Lava Lamp, a Novel Peripheral Golgi Protein, Is Required for Drosophila melanogaster Cellularization

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Abstract. Drosophila cellularization and animal cell cytokinesis rely on the coordinated functions of the microfilament and microtubule cytoskeletal systems. To identify new proteins involved in cellularization and cytokinesis, we have conducted a biochemical screen for microfilament/microtubule-associated proteins (MMAPs). 17 MMAPs were identified; seven have been previously implicated in cellularization and/or cytokinesis, including KLP3A, Anillin, Septins, and Dynamin. We now show that a novel MMAP, Lava Lamp (Lva), is also required for cellularization. Lva is a coiled-coil protein and, unlike other proteins previously implicated in cellularization or cytokinesis, it is Golgi associated. Our functional analysis shows that cellularization is dramatically inhibited upon injecting anti–Lva antibodies (IgG and Fab) into embryos. In addition, we show that brefeldin A, a potent inhibitor of membrane trafficking, also inhibits cellularization. Biochemical analysis demonstrates that Lva physically interacts with the MMAPs Spectrin and CLIP190. We suggest that Lva and Spectrin may form a Golgi-based scaffold that mediates the interaction of Golgi bodies with microtubules and facilitates Golgi-derived membrane secretion required for the formation of furrows during cellularization. Our results are consistent with the idea that animal cell cytokinesis depends on both actomyosin-based contraction and Golgi-derived membrane secretion.

Key words: cytokinesis • cytoskeleton • Spectrin • KLP3A • and brefeldin A

Introduction

Drosophila cellularization is a dramatic variation of animal cell cytokinesis (Foe et al., 1993; Schejter and Wiechscha, 1993; Miller and Kiehart, 1995). It transforms a one-cell syncytium into a multicellular embryo by simultaneously encapsulating roughly 5,000 cortical nuclei with one continuous plasma membrane furrow. The furrow invaginates between adjacent nuclei perpendicular to the cell surface, and then widens along its base to seal each nucleus off from the inner cytoplasm. Although the honeycomb-patterned cellularization furrow appears distinct from the ring-like cytokinesis furrow, the mechanisms underlying their formation are strikingly similar. The progression of each furrow depends on an actomyosin-based contractile apparatus associated with the leading edge of each furrow (Satterwhite and Pollard, 1992, and references therein; Crawford et al., 1998). In addition to microfilaments (F-actin) and myosin II, each contractile apparatus also consists of the putative stabilizing elements, Anillin (Field and Alberts, 1995), Septins (Fares et al., 1995; Field et al., 1996; Neufeld and Rubin, 1994), and formin homology proteins (Afshar et al., 2000). Furrow progression in each case also appears to rely on the export of intracellular membrane to the cell surface (Fullilove and Jacobson, 1971; Burgess et al., 1997; Conner and Wessel, 1999; Jantsch-Plunger and Glotzer, 1999).

While significant progress has been made towards understanding the assembly and function of the contractile apparatus, much less is known about the mechanism of membrane export (reviewed in Glotzer, 1997; Bowerman and Severson, 1999; Field et al., 1999; Hales et al., 1999). In Xenopus, it is well established that membrane is delivered during anaphase to the furrowing portion of the plasma membrane (Bluemink and de Laat, 1973; Byers and Armstrong, 1986; Drechsel et al., 1997), but the exact target along the furrow is uncertain (Byers and Armstrong, 1986; Leaf et al., 1990). At least some of the membrane is Golgi derived (Leaf et al., 1990); however, other sources...
of membrane have also been implicated (Bluemink and de Laat, 1973). Regardless of the intracellular membrane source, microtubules (MTs)1 appear to be required for its delivery (Danilchik et al., 1998). In the case of cellularization, neither the membrane source nor the modes of membrane delivery are known. However, the need for membrane export during cellularization is underscored by an increase in cell surface area (Fullilove and Jacobson, 1971), and the requirement for Syntaxin 1 (Burgess et al., 1997) and Dynamin (Swanson and Poordy, 1981), proteins implicated in membrane transport.

During both cellularization and cytokinesis, the coordination of the F-actin and MT cytoskeletal systems contributes to contraction and/or membrane export (Foe et al., 1993; Field et al., 1999). Although the precise mechanism of this dependency relationship is unknown, MTs may act as tracks for recruiting factors required for the establishment and/or maintenance of the contractile ring, or provide structural stability to the contractile ring late in cytokinesis. During cellularization, long MTs grow out from apically positioned centrosomes down over the surface of nuclei and project their plus ends into the embryos interior, forming “inverted baskets” around each nucleus (Foe et al., 1993). Throughout most of cellularization, the contractile apparatus appears to move down along these MTs as it leads the furrow inward at its tip (see Fig. 4, inset) (Foe et al., 1993). When embryos are treated with drugs that destabilize either F-actin or MTs during cellularization, furrow progression is severely disrupted (Zalokar and Erk, 1976; Foe and Alberts, 1983). The extent to which these treatments disrupt contraction versus membrane export is unknown.

We were interested in identifying new proteins involved in cellularization in order to better understand the mechanisms underlying cellularization and cytokinesis. Because the F-actin and MT cytoskeletal systems appear to intimately associate during cellularization, we set out to identify microfilament/microtubule-associated proteins (MMAPs) from Drosophila embryo extracts. This approach combines the methods of two previous biochemical screens for either F-actin– or MT-binding proteins in Drosophila (Kellogg et al., 1989; Miller et al., 1989). We have successfully isolated 21 MMAPs. Of these, 17 were identified and include seven proteins previously implicated in cellularization and/or cytokinesis, including KLP3A (Williams et al., 1995; Giansanti et al., 1998), Anillin (Field and Alberts, 1995; Giansanti et al., 1999), Septins (Neufeld and Rubin, 1994; Fares et al., 1995; Field et al., 1996), and Dynamin (Swanson and Poordy, 1980, 1981; Wiencek et al., 1999). In addition, a novel protein, Lava Lamp (Lva), was identified. Our functional analysis of Lva indicates that it too is required for cellularization. Lva is Golgi associated and may function as part of a Spectrin-based scaffold. Our data suggests that MT-dependent, Golgi-derived membrane vesicle export is a key mechanism of Drosophila cellularization.

