



# Insulin-Like Growth Factor-II Receptor Mediates Angiotensin II-Induced Rab9-Dependent Macroautophagy and Apoptosis in Cardiomyocytes

## 第二型類胰島素生長因子受體調控血管收縮素II在心肌細胞所誘導的Rab9依賴型自噬作用與細胞凋亡

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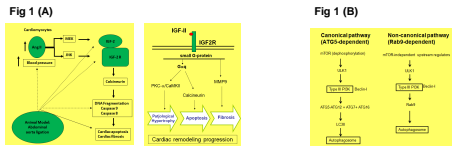
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### BACKGROUND

●Macroautophagy (hereafter referred to as autophagy) has emerged as an important process in the pathogenesis of cardiovascular diseases.

●Angiotensin II (Ang II) plays an important role in pathogenesis of heart disease. Our previous studies demonstrated that up-regulation of *igt2r* (Insulin-like growth factor-II receptor) gene and the subsequent activation of IGF2R-Gaq signaling contributed to AngII-induced myocardial cell hypertrophy, and apoptosis.

**Figure 1. (A.) Illustrations of Ang II-mediated IGF2R/IGF2R signals contributing to cardiac remodeling (Chu *et al.*, *Endocrinology*, 2009; Am J Physiol *Endocrinol Metab*, 2006 ). (B.) Comparison of canonical and non-canonical autophagy (Nishida Y *et al.*, *Nature*, 2009).**



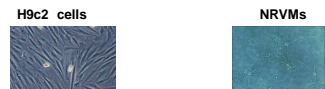
### OBJECTIVES

To investigate whether autophagy is involved in AngII-induced IGF2R signaling and further clarify whether the induced autophagy is associated with IGF2R-mediated apoptosis in myocardial cells.

### METHODS

#### Study design

●Cells: H9c2 rat cardiomyoblast cells were obtained from the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) and primary neonatal rat ventricular myocytes (NRVMs) were harvested from 1 to 3 days old Sprague Dawley rats.



●Cells were incubated with Ang II ( $10^{-7}$  M) or Leu27IGF-II ( $10^{-8}$  M) for the subsequent analysis. Leu27IGF-II is an analog of IGF-II which interacts selectively with the IGF-IIR.

#### Autophagy assessments

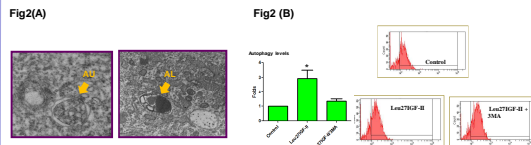
- si-RNAs (small interference RNAs) were transfected into myocardial cells to specifically knockdown the target genes; Gene silencing efficiency were over 60% in all experiment groups.
- 3-Methyladenine(3-MA;10mM) was used for autophagy inhibitor and Bafilomycin A1(BafA1,100nM) was used for autolysosome inhibitor.
- Autophagy levels were quantified by flow cytometry with LysoTracker Red dye.

### RESULTS

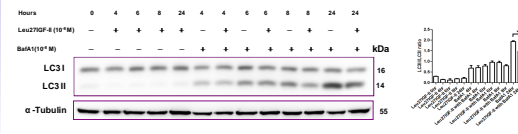
●Ang II-induced Rab9-dependent autophagy is mediated by IGF-IIR and this non-canonical autophagy contributes to Ang II-induced apoptosis in cardiomyocytes.

●Selective activation of IGF-IIR by Leu27IGF-II confirmed that the induction of Rab9-dependent autophagy is mediated by IGF-IIR-Gaq signaling in cardiomyocytes, which may in turn contribute to mitochondria-mediated apoptosis.

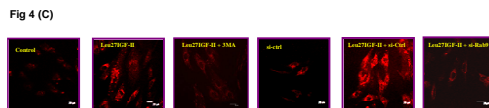
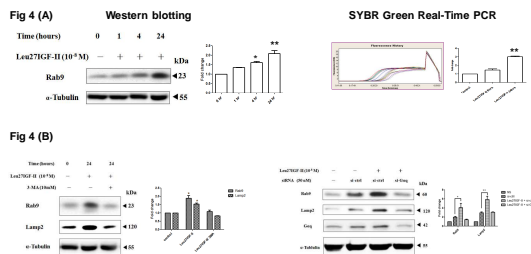
**Figure 2. Induction of Autophagy by IGF2R activation.** (A). Typical autophagic vacuoles were observed in Leu27-IGFII treated myocardial cells by transmission electron microscopy (TEM). AU: autophagosome; AV: Autolysosome. (B). Increase of autophagy levels by IGF2R activation.



**Figure 3. Canonical autophagy was suppressed by IGF2R activation.** LC3 turnover assay indicated that canonical autophagy was inhibited after Leu27IGF-II 24hrs incubation compared with no-stimuli H9c2 cells.



**Figure 4. Rab9-dependent autophagy is mediated through IGF2R-Gaq signaling in cardiomyocytes.** (A). Up-regulation of *rab9* gene by IGF2R activating. (B). Rab9-dependent autophagy was induced by IGF2R-Gaq signaling. (C). Determine autophagy levels by LysoTracker Red stain. siRNA-scramble(si-ctrl) were used as the control si-RNA. \*P<0.05; \*\*P<0.01.

