Lysosomal Hydrolase Mannose 6-Phosphate Uncovering Enzyme Resides in the trans-Golgi Network

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A crucial step in lysosomal biogenesis is catalyzed by “uncovering” enzyme (UCE), which removes a covering N-acetylglucosamine from the mannose 6-phosphate (Man-6-P) recognition marker on lysosomal hydrolases. This study shows that UCE resides in the trans-Golgi network (TGN) and cycles between the TGN and plasma membrane. The cytosolic domain of UCE contains two potential endocytosis motifs: 488YHPL and C-terminal 511NPFKD. YHPL is shown to be the more potent of the two in retrieval of UCE from the plasma membrane. A green-fluorescent protein-UCE transmembrane-cytosolic domain fusion protein colocalizes with TGN 46, as does endogenous UCE in HeLa cells, showing that the transmembrane and cytosolic domains determine intracellular location. These data imply that the Man-6-P recognition marker is formed in the TGN, the compartment where Man-6-P receptors bind cargo and are packaged into clathrin-coated vesicles.

INTRODUCTION

It is well established that in higher organisms newly synthesized acid hydrolases are targeted to lysosomes via the mannose 6-phosphate (Man-6-P) recognition system. The generation of the Man-6-P signal on the hydrolases involves a two-step reaction. In the first step, GlcNAc-P is added to C-6-hydroxyl groups of selected mannose residues by the enzyme UDP- N-acetylglucosamine:lysosomal enzyme N-acetylglucosamine-1-phosphotransferase (phosphotransferase). Then “uncovering” enzyme (UCE), the colloquial name for the enzyme N-acetylglucosamine-1-phosphodiester a-N-acetylglucosaminidase, removes the covering GlcNAc residue (Hasilik et al. 1980; Tabas and Kornfeld, 1980; Varki and Kornfeld, 1980; Varki et al., 1983). The Man-6-P moiety exposed by UCE action is responsible for the specific, high-affinity binding of the acid hydrolases to one of the two Man-6-P receptors (MPRs) in the trans-Golgi network (TGN), which transport the hydrolases to endosomes and subsequently to lysosomes (Kornfeld, 1987; Hille-Rehfeld, 1995). Thus, these two enzymes play a crucial role in lysosomal biogenesis. Phosphotransferase first acts on acid hydrolases in the endoplasmic reticulum (ER)-Golgi intermediate compartment and continues to transfer GlcNAc-P residues in the early (cis) Golgi (Lazzarino and Gabel, 1987; Dittmer and von Figura, 1999). However, the site of action of UCE in the Golgi is unknown, despite the fact that the enzyme has been studied for almost 20 years (Varki and Kornfeld, 1981; Waheed et al., 1981; Varki et al., 1983; Kornfeld et al. 1998). Most recently pure bovine UCE was shown to be a tetramer composed of 68-kDa monomers that contain sialylated oligosaccharides, suggesting that UCE travels to the TGN where sialyltransferase is located during its intracellular itinerary (Kornfeld et al., 1998). Because a number of early Golgi constituents slowly migrate to later Golgi elements from which they are retrieved, the finding of sialylated oligosaccharides alone does not reveal the normal location of UCE. Recently a human cDNA-encoding UCE was isolated (Kornfeld et al., 1999). This established that UCE is a type I membrane-spanning glycoprotein of 515 amino acids with a single 27-residue transmembrane domain and a 41-residue cytoplasmic tail that contains both a tyrosine-based internalization motif 488YHPL and an NPFXD sequence that can bind to Eps15 and has been found to promote endocytosis in yeast (Tan et al., 1996). The presence of 488YHPL raised the possibility that UCE, like TGN 38 and TGN 46 (Reaves et al., 1993; Wong and Hong, 1993; Ponnambalam et al., 1994, 1996; Kain et al., 1998), may travel to the plasma membrane and be returned to the TGN via coated vesicles. In this study we provide direct evidence...
that UCE does, indeed, reside in the TGN and constitutively recycles to the plasma membrane. This indicates that, even though phosphotransferase acts in the ER-Golgi intermediate compartment and cis-Golgi compartments, the Man-6-P recognition signal is probably generated by UCE in the final compartment of the Golgi where the MRs reside.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Construction of Cytosolic Tail Mutants of Human UCE

