



SIV replication in human cells

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Current human immunodeficiency virus type 1 pandemic is believed to originate from cross-species transmission of simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV) into human population. Such cross-species transmission, however, is not efficient in general, because viral replication is modulated by host cell factors, with the species-specificity of these factors affecting viral tropism. An understanding of those host cell factors that affect viral replication contributes to elucidation of the mechanism for determination of viral tropism. This review will focus an anti-viral effect of ApoB mRNA editing catalytic subunit, tripartite motif protein 5 alpha, and cyclophilins on SIV replication and provide insight into the mechanism of species-specific barriers against viral infection in human cells. It will then present our current understanding of the mechanism that may explain zoonotic transmission of retroviruses.

Keywords: HIV-1, SIV, APOBEC3G, TRIM5 α , cyclophilin A, cyclophilin B

INTRODUCTION

There is significant evidence that the ongoing worldwide acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) epidemic was caused by cross-species transmission of simian immunodeficiency viruses (SIVs) into the human population. Replication of primate lentiviruses in their natural hosts is generally non-pathogenic; however, cross-species transmission of these viruses can result in highly pathogenic phenotypes. How and when this transmission occurred is still debated but it is now generally accepted that HIV-2 originated from a sooty mangabeys strain of SIV (SIV_{sm}; Hirsch et al., 1989; Chen et al., 1996) while HIV-1 appears to have originated from a chimpanzee strain of SIV (SIV_{cpz}; Gao et al., 1999). Zoonotic transmission of SIVs, however, is not common and is controlled by host factors that generally prohibit SIV replication in human hosts and many human-derived cell lines.

Viral replication is modulated by host cell factors, with the species-specificity of these factors affecting viral tropism. Some of these host factors can restrict viral replication and the anti-viral systems mediated by such host restriction factors, termed intrinsic immunity, play an important role in determining species-specific barriers against viral infection. For instance, Fv-1 in mice is known to restrict replication of a murine leukemia virus (Rein et al., 1976; Gautsch et al., 1978; Towers et al., 2000) and tripartite interaction motif 5 α (TRIM5 α) recently has been found to be responsible for restricting HIV-1 but not SIV infection in Old World monkey (OWM) cells (Hatzioannou et al., 2004b; Keckesova et al., 2004; Stremlau et al., 2004; Yap et al., 2004; Song et al., 2005; Ylinen et al., 2005). Restriction of retroviral replication by these host cell factors takes place after viral entry, but before the integration step, and the viral determinants for this type of restriction have been mapped to the capsid (CA) protein (Gautsch et al., 1978; Kozak and Chakraborti, 1996; Towers et al., 2000; Goff, 2004; Stremlau et al., 2006). Two recent studies showed that the cellular protein SAMHD1 is myeloid-lineage cell-specific HIV-1 restriction factor

counteracted by Vpx proteins from HIV-2 and SIV_{sm} (Hrecka et al., 2011; Laguette et al., 2011). Restriction of lentivirus infection by SAMHD1 is likely to take place at the reverse transcription step. Another anti-retroviral protein, tetherin (also referred to as BST-2, CD317, or HM1.24) inhibits retrovirus release and is antagonized by HIV-1 Vpu protein, Nef protein of many SIVs, or Env protein of HIV-2 (Neil et al., 2008; Le Tortorec and Neil, 2009; Zhang et al., 2009). Understanding how host cell factors affect viral replication, positively or negatively, would contribute to elucidating the molecular mechanism that determines viral tropism. Here, we discuss an anti-viral effect of ApoB mRNA editing catalytic subunit (APOBEC), TRIM5 α , and cyclophilins (Cyps) on SIV replication.

