$ and $\alpha_v\beta_3$ in a manner regulated by hematopoietic cytokines.(19,20) Because of the capacity of both α_v integrins to ligand bone matrix proteins such as osteopontin,(18) we asked if avian osteoclast precursors also express the heterodimers $\alpha_v\beta_3$ and $\alpha_v\beta_5$ and, if so, whether expression of $\alpha_v\beta_5$ is regulated by 1,25(OH) $_2$ D $_3$ and retinoic acid. We report here that freshly isolated avian osteoclast precursors contain $\alpha_v\beta_5$, but not $\alpha_v\beta_3$, and that retinoic acid decreases expression of the heterodimer by altering steady-state mRNA levels of the β_5 but not the α_v subunit. In contrast, 1,25(OH) $_2$ D $_3$, a hormone that increases surface expression of $\alpha_v\beta_3$, fails to alter either β_5 mRNA or expression of the $\alpha_v\beta_5$ complex. Most importantly, the fact that $\alpha_v\beta_5$ is present in freshly isolated precursors at a time when $\alpha_v\beta_3$ is not suggests that $\alpha_v\beta_5$ may play a role in matrix recognition by the early precursor cells.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Cell isolation and culture

Avian osteoclast precursors were isolated and cultured as described previously.(5,7) Briefly, bone marrow cells from laying hens maintained on a calcium-free diet for 2–3 weeks were fractionated on Ficoll-Hypaque (Sigma, St. Louis, MO, U.S.A.), and the mononuclear fraction was cultured overnight on Falcon (Lincoln Park, NJ, U.S.A.) plastic cell culture dishes. The nonadherent cells were reisolated and cultured for varying periods of time at $4\text{--}6 \times 10^6$ cells/ml in alpha modified essential medium/5% fetal bovine serum + 5% chicken serum, with the addition of 10^{-5} to 10^{-8} M all-trans retinoic acid in ethanol (at a final concentration of $< 0.1\%$). In specific experiments, cells from the same bird were treated with either 10^{-6} M all-trans retinoic acid or 10^{-8} M 1,25(OH) $_2$ D $_3$ for 3 days. All sera used for culture had been charcoal-stripped to remove endogenous steroids.

Surface labeling and immunoprecipitation

Cells were labeled with either the water-soluble biotin reagent sulfosuccinimidobiotin (sulfo-NHS-biotin; Pierce Chemical Co., Rockford, IL, U.S.A.) or ^{125}I lactoperoxidase using minor modifications of published methods.(7,21) Briefly, for the nonradioactive procedure, adherent cells were rinsed free of culture medium with phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) and then labeled for 1 h at room temperature with the reagent at 0.2 mg/ml in 100 mM HEPES, pH 8.0. Following removal of the labeling solution, cells were lysed into buffer containing 10 mM Tris, pH 7.2, 150 mM NaCl, 1% sodium deoxycholate, 1% Triton X-100, 0.1% SDS, 0.025% NaN $_3$, 5 mM iodoacetamide, 1 mM CaCl $_2$, 1 mM MgCl $_2$, 4 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF), and 0.25 TIU of Aprotinin/ml. The lysate was pre-cleared with protein G-Sepharose (Pharmacia, Piscataway, NJ, U.S.A.) and immunoprecipitated with suitable antibodies. These comprised either LM609, a monoclonal which recognizes the complex $\alpha_v\beta_3$,⁽⁷⁾ or a rabbit polyclonal antibody raised against the sequence of the human β_5 cytoplasmic tail.⁽²²⁾ The immune precipitates, recovered with excess protein G-Sepharose, washed prior to boiling with electrophoresis sample buffer, were subjected to SDS-PAGE in 6% nonreducing minigels. The separated proteins were transferred to nitrocellulose (Nitro ME; MSI, Westboro, MA, U.S.A.) with a semidry blotter, using the manufacturer's instructions (BioRad, Richmond, CA, U.S.A.), and the blot was probed with 0.1% streptavidin-horseradish peroxidase (Boehringer-Mannheim, Indianapolis, IN, U.S.A.) in PBS, with color development with 4-chloronaphthol

at 2 mg/ml. In the studies using radioisotope, 150-mm plates of adherent cells were labeled with 1 mCi of ^{125}I , using the lactoperoxidase method as described.(21) Rinsed plate contents were lysed with a minimal volume of buffer, following which equal numbers of trichloroacetic acid-precipitable counts were immunoprecipitated, as described above, with either LM609, the monoclonal $\alpha_v\beta_3$ -specific antibody, or a rabbit polyclonal raised against the amino acid sequence of the human β_3 cytoplasmic tail. (23) To detect all α_v -associated integrins on the cell surface, lysates from radiolabeled cells were immunoprecipitated with Chav, a murine monoclonal which recognizes the avian α_v subunit.(24,25) Analysis of all gels was performed by separation in nonreducing, 24 cm 6% SDS-PAGE gels, which were dried and exposed at -70°C to Kodak X-Omat film (Eastman Kodak, Rochester, NY, U.S.A.), prior to development.