Abbreviations used in this paper: ABP, actin-binding protein; BFA, brefeldin A; GST, glutathione-S-transferase; Lva, Lava Lamp; MHC, myosin heavy chain; MMAP, microfilament/microtubule-associated protein; MP, microprojection; MS/MS, tandem mass spectrometry analysis; MT, microtubule; Myo-GFP, myosin II–green fluorescent protein; PM, plasma membrane.

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Materials and Methods

Fly Stocks and Culturing

A large-scale Oregon-R fly culture provided embryos for protein biochemistry and immunofluorescence (Sisson, 2000). The sqh-gfp transgenic stock was used for all live scanning confocal analysis (Royou et al., 1999).

Protein Purification and Chromatography

Actin was purified from rabbit skeletal muscle according to Parducz and Spudich (1982). Tubulin was purified from cow brain according to Mitchison and Kirschner (1984). Aliquots of G-actin and tubulin were frozen in liquid N2 and stored at −80°C until needed.

The MMAPs were purified from 30 g of 1–3-h-old Oregon-R embryos. F-actin affinity chromatography was performed essentially as described by Miller et al. (1989). Approximately 400 mg of soluble protein (100,000 g supernatant, $S_{100}$) was passed over two 7-ml BSA precolumns followed by two 7-ml phalloidin-stabilized, F-actin columns. After loading each BSA/F-actin column series, the columns were disconnected from one another, and the F-actin columns were washed extensively, and eluted with 1 mM ATP and 0.5 M KCl. The F-actin column eluates were pooled (actin-binding proteins, ABPs), dialyzed against MT-binding buffer (CX buffer (Kellogg et al., 1989) + 0.05% NP40), supplemented with 40 μM taxol, and clarified at 100,000 g for 1 h at 4°C. The supernatant was supplemented with preassembled, taxol-stabilized, 21-μl needle-sheared MTs. The mixture was incubated at 24°C for 30 min, layered onto a 40% glycerol cushion (with 20 μM taxol), and centrifuged (30 min, 50,000 g, 25°C). The supernatant was removed, the pellet was thoroughly rinsed, resuspended, and resedimented as before in the presence of 40 μM taxol at 28°C for 30 min. The proteins resedimenting with MTs (MMAPs) were separated by SDS-PAGE, and six Coomassie-stained protein bands were excised and prepared for tandem mass spectrometry analysis (MS/MS, performed at Harvard Microchem). The remaining proteins were identified by immunoblot (see below).

A Superose 6 HR 10/30 FPLC column was used to fractionate 1.2 mg of $S_{100}$ and 1.8 mg of the MMAP fraction, 0.5 ml fractions were analyzed by immunoblot.

For F-actin column rebinding, ABPs were dialyzed against fresh actin-binding buffer [A buffer (Miller et al., 1989) + 10% glycerol, and 50 mM KCl], and passed over a fresh 2 ml F-actin column. The column was extensively washed and eluted as before, and 0.25-ml fractions were analyzed by immunoblot.

ABP2/Lva cDNA and Antibody

An antiseral raised to ABP2 (Miller et al., 1989) was used to screen a λgt11 expression library. A 3-kb cDNA clone (CF2) was isolated and sequenced according to Field and Alberts (1995). A 1.4-kb BamHI–EcoRI fragment from CF2 was ligated into the expression plasmid pGEX-3X (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech). The glutathione-S-transferase (GST)–Lva fusion protein was produced and purified according to the manufacturer’s protocol and used to immunize a rabbit (Babco). Antiserum was affinity-purified according to Field and Alberts (1995). The affinity-purified antibody was used at 15 ng/ml for immunoblots and 0.1 μg/ml for immunofluorescence on fixed embryos. The antibody was concentrated using Ultrafree-MC columns according to the manufacturer’s protocol (Millipore). The Fab fragments were prepared from affinity-purified anti–GST and anti–Lva IgGs according to Harlow and Lane (1988). Papain digested Fe fragments and undigested IgG were removed in batch with Affi-gel Protein A (Bio-Rad Laboratories). Fab fragments were dialyzed against 0.5× PBS, and concentrated as described above.

Other Primary Antibodies

Affinity-purified, rabbit polyclonal antibodies were used to detect CP60 and 190 (gifts of K. Oegema, EMBL, Heidelberg, Germany), kinesin heavy chain (gift of L. Goldstein, University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, CA), α- (−354) and β-Spectrin (−337) (gifts of D. Branton, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA), Dynamin (gift of M. McNiven, Mayo Foundation, Rochester, MN), Prut and Sep2 (Field et al., 1996), Sep1 (gift of J. Pringle, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC), myosin heavy chain (MHC; Foe et al., 2000), and Anillin (Field and Alberts, 1995). Rabbit polyclonal antibodies were used to detect β3-Spectrin (gift of G. Thomas, Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA), bifocal (gift of W. Chia, National University of Singapore, Kent Ridge, Sin-
gapore), KLP3A (No. 164, gift of M. Goldberg, Cornell University, Cornell, NY), β-COP (gift of V. Malhotra, University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, CA), LAGSE and HIPYR (pan-kinesin, gifts of J. Scholey, University of California, Davis, CA), and RFABG (gift of K. Kutty, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD). Mouse monoclonal antibodies were used to detect 95F (3C7) and CLIP190 (gifts of K. Miller, Washington University, St. Louis, MO), actin (JLA20, DB Hybridoma Bank), dynein (gift of T. Hays, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN), p120 (gift of V. Malhotra), and Tubulin (Sigma-Aldrich). A rat monoclonal was used to detect p150Glued (gift of T. Hays, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN).

Immunoprecipitations

Affi-gel Protein A beads (Bio-Rad Laboratories) were washed with IP buffer (50 mM Hepes, pH 7.5, 0.5 mM EGTA, 0.5 mM EDTA, 0.05% NP40, and 150 mM KCl). Washed beads (20 μl) were incubated with either BSA (100 μg), affinity-purified anti–Lva (2.75 μg), monoclonal anti–CLIP190 (5 μl), or affinity-purified anti–α-Spectrin (5 μl) antibodies, and IP buffer in 100 μl final volume at 4°C for 4 h. Beads were pelleted, washed (8 × 800 μl), mixed with 300 μl MMAP fraction (diluted with IP buffer to 1 mg/ml), and incubated at 4°C for 4 h. The supernatant (S) was removed, the bead pellets (P) were washed as before, and samples were analyzed by immunoblot.

