

Regulation of Integrin $\alpha 6$ Recycling by Calcium-independent Phospholipase A_2 (iPLA $_2$) to Promote Microglia Chemotaxis on Laminin*

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Microglia are the immune effector cells that are activated in response to pathological changes in the central nervous system. Microglial activation is accompanied by the alteration of integrin expression on the microglia surface. However, changes of integrin expression upon chemoattractant (ADP) stimulation still remain unknown. In this study, we investigated whether ADP induces the alteration of integrin species on the cell surface, leading to changes in chemotactic ability on different extracellular matrix proteins. Flow cytometry scans and on-cell Western assays showed that ADP stimulation induced a significant increase of $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP, but not $\alpha 5$, on the surface of microglia cells. Microglia also showed a greater motility increase on laminin than fibronectin after ADP stimulation. Time lapse microscopy and integrin endocytosis assay revealed the essential role of calcium-independent phospholipase A_2 activity for the recycling of $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP from the endosomal recycling complex to the plasma membrane. Lack of calcium-independent phospholipase A_2 activity caused a reduced rate of focal adhesion formation on laminin at the leading edge. Our results suggest that the alteration of integrin-mediated adhesion may regulate the extent of microglial infiltration into the site of damage by controlling their chemotactic ability.

Microglia are the immune effector cells in the central nervous system (CNS). Under normal conditions, microglia exist as nonmigratory ramified cells. The ramified morphology of resting microglia is rapidly transformed into a motile amoeboid form after pathological stimuli, driving the migration of microglia cells toward lesion sites (1–3). There is a growing body of evidence that the extracellular matrix (ECM)² and integrins are

important for modulating microglial behavior. ECM influences microglial behavior as fibronectin (FN) and laminin (LN) often show opposite effects on microglial morphology, adhesion, and activation. FN promotes transformation of amoeboid microglia into ramified microglia, whereas LN causes the reverse transformation (4). FN also promotes increased secretion of amyloid precursor protein by microglial cells, whereas LN and collagen have the opposite effect (5). It has been demonstrated that microglia attach strongly to FN and vitronectin but only weakly to LN and astrocyte ECM and that LN exerts a dominant anti-adhesive effect on microglial adhesion (6).

Integrins are transmembrane receptors that mediate cell adhesion to the ECM, a fundamental cellular process that regulates cell growth, differentiation, and motility (7). All integrins are $\alpha\beta$ heterodimers. The α subunits vary in size between 120 and 180 kDa and are each noncovalently associated with a β subunit (90–110 kDa) (8). Ligand binding to integrin triggers integrin clustering as well as the formation, disassembly, and reorganization of stress fibers and focal adhesion (FA) complexes. These structural changes are involved in the regulation of cell adhesion, cell migration, and cell division (8). Engagement of integrin with ligands also elicits the activation of a number of signaling pathways, regulating cytoskeletal organization, cell migration, differentiation, and death (9).

Microglial activation is accompanied by the alteration of integrin expression. Inflammatory cytokines cause increased expression of $\alpha 4\beta 1$, $\alpha 5\beta 1$, and Mac-1 integrins (10). The intensity of expression of Mac-1, LFA-1, and $\beta 2$ was enhanced on reactive microglia in Alzheimer's disease tissue (11). An increase of LFA-1 expression was also detected on activated microglia located close to the edge of demyelinating lesions of multiple sclerosis (12). Microglial adhesion to LN and astrocyte ECM is increased by proinflammatory cytokines such as tumor necrosis factor (TNF) and interferon- γ (IFN- γ) (13). Because reduction of LFA-1 integrin expression markedly attenuates microglial migration and activation during neuroinflammation (14), the alteration of integrin-mediated adhesion may regulate the extent of microglial infiltration into the site of damage. Extracellular ATP or ADP released from damaged cells and surrounding astrocytes could induce microglia chemotaxis and membrane ruffling through $G_{i/o}$ -coupled P2Y $_{12}$ receptor in microglia (15). Inflammatory cytokines increased expression of $\alpha 4\beta 1$, $\alpha 5\beta 1$, and Mac-1 integrins on microglia (10), but changes of integrin expression upon P2Y $_{12}$ receptor activation

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² The abbreviations used are: ECM, extracellular matrix; FN, fibronectin; LN, laminin; iPLA $_2$, calcium-independent phospholipase A_2 (group VIA); FA, focal adhesion; ECIS, electric cell-substrate impedance sensing; KD, knock-down; BEL, 4-bromo-enol lactone; ERC, endosomal recycling compartment; PI, phosphatidylinositol; ANOVA, analysis of variance.

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were not well understood. How ADP exerts such a major influence on microglial integrin expression is an open question. In this study, we investigated whether ADP can induce an alteration of integrin species on the cell surface that leads to changes in chemotactic ability on different ECM substrates. We also examined the role of $iPLA_2$ in the regulation of $\alpha 6$ integrin recycling upon ADP stimulation.

Results

Integrin $\alpha 6$ Expression on Microglia Surface and Motility on LN Is Up-regulated upon ADP Stimulation—To determine whether the expression level of $\alpha 5$ or $\alpha 6$ integrin changes upon ADP stimulation, we used FACS analysis to compare cell surface levels of integrins in BV2 cells at 15 min after ADP stimulation. As shown in Fig. 1A, the $\alpha 5$ integrin expression level on cells stimulated with ADP was comparable with the level of control cells not treated with ADP. In contrast, the $\alpha 6$ integrin expression level was significantly higher than the level of control cells. The increase of $\alpha 6$ integrin expression upon ADP stimulation was confirmed by on-cell Western assay (Fig. 1B) using BV2 cells that were stimulated with ADP and fixed with formaldehyde at different time points. Non-permeabilized BV2 cells were stained with $\alpha 5$ or $\alpha 6$ antibodies, so only cell surface antigens are detected. Consistent with the FACS data, the expression of $\alpha 6$, but not $\alpha 5$, was significantly increased in 2 and 5 min. The increase of $\alpha 6$ expression was quite variable at 10 min as indicated by no statistical significance. $P2Y_{12}$ receptor activation by ADP results in an increase of cell velocity and net distance of movement, both on FN and LN (Fig. 1C). The increase of motility on LN, however, is significantly greater than on FN, presumably due to the increase of $\alpha 6$ integrin expression on the microglia surface. Thus, the increase of specific integrins on the surface might have different impacts on microglia adhesion to different ECM proteins. Adhesion strength and migration of cells are dependent upon the number and size of FAs (17). Examination of FAs by paxillin immunostaining revealed a striking difference in cells adhered on FN or LN (Fig. 1D). In control cells, cells on FN show many FAs, both around the periphery of cells and inside the cell where stress fibers are anchored. Upon ADP stimulation of cells adhered on FN, the number of FAs was significantly increased. Their average size also increased although mainly in the cell interior. For cells on LN, however, the increase in number of FAs was exclusively in the periphery, suggesting that LN might positively affect effective cell displacement and migration potential compared with FN substrate that might induce loss of cell polarity and increased adhesion. To further investigate the role of $P2Y_{12}$ receptor activation in the regulation of FA attachments, we examined changes of cell attachment/adhesion by an electric cell-substrate impedance sensing (ECIS) instrument that measures adhesion strength by sensing the change of impedance of a small electrode to alternating current flow (18). Cell impedance increased drastically when ADP was injected into the ECIS chambers of control BV2 microglia cells on FN, indicating increased adhesion strength that resulted from the increase of FA number and size (Fig. 1E). The increase of impedance on LN was slower and weaker than on FN, consistent with limited increase of FA around the periphery of cells.