Mutations were inserted into the human UCE expression vector as previously described (Kornfeld et al., 1999) with the use of the Quik Change Site-directed Mutagenesis kit (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA) and a pair of sense- and antisense-primer nucleotides encompassing the desired changes. For the Y488A mutant the sense strand primer 5'-CATGGGGACTATGCACCCCCGGTGCC AGG-3' was used. For the H510 stop mutant the sense strand primer 5'-CACGC CAGGGGGGC GCTAGGACCCCTC TAAGGAC-3' was used. To prepare the green fluorescent protein (GFP)-UCE transmembrane domain-cytosolic tail constructs, polymerase chain reaction (PCR) of the wild type and mutant UCE described above was carried out with the use of a sense strand primer including an in frame BglII restriction site at the 5'-end (GGGCGGGAGAGATCTCCTTTTTCACC) and an antisense strand primer including an MluI site at the 3'-end (5' to 3'-GGGAAAACCGCTACCCGGCTCGTGCCACC). The PCR products of ~280 bp each (encoding E41 through the stop codon at 510 or 516) were gel purified and sequenced in both directions with the use of the PCR primers. After restriction digestion with BglII and MluI, the fragments were each inserted downstream of the preprolactin signal sequence-GFP prepared as follows. The signal sequence of preprolactin was fused to the N terminus of -end of the preprolactin sequence and used as internal primers with a downstream primer that created an in frame 999-999-999-CATGGGGACTATGCACCCCCGGTGCC AGG-3 was used. The human wild-type and mutant UCE constructs in the expression vector pcDNA3.1(+) were transfected into mouse L-cells, main-

Measurement of Cell Surface UCE Activity on L-Cell Lines

L-cells and L-cells expressing wild-type, mutant Y488A, or mutant H510 Stop UCE were seeded into the wells of a 24-well tissue culture plate in triplicate and grown at 37°C in 5% CO2 in a moist incubator in either 1 ml of αMEM-10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum (L-cells) or the same medium plus 500 μg/ml G418 (all others). A set of empty wells contained only medium and served as blanks. When the cells reached ~60% confluence the media were aspirated and the cells were washed two times with 0.5 ml of TBS, pH 7 (10 mM Tris-HCl–150 mM NaCl). The A set of wells then received 120 μl of UCE substrate (0.5 mM [14]H-glcNAc-P-Man αMe) in TBS, pH 7, to measure cell surface enzyme activity; the B set received 120 μl of substrate in 1 Triton X-100–TBS, pH 7, to measure total cellular enzyme activity; the C set received only 120 μl of TBS, pH 7, for subsequent assay for UCE activity that was secreted. After incubation at 37°C in the tissue culture incubator for 60 min, the 120 μl were removed from each well into a tube containing UCE substrate and incubated for 60 min at 37°C. The 120 μl were removed from each A and B well into 3 ml of 2 mM Tris, pH 8, to stop the reaction. The separation of released [14]H-glcNAc from substrate was carried out as previously described (Mullis and Ketcham, 1990). Meanwhile, the cell layers remaining in wells A and C were each extracted in 150 μl of 0.1 N NaOH for 1 h at 4°C and used to measure the protein concentration by the Micro BCA assay (Pierce, Rockford, IL) standardized with bovine serum albumin. The secretion of UCE activity by the cells in the C wells during 60 min was assumed to have occurred linearly and thus represents twice the average amount that would have been present during the in situ assay in the A wells. Accordingly the secreted activity is calculated as ½+S, and the activity on the cell surface is calculated as A – ½S. When the effect of methyl β-cyclodextrin on the cell surface expression of UCE was measured, cells were incubated for 2 h at 37°C in αMEM containing 10 mM methyl β-cyclodextrin, which was then aspirated before the cell layers were assayed for UCE in 10 mM methyl β-cyclodextrin in the presence or absence of Triton X-100 as described above.

