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# **Phospholipase Cε Hydrolyzes Perinuclear Phosphatidylinositol 4-Phosphate to Regulate Cardiac Hypertrophy**

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# **Summary**

Phospholipase Cε (PLCε) is a multifunctional enzyme implicated in cardiovascular, pancreatic and inflammatory functions. Here we show that conditional deletion of PLCε in mouse cardiac myocytes protects from stress-induced pathological hypertrophy. PLCε siRNA in ventricular myocytes decreases endothelin-1 (ET-1)-dependent elevation of nuclear calcium and activation of nuclear protein kinase D (PKD). PLC e scaffolded to muscle-specific A kinase anchoring protein (mAKAP), along with PKCε and PKD, localizes these components at or near the nuclear envelope and this complex is required for nuclear PKD activation. Phosphatidylinositol 4-phosphate (PI4P) is identified as a perinuclear substrate in the Golgi apparatus for mAKAP-scaffolded PLCε. We conclude that perinuclear PLCε, scaffolded to mAKAP in cardiac myocytes, responds to hypertrophic stimuli to generate DAG from PI4P in the Golgi apparatus, in close proximity to the nuclear envelope, to regulate activation of nuclear PKD, and hypertrophic signaling pathways.

> Heart failure is a major global health problem and a leading cause of mortality. In response to high blood pressure or other cardiac stress the adult heart remodels enlarges in what is thought to be an initial compensatory mechanism, but which is maladaptive in the long term and leads to cardiac decompensation and heart failure. One major feature of cardiac remodeling is hypertrophic growth of cardiac myocytes, driven in part by increased levels of neurohumoral agonists such as norepinephrine and endothelin-1 (ET-1), acting on G proteincoupled receptors (GPCRs) in cardiac myocytes (Rockman et al., 2002).

> Many hypertrophic agonists couple to activation of phosphoinositide-specific phospholipase C (PLC), to stimulate phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate (PIP<sub>2</sub>) hydrolysis and produce inositol 1,4,5 trisphosphate  $(\text{IP}_3)$  and diacylglycerol (DAG), a key reaction involved in

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mediating cardiomyocyte hypertrophy.  $Ga_q$ , a GTP binding protein that directly activates PLC is a major participant in the hypertrophic process in mice (D'Angelo et al., 1997; Dorn II and Brown, 1999), and a splice variant of PLCβ, PLCβ1b, is required for cardiomyocyte hypertrophy in vitro driven by α-adrenergic receptor activation (Filtz et al., 2009; Grubb et al., 2011).

A novel isoform of PLC, PLCε, is downstream of both GPCRs and receptor tyrosine kinases by virtue of its ability to be regulated by small GTPases including Ras, Rho and Rap, and by heterotrimeric G protein βγ subunits (Kelley et al., 2001; Smrcka et al., 2012). We recently demonstrated that hypertrophy of neonatal rat ventricular myocytes (NRVMs) driven by endothelin-1 (ET-1), norepinephrine, or isoproterenol (Iso) was inhibited by siRNAmediated knockdown of PLCε (Zhang et al., 2011). Furthermore, it was shown that PLCε scaffolds to muscle-specific A kinase anchoring protein (mAKAP) at the nuclear envelope (NE), and disruption of this scaffolding interaction prevents development of agonist-induced hypertrophy (Zhang et al., 2011). This suggests that PLCe generates second messengers at the nuclear envelope that are required for hypertrophy.

Canonical GPCR-mediated  $PIP<sub>2</sub>$  hydrolysis by PLC occurs at the plasma membrane where  $\text{PIP}_2$  is preferentially enriched.  $\text{PIP}_2$  is not readily detectable in intracellular organelle membranes and PI - dependent signaling processes in intracellular membranes have not been well characterized. A phosphoinositide cycle involving  $PIP<sub>2</sub>$  hydrolysis is present in the nuclear matrix (Divecha et al., 1993; Keune et al., 2011; Ramazzotti et al., 2011). Turnover of nuclear PIP<sub>2</sub> is not subject to regulation by GPCRs, despite the presence of PLCβ in the nucleus of some cells, but IGF-1 has been shown to stimulate nuclear  $\text{PIP}_2$  hydrolysis (Cocco et al., 1989; Divecha et al., 1991). Surprisingly, nuclear  $\text{PIP}_2$  is not associated with nuclear envelope membranes but rather is in a poorly defined detergent resistant structure in the matrix (Keune et al., 2011). With no apparent PIP2 substrate at the NE, a role for a PLC hydrolytic activity associated with the NE is not obvious, although it is theoretically possible that a NE-scaffolded PLC could gain access to nuclear  $PIP_2$ . Phosphatidylinositol 4-P (PI4P) is an alternate substrate for purified PLC *in vitro* that is found in intracellular membranes, but PI4P has not been shown to be a native physiological substrate for PLC in cells. PI4P has been thought of primarily as a precursor for replenishment of  $PI4,5P_2$  during active receptor-stimulated PIP<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis but recent studies indicate that PI4P itself plays other important roles in cell function (Hammond et al., 2012).

One of the key signaling events that leads to expression of hypertrophic genes is phosphorylation of histone deacetylase (HDAC-5) and subsequent binding of phosphorylated HDAC to 14-3-3 proteins in the cytoplasm (Frey and Olson, 2003). Two key kinases that phosphorylate HDAC at the nucleus are calcium calmodulin-dependent protein kinase II (CamKII) and protein kinase D (PKD) (Frey and Olson, 2003; McKinsey, 2007). CamKII is regulated by Calcium, and PKD is regulated by DAG and phosphorylation by protein kinase C (PKC) (Rozengurt, 2011; Steinberg, 2012), suggesting that  $Ca^{2+}$  and DAG levels need to be elevated locally at the nucleus to maintain their activities. How plasma membrane GPCR generated signals regulate nuclear proteins has not been carefully examined, but it has been generally assumed that  $IP_3$  generated as a result of activation plasma membrane PLC activity, presumably PLCβ, can diffuse through the cytoplasm to the nuclear envelope where  $IP<sub>3</sub>$  receptors are enriched in cardiac myocytes to release a local pool of  $Ca^{2+}$  (Higazi et al., 2009; Wu et al., 2006). DAG, on the other hand, is diffusible within membranes but not between membranes, so how PKD is activated at the nucleus is unclear. There is evidence that PKD can be activated at the plasma membrane (PM) and subsequently diffuse to the nucleus (Bossuyt et al., 2011) but whether PM signals are sufficient for this process has not been examined.