Analysis of steady-state β_3 and β_5 mRNA levels

Osteoclast precursors were treated for varying periods of time with vehicle or 10^{-5} to 10^{-8} M all-trans retinoic acid without change of medium. At the relevant time, medium was removed, cells rinsed with PBS, and total RNA was isolated with RNazol, according to the manufacturer's instructions (Teltest, Friendswood, TX, U.S.A.). Equal amounts of RNA were treated with formaldehyde and separated on 1% agarose gels, followed by transfer to a nylon membrane (Hybond-N; Amersham, Arlington Heights, IL, U.S.A.) using a vacuum blotter. Full-length cDNAs for the avian β_3 and β_5 gene products, both cloned in our laboratory,(7, 26) as well as a 2.2 kb fragment of the avian α_v cDNA (27) were labeled by random priming and hybridized to filters overnight at 42°C in $5\times$ SSPE, $5\times$ Denhardt's solution, 50% formamide, 0.1% SDS, and 10% background quencher (Teltest). The filters were washed three times at 55°C with $1\times$ SSPE, 0.1% SDS, and exposed to film prior to development. In some experiments in which cells had been treated with retinoic acid, the membranes were stripped by boiling in 0.1% SDS in RNase-free water, followed by washing in the same water. The membranes were then reprobbed in the same manner with the avian α_v cDNA probe.

Measurement of the rates of β_5 and β_3 mRNA synthesis

Nuclear run-on assays were performed as follows. Nuclei were isolated from cells treated with either vehicle or 10^{-6} M retinoic acid, using an established method.(21) Briefly, cells were lysed in 10 mM Tris, pH 7.4, 10 mM NaCl, 3 mM MgCl_2 , and 0.5% Nonidet P-40. Nuclei were isolated by centrifugation at 400 rpm and stored at -80°C at a concentration of 10^8 cells/ml in 50 mM HEPES, pH 8.0, 5 mM MgCl_2 , 0.5 mM DTT, 1 mg/ml of bovine serum albumin, and 25% glycerol. To measure new RNA synthesis $\sim 5 \times 10^7$ nuclei were thawed and mixed with an equal volume of $2\times$ reaction buffer (100 mM HEPES, pH 8.0, 4 mM MgCl_2 , 6 mM MgOAc , 4 mM dithiothreitol, 2 mg/ml of bovine serum albumin, 300 mM NH_4Cl , 1 mM each ATP, CTP, and GTP, 20% glycerol, and 100 μCi of ^{32}P -UTP (3000 Ci/mmol; ICN, Costa Mesa, CA, U.S.A.). Incubation was carried out for 15 minutes at 37°C , following which total RNA was extracted as described above. Equal amounts of trichloroacetic acid-precipitable counts were slot hybridized to a nitrocellulose membrane (Biodot; BioRad), to which 10 μg of linearized plasmid DNAs coding for avian β_3 and β_5 had been applied in $20\times$ SSC. As controls, a cDNA coding for LEP, an avian lysosomal protein,(28) and plasmid DNA were applied in adjacent slots. The labeled RNA was hybridized at 55°C for 48 h in $5\times$ SSC, 50% formamide, $2\times$ Denhardt's solution, 20 μg of tRNA, 50 mM NaH_2PO_4 , 0.1% SDS, and $1\times$ Background Quencher (Teltest). Membranes were subjected to three 5-minute washes at 45°C with $2\times$ SSC, 0.1% SDS for 5 minutes followed by three 15-minute washes at 55°C with $0.2\times$ SSC, 0.1% SDS. Membranes were dried, exposed at -70°C to Kodak Scientific Imaging film which was developed after appropriate times.