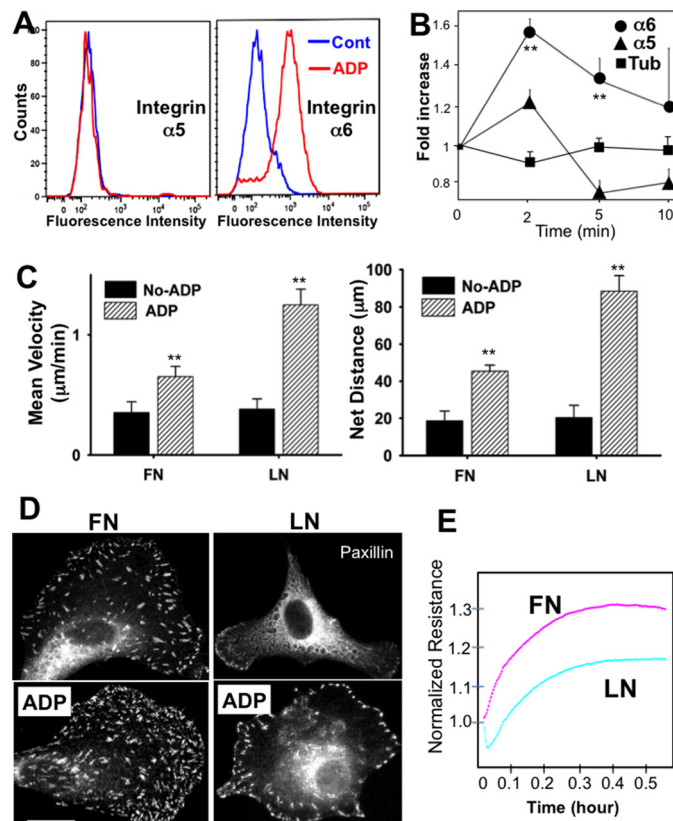


FIGURE 1. A, change of integrin expression on BV2 microglia upon ADP stimulation. Integrin α subunit expression level on the microglia surface was examined with flow cytometry. Flow cytometry profiles showing microglial $\alpha 5$ or $\alpha 6$ integrin expression in the absence or presence of ADP for 20 min are shown. Note that ADP increases microglial $\alpha 6$ expression but not $\alpha 5$ integrin. B, changes of integrin expression on the cell surface after ADP stimulation for 20 min were quantified by an on-cell Western assay with near-IR dyes in non-permeabilized cells using antibodies against $\alpha 5$ and $\alpha 6$ and the Odyssey IR imaging system. Quantification from four independent triplicated experiments is shown in the graphs. Error bars represent S.E. Change of α -tubulin is shown as a housekeeping protein control. C, the increase of BV2 microglia motility, represented as mean velocity and net distance, upon ADP stimulation was significantly greater on LN than on FN. Mean velocity and net distance were measured by tracking cell migration from movies taken by live cell imaging of 10 cells from three different culture dishes. **, $p < 0.01$ versus non-ADP by t test. The $\alpha 6$ and $\alpha 5$ data shown in C and Fig. 3C are the same. D, changes of the size and number of FAs upon ADP stimulation in cells plated on FN or LN (10 μg). Cells on FN have more and bigger FAs, whereas cells on LN only show the increase of FA around the periphery of the cell. Scale bar, 10 μm . E, increase of adhesion strength of microglia cells plated on FN or LN upon ADP stimulation was measured by continuous ECIS readings of impedance. ECIS readings of BV2 cells on FN and LN are the same in Fig. 7. Cont, control; Tub, tubulin.

$iPLA_2$ Activity Is Required for the Trafficking and Localization of $\alpha 6$ Integrin-Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP)—To investigate the mechanism by which $\alpha 6$ integrin expression on microglia is regulated, we expressed $\alpha 6$ integrin fused to GFP ($\alpha 6$ -GFP) in microglia. To keep the expression of $\alpha 6$ -GFP at moderate levels, we first knocked down endogenous mouse $\alpha 6$ integrin using short hairpin RNA (shRNA) ($\alpha 6$ -KD cells; Fig. 2A) and then expressed human $\alpha 6$ integrin fused to GFP. $\alpha 6$ -KD cells clearly exhibited defects in adhering and spreading on LN, and the expression of $\alpha 6$ -GFP rescued the adhesive defects of $\alpha 6$ -KD cells to the level of control BV2 cells (Fig. 2B). The $\alpha 6$ -GFP also localized with their endogenous counterparts to focal adhesions in cells plated on LN but not on FN (Fig. 2C).