Electrophoresis and Immunoblotting

SDS-PAGE and immunoblotting were performed essentially as described by Kellogg et al. (1989). For optimum resolution, SDS-polyacrylamide [acryl:bis (100:1)] gradient (6.5–13.5%) gels were used. Proteins were transferred to nitrocellulose membrane (Schleicher & Schuell). Protein blots were rinsed with H2O, Ponceau-S (Sigma-Aldrich) stained, and protein bands were marked with a wax pencil. Affinity-purified HRP-conjugated goat antibodies against rabbit and mouse IgG (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc.), and chemiluminescence reagent (ECL; Amersham Pharmacia Biotech) were used to detect primary antibodies. A coincident wax pencil mark on the blot and chemiluminescence signal on the film indicated that a protein band was composed of the protein detected.

Immunolocalization in Embryos

Oregon-R embryos were dechorionated as in Rothwell et al. (1999), quickly rinsed in 0.1% Triton X-100, and incubated in heptane for 45 s before adding an equal volume of 19.5% formaldehyde + 2.2–3.3% methanol. The embryos were fixed for 15–30 min at 25°C. Four different preparative conditions were also used: formalin for 5 min, 37.5% EM-grade paraformaldehyde (EM Sciences) for 5 min, heptane presaturated against 0.25% glutaraldehyde + methanol (1:1) for 30 min according to Thomas.

Figure 1. The purification of Drosophila MMAPs. (A) This Coomassie-stained SDS-polyacrylamide gradient gel shows the proteins within different fractions from the purification: high-speed pellet (P100) and supernatant (S100, column load), F-actin-binding proteins (ABPs), and F-actin column flow through (F.T.). Lanes 1–4 were each loaded with 25 μg of total protein. ABPs do not sediment without MTs (lanes 5 and 6), but a small subset of ABPs do sediment with MTs (spin 1). The lane 8 pellet was rinsed, re-suspended, and the MTs were resedimented (spin 2). Numbered arrows indicate the proteins that resediment with the MTs. Comparable amounts of each matched supernatant (S) and pellet (P) were loaded. Molecular weight standards are indicated to the left. *Presumed protein degradation. (B) Immunoblots for MHC, 95F, and actin. Each lane is labeled and loaded as in A, lanes 5 and 6 correspond to spin 1 in A. (C) Immunoblots for the indicated MT-binding proteins, and tubulin. Each lane is labeled and loaded as in A. (D, left) Equivalent protein blots probed with antibodies to the indicated proteins. Each lane is labeled and loaded as in A. (D, left) Equivalent protein blots probed with antibodies to the indicated proteins. Each lane is labeled and loaded as in A. (D) Equivalent protein blots probed with affinity-purified rabbit anti–Lva antibody. Molecular weight standards are indicated.
Table I. Summary of the Identified MMAPs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coomassie band</th>
<th>Proteins detected</th>
<th>Detected by</th>
<th>Matching peptides</th>
<th>F-actin column binding</th>
<th>F-actin column rebinding</th>
<th>MT binding</th>
<th>Proposed function</th>
<th>References</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>βII-Spectrin</td>
<td>IB</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Intermed.</td>
<td>Establish and/or maintain plasma membrane subdomains</td>
<td>Zarnescu and Thomas, 1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lva/ABP2</td>
<td>MS/MS and IB</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Intermed.</td>
<td>Golgi-based secretion</td>
<td>This study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>α-Spectrin</td>
<td>MS/MS and IB</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Intermed.</td>
<td>Establish and/or maintain plasma membrane subdomains</td>
<td>Zarnescu and Thomas, 1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>RFABG</td>
<td>MS/MS and IB</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Weak</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Transport of hydrophobic molecules</td>
<td>Kutty et al., 1996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>β-Spectrin</td>
<td>IB</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Weak</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Required for cytokinesis and cellularization</td>
<td>Zarnescu and Thomas, 1999</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>CLIP190</td>
<td>IB</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Implicated in linking endocytic vesicles and organelles to MTs</td>
<td>Lantez and Miller, 1998; Rickard and Kreis, 1996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Anillin</td>
<td>IB</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Membrane vesicle transport</td>
<td>Fields and Alberts, 1995; Giansanti et al., 1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>α-COP</td>
<td>MS/MS</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>Membrane vesicle transport</td>
<td>Flybase gene CG7961</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Bifocal</td>
<td>MS/MS and IB</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Intermed.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Possible role in apical-basal plasma membrane polarity</td>
<td>Bahri et al., 1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>KL33A</td>
<td>IB</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Weak</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Required for cytokinesis and pronuclear fusion</td>
<td>Giansanti et al., 1998; Williams et al., 1995, 1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Dynamin</td>
<td>MS/MS and IB</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Required for vesicle formation, cytokinesis, and cell polarization</td>
<td>Swanson and Poody, 1980, 1981; Wiebke et al., 1999; McNiven et al., 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Dynamin</td>
<td>IB</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Transport of hydrophobic molecules</td>
<td>Kutty et al., 1996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>RFABG</td>
<td>MS/MS and IB</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Weak</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Required for cytokinesis and implicated in vesicle docking and/or targeting</td>
<td>Field and Kellogg, 1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Peaumut</td>
<td>IB</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Required for cytokinesis and membrane subdomains</td>
<td>Zarnescu and Thomas, 1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Septin 2</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Septin 1</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of unique tryptic peptides, derived from the predicted translations of DNA sequence, that match MS/MS data are indicated. Two proteins were detected in band 3 and in band 9. The relative strength of F-actin and MT binding was determined by quantitative immunoblot. IB, Immunoblot; n.a., not analyzed; intermed., intermediate; ?, antibody unavailable; RFABG, retinoid and fatty acid-binding glycoprotein.

and Kiehart (1994), and our initial fixation method in the absence of Triton X-100 before or after the fix; otherwise, the post-fix treatment was according to Rothwell et al. (1999). Detection of plasma membrane (PM)-Spectrin requires post-fixation treatments with >0.5% Triton X-100, while Golgi-Spectrin requires 0.05%. Triton X-100. Affinity-purified, goat anti-rabbit IgG-Cy5 and goat anti-mouse IgG-fluorescein antibodies (Chemicon) were used to detect primary antibodies. Embryos were imaged according to Rothwell et al. (1999).

