

PLIP, a Novel Splice Variant of Tip60, Interacts with Group IV Cytosolic Phospholipase A₂, Induces Apoptosis, and Potentiates Prostaglandin Production

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The group IV cytosolic phospholipase A₂ (cPLA₂) has been localized to the nucleus (M. R. Sierra-Honigmann, J. R. Bradley, and J. S. Pober, *Lab. Investig.* 74:684–695, 1996) and is known to translocate from the cytosolic compartment to the nuclear membrane (S. Glover, M. S. de Carvalho, T. Bayburt, M. Jonas, E. Chi, C. C. Leslie, and M. H. Gelb, *J. Biol. Chem.* 270:15359–15367, 1995; A. R. Schievella, M. K. Regier, W. L. Smith, and L. L. Lin, *J. Biol. Chem.* 270:30749–30754, 1995). We hypothesized that nuclear proteins interact with cPLA₂ and participate in the functional effects of this translocation. We have identified a nuclear protein, cPLA₂-interacting protein (PLIP), a splice variant of human Tip60, which interacts with the amino terminal region of cPLA₂. Like Tip60, PLIP cDNA includes the MYST domain containing a C2HC zinc finger and well-conserved similarities to acetyltransferases. Both PLIP and Tip60 coimmunoprecipitate and colocalize with cPLA₂ within the nuclei of transfected COS cells. A polyclonal antibody raised to PLIP recognizes both PLIP and Tip60. Endogenous Tip60 and/or PLIP in rat mesangial cells is localized to the nucleus in response to serum deprivation. Nuclear localization coincides temporally with apoptosis. PLIP expression, mediated by adenoviral gene transfer, potentiates serum deprivation-induced prostaglandin E₂ (PGE₂) production and apoptosis in mouse mesangial cells from cPLA₂^{+/+} mice but not in mesangial cells derived from cPLA₂^{-/-} mice. Thus PLIP, a splice variant of Tip60, interacts with cPLA₂ and potentiates cPLA₂-mediated PGE₂ production and apoptosis.

Phospholipase A₂s (PLA₂s) are a heterogeneous family of enzymes that are defined by their ability to cleave the fatty acid at the *sn*-2 position of phospholipids (9, 47). The group IVA 85-kDa cytosolic phospholipase A₂, cPLA₂, is distinguished from other PLA₂s by its activation by submicromolar levels of Ca²⁺ and its preference for phospholipid substrates which contain arachidonic acid at the *sn*-2 position (18, 26). cPLA₂ has been shown to play a role in many physiological processes, such as ion channel regulation, cell volume regulation, macrophage eicosanoid production, and parturition (9, 11, 73), as well as pathophysiological processes, such as mitochondrial dysfunction (51), allergic responses involved in asthma, atopic dermatitis and anaphylaxis, and ischemia-reperfusion injury to the brain (11, 73). cPLA₂ expression has been associated with cytotoxicity (30, 31, 65, 75).

Although primarily localized to the cytosol in resting cells, cPLA₂ translocates to nuclear membranes when cellular [Ca²⁺] is increased to 300 nM (18, 26, 66). In one study, an intranuclear localization of cPLA₂ has been proposed in subconfluent endothelial cells (67). This nuclear localization may be critical for physiological and pathophysiological actions of cPLA₂. Arachidonic acid-metabolizing enzymes, such as prostaglandin H₂ synthase-1 and -2 (COX-1 and -2) (70) and 5-lipoxygenase (77, 78), are localized on the nuclear membrane, and eicosanoids have been found to regulate transcription (3,

7, 8, 24). cPLA₂ inhibitors result in reduced levels of group IIA secretory PLA₂ mRNA (46), and cPLA₂ expression has been correlated with COX-2 mRNA expression (2).

cPLA₂ activity is regulated by cytosolic-free [Ca²⁺] and phosphorylation. Clark and others have shown that an amino-terminal [Ca²⁺]-dependent lipid-binding (CaLB) domain is both necessary and sufficient for the translocation of cPLA₂ to cellular membranes (18, 52). The CaLB domain is homologous to domains found in Ras-GAP, phospholipase C, and PKC α (18). cPLA₂ is phosphorylated at a number of sites, including Ser-505, and activated by ERK1/2 (48, 54) and p38 mitogen-activated protein kinase (75).

Despite the extensive data implicating cPLA₂ in multiple physiological and pathophysiological processes, mechanisms by which cPLA₂ acts at the nucleus are incompletely understood. We hypothesized that nuclear actions of cPLA₂ may be facilitated by nuclear proteins which interact with cPLA₂. A protein, PLIP, which colocalizes in the nucleus with cPLA₂, was isolated using the yeast interaction trap two-hybrid system. PLIP enhances the cPLA₂-dependent mesangial cell apoptosis and prostaglandin E₂ (PGE₂) production that occurs in response to serum deprivation.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Plasmids. pEG202-cPLA₂ (1–215) was constructed by PCR amplification of the amino-terminal fragment of cPLA₂ containing residues 1 to 215 by using the primers GGAATTCTAATGTCATTTATAGATCCT and CCCAAGCTTTGA TTCGTATAATGCCTT and human cPLA₂ as the template. The cDNA of cPLA₂ was from pMT₂-cPLA₂ (obtained from James Clark, Genetics Institute, Cambridge, Mass.) (18). This was followed by cloning of an *EcoRI/XhoI* frag-

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ment of the PCR product into pEG202. The sequence was verified. A human fibroblast G₀ library cloned into pJG4-5 was obtained from C. Sardet (then at the Whitehead Institute and Massachusetts Institute of Technology). pEG202, pSH18-34, pJK101, and pRFHM1 were obtained from Roger Brent of the Massachusetts General Hospital (28). PLIP cDNA was ligated from pJG4-5-PLIP into pBluescript and then into pMT3 *EcoRI/Xba* sites using the linkers AATGAATTCCTCGAGT and CTAGACTCGAGGAATTC. PMT₃-Tip60 was created by excising Tip60 cDNA (obtained from J. Kamane, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.) into pMT₃ using *EcoRI* and *XhoI* sites.

Interaction trap two-hybrid screen. The EGY48 strain of yeast (obtained from R. Brent), which contains an integrated copy of the LEU2 gene with upstream activating sequences replaced by 6 LexA operators (28), was transformed with both a bait plasmid, pEG202-cPLA₂₍₁₋₂₁₅₎, and the reporter plasmid, pSH18-34, by using lithium acetate (25). Yeast colonies containing both bait and reporter plasmids were selected on Ura⁻, His⁻, glucose-containing medium and transformed with the library cDNA in a GAL1-inducible expression vector, pJG4-5. Transformants were selected on Ura⁻, His⁻, Trp⁻ glucose-containing plates, and 10⁶ CFU were plated onto Ura⁻, His⁻, Trp⁻, Leu⁻, galactose-raffinose medium. Positive colonies were grown up in Trp⁻, glucose-containing medium, and isolated prey plasmids were rescued using the method of Hoffman and Winston (34) and electroporated into KC8 strains of *Escherichia coli*. PLIP cDNA was cloned into pBluescript and pMT₃ and amplified in XL-1 Blue strains of *E. coli* for sequencing and transfection experiments. DNA was sequenced completely on both strands by using customized oligonucleotides and standard techniques (5).

Screening of human placenta library. A human placenta stretch library in λgt11 phage was screened in *E. coli* Y1090 cells as described previously (5, 64). Briefly, plaques were immobilized on Gene Screen Plus membranes (New England Nuclear, Boston, Mass.) with 0.5 N NaOH followed by neutralization in 1 M Tris (pH 7.5). Membranes were prehybridized at 55°C in 2× SDE (which contains 200 mM NaCl, 100 mM NaPO₄ [pH 7.0], and 5 mM EDTA [pH 8.0]) with 5% sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS), 100 μg of yeast tRNA/ml, and 100 μg of denatured salmon sperm DNA/ml and hybridized at 55°C with a ³²P-labeled 900-bp fragment of the 5' end of PLIP cDNA which had been amplified by PCR using the primers CCATTACATTGACTTCAACA and TTTCACATAATCTCA TTGATG. Membranes were hybridized in 2% SDE overnight and washed in SSC (1× SSC is 0.15 M NaCl plus 0.015 M sodium citrate) as follows: 15 min (three times) in 2× SSC at room temperature, followed by 10 min (two times) in 1× SSC at 65°C, followed by 5 min (two times) in 0.1× SSC.

