SCF-mediated degradation of p100: Mechanisms and relevance in multiple myeloma

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The hierarchy of the ubiquitin system



The SCF ubiquitin ligase complex



Wu et al., Molecular Cell 2003

Four major families of Cullin-RING ubiquitin Ligase complexes (CRLs) (> 200 different enzymes with different substrate receptors)



~30 DCAF proteins = ~30 CRL4 ligases

~50 SOCS-box proteins = ~50 CRL2/5 ligases

SCF and the SCF-like ligase APC/C control a variety of key cellular functions, including gene transcription, protein synthesis, DNA damage responses, chromosome stability, centrosome duplication, dNTP synthesis, apoptosis, circadian clock oscillation, *etc.*



The best characterized substrates of Fbxw7





A novel function of Fbxw7 as a pro-survival gene in diseases with elevated NF-κB activity

Differential purification strategy: Utilizing an Fbxw7 α mutant deficient in substrate binding



Hao et al. Molecular Cell 2007



- Mutation of these residues to Ala [Fbxw7 (WD40)] impairs binding to known substrates
- S462/T463/R465 are critical residues on Fbxw7 for binding to substrates

Differential purification strategy: Utilizing an Fbxw7 α mutant deficient in substrate binding



	WT	WD40
SCF Accessory Factors (<i>e,g.,</i> Skp1,Cul1, Rbx1,Ubc3)	+	+
Substrates (<i>e.g.,</i> Myc, Notch)	+	-
Chaperones/Other Regulators, Adapters etc.	+	+

Normalized Spectral Abundance (Mass Spectrometry)

Protein	FBXW7 single IP	FBXW7- WD40 mutant single IP	FBXW7 Double IP	FBXW7- WD40 mutant Double IP
Fbxw7	0.0443	0.0415	0.0889	0.0902
Skp1	0.0428	0.052	0.0842	0.0596
Cul1	0.0006	0.0015	0.0088	0.0069
p100	0.0002	0	0.0005	0



Molecular mechanism of NF- κ B activation and inhibition



The non-canonical pathway of NF- κ B











GSK3 phosphorylates the p100 degron









p100 shuttles between the nucleus and cytoplasm





PKI NES consensus p100 (aa 831-840) p100 (aa 831-840; 4xNES)

- x = small/polar/charged amino acids









a) Shuttling of p100 requires an intact NLS (nuclear localization signal) and NES (nuclear export signal).

b) The majority of p100 is cytoplasmic since the nuclear pool is constitutively targeted for protein degradation by Fbxw7/GSK3. Accordingly, the p100-cytoplasmic pool is insensitive to Fbxw7-mediated degradation.

Constitutive degradation of p100 in the nucleus via Fbxw7 α is inhibited upon NF- κ B activation











Stabilization of p100 in the nucleus inhibits NF- κ B target gene transcription following LT β R activation



Stabilization of p100 in the nucleus inhibits RelB binding at $LT\beta R$ -responsive gene promoters



The molecular mechanisms controlling levels of p100 in the nucleus allow the initiation and termination of the NF- κ B transcription program.

 Mutation of FBXW7 gene have been found in many cancers, including:
T-ALL, breast cancers, cholangiocarcinoma, gastric adenocarcinoma, and head and neck squamous carcinoma

Thompson, B. J. et al., J Exp Med 2007 Rajagopalan, H. et al., Nature 2004 O'Neil, J. et al., J Exp Med 2007 Stransky, N. et al., Science, 2011

- Sequenced exons 9 and 10 of twenty-four multiple myeloma cell lines.

- No mutations found.

-Sequencing of FBXW7 in primary B-cell tumors (from the literature):

Study #1 0/20 B-ALL Akhoondi et al. *Cancer Res.* 2007. 0/20 B-CLL

Song et al. Leuk, Res. 2008.

Study #2 0/92 non-Hodgkins lymphoma



Louis M. Staudt, CSH Perspect in Biol., 2010

Mutations activate non-canonical NF-κB signaling in multiple myeloma



Annunziata et. al. Cancer Cell. (12) 2007.

Depletion of Fbxw7 inhibits multiple myeloma cell growth



Expression of a p100 mutant resistant to Fbxw7–dependent degradation inhibits multiple myeloma cell growth



Expression of stable p100 inhibits the growth of myeloma cells xenotransplanted into SCID mice



Forced localization of p100 in the nucleus results in decreased growth of myeloma cells



Chemical inhibition of the proteasome, Cullin-RING ligases, or GSK3 leads to p100 accumulation in the nucleus



Chemical inhibition of the proteasome, Cullin-RING ligases, or GSK3 is toxic to multiple myeloma cells



GSK3 toxicity is partially dependent on p100



FBXW7 may function as an oncogene or tumor suppressor depending on the genetic background of the cancer



