

Presynaptic peptidergic modulation of olfactory receptor neurons in *Drosophila*

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The role of classical neurotransmitters in the transfer and processing of olfactory information is well established in many organisms. Neuropeptide action, however, is largely unexplored in any peripheral olfactory system. A subpopulation of local interneurons (LNs) in the *Drosophila* antennal lobe is peptidergic, expressing *Drosophila* tachykinins (DTKs). We show here that olfactory receptor neurons (ORNs) express the DTK receptor (DTKR). Using two-photon microscopy, we found that DTK applied to the antennal lobe suppresses presynaptic calcium and synaptic transmission in the ORNs. Furthermore, reduction of DTKR expression in ORNs by targeted RNA interference eliminates presynaptic suppression and alters olfactory behaviors. We detect opposite behavioral phenotypes after reduction and over expression of DTKR in ORNs. Our findings suggest a presynaptic inhibitory feedback to ORNs from peptidergic LNs in the antennal lobe.

olfactory behavior | presynaptic inhibition | tachykinin | two-photon imaging

In *Drosophila*, odor detection begins when odor molecules activate olfactory receptor neurons (ORNs) in the antennae and maxillary palps. Each of the ORNs expresses only 1 or a few members of a large family of odorant receptor genes (1–4). These ORNs propagate activity to neurons with dendrites in the glomerular compartments of the antennal lobe; each glomerulus receives inputs from ORNs that express the same odorant receptor (1, 3, 5, 6). In the glomeruli, the activity is read by second-order neurons, designated projection neurons (PNs), which relay information to higher olfactory centers in the brain (7).

Inhibitory circuits in the glomeruli, mediated by local interneurons (LNs), play a key role in modulating glomerular signal activity. Presynaptic GABAergic inhibition of the ORNs has been shown in both *Drosophila* (8, 9) and in mammals (10–12). Conversely, cholinergic LNs in the *Drosophila* antennal lobe have been suggested to increase and redistribute odor-evoked activity at low odor concentrations (13,14).

In addition to GABA and acetylcholine it is likely that certain neuropeptides are used as neuromodulators in the antennal lobe circuitry of insects (15, 16), as also suggested in the olfactory bulb in mammals (17, 18). One neuropeptide gene that has been implicated in olfactory processing is *dtk* (19), a gene encoding 5 tachykinin-related peptides, DTKs (20). The DTKs are expressed in ≈ 150 neurons in the *Drosophila* brain, and in the antennal lobe glomeruli, there are extensive DTK-immunoreactive arborizations derived from a subset of antennal lobe LNs (21). Two DTK receptors, DTKR and NKD, have been identified in *Drosophila* (22, 23) and 1 of these, DTKR, is strongly expressed in antennal lobe glomeruli (24). Behavioral evidence for a role of DTKs in olfaction was obtained from analysis of flies where *dtk* expression was knocked down globally using RNA interference (RNAi); these flies displayed diminished odor sensitivity (19).

To gain insight into the neuromodulation provided by the DTK signaling system in the antennal lobe, we targeted RNAi to specific neurons. We demonstrated that ORNs express the DTKR. Furthermore, RNAi expression reduced receptor expression in ORNs,

establishing a tool to investigate the physiological function and behavioral effect of DTK-mediated neuromodulation. Physiological and behavioral data together suggest that DTKs produced by certain LNs exert a presynaptic inhibitory action on ORNs.

Results

Distribution of DTK Peptide and Its Receptor DTKR in the Olfactory System. LNs in the antennal lobe have been suggested to play a role in the transformation of olfactory information, and thus the shaping of elaborate behavioral responses to odor cues, through synaptic interactions with the ORNs and PNs in the antennal lobe circuitry (13, 14, 25–29). Immunocytochemistry with a well characterized antiserum has revealed that DTKs are expressed in certain LNs that form a dense supply of neuronal processes to the antennal lobe glomeruli (21). To further analyze DTK expression in antennal lobe LNs we applied the same tachykinin antiserum to flies with GFP expression in a large population of LNs due to the transgenes *UAS-CD8-GFP* and *GH298-Gal4*. We found that ≈ 21 (21 ± 0.9 ; $n = 5$) LNs were tachykinin-immunoreactive. Of these DTK immunoreactive neurons, approximately 70% are also *GH298*-positive (15 ± 0.5 ; $n = 5$) (Fig. 1A). In contrast we found that PNs identified by the *GH146-Gal4* do not express DTKs (Fig. 1B), confirming earlier work that suggested lack of DTK in all PNs (21).

