# Cross talk between P2 purinergic receptors modulates extracellular ATP-mediated interleukin-10 production in rat microglial cells

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Abbreviations:  $IP_3$ , inositol phosphates; M-MLV, Moloney murine leukemia virus; ROS, reactive oxygen species

# Abstract

Previously we demonstrated that ATP released from LPS-activated microglia induced IL-10 expression in a process involving P2 receptors, in an autocrine fashion. Therefore, in the present study we sought to determine which subtype of P2 receptor was responsible for the modulation of IL-10 expression in ATP-stimulated microglia. We found that the patterns of IL-10 production were dose-dependent (1, 10, 100, 1.000 µM) and bell-shaped. The concentrations of ATP, ATP- $\gamma$ S, ADP, and ADP- $\beta$ S that showed maximal IL-10 release were 100, 10, 100, and 100  $\mu$ M respectively. The rank order of agonist potency for IL-10 production was 2'-3'-O-(4-benzoyl)-benzoyl ATP (BzATP) = dATP > 2-methylthio-ADP (2-meSADP). On the other hand, 2-methylthio-ATP (2-meSATP),  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -methylene ATP  $(\alpha,\beta$ -meATP), UTP, and UDP did not induce the release of IL-10 from microglia. Further, we obtained evidence of crosstalk between P2 receptors, in a situation where intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> release and/or cAMP-activated PKA were the main contributors to extracellular ATP-(or ADP)-mediated IL-10 expression, and IL-10 production was down- regulated by either MRS2179 (a P2Y<sub>1</sub> antagonist) or 5'-AMPS (a P2Y<sub>11</sub> antagonist), indicating that both the P2Y<sub>1</sub> and P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptors are major receptors involved in IL-10 expression. In addition, we found that inhibition of IL-10 production by high concentrations of ATP- $\gamma$ S (100  $\mu$ M) was restored by TNP-ATP (an antagonist of the P2X<sub>1</sub>, P2X<sub>3</sub>, and P2X<sub>4</sub> receptors), and that IL-10 production by 2-meSADP was restored by 2meSAMP (a P2Y<sub>12</sub> receptor antagonist) or pertussis toxin (PTX; a G<sub>i</sub> protein inhibitor), indicating that the P2X<sub>1</sub>, P2X<sub>3</sub>, P2X<sub>4</sub> receptor group, or the P2Y<sub>12</sub> receptor, negatively modulate the P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptor or the P2Y<sub>1</sub> receptor, respectively.

**Keywords:** adenosine diphosphate; adenosine triphosphate; calcium; cyclic AMP; cyclic AMP-dependent protein kinases; inositol 3-phosphate; interleukin-10; microglia; receptors, purinergic P2

# Introduction

Extracellular purine (ATP, ADP) and pyrimidine (UTP, UDP) nucleotides mediate their effects via P2 receptors (Ralevic and Burnstock, 1998). P2 receptors consist of ligand-gated intrinsic ion channels, P2X receptors, and G-protein-coupled P2Y receptors. Stimulation of P2X receptors (P2X1-P2X<sub>7</sub>) causes Ca<sup>2+</sup> and Na<sup>+</sup> influx from the extracellular space with accompanying plasma membrane depolarization (Khakh and North, 2006). The P2Y receptors are composed of eight subtypes in mammals: P2Y<sub>1</sub>, P2Y<sub>2</sub>, P2Y<sub>4</sub>, P2Y<sub>6</sub>, P2Y<sub>11</sub>, P2Y<sub>12</sub>,  $P2Y_{13}$ , and  $P2Y_{14}$ . The  $P2Y_1$ ,  $P2Y_{12}$ , and  $P2Y_{13}$ receptors are preferentially activated by ADP whereas P2Y<sub>6</sub> is activated by UDP (Abbracchio et al., 2006). The P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptor prefers ATP as an agonist (Communi et al., 1997) whereas the P2Y<sub>2</sub> (Lustig et al., 1993) and P2Y<sub>4</sub> receptors are equally sensitive to ATP and UTP (Communi et al., 1995). The P2Y<sub>14</sub> receptor is activated by the nucleotide sugar UDP-glucose (Brunschweiger and Muller, 2006). The P2Y<sub>1</sub>, P2Y<sub>2</sub>, P2Y<sub>4</sub>, P2Y<sub>6</sub>, and P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptors are coupled to G<sub>q</sub>, promoting PLCcatalyzed generation of an inositol phosphate  $(IP_3)$ and subsequent release of intracellular calcium

(Ralevic and Burnstock, 1998). The P2Y<sub>12</sub>, P2Y<sub>13</sub>, and P2Y<sub>14</sub> receptors are coupled to  $G_{i/o}$ , inhibiting adenyl cyclase (Hollopeter *et al.*, 2001).

