

Submitted to JPET

Desensitization of 5-HT_{1A} Receptors by 5-HT_{2A} Receptors in Neuroendocrine Neurons *in vivo*¹

Yahong Zhang, Thackery S. Gray*, Deborah. N. D' Souza, Gonzalo A. Carrasco, Katerina J. Damjanoska, Bertalan Dudas, Francisca Garcia, Gina M. Zainelli, Nicole R. Sullivan Hanley, George Battaglia, Nancy A. Muma and Louis D. Van de Kar

Center for Serotonin Disorders Research and Department of Pharmacology, *Department of Cell Biology, Neurology & Anatomy, Loyola University Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine, 2160 South First Avenue, Maywood, Illinois 60153

Running Title: PVN 5-HT_{2A}/5-HT_{1A} receptors.

Text pages: 33 ; Number of figures: 6; Abstract: 148 words; Introduction: 475 words,
Discussion: 1141 words. Number of references: 49

Correspondence: Louis D. Van de Kar, Ph.D.

Department of Pharmacology

Phone: 708-216-3263

Loyola University of Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine

Fax: 708-216-6596

2160 South First Avenue

e-mail: lvandek@lumc.edu

Maywood, Illinois 60153

URL: <http://www.luhs.org/SerotoninResearch>

Key words: serotonin, hypothalamus, signaling, hormones, ACTH, oxytocin

List of Non-Standard Abbreviations:

5-HT, 5-hydroxytryptamine; (-)DOI, ((-)-1-(2,5-dimethoxy-4-iodophenyl)2-aminopropane HCl);

ACTH, adrenocorticotrophic hormone;

Abstract

An imbalance between serotonin- 2_A (5-HT $_{2A}$) and 5-HT $_{1A}$ receptors may underlie several mood disorders. The present studies determined whether 5-HT $_{2A}$ receptors interact with 5-HT $_{1A}$ receptors in the rat hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus (PVN). The sensitivity of the hypothalamic 5-HT $_{1A}$ receptors was measured as oxytocin and ACTH responses to the 5-HT $_{1A}$ receptor agonist (+)8-OH-DPAT (40 μ g/kg, sc). The 5-HT $_{2A/2C}$ receptor agonist (-) DOI (1 mg/kg, sc), injected 2 hrs prior to (+)8-OH-DPAT significantly reduced the oxytocin and ACTH responses to (+)8-OH-DPAT, producing a heterologous desensitization of the 5-HT $_{1A}$ receptors. Microinjection of the 5-HT $_{2A}$ receptor antagonist MDL100,907 (0, 10 or 20 nmoles, 15 min prior to (-)DOI) into the PVN dose-dependently prevented the desensitization of 5-HT $_{1A}$ receptors induced by the 5-HT $_{2A}$ receptor agonist (-)DOI. Double-label immunocytochemistry revealed a high degree of co-localization of 5-HT $_{1A}$ and 5-HT $_{2A}$ receptors in the oxytocin and corticotropin releasing factor (CRF) neurons of the PVN. Thus, activation of 5-HT $_{2A}$ receptors in the PVN may directly induce a heterologous desensitization of 5-HT $_{1A}$ receptors within individual neuroendocrine cells. These findings may provide insight into the long-term adaptation of 5-HT $_{1A}$ receptor signaling after changes in function of 5-HT $_{2A}$ receptors, for example during pharmacotherapy of mood disorders.

Introduction

The neurotransmitter serotonin (5-HT) plays an important role in mood and impulse control (Caspi et al., 2003). Like other phylogenetically old neurotransmitters, serotonin has many receptors, divided into 7 families (5-HT₁ – 5-HT₇). 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors have been particularly implicated in the regulation of mood. A functional imbalance may exist between 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors in brains of patients with mood disorders (Berendsen, 1995; Borsini, 1994). Long-term treatment with selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) produces a desensitization of hypothalamic 5-HT_{1A} receptors both in humans and in rats (Li et al., 1994; Berlin et al., 1998; Lerer et al., 1999; Raap et al., 1999), and alters the function of 5-HT_{2A} receptors (Cadogan et al., 1993; Tilakaratne et al., 1995; Li et al., 1997c; Damjanoska et al., 2003). Recent studies suggest that activation of 5-HT_{2A} receptors induces a desensitization of 5-HT_{1A} receptors (Valdez et al., 2002; Zhang et al., 2001). It is possible that SSRIs exert their therapeutic activity at least in part by restoring the balance of sensitivity between 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors. For example, combining a 5-HT_{2A} receptor antagonist, such as the atypical antipsychotic drug olanzapine with fluoxetine improves the therapeutic efficacy in treatment-resistant depression (Shelton et al., 2001; Thase, 2002). Additionally, the mechanism of the antipsychotic effects of atypical antipsychotic drugs may involve an intricate interaction between 5-HT_{2A} and 5-HT_{1A} receptors (Ichikawa et al., 2001; Millan, 2000). Thus, studying the interaction between 5-HT_{2A} and 5-HT_{1A} receptor systems could provide insight into the mechanisms underlying several neuropsychiatric disorders.

Studies in cell culture and *in vivo* suggest that a two-way interaction exists between 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors (Valdez et al., 2002; Hensler and Truett, 1998; Eison and Mullins, 1995; Darmani et al., 1990; Krebs-Thomson and Geyer, 1998; Maswood et al., 1996; Eison et al., 1993; Pranzatelli and Pluchino, 1991). One study indicates that 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors are

expressed by neurons in the frontal cortex (Martin-Ruiz et al., 2001). 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors and their mRNA are found in the hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus (PVN)(Appel et al., 1990;Li et al., 1997a;Wright et al., 1995;Gundlah et al., 1999). What is not known is whether 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors are co-expressed by the same neurons. Additionally, it is not clear that oxytocin and CRF neurons express 5-HT_{1A} and/or 5-HT_{2A} receptors. The present studies addressed these questions.

The sensitivity of 5-HT_{1A} receptors in the hypothalamus can be measured from the magnitude of increases in the plasma levels of oxytocin and ACTH, after an injection of the 5-HT_{1A} receptor agonist 8-OH-DPAT(Gilbert et al., 1988;Bagdy and Kalogeras, 1993;Meller and Bohmaker, 1994;Vicentic et al., 1998). Activation of 5-HT_{2A} receptors by a peripheral injection of the 5-HT_{2A/2C} receptor agonist DOI produces a functional heterologous desensitization of the 5-HT_{1A} receptors in the hypothalamus(Zhang et al., 2001). A peripheral injection of DOI directly activates 5-HT_{2A} receptors in the paraventricular nucleus as the effect can be blocked by an intraparaventricular injection of the 5-HT_{2A} antagonist MDL100,907(Van de Kar et al., 2001;Zhang et al., 2002). Therefore, the DOI-induced desensitization of hypothalamic 5-HT_{1A} receptor systems could result from a direct interaction between 5-HT_{2A} receptor signaling and 5-HT_{1A} receptor systems in the PVN.