We next investigated the synaptic target of DTK neurons. Immunocytochemistry using an antiserum to the tachykinin receptor DTKR (24) showed that expression in the antennae is localized to cell bodies of ORNs (Fig. 2B). DTKR immunoreactivity was also detected in the glomeruli of the antennal lobes (Fig. 2C). To verify that *dtkr* is expressed in ORNs we performed reverse transcriptase PCR analysis of isolated antennae. We found that *dtkr* transcripts are in RNA extracts from antennae and whole heads (Fig. 2A). However, transcript of the peptide gene *dtk* was only detected in RNA from heads (Fig. 2A). This result suggests that cells in the antenna express DTK receptors. We next drove the expression of *dtkr-RNAi* with the ORN specific line *Or83b-Gal4* to test whether ORNs are the antennal cells that express DTKR. The efficacy of the RNAi was tested by quantitative PCR in flies bearing the pan-neural *elav-Gal4* and *UAS-dtkr-RNAi* transgenes (Fig. S1C). We found that expression of the RNAi in Or83b neurons dramatically reduced the immu-

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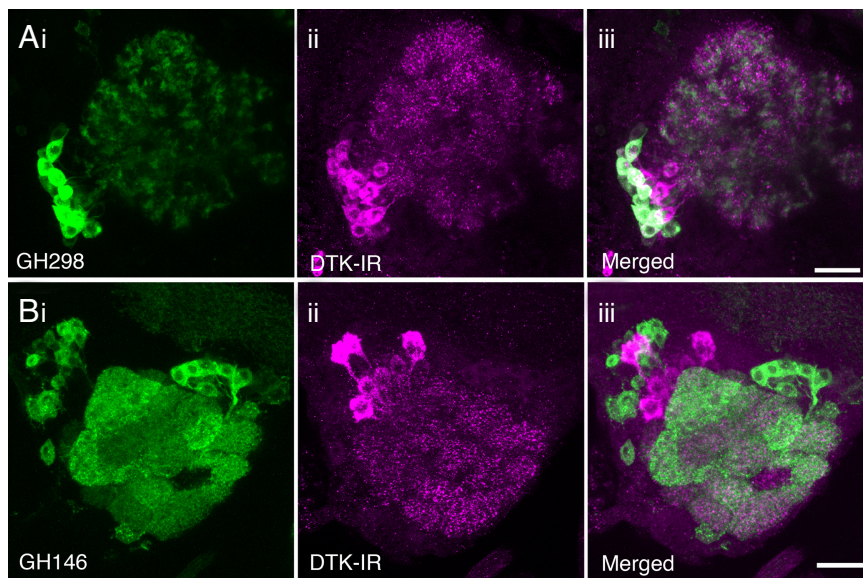


Fig. 1. Distribution of DTK peptide immunoreactivity (IR) in local antennal lobe interneurons. Using antiserum to LemTRP-1 (magenta) we localized DTK peptide distribution in relation to Gal4-driven GFP (image stacks from whole-mounted specimens). (Ai–iii) Many LNs of the *GH298-Gal4* line express DTK-IR. (Bi–iii) We did not detect DTK-IR in any of the projection neurons displayed in the *GH146-Gal4* line. (Scale bars, 20 μ m.)

noreactivity from the DTKR antiserum (Fig. S1 E and F). Thus, ORNs appear to be the main population of cells expressing DTKR in the antenna.

The Tachykinin Receptor DTKR Mediates Presynaptic Inhibition in ORNs. We next asked whether neurotransmission of ORNs is modulated by the DTK signaling system. First we measured calcium in ORN axon terminals using two-photon imaging in flies expressing the calcium sensor GCaMP in ORNs (30, 31). We expressed *UAS-GCaMP* in Or83b neurons. Electrical stimulation of the olfactory nerve elicits a calcium influx in ORN terminals, and this calcium response was reduced by the application of DTK (Fig. 3A and B). When quantifying the effect of DTK across preparations we could determine an average 38% reduction in presynaptic calcium responses (Fig. 3C). Presynaptic calcium entry triggers the release of neurotransmitters from synaptic vesicles, hence DTK mediated reduction in presynaptic calcium should be accompanied by a decrease of synaptic vesicle release. To investigate this we used two-photon imaging of the

