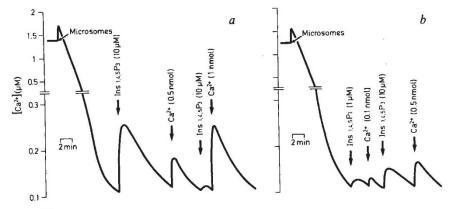
Fig. 2 Extramicrosomal ambient free Ca2+ concentration maintained by insulinoma microsomes: effect of Ins1,4,5P3. Microsomes were incubated at 30 °C, pH 7.0 in 200 µl of a buffer containing 110 mM KCl, 2 mM KH2PO4, 25 mM HEPES, 1 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM MgATP, 3 mM creatine phosphate, 50 µg ml⁻¹ creatine kinase, $0.2\,\mu\text{M}$ antimycin and $0.5\,\text{mg}\,\text{ml}^{-1}$ bovine serum albumin, with continuous stirring. The medium [Ca2+] was continuously recorded with a Ca2+-selective minielectrode made and calibrated as described previously²². Where indicated, microsomes (0.75 mg protein ml-1), Ins1,4,5P3 or CaCl2 (nmol per 200 µl) (in the amounts indicated) were added to the medium. Within 10 min, microsomes lowered the extramicrosomal ambient free Ca2+ concentra-



tion to ~0.1 µM; they were not easily saturated with Ca2+ as they could rapidly take up several sequential pulse additions (5 nmol per mg protein) of Ca²⁺. The Ca²⁺ accumulated could be rapidly released by adding the Ca²⁺ ionophore A23187 (1 µg ml⁻¹) or by lowering the ATP present in the medium by the addition of glucose (5 mM) plus hexokinase (20 U ml⁻¹), indicating that Ca²⁺ is accumulated into vesicular elements in a MgATP-dependent manner (not shown). If microsomes were preincubated with the Ca²⁺ ionophore A23187 to empty the vesicles of Ca²⁺, the addition of Ins1,4,5P₃ produced only a very small increase in medium [Ca²⁺]. This amount of Ca²⁺ corresponded to a similar increase in [Ca²⁺] when Ins1,4,5P₃ was added to the incubation buffer alone; it averaged ~5-10% of the effect shown in a and was accounted for in the subsequent calculation. Ins1,4,5P3 was obtained by alkaline hydrolysis of ox brain phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate, followed by preparative paper chromatography (R.F.I. and M.J.B., in preparation). The figure shows representative experiments which were repeated at least eight times.

Three lines of evidence suggest that Ins1,4,5P3 induces Ca2+ release from the endoplasmic reticulum and not from plasma membrane vesicles contaminating the microsomal fraction. First, the insulinoma microsomal Ca2+ uptake correlated well with the endoplasmic reticulum enzyme marker, but not at all with the plasma membrane marker. Second, the amount of Ca2released by Ins1,4,5P₃ (10 μ M) was 6.1 \pm 0.2 nmol per mg protein (mean ± s.e. of six separate experiments). This is a considerable amount of Ca2+—for comparison, most tissues, including pancreatic islets^{1,2}, have a total calcium content of ~20 nmol per mg protein. The Ca2+ is, therefore, unlikely to originate quantitatively from contaminating plasma membrane vesicles, in a tissue that is particularly rich in reticular structures such as insulinoma cells. Third, Ins1,4,5P₃ mobilizes Ca²⁺ in permeabilized pancreatic acinar and liver cells in which the plasma membrane should not function as a Ca^{2+} -storing organelle ¹⁹⁻²¹. However, the possibility that $I_{13}I_{14}$, $I_{13}I_{14}$, could induce in intact cells an influx of external Ca2+ should not be precluded.

Agonist-induced rises in intracellular free [Ca2+] have been universally associated with an enhancement of both phosphatidylinositol turnover and polyphosphoinositide hydrolysis³⁻¹⁸. More recent observations of a resultant, rapid, Ca²⁺independent generation of water-soluble inositol phosphates. have led to the hypothesis that these compounds could act as intracellular messengers mobilizing cellular Ca2+ stores 17,18. This hypothesis is substantiated and extended by the present report. We have shown that Ins1,4,5P₃, at concentrations which are thought to occur in cells, can increase, within 20 s, the extramicrosomal concentration of Ca²⁺ from 0.1 µM to ~0.2-

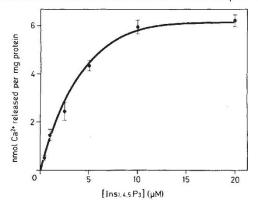


Fig. 3 Dose-response of Ins1,4,5P3-induced Ca2+ release. Pulse additions of various known amounts of CaCl₂ (as shown in Fig. 2) were used to calibrate the Ca2+ rapidly released by Ins1,4,5P3. Values are the mean ± s.e. of three separate experiments.

0.3 µM, corresponding respectively to basal or stimulated conditions in a variety of tissues²⁴⁻²⁶. The results of the present study strongly suggest a specific role for Ins1,4,5P3 as a cellular messenger inducing Ca2+ release from the endoplasmic reticulum.

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Corrigendum

Therapeutic potential of monovalent monoclonal antibodies

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Nature 308, 460-462 (1984)

THE sentence on line 10 of the bold first paragraph should read: 'Starting from the original observation (by Glennie and Stevenson³) that rabbit antisera can... antigens'.