Coprecipitation experiments. COS cells were transfected using DEAE-dextran. Cells were plated at 2.5 × 10⁵ in 10-cm plates 24 h prior to transfection. For each 10-cm plate, 200 μl of 1× phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) containing DEAE-dextran (10 mg/ml) and chloroquine (2.5 mM) was added to 5 ml of Dulbecco modified Eagle medium (DMEM) containing 10% NuSerum (Collaborative Research, Bedford, Mass.). DNA (20 μg/plate) was added, and the chloroquine-DEAE-dextran-DNA mixture was layered onto cells. After a 4-h incubation at 37°C, the chloroquine-DEAE-dextran-DNA mixture was removed and cells were exposed to 10% dimethyl sulfoxide at room temperature for exactly 2 min. Cells were washed with 1× PBS, and fresh DMEM containing 10% fetal calf serum (FCS) was added. Forty-eight hours after transfection, confluent monolayers of transfected cells were harvested into lysis buffer containing 20 mM Tris (pH 8.0), 50 mM β-glycerophosphate, 2 mM EDTA, 1% triton, 200 μM vanadate, 100 μM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride, 2 μM leupeptin, 1 mM dithiothreitol, and 10% glycerol. Immunoprecipitation was done over 4 h at 4°C with a mouse monoclonal anti-HA antibody diluted 1:10 and protein G agarose beads. Precipitated proteins were run on a 10% SDS gel at 50 V and electrophoretically transferred onto Immobilon membranes (Millipore, Bedford, Mass.). Membranes were blotted with anti-cPLA₂ antibody and developed by chemiluminescence.

To test for coprecipitation of endogenous PLIP and cPLA₂, renal mesangial cells were grown to confluence and harvested into buffer containing 10 mM potassium phosphate (pH 7.4), 5 mM EGTA, 50 mM β-glycerophosphate, 1 mM vanadate, 1 mM dithiothreitol, 2 μM leupeptin, 2 μM pepstatin, 0.5% NP-40, and 0.1% Brij 35. Supernatants were immunoprecipitated with anti-PLIP antibody, and precipitants were analyzed by Western blotting as described above.

Immunofluorescent microscopy. COS cells were grown to 50% confluence on glass coverslips and transiently transfected using DEAE-dextran as described above. Forty-eight hours after transfection, cells were washed with ice-cold PBS and fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde-0.1% triton over 30 min on ice. Fixed cells were blocked at room temperature in 40% calf serum and exposed to primary and secondary antibodies over 1 h at room temperature with copious washing with PBS in between exposure to antibodies. Primary antibodies were rabbit polyclonal anti-cPLA₂ used at 1:100 and mouse monoclonal anti-HA used at 1:5. Secondary antibodies were goat fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC)-conjugated

anti-mouse, rhodamine-conjugated anti-rabbit, and Cy3-conjugated anti-rabbit, all used at 1:100. Cell nuclei were stained with 0.5 μg of Hoechst dye/ml. FITC, rhodamine, and Cy3-conjugated antibodies were obtained from Jackson Immuno Research (West Grove, Pa.).

Production of PLIP antibody. Supercompetent X-L-1 Blue *E. coli* cells were transformed with pGexKg-PLIP. A 5-ml culture was grown to an optical density at 600 nm of 0.50, induced with 0.2 mM isopropyl-β-D-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG; Sigma, St. Louis, Mo.), and incubated overnight at 37°C with agitation. Cells were harvested and resuspended in 1× binding buffer containing 50 mM Tris (pH 8.0), 150 mM KCl, and 1% Triton X-100. The suspension was sonicated at 375W and centrifuged for 20 min at 10,000 × g at 4°C. The supernatant was run over a glutathione agarose column and washed with 10 volumes of binding buffer. The fusion protein was eluted with 10 mM glutathione in 1× binding buffer and dialyzed against 1× binding buffer overnight at 4°C. A rabbit antibody was made to this protein by SeraSource (Royalston, Mass.).

Cell culture. Rat mesangial cell cultures were derived from 6-week-old Sprague Dawley rats. Cortices of decapsulated, bisected kidneys were minced and forced through a 106-μm sieve (Bellco Glass Co., Vineland, N.J.) followed by passage through a 53-μm sieve. The washed, sieved glomeruli were resuspended in minimal essential medium with D-valine, L-glutamine and Earle's salts (Mediatech, Inc., Herndon, Va.). After excluding fibroblasts by growth in D-valine-containing medium, cells were grown in RPMI with 20% FCS (Mediatech, Inc.). Homogenous cell cultures have been demonstrated using this method (10, 12-14). Mesangial cell cultures were similarly derived from 5-week-old cPLA₂-knockout mice and from wild-type control animals (11). Cardiac myocytes were isolated from day-old rats using the neonatal cardiomyocyte isolation system (Worthington Biochemical Corp., Lakewood, N.J.) as described previously (29, 42).

Adenoviral infection. PLIP cDNA was subcloned into the *NotI* and *XhoI* sites of pADRSV4, which contains adenoviral sequences from the 0 to 1.2 and 9.2 to 16.1 map units, the Rous sarcoma virus long-terminal-repeat promoter, and the simian virus 40 early polyadenylation signal to generate pAdRSV4-PLIP. The position and orientation of the insert were confirmed by sequencing of the 5' ends of the constructs using a pADRSV4 primer. pADRSV4-PLIP was cotransfected into 293 cells with pJM17, which contains adenoviral cDNA. Homologous recombinants between pADRSV4-PLIP and pJM17 contain exogenous DNA substituted for E1. Individual plaques were purified, and protein expression was confirmed by immunoblotting. The recombinant adenovirus was prepared in high titer by propagation in 293 cells and purification by CsCl gradient. Optimal expression of protein was determined to occur at 48 to 72 h after infection with 200 to 350 PFU/cell. Infectivity was approximately 50%. A recombinant adenovirus carrying the *E. coli* LacZ gene (Ad-Lac) encoding β-galactosidase was used as a control. In other experiments Ad-GFP, expressing green fluorescent protein, was used as a control.

[³H]arachidonic acid release. Mesangial cells were plated in six-well dishes and grown to confluence in DMEM and either 0.1 or 10% FCS. Cells were labeled overnight with [³H]arachidonic acid (New England Nuclear). Cells were washed twice in serum-free DMEM containing 0.2% albumin and incubated in DMEM. At the end of 30 min of incubation at 37°C, medium was removed and floating cells were removed from the medium by centrifugation at 20,800 × g. Supernatant was counted. Adherent cells were dissolved in 0.1% triton and counted. Data are expressed as supernatant counts over cellular plus supernatant counts.

Measurement of supernatant PGE₂. Anti-PGE₂ antibody and PGE₂ standard were obtained from Sigma Immunochemicals (St. Louis, Mo.). Supernatant PGE₂ was measured by radioimmunoassay per the protocol described by the manufacturer. Briefly, PGE₂ standard was diluted to 15 to 1,000 pg/100 μl in buffer containing 0.01 M sodium PBS (pH 7.4), 0.1% bovine serum albumin, and 0.1% sodium azide. One hundred microliters of sample or standard was vortex mixed with 500 μl of anti-PGE₂ antibody and incubated at 4°C for 30 min. ³H-PGE₂ (New England Nuclear) was added for 1 h at 4°C followed by 200 μl of dextran-coated charcoal suspension. Samples were centrifuged at 2,000 × g for 5 min, and radioactivity in supernatants was determined.

RNA isolation and RT-PCR. RNA was harvested from BALB/c mice using the RNA easy mini kit (Qiagen, Inc., Valencia, Calif.) following the manufacturer's protocol. One-step reverse transcriptase PCR (RT-PCR) (Clontech, Palo Alto, Calif.) was performed using primers TGAGCGGTGACCTAAAGAAG and GAATACCGTCAGACCACGCAT.

Nucleotide sequence accession number. Nucleotide sequence data for PLIP have been submitted to DDBJ/EMBL/GenBank under the accession number U67734.