Recent studies have suggested that activated immune cells secrete ATP into the extracellular space, to release cytokines by activation of P2 receptors (Di Virgilio and Solini, 2002). Extracellular ATP is known to be a potential mediator of inducible iNOS expression (Ohtani et al., 2000) and TNF- $\alpha$  release in rat microglia, via P2X<sub>7</sub> receptors (Hide et al., 2000). The presence of the P2X7 receptor in microglia is consistent with involvement of this receptor in the inflammatory process [e.g., in the production of proinflammatory cytokines, nitric oxide, and reactive oxygen species (ROS)] and cytotoxicity (Di Virgilio et al., 1999; Parvathenani et al., 2003). In addition, ATP evokes the production of IL-6, a mediator of inflammation, in the microglial cell line MG-5 (Shigemoto-Mogami et al., 2001), and induces maturation and release of IL-1B by activating the IL-1B-converting enzyme/ caspase1 (Sanz and Di Virgilio, 2000). Further, recent studies have reported that P2X<sub>4</sub> receptors are involved in pain transmission (Tsuda et al., 2003) and that during microglial activation, P2Y<sub>12</sub> receptors, which mediate the movement of microglial projections, are down-regulated (Haynes et al., 2006), but P2Y<sub>6</sub> receptors are up-regulated and trigger phagocytosis (Koizumi et al., 2007). Together, these results suggest that P2 receptors play a critical role in brain inflammation by regulating the production of inflammatory mediators and microglial activation.

Our previous study demonstrated that ATP released from LPS-activated microglia, and metabolites of ATP, induced IL-10 expression in a process involving P2 receptors, in an autocrine fashion, indicating that P2 receptors also have a function that counteracts the effects of proinflammatory mediators by participating in the production of the anti-inflammatory cytokine IL-10 (Seo *et al.*, 2004). Therefore, we sought to determine which subtype of P2 receptors is responsible for the modulation of IL-10 expression in ATP-stimulated microglia.

# **Materials and Methods**

# **Microglial cell culture**

Microglial cultures were prepared from the brains of 3 day-old Sprague-Dawley rats as described previously (Kim *et al.*, 2002). Briefly, whole brains were dissected into small cubes, incubated in D-PBS (JBI, Daegu, Korea) containing 0.1% trypsin and 40  $\mu$ g/ml DNase I for 15 min at 37°C, and dissociated into single cells by gentle pipetting. Dissociated cells were suspended in DMEM (JBI) containing 5% horse serum, 5 mg/ml glucose, 100 U/ml penicillin and 100  $\mu$ g/ml streptomycin, and plated on poly-D-lysine-coated T-75 culture flasks, and incubated at 37°C in incubator with 5% CO<sub>2</sub>/95% air atmosphere. After 2-4 weeks of growth in flasks, microglia floating in the medium were collected and grown in separate 6- or 96-well plates.

