

Effect of aldosterone on the amount of Ca_v3. mRNA. Representative ethidium bromide-stained gel of RT-PCR products. Left, Ca_v3.2 primers have been described elsewhere.¹ Right, primers used for cyclophilin (Cyc) and the internal *cacna1g* (Ca_v3.1) primer have been described elsewhere.^{1,2}

For cacnalg 3'end analysis, the primers used were forward (nuc 6673)

AAGTCTCCAAGCACATCCGCC and two reverse primers : either T1 (nuc 7214)

ACCAGAGAGACTCAGCGTGTC (GENBANK AF027984), that corresponding to the primer (forward) used in³ or T2 (nuc 7279) TGGAGAAAGGTGATGGGGGGAG, described elsewhere.⁴ In aldosterone-treated cells compared to control, Ca_v3.1 mRNA level increased by factors of 2.4 (n=3, P<0.05) and Ca_v3.2 mRNA level increased by factors of 1.4 (n=3, P<0.05). This finding contrasts with recent data from Lalevée et al.,³ who found that aldosterone -induced I_{CaT} was associated with an increase in the amount of $Ca_{y}3.2$ mRNA (up to 410%) and a non significant increase in $Ca_{y}3.1$ mRNA levels. There may be two reasons for this discrepancy. Firstly, Lalevée et al. used cyclophilin gene expression to normalize the amount of channel mRNA. However, we have previously shown that cyclophilin gene expression is strongly repressed in a rat model mimicking renin-independent hyperaldosteronism.² We have confirmed that cyclophilin is also downregulated in aldosterone treated cultures of neonatal cardiomyocytes (decrease of 42 %) and this is probably the reason for the larger increase in Ca_v3.2 mRNA levels in the study by Lalevee et al.. Secondly, Lalevée et al. used Ca_v3.1 mRNA primers binding to the 3' end of the Ca_v3.1 cDNA. However, this region is known to generate splice variants.⁴⁻⁶ Indeed, we not found significant different between control and aldosterone conditions using T1 primer (see figure). Consistently to Ca_v3.1 primers, T2 primer, located 65 bp dowtream from T1, revealed an increase in mRNA in aldosterone treated cell vs control (n=3, P < 0.05). Then, T1 and T2 revealed two Ca_v3.1 variants that were differently regulated by aldosterone.

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Decrease in Ca_v3.1 mRNA levels over time after cycloheximide treatment. Twenty four hours after plating, cells are treated with or without aldosterone in presence of 10 μ M cycloheximide (CHX). The amount of Ca_v3.1 mRNA is quantified by RT-PCR at 0, 1, 3, 6, 9, 24 and 48 hours after the beginning of treatment. **P*<0.05 *vs* control at corresponding timing, n=4 for each point.



Dose-dependent effect of aldosterone on *cacna1g* **promoter activity**. Cells were transfected with pGL4400 and treated with aldosterone for 24 hours. n=4 experiments performed in triplicate, **P*<0.05 *vs* control.



 I_{CaT} blockade does not alter the nuclear translocation of GRs. Western blots were performed with GR antibodies from nuclear extracts of cells treated for 30 min with 1 µM aldosterone plus 1 µM mibefradil (AM) or 10 µM flunarizine (AFluna). n=3, **P*<0.05, ns vs aldosterone.



Inverse pattern of expression between I_{CaT} and pCREB and apoptotic markers in adult hypertrophied cardiomyocytes. Stenosed rat model was detailed elsewhere (1). Briefly, total proteins were extracted from the left ventricles of rats subjected to 12 weeks of stenosis (AS12, n=6) paired with sham-operated rats (Ctl12, n=5). AS12 rats were treated with losartan (AS/L, n=5), an angiotensin II receptor (AT1) antagonist, for 2 weeks (12 mg/kg per day) *via* Alzet miniosmotic pumps inserted into the intraperitoneal cavity. From this model, we have previously described that I_{CaT} is re-expressed in AS12 and I_{CaT} density was reduced by losartan treatment in AS/L (1). Western blots were performed with total CREB and pCREB antibodies [A] or with pro apoptotic markers Cas 9 and Bcl-x_s or with anti apoptotic marker Bcl-2 [B]. CREB activation that was reduced in AS12 (high I_{CaT} density), re-increased in condition in which I_{CaT} was reduced (AS/L). The increases of Cas 9 and Bcl-Xs and the decrease in Bcl-2 observed in AS12 simultaneously to I_{CaT} re emergence, was reverse in AS/L. ns *vs* Ctl, **P*<0.05.

1. Ferron, L., Capuano, V., Ruchon, Y., Deroubaix, E., Coulombe, A., and Renaud, J. F. (2003) Angiotensin II signaling pathways mediate expression of cardiac T-type calcium channels. *Circ Res* **93**, 1241-1248



Aldosterone-induced I_{CaT} did not modify the amounts of catalytic subunits of phosphatase. Western blots were performed with antibodies against the catalytic subunit of PP1, PP2A (PP2AC) and PP2B (Pan-calcineurin, Pan Cal) from total protein extracts. Cells were treated with 1µM aldosterone (Aldo, n=5) plus 1µM mibefradil (AM, n=5). No significant difference was found between control (n=4) and Aldo or Aldo mib.