RESULTS

Freshly isolated avian osteoclast precursors express a novel α_v integrin, but not $\alpha_v\beta_3$

We find that mature avian osteoclasts express the integrin $\alpha_v\beta_3$, and this heterodimer plays an important role in their bone-resorptive capacity.(29) Having characterized the integrins on mature avian osteoclasts,(29) we turned to the α_v -bearing integrins present on their precursors, which, to develop the osteoclast phenotype, must bind to bone. As seen in Fig. 1, osteoclast precursors analyzed with both the $\alpha_v\beta_3$ -specific antibody LM609 and Chav, a monoclonal antibody (MAb) to the avian α_v chain, express on their surface, a novel integrin, but not $\alpha_v\beta_3$. Of note, 1,25(OH)₂D₃ fails to alter expression of the novel integrin while having the expected effect(7,8) of increasing $\alpha_v\beta_3$.

The novel integrin on avian osteoclast precursors is $\alpha_v\beta_5$

Based on the known association of α_v with β_5 in human monocytes,(19) and the fact that, like $\alpha_v\beta_3$, $\alpha_v\beta_5$ recognizes the RGD motif in several bone matrix proteins,(18) we postulated the unknown subunit associating with α_v is the avian β_5 homolog. The likelihood that this is so was supported by the finding that, using homology polymerase chain reaction, we obtained from the precursor cells, a cDNA highly homologous to that of human β_5 .(26) In particular, comparison of the amino acid sequence at the carboxyl terminus with that of human β_5 (22) demonstrates almost complete identity (Fig. 2). Given this fact, we used a polyclonal antibody raised against the sequence of the human β_5 cytoplasmic tail to ask if the novel integrin is $\alpha_v\beta_5$.

Osteoclast precursors treated with vehicle or 10^{-8} M 1,25(OH)₂D₃ were surface labeled with ¹²⁵I, and the lysate was immunoprecipitated with either of two polyclonal antibodies, one of which is β_5 -specific and the second, raised against the sequence of the human β_3 cytoplasmic tail. To confirm the complex precipitated by this latter polyclonal antibody is, in fact $\alpha_v\beta_3$, a portion of lysate was precipitated with the integrin-specific antibody LM609. To detect all α_v -associated integrins on the cell surface, a final sample was precipitated with Chav mAb.

Given 1,25(OH)₂D₃ stimulates expression of $\alpha_v\beta_3$, (7) we anticipated this integrin would be present on cells exposed to the steroid. This expectation was confirmed by precipitation with both LM609 and the polyclonal anti- β_3 cytoplasmic tail antibody (Fig. 3). Likewise, use of the β_5 -specific antibody results in only two bands, one migrating at 160 kDa, representing the α_v subunit and the other at 80 kDa, confirming the novel integrin is $\alpha_v\beta_5$. In contrast, when Chav, capable of immunoprecipitating all β chains bound to α_v , was the precipitating antibody, a complex of three bands, representing both $\alpha_v\beta_3$ and $\alpha_v\beta_5$, is obtained.

Retinoic acid decreases surface expression of $\alpha_v\beta_5$ by avian osteoclast precursors

1,25(OH)₂D₃ fails to alter surface expression, by osteoclast precursors, of $\alpha_v\beta_5$ (Fig. 1). Since both this steroid and retinoic acid increase $\alpha_v\beta_3$ expression, (21) we asked if the retinoid modulates $\alpha_v\beta_5$. As seen in Fig. 4A, which details expression of α_v integrins by adherent osteoclast precursors treated with 10^{-6} M retinoic acid, the retinoid, decreases $\alpha_v\beta_5$ while increasing $\alpha_v\beta_3$. To determine if retinoic acid inhibition of $\alpha_v\beta_5$ expression is dose dependent, cells were surface labeled with a biotin derivative, a technique we previously validated for quantitating α_v integrins. (21) This approach enabled us to study more variables than reasonable using iodination. As seen in Fig. 4B, $\alpha_v\beta_5$ expression is progressively decreased by increasing amounts of retinoic acid. The effect is detectable at concentrations of retinoid as low as 10^{-8} M, which is within the physiological range.(30)

Retinoic acid treatment of avian osteoclast precursors decreases steady-state β_5 mRNA in a time- and dose-dependent manner, but fails to alter α_v mRNA levels.