# **RT-PCR** analysis

To determine which subtypes of P2X and P2Y receptors are expressed by rat microglia, microglial cells (1  $\times$  10  $^{6}$  cells/well) were plated into 6-well plates in DMEM (JBI) containing 5% horse serum (JBI). Total RNA was extracted using Trizol (Life Technologies, Rockville, MD). Total RNA from each sample was subjected to DNase I treatment and then processed for the first strand cDNA synthesis using Moloney murine leukemia virus (M-MLV) reverse transcriptase (Life Technologies). 5 µl of each cDNA products was amplified by PCR using specific sense and antisense primers designed from the cDNA sequences for P2 receptors: P2X<sub>1</sub>, 5'-AGAGGCACTACTACAAGCAGAA-3' (sense) and 5'-GGTAAGGCTGTGGGGAAAGA-3' (antisense); P2X<sub>2</sub>, 5'-GAATCAGAGTGCAACCCCAA-3' (sense) and 5'-TCACAGGCCATCTACTTGAG-3' (antisense); P2X<sub>3</sub>, 5'-TTAAGTTTGCTGGACAGGAT-3' (sense) and 5'-GTTCCCATATACCAGCACAT-3' (antisense); P2X<sub>4</sub>, 5'-TCCCTTCTGCCCCATATTCC-3' (sense) and 5'-TTCATCTCCCCCGAAAGACC-3' (antisense); P2X<sub>5</sub>, 5'-CGACCTGGTACTTATCTAC-CTC-3' (sense) and 5'-ACGTTCACAATGGCATTC-3' (antisense); P2X<sub>6</sub>, 5'-GCCCAGAGCATCCTTCT-GTTC-3' (sense) and 5'-CGTGGCTGTATGTC-CCCATC-3' (antisense); P2X7, 5'-AACAGTGCC-ATTCTGACC-3' (sense) and 5'-GCCACCTCTGT-AAAGTTCTC-3' (antisense); P2Y1, 5'-GGCAGG-CTCAAGAAGAAGAAT-3' (sense) and 5'-ATCAC-ACATTTCTGGGGTCTG-3' (antisense); P2Y2, 5'-AGCTCTTTAGCCATTTTGTG-3' (sense) and 5'-CGGAAGGAGTAATAGAGGGT-3' (antisense); P2Y<sub>4</sub>, 5'-ACTGTCTTTGCTGTCTGCTT-3' (sense) and 5'-AGACAGCTATTAGCACTGGC-3' (antisense); P2Y<sub>6</sub>, 5'-GTCTACCGTGAGGATTTCAA-3' (sense) and 5'-CTAGGTATCGCTGGAAGCTA-3' (antisense); P2Y<sub>12</sub>, 5'-CTCCACCACCTACATGTTTC-3' (sense) and 5'-AAGAGGATGCTGCAGTAGAG-3' (antisense); P2Y<sub>13</sub>, 5'-TGCACTTTCTCATCCGTGGT-3' (sense) and 5'-GGCAGGGAGATGAGGAACAT-3' (antisense)

### Measurement of IL-10

To evaluate the effects of ATP on IL-10 production,

microglial cells (3  $\times$  10<sup>4</sup> cells/well) were plated into 96-well plates in DMEM containing 5% horse serum. The amount of IL-10 in the supernatant was measured by ELISA. To assess which purinergic receptor was involved in the microglial IL-10 production, microglia cells were treated with P2 receptor agonists: ATP, ADP, adenosine 5'-O-(3-thiotriphosphate) (ATP- $\gamma$ -S), adenosine 5'-O-(2-thiodiphos-phate) (ADP- $\beta$ -S), 2-methylthio-ATP (2-meSATP), 2-methylthio-ADP (2-meSADP),  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -methylene ATP  $(\alpha,\beta$ -meATP), 2',3'-(benzoyl-4-benzoyl)-ATP (BzATP), ÙTP, UDP, or dATP (Sigma, St. Louis, MO); P2 receptor antagonists: trinitrophenyl-substituted ATP (TNP-ATP), adenosine 5'-triphosphate 2',3'-acylic dialcohol (oxidized ATP; oATP), 2'-deoxy-N6-methyladenosine-3',5'-bisphosphate (MRS2179), 2methylthioadenisine 5'-monophosphate (2-meSAMP), 5'-O-thiomnophosphate (5'-AMPS) (Sigma, St. Louis, MO); Ca<sup>2+</sup> chelators: EGTA (Sigma, St. Louis, MO), bisaminophenoxyethane tetraacetic acid-acetoxymethyl ester (BAPTA-AM; Calbiochem, San Diego, CA); IP<sub>3</sub> inhibitor, Xes-C (Sigma, St. Louis, MO); adenylate cyclase inhibitor, SQ22536 (Sigma, St. Louis, MO); PKA inhibitor, H-89 (Sigma, St. Louis, MO); G<sub>i</sub> protein inhibitor, pertussis toxin (PTX; Sigma, St. Louis, MO). For IL-10 assay, we used Cytosets kit for rat IL-10 (Biosource, Camarillo, CA) according to the manufacturer's protocol.