APOBEC: ENZYMATIC RESTRICTION FACTOR THAT TARGET RETROVIRUSES

Replication of HIV-1 in primary CD4⁺ T cells, monocyte, and some immortalized T cell lines depends on the presence of the HIV-1 accessory gene product, Vif (standing for virus infectivity factor; Fisher et al., 1987; Strebel et al., 1987), and it works in a host cell-specific manner. Vif is required for enhanced HIV-1 replication in some cell types called non-permissive cells. In contrast, HIV-1 replication is Vif-independent in permissive cells (Akari et al., 1992; Fan and Peden, 1992; Gabuzda et al., 1992; Blanc et al., 1993; Sakai et al., 1993; von Schwedler et al., 1993; Borman et al., 1995). Recently, some cytidine deaminases were identified as a new class of host restriction factors that target retroviruses such as HIV-1 or SIV (Harris and Liddament, 2004; Cullen, 2006). APOBEC3G (Apo3G), a member of the APOBEC family of cytidine deaminases, is the first identified enzymatic restriction factor and the determinant that makes cells permissive or non-permissive. Apo3G is also a host factor that restricts replication of human and simian lentiviruses in their respective target cells. Unlike TRIM5 α or Fv-1, Apo3G does not exert its anti-viral activity by targeting the viral CA protein, but it has to be incorporated

into a newly synthesized virion during a production step, and then inhibits virus replication by targeting single-stranded viral cDNA during a subsequent infection step. HIV-1 counteracts Apo3G with Vif expression. During the production of progeny virions, Vif binds to Apo3G and induces Apo3G's proteasomal degradation, resulting in the decreased steady-state levels of human Apo3G (hApo3G; Yu et al., 2003).

There are several anti-retroviral mechanisms of Apo3G against HIV-1 infection. First, Apo3G-containing virus can accumulate in a large number of substitutions that register as cytidine (C) to deoxyuridine (dU) in a virus minus-strand during reverse transcription, resulting guanine (G) to adenine (A) mutations in a viral plus-strand, known as "G-to-A hypermutation" (Harris et al., 2003; Lecossier et al., 2003; Mangeat et al., 2003; Mariani et al., 2003; Zhang et al., 2003; Yu et al., 2004b). Second, Apo3G can inhibit tRNA annealing or tRNA processing during reverse transcription (Guo et al., 2006, 2007; Mbisa et al., 2007). Third, Apo3G inhibits DNA strand transfer or integration (Li et al., 2007; Luo et al., 2007; Mbisa et al., 2007). Although Apo3G has the most potent anti-HIV-1 activity among the APOBEC family of proteins, another member of the family, APOBEC3F (Apo3F) was shown to inhibit HIV-1 infection in the absence of Vif (Bishop et al., 2004a; Liddament et al., 2004; Wiegand et al., 2004; Zheng et al., 2004), whereas APOBEC3B (Apo3B) can inhibit HIV-1 infection in both the presence and absence of Vif (Bishop et al., 2004a; Doehle et al., 2005; Rose et al., 2005).

Although we can imagine the broad range of anti-retroviral activity of APOBEC family because APOBEC proteins from non-human species can also inhibit HIV-1 infection (Mariani et al., 2003; Bishop et al., 2004a,b; Wiegand et al., 2004; Cullen, 2006), the Vif-Apo3G interaction is thought to be species-specific (Simon et al., 1998; Mariani et al., 2003). Accordingly, hApo3G is insensitive to SIVagm Vif while African green monkey Apo3G (agmApo3G) is insensitive to HIV-1 Vif and the determinant of this species-specificity depends on amino acid 128 of hApo3G and agmApo3G (Mariani et al., 2003; Bogerd et al., 2004; Mangeat et al., 2004; Schrofelbauer et al., 2004; Xu et al., 2004).

However, such species-specificity is not strictly controlled, for example, a report from the laboratory of Klaus Strebel demonstrated that SIVagm Vif supported replication of SIVagm virus in the hApo3G-positive human A3.01 T cell line (Takeuchi et al., 2005). Replication of *vif*-defective SIVagm in A3.01 cells was severely restricted, resulted in an accumulation of cytidine deaminase-induced G-to-A mutations in SIVagm genome (Takeuchi et al., 2005).