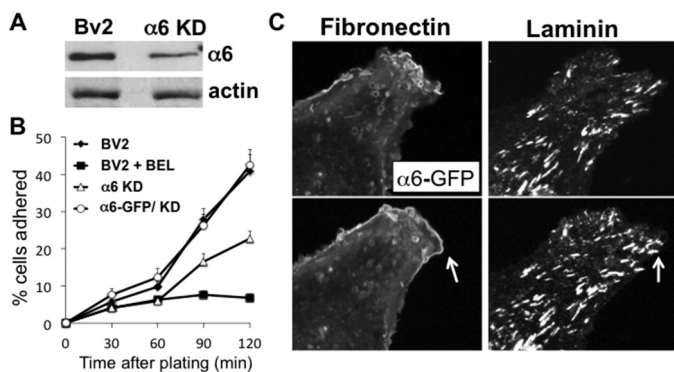


FIGURE 2. *A*, knockdown of endogenous (mouse) $\alpha 6$ integrin with shRNA. The Western blot of $\alpha 6$ integrin in $\alpha 6$ -KD cells shows a significant reduction of $\alpha 6$ integrin. *B*, cell adhesion/spreading assay on LN to determine whether human $\alpha 6$ -GFP expressed in $\alpha 6$ -KD cells is functional. A 96-well plate was coated with 3 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ LN at 4 °C overnight. 1×10^4 cells were added to each well and incubated for a specific time period. After washing off non-attached cells, four non-overlapping images from each well were taken with a 10 \times objective, and the percentage of cells (% cells adhered) that show partially or fully spread morphologies among total cells attached on the substrate after certain times of incubation was determined. 12 images in three different wells from the one culture are shown. Expression of human $\alpha 6$ -GFP can rescue the adhesion/spreading defects of $\alpha 6$ -KD cells. A specific *iPLA*₂ inhibitor, BEL, also inhibits cell adhesion/spreading on LN. Error bars represent S.E. *C*, localization of $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP was examined with live cell imaging in cells plated on different matrix proteins. Localization of $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP was observed on vesicles and membrane protrusions (arrow) in cells plated on FN. $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP localizes to focal contacts and adhesions (arrow) in cells plated on LN.

We also observed large and small $\alpha 6$ -GFP vesicles in protrusions on the leading edge that were more prominent in cells on FN.

Given the relatively rapid increase of $\alpha 6$ integrin after ADP stimulation, the increase might result more from active recycling than from active translation. In our previous study, we demonstrated that *iPLA*₂ activity increases up to 3 times upon ADP stimulation and that inhibition of *iPLA*₂ by 4-bromo-enol lactone (BEL), a very potent and specific suicidal inhibitor for *iPLA*₂, or *iPLA*₂ knockdown suppressed endosomal recycling (19). We hypothesized that *iPLA*₂ activity might also be required for the increase of $\alpha 6$ integrin expression on the microglia surface upon ADP stimulation. Consistent with this hypothesis, the increase of $\alpha 6$ integrin expression observed by FACS can be blocked by BEL (Fig. 3*A*), suggesting that increase of $\alpha 6$ integrin expression requires *iPLA*₂ activity. Consistent with this, the increase of $\alpha 6$ integrin on the cell surface was significantly lower in cells in which *iPLA*₂ was knocked down (*iPLA*₂-KD cells). On-cell Western assays also showed that *iPLA*₂-KD cells had substantially decreased levels of $\alpha 6$ integrin surface expression but exhibited only moderate inhibition of $\alpha 5$ integrin expression on the cell surface (Fig. 3*C*). Immunofluorescence staining of paxillin showed a significant reduction of FA number in *iPLA*₂-KD cells, presumably due to the decreased levels of $\alpha 6$ integrin surface expression (Fig. 3*D*). We examined the subcellular localization of $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP in cells treated with BEL or in *iPLA*₂-KD cells. The $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP is predominantly associated with vesicular structures in the perinuclear area, and $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP vesicles moved from a perinuclear region to the base of the lamellipodia (Fig. 3*E*). Upon ADP stimulation, a large fraction of $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP vesicles was translocated and resided near the cortical membrane. In contrast,

localization of $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP vesicles is tightly confined in the perinuclear region in *iPLA*₂-KD cells. Even after ADP stimulation, most of the $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP vesicles remained in the perinuclear area. Taken together, these observations suggest the presence of a defect in $\alpha 6$ integrin trafficking to the plasma membrane in *iPLA*₂-KD cells. We examined the defect of $\alpha 6$ integrin recycling in more detail by performing an integrin endocytosis assay on *iPLA*₂-KD cells. Cell surface $\alpha 6$ integrin was labeled with anti- $\alpha 6$ integrin antibody for 45 min at 4 °C, a temperature that halts endocytosis. Cells were then switched to 37 °C to resume endocytosis and incubated for 30 min, allowing the internalization of antibody bound to cell surface integrin. Staining of internalized $\alpha 6$ integrin with secondary antibody revealed that most of the internalized $\alpha 6$ was localized in the perinuclear area, showing a colocalization with Rab11, a marker for the endosomal recycling compartment (ERC) in BV2 cells (Fig. 4, *A* and *B*). Upon ADP stimulation for 10 min, internalized $\alpha 6$ integrin was associated with vesicles near the plasma membrane, presumably en route to recycling back to the plasma membrane. However, this recycling of $\alpha 6$ integrin is essentially absent in *iPLA*₂-KD cells and BV2 cells treated with BEL as most internalized $\alpha 6$ integrin was still retained in the ERC after ADP stimulation, suggesting that *iPLA*₂ activity is required for the recycling of $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP.

*iPLA*₂ Activity Is Required for FA Formation at the Leading Edge—To examine how the defect of $\alpha 6$ integrin recycling affects dynamic changes of FA during cell migration, we used time lapse video microscopy to examine FA on the leading edge of microglia cells expressing $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP (Fig. 5*A*). After ADP stimulation, we were able to observe incorporation of $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP into newly forming adhesions in BV2 cells on LN. In both BEL-treated BV2 cells and *iPLA*₂-KD cells, newly organizing $\alpha 6$ -containing adhesions were essentially absent, indicating that *iPLA*₂ activity is required for the formation of new adhesions, presumably via the regulation of trafficking of $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP to FAs upon ADP stimulation. This result was strengthened by the measurement of FA assembly rate using paxillin-GFP in live cells. We analyzed FA dynamics by examining the increase of paxillin-GFP in FAs in cells on FN or LN using time lapse video microscopy for 20 min after ADP stimulation (Fig. 5*B*). The formation of paxillin-GFP-containing FAs in the newly protruding regions or the cell edge of the cells transfected with paxillin-GFP was examined. The rate constants for formation and disassembly were determined from the slope of graphs of paxillin-GFP intensities over the time. The rate of paxillin-GFP assembly on FN was not significantly different from the rate on LN in BV2 cells. In contrast, paxillin-GFP assembly on LN in *iPLA*₂-KD cells was almost abolished, whereas assembly on FN was moderately affected, consistent with the role of *iPLA*₂ in $\alpha 6$ integrin expression and trafficking.