The present studies were intended to determine whether 5-HT_{2A} receptors and 5-HT_{1A} receptors are co-expressed by oxytocin and CRF neurons in the PVN and to determine whether the activation of 5-HT_{2A} receptors in the PVN will result in desensitization of 5-HT_{1A} receptor signaling.

Materials and Methods

Animals

Male Sprague-Dawley rats (225-275 g) were purchased from Harlan Sprague-Dawley Inc. (Indianapolis, IN). The rats were housed two per cage in a temperature-, humidity- and light-controlled room (12 hr light/dark cycle, lights on 7:00 am - 7:00 pm). Food and water were available *ad libitum*. All procedures were conducted in accordance with the National Institutes of Health Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals as approved by Loyola University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.

Drugs

(+)-8-Hydroxy-2-(di-n-propylamino) tetralin hydrobromide [(+) 8-OH-DPAT] and (-)-1-(2,5-dimethoxy-4-iodophenyl)-2-aminopropane HCl [(-) DOI] were purchased from Research Biochemical Inc. (Natick, MA). (+)- α -(2,3-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-[2-(4-fluorophenylethyl)]-4-piperidinemethanol (MDL100,907) was donated by Hoechst Marion Roussel Research Institute (Cincinnati, OH).

(+) 8-OH-DPAT and (-) DOI were dissolved in 0.9 % saline. MDL100,907 was prepared by sonication in a minimal volume of 0.01N HCl containing 10 % of 2-hydroxypropyl- β -cyclodextrin (Sigma-RBI, Saint Louis, MO) and diluted with saline to the final concentrations of 10 and 20 mM respectively. All solutions were made fresh before administration.

Immunohistochemical and immunofluorescence labeling

Tissue Preparation

Sprague-Dawley rats (225-275 g) were anesthetized with sodium pentobarbital (60 mg/kg, ip) and perfused intra-cardially with 0.1 M phosphate-buffered saline (PBS, pH 7.4), followed by

0.1 M phosphate-buffered 4% formaldehyde (pH 7.4). The brains were removed and post-fixed for 2 hours at 4 °C, then stored overnight at 4 °C in 0.01 M PBS containing 30% sucrose. Serial coronal sections of the hypothalamus (30 µm) were cut with a freezing microtome and transferred into 0.01 M PBS containing 0.2 % sodium azide and stored at 4 °C.

Double labeling of 5-HT_{1A} receptors, 5-HT_{2A} receptors, oxytocin or CRF

Sections from 3 rats were exposed to microwave radiation (400 W, for 15 seconds) to retrieve 5-HT_{2A} receptor antigens (Fritschy et al., 1998). The sections were permeated with 0.2 % Triton X100 (Fisher Scientific Hanover Park, IL) for 40 minutes and placed in 3% hydrogen peroxide for 10 minutes, followed by 5 % blocking serum (the same species as the secondary antibody) for 1 hour at room temperature. The sections were sequentially labeled for 5-HT_{1A} receptors and 5-HT_{2A} receptors using 3, 3'-diaminobenzidine tetrahydrochloride (DAB) and Nickel-DAB (Ni-DAB) as the chromogens, respectively. Sections were incubated overnight at room temperature with a polyclonal guinea pig anti-5-HT_{1A} IgG (1:2000 dilution; Chemicon, Temecula, CA), followed by 1 hour incubation with a biotinylated goat anti-guinea pig immunoglobulin (dilution 1:1000, Vector Laboratories, Burlingame, CA) at room temperature. The sections were then incubated with avidin-biotinylated peroxidase complex (ABC; dilution, 1:200; Vector Laboratories, Burlingame, CA) for 40 minutes. The sections were then incubated in 0.05 M Tris-HCl containing 0.02 % (w/v) DAB in the presence of ammonium nickel sulfate (0.25 %) and 0.002% (v/v) hydrogen peroxide. The sections mounted on uncoated glass slides, were cover-slipped using Depex mounting media (BDH Lab Supplies). They immediately were photographed with a digital camera mounted on a microscope. The cover slips and sections were removed from the slides and the sections were washed in PBS and treated with 10 % hydrogen peroxide (10 min) to quench the residual peroxidase. The 5-HT_{2A} receptor labeling was performed using a monoclonal mouse anti-5-HT_{2A} IgG (1:200 dilution, Pharmingen, San Diego,

CA) and a biotinylated horse anti-mouse IgG (1:500 dilution, Vector Laboratories, Burlingame, CA). The peroxidase reaction was performed using DAB as the chromogen. Finally, the sections were rinsed, mounted on gelatin-coated slides and cover-slipped for light microscopy and digital photography.

The photographic images of the first labeling (5-HT_{1A} receptor) and the images after the second labeling (5-HT_{1A} & 5-HT_{2A} receptor) on the same section were compared using Adobe Photoshop software. Two sections (-1.53 and - 1.78 from bregma) were sampled per rat (3 rats in total) for quantification analysis. The number of neurons immunopositive for 5-HT_{1A} or 5-HT_{2A} receptors, and the number of double-labeled neurons for both 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors were counted in the magnocellular and parvocellular regions, respectively, on one side of the paraventricular nucleus. The percentages of double labeled neurons with respect to 5-HT_{1A} or 5-HT_{2A} receptor immunopositive neurons were calculated in each rat for magnocellular and parvocellular regions, respectively. The percentages were then averaged for three rats.

The same procedure as described above was used to double stain CRF or oxytocin expressing cells for 5-HT_{1A} or 5-HT_{2A} receptors. 5-HT_{1A} or 5-HT_{2A} receptor were always stained first in the sequence followed by oxytocin or CRF. Both the oxytocin antibody (dilution 1:8000; provided by S. J. Watson, University of Michigan) and CRF antibody (dilutions 15:000, John Olschowska, University of Rochester) were rabbit polyclonal antibodies. The percentage of 5-HT_{1A} or 5-HT_{2A} receptor immunoreactive oxytocin expressing neurons was quantified as described above. We were unable to quantify the percentages of CRF neurons in the PVN that were immunoreactive for 5-HT_{1A} or 5-HT_{2A} receptors due to the treatment with colchicine and the low sensitivity of detection of CRF neurons in our samples from rats that were not treated with colchicine.