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1  ATG GCG GAG GTG GGG GAG ATA ATC GAG GGC TGC CGC CTA CCC GTG CTG CGG CGG AAC CAG
met ala glu val gly glu ile ile glu gly cys arg leu pro val leu arg arg asn gln
61  GAC AAC GAA GAT GAG TGG CCC CTG GCC GAG ATC CTG AGC GTG AAG GAC ATC AGT GGC CGG
asp asn glu asp glu trp pro leu ala glu ser leu ser val lys asp ile ser gly arg
121 AAG CTT TTC TAC GTC CAT TAC ATT GAC TTC AAC AAA CGT CTG GAT GAA TGG GTG ACG CAT
lys leu phe tyr val his tyr ile asp phe asn lys arg leu asp glu trp val thr his
181 GAG CGG CTG GAC CTA AAG AAG ATC CAG TTC CCC AAG AAA GAG GCC AAG ACC CCC ACT AAG
glu arg leu asp leu lys lys ile gln phe pro lys lys glu ala lys thr pro thr lys
241 AAC GGA CTT CCT GGG TCC CGT CCT GGC TCT CCA GAG AGA GAG GTG AAA CGG AAG GTG GAG
asn gly leu pro gly ser arg pro gly ser pro glu arg glu val lys arg lys val glu
301 GTG GTT TCA CCA GCA ACT CCA GTG CCC AGC GAG ACA GCC CCG GCC TCG GTT TTT CCC CAG
val val ser pro ala thr pro val pro ser glu thr ala pro ala ser val phe pro gln
361 AAT GGA GCC GCC CGT AGG GCA GTG GCA GCC CAG CCA GGA CGG AAG CGA AAA TCG AAT TGT
asn gly ala ala arg arg ala val ala ala gln pro gly arg lys arg lys ser asn cys
421 TTG GGC ACT GAT GAG GAC TCC CAG GAC AGC TCT GAT GGA ATA CCG TCA CCA CGC ATG
leu gly thr asp glu asp ser gln asp ser ser asp gly ile pro ser ala pro arg met
481 ACT GGC AGC CTG GTG TCT GAT CGA AGC CAC GAC GAC ATC GTC ACC CGG ATG AAG AAC ATT
thr gly ser leu val ser asp arg ser his asp asp ile val thr arg met lys asn ile
541 GAG TGC ATT GAG CTG GGC CGG CAC CGC CTC AAG CCG TGG TAC TTC TCC CCG TAC CCA CAG
glu cys ile glu leu gly arg his arg leu lys pro trp tyr phe ser pro tyr pro gln
601 GAA CTC ACC ACA TTG CCT GTC CTC TAC CTG TGC GAG TTC TGC CTC AAG TAC GGC CGT AGT
glu leu thr thr leu pro val leu tyr leu cys glu phe cys leu lys tyr gly arg ser
661 CTC AAG TGT CTT CAG CGT CAT TTG ACC AAG TGT GAC CTA CGA CAT CCT CCA GGC AAT GAG
leu lys cys leu gln arg his leu thr lys cys asp leu arg his pro gly asn glu
721 ATT TAC CGC AAG GGC ACC ATC TCC TTC TTT GAG ATT GAT GGA CGT AAG AAC AAG AGT TAT
ile tyr arg lys gly thr ile ser phe phe glu ile asp gly arg lys asn lys ser tyr
781 TCC CAG AAC CTG TGT CTT TTG GCC AAG TGT TTC CTT GAC CAT AAG ACA CTG TAC TAT GAC
ser gln asn leu cys leu leu ala lys cys phe leu asp his lys thr leu tyr tyr asp
841 ACA GAC CCT TTC CTC TTC TAC GTC ATG ACA GAG TAT GAC TGT AAG GGC TTC CAC ATC GTG
thr asp pro phe leu phe tyr val met thr glu tyr asp cys lys gly phe his ile val
901 GGC TAC TTC TCC AAG GAG AAA GAA TCA ACG GAA GAC TAC AAT GTG GCC TGC ATC CTA ACC
gly tyr phe ser lys glu lys glu ser thr glu asp tyr asn val ala cys ile leu thr
961 CTG CCT CCC TAC CAG CGC GGC TAC GGC AAG CTG ATC GAG TTC AGC TAT GAA CTC
leu pro pro tyr gln arg arg gly tyr gly lys leu leu ile glu phe ser tyr glu leu
1021 TCC AAA GTG GAA GGG AAA ACA GGG ACC CCT GAG AAG CCC CTC TCA GAC CTT GGC CTC CTA
ser lys val glu gly lys thr gly thr pro glu lys pro leu ser asp leu gly leu leu
1081 TCC TAT CGA AGC TAC TGG TCC CAG ACC ATC CTG GAG ATC CTG ATG GGG CTG AAG TCG GAG
ser tyr arg ser tyr trp ser gln thr ile leu glu ile leu met gly leu lys ser glu
1141 AGC GGG GAG AGG CCA CAG ATC ACC ATC AAT GAG ATT AGT GAA ATC ACC AGC ATC AAG AAG
ser gly glu arg pro gln ile thr ile asn glu ile ser glu ile thr ser ile lys lys
1201 GAG GAT GTC ATC TCC ACT CTG CAG TAC CTC AAT CTC ATC AAC TAC TAC AAG GGC CAG TAC
glu asp val ile ser thr leu gln tyr glu asn leu ile asn tyr tyr lys gly gln tyr
1261 ATC CTC ACA CTG TCA GAG GAC ATC GTG GAT GGC CAT GAG CGG GCC ATG CTC AAG CGG CTC
ile leu thr leu ser glu asp ile val asp gly his glu arg ala met leu lys arg leu
1321 CTG CGG ATC GAC TCC AAG TGT CTG CAC TTC ACT CCC AAG GAC TGG AGC AAG AGG GGG AAG
leu arg ile asp ser lys cys leu his phe thr pro lys asp trp ser lys arg gly lys
1381 TGG tgaccagacactgccactgcagtgccaaagcggcagcaggactggggctgatagcccacccgccccactgca
trp
1459 gctcccacaagcactctaagggagatggggctgaggacagctcaaaaaggagagacaggcctggcagggcccacttg
1528 gccacagcaccaggcgagctccgggctcagaccactccaaggtcagctggccacagcccaggcctcctctgaagcagg
1607 gaccagagggagccaggcagctgtgtacagtgaaggatccggatgggggagctctgtacagagggctgggtgattgt
1686 aaaaattcttttgaagtagaagttgggggtgggggtgggtgctggctggcggcaaaaattctggctctcttaccctca
1765 ttgccccggcaataaattgtttctatgatgcaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa

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FIG. 1. Nucleotide and predicted amino acid sequence of PLIP. The MYST domain is boxed, and within the box the acetyltransferase domain is double underlined. A C2HC domain, also within the boxed MYST domain, is single underlined. A potential nuclear localization sequence at the carboxy terminus is double underlined. Potential ERK1/2 kinase phosphorylation sites (PGSP and PATP) are single underlined. The potential CDK phosphorylation site is triple underlined.

RESULTS

Identification of a cPLA₂-interacting protein, PLIP. A fragment of cPLA₂ cDNA encoding amino acids 1 to 215, which includes the CaLB domain, was cloned into the bait vector, pEG202, to create a fusion protein with the DNA-binding domain of LexA. Using LexA-cPLA₂(1–215), we screened 10⁶ clones of a G₀ human fibroblast library, which had been cloned into an expression vector, pJG4-5 (28). Restriction analysis and partial sequencing revealed three distinct clones, one of which (no. 55) is the focus of this report.

The interaction between clone 55 and cPLA₂(1–215) is specific since cotransformation of yeast with pJG4-5-55 (expressing the interactor) and the bait vector, pEG202-Bicoid, encoding an unrelated LexA fusion protein, does not allow growth

on Leu– medium and does not activate β -galactosidase transcription (data not shown). In yeast, cPLA₂(1–215) coimmunoprecipitates with the interactor when the latter is immunoprecipitated with an antibody to the hemagglutinin (HA) epitope tag (data not shown).

PLIP cDNA and amino acid sequence. The cDNA of clone 55 is 1,840 bp in length with a poly(A) tail (Fig. 1). The cDNA contains a putative initiator ATG within an optimal Kozak consensus sequence (45). There is an open reading frame of 1,383 bp encoding a protein of 461 amino acids with a predicted M_r of 53,000. The protein was named PLIP for PLA₂ interacting protein. A human placenta library (Clontech) was screened using a 900-bp PCR fragment from the 5' end of the cDNA. Eight clones were isolated, each of which had a 5'

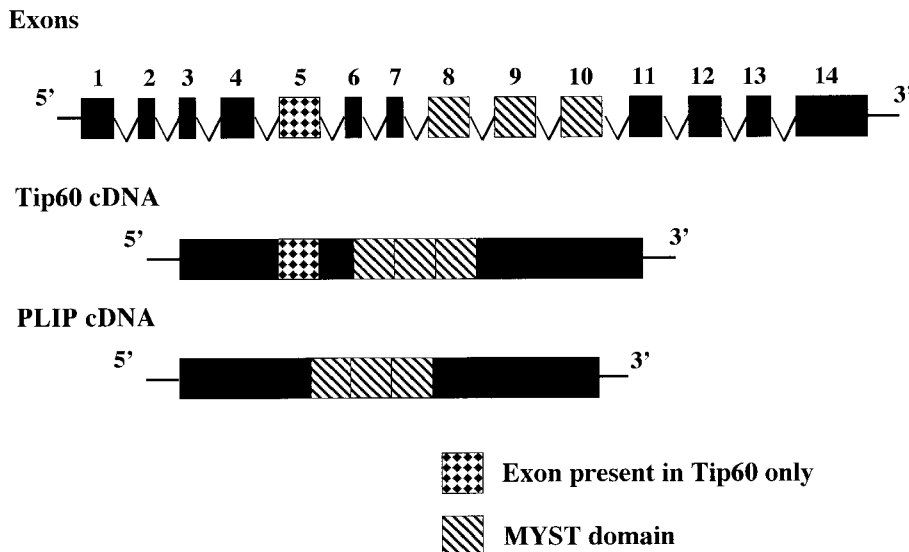


FIG. 2. Structure of PLIP locus. Partial genomic structure is represented by exons consecutively numbered 1 to 14. Tip60, but not PLIP cDNA, contains exon 5. Both Tip60 and PLIP contain the MYST domain.

origin at, or 3' to, the 5' end of the pJG4-5-55 cDNA insert and was identical in size. The nonredundant database of the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) was searched with the PLIP cDNA sequence using the GAPPED BLAST program (1). PLIP is identical to the human TAT-interacting protein, Tip60 (41), except for a 52-amino-acid fragment that is present in Tip60 but not PLIP. PLIP and Tip60 cDNA were compared to the human genomic clone, RP11-856B14 (accession number, AP001362), which has been partially sequenced and is located on chromosome 11 and mapped to 11q13. Alignment of PLIP and Tip60 cDNA to a

fragment of clone RP11-856B145 predicted the genomic structure which is schematically shown in Fig. 2. Clone RP11-856B14 comprises 14 exons. The fifth exon is present in Tip60 but not PLIP.