Retinoic acid–augmented surface expression of $\alpha_v\beta_3$ involves increased steady-state β_3 integrin subunit mRNA.(21) To test if an analogous situation exists for $\alpha_v\beta_5$, we performed Northern analysis, with time, of cells treated with various concentrations of retinoic acid. The results of this experiment, shown in Fig. 5, demonstrate a dose-dependent decrease in steady-state mRNA under the β_5 influence of the steroid with induction occurring within the physiological range. β_5 mRNA, in untreated cells, is present at isolation, peaks at day 3 and returns to basal levels by day 5 (Fig. 5). Alternatively, 1 day of retinoic acid treatment blunts β_5 mRNA expression. Northern analysis using a full-length avian cDNA reveals concentrations of retinoic acid as high as 10^{-6} M fail to alter α_v mRNA levels (data not shown).

Retinoic acid fails to alter the rate of transcription of the avian β_5 gene

To determine whether retinoic acid–mediated decrease in β_5 mRNA arises from inhibited gene transcription, we performed run-on studies, using nuclei from cells treated with either vehicle or 10^{-6} M steroid. Retinoic acid, while transactivating the β_3 gene as reported, fails to alter β_5 transcription (Fig. 6). In these studies, transcription of LEP acts as a negative control.

DISCUSSION

Our results indicate the integrin $\alpha_v\beta_3$, a critical mediator of osteoclast–bone interactions, is not expressed on early avian osteoclast precursors. However, precursor proliferation, maturation, and fusion, events central to osteoclastogenesis, require the cells to attach to the RGD-rich bone matrix. Thus, we asked whether another α_v integrin is present on early precursors lacking $\alpha_v\beta_3$. Using a MAb recognizing the avian α_v subunit, we established the presence, on these early cells, of an integrin whose β chain is smaller than that of avian β_1 or β_3 , namely 105 kDa and 95 kDa, respectively.(21,31) These observations, plus the fact that neither an $\alpha_v\beta_3$ -specific antibody, LM609, nor CSAT, an antibody targeting the avian β_1 chain, recognize the 80 kDa–associated heterodimer (data not shown), suggest avian osteoclast precursors, express an α_v integrin which is neither $\alpha_v\beta_1$ or $\alpha_v\beta_3$.

Given exclusion of $\alpha_v\beta_1$ and $\alpha_v\beta_3$, the remaining likely possibilities remained $\alpha_v\beta_5$, $\alpha_v\beta_6$, or $\alpha_v\beta_8$. While neither of the latter two integrins are known to be expressed by macrophages, $\alpha_v\beta_5$ is found on cells of monocyte lineage. (19,32) We confirmed the presence of this heterodimer on early osteoclast precursors by immunoprecipitation using an antibody prepared against the human β_5 cytoplasmic tail sequence.

Having documented $\alpha_v\beta_5$ on osteoclast precursors, we turned to its regulation. We find that, unlike the case of $\alpha_v\beta_3$, $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$ fails to alter expression of $\alpha_v\beta_5$. In contrast, treatment of precursors cells with retinoic acid, a related osteoclastogenic steroid, prompts a time- and dose-dependent decrease in the integrin. Furthermore, as demonstrated previously,(21) in contrast to β_3 mRNA, which is enhanced by retinoic acid, a maximal concentration of the steroid fails to alter the α_v message, which is abundant in both treated and control cells.

Although exposure of cells to retinoic acid leads to diminished β_5 steady-state mRNA, nuclear run-on studies indicate that the rate of transcription of the β_5 gene is unaltered. This observation suggests that retinoic acid treatment results in destabilization of β_5 mRNA. However, using the standard approach of measuring mRNA half-life with the transcriptional inhibitor actinomycin D, we were unable to confirm this hypothesis (data not shown). While the mechanism(s) by which retinoic acid decreases β_5 mRNA remain to be elucidated, the possibility exists that treatment with the retinoid leads to a block in transcriptional elongation. A similar finding was reported with respect to *c-myc* in the human promyelocytic cell line HL-60 following exposure to retinoic acid.(33,34) In these earlier studies, when nuclear run-on analysis was performed, retinoic acid–treated cells, using as probes cDNA sequences coding for two separate exons, there was no change in the rate of transcription of the more 5' exon,

while that of its more 3' counterpart decreased significantly. The avian β_5 gene has not been cloned and so we are not in a position to carry out analogous studies.