Triple-labeling of 5-HT_{2A} and 5-HT_{1A} receptors and oxytocin

After pre-treatment of the sections as described above, the sections were incubated overnight at room temperature with a monoclonal mouse anti-5-HT_{2A} IgG (dilution 1:50 with PBS buffer; Pharmingen, San Diego, CA), followed by 1 hr incubation with fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC)-conjugated affinity pure donkey anti-mouse IgG (dilution 1:200 with PBS buffer, Jackson Immunoresearch, West Grove, PA). Subsequently, the sections were stained with a polyclonal guinea pig anti-5-HT_{1A} IgG (dilution 1:200 with PBS buffer, Chemicon, Temecula, CA), followed by Rhodamine-Red-X-conjugated affinity pure donkey anti-Guinea Pig IgG (dilution 1:200 with PBS, Jackson Immunoresearch, West Grove, PA). Background autoimmune fluorescence was reduced by treating the sections with 1% Sudan black for 5 minutes. The sections were mounted and cover-slipped with immunofluorescence mounting medium (H-1000, Vector Laboratories, Burlingame, CA), and examined under an immunofluorescence microscope and photographed. The sections were then rinsed in methanol to remove the Sudan Black, and washed thoroughly in PBS buffer. The oxytocin neurons were immunohistochemically labeled using DAB as the chromogen. The sections were then coverslipped for light microscopy and photography.

Control Experiments: Specificity of the 5-HT_{1A} receptor antibody

The polyclonal guinea pig anti-5-HT_{1A} immunoglobulin was pre-absorbed with its blocking peptide (Alpha Diagnostic Intl. Inc., San Antonio, TX). The control sections were treated exactly the same as the experimental sections except that the diluent of the primary antibody or the pre-absorbed antibody was applied instead of the primary antibody. The pre-absorbed 5-HT_{1A} immunoglobulin was also verified using Western blot analysis.

Experimental Protocol

Cannula implantation and intra-paraventricular injection were performed according to the procedures described in detail in previous publication (Zhang et al., 2002). Ten days after cannula implantation, the rats were handled for 4 consecutive days and then randomly assigned to different experimental groups (8 rats for saline injected groups and 13-15 rats for (-) DOI injected groups). Rats received an intra-paraventricular injection (0.5 µl/side) of vehicle or different doses of MDL100,907 (10 and 20 nmoles, 0.5 µl/side). 15 minutes after the intra-paraventricular injections, the rats received an injection of (-) DOI (1 mg/kg, sc) or saline. Two hours after the injection of (-)DOI, the rats received an injection of saline or (+) 8-OH-DPAT (40 µg/kg, sc) and sacrificed by decapitation 15 min after the injection of (+) 8-OH-DPAT. The blood was collected in centrifuge tubes containing a 0.5 ml solution of 0.3 M EDTA, pH 7.4. After centrifugation, the plasma was stored at -70 °C for radioimmunoassays of plasma hormones. The brains were frozen on dry ice and saved for a histological verification of the position of the cannula. Only animals with the tip of the cannula positioned on the dorsal border of the hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus and with intact neurons in this nucleus were used for data analysis.

Radioimmunoassays

Plasma oxytocin and ACTH concentrations were determined by radioimmunoassays as described in detail in previous publications (Li et al., 1993;Li et al., 1997b).

Statistical analyses:

The data are presented as the group means and the standard errors of the mean (S. E. M.), and analyzed by one-way analyses of variance (ANOVA). Post-hoc tests were conducted using Newman-Keuls' multiple-range test. A computer program (GBSTAT, Silver Spring, MD) was used for the statistical analyses.

Results

Specificity of the 5-HT_{1A} receptor antibody

A high density of 5-HT_{1A} receptor-like immunoreactivity was observed in the dorsal raphe nucleus and the hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus (Figure 1A, 1D). Pre- adsorption of the 5-HT_{1A} receptor antibody with its blocking peptide greatly reduced the immunoreactivity (Figure 1B, 1E). No 5-HT_{1A} receptor- immunoreactivity was observed when the 5-HT_{1A} receptor antibody was omitted from the immunohistochemical procedure (Figure 1F). Furthermore, immunoblot analysis detected two immunopositive bands corresponding to the molecular weight of 5-HT_{1A} receptors (~ 46 kD) in homogenates of the rat frontal cortex. After pre- adsorption of the antibody with its blocking peptide, the immunoreactive bands were barely detectable (Figure 1C).

Co-expression of 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors by neurons in the hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus

Double-label immunohistochemistry revealed that 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors are co-expressed by neurons in the PVN (Figure 2). Nearly all magnocellular neurons were immunoreactive for 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors in the PVN. A moderate number of 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptor immunoreactive neurons were located in the parvocellular part of the PVN. Most the cells that expressed one of the 5-HT receptors expressed both 5-HT receptor subtypes.

We also observed co-expression of 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors in the supraoptic nucleus as well as in accessory magnocellular neurons scattered between the paraventricular and supraoptic nuclei of the hypothalamus. As shown in Table 1, the percentages of 5-HT_{2A} receptor immunopositive neurons that were immunopositive for 5-HT_{1A} receptors were 97 % in the magnocellular region and 95 % in the parvicellular region. In a reversed order, the percentages

of 5-HT_{1A} receptor immunopositive neurons that were immunopositive for 5-HT_{2A} receptors were 96 % in the magnocellular region and 97 % in the parvicellular region.

Oxytocin and CRF neurons in the PVN expression both 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors

Immunohistochemical double labeling of 5-HT_{1A} or 5-HT_{2A} receptors, and oxytocin revealed that oxytocin neurons in the PVN were 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptor-immunopositive (Figure 3, Panel I). 94 % of the oxytocin neurons were immunopositive for 5-HT_{1A} receptors, and 97 % of the oxytocin neurons were immunopositive for 5-HT_{2A} receptors (Table 2). Immunofluorescence double labeling confirmed that 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors were co-expressed by neurons in the PVN (Figure 4A and B). A subpopulation of the neurons co-expressing 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors were oxytocin-containing neurons (Figure 3C). CRF-immunoreactive neurons in the hypothalamic PVN also expressed 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptor immunoreactivity (Fig. 4A-D). We were not able to quantify the degree of co-existence of CRF neurons with 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors due to the lower sensitivity of detection of CRF neurons by CRF antibodies. However, 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptor immunoreactivity did not appear to nearly approach the high level of co-expression observed in oxytocin neurons.

Microinjection of MDL100,907 into the PVN prevents (-) DOI-induced inhibition of oxytocin and ACTH responses to (+) 8-OH-DPAT

Microinjection of the 5-HT_{2A} receptor antagonist MDL100,907 into the hypothalamic PVN or subcutaneous injection of (-)DOI did not alter the basal plasma levels of oxytocin or ACTH. The injection of (+) 8-OH-DPAT significantly elevated the plasma levels of oxytocin by 845 % and ACTH by 235 % (Figure 5). (-) DOI (injected at 2.25 hr prior to blood sampling) significantly inhibited the (+) 8-OH-DPAT-induced increase in the plasma levels of oxytocin (88 %) and ACTH (79 %). DOI injected alone 2.25 hr prior to blood sampling did not alter the

plasma levels of oxytocin or ACTH. The intra-PVN injection of MDL100,907 dose-dependently reversed the inhibitory effect of (-) DOI on the oxytocin and ACTH responses to (+) 8-OH-DPAT ($p < 0.01$, Newman-Keuls test). MDL100,907 reversed the inhibitory effect of (-) DOI on oxytocin response to (+) 8-OH-DPAT by 47 % at the dose of 10 nmoles and by 90 % at the dose of 20 nmoles (Figure 6A). Similarly, the inhibitory effect of (-) DOI on ACTH response to (+) 8-OH-DPAT was dose-dependently reversed by MDL100,907 at the doses of 10 nmoles (97 %) and 20 nmoles (100 %), respectively (Figure 6B).