The amino acid sequences of both Tip60 and PLIP contain the MYST domain that is homologous to the yeast silencing proteins, SAS2 and SAS3 (63); the *Drosophila* transcription regulator protein, MOF (males absent on the first) (33); the human monocytic leukemia zinc finger protein, MOZ (15); and ESA1 (essential SAS2-related acetyltransferase) (68). The MYST domain comprises a putative histone acetyltransferase

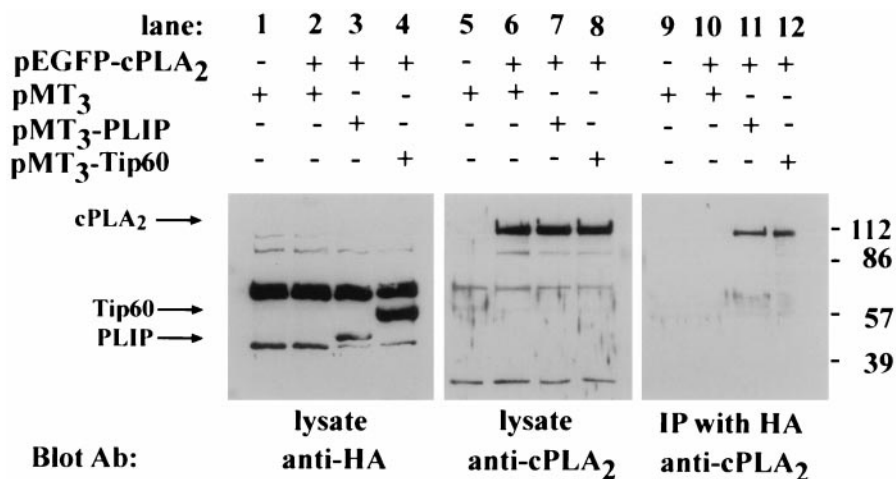


FIG. 3. PLIP interacts with cPLA₂. COS cells were transfected as follows: empty pMT₃ vector alone; pEGFP-cPLA₂ and pMT₃; pEGFP-cPLA₂ and pMT₃-PLIP; and pEGFP-cPLA₂ and pMT₃-Tip60. Cell lysate proteins were separated by SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (PAGE) and analyzed by Western blot analysis. Western blot with anti-cPLA₂ antibody demonstrates a band at approximately 112 kDa in lanes 6, 7, and 8, which contain lysates of pEGFP-cPLA₂-transfected COS cells (arrow). Western blot with anti-HA antibody demonstrates a band at approximately 50 kDa in lane 3, which contains the lysate of pMT₃-PLIP-transfected cells (arrow), and at 60 kDa in lane 4, which contains the lysate of pMT₃-Tip60-transfected COS cells (arrow). After immunoprecipitation of lysates with anti-HA antibody and resolution of the precipitants by SDS-PAGE, Western blot analysis with the anti-cPLA₂ antibody revealed a band corresponding to GFP-cPLA₂ in lysates of cells in which GFP-cPLA₂ was coexpressed with HA-PLIP (lane 11) and HA-Tip60 (lane 12) but not in lysates of cells transfected with pEGFP-cPLA₂ and pMT₃ (lane 10).

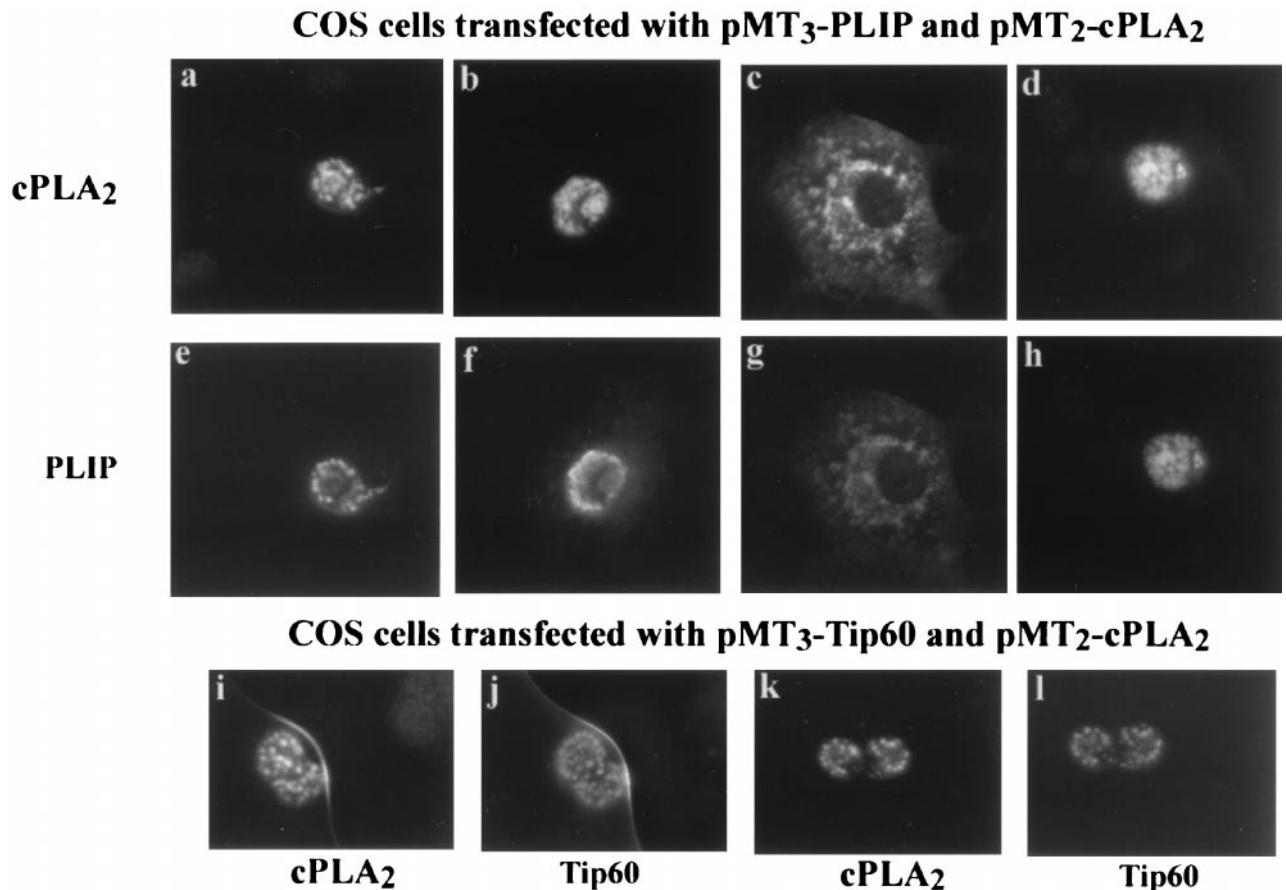


FIG. 4. PLIP and Tip60 colocalize with cPLA₂. Panels a to h are representative photographs which demonstrate colocalization of HA-tagged PLIP and cPLA₂ by immunofluorescence in transfected COS cells. Expressed proteins were identified with anti-cPLA₂ antibody followed by Cy3-conjugated anti-rabbit antibody. This was followed by anti-HA antibody followed by FITC-conjugated anti-mouse antibody. COS cells transfected with both pMT₃-PLIP and pMT₂-cPLA₂ are visualized with an FITC filter in panels e to h and a Cy3 filter in panels a to d. Panels i to l demonstrate cells expressing both Tip60 and cPLA₂. cPLA₂ is visualized with a Cy3 filter in panels i and k, and Tip60 is visualized with an FITC filter in panels j and l.

domain and a C2HC zinc finger domain (63). PLIP and Tip60 contain two potential ERK1/2 kinase phosphorylation sites (19) and a potential cyclin-dependent kinase phosphorylation site (55, 56, 69).