Antibodies and Immunofluorescence Microscopy

Mouse monoclonal antibody (mAb) UC-1 to bovine UCE was prepared as previously described (Kornfeld et al., 1998). Rabbit anti-

Selection of Stably Transfected L-Cells Expressing Mutant Human UCE

The human wild-type and mutant UCE constructs in the expression vector pcDNA3.1(−) were transfected into mouse L-cells, main-

Construction of Cytosolic Tail Mutants of Human UCE

Mutations were inserted into the human UCE expression vector as previously described (Kornfeld et al., 1999) with the use of the Quik Change Site-directed Mutagenesis kit (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA) and a pair of sense- and antisense-primer nucleotides encompassing the desired changes. For the Y488A mutant the sense strand primer 5'-CATGGGGACTATGCACCCCCGGTGCC AGG-3' was used. For the H510 stop mutant the sense strand primer 5'-CACGC CAGGGGGGC GCTAGGACCCCTC TAAGGAC-3' was used. To prepare the green fluorescent protein (GFP)-UCE transmembrane domain-cytosolic tail constructs, polymerase chain reaction (PCR) of the wild type and mutant UCE described above was carried out with the use of a sense strand primer including an in frame BglII restriction site at the 5'-end (GGGCGGGAGAGATCTCCTTTTTCACC) and an antisense strand primer including an MluI site at the 3'-end (5' to 3'-GGGAAAACCGCTACCCGGCTCGTGCCACC). The PCR products of ~280 bp each (encoding E41 through the stop codon at 510 or 516) were gel purified and sequenced in both directions with the use of the PCR primers. After restriction digestion with BglII and MluI, the fragments were each inserted downstream of the preprolactin signal sequence-GFP prepared as follows. The signal sequence of preprolactin was fused to the N terminus of -end of the preprolactin sequence and used as internal primers with a downstream primer that created an EcoRI restriction site at the 5'-end of the preprolactin sequence and an upstream primer that created an in frame BglII site at the 3'-end of the mGFP. The final PCR products were subcloned into pSSFVneo as described by Rohrer et al. (1995). All coding sequences created by PCR were verified by sequencing.

The human wild-type and mutant UCE constructs in the expression vector pcDNA3.1(-) were transfected into mouse L-cells, main-

Measurement of Cell Surface UCE Activity on L-Cell Lines

L-cells and L-cells expressing wild-type, mutant Y488A, or mutant H510 Stop UCE were seeded into the wells of a 24-well tissue culture plate in triplicate and grown at 37°C in 5% CO2 in a moist incubator in either 1 ml of αMEM-10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum (L-cells) or the same medium plus 500 μg/ml G418 (all others). A set of empty wells contained only medium and served as blanks. When the cells reached ~60% confluence the media were aspirated and the cells were washed two times with 0.5 ml of TBS, pH 7 (10 mM Tris-HCl–150 mM NaCl). The A set of wells then received 120 μl of UCE substrate (0.5 mM [14]H-glcNAc-P-Man αMe) in TBS, pH 7, to measure cell surface enzyme activity; the B set received 120 μl of substrate in 1 Triton X-100–TBS, pH 7, to measure total cellular enzyme activity; the C set received only 120 μl of TBS, pH 7, for subsequent assay for UCE activity that was secreted. After incubation at 37°C in the tissue culture incubator for 60 min, the 120 μl were removed from each well into a tube containing UCE substrate and incubated for 60 min at 37°C. The 120 μl were removed from each A and B well into 3 ml of 2 mM Tris, pH 8, to stop the reaction. The separation of released [14]H-glcNAc from substrate was carried out as previously described (Mullis and Ketcham, 1990). Meanwhile, the cell layers remaining in wells A and C were each extracted in 150 μl of 0.1 N NaOH for 1 h at 4°C and used to measure the protein concentration by the Micro BCA assay (Pierce, Rockford, IL) standardized with bovine serum albumin. The secretion of UCE activity by the cells in the C wells during 60 min was assumed to have occurred linearly and thus represents twice the average amount that would have been present during the in situ assay in the A wells. Accordingly the secreted activity is calculated as ½+S, and the activity on the cell surface is calculated as A – ½S. When the effect of methyl β-cyclodextrin on the cell surface expression of UCE was measured, cells were incubated for 2 h at 37°C in αMEM containing 10 mM methyl β-cyclodextrin, which was then aspirated before the cell layers were assayed for UCE in 10 mM methyl β-cyclodextrin in the presence or absence of Triton X-100 as described above.