Discussion

The present studies are the first to provide *in vivo* evidence that 5-HT_{2A} receptor-mediated desensitization of 5-HT_{1A} receptor functioning occurs in the hypothalamic PVN. The data also indicate that 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors are co-expressed by oxytocin and CRF neurons in the hypothalamic PVN. Thus, it is highly likely that activation of 5-HT_{2A} receptors produces a functional desensitization of hypothalamic 5-HT_{1A} receptor signaling in individual oxytocin and CRF neurons in the PVN.

Studies in cell culture did not indicate an interaction between 5-HT_{2A} receptors and 5-HT_{1A} receptors (Saitoh et al., 1995). Our previous studies in rats (Zhang et al., 2001) indicate that a single administration of the 5-HT_{2A} receptor agonist DOI induces a functional desensitization of 5-HT_{1A} receptors that regulate the secretion of ACTH and oxytocin. Studies from other laboratories (Valdez et al., 2002; Hensler et al., 1998) indicate that repeated daily injections of DOI also produce a desensitization of 5-HT_{1A} receptor-induced hypothermia. Furthermore, repeated daily injections of DOI reduce the coupling between 5-HT_{1A} receptors and G proteins in the anterior cingulate cortex (Valdez et al., 2002). However, these phenomena could represent an inter-neuronal interaction rather than a heterologous desensitization between two receptor systems expressed by the same neurons. The current studies examined the hypothesis that an intra-neuronal interaction between 5-HT_{2A} and 5-HT_{1A} receptors is possible.

8-OH-DPAT is a selective 5-HT_{1A} receptor agonist with a high affinity for 5-HT_{1A} receptors and 10 to 100 fold lower affinities for other serotonin receptors (Hoyer et al., 1994). The affinity of 8-OH-DPAT for 5-HT₇ receptors (pK_i=7.73) (Sleight et al., 1995) is about 10 fold lower than its affinity for 5-HT_{1A} receptors (pK_i= 8.4) (Olivier et al., 1999). We have previously tested the specificity of the effect of 8-OH-DPAT by examining its ability to release hormones in the presence of antagonists. An increase in plasma levels of oxytocin and ACTH induced by 8-OH-DPAT is blocked by the 5-HT_{1A} receptor antagonists WAY100635, NAN190 and pindolol

(Bagdy et al., 1993; Critchley et al., 1994; Meller et al., 1994; Vicentic et al., 1998). Thus, an alteration in plasma levels of oxytocin and ACTH after an injection with (+) 8-OH-DPAT is not mediated by activation of 5-HT₇ receptors and can be used to measure changes in the sensitivity of hypothalamic 5-HT_{1A} receptors.

DOI is the most selective 5-HT_{2A/2C} receptor agonist available to date with similar affinities for 5-HT_{2A} and 5-HT_{2C} receptors (Hoyer, 1988; Van Wijngaarden et al., 1990). DOI-induced increase in Fos expression in neurons of the paraventricular nucleus and elevation of plasma levels of oxytocin and ACTH are blocked by the 5-HT_{2A} receptor antagonist MDL100,907 (Van de Kar et al., 2001). Thus, DOI stimulates neuroendocrine neurons in the PVN by activating 5-HT_{2A} receptors.

Activation of 5-HT_{2A} receptors with DOI increases the plasma levels of oxytocin and ACTH with a peak response at 15 and 30 min respectively after DOI injection and a return to basal levels by 1-2 hr post-injection (Bagdy, 1996; Damjanoska et al., 2003). At 2 hrs after an injection of DOI, both hormones would have returned to basal level. Our previous experiment indicates that the 5-HT_{2A} receptor-mediated desensitization of 5-HT_{1A} receptors is maximal at 2 hours post-injection of DOI (Zhang et al., 2001). For this reason, the injection of 8-OH-DPAT was performed 2 hours after the injection of DOI, at a time when the levels of ACTH and oxytocin would have returned to basal levels after the previous injection of DOI.

In our previous study (Zhang et al., 2001), the DOI-mediated heterologous desensitization of the hormone response to 8-OH-DPAT was pharmacologically characterized as a right-shift in the hormone responses to 8-OH-DPAT with not change in the maximal response (E_{max}). Depletion of hormone stores by prior injection of DOI would more likely result in reduced E_{max} as insufficient hormone stores would be available for secretion. The fact that the reduction of hormone responses to 8-OH-DPAT was characterized as a right-shift in the dose-response curve (increased ED₅₀) rather than a reduced E_{max} suggests that this reduced hormone response to

injection of 8-OH-DPAT is not due to hormone depleting effects of the prior injection of DOI (Zhang et al., 2001).

MDL100,907 is a selective 5-HT_{2A} receptor antagonist (pK_i = 9.07) with a lower affinity for other serotonin receptors (Johnson et al., 1996; Kehne et al., 1996). Low doses of MDL100,907 (0.75 to 18.7 nmoles) microinjected into the hypothalamic PVN dose-dependently inhibit hormone responses to peripherally injected (-) DOI (Zhang et al., 2002). Accordingly, we injected doses of 10 nmoles and 20 nmoles of MDL100,907 into the hypothalamic PVN to produce partial and complete blockade, respectively, of 5-HT_{2A} receptors in the PVN. In the present study, the intra-PVN injection of similar doses of MDL100,907 prevented the DOI-induced desensitization of 5-HT_{1A} receptor signaling. These observations suggest that either that 5-HT_{2A} receptors interact directly with 5-HT_{1A} receptors in neurons of the hypothalamic PVN or that hypothalamic neurons expressing 5-HT_{2A} receptors interact with other hypothalamic neurons that express 5-HT_{1A} receptors. The immunocytochemical observations suggest that a direct intracellular interaction occurs between these receptor signaling systems.

Western blot analyses of 5-HT_{1A} receptors have revealed protein bands of different molecular mass: 40 kD, 67 kD and 70 kD (Zhou et al., 1999; Anthony and Azmitia, 1997). We found two immunopositive bands corresponding to the molecular mass of 5-HT_{1A} receptors (~ 46 kDa) (Raymond et al., 1999). 5-HT_{1A} receptors have consensus sequences for post-translational modifications such as glycosylation and phosphorylation (Albert et al., 1990; Anthony et al., 1997; Wu et al., 2002; Zhou et al., 1999). 5-HT_{1A} receptors are differently modified in different tissues, and thus antibodies for different epitopes may recognize various forms of 5-HT_{1A} receptors that are modified by post-translational mechanisms.