Both PLIP and Tip60 interact and colocalize with cPLA₂ in mammalian cells. To evaluate whether PLIP interacts with cPLA₂ in mammalian cells, PLIP or Tip60 cDNA was cloned into the mammalian expression vector pMT₃, which encodes the protein with a HA tag at its NH₂ terminus. COS cells were cotransfected with either pEGFP-cPLA₂ (for coimmunoprecipitation experiments) or pMT₂-cPLA₂ (for immunofluorescent microscopy) and with either pMT₃-PLIP or pMT₃-Tip60. cPLA₂ coimmunoprecipitates with HA-tagged PLIP and Tip60 but not with HA alone (Fig. 3).

The fragment of cPLA₂ that was used as the "bait" in the original two-hybrid screen contains the CaLB domain, which shares homology with domains of other proteins, including the GTPase-activating protein, Ras-GAP, which translocate to cell membranes in response to increases in cytosolic [Ca²⁺] (18). While cPLA₂ coimmunoprecipitates with PLIP, Ras-GAP does not, suggesting specificity of the interaction between PLIP or Tip60 and cPLA₂ (data not shown).

cPLA₂ and either PLIP or Tip60 were localized by immunofluorescence on transfected COS cells using mouse HA antibody followed by FITC-conjugated anti-mouse antibody and anti-cPLA₂ antibody followed by Cy3-conjugated anti-rabbit antibody. Representative photographs demonstrating localization of cPLA₂ and either PLIP or Tip60 are shown in Fig. 4. Fields were viewed with a Cy3 filter (panels a, b, c, d, i, and k) and with an FITC filter (panels e, f, g, h, j, and l). PLIP and cPLA₂ localize to a nuclear or perinuclear region of cells that express both proteins (panels a to h). Tip60 also colocalizes with cPLA₂ in the nucleus of cells which coexpress both proteins (panels i to l).

PLIP protein is expressed in multiple cell types. An antibody to full-length PLIP was generated in rabbits using a glutathione *S*-transferase fusion protein, and cell lines were screened by Western blot analysis (Fig. 5a). A faint band at 60 kDa can be seen in all lanes and likely represents Tip60 (arrow). The lane containing lysate of renal mesangial cells demonstrates a striking band at approximately 50 kDa, which indicates that the smaller molecular mass PLIP is also expressed in these cells. This is shown in comparison to lysates of HA-PLIP transfected COS cells. A larger band at approximately 80

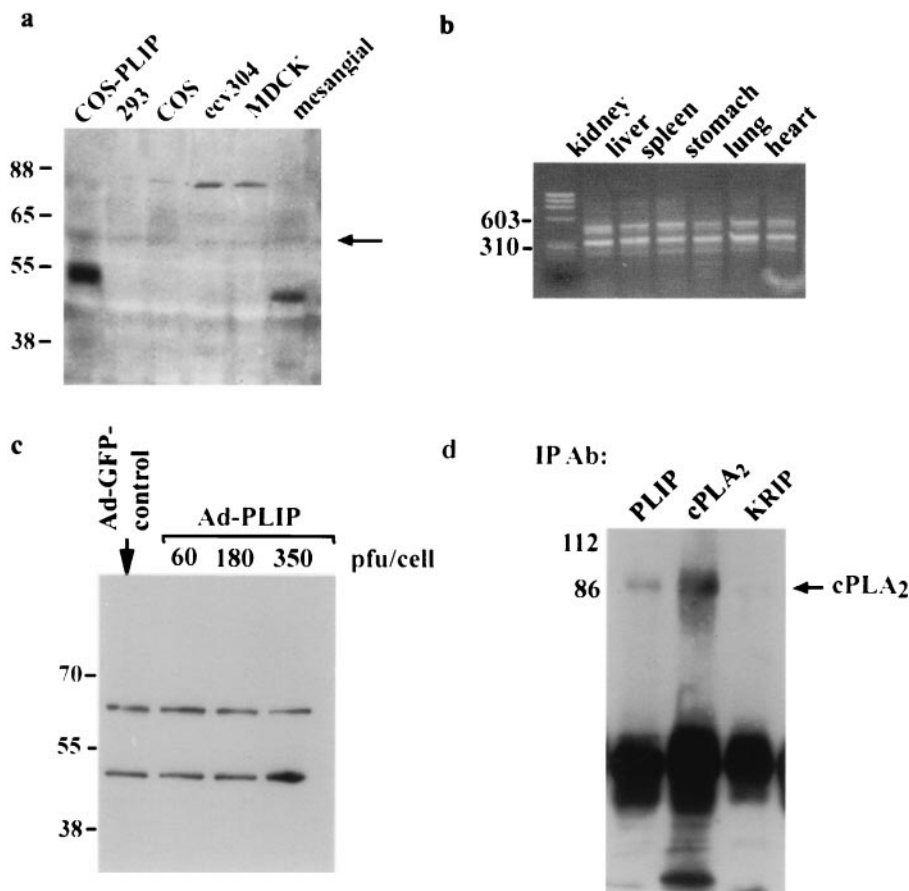


FIG. 5. Detection and coimmunoprecipitation of Tip60-PLIP and cPLA₂ in cultured mesangial cells. (a) Western blot of lysates from COS, 293, ecv304, MDCK, and mesangial cells using a polyclonal antibody raised in rabbits against GST-PLIP. A band at approximately 50 kDa is present in the lane containing lysates of HA-PLIP-transfected COS cells. A band of approximately similar size is present in the lane corresponding to rat renal mesangial cells but not in those lanes containing protein from 293, ECV304, MDCK, or nontransfected COS cells. There is a light band in each lane at 60 kDa which likely reflects Tip60. (b) Gel electrophoresis of DNA obtained by RT-PCR of RNA harvested from BALB/c mouse tissue. Two bands of 456 and 300 bp, representing Tip60 and PLIP DNA, respectively, were obtained using primers which flanked exon 5. Molecular mass markers are indicated. (c) Western blot of rat neonatal myocytes infected with Ad-GFP or with increasing amounts of Ad-PLIP. Two bands are present in all lysates at approximately 60 and 50 kDa, representing Tip60 and PLIP, respectively. Signal corresponding to PLIP is enhanced in lysates of Ad-PLIP-infected myocytes at 350 PFU/cell. (d) Mesangial cell lysate was immunoprecipitated over 4 h with anti-PLIP antibody versus a control antibody which recognizes the nuclear protein, KRIP (43), or with anti-cPLA₂ antibody. Immunoprecipitants separated by SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis and transferred to an Immobilon membrane were blotted with cPLA₂ antibody. A band corresponding to cPLA₂ appears in lanes containing precipitants with either anti-PLIP or anti-cPLA₂ antibody but not with anti-KRIP antibody.

kDa also appears in lanes containing lysates of MDCK and ecv304 cells, suggesting the possibility of the existence of larger proteins homologous to Tip60 and PLIP. Both Tip60 and PLIP RNA are present in mouse tissue (Fig. 5b). RNA was harvested and purified from BALB/c mouse organs, and RT-PCR was performed using flanking primers to exon 5. Gel electrophoresis demonstrates two bands which conform to predicted sizes of 456 and 300, representing cDNAs of Tip60 and PLIP, respectively. To determine whether PLIP protein was present in nonrenal primary cultured cells, myocytes were harvested and infected with Ad-PLIP (Fig. 5c). Western blot analysis of lysates of both Ad-PLIP-infected and Ad-GFP-infected myocytes shows two bands at 60 to 65 kDa and at 50 kDa, likely representing Tip60 and PLIP. Ad-PLIP-infected myocytes show an increase in PLIP-related signal.

We used renal mesangial cells to determine whether endogenous PLIP and cPLA₂ coprecipitate in vivo. Lysates from

confluent mesangial cells were precipitated over 4 h using anti-PLIP antibody. Western blot analysis of precipitates, using cPLA₂ antibody but not an unrelated antibody (KRIP) (43), demonstrates coimmunoprecipitation of endogenous cPLA₂ (Fig. 5d), although the PLIP band is less intense than that seen in transfected cells, as expected.