*Reduced Motility of $\alpha 6$ Integrin-GFP Vesicles in *iPLA*₂-KD Cells—*Individual $\alpha 6$ -GFP vesicles were then traced to determine the path, distance traveled, and velocity of vesicles. Movements of vesicles in control or *iPLA*₂-KD cells were captured at 6-s intervals for 15 min and traced manually. Fig. 6*B* shows the representative paths of $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP vesicle movements and velocity profiles of individual vesicles in different cell types. As shown in Fig. 6, *B* and *C*, most $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP vesicles

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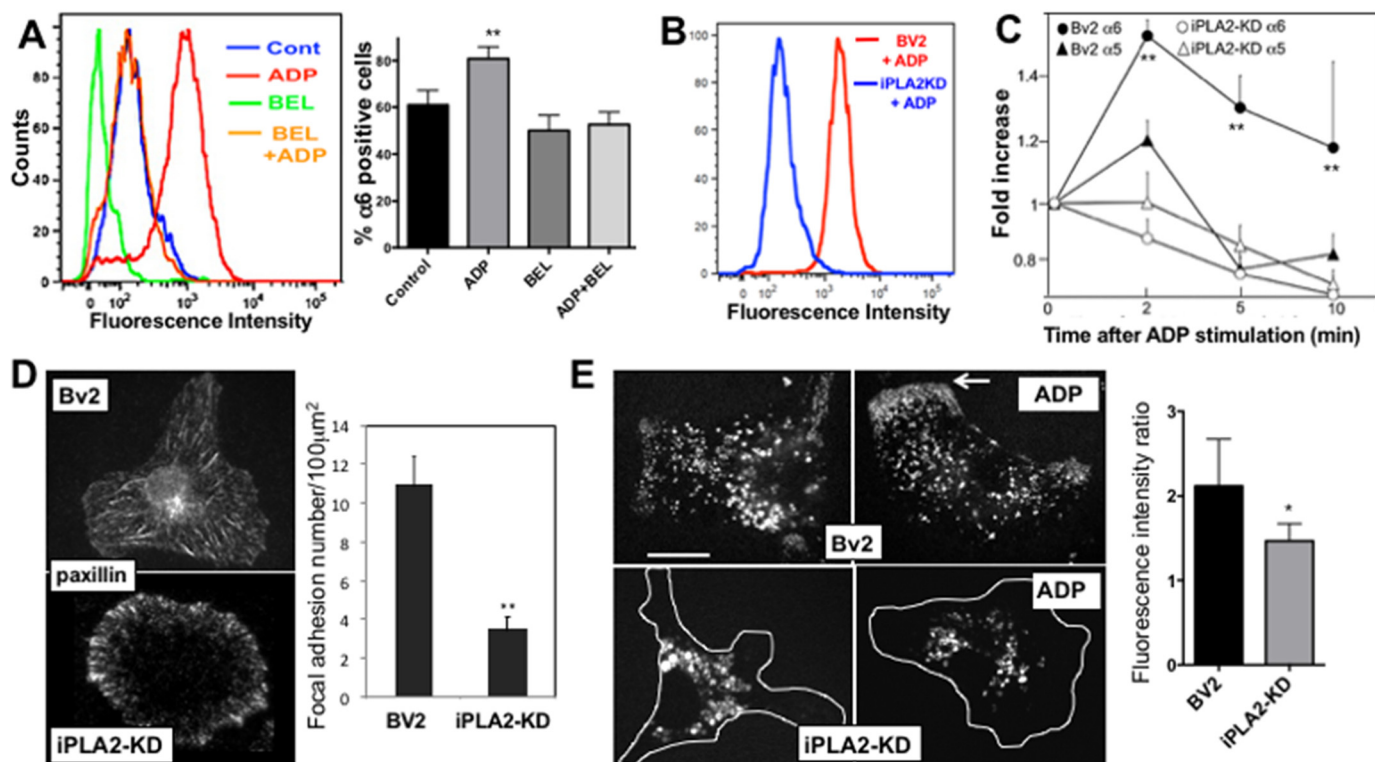


FIGURE 3. *A*, flow cytometry analysis of $\alpha 6$ integrin expression on the cell surface. Inhibition of iPLA₂ with 5 μM BEL abolishes the increase of $\alpha 6$ integrin expression on the cell surface upon ADP stimulation. The graph shows average of three independent flow analyses. Error bars represent S.E. **, $p < 0.01$ versus control by ANOVA. *B*, flow cytometry analysis of $\alpha 6$ integrin expression on the iPLA₂-KD cell surface. *C*, quantification of $\alpha 6$ integrin expression on the cell surface in iPLA₂-KD cells by an on-cell Western assay. The increase of surface expression of $\alpha 6$ integrin, but not $\alpha 5$ integrin, upon ADP stimulation was significantly reduced in iPLA₂-KD cells. Averages of three to four independent experiments that were triplicated are shown. **, $p < 0.01$ versus iPLA₂-KD by ANOVA. *D*, knockdown of iPLA₂ causes a significant inhibition of FA formation on LN. BV2 and iPLA₂-KD cells were plated on coverslips coated with 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ LN. Immunostaining was performed on fixed cells with anti-paxillin antibody. The number of FAs was measured from the images. **, $p < 0.01$ versus BV2 by *t* test. *E*, ADP stimulation leads to the localization of $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP vesicles to membrane protrusions or the leading edge (arrow) in BV2 cells. In contrast, $\alpha 6$ -GFP-containing vesicles remain in a perinuclear region even after ADP stimulation in iPLA₂-KD cells. The graph shows quantification of fluorescence intensity from 10 individual cells in three culture dishes before ADP stimulation. The ratio of GFP intensity in the peripheral area to perinuclear area is shown. The perinuclear area was defined as a concentric circle around the nucleus with a diameter twice as big. 10 individual cells in three culture dishes were examined. *, $p < 0.05$ versus BV2 by *t* test; scale bar indicates 10 μm . Cont, control.

showed a diffuse-and-go movement in which diffusional movements are interrupted by directional movements over 0.5 μm . The $\alpha 6$ -GFP vesicles traveled with an average velocity of 8.06 $\mu\text{m}/\text{min}$ in BV2 cells. In contrast, $\alpha 6$ -GFP vesicles in iPLA₂-KD cells maintained slow and diffusional movement without any direction, and their average velocity was 3.03 $\mu\text{m}/\text{min}$. Vesicles in BEL-treated BV2 cells showed similar velocity. Vesicles in iPLA₂-KD cells appear to show a largely random pattern of motion with rare and transient association with microtubules, indicated by the absence of movements with high velocity.