The specificity of 5-HT_{1A} receptor-like immunoreactivity observed in the hypothalamic PVN was verified by pre-adsorption of the 5-HT_{1A} receptor antibody with its blocking peptide (Figure 1). Moreover, this antibody detected a similar pattern of 5-HT_{1A} receptor-like

immunoreactivity in other brain regions as previously reported, such as dorsal raphe nucleus and hippocampus(Kia et al., 1996). Thus, the immunopositive neurons observed in the hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus most likely represent the labeling of 5-HT_{1A} receptors. The specificity of the 5-HT_{2A} receptor antibody was discussed in a previous paper(Zhang et al., 2002). The CRF and oxytocin antibodies have been used by us before(Javed et al., 1999;Van de Kar et al., 2001) and their immunocytochemical staining is consistent with the neuroanatomical location of oxytocin and CRF neurons in the PVN(Alves et al., 1998;Piekut and Joseph, 1986).

The hypothesis of a heterologous desensitization, that presupposes a co-expression of both receptors in the same cells, is supported by a high degree of co-expression of 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors by neurons in the hypothalamic PVN (> 95 %). Neurons in the frontal cortex have also been reported to co-express 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors (Martin-Ruiz et al., 2001). We observed that 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors were co-expressed throughout all magnocellular regions of the PVN. A subpopulation of the magnocellular neurons co-expressing 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors are oxytocin neurons. This suggests that other magnocellular neuroendocrine cells such as vasopressin neurons also co-express 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors. CRF neurons were separately examined, using colchicine pre-treatment to increase the levels of CRF in neurons. Double labeling immunohistochemistry revealed that 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors are also co-expressed by CRF neurons. However, due to the small size of CRF neurons and morphological changes in the neurons caused by colchicine pre-treatment, we were unable to quantify the percentages of CRF neurons that co-express 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors. Combined, these data suggest that 5-HT_{2A} receptors may interact with 5-HT_{1A} receptors through their signaling proteins to regulate hormone release.

Activation of both 5-HT_{2A} and 5-HT_{1A} receptors in the PVN increases the plasma levels of oxytocin and ACTH(Zhang et al., 2002;Bagdy, 1996). The observation that CRF and oxytocin neurons express both 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors suggests that the serotonergic stimulation of

oxytocin and ACTH release occurs by direct activation of these receptors, rather than by stimulation of inter-neurons. Hence, the increase in plasma levels of ACTH and oxytocin, after injection of a 5-HT_{1A} receptor agonist is a clinically useful peripheral marker of the functional status of hypothalamic 5-HT_{1A} receptor signaling.

The mechanisms underlying the heterologous desensitization of 5-HT_{1A} receptors by 5-HT_{2A} receptors in the hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus await further investigation. The rapid onset of the 5-HT_{2A} receptor-mediated desensitization of hypothalamic 5-HT_{1A} receptors (maximal effect at 2 hrs post injection of DOI)(Zhang et al., 2001) suggests that post-translational modification mechanisms may be involved. Cell culture studies indicate that 5-HT_{1A} receptors are subject to regulation by phosphorylation, palmitoylation and myristoylation(Raymond, 1991;Raymond and Olsen, 1994;Fields and Casey, 1995;Glick et al., 1998;Morales et al., 1998;Tu et al., 1997;Hallak et al., 1994). On the other hand, 5-HT_{2A} receptors may reduce 5-HT_{1A} receptor function via a cyclooxygenase-dependent metabolite of arachidonic acid(Evans et al., 2001).

In summary, 5-HT_{1A} receptors and 5-HT_{2A} receptors are co-localized in the same neurons, particularly in oxytocin and CRF neurons and likely other hormone-releasing neurons in the hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus. 5-HT_{2A} receptors interact with 5-HT_{1A} receptors, likely in the same neurons of the paraventricular nucleus, producing a heterologous desensitization of 5-HT_{1A} receptors. Our studies provide a combination of pharmacological and neuroanatomical evidence that 5-HT_{2A} receptors may directly cross talk to 5-HT_{1A} receptors that regulate neuroendocrine function *in vivo*. Considering the prominent role of 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors in the regulation of mood, the observations of their high degree of co-localization and potential intracellular interaction could lead to the development of novel treatments for mood disorders.

Acknowledgements: The authors are grateful to Dr. Lanny C. Keil from the NASA Ames Research Center (Moffat Field, Ca) for the oxytocin antiserum and to Hoechst Marion Roussel Research Institute (Cincinnati, OH) for the sample of MDL 100,907.

Reference List

- Albert PR, Zhou QY, Van Tol HH, Bunzow JR, and Civelli O (1990) Cloning, functional expression, and mRNA tissue distribution of the rat 5-hydroxytryptamine_{1A} receptor gene. *J.Biol.Chem.* **265**:5825-5832.
- Alves SE, Lopez V, McEwen BS, and Weiland NG (1998) Differential colocalization of estrogen receptor beta (ERbeta) with oxytocin and vasopressin in the paraventricular and supraoptic nuclei of the female rat brain: an immunocytochemical study. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* **95**:3281-3286.
- Anthony TE and Azmitia EC (1997) Molecular characterization of antipeptide antibodies against the 5-HT_{1A} receptor: evidence for state-dependent antibody binding. *Mol.Brain Res.* **50**:277-284.
- Appel NM, Mitchell WM, Garlick RK, Glennon RA, Teiteler M, and de Souza EB (1990) Autoradiographic characterization of (±)-1-(2,5-dimethoxy-4-[¹²⁵I]iodophenyl)-2-aminopropane ([¹²⁵I]DOI) binding to 5-HT₂ and 5-HT_{1c} receptors in rat brain. *J.Pharmacol.Exp.Ther.* **255**:843-857.
- Bagdy G (1996) Role of the hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus in 5-HT_{1A}, 5-HT_{2A} and 5-HT_{2C} receptor-mediated oxytocin, prolactin and ACTH/corticosterone responses. *Behav.Brain Res.* **73**:277-280.
- Bagdy G and Kalogeras KT (1993) Stimulation of 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT₂/5-HT_{1C} receptors induce oxytocin release in the male rat. *Brain Res.* **611**:330-332.
- Berendsen HHG (1995) Interactions between 5-hydroxytryptamine receptor subtypes: Is a disturbed receptor balance contributing to the symptomatology of depression in humans. *Pharmacol.Ther.* **66**:17-37.
- Berlin I, Warot D, Legout V, Guillemant S, Schöllnhammer G, and Puech AJ (1998) Blunted 5-HT_{1A}-receptor agonist-induced corticotropin and cortisol responses after long-term ipsapirone and fluoxetine administration to healthy subjects. *Clin.Pharmacol.Ther.* **63**:428-436.
- Borsini F (1994) Balance between cortical 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT₂ receptor function: hypothesis for a faster antidepressant action. *Pharmacological Research* **30**:1-11.
- Cadogan AK, Marsden CA, Tulloch I, and Kendall DA (1993) Evidence that chronic administration of paroxetine or fluoxetine enhances 5-HT₂ receptor function in the brain of the guinea pig. *Neuropharmacology* **32**:249-256.
- Caspi A, Sugden K, Moffitt TE, Taylor A, Craig IW, Harrington H, McClay J, Mill J, Martin J, Braithwaite A, and Poulton R (2003) Influence of life stress on depression: moderation by a polymorphism in the 5-HTT gene. *Science* **301**:386-389.
- Critchley DJP, Childs KJ, Middlefell VC, and Dourish CT (1994) Inhibition of 8-OH-DPAT-induced elevation of plasma corticotrophin by the 5-HT_{1A} receptor antagonist WAY100635. *Eur.J.Pharmacol.* **264**:95-97.
- Damjanoska KJ, Van de Kar LD, Kindel GH, Zhang Y, D'Souza DN, Garcia F, Battaglia G, and Muma NA (2003) Chronic fluoxetine differentially affects 5-HT_{2A} receptor signaling in frontal cortex, oxytocin and corticotropin releasing factor (CRF)-containing neurons in rat paraventricular nucleus. *J.Pharmacol.Exp.Ther.* **306**:563-571.
- Darmani NA, Martin BR, Pandey U, and Glennon RA (1990) Do functional relationships exist between 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT₂ receptors? *Pharmacol.Biochem.Behav.* **36**:901-906.
- Eison AS and Mullins UL (1995) Regulation of central 5-HT_{2A} receptors: A review of in vivo studies. *Behav.Brain Res.* **73**:177-181.
- Eison AS, Wright RN, Freeman RP, and Gylys JA (1993) 5-HT-dependent myoclonus in guinea pigs: mediation through 5-HT_{1A}-5-HT₂ receptor interaction. *Brain Res.Bull.* **30**:687-689.