Injections of Live Embryos

squ-gfp embryos were prepared for microinjection and scanning confocal microscopy according to Francis-Lang et al. (1999). Injections were done at 50% egg length, on the dorsal side, within the first 5 min of nuclear cycle 14. The following reagents were injected: 50 μg/ml goat-anti-rabbit IgG-Cy5 (Chemicon) mixed with either 0.25 mg/ml rabbit anti-GST or 0.3 mg/ml rabbit anti-Lva, 3.8 mg/ml rabbit anti-Lva, DMSO (Hybri-Max; Sigma-Aldrich), 50 mM BFA (Epicentre Technology), 25 mM colchicine, and 10 mM cytochalasin D. Final concentrations of BFA, colchicine, and cytochalasin D were ~1.5, 0.75, and 0.3 mM, respectively (Foe and Alberts, 1983). Conversely, the ABPs comprise 0.5–1.0% of the total soluble protein passed over the F-actin column. Immunoblots demonstrate that two known ABPs, MHC and 95F, an unconventional Myosin VI, are highly enriched on the F-actin column, consistent with previous results (Fig. 1 B, lanes 2 and 3) (Miller et al., 1989). Conversely, the MT-binding proteins kinesin heavy chain, centrosomal protein (CP) 190, CP60, p150Glued and dynein, as well as tubulin, do not bind significantly to the F-actin column, indicating selective binding (Fig. 1C, lanes 2 and 3; dynactin not shown).

For the next step, the ABP fraction was dialyzed into MT-binding buffer and supplemented with taxol-stabilized MTs. The MTs and any associated proteins were then cosedimented by centrifugation. No proteins sedimented in the absence of MTs (Fig. 1 A, lanes 5 and 6); however, several proteins sedimented in the presence of MTs (Fig. 1 A, lanes 7 and 8). After the resuspension of the pellet, 21 proteins re-sediment with the MTs, indicating that their MT binding is robust (Fig. 1 A, lanes 9 and 10). These proteins have been designated MMAPs. Significantly, although MHC and 95F are abundant in the ABP fraction, neither cosediments with MTs, nor does actin (Fig. 1 B, lanes 5 and 6).

Results

21 Proteins Selectively Associate with F-actin and MTs In Vitro

The initial step of the protein purification was to isolate actin-binding proteins by F-actin affinity chromatography. A high-speed supernatant of a Drosophila embryo extract was passed over an F-actin column, and after extensive washing, the column was eluted with buffer containing 1 mM ATP and 0.5 M KCl. After SDS-PAGE, Coomassie staining revealed ~50 polypeptide bands in the ABP fraction (Fig. 1 A, lane 3). Together, the ABPs comprise 0.5–1.0% of the total soluble protein passed over the F-actin column. Immunoblots demonstrate that two known ABPs, MHC and 95F, an unconventional Myosin VI, are highly enriched on the F-actin column, consistent with previous results (Fig. 1 B, lanes 2 and 3) (Miller et al., 1989).

Seven MMAPs Are Involved in Cytokinesis and One Is Novel

17 of 21 proteins isolated were identified by MS/MS and/or immunoblotting with existing antibodies (Fig. 1 D and Table I). 15 of these proteins have known functions. Seven (Anillin, KL33A, Dynamin A and B, Peanut, Septin 1, and Septin 2) have been previously implicated in cellularization and/or cytokinesis, suggesting that the screen has...
enriched for the desired class of proteins. The function of Lva has not been previously reported. Notably, KLP3A, a member of the kinesin superfamily (Williams et al., 1995), was the only kinesin protein out of five detected in the S100 with pan-kinesin antibodies to bind the F-actin column at all (data not shown). CLIP190, a known partner of 95F (Lantz and Miller, 1998), was isolated in the absence of 95F. CLIP190 is the Drosophila homologue of human CLIP170 (Lantz and Miller, 1998), a protein implicated in linking vesicles and organelles to MT plus ends (Rickard and Kreis, 1996).

**Lva Is a Novel Coiled-Coil Protein**

We have focused our initial efforts on characterizing the novel protein, Lva. The mass spectra obtained from Lva perfectly match tryptic peptides derived from the translation product of a single predicted Drosophila gene, indicating that it encodes Lva (Fig. 2 B; CG#6450). The mass spectra match 64 tryptic peptides from seven of the eight predicted exons (Fig. 2, A and B). Tryptic peptides including the NH\textsubscript{2}-terminal 18 amino acids, predicted to be encoded by exon 1, were not detected by MS/MS. However, the four nucleotides just upstream of the putative start codon of exon 1 are a good match to the Drosophila translational consensus sequence (Cavener, 1987), containing the invariant adenine at the −2 position, and stop codons exist in all reading frames just upstream of the putative start codon. cDNA sequence derived from a contiguous set of overlapping clones confirms the genomic DNA sequence from nucleotide 842 within exon 4 to the start of a poly(A) tail, 334 nucleotides downstream of the putative stop codon (Fig. 2 A). In addition, the cDNA sequence and MS/MS confirm the predicted intron/exon borders between exons 4–8 and 2–7, respectively. A full-length cDNA clone has not yet been identified.

The Lva gene is predicted to encode an acidic (pl 4.6) protein of 2,798 amino acids with a predicted molecular weight of 318 kD. Amino acid sequence analysis with COILS (Lupas et al., 1991) indicates that Lva is likely to form an extended coiled-coil (Fig. 2 B). Many rod-shaped proteins migrate slower than expected by SDS-PAGE, which may explain the discrepancy between the predicted
and apparent molecular weights for Lva. Lva searches have not revealed homologues of Lva; however, BLAST does share features in common with golgins, a class of Golgi-associated proteins (see Discussion) (reviewed in Chan and Fritzler, 1998; Warren and Malhotra, 1998; Waters and Pfeffer, 1999).

While testing existing antibodies against our protein blots, we discovered that an antisera raised to Drosophila ABP2, a 370-kD F-actin–binding protein of unknown sequence (Miller et al., 1989), strongly reacts with Lva (Fig. 1 D). Moreover, a cDNA expression clone (CF2) isolated with the ABP2 antisera, is contiguous with Lva cDNA clones and matches Lva mass spectra. Therefore, ABP2 and Lva are products of the same gene. We will refer to the protein as Lva.