antennal lobe of flies expressing synaptopHluorin (spH), an indicator of synaptic vesicle release (32), in Or83b neurons. Electrical stimulation of the olfactory nerve elicited an increase of spH fluorescence and applying DTK resulted in a reduction of this fluorescence signal by $\approx 50\%$ (Fig. 3D–F). We next examined whether the DTK mediated presynaptic inhibition requires DTKR expression in ORNs. When *dtkr-RNAi* was expressed in Or83b neurons the same stimulation of the olfactory nerve produced a larger increase in spH fluorescence intensity. Furthermore *dtkr-RNAi* abolished sensitivity to DTK application (Fig. 3F). These experiments indicate that DTKR in ORNs mediates presynaptic inhibition by reducing calcium influx into axon terminals and reducing neurotransmission.

Next we investigated the role of DTKR in the modulation of neurotransmission from the ORNs in responses to high (10^{-1}) and low (10^{-4}) concentrations of the food related odors: ethyl-3-hydroxybutyrate and methyl hexanoate. To monitor the activity in the ORN axon terminals we imaged flies expressing spH in Or83b neurons in control flies and flies that also express *dtkr-RNAi*. High concentration of ethyl-3-hydroxybutyrate mainly activated 5 glomeruli (DM1, DM2, DM5, VM2, and VM3) (Fig. 4A and C). Reduction of DTKR levels in Or83b neurons, significantly increased olfactory responses in the DM1 and DL5 glomeruli (Fig. 4A and C). High concentration of methyl hexanoate activated 7 glomeruli (DM1, DM2, DM5, VM2, VM3, DM3, and DL5) in control flies and knocking down DTKR expression in Or83b neurons significantly increased the response in the DM1, DM2, and VM2 glomeruli (Fig. 4B and D). Stimulating the flies with the lower odor concentration (10^{-4}) did not result in any significant change in response between control and *dtkr-RNAi* expressing flies (Fig. S2). Thus, olfactory response in antennal lobe glomeruli is modulated by the DTK signaling pathway in some but not all glomeruli.

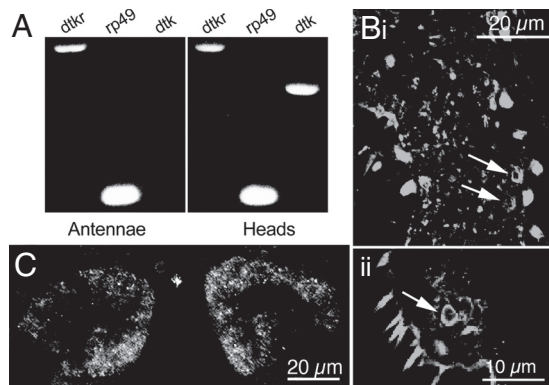


Fig. 2. Tachykinin receptor (DTKR) expression in the olfactory receptor neurons (ORNs). (A) Molecular analysis of the *dtkr* expression in ORNs. Reverse transcriptase PCR products from isolated antennae and whole heads of *w¹¹¹⁸* flies. Expression of *dtkr* in antennae and in whole heads is observed. However, *dtk* expression (peptide precursor) is only detected in heads. Parallel reactions with *rp49* as a template control were performed. (B and C) DTKR immunoreactivity was observed in the ORNs (arrows) of the antenna (Bi and Bii) and in most of the glomeruli of the antennal lobe neuropils (C) of *w¹¹¹⁸* flies. The 2 antennal lobes are shown in a frontal 9- μ m thick section.

DTKR Signaling Modulates Sensitivity in Odor-Guided Behavior. Next, we asked whether the observed DTK mediated presynaptic inhibition could be translated into a modulation of odor-guided behavior, and whether this could correlate to the imaging data that showed activity in select glomeruli. To address this we knocked down or over-expressed DTKR by crossing *UAS-dtkr-RNAi* or *UAS-dtkr* with *Or83b-Gal4* and scored the behavioral responses to specific odors. The ectopic expression of DTKR in ORNs was confirmed by reverse transcriptase PCR of isolated antennae, by microscopical detection of GFP tagged DTKR and