To determine the mechanistic role of PLCε in cardiac function and failure we deleted PLCε specifically in cardiac myocytes in mice after development and examined the subcellular scaffolded signals generated in cardiac myocytes by PLCε. We show that mice with cardiac myocyte-specific deletion of PLCε are protected from pressure overload-induced hypertrophy, clearly identifying a new gene critical for the development of heart failure. Further, we define a role of nuclear-scaffolded PLCε in regulating signaling proteins that drive hypertrophy. Notably, we identify PI4P in the perinuclear Golgi apparatus as the key substrate for PLCε at the nuclear envelope for generation of local DAG, and subsequent nuclear PKD activation.

# **Results**

# **Cardiac-specific deletion of PLCε in PLCε flox/flox α-MHC-MerCreMer mice**

Our recent results in NRVM's show that siRNA based depletion of PLCε prevents agonistinduced hypertrophy (Zhang et al., 2011). This contrasts with our previous work demonstrating that global knockout of PLCε exacerbates hypertrophy in response to isoproterenol infusion (Wang et al., 2005). To clarify the role of PLCε in cardiac function and failure, we deleted PLCε specifically in cardiac myocytes in mice after development (Figure 1A and methods). PLCε flox/flox mice (PLCε flox/flox Cre−) were bred with α-MHC-MerCreMer (α-MHC-MCM) mice to generate PLCε<sup>flox/flox</sup> Tg(α-MHC-MCM),  $(PLCe<sup>flox/flox</sup> Cre<sup>+</sup>)$  mice (Figure 1A) (Sohal et al., 2001). After one month of post-natal development, mice from both genotypes were given 3 daily injections of 40 mg/kg body weight tamoxifen i.p. PLCe mRNA was decreased by 80% in myocytes isolated from PLCe<sup>flox/flox</sup> Cre<sup>+</sup> mice compared to either PLCe<sup>flox/flox</sup> Cre<sup>−</sup> or PLCe wt mice (Figure 1B). PLCe protein was significantly reduced  $(>70%)$  in myocytes isolated from PLCe<sup>flox/flox</sup> Cre<sup>+</sup> mice relative to PLCe<sup>flox/flox</sup> Cre<sup>−</sup> mice, while in lung the level of PLCe protein was unchanged (Figure 1C). PLCe deletion in PLC $\varepsilon$ <sup>flox/flox</sup> Cre<sup>+</sup> mice had no significant effect on ejection fraction, fractional shortening, ventricular wall dimensions or LV mass in the absence of stress (Figure 1E). Previous data from global  $PLCe^{-/-}$  mice showed no change in levels of other PLCβ1, PLCβ3, PLCγ1 or PLCδ3 compared to PLC $\varepsilon^{+/+}$  mice (Wang et al., 2005).

# **Cardiac-specific deletion of PLCε inhibits development of hypertrophy after transverse aortic constriction(TAC)**

After four weeks of TAC, PLCe<sup>flox/flox</sup> Cre<sup>−</sup> mice had increased heart size, LV and RV wall thickness and interstitial fibrosis (Figure 1D, cre−). These morphological changes were significantly inhibited in the PLC $\varepsilon$ <sup>flox/flox</sup> Cre<sup>+</sup> animals (Figure 1D, cre<sup>+</sup>). PLC $\varepsilon$ <sup>flox/flox</sup> Cre<sup>-</sup> mice developed a severe decrement in heart function with a drastic decrease in ejection fraction and fractional shortening, had a significant increase in HW to tibia length and showed large increases in hypertrophic gene expression (Figure 1E and Figure S1A and S1B). In contrast,  $PLCe<sup>flox/flox</sup> Cre<sup>+</sup> mice were significantly protected from these$ hypertrophy related changes (Figure 1E and Figure S1A and S1B). This data indicates that cardiomyocyte PLCε plays a role in mediating cardiac hypertrophy, supporting the mechanistic data obtained in NRVMs.

#### **Characterization of signaling pathways associated with PLCε deletion in cardiomyocytes**

In the global PLCε knockout animal CamKII phosphorylation was basally increased (see Figure S5 in (Zhang et al., 2011)), but here in the cardiac specific knockout there was no detectable increase in CamKII phosphorylation nor PKD phosphorylation under basal conditions (Figure 1F and Figure S1C). TAC increased phosphorylation of PKD at S916 and S744/748 in PLCe<sup>flox/flox</sup> Cre<sup>−</sup> relative to control animals. This phosphorylation is significantly blunted in the PLC $\varepsilon$ <sup>flox/flox</sup> Cre<sup>+</sup> animals (Figure 1F, Figure S1C). Similarly

CamKII phosphorylation is increased by TAC in the PLCe<sup>flox/flox</sup> Cre<sup>−</sup> mice which is significantly blunted in the  $PLCe^{flox/flox}$  Cre<sup>+</sup> mice (Figure 1F, Figure S1C). These two kinases phosphorylate HDAC to cause translocation of HDAC from the nucleus to the cytoplasm leading to MEF dependent transcription of hypertrophic genes (Frey and Olson, 2003). HDAC phosphorylation was also blunted in the PLC $\varepsilon^{\rm{flow/flox}}$  Cre<sup>+</sup> compared to PLCe<sup>flox/flox</sup> Cre<sup>−</sup> mice (Figure 1F, Figure S1C). Based on these data, we hypothesize that PLCε may be involved in regulation of PKD and CAMKII- dependent phosphorylation of HDAC in cardiac myocytes.

#### **Gαq-dependent hypertrophy requires mAKAP bound PLCε**

 $Ga<sub>q</sub>$  signaling has been shown to be a primary driver of hypertrophy both in NRVMs and mice (D'Angelo et al., 1997; Knowlton et al., 1993). To directly test the involvement of PLCe in  $Ga_q$ -dependent hypertrophy, adenovirus expressing  $Ga_q$  was used to infect NRVMs along with an adenovirus expressing either PLCε siRNA or a random siRNA control sequence. As previously reported, expression of  $Ga<sub>q</sub>$  caused an increase in NRVM cell area (Figure 2A) and ANF mRNA (Figure 2B) expression, relative to infection with control lacZ or YFP expressing viruses. Depletion of PLCε by siRNA completely inhibited the development of hypertrophy by  $Ga_q$  assessed by both of these measures (Figure 2A, B).