Moreover, two independent groups showed that the different APOBEC3 family members function to neutralize specific lentiviruses (Yu et al., 2004a; Dang et al., 2006). One report from the lab of Dr. Nathaniel R. Landau showed that APOBEC3B and APOBEC3C were potent inhibitors of SIV (Yu et al., 2004a). Both enzymes were efficiently encapsidated by HIV-1 and SIV. Another report from the lab of Dr. Yong-Hui Zheng demonstrated that APOBEC3DE blocked the replication of both HIV-1 and SIV but not that of MLV (Dang et al., 2006) and APOBEC3H inhibited the replication of HIV-1 by a cytidine deamination-independent mechanism (Dang et al., 2008). These findings raise the possibility

that the various APOBEC3 family members protect against different lentiviruses and point to a possible role in the zoonotic transmission of SIV.

TRIM5 α : FV-1-TYPE HOST FACTOR RESTRICTING HIV-1 IN PRIMATE CELLS

The host protein which dictates Ref1 activity was identified as an α -isoform of rhesus macaque TRIM5 protein by the laboratory of Dr. Joseph Sodroski (Stremlau et al., 2004). TRIM5 is a member of the TRIM family of proteins, and has RING, B-box 2, and coiled-coil as common and conserved domains among the family and B30.2 (PRYSPRY) domain on its C-terminal region (Nisole et al., 2005). Subsequently, the human and non-human primate homologs of TRIM5 α were shown to restrict retroviruses, such as N-MLV, and equine infectious anemia virus (Hatzioannou et al., 2004b; Keckesova et al., 2004; Perron et al., 2004; Yap et al., 2004; Song et al., 2005; Ylinen et al., 2005; Si et al., 2006). Rhesus monkey TRIM5 α (rhTRIM5 α) has strong anti-HIV-1 activity but only modestly restricts SIV isolated from a macaque monkey (SIVmac) and does not block MLV infection, whereas its human homolog does not restrict HIV-1 infection.

TRIM5 α recognizes incoming viral cores, but not a monomeric CA protein, through its B30.2 (PRYSPRY) domain. B-box 2 and coiled-coil domains are required for TRIM5 α multimerization, and both coiled-coil and B30.2 (PRYSPRY) domains are essential for viral core binding (Reymond et al., 2001; Stremlau et al., 2006). TRIM5 α captures HIV-1 core at a very early step(s) after infection, immediately after the release of the core into cytoplasm. To restrict HIV-1 infection and to recognize viral core, TRIM5 α must oligomerize through its B-box 2 and coiled-coil domains (Mische et al., 2005; Li and Sodroski, 2008). Its RING domain has E3 ubiquitin ligase activity. It self-ubiquitination occurs TRIM5 α is quickly degraded (Diaz-Griffero et al., 2006). This rapid degradation of TRIM5 α is not required for post-entry restriction since replacement of TRIM5 α RING domain with the corresponding domain of TRIM21, which has lower self-ubiquitination activity and a longer half-life than TRIM5 α did not alter the anti-viral activity (Kar et al., 2008). Recently, the laboratory of Dr. Mark Yeager discussed a novel architecture made with dimers of TRIM5-21R. TRIM5 α -21R forms a dimer through its B-box 2 and coiled-coil domains, and these dimers form six-sided rings on CA lattices to promote rapid core disassembly (Ganser-Pornillos et al., 2011). Overexpression of TRIM5 α leads to the formation of cytoplasmic bodies and is believed to be required for its anti-viral activity (Stremlau et al., 2006; Campbell et al., 2008). During TRIM5 α -mediated post-entry restriction, disassembly of viral cores is induced too quickly and the accumulation of viral RT-products is reduced (Stremlau et al., 2006). On the other hand, MG132 treatment inhibited quick-disassembly, yet HIV-1 infectivity was still restricted. Two reports showed that TRIM5 α could block not only viral cDNA accumulation but also the nuclear import of viral cDNA (Berthoux et al., 2004; Wu et al., 2006). Thus, TRIM5 α -mediated post-entry restriction is thought to have at least two phases: (i) TRIM5 α induces rapid disassembly of viral core in a proteasome-dependent manner and (ii) TRIM5 α degrades HIV-1 cDNAs in a proteasome-independent manner. The determinant of specificity and magnitude of the post-entry