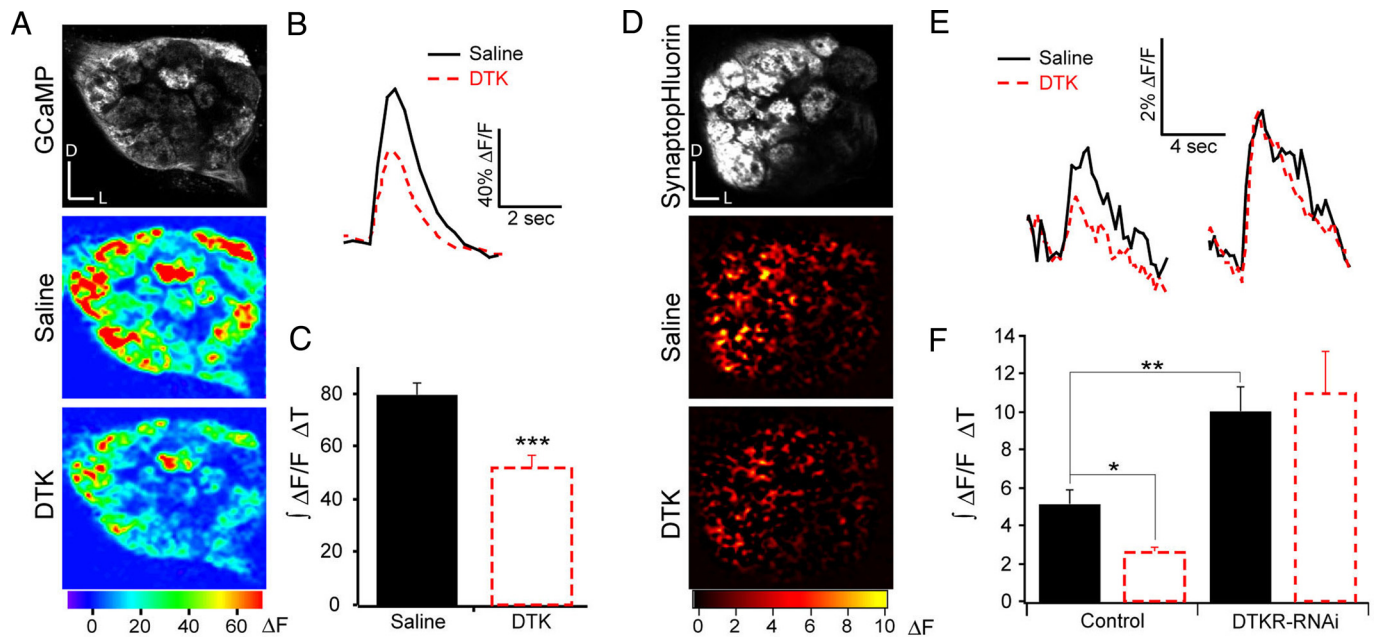


Fig. 3. Tachykinin receptors mediate presynaptic inhibition in *Drosophila* olfactory receptor neurons. (A) Two-photon images of the antennal lobe of a fly expressing GCaMP in Or83b neurons (Top). Pseudocolored images reveal the response to electrical stimulation of the olfactory nerve in saline (Middle) and after addition of 10 μ M DTK (Bottom). (B) Fluorescence change over time. Black and red traces show representative responses before and after drug application, respectively. (C) Effect of DTK on presynaptic calcium response quantified as the integrated fluorescence change over time (area under the curve in B) across preparations. (D) Two-photon images of the antennal lobe of a fly expressing synaptopHluorin in Or83b neurons (Top). Pseudocolored images reveal the response to electrical stimulation of the olfactory nerve in saline (Middle) and after addition of 10 μ M DTK (Bottom). (E) Fluorescence change over time; traces are the average of 3 trials. (F) Effect of DTK on presynaptic calcium response quantified as the integrated fluorescence change over time across preparations. Electrical stimulations were 1 ms in duration and 10 V in amplitude, 45 pulses (A–C) or 80 pulses (D–F) at 100 Hz. (n) 16 (C) and 5 (F). *t* test: *, $P \leq 0.05$; **, $P \leq 0.01$; ***, $P \leq 0.001$.

by increased DTKR immunolabeling (Fig. S1 A, B, and D and Fig. S3A). The GFP-tagged DTKR has been shown to be functional when expressed in HEK-296 cells (24). Odor-guided behavior was measured by a trap assay with free walking flies that were given a choice between a specific odor and water in a small arena (33, 34). A response index was calculated where a negative index indicates that flies are repelled by the odor and a positive index that they are attracted.

Many odorants, including methyl hexanoate and ethyl-3-hydroxybutyrate, are attractive at low concentrations and aversive at high concentrations (35–37), and this was found also in our assay. DTKR knock down in Or83b-ORNs, resulted in an increase in response index at high concentrations of the tested odorants (Fig. 5). This result suggests that the DTKR mediated presynaptic inhibition is linked to the inhibition of behavioral responses to high concentrations of food-related odors.