- Evans KL, Cropper JD, Berg KA, and Clarke WP (2001) Mechanisms of regulation of agonist efficacy at the 5-HT_{1A} receptor by phospholipid-derived signaling components. *J.Pharmacol.Exp.Ther.* **297**:1025-1035.
- Fields TA and Casey PJ (1995) Phosphorylation of G_z alpha by protein kinase C blocks interaction with the beta gamma complex. *J.Biol.Chem.* **270**:23119-23125.
- Fritschy JM, Weinmann O, Wenzel A, and Benke D (1998) Synapse-specific localization of NMDA and GABA(A) receptor subunits revealed by antigen-retrieval immunohistochemistry. *J.Comp Neurol.* **390**:194-210.
- Gilbert F, Brazell C, Tricklebank MD, and Stahl SM (1988) Activation of the 5-HT_{1A} receptor subtype increases rat plasma ACTH concentration. *Eur.J.Pharmacol.* **147**:431-439.
- Glick JL, Meigs TE, Miron A, and Casey PJ (1998) RGSZ1, a G_z-selective regulator of G protein signaling whose action is sensitive to the phosphorylation state of G_zα. *J.Biol.Chem.* **273**:26008-26013.
- Gundlach C, Pecins-Thompson M, Schutzer WE, and Bethea CL (1999) Ovarian steroid effects on serotonin 1A, 2A and 2C receptor mRNA in macaque hypothalamus. *Brain Res.Mol.Brain Res.* **63**:325-339.
- Hallak H, Brass LF, and Manning DR (1994) Failure to myristoylate the alpha subunit of G_z is correlated with an inhibition of palmitoylation and membrane attachment, but has no effect on phosphorylation by protein kinase C. *J.Biol.Chem.* **269**:4571-4576.
- Hensler JG and Truett KA (1998) Effect of chronic serotonin-₂ receptor agonist or antagonist administration on serotonin-_{1A} receptor sensitivity. *Neuropsychopharmacology* **19**:354-364.
- Hoyer D (1988) Molecular pharmacology and biology of 5-HT_{1C} receptors. *Trends Pharmacol.Sci.* **9**:89-94.
- Hoyer D, Clarke DE, Fozard JR, Hartig PR, Martin GR, Mylecharane EJ, Saxena PR, and Humphrey PPA (1994) VII. International Union of Pharmacology classification of receptors for 5-hydroxytryptamine (serotonin). *Pharmacol.Rev.* **46**:157-204.
- Ichikawa J, Ishii H, Bonaccorso S, Fowler WL, O'Laughlin IA, and Meltzer HY (2001) 5-HT_{2A} and D₂ receptor blockade increases cortical DA release via 5-HT_{1A} receptor activation: a possible mechanism of atypical antipsychotic-induced cortical dopamine release. *Journal of Neurochemistry* **76**:1521-1531.
- Javed A, Kamradt MC, Van de Kar LD, and Gray TS (1999) D-fenfluramine induces serotonin-mediated Fos expression in corticotropin-releasing factor and oxytocin neurons of the hypothalamus, and serotonin-independent Fos expression in enkephalin and neurotensin neurons of the amygdala. *Neuroscience* **90**:851-858.
- Johnson MP, Siegel BW, and Carr AA (1996) [³H]MDL 100,907: A novel selective 5-HT_{2A} receptor ligand. *Naunyn Schmiedebergs Arch.Pharmacol.* **354**:205-209.
- Kehne JH, Baron BM, Carr AA, Chaney SF, Elands J, Feldman DJ, Frank RA, Van Giersbergen PLM, McCloskey TC, Johnson MP, Mccarty DR, Poirot M, Senyah Y, Siegel BW, and Widmaier C (1996) Preclinical characterization of the potential of the putative atypical antipsychotic MDL 100,907 as a potent 5-HT_{2A} antagonist with a favorable CNS safety profile. *J.Pharmacol.Exp.Ther.* **277**:968-981.
- Kia HK, Miquel MC, Brisorgueil MJ, Daval G, Riad M, El Mestikawy S, Hamon M, and Vergé D (1996) Immunocytochemical localization of serotonin_{1A} receptors in the rat central nervous system. *J.Comp.Neurol.* **365**:289-305.
- Krebs-Thomson K and Geyer MA (1998) Evidence for a functional interaction between 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT₂ receptors in rats. *Psychopharmacology (Berl)* **140**:69-74.
- Lerer B, Gelfin Y, Gorfine M, Allolio B, Lesch KP, and Newman ME (1999) 5-HT_{1A} receptor function in normal subjects on clinical doses of fluoxetine: Blunted temperature and hormone responses to ipsapirone challenge. *Neuropsychopharmacology* **20**:628-639.