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1:200 dilution of sheep anti-human TGN 46 antibodies. The secondary antibodies were goat anti-mouse Alexa 568 and donkey anti-sheep Alexa 594 conjugates (Molecular Probes) diluted 1:1000. The coverslips were mounted on glass slides in Antifade (Molecular Probes) for viewing with an inverted Leica (Deerfield, IL) microscope equipped with the TCS confocal system and an Ar/Kr laser. Serial sections in the z-axis through the entire cells were taken, and the resulting stacks of images were analyzed with the use of the Imaris program (Bitplane AG, Zurich, Switzerland) and deconvoluted with the use of Huygens program (Mat & Met: Scientific Volume Imaging, Hilversum, The Netherlands).

RESULTS

UCE Colocalizes with TGN 38 in MDBK Cells

Indirect immunofluorescence microscopy was used to double label Madin-Darby bovine kidney (MDBK) cells with the mouse monoclonal anti-bovine UCE antibody UC-1 and a rabbit polyclonal antibody to TGN 38, a well characterized TGN marker. Figure 1 shows that the endogenous UCE (a, green) and TGN 38 (b, red) in MDBK cells colocalize in a juxtanuclear region consistent with UCE residing primarily in the TGN. Given this finding one would expect the glycoprotein enzyme to become sialylated by the sialyltransferases that reside in the Golgi and the TGN.

Human UCE Expressed in Mouse L-Cells Is Sialylated

The cDNAs encoding human UCE and two mutants of the cytosolic tail that disrupt the tyrosine-based (Y488A) and NPF (H510stop) endocytosis motifs were stably expressed in mouse L-cells. The levels of enzyme activity expressed in the solubilized membrane extracts of these cells varied from 22- to 55-fold higher than the endogenous activity in the parental L-cells and 12- to 29-fold higher than the endogenous activity in human Hep G2 cells. When the membrane extracts of stably transfected cells were desialylated by treatment with neuraminidase, subjected to SDS-PAGE under reducing conditions, blotted, and probed with rabbit anti-human UCE antibody, the results shown in Figure 2 were obtained. Without treatment, the wild type (lane 1) and Y488A mutant (lane 3) have monomer UCE bands at ~80 kDa, similarly to endogenous human UCE in Hep G2 cells (not shown). These bands shift to ~75 kDa after neuraminidase treatment (lanes 2 and 4). In contrast, the H510 stop mutant has monomer bands at 76 kDa before (lane 5) and at 70 kDa after neuraminidase treatment (lane 6), reflecting its slightly smaller size because of the removal of its carboxyl-terminal peptide HNPFKD. These results show that the wild-type and mutant UCEs must have been exposed to sialyltransferase in the trans-Golgi-TGN of the L-cells. Furthermore, the discrete shifts observed (rather than smears) indicate that essentially every monomer of the enzyme has become sialylated and probably to the same extent. It is not possible to determine what extent of sialylation has occurred because removal of sialic acid from a glycoprotein not only alters its size but also its charge and can produce anomalous mobility changes on SDS-PAGE.

It thus appears that wild-type and mutant UCE, like other type I transmembrane glycoproteins, are core glycosylated as they enter the ER, traverse the Golgi apparatus where their oligosaccharides are processed to complex-type structures, and finally undergo addition of sialic acid in the TGN. Where else does UCE traffic? The presence of the internal-

Figure 1. UCE colocalizes with TGN38 in MDBK cells. Cells were fixed and permeabilized and double labeled with mAb UC-1 to bovine UCE (a, green) and rabbit antibody to TGN38 (b, red).

Figure 2. The human UCE expressed by stably transfected L-cells is sialylated. Membrane extracts of cells expressing human UCE wild type (lanes 1 and 2), Y488A mutant (lanes 3 and 4), or H510 stop mutant (lanes 5 and 6) were treated (+; lanes 2, 4, and 6) or not treated (−; lanes 1, 3, and 5) with Vibrio cholerae neuraminidase (Neur.) for 80 min at 37°C. The reaction mixtures were boiled in SDS-PAGE sample buffer and subjected to reducing SDS-PAGE on a 7.5% gel. The gel was blotted to nitrocellulose, which was probed with affinity-purified rabbit anti-human UCE antibody (1:1000) and detected by enhanced chemiluminescence.
The results are averages of two separate experiments.

* The contribution of L-cells has been subtracted.