Microglia Pretreated with ADP Exhibit Higher Motility and Chemotaxis on LN—To examine whether the increase of $\alpha 6$ integrin on the microglia surface has an impact on the adhesion and motility of microglia, we first monitored changes of adhesion strength upon ADP stimulation using an ECIS system (Fig. 7A). When ADP was injected into the ECIS chambers of BV2 microglia cells on both FN and LN, cell impedance increased drastically and remained elevated for 2 h. The increase of impedance of iPLA₂-KD cells on FN was slower but reached a level comparable with control cells. However, impedance of iPLA₂-KD cells on LN did not increase at all, suggesting that ADP might have greater impact on $\alpha 6$ integrin expression on

the cell surface. Interestingly, impedance of iPLA₂-KD cells on LN decreased below the level before ADP stimulation, presumably due to the endocytosis of surface $\alpha 6$ integrin. Examination of random and chemotactic motility of cells treated with BEL also revealed that iPLA₂ activity has greater impact on the increase of motility on LN than on FN. Upon ADP stimulation, random motility of microglia increased significantly more on LN than on FN as both mean velocity and net distance of movement were increased about 200% on LN compared with a 90% increase on FN (Fig. 7B). This result is consistent with the increase of FAs in the cell periphery. This increase can be blocked by BEL inhibition of iPLA₂. Chemotactic motility was measured using Transwell chamber membranes coated with LN. Cells challenged with ADP for 1 h before they were plated on the Transwell chamber membranes exhibited very high migration to the bottom well even without a chemoattractant cue, presumably due to high basal motility. Chemotaxis of microglia challenged with ADP was greatly improved but was significantly reduced in iPLA₂-KD cells (Fig. 7C). Potential off-target effects of the shRNA were ruled out by rescue of the chemotaxis defect of iPLA₂-KD cells by expression of human iPLA₂-GFP (data not shown). This result suggests that the increase of $\alpha 6$ integrin on the microglia surface upon ADP

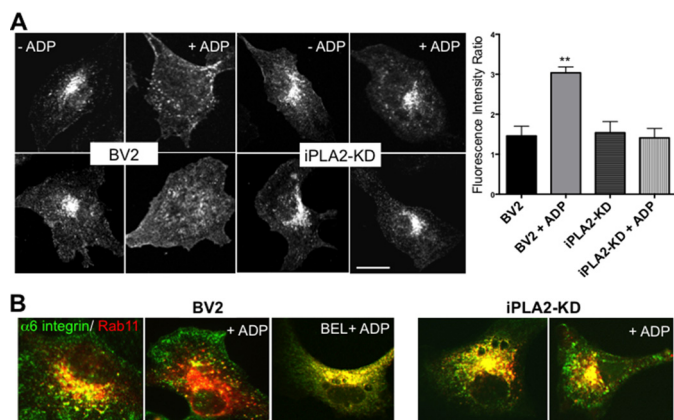


FIGURE 4. *A*, integrin endocytosis assay to examine the recycling $\alpha 6$ integrin. BV2 and iPLA₂-KD cells were plated on LN-coated coverslips, and an integrin endocytosis assay was performed as described under "Experimental Procedures." In untreated BV2 and iPLA₂-KD cells, endocytosed $\alpha 6$ integrin was found predominantly in a perinuclear vesicular structure. Following ADP treatment, $\alpha 6$ integrin localization changed to plasma membrane or vesicles in the periphery of BV2 cells, but this change is absent in iPLA₂-KD cells. Scale bar, 10 μ m. The ratios of fluorescence intensities in the perinuclear area and cellular periphery from 10 cells were determined and are shown in the graph. Error bars represent S.E. **, $p < 0.01$ versus BV2 by ANOVA. *B*, endocytosed $\alpha 6$ integrin is colocalized with mCherry-Rab11 in the perinuclear region, but the localization of $\alpha 6$ integrin changes rapidly to the periphery of the cell upon ADP stimulation. However, in iPLA₂-KD or BEL-treated BV2 cells, $\alpha 6$ integrin remains colocalized with Rab11 in the perinuclear region even after ADP stimulation.

stimulation would have a positive impact on the chemotactic ability of microglia.

Discussion

Alteration of integrin-mediated adhesion may regulate the extent of microglial infiltration into the site of neuronal injury by controlling their motility. In this study, we demonstrated that ADP stimulation induced a significant increase in the expression of $\alpha 6$ integrin, but not $\alpha 5$, on the surface of microglia cells. An integrin endocytosis assay also revealed that iPLA₂ activity is required for the recycling of internalized $\alpha 6$ integrin back to the plasma membrane. Time lapse microscopy also clearly revealed the essential role of iPLA₂ activity for the recycling of $\alpha 6$ integrin from the ERC to the plasma membrane via recycling endosomes.

We demonstrated in this study that microglia pretreated with ADP exhibited higher chemotactic motility, which can be abolished by the inhibition of iPLA₂ activity. There is a growing body of evidence that iPLA₂ plays a key role in the regulation of chemotaxis. Strong chemotaxis defects are observed only when both the PI3K and PLA₂ pathways are disrupted in *Dictyostelium* (20). Recent studies also showed that monocyte chemotaxis toward monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 requires iPLA₂ activity (21, 22). Our previous study also demonstrated that iPLA₂ activity plays an important role in the regulation of microglia chemotaxis (19).

Internalized integrins recycle back to the cell surface along two different routes. Integrins, such as $\alpha 5\beta 1$ and $\alpha L\beta 2$, are known to enter the ERC before being recycled to the plasma membrane (long loop), which is regulated by Rab11a. Rab25 (or Rab11c), a member of the Rab11 family, has been reported to be physically associated with $\alpha 5\beta 1$ integrin, modulating recycling