- Li Q, Battaglia G, and Van de Kar LD (1997a) Autoradiographic evidence for differential G-protein coupling of 5-HT_{1A} receptors in the rat brain: lack of effect by repeated injections of fluoxetine. *Brain Res.* **769**:141-151.
- Li Q, Brownfield MS, Battaglia G, Cabrera TM, Levy AD, Rittenhouse PA, and Van de Kar LD (1993) Long-term treatment with the antidepressants fluoxetine and desipramine potentiates endocrine responses to the serotonin agonists 6-chloro-2-[1-piperazinyl]-pyrazine (MK-212) and (±)-1-(2,5-dimethoxy-4-iodophenyl)-2-aminopropane HCl (DOI). *J.Pharmacol.Exp.Ther.* **266**:836-844.
- Li Q, Brownfield MS, Levy AD, Battaglia G, Cabrera TM, and Van de Kar LD (1994) Attenuation of hormone responses to the 5-HT_{1A} agonist ipsapirone by long-term treatment with fluoxetine, but not desipramine, in male rats. *Biol.Psychiatry* **36**:300-308.
- Li Q, Muma NA, Battaglia G, and Van de Kar LD (1997b) A desensitization of hypothalamic 5-HT_{1A} receptors by repeated injections of paroxetine: reduction in the levels of G_i and G_o proteins and neuroendocrine responses, but not in the density of 5-HT_{1A} receptors. *J.Pharmacol.Exp.Ther.* **282**:1581-1590.
- Li Q, Muma NA, Battaglia G, and Van de Kar LD (1997c) Fluoxetine gradually increases [¹²⁵I]DOI-labelled 5-HT_{2A/2C} receptors in the hypothalamus without changing the levels of G_q- and G₁₁-proteins. *Brain Res.* **775**:225-228.
- Martin-Ruiz R, Puig MV, Celada P, Shapiro DA, Roth BL, Mengod G, and Artigas F (2001) Control of serotonergic function in medial prefrontal cortex by serotonin-2A receptors through a glutamate-dependent mechanism. *J.Neurosci.* **21**:9856-9866.
- Maswood S, Andrade M, Caldarola-Pastuszka M, and Uphouse L (1996) Protective actions of the 5-HT_{2A/2C} receptor agonist, DOI, on 5-HT_{1A} receptor-mediated inhibition of lordosis behavior. *Neuropharmacology* **35**:497-501.
- Meller E and Bohmaker K (1994) Differential receptor reserve for 5-HT_{1A} receptor-mediated regulation of plasma neuroendocrine hormones. *J.Pharmacol.Exp.Ther.* **271**:1246-1252.
- Millan MJ (2000) Improving the treatment of schizophrenia: Focus on serotonin (5-HT)_{1A} receptors. *J.Pharmacol.Exp.Ther.* **295**:853-861.
- Morales J, Fishburn CS, Wilson PT, and Bourne HR (1998) Plasma membrane localization of G alpha z requires two signals. *Molecular Biology of the Cell* **9**:1-14.
- Olivier B, Soudijn W, and van W, I (1999) The 5-HT_{1A} receptor and its ligands: structure and function. *Prog.Drug Res.* **52**:103-165.
- Piekut DT and Joseph SA (1986) Co-existence of CRF and vasopressin immunoreactivity in parvocellular paraventricular neurons of rat hypothalamus. *Peptides* **7**:891-898.
- Pranzatelli MR and Pluchino RS (1991) The relation of central 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT₂ receptors: low dose agonist-induced selective tolerance in the rat. *Pharmacol.Biochem.Behav.* **39**:407-413.
- Raap DK, Evans S, Garcia F, Li Q, Muma NA, Wolf WA, Battaglia G, and Van de Kar LD (1999) Daily injections of fluoxetine induce dose-dependent desensitization of hypothalamic 5-HT_{1A} receptors: reductions in neuroendocrine responses to 8-OH-DPAT and in levels of G_z and G_i proteins. *J.Pharmacol.Exp.Ther.* **288**:98-106.
- Raymond JR (1991) Protein kinase C induces phosphorylation and desensitization of the human 5-HT_{1A} receptor. *J.Biol.Chem.* **266**:14747-14753.
- Raymond JR, Mukhin YV, Gettys TW, and Garnovskaya MN (1999) The recombinant 5-HT_{1A} receptor: G protein coupling and signalling pathways. *British Journal of Pharmacology* **127**:1751-1764.
- Raymond JR and Olsen CL (1994) Protein kinase A induces phosphorylation of the human 5-HT_{1A} receptor and augments its desensitization by protein kinase C in CHO-K1 cells. *Biochemistry* **33**:11264-11269.

- Saitoh K, Mikuni M, Ikeda M, Yamazaki C, Tomita U, and Takahashi K (1995) Serotonin-induced 5-HT_{1A} receptor desensitization in C6BU-1 glioma cells transfected with 5-HT_{1A} receptor gene. *Neurosci.Lett.* **199**:191-194.
- Shelton RC, Tollefson GD, Tohen M, Stahl S, Gannon KS, Jacobs TG, Buras WR, Bymaster FP, Zhang W, Spencer KA, Feldman PD, and Meltzer HY (2001) A novel augmentation strategy for treating resistant major depression. *Am.J.Psychiatry* **158**:131-134.
- Sleight AJ, Carolo C, Petit N, Zwingeststein C, and Bourson A (1995) Identification of 5-hydroxytryptamine₇ receptor binding sites in rat hypothalamus: sensitivity to chronic antidepressant treatment. *Mol.Pharmacol.* **47**:99-103.
- Thase ME (2002) What role do atypical antipsychotic drugs have in treatment-resistant depression? *J.Clin.Psychiatry* **63**:95-103.
- Tilakaratne N, Yang ZL, and Friedman E (1995) Chronic fluoxetine or desmethylimipramine treatment alters 5-HT₂ receptor mediated c-fos gene expression. *Eur.J.Pharmacol.Mol.Pharmacol.* **290**:263-266.
- Tu YP, Wang J, and Ross EM (1997) Inhibition of brain G_z GAP and other RGS proteins by palmitoylation of G protein α subunits. *Science* **278**:1132-1135.
- Valdez A, Burke TF, and Hensler JG (2002) Selective heterologous regulation of 5-HT_{1A} receptor-stimulated [³⁵S]GTP γ S binding in the anterior cingulate cortex as a result of 5-HT₂ receptor activation. *Brain Research* **957**:174-182.
- Van de Kar LD, Javed A, Zhang YH, Serres F, Raap DK, and Gray TS (2001) 5-HT_{2A} receptors stimulate ACTH, corticosterone, oxytocin, renin, and prolactin release and activate hypothalamic CRF and oxytocin-expressing cells. *Journal of Neuroscience* **21**:3572-3579.
- Van Wijngaarden I, Tulp MTM, and Soudijn W (1990) The concept of selectivity in 5-HT receptor research. *Eur.J.Pharmacol.* **188**:301-312.
- Vicentic A, Li Q, Battaglia G, and Van de Kar LD (1998) WAY-100635 inhibits 8-OH-DPAT stimulated oxytocin, ACTH, and corticosterone, but not prolactin secretion. *Eur.J.Pharmacol.* **346**:261-266.
- Wright DE, Seroogy KB, Lundgren KH, Davis BM, and Jennes L (1995) Comparative localization of serotonin_{1A}, _{1C}, and ₂ receptor subtype mRNAs in rat brain. *J.Comp.Neurol.* **351**:357-373.
- Wu X, Kushwaha N, Albert PR, and Penington NJ (2002) A critical protein kinase C phosphorylation site on the 5-HT_{1A} receptor controlling coupling to N-type calcium channels. *Journal of Physiology* **538**:41-51.
- Zhang Y, D'Souza D, Raap DK, Garcia F, Battaglia G, Muma NA, and Van de Kar LD (2001) Characterization of the functional heterologous desensitization of hypothalamic 5-HT_{1A} receptors after 5-HT_{2A} receptor activation. *Journal of Neuroscience* **21**:7919-7927.
- Zhang Y, Damjanoska KJ, Carrasco GA, Dudas B, D'Souza DN, Tetzlaff J, Garcia F, Hanley NR, Scripathirathan K, Petersen BR, Gray TS, Battaglia G, Muma NA, and Van de Kar LD (2002) Evidence that 5-HT_{2A} receptors in the hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus mediate neuroendocrine responses to (-)DOI. *J.Neurosci.* **22**:9635-9642.
- Zhou FC, Patel TD, Swartz D, Xu Y, and Kelley MR (1999) Production and characterization of an anti-serotonin 1A receptor antibody which detects functional 5-HT_{1A} binding sites. *Mol.Brain Res.* **69**:186-201.