To test whether mAKAP-PLCe scaffolding was important for  $Ga_q$ -dependent hypertrophy we co-expressed  $Ga_{q}$  with the mAKAP-SR1 domain, documented previously to disrupt mAKAP-PLCε interactions at the nuclear envelope (Zhang et al., 2011). Expression of the SR-1 domain almost completely inhibited hypertrophy driven by  $Ga<sub>q</sub>$  (Figure 2C), indicating that nuclear envelope scaffolding of PLCe via mAKAP is important for  $Ga<sub>q</sub>$ dependent NRVM hypertrophy.

## **Scaffolding of PLCε, PKCε and PKD to mAKAP**

mAKAP is a large scaffolding protein localized to the nuclear envelope in cardiac myocytes, that scaffolds to many partners including PLCε (Dodge-Kafka et al., 2005; Kapiloff et al., 2001; Zhang et al., 2011). We have shown that PLCε is localized to the nuclear fraction of cardiac myocyte lysates along with mAKAP by biochemical fractionation (Zhang et al., 2011). Expression of PLCε fused to mCherry was enriched at the periphery of the nucleus in NRVMs (Figure 3A) and some PLCε is localized to ER/SR like structures.

To identify other components in this complex potentially involved in PLCε signaling, we immunoprecipitated PLCε from mouse heart lysates and immunoblotted for key potential upstream regulators and downstream targets. First we looked for Epac1 association since Epac is upstream of PLCε-dependent regulation of cardiac contractile function and has been previously identified in mAKAP immunoprecipitates (Dodge-Kafka et al., 2005; Oestreich et al., 2009; Oestreich et al., 2007). Both PLCε and mAKAP immunoprecipitates contained Epac1 (Figure 3B). When PLCε was cotransfected into HEK293 cells with Epac1, Epac1 was detected in PLCe immunoprecipitates (Figure S2A). Co-expression of mAKAP did not alter the efficiency of the immunoprecipitation suggesting that PLCε directly binds to Epac1. To further characterize the interaction, purified GST-Epac1 was tested for binding to purified PLCε. GST-Epac1 specifically bound to PLCε confirming a direct interaction (Figure S2B). To determine whether interaction of Epac1 with PLCε was required for association with AKAP in the heart, we compared AKAP immunoprecipitates from PLC $\varepsilon^{-/-}$ and PLC $e^{+/+}$  mouse heart lysates (Figure S2C). Epac1 was detectable in the lysates from both genotypes but the level of Epac1 was significantly lower in immunoprecipitates from PLC $e^{-/-}$  mouse hearts suggesting that binding of Epac1 to PLCe contributes to scaffolding of Epac1 to mAKAP.

We had also previously shown the PLCe regulates phosphorylation of Ryr2 through a PKCe and CamKII dependent mechanism during acute β-adrenergic receptor (βAR) activation (Oestreich et al., 2009). We examined PLCε immunoprecipitates for the presence of Ryr2 and found Ryr2 immunoreactivity only in lysates from hearts isolated from PLC $e^{+/+}$  mice (Figure 3C). Ryr2 has been shown to bind to mAKAP so it is possible this interaction is indirect. When co-expressed in HEK293 cells, Ryr2 weakly interacted with PLCε in a manner that was not affected by co-expression of mAKAP (data not shown). This suggests that mAKAP does not mediate Ryr2 scaffolding to PLCε, but since the PLCε-Ryr2 interaction is weaker in cotransfected cells than in heart lysates, another protein is likely to participate in PLCε-Ryr2 scaffolding. Immunodepletion of heart lysates with mAKAP antiserum reduces, but does not eliminate, Ryr2 immunoprecipitation with PLCε (Figure S2D). This indicates that a fraction of PLCe is scaffolded to Ryr2 but is not associated with mAKAP, supporting the existence of multiple pools of PLCe in cardiac myocytes.

Since PKCε and PKD are critical hypertrophic kinases that we propose are downstream of PLCε, we examined their scaffolding to mAKAP and PLCε. We had previously shown that PLCε mediates PKCε activation in adult cardiac myocytes during acute βAR stimulation (Oestreich et al., 2009). PLCε and mAKAP immunoprecipitates from heart lysates contained both PKCε and PKD immunoreactivity (Figure 3D, E). PLCε immunoprecipitates from hearts isolated from PLC $e^{-/-}$  mice did not contain PKC $e$  immunoreactivity confirming the specificity of the immunoprecipitation. Together, these data indicate that many of the signaling components required for PLCε action in cardiac myocytes involved in either regulation of contraction or hypertrophy are assembled into a signaling complex with mAKAP. More importantly these data show that the key hypertrophic regulators, PKCε and PKD, are scaffolded with PLCe and mAKAP at the nuclear envelope where they play key functional roles analyzed below.

#### **mAKAP bound PLCε is involved in nuclear PKD activation in NRVMs**

To test the involvement of PLCε in ET-1-dependent PKD activation, PLCε was depleted in NRVMs using siRNA and PKD S916 phosphorylation was measured. PKD phosphorylation increases after 10 min of ET-1 stimulation and declines thereafter but remains active for at least 4h (Figure S3). ET-1 stimulation of PKD phosphorylation in PLCε siRNA treated NRVMs was blunted compared to Ctl siRNA treated cells at all times measured. We more carefully examined inhibition by PLCε depletion after stimulation with ET-1 and norepinephrine for 1 h and ET-1 for 24 h (Figure 4A). At both times ET-1-dependent PKD phosphorylation was inhibited in PLCε siRNA treated NRVMs by approximately 50%. This indicates that PLCε is important for activation of PKD, but since inhibition of total cellular PKD activation by PLCe depletion is partial, PLCe may be regulating a specific subcellular pool of PKD.