of $\alpha 5\beta 1$ and invasive migration of ovarian tumor cells (23). Rab4 has been shown to regulate recycling of integrin $\alpha v\beta 3$ from early endosomes in a "short loop" pathway (23). The arrest of $\alpha 6$ integrin recycling at the ERC suggests that $\alpha 6$ integrin is recycled via a long loop. Our observation that $\alpha 6$ integrin remains at the ERC in iPLA₂-KD cells suggests the possibility that the formation of recycling vesicles from the ERC might be defective in these cells. Recent studies shed light on the role of PLA₂ in the regulation of the formation of membrane tubules and membrane fusion events in the secretory and endocytic pathways (24). iPLA₂ activity has been suggested to be associated with the formation of Golgi membrane tubules in response to brefeldin A, and these tubules have been suggested to function in various trafficking pathways (25). Based on these observations, it would be reasonable to conclude that iPLA₂ activity might be required for the formation of $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP vesicles from the ERC. However, the number of $\alpha 6$ -GFP vesicles in iPLA₂-KD cells is comparable with that in control cells, suggesting that the recycling defect of $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP vesicles is not simply due to the lack of vesicle formation. iPLA₂ has been shown previously to play a role in the regulation of casein-containing secretory vesicles. In that study, treatment of cells with BEL caused casein to accumulate in the perinuclear area of the cell, suggesting that the transport of milk proteins to the apical side of the cell was partly hindered (26). Various PLA₂ antagonists caused a block in the endocytic recycling pathway of transferrin or transferrin receptor (27). These reports are consistent with our results and suggest that iPLA₂ activity might be required for the trafficking of recycling vesicles to the plasma membrane. Our time lapse video microscopy revealed a reduction in motility of $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP vesicles in iPLA₂-KD cells. Fatty acids released by iPLA₂ activity might be required for the interaction between a motor protein and cargo membrane. Kinesin motor proteins facilitate vesicle formation/trafficking by pulling membrane tubules or vesicles along on microtubules. The tail domains of some kinesins can interact with phospholipids. Unc104/KIF1A has a pleckstrin homology (PH) domain located at the C-terminal tail that directly interacts with PI 4,5-bisphosphate and transports PI 4,5-bisphosphate-containing vesicles (28, 29). The PX motif of KIF16B binds PI 3-phosphate and localizes to membranes bearing this lipid *in vivo* (30). Tracking of $\alpha 6$ -GFP vesicles in iPLA₂ β -KD cells clearly revealed a lack of directionality and slow speed of vesicle movements. Kinectin accumulation at sites of clustered integrins has been reported (31), and iPLA₂ activity might be required for the recycling of integrin vesicles by controlling the interaction between kinectin and integrin.

Cell migration is a highly coordinated and integrated process, including numerous factors leading to migration. Microglia on an LN substrate adopt a less activated, poorly adhesive phenotype and show reduced levels of expression of the activation markers (32). It has also been shown that microglial adhesion to LN is mediated entirely by the $\alpha 6\beta 1$ integrin, and microglial adhesion to LN was increased significantly by the proinflammatory cytokines (6, 33). However, cytokines did not change $\alpha 6\beta 1$ expression levels but altered the activation state of $\alpha 6\beta 1$, mediated by a PKC-dependent mechanism. Our study revealed that activation of P2Y₁₂ receptor with ADP also results

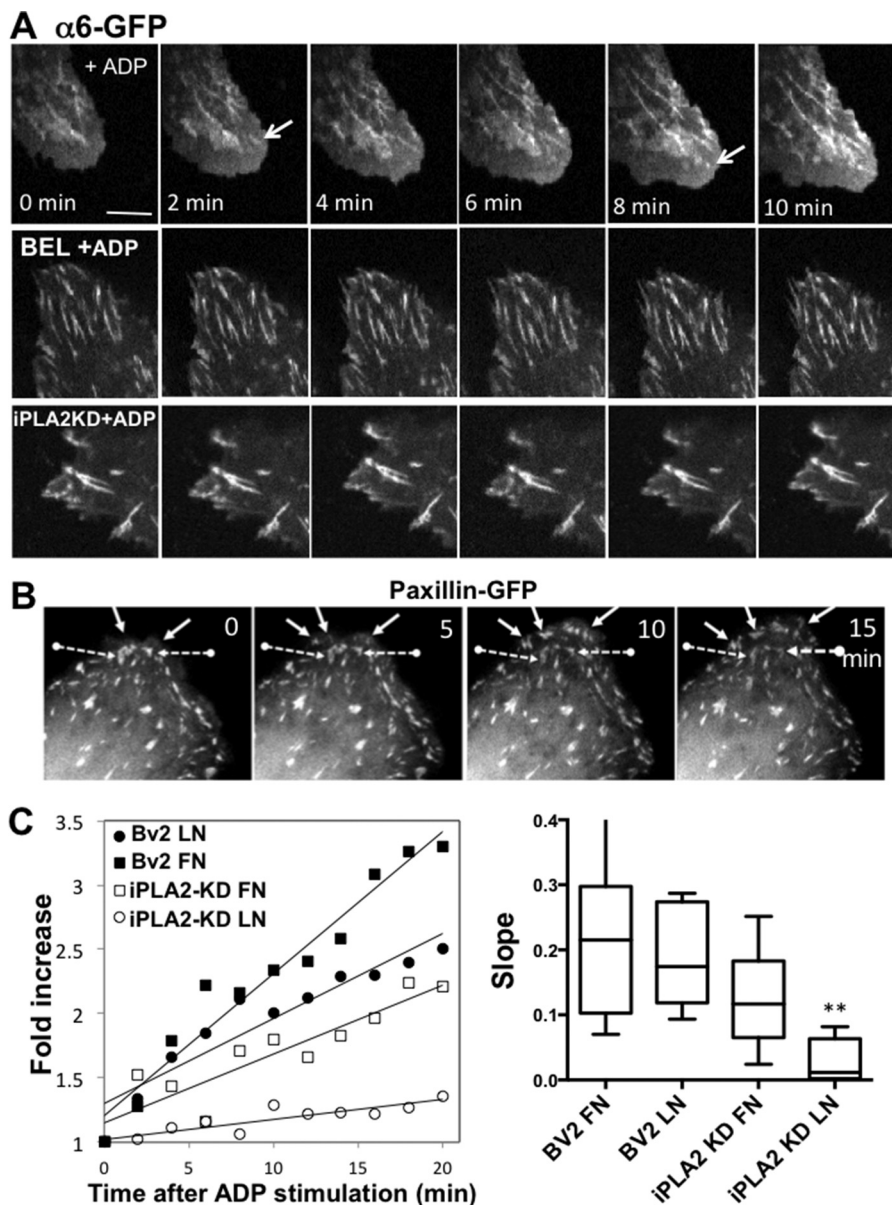


FIGURE 5. Reduced rate of the formation and growth of focal adhesions on LN in cells treated with BEL or $iPLA_2$ -KD cells. *A*, $\alpha 6$ -KD cells were transfected with $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP and plated on $10 \mu\text{g/ml}$ LN. Cells were stimulated with ADP, and FA formation in cells was imaged for 20 min by capturing images every 6 s. In control BV2 cells, $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP localizes in small foci at the edge of the lamellipodium (indicated with arrows), and their sizes grow over time with the leading edge progression. However, cells treated with $5 \mu\text{M}$ BEL lack the formation of these foci. Scale bar, $5 \mu\text{m}$. *B*, the growth of FA was examined by paxillin-GFP imaging. Arrows indicate representative adhesion assembly, and arrows with dashed line indicate representative adhesion disassembly in a control cell plated on LN. *C*, the rate of FA growth was assessed by imaging GFP-paxillin in cells plated on FN or LN. The size of FA measured with GFP-paxillin was plotted against time, and the rate constants for FA formation were determined from the slope of these graphs. Measurements of slopes were obtained for 10–15 individual adhesions from four to five cells and are shown in the graph. Error bars represent S.E. **, $p < 0.01$ versus BV2 on LN by ANOVA.