footnotes

¹Supported in part by USPHS RO1 NS 34153, RO1 MH 58448 and RO1 DA13669 (LDVDK),

RO1 NS38059 (NAM), and RO1 MH60687 (GB)

Reprint Request: Louis D. Van de Kar, Ph.D.

Department of Pharmacology

Loyola University of Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine

2160 South First Avenue

Maywood, Illinois 60153

Phone: 708-216-3263

Fax: 708-216-6596

e-mail: lvandek@lumc.edu

TABLES

Table 1: The percent of neurons that are immunopositive for 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors in the hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus (PVN)

		rat 1 %	rat 2 %	rat 3 %	Average
5-HT _{1A} R+5-HT _{2A} R /5-HT _{2A} R	Magno	98 (362/369)	95 (360/377)	97 (540/548)	97 %
	Parvi	95 (160/169)	92 (105/114)	99 (336/341)	95 %
5-HT _{1A} R+5-HT _{2A} R /5-HT _{1A} R	Magno	97 (362/375)	94 (360/382)	97 (540/554)	96 %
	Parvi	94 (160/171)	99 (105/118)	97 (336/348)	97 %

Magno: magnocellular regions; Parvi: parvicellular regions

Table 2: The percent of oxytocin neurons that are immunopositive for 5-HT_{1A} or 5-HT_{2A} receptors in the hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus (PVN)

Rat #		rat 1 %	rat 2 %	rat 3 %	
(5-HT _{1A} R+Oxy)/Oxy Sections	A	96 (94/98)	90 (36/40)	96 (71/74)	
	B	91 (74/81)	96 (51/53)	95 (83/87)	
	C	95 (155/164)	89 (68/76)	95 (151/159)	
	D	95 (117/123)	94 (97/103)	98 (142/145)	Average
	Average	94	92	96	94 %
(5-HT _{2A} R+Oxy)/Oxy Sections	A	97 (84/87)	96 (54/56)	98 (110/112)	
	B	97 (93/96)	94 (34/36)	97 (97/100)	
	C	95 (116/122)	95 (76/80)	98 (219/223)	
	D	99 (100/101)	96 (138/144)	99 (189/190)	Average
	Average	97	95	98	97 %

FIGURE LEGENDS

Figure 1. Pre- adsorption of the 5-HT_{1A} receptor antibody by its blocking peptide. A-B, 5-HT_{1A} receptor-like immunoreactivity in the dorsal raphe before (A) and after (B) blocking peptide pre-adsorption; C, The immunoreactive bands of 5-HT_{1A} receptors (~ 46 kD) detected in the homogenates of rat frontal cortex (10 and 20 µg protein) was pre-absorbed by its blocking peptide; D-E, 5-HT_{1A} receptor-like immunoreactivity in the PVN before (D) and after (E) blocking peptide pre- adsorption; F, No 5-HT_{1A} receptor immunoreactivity was observed in the absence of the primary antibody; PVN = the hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus; * indicates location of the 3rd ventricle.

Figure 2. Co-localization of 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptor-like immunoreactivity in the same neurons in the hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus (PVN). The arrow heads point to 5-HT_{1A} receptor immunopositive neurons; arrows point to neurons that are immunopositive for both 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptors.

Figure 3. Double immunohistochemical labeling of oxytocin and 5-HT_{1A} or 5-HT_{2A} receptors in the PVN. Arrows point to oxytocin neurons that are immunopositive for 5-HT_{1A} or 5-HT_{2A} receptors; arrow heads point to neurons that are immuno-negative for oxytocin but immunopositive for 5-HT_{1A} or 5-HT_{2A} receptors; scale bar = 200 µm in A, B, D and E; * marks the location of the 3rd ventricle.

Figure 4. Double immunofluorescence labeling of 5-HT_{2A} receptors (A) and 5-HT_{1A} receptors (B) followed by immunohistochemical labeling of oxytocin (C) in the paraventricular hypothalamic nucleus. "b" identifies a blood vessel; arrow heads point to a neuron

immunopositive for 5-HT_{1A} & 5-HT_{2A} receptor antibodies and for oxytocin antibody; * marks a neuron immunopositive for 5-HT_{1A} & 5-HT_{2A} receptor antibodies, but immuno-negative for oxytocin antibody.

Figure 5. Double immunohistochemical labeling of CRF and 5-HT_{1A} or 5-HT_{2A} receptors in the paraventricular hypothalamic nucleus. Arrows point to CRF neurons that are immunopositive for 5-HT_{1A} or 5-HT_{2A} receptors. Arrow heads point to neurons that are immuno-negative for CRF but immunopositive for 5-HT_{1A} or 5-HT_{2A} receptors; scale bar = 200 μ m in A, B, D and E.

Figure 6. Intra-paraventricular nucleus injection of MDL100,907 dose-dependently reverses the inhibitory effect of (-) DOI (1 mg/kg, sc) on oxytocin (A) and ACTH (B) responses to (+) 8-OH-DPAT (40 mg/kg, sc). The data represent the mean \pm SEM of 7 - 14 rats per group. * ($p < 0.05$) and ** ($p < 0.01$) significant effect of (+) 8-OH-DPAT compared with saline-challenged group; # ($p < 0.05$) and ## ($p < 0.01$) significant effect of (-) DOI compared with saline pretreated and (+) 8-OH-DPAT challenged group; a ($p < 0.05$); aa ($p < 0.01$) significant effect of MDL100,907 compared with vehicle pretreated, (-) DOI/(+) 8-OH-DPAT group. (One-way ANOVA and Newman-Keuls' multiple range test).