Overall, our results suggest that $\alpha_v\beta_3$ and $\alpha_v\beta_5$, while both capable of recognizing a similar range of ligands, play separate roles during avian osteoclastogenesis, a hypothesis consistent with observations that the integrins are functionally discrete. Thus, in human foreskin fibroblasts, $\alpha_v\beta_5$, but not $\alpha_v\beta_3$, mediates uptake of vitronectin, a ligand for both integrins. (35) Likewise, in cells expressing $\alpha_v\beta_3$ or $\alpha_v\beta_5$, it is the latter integrin, and not the former, which facilitates entry of the human adenovirus type 2. (36) An analogous finding obtains for $\alpha_v\beta_5$ and not $\alpha_v\beta_3$, with respect to uptake of asbestos fibers by mesothelial cells. (37) Finally, in human smooth muscle cells expressing both $\alpha_v\beta_3$ and $\alpha_v\beta_5$, both attachment to and migration on the RGD-containing protein osteopontin are $\alpha_v\beta_3$ - and not $\alpha_v\beta_5$ -dependent. (38)

The finding that retinoic acid suppresses $\alpha_v\beta_5$ expression, coupled with our earlier reports on $\alpha_v\beta_3$ induction by both $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$ and retinoic acid, suggests a model for the role of these two α_v integrins during osteoclast differentiation. Given that early osteoclast precursors capable of matrix recognition express the β_5 and not the β_3 -associated heterodimer, the cells likely utilize $\alpha_v\beta_5$ for initial attachment to bone. As the cells differentiate under the influence of $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$ and retinoic acid, levels of $\alpha_v\beta_5$ fall, while those of $\alpha_v\beta_3$ rise, leading to a situation where this latter integrin is the dominant RGD-recognizing moiety on mature osteoclasts, a result seen in both human (39) and rodent (40) cells.

Retinoic acid directly stimulates osteoclastogenesis and increases production, by mature osteoclasts, of the RGD-containing bone matrix protein osteopontin. (41) Thus, our findings that the retinoid reciprocally alters expression of two α_v integrins, whose roles are probably complementary, provide yet another molecular marker for the skeletal actions of this steroid.

Acknowledgments

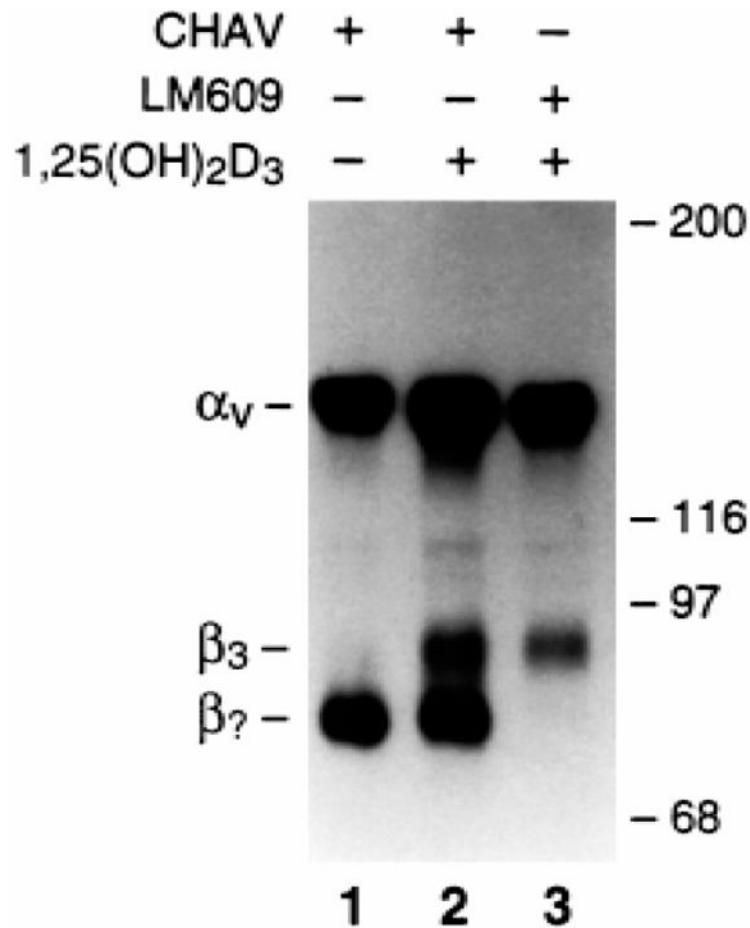
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**FIG. 1.**

Avian osteoclast precursors express a novel α_v integrin. Freshly isolated precursor cells from the marrow of hens fed a calcium-deficient diet were grown in the absence (lane 1) or presence (lanes 2 and 3) of 10^{-8} M $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$. The expression of α_v integrins was determined by ^{125}I surface labeling followed by immunoprecipitation of lysates with LM609, an antibody specific for the $\alpha_v\beta_3$ complex, or Chav, a MAb recognizing all avian α_v integrins. The integrin $\alpha_v\beta_3$, while absent in untreated cells (lane 1), is induced by $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$ (lane 2). Untreated cells contains another α_v integrin whose levels are not altered by $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$ (lane 2). The size of the novel β chain ($\beta?$) is 80 kDa, smaller than that reported for members of this family of integrin subunits.