**Lva Associates with Spectrins and CLIP190**

To assess whether Lva interacts with other proteins, we first determined the native size of Lva compared with other MMAPs. The S100 and the final protein (MMAP) fraction were passed separately over a gel filtration column, and fractions were assayed by immunoblot. Because α-Spectrin has been previously shown to copurify with β- and β1H-Spectrin in two stable heterotetrmeric complexes (α2β2 and α2β1H2, respectively) (Dubreuil et al., 1990) and coimmunoprecipitates with β- and β1H-Spectrin (Fig. 3 C), we will only present data for α-Spectrin for simplicity. Immunoblots show that in both the S100 and the MMAP fraction, Lva, CLIP190, αβ- and αβ1H-Spectrin coelute from the column with native molecular weights larger then their predicted molecular weights, indicating that each protein exists in large, stable complexes (Fig. 3 A). By comparison, Anillin and KLP3A are initially present in large complexes that dissociate over the course of the purification (Fig. 3 A). The native molecular weight of Anillin in the final fraction is comparable with that observed for baculovirus-expressed, full-length frog Anillin (A. Straight, personal communication). Unlike the other proteins, most of 95F does not exist in a large complex in the S100 (Fig. 3 A). Lva, CLIP190, αβ-, and αβ1H-Spectrin also cofractionate over two consecutive F-actin affinity columns, indicating that each protein is associated with a stable F-actin–bind-

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*Figure 4.* Lva, α-Spectrin, and CLIP190 colocalize to Golgi bodies. Cellularizing embryos were fixed, labeled with pairs of fluorescent probes, and examined by scanning confocal microscopy. From left to right, matched panels show Lva with F-actin, α-Spectrin, CLIP190, and the Golgi marker p120, respectively. White arrowheads indicate corresponding puncta in matched panels, except in the Lva/F-actin panels, where they indicate puncta at the furrow front. The purple arrowhead in the CLIP190 panel indicates CLIP190 with no corresponding Lva fluorescence. (Inset) Cortical F-actin (green) and MT-inverted baskets (red). Essentially no fluorescence was detected with secondary antibodies alone (data not shown). All views are sagittal. Bar, 5 μm.
ing activity. S100 was passed over an F-actin column, ABPs were eluted as before, dialyzed against F-actin-binding buffer, and the soluble protein was passed over a second F-actin column. Immunoblots show that Lva, αβ-Spectrin, CLIP190, and Anillin each efficiently rebind the second column, while KLP3A does not (Fig. 3 B). The initial binding and subsequent rebinding of αβ-Spectrin to F-actin is relatively weak (Fig. 1 D and Table I), consistent with previous observations (Dubreuil et al., 1990). Lva, Spectrins, and CLIP190 elute with a common peak in fractions 5–9. In contrast, Anillin elutes more uniformly and slightly later than the others, reflecting a gel filtration effect and/or a difference in F-actin affinity. The rebinding of Anillin to the F-actin column is consistent with its known ability to bind F-actin directly (Field and Alberts, 1995). The exact nature of KLP3A’s initial F-actin column binding is not yet known and may be conferred by another protein(s). Other MMAPs were also assayed (Table I).

Because Lva, CLIP190, and Spectrins, cofractionate in the above experiments, we assessed whether they interact by immunoprecipitation (IP). The IPs were performed on both the S100 and MMAP fraction, and because comparable results were obtained from each, only the results from the MMAP fraction are presented. Anti–Lva antibody efficiently precipitates Lva protein, and co-IPs αβ-Spectrin and αβ-Spectrin, as well as CLIP190 (Fig. 3 C, lanes 3 and 4). Although the anti–α-Spectrin and anti–CLIP190 antibodies are inefficient at precipitating their respective antigens, both corroborate the co-IPs obtained with the anti–Lva antibody (Fig. 3 C, lanes 5–8). Although only a small portion of Lva and CLIP190 associate under our IP conditions, three controls suggest their association is specific. First, no proteins precipitate in the absence of specific antibody (Fig. 3 C, lanes 1 and 2). Second, although the exogenous (depolymerized) tubulin present in the MMAP fraction is in vast molar excess (Fig. 1 A, lane 10), no tubulin co-IPs with any of the antibodies tested (Fig. 3 C, compare all matched S and P). Third, anti–Lva antibody does not co-IP Anillin (Fig. 3 C, lanes 3 and 4), Dynamin, or Peanut (data not shown). Because antibodies to α-Spectrin and CLIP190 do not co-IP one another (Fig. 3 C, lanes 5–8), it is likely that Lva associates with Spectrins and CLIP190 separately.

**Lva, α-Spectrin, and CLIP190 Are Golgi Associated**

Blastoderm embryos were treated with fixatives that efficiently preserve both cortical F-actin and MTs and prepared for immunofluorescence (Foe et al., 2000). In syncytial and cellularizing blastoderms, Lva, α-Spectrin, and CLIP190 colocalize to large cytoplasmic puncta, some of which are found closely apposed to the furrow front in cellularizing blastoderms (Fig. 4, left, arrows). Additional CLIP190-specific puncta are also observed at furrow tips (Fig. 4, purple arrowhead). While most Lva is associated with puncta, low

![Figure 5. Golgi bodies undergo dynamic, MT-dependent movements in living embryos.](image-url)
levels are seen throughout the cortical cytoplasm. α-Spectrin and CLIP190 are also observed elsewhere within the cortical cytoplasm. Although α-Spectrin forms stable complexes with β- and β₁₅-Spectrin, we have not observed punctate β- or β₁₅-Spectrin localization. Instead, they are found throughout the cortical cytoplasm (data not shown). Unlike previous reports using different preparative methods (Thomas and Kiehart, 1994), we observe minimal Spectrin localization along the PM (see below).

Because the punctate colocalization pattern of Lva, α-Spectrin, and CLIP190 is reminiscent of that reported previously for two cis-Golgi markers, β-coatomer (β-COP) (Ripoche et al., 1994) and a 120-kD integral membrane protein (p120) (Stanley et al., 1997), we examined their distribution relative to the three MMAPs. Indeed, double immunofluorescence shows that p120 and Lva colocalize (Fig. 4, right). We have also found that α-Spectrin and CLIP190 colocalize with the Golgi markers, as with Lva (data not shown).