Table 1. Distribution of UCE activity in stably transfected L-cells

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cell line</th>
<th>Total activity (nmol h⁻¹ mg⁻¹)</th>
<th>% Activity on cell surface</th>
<th>% Activity secreted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parental L-cells</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild-type UCE</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>0.84</td>
<td>0.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y488A mutant UCE</td>
<td>77.5</td>
<td>63.4</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H510 stop mutant UCE</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Figure 3.** The effect of methyl β-cyclodextrin on surface expression of UCE. L-cells expressing wild-type human UCE were treated (+) or not (−) with 10 mM methyl β-cyclodextrin for 2 h before assaying for UCE activity with or without methyl β-cyclodextrin, and with Triton X-100 (total) or without Triton X-100 (cell surface) as described in MATERIALS AND METHODS. The activity of UCE is expressed as the percentage of total activity in the non-methyl β-cyclodextrin treated and is the average of two separate experiments.

**Cycling of UCE from Plasma Membrane to the TGN**

To demonstrate that native UCE cycles between the TGN and the plasma membrane, mAb directed against the luminal domain of bovine UCE was incubated with MDBK cells for 2 h at 37°C. The cells were washed and then processed for immunofluorescence with the use of secondary antimouse antibody conjugated to Alexa Fluor 488 (green), as well as double-labeled with a primary rabbit antibody to TGN 38 detected with a secondary anti-rabbit antibody conjugated to Alexa 594 (red). As shown in Figure 4, the two fluorescent probes colocalize, indicating that UCE at the plasma membrane has carried the anti-UCE antibody (a, green) to the TGN where endogenous TGN 38 (b, red) resides. Cells incubated for 2 h at 4°C with anti-UCE showed no uptake of antibody. Measurement of MDBK UCE activity, both total and cell surface, as described in Table 1 showed that 1.4% of the total UCE was present at the plasma membrane at steady state. This result indicates that inhibition of endocytosis at the plasma membrane has trapped UCE that has trafficked from the TGN to the plasma membrane. To answer the question whether the tyrosine-based internalization motif is used in normal cells to return plasma membrane UCE to the TGN, we turned again to MDBK cells.
Intracellular Location of GFP-UCE Fusion Proteins

To determine whether the large luminal domain of UCE was involved in the trafficking of UCE and to obtain finer immunofluorescence images, wild-type and mutant constructs of UCE containing GFP in place of the luminal domain were prepared and expressed in HeLa cells.

The structures of the various GFP-UCE TM-cytosolic tail constructs are shown in Figure 7. The construct containing the wild-type UCE TM-cytosolic tail was transfected into HeLa cells and a stably expressing clone (no. 9) was isolated. As shown in Figure 5, the GFP-UCE wild type in clone 9 cells as well as endogenous UCE in untransfected HeLa cells showed colocalization of UCE with endogenous TGN 46 in the trans-Golgi network. The colocalization of UCE and the GFP-UCE chimera indicates that the intracellular location of UCE is dictated by its transmembrane and cytosolic tail domains. To establish in which part of the Golgi apparatus the GFP-UCE resides, the experiment shown in Figure 6 was performed with stably transfected HeLa cells with the use of double labeling with an antibody to galactosyltransferase, a marker for the trans-Golgi cisternae. Figure 6a shows that the GFP-UCE and endogenous galactosyltransferase both appear in the Golgi region but, except for slight regions of overlap, do not colocalize. When BFA is added to the HeLa cells for 30 min (Figure 6b) the galactosyltransferase signal is dispersed into the reticular network of the ER as expected for a protein in the Golgi cisternae (Lippincott-Schwartz et al., 1991; Wood et al., 1991). In contrast the GFP-UCE disperses into a different, nonoverlapping net-
work, characteristic of TGN fusion with the endosomal system. These results indicate that GFP-UCE resides in the TGN.