We then asked whether over-expression of DTKR in ORNs leads to behavioral phenotypes opposite to those of the receptor knock-downs. Indeed, this is the case for both methyl hexanoate and ethyl-3-hydroxybutyrate (Fig. 5). For these odors we observed a significant decrease in the response index with increasing odor concentrations for flies with DTKR ectopically expressed in ORNs (Fig. 5). Thus, ectopic expression of DTKR produces a behavioral response that is opposite to that of RNAi knock down.

Another possible synaptic target of DTK producing LNs could be the PNs. Thus, we investigated whether DTKR plays a role in PNs by driving *dtkr-RNAi* expression with *GH146-Gal4*. The behavioral responses of the experimental flies did not significantly differ from the controls over the entire range of odor concentrations tested (Fig. S4). Ectopic expression of DTKR in the PNs, confirmed by detection of the GFP fusion protein (Fig. S3B), also did not alter the behavioral responses to the tested

odorants (Fig. S4). Because the DTKR knockdown in GH146 neurons did not alter odor choice, it is likely that these PNs do not express DTKR. Likewise, because ectopic expression of DTKR in GH146 neurons did not affect odor choice, it is likely that these PNs lack DTK signaling capabilities.

Discussion

The present study shows that *Drosophila* ORNs express a presynaptic neuropeptide receptor, DTKR, which appears to serve in a feedback circuit from local peptidergic interneurons, LNs, of the antennal lobe. These LNs express the peptide products, DTK1–5, of the *dtk* gene (see ref. 21). Our two-photon imaging and behavioral data, using RNAi and over-expression of the DTK receptor, provide evidence that ORNs are modulated presynaptically by DTKs. This peptidergic presynaptic inhibition of ORNs is detected behaviorally only at high odorant concentrations, and may thus serve to modulate the dynamic range in sensitivity to relevant odors.

Recent studies of peripheral olfactory signal processing in *Drosophila* have shown that there are afferent and local excitatory cholinergic circuits, combined with presynaptic and postsynaptic GABAergic inhibition of ORNs and interneurons (8, 9, 13, 14, 28). We now demonstrate a second presynaptic inhibitory pathway mediated by DTK-expressing LNs, providing an additional modulation mechanism in peripheral olfactory processing. Given the importance of presynaptic inhibition future experiments will be necessary to demonstrate a synaptic connection between LNs and ORNs. However, in studies of the cockroach *Periplaneta americana* both GABAergic and other LNs were found presynaptic to ORNs (38, 39).

There is ample physiological evidence to suggest that vertebrate and invertebrate ORN axon terminals can be presynaptically modulated by GABA and inhibitory LNs (9–12, 40), but our