in an increase of $\alpha 6$ integrin on the microglia surface and a concomitant increase of adhesion and motility on LN. Enhanced microglial adhesion to LN might serve to promote microglial adhesion and entry into areas of CNS injury. LN is transiently expressed by neurons inside the ischemic core 24 h after a stroke has occurred as an acute reaction of the brain to ischemia (34). Interestingly, peptides derived from the α chain of LN caused a significant reduction of leukocyte accumulation and infarct size in rats subjected to 1 h of cerebral ischemia (35), suggesting that increased adhesion/motility on LN is prerequisite for leukocyte migration. Our results described in this study also suggest that microglial adhesion and migra-

tion into the LN-rich injury site would be promoted by the increase of $\alpha 6\beta 1$ integrin expression that is a consequence of ADP stimulation.

Experimental Procedures

Cell Culture and Transfection—BV2 microglia cells were maintained in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DMEM) supplemented with 10% FBS and penicillin-streptomycin (Gibco). Lentivirus-mediated shRNAs were used for gene knockdown. MISSION pLKO.1 shRNA clones were from Sigma and contained hairpin sequences that were used for $iPLA_2$ knockdown (NM_016915.2-2305s1c1) and for $\alpha 6$ integ-

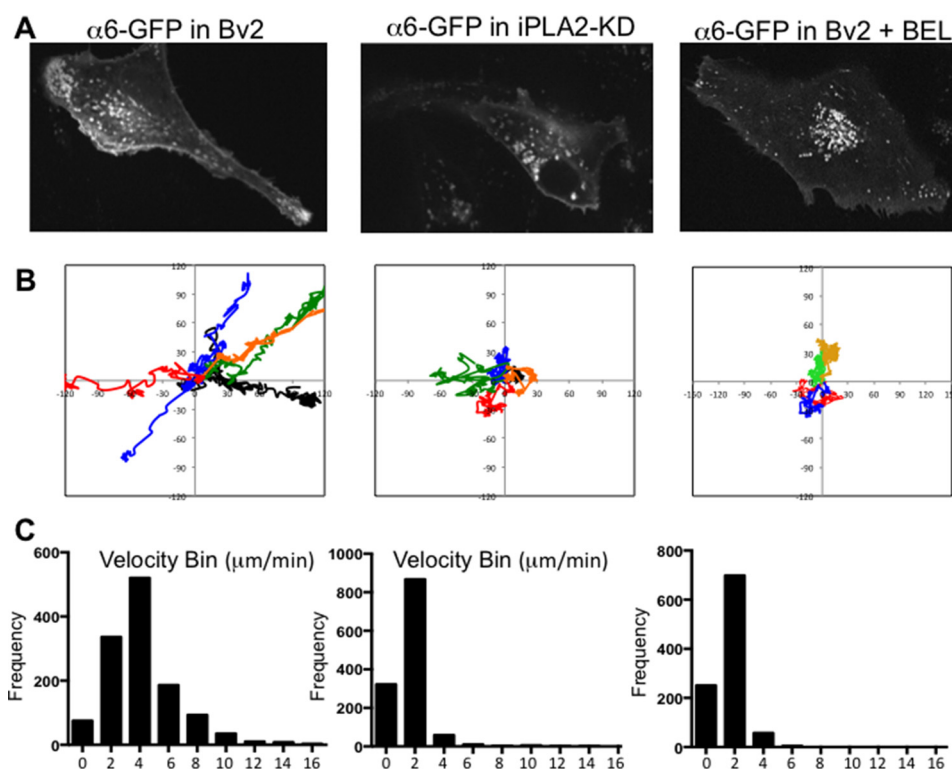


FIGURE 6. Tracking of $\alpha 6$ -GFP vesicle movements in control or $iPLA_2$ -KD cells by live cell imaging. *A*, images of cells expressing $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP were acquired at 6-s intervals for 15 min, and tracks of vesicles were traced. *B*, six representative paths taken by vesicles carrying $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP are shown. *C*, histograms of the velocity of $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP vesicles. Trajectories for 15–20 $\alpha 6$ -GFP vesicles from four independent movies were traced. The speed was calculated from the distance between two successive positions, and speeds of vesicles were sorted into bins by tallying how many speeds there are in each bin range. The frequency of high speeds is clearly lower in $iPLA_2$ -KD or BEL-treated BV2 cells.

rin knockdown (NM_008397.2-679s1c1). Lentivirus-infected cells were selected for stable cell lines in the presence of puromycin. $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP construct was made by amplifying human $\alpha 6$ integrin (transcript variant 1) cDNA with primers (forward, GTTTCTCGAGAAAATGGCCGCCCGGGCAGCTGTG; reverse, GTTTGGATCCCGTGAGTAGCTTTCATTTTCGTTCCACTTTG) and cloned into pEGFP-N1 at the XhoI and BamHI sites. Cells were transfected with mCherry-Rab11 and $\alpha 6$ integrin-GFP using Lipofectamine 2000 (Invitrogen) according to the manufacturer's instructions and cultured for 12 h. All experiments were performed 32 h after transfection. Potential off-target effects of the $iPLA_2$ shRNA were ruled out by showing rescue of the chemotaxis defect of $iPLA_2$ -KD cells by expressing human $iPLA_2$ -GFP, which is immune to RNAi.