To determine if mAKAP associated PLCε was involved in PKD activation, PLCε-mAKAP interactions were disrupted by expression of mAKAP-SR1 or PLCε-RA1 domains (Zhang et al., 2011) and ET-1-stimulated phosphorylation of PKD at 1h and 24h was measured. Expression of either PLCε-RA1 or mAKAP-SR1 domains inhibited ET-1 dependent global PKD phosphorylation at 1h (30%) and 24 h (70%) (Figure 4B). To determine if PLCe is required for activation of the nuclear pool of PKD, NRVMs were transduced with an adenovirus expressing a nuclear-targeted FRET based reporter of PKD activity, nuclear D kinase activity reporter (nDKAR) (Bossuyt et al., 2011; Kunkel et al., 2007). Figure 4C is a YFP/CFP ratiometric image from NRVMs expressing nDKAR, with CFP excitation showing basal FRET in the nucleus as previously reported (Bossuyt et al., 2011). NRVMs were treated with either vehicle or ET-1 and nuclear FRET was monitored over time. ET-1 treatment causes a significant decrease in nuclear FRET over the course of 20 min compared to vehicle control (Figure 4D and E). In NRVMs treated with PLCε siRNA, the ET-1

induced decrease in FRET was completely eliminated (Figure 4D and E). Expression of mAKAP-SR1 in NRVMs also completely inhibited the ET-1-dependent decrease in nDKAR FRET (Figure 4F). This indicates that ET-1 activates nuclear PKD, and that this nuclear PKD activation requires mAKAP-scaffolded perinuclear PLCε.

## **PLCε is important for localized nuclear calcium signals**

ET-1 induces calcium increases in the nucleus of cardiac ventricular myocytes that is dependent on  $IP_3$  presumably binding to type II  $IP_3$  receptors localized at the nuclear envelope (Higazi et al., 2009; Wu et al., 2006). Several reports indicate the myocyte nuclear  $Ca^{2+}$  release via IP<sub>3</sub> receptors can mediate cardiomyocyte hypertrophy (Arantes et al., 2012; Higazi et al., 2009; Nakayama et al., 2010). To monitor changes in nuclear calcium levels we utilized Fura-2-loaded NRVMs and specifically monitored the nuclear region of the cells by ratio imaging epifluorescence microscopy (Figure 5A). NRVMs were pretreated with nifedipine (L-type Ca<sup>2+</sup> channel blocker) and mibefradil (L- and T-type Ca<sup>2+</sup> channel blocker) to block  $Ca^{2+}$  entry and  $Ca^{2+}$  release associated with myocyte excitationcontraction (Higazi et al., 2009). ET-1 stimulated an increase in nuclear  $[Ca^{2+}]$  that was inhibited by PLCε siRNA treatment (Figure 5A). Expression of the RA domain of PLCε to disrupt AKAP-dependent nuclear scaffolding also inhibited nuclear  $Ca^{2+}$  release but only by 10–20% (Figure 5A middle right panel). This nuclear  $Ca^{2+}$  release is likely IP<sub>3</sub>-dependent as previously reported (Higazi et al., 2009) because it not affected by blocking the other major  $Ca<sup>2+</sup>$  release channel, Ryr2, with ryanodine (Figure 5A right panel). To confirm that the ET-1- dependent  $Ca^{2+}$  increases are localized to the nucleus we examined ET-1-dependent increases in nuclear  $Ca^{2+}$  signals in NRVMs using 2-photon microscopy. Treatment with ET-1 results in a robust  $Ca^{2+}$  release that is primarily restricted to the nucleus (Figure 5B, Supplemental Movie 1) as previously reported

These data indicate that IP<sub>3</sub> generated by PLC $\varepsilon$ -dependent PIP<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis contributes to nuclear  $Ca^{2+}$  signals that may be important for regulation of hypertrophy, but that PLCe scaffolded at the nuclear envelope is not a major participant in this release. This suggests that PLCε localized elsewhere, possibly at the plasma membrane, contributes to diffusible IP<sub>3</sub> generation necessary for release  $Ca^{2+}$  at the nuclear envelope.

# **Perinuclear PI4P localization**

To identify potential perinuclear substrates for PLCε we utilized specific fluorescent probes containing GFP fused to domains that recognize specific phosphoinositides (Balla et al., 2009). To localize PIP<sub>2</sub> we transfected cells with reporters containing GFP fused to the pleckstrin homology (PH) domain of PLCδ, or the PIP2 binding domain of Tubby, and examined the cells by confocal fluorescence microscopy. Both of these constructs bind to PIP<sub>2</sub> specifically, but PLCδ-PH also binds IP<sub>3</sub>. Transfection of GFP-Tubby (Figure 6A) or GFP-PLCδ-PH (not shown) into HEK293 cells revealed a prominent PM distribution of PIP2 with some intracellular fluorescence, but no obvious localization near the nuclear envelope (Figure 6A). Transfection of NRVMs with the same constructs revealed a similar PM distribution of PIP<sub>2</sub> (Figure 6A). Thus PIP<sub>2</sub> is not detectable at the nuclear envelope in NRVMs and is likely not available as a substrate for NE-scaffolded PLCε activity.

PI4P is also a substrate for PLCe and other mammalian PLC isoforms in vitro, but its utilization as a substrate in cells has not been convincingly demonstrated (Rhee et al., 1989; Seifert et al., 2004; Smrcka et al., 1991). To determine the localization of PI4P in NRVMs, cells were transfected with reporters containing GFP fused to the PH domains of either fourphosphate adapter protein (FAPP) or oxysterol binding protein (OSBP). These reporters selectively monitor PI4P subcellular localization in living cells, but this binding is codependent on interaction with the small GTPase ARF (Balla et al., 2005). Thus they readily

detect PI4P at intracellular membranes containing ARF. As previously reported in other cultured cells, transfection of GFP-FAPP-PH into HEK293 cells leads to prominent fluorescence at asymmetrically localized structures that correspond to the Golgi apparatus (Figure 6B left panel). Surprisingly, and in striking contrast to other cultured cells, both FAPP-PH-GFP and OSBP-PH-GFP show strong a ring of perinuclear fluorescence surrounding the nucleus in NRVMs (Figure 6B middle and right panels, Figure S4A). In some cells other intracellular structures resembling either Golgi or SR were labeled (Figure 6C for example) but this was generally less prominent. Treatment with Brefeldin A to inhibit ARF, resulted in rapidly depletion of perinuclear FAPP-PH-GFP fluorescence (Figure 6C). Perinuclear FAPP-PH-GFP fluorescence was also completely disrupted by treatment a PI4 kinase inhibitor phenylarsine oxide (PAO) (Figure 6D).