To determine whether the internalization motifs in the cytosolic tail of the GFP-UCE altered its steady-state subcellular localization, the experiment shown in Figure 7 was carried out on HeLa cells transiently transfected with the wild-type and mutant constructs as depicted. GFP-UCE wild type is located in the TGN as before, the GFP-UCE Y488A is primarily located at the plasma membrane, and GFP-UCE H510stop is primarily in a TGN-like location. This indicates that the YHPL motif is required for endocytosis of GFP-UCE from the plasma membrane and return to the TGN, whereas deletion of the NPF motif has only a modest effect on this pathway. The intracellular distribution of the GFP-UCE TM-cytosolic tail construct faithfully duplicates the behavior of the intact UCE, further emphasizing the importance of the cytosolic YHPL motif in mediating return of UCE from the plasma membrane to the TGN. Interestingly, the mutant GFP-UCE Y486 stop in which the cytosolic tail was truncated before the YHPL endocytosis motif, was localized to the TGN. One might have expected this mutant to behave like the Y488A mutant, i.e., lacking a retrieval motif, to localize to the plasma membrane.

**DISCUSSION**

The findings presented in this study establish that the majority of UCE resides in the TGN at steady state. UCE colocalizes with TGN 38 in MDBK cells and TGN 46 in HeLa cells, whereas GFP-UCE does not colocalize with galactosyltransferase (a trans-Golgi marker) in HeLa cells. In addition, GFP-UCE redistributes into a distinct network after BFA treatment, different from the redistribution of galactosyltransferase into the ER. These findings resolve a long-standing controversy over whether UCE is localized in the Golgi to the cis/middle or trans/TGN region based on various density gradient fractionation methods (Pohlmann et al., 1982; Deutscher et al., 1983; Goldberg and Kornfeld, 1983).

Although the majority of UCE is localized in the TGN, we found that a small but measurable amount (0.8–1.6%) of the enzyme is present at the cell surface at steady state. This cell surface enzyme recycles back to the TGN as shown by the ability of MDBK cells to internalize anti-UCE antibody from the cell surface and deliver it to the TGN. The YHPL motif in the cytosolic tail of UCE is critical for internalization since 63% of the enzyme activity of the Y488A mutant was found on the plasma membrane. Similarly, the majority of the GFP-UCE construct with the Y488A mutation was localized to the cell surface. When L-cells expressing wild-type human UCE were treated with methyl b-cyclodextrin to inhibit endocytosis, 40% of the UCE accumulated at the cell surface, confirming that the enzyme cycles from the TGN to the plasma membrane. The UCE in which the NPFKD motif was deleted from the C terminus (H510stop) showed some increased presence at the cell surface (7%), suggesting a slower rate of return to the TGN. The lack of any obvious distortion of the distribution of the GFP-UCE construct with the same mutation in HeLa cells suggests that the role of the NPFKD motif in endocytosis may be secondary.

The presence of the majority of UCE in the TGN suggests that the enzyme acts on its lysosomal hydrolase substrates in the TGN rather than in earlier parts of the Golgi. Kinetic studies of the biosynthesis of phosphorylated oligosaccharides in cells pulse labeled with 2-[3H]mannose and chased for various times showed that oligosaccharides bearing phosphodiester (GlCNAc-P-Man) were made early and subsequently replaced by those bearing phosphomonoesters (Man 6-P), that is “uncovered” species (Goldberg and Kornfeld, 1981). However this approach did not reveal the com-
partment where uncovering of the diesters occurred. More recently two studies were published that support the idea that phosphomonoester formation occurs in a compartment beyond the BFA block (i.e., in the TGN). Radons et al. (1990) studied the oligosaccharides on the lysosomal enzyme cathepsin D and Sampath et al. (1992) studied the total cellular phosphorylated oligosaccharides in cells treated with BFA. Both groups found that in vivo the presence of BFA caused a diminished rate of oligosaccharide phosphorylation but an almost complete inhibition of phosphodiester uncovering.

This result is compatible with the presence of phosphotransferase activity in the ER-Golgi intermediate compartment and the cis-Golgi (Lazzarino and Gabel, 1987; Dittmer and von Figura, 1999) and the presence of UCE in the TGN. It may be advantageous to delay uncovering until the substrates arrive at the TGN to ensure that random phosphatase action in the secretory pathway cannot remove the phosphate groups exposed by UCE and render the lysosomal hydrolases unable to bind the MPRs. Furthermore, hydrolases in the TGN that fail to bind to a MPR because their phosphorylated oligosaccharides are not converted to monoesters could be included in Golgi exocytic vesicles along with UCE and travel to the plasma membrane. During this transit UCE could complete the uncovering of their phosphorylated oligosaccharides, and once released at the plasma membrane these lysosomal hydrolases could be re-captured by MPRs at the cell surface and carried to lysosomes. In fact it is known that 5-10% of hydrolases produced by fibroblasts traffic to lysosomes via secretion-recapture, although the basis for this alternative routing has not been established (Vladutiu and Rattazzi, 1979). This scenario also provides a rationale for the recycling pathway of UCE between the TGN and plasma membrane. Chapman and Munro (1994) have speculated that the endoprotease furin, which also cycles between the TGN and the plasma membrane, could continue to degrade its substrates in exocytic vesicles leaving the Golgi.