restriction lies on B30.2 (PRYSPRY) domain. Previous report showed that TRIM5 α alleles did not cluster by species between rhesus macaques and sooty mangabeys and none of the alleles from either species restricted SIV, suggesting that there is little effect of rhTRIM5 α on transmission of SIVsm within species (Newman et al., 2006). Recently, Pacheco et al. (2010) reported that New World monkey (NWM) TRIM5 α restricts foamy virus infection. Another consideration is the clinical significance of TRIM5 α against AIDS in human. Moreover, several reports showed that the efficacy of TRIM5 α -mediated suppression of HIV-1 replication might interfere with disease progression of AIDS in humans (van Manen et al., 2008; Cagliani et al., 2010; Takeuchi et al., 2012). Thus, TRIM5 α -mediated restriction may be a multi-step process in retrovirus replication with the relationship between other host factor(s).

Recently, the lab of Dr. Yasuhiro Ikeda reported that rhesus macaque TRIM5 α also inhibits HIV-1 production by inducing the degradation of a viral precursor Gag protein (Sakuma et al., 2007). To restrict HIV-1 production, amino acid residues in B-box 2 and coiled-coil domains dictated the specificity of the restriction. In the late restriction, the accumulation of HIV-1 RNA was not affected but the accumulation of precursor Gag was inhibited in an ubiquitin–proteasome-independent manner. This TRIM5 α -mediated late-restriction is still controversial (Zhang et al., 2008), yet it is conceivable that TRIM5 α restricts HIV-1 infection and production in two distinct mechanisms. Although TRIM5 α restricts HIV-1 infection in a broad range of cells, its late restriction involved transient overexpression (Sakuma et al., 2007).

Here is another notable class of the TRIM family called TRIM-Cyp isolated from NWM. A report from the laboratory of Dr. Jeremy Luban demonstrated that owl monkey cells express TRIM-Cyp that restricts HIV-1 infection (Sayah et al., 2004). Although TRIM-Cyp has a cyclophilin A (CypA) sequence in its C-terminal region instead of B30.2 (PRYSPRY) domain that dictates the specificity and the magnitude of post-entry restriction in OWM TRIM5 α -mediated post-entry restriction, it recognizes incoming core structure and restricts HIV-1 infection (Stremlau et al., 2006). Recently, TRIM-Cyp mRNA was also detected in a rhesus macaque cell, and overexpressed rhesus TRIM-Cyp restricts HIV-1 infection and production (Newman et al., 2006; Brennan et al., 2008; Wilson et al., 2008; Dietrich et al., 2010).

Unlike other restriction factors, there is no known accessory gene product of HIV-1 to antagonize TRIM5 α -mediated restrictions. Indeed, human TRIM5 α has only a modest restriction activity against HIV-1 infection. TRIM5 proteins from several NWM species restrict infection by SIVmac and SIVagm (Song et al., 2005). This suggests that TRIM5 α could be a key molecule of the species-species barrier.