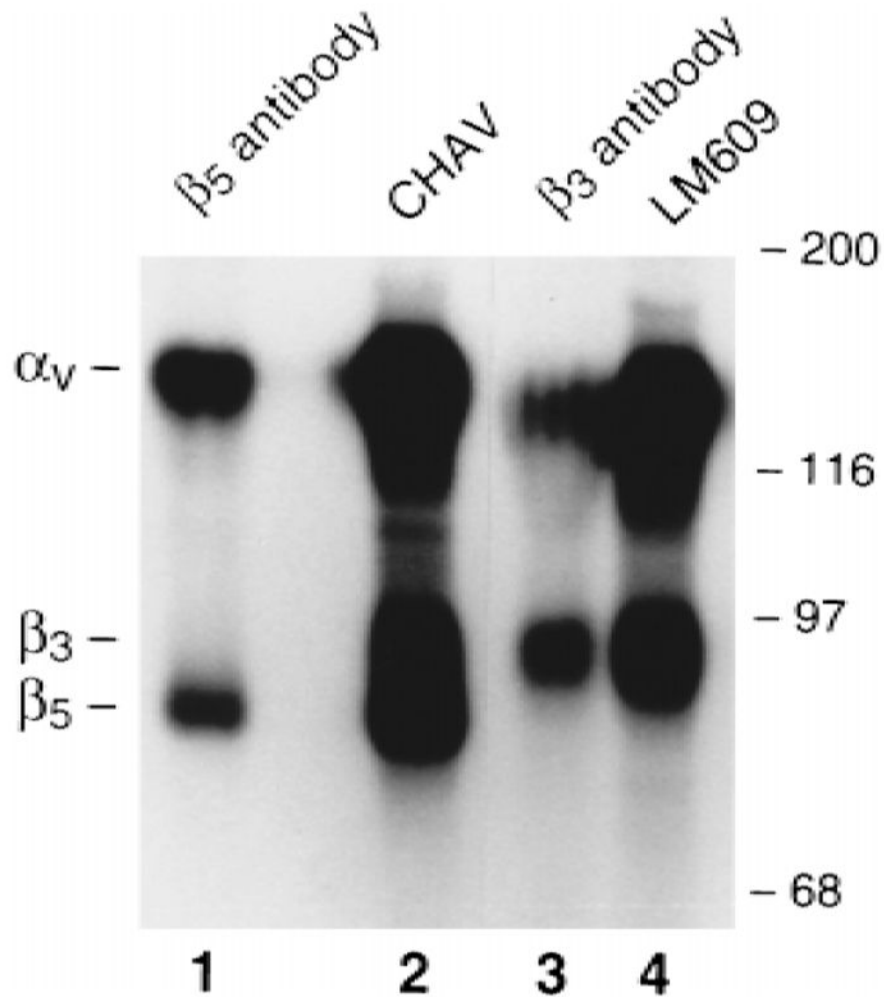
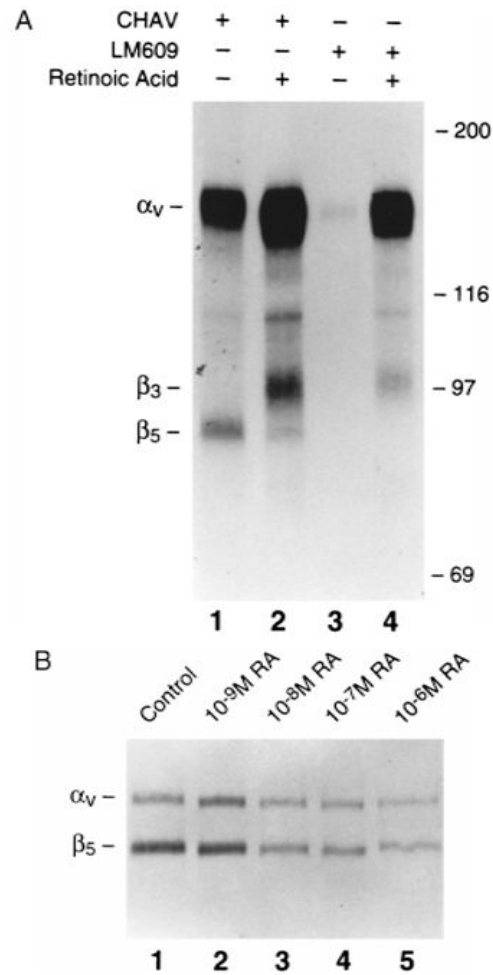