Although a special isoform of mammalian β-Spectrin (βIS-Spectrin) has been shown to associate with Golgi (reviewed in Beck and Nelson, 1998; De Matteis and Morrow, 1998), Golgi-associated Spectrin has not been previously described in Drosophila, where Spectrins have been shown primarily at the PM (Thomas and Williams, 1999, and references therein). To rule out fixation artifacts, we tested three different preparative conditions (see Materials and Methods). In each case, the punctate localization for α-Spectrin, Lva, and the Golgi markers was clearly observed, while very weak Spectrin localization was found at the PM (data not shown). However, when embryos were prepared for immunofluorescence according to the procedure of Thomas and Kiehart (1994), we observed all three Spectrins associated with the PM of cellularization furrows as previously described, while Lva remained Golgi associated (data not shown). Together, these results suggest that Spectrins reside on both the PM and Golgi bodies of cellularizing blastoderms, and that each Spectrin population is differentially sensitive to the immunofluorescence preparative conditions used (see Material and Methods, and Discussion).

**Golgi Bodies Move Towards and Associate with the Furrow Front in Living Embryos**

The Golgi bodies found positioned at the tips of cellularization furrows in fixed embryos suggested that some Golgi might specifically associate with the furrow. To assess this possibility, we observed Golgi in live cellularizing blastoderms using scanning confocal movies. Rabbit anti-GST and anti-Lva antibodies were diluted, indirectly labeled with anti-rabbit-Cy5 fluorescent antibodies, and injected separately into embryos at the start of cellularization. Upon injection, Cy5-tagged anti-GST antibody quickly diffuses (Fig. 5A). However, when the Cy5-tagged anti-Lva antibody is injected, Cy5 fluorescence quickly assumes a punctate distribution at the basal ends of nuclei (Fig. 5 A). Neither diluted antibody inhibits furrow progression. After the fixation of embryos injected with anti-Lva/Cy5 antibodies, the Cy5-marked puncta were found to perfectly colocalize with Golgi p120 by immunofluorescence, indicating that the Cy5-marked puncta are indeed Golgi bodies (Fig. 5 B). Although apically positioned Golgi bodies are not readily visible in sagittal views, grazing optical sections clearly show Cy5-marked Golgi bodies positioned apically of nuclei (Fig. 5 A, inset). The large amount of background Cy5 fluorescence appears to obscure the apical Golgi bodies when viewed sagittally.

The Cy5-marked Golgi undergo dramatic movements and associate with the furrow front during cellularization (Fig. 5 A). Cellularization begins during the 14 syncytial nuclear cycle (Foe et al., 1993). Initially, the furrow progresses slowly (“slow phase”), and then, ∼40 min into nuclear cycle 14, the rate suddenly increases until the end of cellularization (“fast phase”). During the first 5–15 min of cycle 14, the Cy5-marked Golgi move in a saltatory manner at the base of nuclei. At ∼20 min, individual Golgi bodies move apically and become closely associated with the furrow front, accumulating there over the next 10–20 min of the slow phase. Throughout the first 20–25 min of the fast phase, the Cy5-marked Golgi bodies remain intimately associated with the advancing furrow front. When the furrow front has progressed 5–8 μm beyond the basal ends of the nuclei, Golgi reverse their direction and move rapidly towards the cell...
surface again, increasing the total amount of Golgi within the apical cytoplasm. These apical/basal movements of the fluorescently marked Golgi bodies are identical to the movements of comparably sized organelles observed in living embryos by Nomarski DIC optics (Foe and Alberts, 1983), and resemble the motion of droplets in a lava lamp.

The Apically Directed Golgi Movement Is MT Dependent

The trajectory of the Golgi movements suggested it might be MT based. To test this possibility, we fluorescently marked Golgi bodies as before, and then after MT inverted-baskets formed, reinjected embryos with 25 mM colchicine either 15 or 25 min into cycle 14 to depolymerize MTs (Foe and Alberts, 1983; Zalokar and Erk, 1976). When colchicine was injected at 15 min, Golgi failed to move apically, instead accumulating along the basal ends of nuclei, and furrow progression was severely disrupted (Fig. 5 A), consistent with previous observations (Foe and Alberts, 1983; Zalokar and Erk, 1976). In embryos injected with colchicine at 25 min, Golgi bodies moved apically during the slow phase, but failed to do so during the fast phase, and furrow progression was only mildly effected (data not shown). Although furrow progression is severely inhibited upon injecting the F-actin destabilizing drug cytochalasin D early in cycle 14, Golgi bodies still move apically during the slow phase, as they do during the fast phase upon later injections that minimally affect furrow progression (data not shown). The organelles seen by Nomarski DIC optics display the identical pattern of MT-dependent, F-actin-independent movements in live cellularizing blastoderms (Foe and Alberts, 1983). We believe these particles are likely to be Golgi bodies.

Lva and Golgi Bodies Are Essential for Furrow Progression

Because no mutations are known to exist in the lva gene, we injected a concentrated preparation (3.8 mg/ml) of the anti–Lva antibody into embryos at the start of cycle 14 to block Lva function, and recorded the effects on Golgi bodies and furrow progression. To visualize the furrow front in these experiments, we used embryos bearing a spaghetti squash (sqh)–green fluorescent protein (gfp) transgene (Royou et al., 1999). sqh encodes the regulatory light chain of Myosin II, which normally accumulates at the furrow front (Karess et al., 1991). Likewise, in sqh-gfp embryos, functional myosin II-GFP (Myo-GFP) reveals the furrow front (Royou et al., 1999). The rate and extent of furrow progression is normal in control embryos injected with anti–GST antibody (Fig. 6 A). However, injections of the anti–Lva antibody cause severe furrowing defects (Fig. 6 A). At ~50 min into cycle 14, furrow progression is clearly inhibited near the site of injection, where the antibody is most concentrated (Fig. 6 A). Further from the injection site, furrowing occurs at a reduced rate. Approximately 60 min into cellularization, the embryo’s surface near the site of injection begins to dimple, becoming pronounced 10 min later (Fig. 6 A). This effect is presumably due to the pulling force exerted by the contractile apparatus on the surface of the embryo where furrowing has failed. Dimpling was never observed in control embryos. To directly examine the effects of the anti–GST and anti–Lva antibodies on Golgi, some injected embryos were fixed and analyzed by immunofluorescence using the anti–p120 cis-Golgi antibody. In control anti–GST antibody injected embryos, a normal distribution of p120 is observed (Fig. 6 B, left). However, in embryos injected with the concentrated
anti-Lva antibody, the normal punctate distribution of p120 is not observed and instead p120 is found throughout the apical cytoplasm (Fig. 6 B, right). When the concentrated anti-Lva antibody is Cy5 tagged, the Lva protein can be seen to disperse within minutes of the injection, and the residual Lva protein left associated with some Golgi show them broken down and sessile (data not shown).