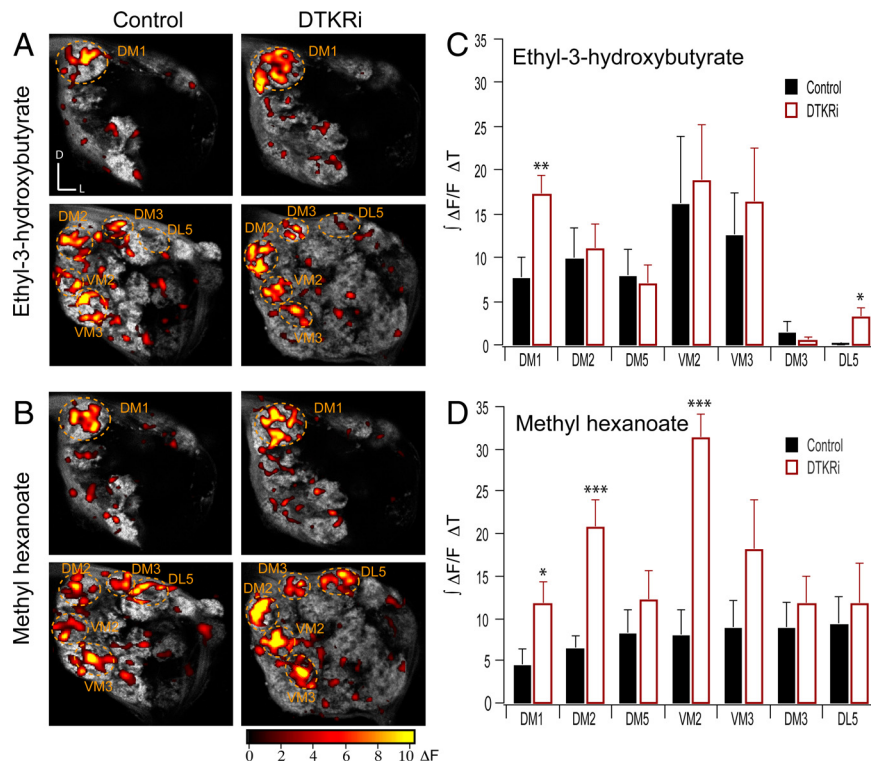


Fig. 4. Presynaptic tachykinin receptors modulate odor-evoked olfactory receptor neuron transmission. Two-photon imaging of ORN synaptic transmission elicited by odor stimulation at high odor concentration (10^{-1}) in control flies and flies expressing *dtkr-RNAi* in Or83b neurons. (A and B) Two-photon images of the antennal lobe from flies expressing spH in Or83b neurons in control flies (Left) and flies that also express *dtkr-RNAi* in ORNs (Right). Pseudocolor overlays reveal the change in fluorescence in response in response to (A) ethyl-3-hydroxybutyrate and (B) methyl hexanoate at 2 different optical planes. (C) Ethyl-3-hydroxybutyrate and (D) methyl hexanoate evoked responses quantified as the integrated fluorescence change over time for each glomerulus. Odors were delivered for 2 seconds. (n) 7–8 preparations. *t* test: *, $P \leq 0.05$; **, $P \leq 0.01$; ***, $P \leq 0.001$.

study is unique in that we demonstrate peptidergic presynaptic inhibition of ORNs by local interneurons. In animals other than *Drosophila* there is only immunocytochemical data to suggest such circuitry. For example, in the rat, periglomerular cells, interneurons that modulate the first synaptic relay in olfactory processing, have been shown to express 2 neuropeptides: somatostatin and cholecystokinin (18). Moreover, somatostatin receptor immunoreactivity in axons of the rat olfactory nerve has been demonstrated (41). These morphological studies may suggest that presynaptic peptidergic modulation of ORNs is not exclusive to *Drosophila*. In addition, there are examples of peptidergic modulation in the olfactory system by efferent neurons. Centrifugal peptidergic modulation has been demonstrated in the olfactory epithelia of a salamander, where neuropeptide Y was shown to enhance responses evoked by a food-related odor in hungry animals (42). The peptide FMRFamide has been shown to modulate the activity of ORNs in the olfactory epithelium of the mouse and the salamander, but the circuitry is not clear (17, 43).

Recently, a study of how specific glomeruli mediate olfactory-guided behavior showed that the activation of the DM1 glomerulus is necessary and sufficient to mediate fly attraction to vinegar odor (44). Here, we tested, physiologically and behaviorally, the response to 2 other food related odors. Both odors elicited activation of DM1 and in flies with down regulated DTKR levels we detected an increased activation of this specific glomerulus. In line with this, we observed that DTKR knock down flies were more attracted to the 2 odors, suggesting that the behavioral responses to these odors may be linked to DTK mediated inhibition of DM1.

Neuropeptides often colocalize with classical neurotransmitters in neurons and may act as cotransmitters at synapses (15, 45, 46). We found here that DTK is expressed in a population partly overlapping with GAD1-expressing LNs, likely to be GABAergic (Fig. S5). Therefore, we conducted experiments to determine whether GABA and DTK act synergistically on ORNs (Fig. S5). Our preliminary data, however, suggest that the 2 compounds may act independently. This is in contrast to findings in the crayfish visual system where GABA hyperpolarizes photoreceptors and a tachykinin-like peptide potentiates this response (47). In the crayfish, it is not clear which GABA receptor type that mediates the response, although a Cl^- conductance appears to be activated (47), whereas in *Drosophila* ORNs the presynaptic inhibition is mediated by metabotropic GABA_B receptors (9).

In summary, our findings suggest a presynaptic inhibitory feedback to ORNs from a population of peptidergic LNs in the antennal lobe. These LNs express DTKs, and the ORNs of the antennae express the DTK receptor. We provide evidence for peptidergic modulation in the antennal lobe before the olfactory signals are relayed via projection neurons to higher brain centers, possibly acting as a mechanism to control olfactory sensitivity.