Brefeldin A is an agent used to disrupt the Golgi apparatus through its ability to block Golgi localized ARF. ARF and PI4P are enriched in the Golgi in most cells and play important roles in Golgi membrane vesicle and lipid trafficking. This suggested that the perinuclear PI4P may be in Golgi closely associated with the outer surface of the nucleus. Treating cells with a BODIPY-TR ceramide to fluorescently label the Golgi revealed a perinuclear ring similar to what is observed with the PI4P reporters (Figure S4B). Indeed, previous studies have shown that the Golgi surrounds the nucleus in myocytes and is intimately associated with the nuclear envelope at a constant distance of 100–200 nm (Kronebusch and Singer, 1987; Tassin et al., 1985). Together these data indicate that PI4P is localized to the Golgi apparatus, in close proximity to the nuclear envelope, where it could be accessed by mAKAP-scaffolded PLCε.

#### **PLCε activation at the nuclear envelope leads to PI4P depletion and DAG generation**

To assess whether perinuclear PI4P is a substrate for PLCε we treated cells with a specific activator of Epac, 8-(4-chlorophenylthio)-2′-O-methyl-cAMP (cpTOME). Epac-dependent Rap activation stimulates PLCε but no other PLC isoforms and Epac is scaffolded at the nuclear envelope with PLCε and mAKAP. Thus, PLCε in this nuclear envelope signaling complex can be activated selectively with cpTOME. Treatment of NRVMs with cpTOME for 1 h caused a significant depletion of perinuclear Golgi FAPP-PH-GFP fluorescence (Figure 7A). Selected regions of perinuclear FAPP fluorescence were monitored in single live cells over time after addition of vehicle control, cpTOME or ET-1 (Figure 7B; Supplemental Movie 2). Both cpTOME and ET-1 treatment enhanced the rate of depletion of FAPP-PH-GFP fluorescence compared to vehicle control. ET-1-dependent decreases in PI4P were blocked by preincubation with the ET-1a receptor antagonist BQ-123 (Figure 7B). Total PI4P levels in NRVMs were measured after vehicle or cpTOME treatment using a PI4P strip mass assay (Dowler et al., 2002). Treatment with cpTOME lead to a significant decrease in cellular PI4P mass compared to vehicle treated NRVMs (Figure 7C). Similar studies examining  $PIP<sub>2</sub>$  at the PM indicate that cpTOME does not stimulate PM dependent PIP2 depletion (Figure S5A). To show that ET-1 dependent perinuclear PI4P depletion was dependent on mAKAP-scaffolded PLCε, cells were cotransfected with GFP-FAPP-PH and either mAKAP-SR1 or control vector (Figure 7D). In cells transfected with mAKAP-SR1, ET-1-dependent depletion of PI4P was blocked. Additionally, as shown in Figure 7E, depletion of PLCε with PLCε-siRNA completely eliminated cpTOME-dependent depletion of perinuclear PI4P. These data strongly indicate that mAKAP-scaffolded PLCε is directly involved in perinuclear PI4P depletion consistent with its activity as a perinuclear enzyme that can hydrolyze PI4P (Figure S5B) to produce DAG.

One consideration is that although  $PIP<sub>2</sub>$  is undetectable in the perinuclear Golgi in cardiac myocytes (Figure 6A), there could be a very low level of  $\text{PIP}_2$  that is the direct substrate for perinuclear PLCε. In this scenario PI4P might be indirectly depleted to replace the hydrolyzed PIP2 pool. To test this, a PI5 phosphatase was targeted to the Golgi or the

plasma membrane using a rapamycin-recruitable Type IV PI5P ptase domain fused to FKBP12 (Varnai et al., 2006). This PI5 ptase cleaves the 5 phosphate from  $PI4,5P_2$ effectively depleting PIP2. Figure S6A shows that targeting of the PI5 ptase to the plasma membrane eliminates GFP-Tubby labeling of the PM indicating that the targeted PI5ptase depletes PM PIP2. Targeting of the PI5 ptase to the Golgi with rapamycin does not alter PI4P levels (Figure S6B, Figure S6C black squares). Treatment with cpTOME treatment depleted PI4P at the perinuclear Golgi at the same rate in the presence or absence of rapamycin-dependent targeting of the PI5P ptase to the Golgi (Figure S6C). This indicates that perinuclear Golgi PI4P depletion was not dependent on PIP2 hydrolysis in the Golgi, further supporting the idea that the direct substrate for perinuclear PLCε is PI4P.

To test for production of perinuclear DAG, cells were transfected with a DAG-binding domain (C1b domain of PKCβII with a Y123W mutation) fused to YFP (YFP-C1b-Y123W), that binds with high affinity to DAG and translocates to membranes where DAG is produced (Kunkel and Newton, 2010). In resting cells there was basal association of the reporter with perinuclear and other cellular membranes (Fig 7F). This could be due to basal turnover of lipids in the Golgi in the presence of serum, or the very high affinity of this reporter for DAG could stabilize a turning over DAG pool. Nevertheless, treatment with cpTOME increased the association of a DAG reporter with the perinuclear region of the cell. The increase was small  $\sim$  10% increase), but reproducible, and consistent with what has been previously observed for this DAG reporter in the Golgi in other cell types (Kunkel and Newton, 2010). Thus DAG is generated in close proximity to the nuclear envelope by stimulation of PLCε.

To test whether PI4P is required for nuclear PKD activation, PI4P was depleted in NRVMs using PAO (as shown in Figure 6D) and ET-1-dependent nuclear PKD activity was monitored using nDKAR (Figure S7). PAO depletes cellular PI4P in cells without depleting the PIP<sub>2</sub> pools necessary for conventional PLC mediated PIP<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis (Hammond et al., 2012). We also found that PAO does not deplete NRVM PIP<sub>2</sub> by examining the effect of PAO treatment on GFP-Tubby fluorescence (data not shown). PAO treatment completely eliminated ET-1-dependent nuclear PKD activation indicating that PI4P is a required substrate for nuclear PKD activation supporting the idea that Golgi PI4P is required for nuclear PKD activation.