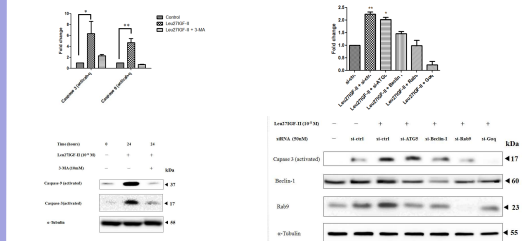


**Figure 5. Rab9-dependent autophagy contributes to IGF2R-induced myocardial cells death.** (A). H9c2 cells. (B). NRVMs. Cell viability were assessed by Trypan Blue Exclusion Test.

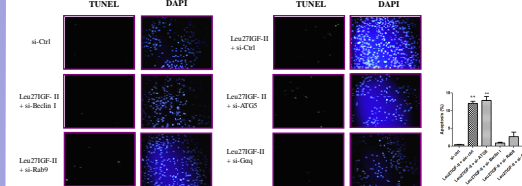


**Figure 6. Rab9-dependent autophagy contributes to IGF2R-induced apoptosis in cardiomyocytes.**

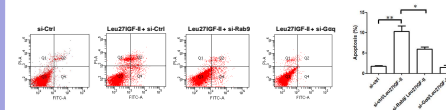
**Fig 6 (A).** Pro-apoptotic proteins induced by IGF2R activation were attenuated markedly by autophagy inhibition or knockdown of Rab9-dependent autophagy required ATGs (Autophagy related genes) in H9c2 cells and NRVMs.



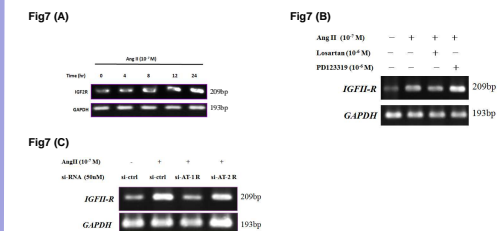
**Fig 6 (B).** Apoptosis levels were detected by TUNEL assay. Suppressed IGF2R-induced apoptosis by inhibition of Rab9-dependent autophagy. (Cells: NRVMs; \*P<0.05; \*\*P<0.01)



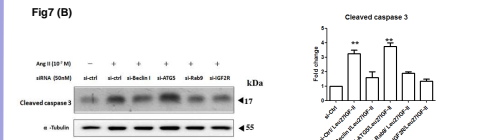
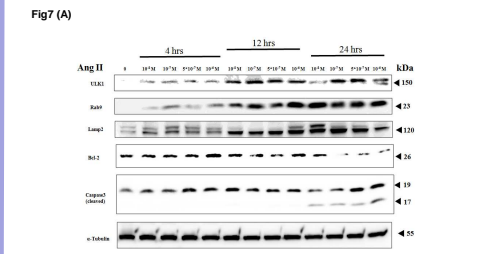
**Fig 6 (C).** Annexin V/PI staining assay of cell apoptosis induced by Leu27IGF-II. The total apoptotic cells (early and late-stage apoptosis) are represented by the right side of the panel (Annexin V staining alone or together with PI) in which the total cell death number. Results indicated that Rab9-dependent autophagy contributes to IGF2R-Gaq mediated apoptosis. (Cells: H9c2; \*P<0.05; \*\*P<0.01)



**Figure 7. Rab9-dependent autophagy induced by Ang II is mediated by IGF2R in myocardial cells.** (A). Increase of *igt2r* gene expression by Ang II in a time dependent manner. (B-C). Ang II mediated up-regulation of *igt2* gene via AT-1 receptor. Transcription levels were analyzed by RT-PCR. ; Losartan: AT-1 receptor antagonist; PD 123319: AT-2 receptor antagonist.

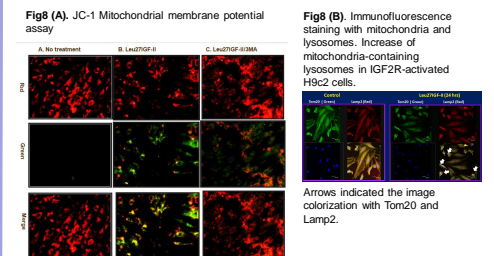


**Figure 8. Rab9-dependent autophagy is associated with Ang II-induced myocardial cell apoptosis.** (A). Time-course induction of Rab9-dependent autophagy and apoptosis in Ang II-treated H9c2 cells. (B). Suppressed Ang II-induced apoptosis by inhibition of Rab9-dependent autophagy in NRVMs. \*\*P<0.01.



**Figure 8. Rab9-dependent autophagy may contribute to IGF2R mediated mitochondria-dependent apoptosis through mitophagy.**

(A). Reduction of IGF2R-induced depolarized mitochondria by autophagy inhibition. (B). Increase of mitophagy was observed in IGF2R-activated H9c2 cells.



### CONCLUSIONS

Schematic IGF2R death signal in cardiomyocytes