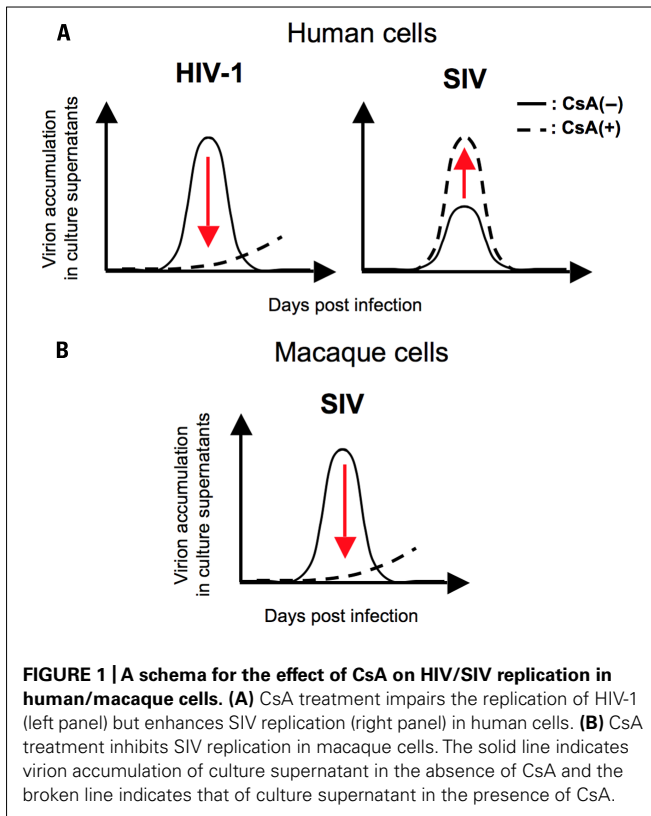
CYCLOPHILINS: HOST FACTORS INVOLVED IN RETROVIRUS REPLICATION

Cyclophilins are ubiquitous proteins and first identified as the target of cyclosporine A (CsA), an immunosuppressive reagent (Takahashi et al., 1989). CypA has proline-isomerase activity that catalyzes the *cis*–*trans* isomerization of proline residue (Fischer et al., 1989). The binding of CsA to CypA inhibits this isomerase

activity (Takahashi et al., 1989). In retrovirus replication, CypA was found to bind HIV-1 CA in the yeast two-hybrid system (Luban et al., 1993). The sequence Ala88–Gly89–Pro90–Ile91 of CA protein is the major fragment bound to the active site of CypA (Franke et al., 1994; Gamble et al., 1996; Zhao et al., 1997). Interestingly, The peptidyl-prolyl bond between Gly89 and Pro90 of the CA fragment has a *trans* conformation, in contrast to the *cis* conformation observed in other known CypA–peptide complexes (Zhao et al., 1997; Bosco et al., 2002), and Gly89 preceding Pro90 has an unfavorable backbone formation usually only adopted by glycine, suggesting that special Gly89–Pro90 sequence but not other Gly–Pro motif is required for the binding of CA protein to CypA. Therefore, CypA might be likely to act as a molecular chaperone but not a *cis*–*trans* isomerase (Zhao et al., 1997). However, one report showed that CypA does not only bind CA protein but also catalyzes efficiently *cis*–*trans* isomerization of Gly89–Pro90 peptidyl-prolyl bond (Bosco et al., 2002). The relationship between the Gly89–Pro90 bond and catalysis of *cis*–*trans* isomerization by CypA remains unclear.

It has been well established that CypA promotes an early step of HIV-1 infection in human cells (Franke et al., 1994; Thali et al., 1994; Braaten et al., 1996a,c; Franke and Luban, 1996; Braaten and Luban, 2001; Sokolskaja et al., 2004; Hatzioannou et al., 2005). CypA is efficiently encapsidated into HIV-1 produced from infected cells through interaction with the CA domains of the Gag polyprotein and disruption of CypA incorporation into virions by CsA or HIV-1 Gag mutants caused a decrease in replication efficiency (Franke et al., 1994; Thali et al., 1994; Ott et al., 1995; Braaten et al., 1996a; Bukovsky et al., 1997; Ackerson et al., 1998; Braaten and Luban, 2001). It is still unclear how CypA is efficiently packaged into HIV-1 virion, but several reports showed that both dimerization of CA and multimerization of CypA are required for efficient interaction (Colgan et al., 1996; Javanbakht et al., 2007). Although CA–CypA interaction is required for infectivity, the important point is that CypA interacts with incoming HIV-1 cores in newly infected target cells rather than during HIV-1 budding from the virion producer cells, indicating that target cell CypA promotes HIV-1 infectivity (Kootstra et al., 2003; Towers et al., 2003; Sokolskaja et al., 2004).