To more directly show that Golgi localized PI4P is required for nuclear PKD activation we transfected cells with the PI 4-phosphatase, Sac 1 containing a mutation that leads to specific localization in the Golgi, Sac1-K2A (Blagoveshchenskaya et al., 2008; Rohde et al., 2003). In the left panel of Figure 7G is an NRVM transfected with GFP-Sac1-K2a showing perinuclear Golgi localization of Sac1-K2A. Sac1-K2A transfection completely eliminated the ET-1-dependent decrease in nDKAR FRET demonstrating that PI4P in the Golgi is required for nuclear PKD activation (Figure 7G, right panel). We conclude that mAKAPscaffolded PLCε generates DAG from PI4P in close proximity to the nuclear envelope required for nuclear PKD activation.

# **Discussion**

We previously demonstrated that PLCe integrates multiple hypertrophic stimuli in neonatal rat ventricular myocytes (Zhang et al., 2011). Here we demonstrate that cardiac specific deletion of PLCε after one month of development significantly inhibits cardiac hypertrophy development. This strongly suggests that PLCε signaling in the cardiac myocyte is important for hypertrophy development and that the neonatal myocyte analysis of PLCε function is largely relevant to whole heart function in an animal.

Our previously published data established that both phosphoinositide hydrolysis by PLCε, and nuclear envelope-scaffolding of PLCε via mAKAP, are required for PLCε-dependent hypertrophy in NRVMs (Zhang et al., 2011). This suggested that PLCε must be generating IP3, DAG, or both at the nuclear envelope to drive hypertrophic signaling cascades at the nucleus. IP<sub>3</sub> generated at the PM is diffusible, so agonist-dependent nuclear  $Ca^{2+}$  release could be controlled by IP<sub>3</sub> generated from PM PIP<sub>2</sub> pools. DAG, on the other hand is a membrane bound lipid, not freely diffusible between membranes and therefore must be produced in the vicinity of the nucleus to regulate nuclear signaling proteins. Here we show that PLCe is important for agonist-dependent regulation of both nuclear  $Ca^{2+}$  release and PKD activation. PLCε scaffolded at the nuclear envelope is required to generate perinuclear DAG important for nuclear PKD activation, but surprisingly, the substrate for this reaction is in the uniquely localized perinuclear Golgi apparatus. PKD is recruited to the Golgi apparatus in a DAG-dependent manner in other cell types where it is involved in lipid and vesicle trafficking (Campelo and Malhotra, 2012). PLC, PKD and ARF are critical regulators of Golgi fission involved in the transport of cargo to the PM. Here, with the unique architecture of the Golgi apparatus in cardiac myocytes and the perinuclear scaffolding of PLCε by mAKAP, the process of PI hydrolysis and DAG generation appears to have been co-opted to recruit and activate PKD in the vicinity of the nucleus where it can regulate nuclear gene expression.

While we and others have shown that PI4P is a substrate for mammalian PLC isoforms, including PLCe, *in vitro* (Figure S5B), PI4P has not been shown to be a native physiological substrate for any mammalian PLC in cells. Thus, this is the first demonstration that PI4P hydrolysis is a physiologically relevant PLC reaction that likely performs a widespread function in cell biology. PI4P has generally been thought to function primarily as a precursor to replace  $PIP<sub>2</sub>$  as it is depleted by receptor-stimulated  $PIP<sub>2</sub>$  hydrolysis. Recently however, it has been shown that depletion of PI4P does not significantly alter the level of  $PIP<sub>2</sub>$  in cells, nor does it affect acute receptor-stimulated PIP2 hydrolysis indicating that PI4P has other functional roles than simply serving as a PIP<sub>2</sub> precursor (Hammond et al., 2012).

We also show that PLC $\varepsilon$  is involved in regulation of ET-1-dependent nuclear  $Ca^{2+}$ elevation. Previous studies have indicated that local  $Ca^{2+}$  signaling at the nucleus is IP<sub>3</sub> receptor-dependent and regulates HDAC nuclear export via activation of CamKII (Wu et al., 2006). The source of IP<sub>3</sub> was undefined in these experiments but has been suggested to diffuse from the PM. Hydrolysis of PI4P by PLC activity would generate DAG and inositol 1,4 bisphosphate  $(\text{IP}_2)$  and thus would not be a relevant reaction for local IP<sub>3</sub>-dependent  $Ca^{2+}$  release since IP<sub>2</sub> does not regulate  $Ca^{2+}$  release through IP<sub>3</sub> receptors. Thus the role of PI4P hydrolysis by mAKAP-scaffolded PLCε at the Golgi appears to be DAG generation for PKD activation. We propose that a different pool of PLCε, perhaps at the PM in cooperation with PLCβ, generates IP<sub>3</sub> from PIP<sub>2</sub>, which can diffuse to the nucleus and release  $Ca^{2+}$  via IP<sub>3</sub> receptors in the nucleus. Overall, our model is that PLCe is located in different subcellular compartments allowing for regulation of hypertrophy and CICR via different mechanisms.

In conclusion, we have discovered a novel integrator of hypertrophic signals in the heart, PLCε, who's scaffolding at the nuclear envelope to generate DAG from the novel PLC substrate PI4P in the perinuclear Golgi apparatus, is critical for this function. This suggests that PLCε catalytic activity could be a novel target for heart failure. On the other hand PLCε is found in many cell types and has multiple functions (Smrcka et al., 2012). Global deletion of PLCε increases the propensity for heart failure (Wang et al., 2005). mAKAP has a more restricted distribution and thus so does the PLCε-mAKAP complex (Kapiloff et al., 1999). A more targeted strategy for treatment of heart failure could involve developing reagents that interfere with PLCε-scaffolding to mAKAP.

## **Experimental Procedures**

See Supplemental Extended Experimental Procedures for detailed methodology.

**Cardiomyocyte specific deletion of PLCε and induction and analysis of hypertrophy—**PLCε<sup>flox/flox</sup> Cre<sup>+</sup> and PLCε<sup>flox/flox</sup> Cre<sup>−</sup> mice were generated as described in extended experimental methods. At 30 days after birth mice were injected 3 times on consecutive days with 40 mg/kg tamoxifen to excise exon 6 of the PLCe1 gene. 30 days later mice were subjected to 4 weeks of TAC followed by echocardiographic, morphometric and biochemical parameters.

**Isolation, culture and adenoviral infection, PLCε siRNA and hypertrophy measurements in NRVMs—**Isolation of NRVMs, adenoviral mediated si-RNA of PLCε, hypertrophy induction and analysis was as previously described (Zhang et al., 2011).