Serum deprivation results in nuclear localization of PLIP and causes apoptosis. Mutations of SAS2 are associated with loss of viability under conditions of nutrient limitation (63). Similarly, ESA1 is required for cell growth in yeast (68). Given PLIP's and Tip60's homology with these proteins, we evaluated whether PLIP expression is modulated by the presence or absence of growth factors in serum. Incubation of mesangial cells in 0.25% FCS induces growth arrest and eventually apoptosis. Using anti-PLIP antibody, a striking pattern of immunofluorescence was detected in the nuclei of greater than 95% of renal mesangial cells grown in 0.25% FCS (-fcs) for 48 h (Fig. 6a, panels 5 and 6). By

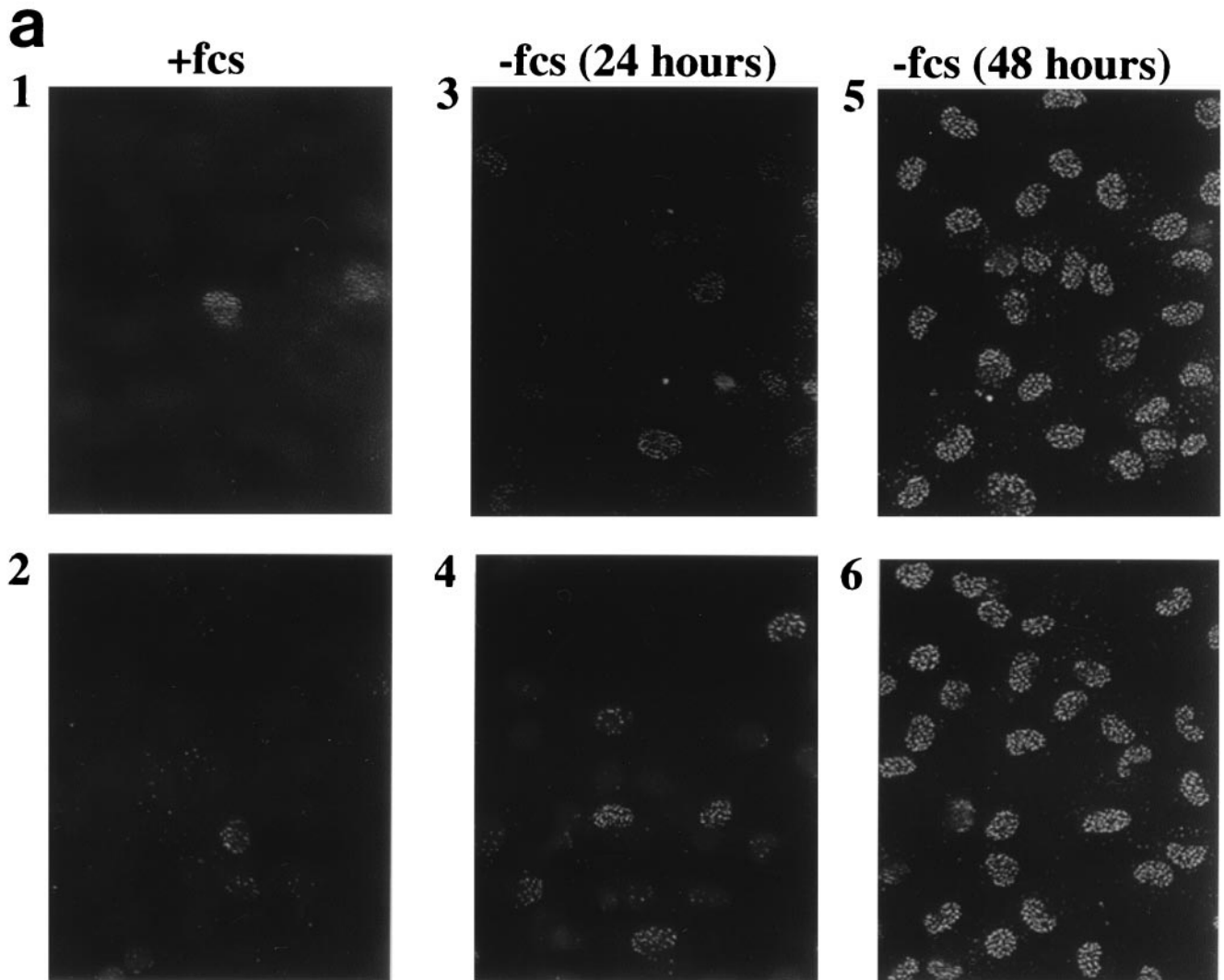


FIG. 6. Serum deprivation alters the nuclear localization of Tip60 or PLIP and cPLA₂. (a) Rat renal mesangial cells grown on coverslips were fixed and exposed to anti-PLIP antibody followed by rhodamine-conjugated anti-rabbit antibody. Greater than 95% of mesangial cells grown in 0.25% FCS (–fcs) (panels 5 and 6) demonstrate nuclear localization of Tip60 or PLIP by immunofluorescence microscopy as compared to 2 to 4% of cells grown in 10% FCS (+fcs) for 48 h (panels 1 and 2). PLIP appears in the nuclei of approximately 12 to 24% of cells grown in 0.25% FCS for 24 h. (b) Mesangial cells were fixed and exposed to anti-cPLA₂ antibody followed by rhodamine-conjugated anti-rabbit antibody; cPLA₂-associated signal is seen in the cytosol and nucleus in cells grown in 10% FCS (panels 1 and 2) but is lost from the cytosol and accentuated at the nucleus in cells grown in 0.25% FCS for 48 h (panels 3 and 4).

contrast, this strong signal was demonstrated in the nuclei of only 1 or 2 in 50 mesangial cells grown in 10% FCS (+fcs) (Fig. 6a, panels 1 and 2). There is a small but significant increase in PLIP-associated signal after only 24 h of incubation in 0.25% FCS (Fig. 6a, panels 3 and 4). Multiple fields were examined, and two representative fields are shown. As our antibody recognizes both PLIP and Tip60, this pattern of immunofluorescence may reflect either PLIP or Tip60. Nonspecific staining of the nucleus was ruled out by the observation that preincubation of anti-PLIP antibody with purified PLIP protein prevented antibody staining of the nucleus whereas preincubation with albumin had no effect on the staining pattern (data not shown).

Western blot analysis of lysates of serum-deprived cells showed no difference in either PLIP or Tip60 expression (data not shown), ruling out changes in total cellular protein expres-

sion of Tip60 or PLIP as an explanation for the changes seen by immunofluorescence. We examined cPLA₂ expression using anti-cPLA₂ antibody in cells grown in 10% FCS or 0.25% FCS for 48 h (Fig. 6b). Whereas cPLA₂ is detected in both the cytosol and nuclei of cells grown in 10% FCS (Figure 6b, panels 1 and 2), cytosolic staining is diminished and nuclear staining is accentuated in cells grown in 0.25% FCS (Fig. 6b, panels 3 and 4). Although the particulate nature of the cPLA₂-associated signal is not nearly as striking as that seen with PLIP antibody, a similar, particulate pattern can be seen in the nuclei of a number of cells. Western blot analysis showed no change in total expression of cPLA₂ in lysates of serum-deprived compared to serum-replete cells. [³H]arachidonic acid release into supernatant of serum-deprived cells was $1.71 \pm 0.45\%$ of total cellular [³H]arachidonic acid compared to

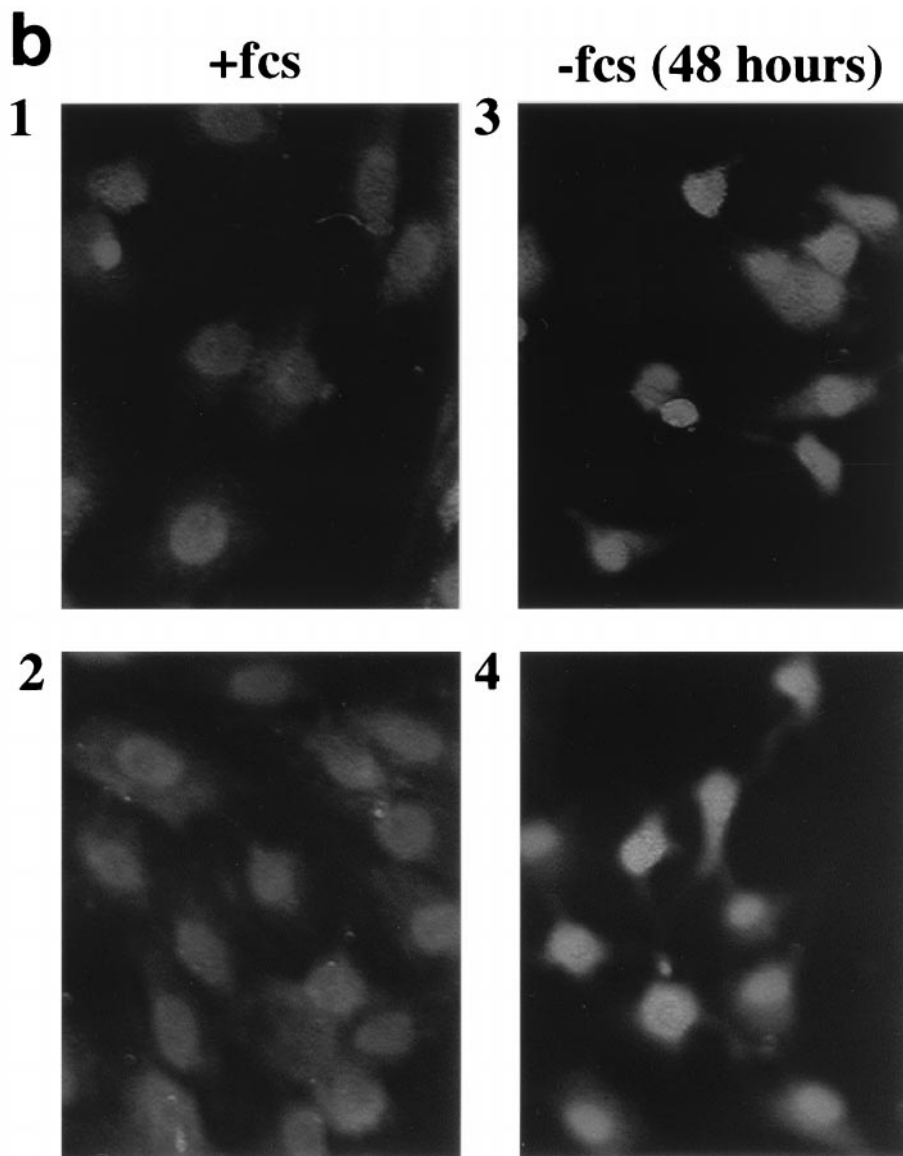


FIG. 6—Continued.