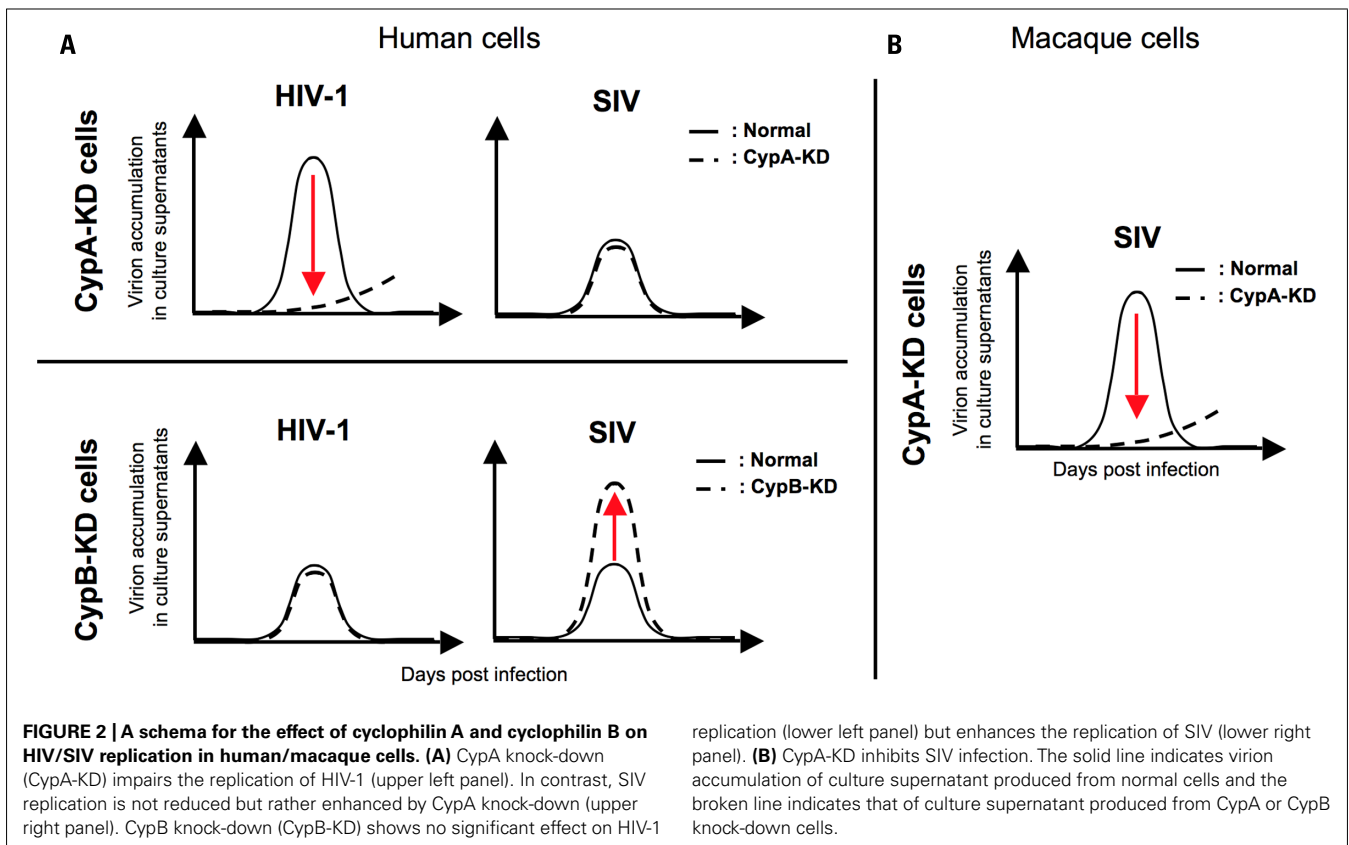
CypA-dependent virus replication is only limited to retroviruses which encode CA that binds CypA. In fact, only those retroviruses are dependent upon CypA for replication (Luban et al., 1993; Franke et al., 1994; Thali et al., 1994; Braaten et al., 1996c; Franke and Luban, 1996). These observations suggested that CA–CypA interaction might contribute tropism determinants for retroviruses. HIV-1 infection in non-human primate cells is blocked prior to reverse transcription after virus entry (Shibata et al., 1995; Himathongkham and Luciw, 1996; Hofmann et al., 1999; Besnier et al., 2002; Cowan et al., 2002; Munk et al., 2002; Hatzioannou et al., 2003; Towers et al., 2003). This restriction is thought to be the same step in the retrovirus life cycle where CypA works (Braaten et al., 1996b). Indeed, analysis of CypA-binding region of CA with chimeric viruses of HIV-1 and SIV showed the viral determinant for species-specificity (Shibata et al., 1991, 1995; Dorfman and Gottlinger, 1996; Bukovsky et al., 1997;