**Imaging of phosphoinositide and DAG reporters—**Cells were maintained in DMEM containing 10% (v/v) fetal bovine serum (FBS), 100 IU/mL penicillin, 100  $\mu$ g/mL streptomycin, 2 mM glutamine, and 2 μg/mL vitamin B-12 and 10 mM cytosine arabinoside. Cells were imaged 24–48 h after transfection with the appropriate plasmid at 1– 2 mg. Transfection efficiency was 5%. Fluorescent cells were identified and imaged by confocal microscopy. During imaging and cpTOME, ET-1, BFA and PAO treatments, cells were in culture medium containing serum.

**Live cell Imaging—Ca<sup>2+</sup>** was imaged by either two photon microscopy of fluo4 loaded NRVMs or by ratio imaging of Fura-2 loaded cells. All other imaging was by confocal microscopy.

# **Supplementary Material**

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

# **Acknowledgments**

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# **Highlights**

Conditional deletion of PLCε in mice protects against stress-induced hypertrophy.

PLCe is in a complex at the nuclear envelope with regulators and downstream targets.

PLCe is critical for regulation of local nuclear PKD activity and  $Ca^{2+}$  release.

PI4P in the perinuclear Golgi is the substrate for PLCε.



#### **Figure 1.**

Conditional Deletion of PLCε in Cardiac Myocytes Prevents Development of Cardiac Hypertrophy. (A) Domain Structure of PLCe and Strategy for Conditional Deletion of PLCε. Exon 6 encodes the first common exon of two PLCε splice variants at the amino terminus of the CDC25 domain. Exon 6 was flanked by two LoxP sites as shown. Small arrows indicate location of primers for genotyping, small bars indicate the location of Southern blot probes. (B) 1 month old  $PLCe<sup>f1/f1</sup>Cre<sup>+</sup>$  and  $PLCe<sup>f1/f1</sup>Cre<sup>-</sup>$  mice were injected with 40 mg/kg of tamoxifen once/day for three consecutive days. PLCe mRNA was measured by real time quantitative PCR and normalized to GAPDH levels. (C) PLCε protein was immunoprecipitated and analyzed by western blotting. GAPDH from the lysates was immunoblotted as a loading control. KO controls are from globally deleted PLC $\varepsilon^{-/-}$ mice shown for comparison. (D) Anatomical view, histological HE stained sections, and trichome stained (for fibrosis, blue) sections from hearts from tamoxifen treated PLC $\varepsilon^{fl/fl}$ mice with or without 4 weeks of transaortic constriction. (E) Quantitation of heart weight to tibia length (HW/TL), atrial natriuretic factor (ANF)/GAPDH mRNA levels by RT-PCR, Ejection Fraction (by echocardiography), and Fractional Shortening (by echocardiography) (+/− SEM) . Analyzed by One way ANOVA, 7 mice Cre−, 11 mice Cre+, \*p<0.05, \*\*p<0.01, \*\*\*p<0.005. (F) Western blots of PKD, phosphoPKD, CamKII, phosphoCamKII, HDAC, PhosphoHDAC and GAPDH from tamoxifen injected mice with and without TAC. See also Figure S1.



#### **Figure 2.**

 $Ga<sub>q</sub>$ -stimulated hypertrophy in NRVMs is blocked by PLCe siRNA or disruption of nuclear envelope scaffolding via mAKAP. (A) NRVMs were transduced with 50 MOI of adenovirus expressing wild type  $Ga_q$  or LacZ. Cells were co-transduced with either PLCe siRNA or control scrambled siRNA (Ctl) adenovirus. After 48 hours cells were fixed, permeabilized and stained for α-actinin. Cell area was calculated from 200 cells each treatment with NIH Image J and pooled from 3 separate experiments in the right panel (+/− SEM). (B) Same as A except ANF/GAPDH ratio was determined by quantitative real time PCR (+/− SEM). (C) NRVMs were cotransduced with adenoviruses expressing  $Ga<sub>q</sub>$  and mAKAP-SR domain. ANF/GAPDH ratio was measured after 48 h (+/− SEM). All experiments were repeated 3 times and were analyzed by One way ANOVA, \*p<0.05; \*\*\*p<0.005.



# **Figure 3.**

PLCε is in a multicomponent signaling complex with mAKAP, Epac, PKCε, PKD and Ryr2 in the heart. (A) perinuclear localization of PLCε in NRVMs. mCherry tagged PLCε was expressed in NRVMs (left panel) and costained with DAPI (right panel). The boundaries of the cell are outlined with dashed lines. (B) Epac co-immunoprecipitates with PLCε and mAKAP from heart lysates. (C) Ryr2 immunoprecipitates with PLCe from heart lysates. (D) PKCε immunoprecipitates with PLCε and mAKAP from heart lysates. (E) PKD immunoprecipitates with PLCe and mAKAP from heart lysates. PLCe<sup>-/-</sup> mice were tested as a specificity control in B,C and D. See also Figure S2.



#### **Figure 4.**

PLCε regulates nuclear PKD activation. (A) NRVMs were infected with PLCε or control (Ctl) siRNA, followed by treatment with 100 nM ET-1 or 10  $\mu$ M Norepinephrine (NE) for 1h and ET-1 for 24h, and assessment of PKD phosphorylation by Western blotting each repeated 3–4 times. Statistically different from Ctl siRNA \*\*p<0.01, \*\*\*p<0.005 (B) NRVMs were infected with either control YFP, mAKAP-SR or PLCε-RA expressing adenoviruses to disrupt PLCε-mAKAP scaffolding, followed by treatment with 100 nM ET-1 for 1h or 24h and assessment of total PKD activation. Statistically different from Ctl siRNA \*\*\*p<0.005 (C) NRVMs were transduced with adenovirus expressing nuclear targeted D kinase activation reporter (nDKAR). The YFP to CFP ratio is shown as a pseudocolor image to emphasize the high level of FRET in the nucleus. D) a region in the nucleus from NRVMs expressing showing nDKAR FRET was selected and the YFP/CFP ratio was followed for the indicated times after 100 nM ET-1 addition in PLCε siRNA or ctl siRNA adenovirus treated NRVMs. E) Pooled data for the YFP/CFP ratio of nDKAR analyzed 20 min after addition of ET-1 (+) or vehicle (−) from 5 independent experiments in PLCε siRNA or Ctl siRNA expressing NRVMs (50–100 cells each condition) \*\*\*p<0.005. F) NRVMs were cotransfected with plasmids expressing nDKAR and mAKAP-SR1 or control LacZ. ET1 (100nM) was added at the indicated time. Data are pooled from 4 independent cells for each treatment from 2 separate NRVM preparations. All quantitative data is (+/− SEM). See also Figure S3.