FIG. 3.

The integrin present on freshly isolated avian osteoclast precursors is $\alpha_v\beta_5$. Cells, isolated and treated with vehicle (lane 1) or 10^{-8} M $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$ (lanes 2–4), were surface labeled and immunoprecipitated with the following antibodies: a rabbit polyclonal antibody generated against the human β_5 cytoplasmic tail (lane 1); Chav, a MAb recognizing all avian α_v integrins (lane 2); a rabbit polyclonal antibody generated against the human β_3 cytoplasmic tail (lane 3); and LM609, a MAb specific for the $\alpha_v\beta_3$ heterodimer (lane 4). Steroid-treated cells express both $\alpha_v\beta_3$ and a heterodimer recognized by the β_5 tail antibody, while those cultured without $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}_3$ $\alpha_v\beta_5$ have only on their surface.

**FIG. 4.**

(A) Retinoic acid reciprocally regulates $\alpha_v\beta_3$ and $\alpha_v\beta_5$ expression on avian osteoclast precursors. Cells were isolated from marrow and treated for 3 days with vehicle (lanes 1 and 3) or 10⁻⁶ M retinoic acid (lane 2 and 4). Integrin expression was determined on ¹²⁵I surface-labeled cells using the antibodies Chav (all α_v integrins) and LM609 ($\alpha_v\beta_3$ only). Retinoic acid, while stimulating $\alpha_v\beta_3$ expression (compare lanes 3 and 4), decreases that of $\alpha_v\beta_5$ (compare lanes 1 and 2). (B) The effect of retinoic acid on $\alpha_v\beta_5$ expression is dose dependent. Cells treated for 3 days with varying amounts of retinoic acid were surface labeled with sulfobiotin and immunoprecipitated with the β_5 -specific antibody.