Cowan et al., 2002; Kootstra et al., 2003; Owens et al., 2003, 2004; Towers et al., 2003; Berthoux et al., 2004; Hatzioannou et al., 2004a, 2006; Ikeda et al., 2004; Sayah et al., 2004; Stremlau et al., 2004; Kamada et al., 2006).

Human CypA is required for efficient HIV-1 infection but not SIV. There is no known role for CypA in SIV infection in human cells. Recently, the first report from the laboratory of Klaus Strebel showed that human CypA acts as restriction factor against the infection of two SIVs (SIVmac and SIVagm) in human cells, and Vif protein of two SIVs counteracts a CypA-imposed inhibition against the infection of two SIV strains with exclusion of CypA from SIV virion (Takeuchi et al., 2007). This phenomenon is different from the function of SIVagm Vif against hApo3G previously reported from the same laboratory (Takeuchi et al., 2005) because they used human cells lacking detectable deaminase activity.

Moreover, a recent report showed a species-specific effect of CsA, a peptidyl-prolyl *cis-trans* isomerase (PPIase) inhibitor, on SIV replication, implying a possible contribution of Cyps to the determination of SIV tropism (Figure 1; Takeuchi et al., 2012). They demonstrated a host species-specific effect of CypA on SIV replication: CypA affects the replication of two SIVs (SIVmac and SIVagm) negatively in human cells but positively in macaque cells (Figure 1). Further analysis indicated that the infection of two SIVs was not significantly affected by CypA but inhibited by cyclophilin B (CypB), another PPIase, in human cells (Figure 2A; Takeuchi et al., 2012). In contrast, CypA is likely to have positive



effects on the infection of two SIVs in macaque cells (**Figure 2B**; Takeuchi et al., 2012). These results suggest that Cyps might have a host species-specific effect of Cyps on SIV replication and provide insight into the mechanism of species-specific barriers against viral infection.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Viral replication is modulated by host cell factors. Many of these factors function in a species-specific manner. On the other hand, there exist host factors that restrict viral replication. The antiviral system mediated by some of these restriction factors, termed intrinsic immunity, which is distinguished from the conventional innate and adaptive immunity has been indicated to play an

important role in making species-specific barriers against viral infection. As discussed in this review, we describe the current progress in understanding of such restriction factors against retroviral replication, especially focusing on TRIM5 α and APOBEC whose anti-retroviral effects have recently been recognized. Additionally, we mentioned a host species-specific effect of Cyps including CypA and CypB on SIV replication. Such restriction factors would play an important role in determining species-specific barriers against viral infection.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This work supported by a grant for Young Scientists of HIV/AIDS research from the Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare of Japan.

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- Conflict of Interest Statement:** The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.
- Received: 01 February 2012; accepted: 10 April 2012; published online: 27 April 2012.
- Citation: Sakuma R and Takeuchi H (2012) SIV replication in human cells. *Front. Microbio.* 3:162. doi: 10.3389/fmicb.2012.00162
- This article was submitted to *Frontiers in Virology*, a specialty of *Frontiers in Microbiology*.
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