Materials and Methods

Fly Strains. To ectopically express the DTKR receptor we designed a UAS-*dtkr*-GFP fusion construct according to Birse et al. (24). This *dtkr* fusion construct has been shown to be functional when expressed in HEK-296 cells (24). A BglII/NotI fragment containing the *dtkr* (CG7887) sequence and the GFP fusion was excised from the pEGFP1 vector. The sequences were then subcloned into a pUAST vector. We used immunocytochemistry with an antiserum to DTKR (see ref. 24 and *SI Text*) to confirm that the construct was able to produce ectopic expression of the receptor in flies bearing the UAS-*dtkr*-GFP construct and *Or83b-Gal4* (Fig. S1 A and B).

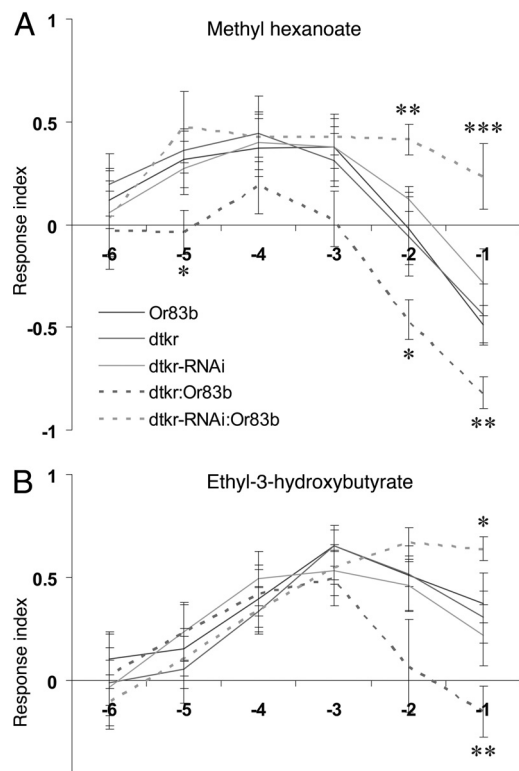


Fig. 5. Interference with tachykinin receptor (DTKR) expression in the ORNs alters odor-guided behavior. Olfactory behavior of adult *Drosophila* exhibiting altered expression of DTKR in the ORNs. Behavior is scored as a response index (RI) where positive values represent attraction and negative RIs indicate repulsion. Each of the average RI values is based on 15–25 replicates of 20 flies each. (A and B) Down regulation of DTKR in ORNs (*dtkr-RNAi:Or83b*) leads to an increased RI for tested odors at high concentrations compared with control flies (*Or83* and *dtkr-RNAi*). Ectopic expression of DTKR in the ORNs (*dtkr:Or83b*), however, leads to a decrease in RI at high concentrations for the odorants tested: methyl hexanoate (A) and ethyl-3-hydroxybutyrate (B) compared with control flies (*Or83b* and *dtkr*). ANOVA, Tukey's posttest: *, $P < 0.05$; **, $P < 0.01$; ***, $P < 0.001$.

To down-regulate DTKR a *dtkr-RNAi* construct was designed according to the method of Giordano et al. (48). For further information on the generation of *dtkr-RNAi* flies and the efficacy of the *dtkr-RNAi* see *SI Text*. To reduce expression of the GABA_B receptor in ORNs we used a *UAS-GABA_BR2-RNAi* described in Root et al. (9).

We also used the following driver lines: *Or83b-Gal4* (gift of Leslie Vosshall, Rockefeller University, New York), which is active in ≈ 70 – 80% of the ORNs (34), *GH146-Gal4* (gift of Reinhard Stocker, University of Freiburg, Switzerland), which is active in $\approx 60\%$ of the PNs (7,49), *GH298-Gal4* (gift of Reinhard Stocker), and *Gad1-Gal4* (gift of Gero Miesenböck, University of Oxford, U.K.), both expressed in LNs. *Gad1-Gal4* is active in most GABAergic neurons in the brain because it is based on promoter/enhancer elements of *Gad1*, the gene encoding glutamic acid decarboxylase 1 (GAD1), the key enzyme in GABA biosynthesis (50). *GH298-Gal4* is active in a subset (≈ 36 LNs) of the LNs (7, 28). In the behavioral experiments, for the silencing of *dtkr*, we used *UAS-dtcr-RNAi1a, Or83b-Gal4* and for ectopic expression of *dtkr* we used *UAS-dtcr-GFP10b/Or83b-Gal4*. We used corresponding parental strains as controls.