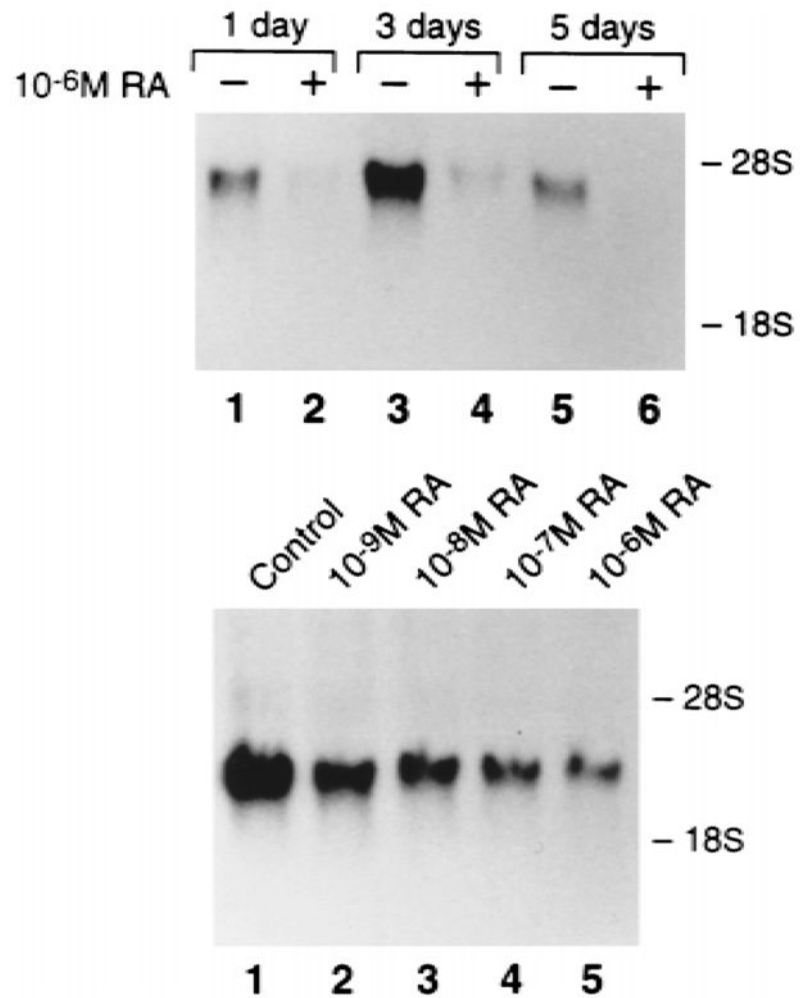


FIG. 5. Retinoic acid alters $\alpha_v\beta_5$ expression by decreasing β_5 steady-state mRNA levels, in a time- and dose-dependent manner. Cells were treated with vehicle or 10^{-6} M retinoic acid for up to 5 days (top panel) or for 3 days with vehicle (control) or varying amounts of retinoic acid (lower panel), at which time Northern analysis was performed.

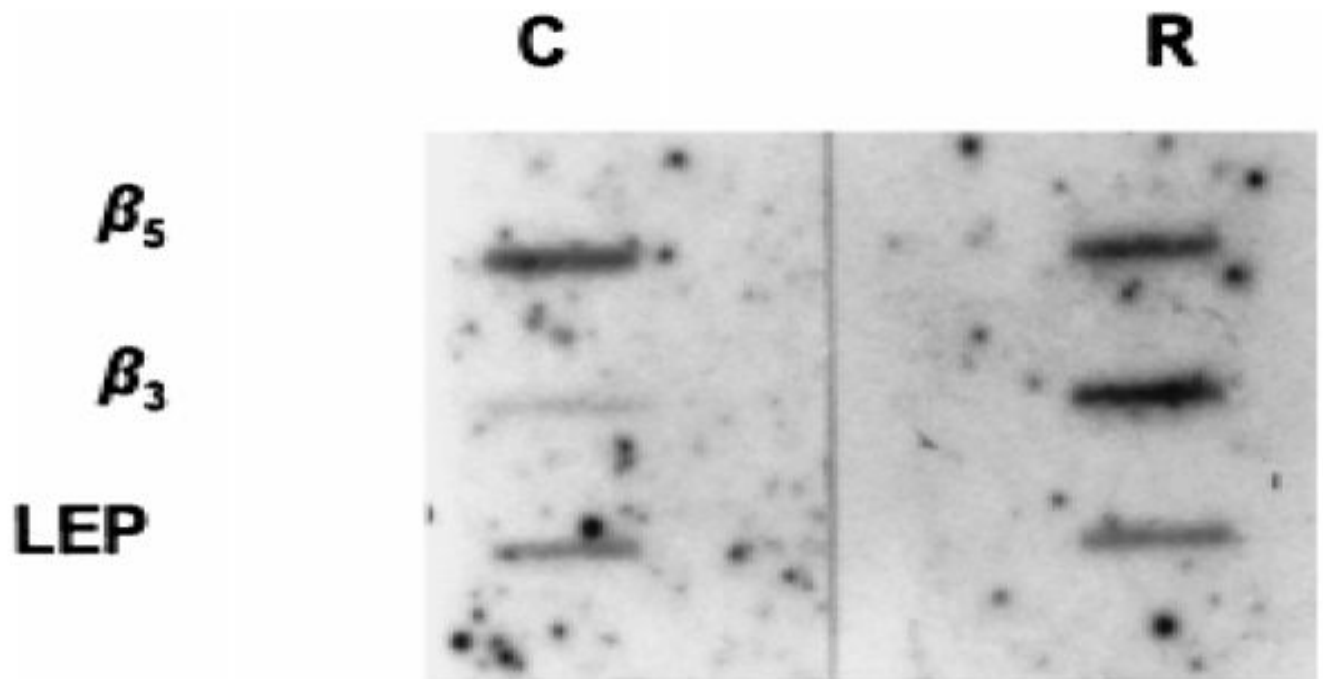


FIG. 6. Retinoic acid accelerates β_3 but not β_5 transcription. Nuclei isolated from cells treated with vehicle or 10^{-6} M retinoic acid were used in run-on studies, using excess β_3 , β_5 , and LEP (negative control) cDNA probes. C 4 control cells, R 4 retinoic acid-treated cells.