Furrow progression is also inhibited upon injecting monovalent anti-Lva Fab antibody, while injections of anti-GST Fab antibody has no effect (Fig. 7). The relatively uniform effect of the anti-Lva Fab antibody on furrow progression appears to result from the free diffusion of the antibody within the embryo, in contrast to the IgG, which remains concentrated near the site of injection. In addition, the anti-Lva Fab antibody does not induce the formation of Myo-GFP puncta, as seen with the anti-Lva IgG. This observation indicates that the formation of Myo-GFP puncta in anti-Lva IgG-injected embryos is not the cause of the furrowing inhibition.

**Brefeldin A Inhibits Furrow Progression**

The inhibition of furrow progression resulting from anti-Lva antibody injections suggested that Golgi-derived membrane vesicle export might be required for furrow progression. This predicts that the fungal toxin brefeldin A (BFA), a potent inhibitor of Golgi-derived membrane vesicle transport (Chardin and McCormick, 1999), should inhibit furrow progression. DMSO, the solvent for BFA, was injected into early Myo-GFP cellularizing blastoderms as a control, and no effect on furrowing was observed (Fig. 8).

However, injection of BFA severely inhibits furrow progression (Fig. 8). Although the Myo-GFP at the furrow front appears discontinuous during the slow phase, furrow progression is relatively normal; however, the fast phase is absent. By 60 min, the furrows in BFA-injected embryos have invaginated only 50% as far as those in the control embryo (Fig. 8). When BFA is injected later, at ~25 min into cycle 14, furrow progression is only mildly affected (data not shown). Because BFA is a small, hydrophobic molecule (Chardin and McCormick, 1999), it diffuses rapidly through the embryo, resulting in a uniform effect.

**Discussion**

**The Screen for MMAPs Has Identified Promising Candidates for Mediating and/or Using the F-Actin and MT Cytoskeletal Systems In Vivo**

Drosophila cellularization, as well as several other fundamental cell processes, including cytokinesis, spindle positioning, vesicle transport, and cell movement, rely on the coordinated functions of the F-actin and MT cytoskeletal systems (Goode et al., 2000; Rogers and Gelfand, 2000). To understand the mechanisms by which these cytoskeletal systems are coordinated, it is necessary to identify the proteins involved. Although recent progress has been made towards this end, only a relatively modest number of candidate proteins have been identified (Fuchs and Yang, 1999; Goode et al., 2000). We have conducted a direct biochemical screen for Drosophila proteins that associate with both F-actin and MTs and have identified a set of proteins implicated in cellularization and/or cytokinesis, and membrane transport. Although the significance of the filament binding displayed by these MMAPs has not yet been established, some are promising candidates for mediating and/or using the F-actin and MT cytoskeletal systems during cellularization and/or cytokinesis. KLP3A is a particularly intriguing example in this regard. Although KLP3A is required for cytokinesis in Drosophila spermatocytes, it is not a true component of the contractile-ring. Instead, it specifically accumulates along interdigitating midzone MT bundles during anaphase, and is required for the assembly and/or maintenance of the contractile ring (Williams et al., 1995; Gianansi et al., 1998). We have shown that KLP3A associates with MTs, as expected for a kinesin, as well as F-actin. KLP3A was the only kinesin out of five detected to associate with the F-actin column. Its shift to a smaller molecular weight upon eluting the F-actin column correlates with a loss in F-actin binding, and suggests that another protein(s) may confer its F-actin binding. Together, these data are consistent with the possibility that KLP3A may associate with a component of the F-actin-rich contractile apparatus and participate in its recruitment during cytokinesis and cellularization. Our future studies will explore this possibility and assess the significance of the filament binding of other MMAPs.

**Lva Resembles Golgins and May Form a Golgi-based Scaffold with Spectrin**

Lva lacks significant overall sequence similarity to other proteins; however, it does resemble members of a growing class of proteins called golgins (Chan and Fritzler, 1998; Warren and Malhotra, 1998). Although golgins are themselves diverse with respect to size and sequence, they all...
share two common protein features: each is predicted to form an extensive coiled-coil and associate with Golgi membrane. These are also defining features of Lva. Although the precise function of the golgins is unknown, recent work indicates that some golgins form a filamentous matrix between Golgi compartments, and Golgi compartments and COP I vesicles that may facilitate membrane budding and fusion, and maintain Golgi structural integrity (Warren and Malhotra, 1998; Waters and Pfeffer, 1999).

Two models have been proposed for how βSpectrin might function on Golgi (Beck and Nelson, 1998; De Matteis and Morrow, 1998). Its principle role might be to specifically facilitate vesicle formation and/or transport by associating with adaptor complexes like COP I on donor membrane. Alternatively, it may form a dynamic scaffold over the Golgi’s surface, which provides structural integrity and facilitates vesicle transport and cytoskeletal interactions. Because both golgins and Golgi-Spectrin may play structural roles, it has been suggested that they might interact and participate in some common Golgi functions (De Matteis and Morrow, 1998). Consistent with this proposal, we have established that Lva and Spectrins stably associate. In addition, upon injecting a specific anti–Lva antibody into cellularizing embryos, a dramatic redistribution of the cis-Golgi marker p120 occurs, MT-based Golgi movement is blocked, and furrow progression is severely inhibited. The most parsimonious explanation for these effects is that Lva forms part of a Golgi-based scaffold that supports MT interactions and membrane transport, including membrane vesicle export required for furrow progression. Interestingly, the distribution of p120 in embryos injected with the anti-Lva antibody closely resembles the normal distribution of the resident ER chaperone BiP (Lecuit and Wieschaus, 2000), suggesting that perhaps inhibition of Lva function blocks ER to Golgi membrane transport. Because we find Lva Golgi associated in Drosophila S2 cultured cells and in all embryonic cells examined (data not shown), we suspect Lva serves an essential Golgi function.