0.22 ± 0.05% from serum-replete cells (*P* < 0.05) (data not shown). [³H]arachidonic acid release was similar after 24 and 48 h of serum deprivation.

Mesangial cells incubated in 0.25% FCS for 50 h undergo cell death and detachment, which is demonstrated by light microscopy (Fig. 7b), whereas cells grown in the presence of 10% FCS remain viable and attached (Fig. 7a). As a marker for apoptosis, terminal deoxynucleotidyltransferase-mediated dUTP-biotin nick end labeling (TUNEL) at 36 h is modestly positive in fixed cells grown in 0.25% FCS (Fig. 7h to l) but negative in cells grown in 10% FCS (Fig. 7c to g). TUNEL of adherent cells likely underestimates the degree of apoptosis as apoptotic cells rapidly detach from plastic, as described in other models of apoptosis (38).

PLIP expression enhances PGE₂ production susceptibility to apoptosis in +/+ but not -/- cPLA₂ mesangial cells. Although the nuclear localization of PLIP is temporally related to

the onset of apoptosis, these data do not demonstrate that PLIP is causally related to apoptosis. cPLA₂ has been associated with apoptosis, however (30, 49, 74, 76, 79), and our data suggest that loss of cPLA₂ from the cytosol and its accentuation in the nucleus may also be induced by serum deprivation. To determine whether the PLIP-cPLA₂ interaction is functionally relevant to apoptosis, we examined the effect of adenovirus-mediated PLIP expression in serum-deprived mesangial cells derived from cPLA₂^{+/+} and cPLA₂^{-/-} mice (11). Although mouse mesangial cells were resistant to the apoptotic effects of 0.25% FCS, they were susceptible to apoptosis induced by incubation in serum-free medium. Ad-PLIP-infected cPLA₂^{+/+} and cPLA₂^{-/-} cells were incubated in serum-free medium for 2 days. PLIP expression, which was equivalent in cPLA₂^{+/+} and cPLA₂^{-/-} cells (data not shown), results in a consistent increase in the number of apoptotic cells in cPLA₂^{+/+} but not cPLA₂^{-/-} cells after serum deprivation (Fig. 8a).

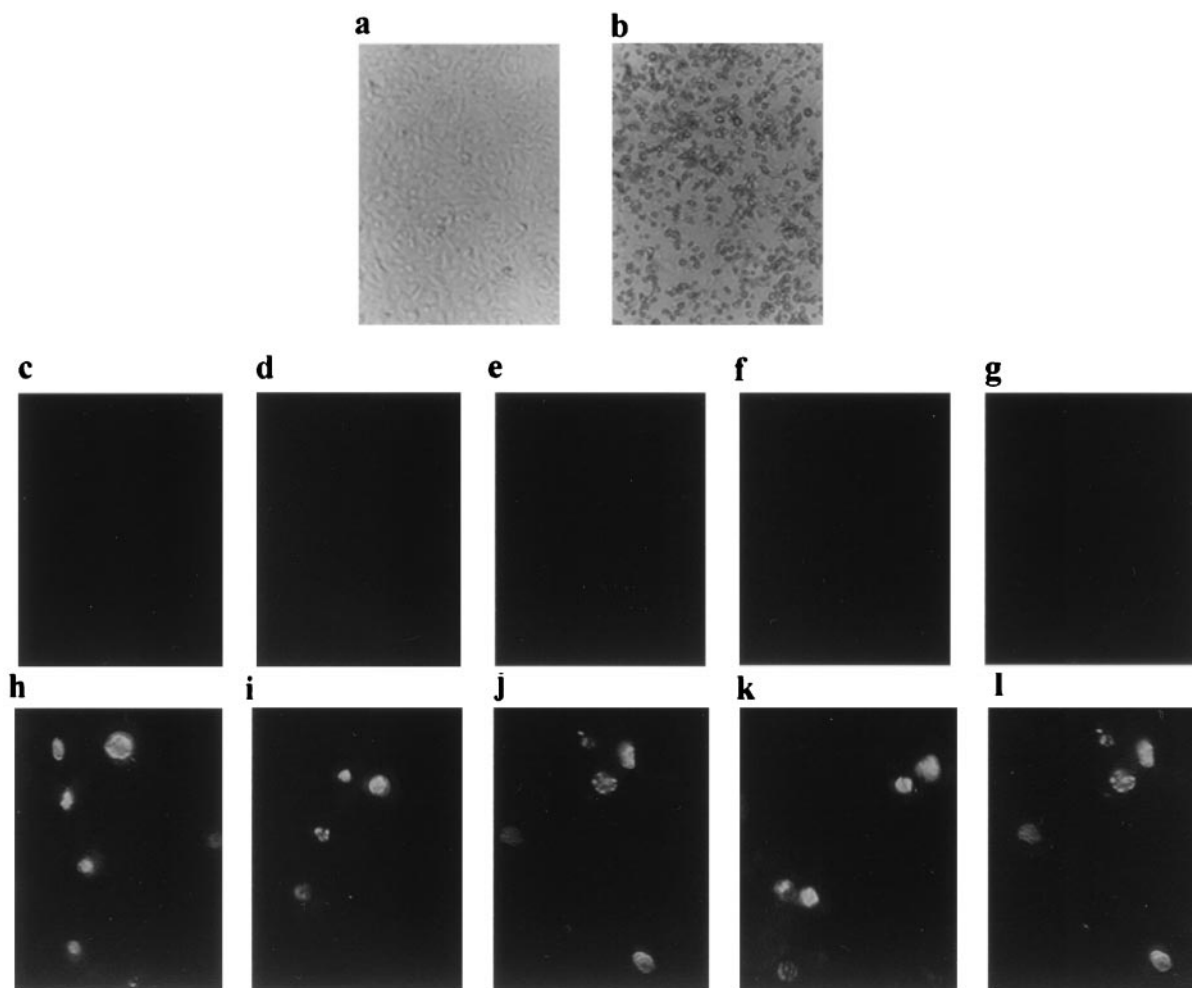


FIG. 7. Serum deprivation causes apoptosis. (a and b) Mesangial cells grown in 0.25% FCS die at approximately 50 h. These photographs demonstrate light microscopy of cells grown in 10% FCS (a) versus 0.25% FCS (b) for 50 h. (c to l) TUNEL stain of adherent cells grown in 10% FCS (c to g) or 0.25% FCS (h to l) at 36 h.

cPLA₂ expression has also been closely linked to PGE₂ generation (2, 11, 32, 49, 53), which has been shown to have both pro- (17, 49, 60) and anti- (58) apoptotic effects. We compared PGE₂ generation in Ad-PLIP-infected cPLA₂^{+/+} and cPLA₂^{-/-} mesangial cells incubated in serum-free medium for 48 h. PLIP expression markedly increases PGE₂ production in cPLA₂^{+/+} but not cPLA₂^{-/-} cells (Fig. 8b).

DISCUSSION

We report that Tip60 and PLIP, a novel splice variant of Tip60, interact and colocalize with group IVA cPLA₂. This is a potentially important observation because cPLA₂ plays a large role in the production of arachidonic acid, a precursor of eicosanoid-derived metabolites, which are mediators of many physiologic and pathologic cellular processes including inflammation (9, 11, 73). A cPLA₂-interacting protein may play a role to modulate the activity and/or intracellular localization of cPLA₂ and may serve as a target for antiinflammatory therapies.

Tip60 has been associated with DNA repair (35, 71) and with both positive and negative transcriptional regulation (16,

20). PLIP and Tip60 belong to a family of proteins characterized by a conserved MYST domain, which consists of a C2HC zinc finger domain and an acetyltransferase domain (15, 33, 63, 68). Tip60 has histone acetyltransferase activity *in vitro* (80). Tip60 interacts with Bcl-3, a nuclear member of the IκB family (20), and colocalizes with the interleukin-9 receptor α-chain, suggesting both intranuclear and extranuclear roles (81).