#### **Figure 5.**

PLCe is involved in regulation of nuclear  $Ca^{2+}$  elevation. (A) NRVMs were loaded with Fura2 and the Fura2 ratio in the nucleus was measured with time after 200 nM ET-1 addition in the presence of a 10  $\mu$ M nifedepine/ 2  $\mu$ M mibefradil. Left panel is a representative trace from two individual cells. Middle left panel is the combined data from multiple cells comparing Ctl siRNA and PLCe siRNA treated NRVMs, \*\*\*p<0.005. Middle right panel is the combined data from cells expressing either YFP or the YFP-RA domain to disrupt mAKAP scaffolding. Both sets of data are from 4 independent experiments from cells isolated from 4 different NRVM preparations with >10 cells for each coverslip and 3 coverslip averages for each for each NRVM preparation, \*p<0.05 calculated based on an average of 12 coverslip averages for each condition. Right panel shows that the ET-1 dependent nuclear  $Ca^{2+}$  response is not blocked by Ryanodine but the Caffeine response is (This experiment was repeated with 2 separate sets of NRVMs, data is representative of one experiment with 30 cells each condition). All data are +/− SEM. (B) 2-photon microscopy was used to measure nuclear  $Ca^{2+}$  levels in fluo-4 loaded NRVMs. Cells were perfused with imaging buffer containing 10 μM nifedepine and 1.8 μM mibefradil to block  $Ca^{2+}$  transients associated with voltage-dependent  $Ca^{2+}$  release followed by addition of 100 nM ET-1. Individual panels show the level of Fluo4 fluorescence at the indicated times (See Supplemental Movie 1). The boxes in the first panel correspond to the areas measured shown in the traces shown on the right.



#### **Figure 6.**

PI4P localizes to perinuclear Golgi surrounding the nuclear envelope in cardiac myocytes. (A) Detection of PI4,5P2 localization in NRVMs. Left panel: HEK-293 cells transfected with Tubby GFP and stained with DAPI, middle: NRVMs transfected with Tubby-GFP and right: NRVMs transfected with PLCδ-PH-GFP and analyzed by confocal microscopy. (B) Detection of PI4P at the nuclear envelope. The indicated cell types were transfected with either OSBP-PH-GFP or FAPP-PH-GFP and analyzed by confocal microscopy. (C) Inhibition of ARF eliminates perinuclear staining with FAPP-PH-GFP. NRVMs transfected with FAPP-PH-GFP were treated with 100 ng/mL Brefeldin A and GFP fluorescence monitored with time. Cells treated with vehicle are shown in the bottom panels indicate a lack of photobleaching in these experiments. (D) Inhibition of PI4kinase with PAO depletes perinuclear fluorescence associated with FAPP-PH-GFP. NRVMs transfected with FAPP-PH-GFP were treated with 10 μM PAO and fluorescence analyzed by confocal microscopy. All experiments were repeated a minimum of 3 times. See also Figure S4.



#### **Figure 7.**

Perinuclear PI4P is a substrate for mAKAP-scaffolded PLCε, stimulated by either Epac or ET-1 receptors. (A) NRVMs transfected with FAPP-PH-GFP were analyzed by live cell confocal microscopy before and after treatment with  $10 \mu$ M cpTOME for 1 h. (See also Supplemental Movie 2) (B) Individual regions GFP fluorescence in NRVMs transfected with FAPP-PH-GFP were monitored with confocal microscopy and followed with time after treatment with vehicle,  $10 \mu M$  cpTOME,  $50 \text{ nM ET-1}$  or  $50 \text{ nM ET-1}$  +  $100 \text{ nM BQ-123}$ (top panels are representative traces). Data was pooled from 4 experiments at 0 and 50 min for quantitation and statistics (Bottom panels). (C) NRVMs were treated with Vehicle or 10 μM cpTOME for 50 min followed by extraction of PI4P and assay using a PI4P proteinlipid overlay assay according to the manufacturer's instructions. Data from three separate experiments are quantitated in the bottom panel and analyzed by a student's t-test. (D) NRVMs were cotransfected with FAPP-PH-GFP and either mAKAP-SR1 or control plasmid. Perinuclear GFP fluorescence was monitored as in B. ET-1 experiments in B and D were done in parallel so the ET-1 alone representative traces are the same in both panels. Top panel is a representative trace and bottom panel is pooled data from 3 experiments analyzed by one way ANOVA. (E) NRVMs were transfect with FAPP-PH-GFP and transduced with viruses expressing PLCε siRNA or random control siRNA and perinuclear GFP fluorescence was monitored as in B and D. Data are pooled from 5 independent experiments each. (F) NRVMs were transfected with YFP-C1b-Y123W to detect DAG localization. Left panel shows localization of YFP-C1b-Y123W by confocal microscopy. Right panel: NRVMs transfected with YFP-C1b-Y123W were stimulated with  $10 \mu$ M cpTOME and perinuclear regions and cytoplasm were imaged over time. The ratio of perinuclear fluorescence ( $F_{pn}$ ) to the cytoplasmic fluorescence ( $F_c$ ) was calculated and normalized to the starting  $F_{pn}/F_c$  before cpTOME addition. Data are pooled from 4 independent experiments,  $F_{pn}/F_c$  at 9–12 min were individually compared with  $F_{pn}/F_c$  at 0 min with a one way ANOVA. G) Golgi specific depletion of PI4P blocks ET-1-dependent nuclear PKD activation. Left panel; cells were transduced with GFP-tagged, Golgi targeted Sac-1 and imaged by confocal microscopy. Right panel: Cells were cotransfected with plasmids expressing nDKAR and Golgi targeted Flag-tagged Sac-1 plasmids and nDKAR FRET was monitored as in Fig. 4 D and F. 50 nM ET-1 was added at the indicated time. Data pooled from 4 independent cells for each treatment from 2 separate NRVM preparations. All data are +/− SEM. See also Figures S6 and S7.