Immunocytochemistry. Dissected fly brains were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde and 1.0% Triton X-100. To test for the coexpression of DTKR in populations of GFP-expressing neurons we incubated the brains with an antiserum to a generic sequence of insect tachykinin-related peptides (anti-LemTRP-1; code K 9836) (21) and a mouse monoclonal antibody against GFP (1:100, Molecular

Probes). DTKR immunocytochemistry was performed as described by Birse et al. (24). For each experiment at least 10 specimens were analyzed. For further details see *SI Text*.

Reverse Transcriptase PCR. To verify DTKR expression in olfactory receptor neurons we performed reverse transcriptase PCR (rt-PCR) analysis of antennae of *w¹¹¹⁸*, *Or83b-Gal4/UAS-dtcr-GFP*, and *UAS-dtcr-GFP/+* flies. Individual flies were frozen in liquid nitrogen, and for each genotype 100 pairs of antennae were used for RNA preparation. As a positive control, RNA from 20 heads was extracted. Total RNA was prepared using TRIzol (Invitrogen) according to the instruction of the manufacturer. RT-PCR with sequence specific primer pairs for *dtkr*, *dtk*, and *rp49* was performed using the QIAGEN One-Step RT-PCR Kit. Ribosomal protein *rp49* was used as a transcriptional standard (51). For primer sequences see *SI Text*.

Two-photon Imaging. Isolated brain preparations (31) were obtained by micro dissection of decapitated flies to remove head cuticle and connective tissues. Neural activity of the fly brain was reduced by dissecting in chilled calcium free AHL saline. The antenna and brain preparation was pinned in a Sylgard dish and the olfactory nerves were carefully severed near the base of the antenna with fine forceps for nerve stimulation experiments. After dissection the preparations were rinsed and kept in AHL saline (108 mM NaCl, 5 mM KCl, 2 mM CaCl₂, 8.2 mM MgCl₂, 4 mM NaHCO₃, 1 mM NaH₂PO₄, 5 mM trehalose, 10 mM sucrose, and 5 mM HEPES, pH 7.5, 265 mOsm). For odor stimulation experiments, the preparation was mounted on a slide and the brain was embedded in 2% agarose in AHL saline leaving the antennae exposed to air, as originally described (31). Synthetic DTK-1 (produced by Vulpes LTD), was dissolved as 1,000 \times stock in AHL. CGP54626 (Tocris) was dissolved as 2,000 \times stocks in DMSO. SKF97541 (Tocris) was dissolved as a 500 \times stock in 100 mM NaCl. The appropriate volume (1–4 μ L) was first diluted with 100 μ L AHL saline and then added to the preparation to achieve the final concentration of 10 μ M, 25 μ M, and 20 μ M for DTK, CGP54626, and SKF97541, respectively.

Calcium and synaptophluorin imaging was performed with a custom-built two-photon microscope (see *SI Text*) similar to the one described (31). Images were captured at 4 frames per second with a resolution of 128 \times 128 pixels. At the end of the experiment, a high resolution Z-stack of images (512 \times 512 pixels) was collected for glomerular identification. Electrical stimulation of the olfactory nerve was delivered with a glass suction electrode that was made by pulling capillary glass to a fine tip, broken with forceps, and then fire polished to achieve a diameter that is $\approx 1.5\times$ the diameter of the nerve. The nerve was sucked as a loop into the electrode. A Grass stimulator was used to stimulate the nerve with pulses at 100 Hz, 1 ms in duration, and 10 V in amplitude for a duration of 450 or 800 ms. In odor experiments, a constant carrier airflow of 1 L/min was applied to the antennae in a pipe of 12 mm in diameter. Odor onset was controlled by solenoid valves that mixed 50% of the carrier air with air redirected through 100-mL bottles containing 20 μ L odorant on a piece of filter paper. Ethyl-3-hydroxybutyrate and methyl hexanoate were diluted in water.

Olfactory Choice Assay. We used a free-walking behavior assay adapted from the protocols described by Dekker et al. (33) and Larsson et al. (34). In this bioassay a group of 20 flies is introduced in a small chamber where they are allowed to choose between odor and control. After 22 h, flies trapped in the different vials (odor or control) or remaining in the arena were counted. A response index was calculated as $(T - C)/(T + C + NR - D)$, where T is the number of flies in test vial, C number in the control vial, NR number of flies remaining in arena, and D number of dead flies in the arena. For more information on the olfactory choice assay and odors used see *SI Text*.

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