The role of PLIP may or may not be similar to that of Tip60. The biological significance of the 52-amino-acid fragment present in Tip60 but not in PLIP is not yet apparent. Our data indicate that PLIP is a splice variant of Tip60 that is expressed under physiologic conditions. PLIP mRNA was isolated from two libraries, including a human fibroblast G₀ and a human placenta library. Both PLIP and Tip60 mRNAs are present in mouse tissue, and proteins consistent in size with Tip60 and PLIP are expressed in primary mouse neonatal myocytes as well as primary rat renal mesangial cells.

The striking increase in nuclear immunocytochemical staining with anti-PLIP antibody in serum-deprived mesangial cells may be due to either PLIP or Tip60 as the PLIP antibody recognizes both proteins. Western blot analysis of whole-cell lysates does not

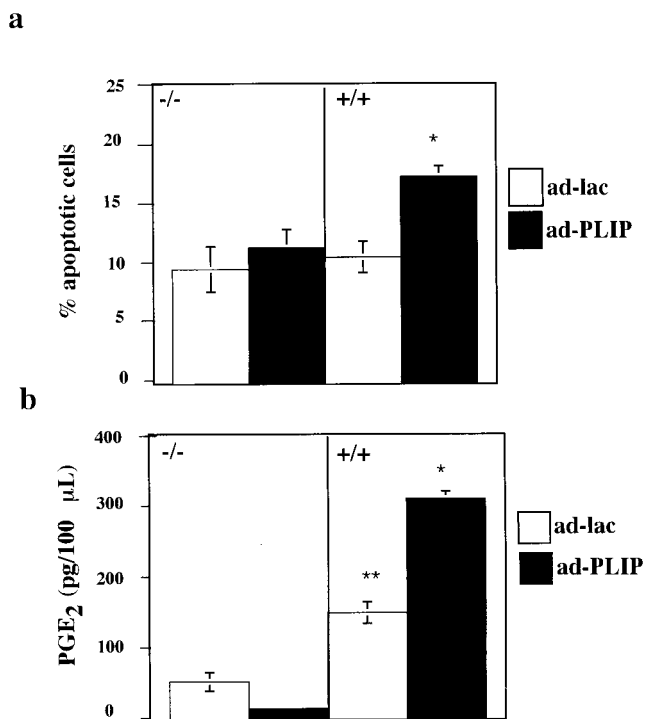


FIG. 8. PLIP expression potentiates cPLA₂-induced cell susceptibility to injury by serum withdrawal. (a) Wild-type (+/+) and cPLA₂ knockout (-/-) mouse mesangial cells were infected with Ad-PLIP or Ad-Lac. Forty-eight hours after infection, cells were incubated in serum-free medium for 48 h. Ad-PLIP-infected (+/+) cells showed a greater number of apoptotic cells than Ad-Lac-infected (+/+) cells or either Ad-PLIP- or Ad-Lac-infected (-/-) cells. Ad-PLIP resulted in no change in the number of apoptotic cells in the (-/-) cells compared to Ad-Lac-infected (-/-) cells. (b) PGE₂ levels were greater in the supernatants of Ad-PLIP-infected (+/+) cells than in those of Ad-PLIP-infected (-/-) cells and Ad-Lac-infected (+/+) or (-/-) cells. PGE₂ levels were greater in supernatants of Ad-Lac-infected (+/+) cells than in those of Ad-Lac-infected (-/-) cells. *, $P < 0.05$ versus (+/+) cells infected with Ad-Lac and (-/-) cells infected with either Ad-PLIP or Ad-Lac; **, $P < 0.05$ versus (-/-) cells infected with Ad-Lac.

demonstrate upregulation of total cell PLIP protein, nor of Tip60, after serum deprivation. Thus, neither Tip60 nor PLIP expression is induced by serum deprivation. While the observed enhanced nuclear signal by immunofluorescence after serum deprivation in the absence of a change in total cellular Tip60 and PLIP protein may be related to epitope unmasking, its appearance suggests translocation of the protein from another intracellular site to the nucleus. The model of serum deprivation-induced apoptosis is well described in mesangial cells (72) and nonmesangial cells (27, 36, 37, 39). Apoptosis in mesangial cells in vivo may play an important role in determining the outcome of glomerulonephritis (6). Prominent Tip60 or PLIP nuclear staining correlates temporally with the onset of apoptosis in serum-deprived cells, although the rat mesangial cell model does not permit us to draw a causal relationship between the appearance of Tip60 or PLIP and apoptosis.

cPLA₂ has been implicated in tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF- α) induced apoptosis, though not in other models. Nuclear localization of cPLA₂ is more evident in serum-deprived than in

serum-replete mesangial cells. We do not believe this is related to serum deprivation-associated catalytic cleavage of cytosolic cPLA₂ (4) since total expression is not changed. Additionally, there is a seven- to eightfold increase in [³H]arachidonic acid release from serum-deprived compared to serum-replete rat mesangial cells, suggesting activation of phospholipases. However, multiple phospholipases are active in the mesangial cell (44, 59). In particular, apoptotic agents have been shown to increase group II phospholipase A₂ (44). In order to determine the biologic relevance of the PLIP- or Tip60-cPLA₂ interaction, it was thus first necessary to identify the cPLA₂-specific contribution to serum deprivation-induced mesangial cell apoptosis. By selectively expressing PLIP in cells derived from cPLA₂^{+/+} and cPLA₂^{-/-} mice, we were able to identify an effect specific to PLIP and cPLA₂. Although the murine mesangial cells are more resistant to the apoptotic effects of serum deprivation than rat mesangial cells, apoptosis is potentiated in serum-deprived cells expressing both PLIP and cPLA₂ compared to cells expressing either cPLA₂ or PLIP alone. Cells expressing either PLIP or cPLA₂ alone show no increase in apoptosis compared to cells expressing neither protein, indicating that the proteins have a synergistic effect on susceptibility to apoptosis. The synergistic effect of the expression of both proteins supports the biologic relevance of the PLIP-cPLA₂ interaction.

The effect of PLIP should be placed in the context of other data which implicate cPLA₂ in apoptosis secondary to TNF- α (30, 74, 76, 79) but not Fas (4, 23). Hayakawa isolated TNF- α -resistant derivatives of L929 cells and demonstrated that these cells had a marked decrease in TNF- α -induced arachidonic acid release and a decrease in cPLA₂ expression. Expression of murine cPLA₂ restored both TNF- α -induced arachidonic acid release and cytotoxicity (30). In a wide variety of human melanoma-derived cell lines, normal epidermal melanocytes, and murine cell lines, cell susceptibility to apoptosis induced by TNF- α in the presence of inhibitors of transcription and translation directly correlates with cPLA₂ expression (74) and activity (79). Inhibitors of caspases inhibit TNF- α -induced arachidonic acid release and cytotoxicity (76), suggesting that TNF- α -induced cPLA₂ activity may require caspase activity.

cPLA₂, although not previously implicated in serum deprivation-associated apoptosis, may influence apoptosis via its role in sphingomyelin signaling (38). cPLA₂ is necessary for the generation of ceramide, a sphingomyelinase product (57). High levels of ceramide have been demonstrated in Molt-4 leukemia cells in which cycle arrest and apoptosis have been induced by serum withdrawal. The administration of exogenous cell-permeable ceramide to these cells results in cell cycle arrest and apoptosis comparable to that seen after serum withdrawal (40).

TNF- α -induced ceramide accumulation has been demonstrated in cells susceptible to TNF- α -induced apoptosis. An increase in arachidonic acid release precedes the TNF- α -induced increase in ceramide in HL-60 cells, and the administration of arachidonic acid activates sphingomyelinase in these cells (35a). TNF- α -induced arachidonic acid release and ceramide generation is decreased in a cPLA₂-deficient derivative of a murine fibroblast cell line, suggesting a cPLA₂-specific role in sphingomyelinase activation (38).

PLIP expression markedly increases serum deprivation-induced PGE₂ generation in cPLA₂^{+/+} cells but has no effect in

cPLA₂^{-/-} cells. Changes in renal eicosanoid synthesis may contribute to the matrix production and cell proliferation seen in glomerular diseases such as diabetes (21, 50, 61). In contrast to the observed effect on apoptosis, cPLA₂ alone but not PLIP alone also increases PGE₂ production. PGE₂ has been shown to have both anti- (22, 58) and pro- (17, 49, 60) apoptotic effects. The experimental model does not permit us to determine whether PGE₂ contributes to or protects against serum deprivation-induced apoptosis.

In summary, we have found that Tip60 and a novel splice variant, PLIP, interact with cPLA₂. PLIP potentiates apoptosis and prostaglandin production in renal mesangial cells, two processes critical to the role of mesangial cells in physiologic and pathophysiologic states. Recognition of this interaction may lead to therapeutic approaches which target the PLIP/Tip60-cPLA₂ protein complex.

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ADDENDUM IN PROOF

While the manuscript was in preparation Tip60(β), which is identical to PLIP, was isolated by the laboratory of Pereira-Smith (62).

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