Migration Assay—Mean velocity and net distance were measured by tracking cell migration from movies taken by live cell imaging. Chemotaxis assays were performed as described previously (16). Briefly, Transwell chamber membranes (6.5-mm diameter, 8- μm pore size; Corning, Corning, NY) were coated with FN (3 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$) for 8 h. For the chemotaxis assay, either serum-free DMEM or DMEM containing 100 μM ADP was added to the lower chamber. Cells starved for 4 h and suspended in serum-free DMEM were added to the upper chamber. After further incubation for 6 h, non-migrating cells were removed from the upper chamber with a cotton swab, and cells that had migrated to the lower surface of the membrane were fixed with 3.7% formaldehyde for 10 min and stained with 0.2%

crystal violet. Cells were imaged, and intensity of staining was measured using ImageQuant software.

On-cell Western Assays—BV2 microglia cells were plated on 24-well tissue culture plates and cultured to 80% confluence. After starvation for 4 h and ADP stimulation for 30 min, cells were then fixed with 3.7% formaldehyde and incubated with PBS containing 5% BSA for blocking nonspecific binding sites. For labeling, cells were incubated for 1 h at 4 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ with a 1:200 dilution of primary antibody against $\alpha 5$ or $\alpha 6$ integrin (BD Biosciences). Samples were washed for 10 min each with PBS and then incubated for 1 h at 4 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ in a 1:10,000 dilution of the secondary antibody, IRDye 680 goat anti-mouse (LI-COR Biosciences, Lincoln, NE). Cells were then washed three times in PBS for 10 min each and imaged using the LI-COR Odyssey infrared imaging system (LI-COR Biosciences). The intensity of the 700-nm infrared signal for each well was quantified using the LI-COR Odyssey infrared imaging system software. The mean intensity of cells incubated only with the secondary antibody was subtracted from the intensity of cells to correct for any background signal not related to integrin staining.

Flow Cytometry—Microglial cells were starved for 4 h and stimulated with ADP for 30 min. Cells were then detached with cell suspension buffer (Gibco) and pelleted. Cells were suspended at 10^6 cells/ml in FACS staining buffer (PBS containing 2% FBS and 0.2% sodium azide) and stained with FITC-labeled anti-integrin antibodies for 30 min in the dark at 4 $^{\circ}\text{C}$. Suitable isotype controls were used for calibration. Cells were washed

Regulation of $\alpha 6$ Integrin Recycling by iPLA₂

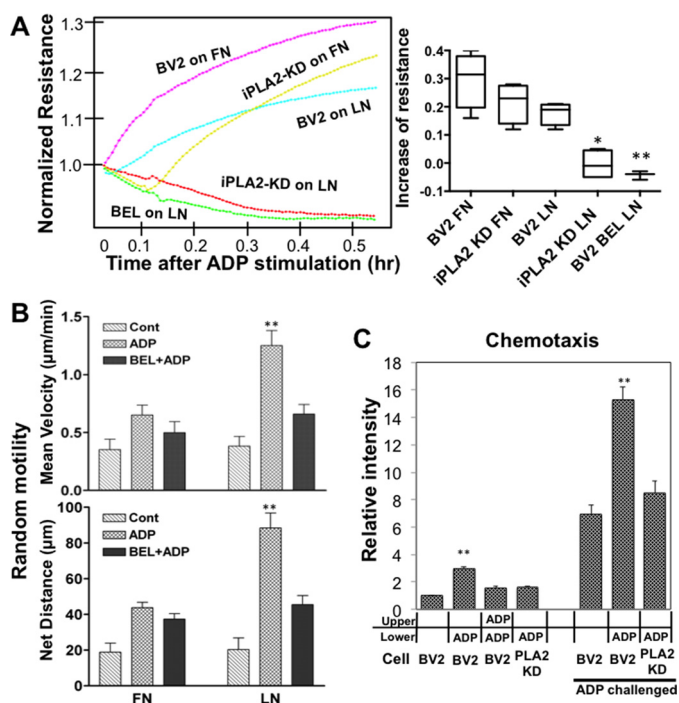


FIGURE 7. *A*, continuous ECIS readings of iPLA₂-KD cells plated on LN upon ADP stimulation shows no increase in adhesion strength. Quantification of maximum increase of resistance from four independent ECIS readings is shown in the graph. Error bars represent S.E. *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$ versus BV2 on LN by ANOVA. *B*, increase of microglia motility upon ADP stimulation on FN or LN. Random motility on individual ECM substrates was examined. Microglia exhibited higher motility on LN upon ADP stimulation. **, $p < 0.01$ versus control and BEL + ADP by *t* test. *C*, Transwell chemotaxis assay. Transwell chamber membranes were coated with LN, and cells were plated. Cells were then assayed for migration toward 100 μ M ADP. Cells pretreated with ADP for 30 min exhibited significantly greater chemotactic ability compared with non-treated cells. Knockdown of iPLA₂ abolished this increase of chemotaxis. Four duplicated independent assays were quantified. **, $p < 0.01$ versus BV2 and KD + ADP. Cont, control.

and resuspended in staining buffer and processed through a FACScan flow cytometer before analysis.

ECIS—An ECIS impedance instrument and consumable 8-well arrays were obtained from Applied Biophysics, Inc. (Troy, NY). The base of the device has an array of gold film electrodes that connect the ECIS electronics to each of the 8 wells. For each assay, BV2 control or iPLA₂-KD cells (1×10^5 cells) were plated onto a well coated with FN or LN. The 250- μ m-diameter gold electrode in each well measured the impedance through alternating current flow over a period of several hours. Measurements were made at 4000 Hz. For ADP stimulation, 100 μ l of 100 μ M ADP was injected into a well.

Integrin Endocytosis Assay—Cells (with or without transfection of mCherry-Rab11) were grown overnight on coverslips at 60–70% confluence in DMEM containing 10% FBS and antibiotics (penicillin and streptomycin) and then starved for 4 h in serum-free medium. Cell surface $\alpha 6$ integrin was labeled by incubating cells with anti- $\alpha 6$ integrin antibody for 45 min at 4 $^{\circ}$ C to inhibit endocytosis. Cells were then incubated at 37 $^{\circ}$ C for 30 min to resume endocytosis and allow the internalization of antibody bound to cell surface integrin. Cells were then stimulated for 15 min with 100 μ M ADP, washed with PBS, fixed with 3.7% formaldehyde at 37 $^{\circ}$ C, permeabilized with 0.2% Triton X-100, labeled with Alexa Fluor 488-conjugated secondary

antibody to stain endocytosed $\alpha 6$ integrin, mounted, and examined with a spinning disc confocal fluorescence microscope.

Author Contributions—S.-H. L., N. S., and N. L. performed experiments. S. S. analyzed the data. S.-H. L. and C. Y. C. conceived the experiments, analyzed the data, and wrote the paper.

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