Both furin and TGN 38/TGN 46, like UCE, undergo endocytosis from the plasma membrane that is dependent on the presence of a tyrosine-based motif in their cytosolic domains (Reaves et al., 1993; Wong and Hong, 1993; Ponnambalam et al., 1994, 1996; Kain et al., 1998; Molloy et al., 1999). In the cases of TGN 38 and TGN 46 this motif is YQRL; in furin it is YKGL. These signals, like the YHPL of UCE, fit the YXXf motif (where f is a bulky hydrophobic residue) present in many receptors that are internalized in clathrin-coated vesicles at the plasma membrane because their YXXf sequence is able to bind to the μ subunit of the plasma membrane adaptor complex AP2 (Ohno et al., 1995). The cytosolic domains of internalized membrane proteins

Figure 7. The Y488A mutation in GFP-UCE inhibits its endocytosis from the plasma membrane. HeLa cells were transiently transfected with GFP-UCE TM-cytosolic tail constructs: wild type (wt), Y488A, H510Stop, or Y486Stop. The diagrams show the structures of these constructs: ppl is the preprolactin signal sequence followed by GFP, the transmembrane domain (TMD) of UCE, and the cytosolic tail of UCE as modified in the various mutants. The * indicates the end of the cytosolic tail.
contain other sorting signals in addition to a tyrosine-based signal that play roles in their subsequent intracellular trafficking pathway. Mallet and Maxfield (1999) have provided evidence that chimeric forms of furin and TGN 38 are transported from the plasma membrane to the TGN by distinct endosomal pathways. It may be that UCE and TGN 46 also traffic through different endosomal pathways in HeLa cells on their return to the TGN from the plasma membrane, because the two signals in the peripheral vesicles in double-labeled cells (e.g., as in Figure 5) when carefully compared do not show any colocalization, in contrast to their colocalization in the TGN (data not shown). In all probability, the numerous sorting signals in the cytosolic domain of furin, including, in addition to YKGL, its acidic cluster motif, which undergoes phosphorylation and dephosphorylation (Molloy et al., 1999), define its unique trafficking pathway. The fact that UCE contains a second known endocytosis motif in the NPFK sequence (Tan et al., 1996) at its C terminus suggests that motif may also direct some sorting step in the pathway of UCE cycling between the TGN and the plasma membrane. The present results suggest that NPFKD plays a modest role in the rate of internalization at the plasma membrane. Further studies will be necessary to determine whether, for example, Eps 15, which can bind NPF motifs through its N-terminal EH domains (Salcini et al., 1997) and bind the α subunit of AP2 through its C terminus (Benmerah et al., 1996), may facilitate the interaction of the cytosolic domain of UCE with AP2 and the plasma membrane endocytosis machinery. The unexpected observation that the GFP-UCE Y486 stop mutant was retained in the TGN indicates that UCE, like TGN 38 (Ponnambalam et al., 1994), has a TGN retention signal in its transmembrane domain as well as a tyrosine-based retrieval signal in its cytosolic tail. It further suggests that what the Y486 stop mutant may lack is a TGN exit signal that allows UCE to move to the plasma membrane. Work is currently underway to explore this possibility. Interestingly, another class of Golgi proteins, namely, glycosyltransferases that are type II membrane-spanning proteins, contain Golgi retention signals in their transmembrane domains (Colley, 1997) but do not cycle to the plasma membrane. Thus, UCE is unique among the known oligosaccharide-modifying enzymes in possessing a complex intracellular trafficking pattern that appears to be related to its function in the biogenesis of lysosomes.

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Man-6-P-uncovering Enzyme Is in the TGN