Lva and Spectrin might recruit MT-binding proteins to the surface of Golgi. Based on the rate (~0.1–0.2 μm/s) and direction of Golgi movement, it is possible that cytoplasmic dynein or a minus-end-directed kinesin are responsible. Interestingly, the mammalian dynactin complex has recently been shown to associate with Golgi via Spectrin (Holleran et al., 1996). In addition, CLIP170, the human homologue of CLIP190, has been found to specifically recruit dynactin to the plus-ends of MTs (Valetti et al., 1999; Vaughan et al., 1999). Although dynein and p150Glued do not appear to form a stable association with Spectrin in our experiments, a small proportion of CLIP190 and Lva stably associate and colocalize to Golgi bodies. These observations raise the possibility that CLIP190 and the dynactin complex may participate in linking Golgi to MTs during cellularization through Golgi-Spectrin or perhaps a transient association with the Lva/Spectrin complex that was not detected by our co-IP experiments.

Interestingly, the final wave of MT-dependent Golgi movement that we have observed from the furrow front to the apical cytoplasm perfectly coincides with a shift in the position of PM junctions from the basal furrow front to the apical furrow wall (Bhat et al., 1999; Thomas and Williams, 1999). Because polarized secretion is required for apical/basal cell polarity in mammalian epithelia (Drubin and Nelson, 1996), it is possible that the apical Golgi movements control the dynamic shift in the position of junctions during cellularization in Drosophila. The final wave of Golgi movement may also represent an efficient strategy for gathering Golgi into forming cells before the end of cellularization.

α-Spectrin Is Golgi Associated

By using fixation methods optimized for the preservation of both MTs and F-actin, we have found that α-Spectrin associates with Golgi bodies in blastoderm embryos. To our knowledge, this is the first demonstration of a Golgi-associated Spectrin in invertebrate cells, and the first instance of Golgi-associated α-Spectrin in any cell. Our findings suggest that while mammalian cells have a Golgi-specific isoform of β-Spectrin (Beck and Nelson, 1998; De Matteis and Morrow, 1998), Drosophila blastoderm appears to distribute the same α-Spectrin to both the PM and Golgi. Whether a special posttranslational modification of α-Spectrin confers its Golgi localization is unknown. However, PM- and Golgi-Spectrin are distinctly sensitive to immunofluorescent preparations, indicating that they may possess some compositional differences, certainly the association between Golgi-Spectrin and Lva is apparently one difference. The sensitivity of Golgi-Spectrin to these preparative conditions may explain why Golgi-Spectrin has not been previously described in Drosophila, and why we do not detect either β- or βIF-Spectrin on Golgi.

Golgi-derived Membrane Vesicle Export Is Essential for Cellularization

The source of membrane for cellularization has been controversial. One idea is that PM microprojections (MPs) observed above nuclei before furrow formation flatten to give rise to the furrow (Fullilove and Jacobson, 1971; Turner and Mahowald, 1977). The MPs could represent pre-existing PM that is thrown into patches of villi by cortical contraction, and/or they may result from de novo intracellular membrane delivery early during cellularization (Fullilove and Jacobson, 1971; Turner and Mahowald, 1977). In either case, estimates suggest the MPs can only account for one half of the total membrane required for furrowing; thus, the remaining membrane must come from intracellular stores (Fullilove and Jacobson, 1971), and numerous sources have been proposed (Fullilove and Jacobson, 1971; Sanders, 1975; Loncar and Singer, 1995; Lecuit and Wieschaus, 2000).

Together, several of our observations indicate that Golgi-derived membrane export is essential for cellularization. First, the association between Golgi bodies and the furrow front in live embryos suggests the Golgi may provide membrane to the furrow front through short-range vesicle delivery, consistent with previous EM data (Fullilove and Jacobson, 1971). In addition, the severity of the furrowing defects induced by the anti–Lva IgG and Fab fragments and BFA suggests that Golgi bodies are a significant source, and perhaps the principle source, of membrane for furrow progression.

Although both the slow and fast phases of furrow progression appear to depend on Lva function, the fast phase appears to be particularly sensitive to BFA. This may reflect a difference in the specific mechanism of exocytosis for each phase of furrow progression. For example, furrow progression during the slow phase, which precedes the fast

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phase, may simply rely on pre-existing Golgi membrane stores, while the fast phase depends on BFA-sensitive active transport from the ER to Golgi. The timing of the BFA sensitivity is consistent with the proposal that membrane required for the fast phase is actually exported to the cell surface early during cycle 14 and “stored” in the form of MPs until the onset of the fast phase, when it is used to complete furrow progression (Turner and Mahowald, 1977). Lecuit and Wieschaus (2000) have recently obtained additional evidence supporting this possibility.

Perspectives

For over two decades, the generally accepted view of animal cell cytokinesis has been that an actomyosin-based contractile ring provides annular force, which, like a “purse-string,” pulls the plasma membrane inward to form a cleavage furrow. However, evidence presented here, in addition to other recent studies showing that Syntaxin (Burgess et al., 1997; Conner and Wessel, 1999; Jantsch-Pflunger and Glotzer, 1999) and phosphatidylinositol 4-kinase (Brill et al., 2000) are required for cytokinesis, indicate that the mechanism of animal cell cytokinesis is more complex and requires targeted membrane secretion. Our results extend these previous observations by directly showing that active Golgi-derived membrane vesicle secretion is essential for cytokinesis. Therefore, a more accurate paradigm for animal cell cytokinesis includes both actomyosin-based contraction and membrane vesicle secretion. Although this revised model does not diminish the importance of the contractile ring, it does raise an important question concerning its precise function. Namely, does the contractile ring provide driving force for cytokinesis, as commonly thought, or elastic force, which accommodates and guides new plasma membrane in the formation of a cleavage furrow? This newer perspective also leads to changes in the way we view the functions of proteins already known to be required for cytokinesis. For instance, the Septins associate with the contractile ring and have been proposed to recruit and/or stabilize the contractile ring. However, recently the mammalian Septins have been shown to physically associate with the Sec68/complex (Hsu et al., 1998) and Syntaxin (Beites et al., 1999), proteins implicated in polarized secretion and membrane vesicle fusion, respectively. So, perhaps the role of the Septin complex during cytokinesis is to facilitate the proper docking and/or fusion of membrane vesicles with the cleavage furrow. These and other considerations will undoubtedly become the subject of future work. Our current study has laid a basic foundation for future investigations in Dr. Drosophila, and will hopefully lead to a better understanding of how contraction and membrane secretion combine to bring about cytokinesis and other dramatic changes in cell shape.

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