### Statistical analysis

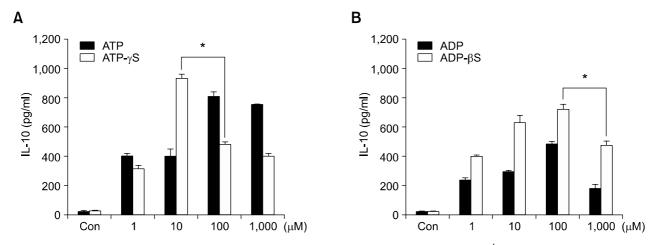
All statistical comparisons in this study were performed using one-way ANOVA with the Tukey-Kramer multiple comparisons test, and data are expressed Crosstalk between P2 receptors in microglial IL-10 production 21

as mean  $\pm$  SEM of triplicate samples. A value of *P* < 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

### Results

# Characterization of ATP-(or ATP- $\gamma$ S)-induced IL-10 release, and ADP-(or ADP- $\beta$ S)-induced IL-10 release

To characterize IL-10 expression by ATP-stimulated microglia, microglial cells were treated with various concentrations (1, 10, 100, 1,000 µM) of ATP, ADP, ATP- $\gamma$ S (a hydrolysis-resistant analog of ATP), or ADP- $\beta$ S (a hydrolysis-resistant analog of ADP). We found that the patterns of IL-10 production were dose-dependent and bell-shaped (Figure 1). Interestingly, the concentrations of ATP and ATPyS that showed maximal IL-10 release were different. ATP-induced IL-10 release peaked at an ATP concentration of 100  $\mu$ M (811.51  $\pm$  29.59 pg/ ml IL-10) and was sustained to 1,000  $\mu$ M (750.15)  $\pm$  5.66 pg/ml). On the other hand, ATP- $\gamma$ Sinduced IL-10 release peaked at an ATP-yS concentration of 10  $\mu$ M (930.65  $\pm$  30.94 pg/ml) but dropped to 480.88  $\pm$  18.52 pg/ml at 100  $\mu$ M (P < 0.01). In the case of ADP, ADP-induced or ADP-BS-induced IL-10 release peaked at a concentration of 100  $\mu$ M, but treatment with 1,000  $\mu$ M ADP (IL-10 release of 186.27  $\pm$  20.70 pg/ml) or 1,000  $\mu$ M ADP- $\beta$ S (IL-10 release of 475.10  $\pm$ 30.96 pg/ml) appeared to induce less IL-10 release than did treatment with 100  $\mu M$  ADP (485.26  $\pm$ 20.33 pg/ml) or 100  $\mu M$  ADP- $\beta S$  (721.43  $\pm$  35.20 pg/ml) ( $\bar{P}$  < 0.01). These results indicate that 100



**Figure 1.** Characterization of ATP (or ATP-γS)- or ADP (or ADP-βS)-induced IL-10 release. Microglial cells ( $3 \times 10^4$  cells/well) were treated with (A) ATP or ATP-γ-S, (B) ADP or ADP-β-S at the indicated concentrations. The amount of IL-10 was measured 24 h after treatment with ATP (ATP-γ-S) or ADP (ADP-β-S). Data shown are mean  $\pm$  SEM of triplicate samples. The figure shows one representative of five independent experiments. \**P* < 0.01 compared to 10 µM ATP-γS or 100 µM ADP-βS.

 $\mu$ M ATP- $\gamma$ S or 1,000  $\mu$ M ADP- $\beta$ S inhibit IL-10 production by affecting distinct subtypes of the P2 receptor involved in IL-10 expression. We found no loss of cell viability in the presence of either 100  $\mu$ M ATP- $\gamma$ S or 1,000  $\mu$ M ADP- $\beta$ S (data not shown).

# Expression of mRNAs encoding the P2X and P2Y receptors

To determine which subtypes of P2X and P2Y

Α P2X<sub>1</sub> P2X<sub>2</sub> P2X<sub>3</sub> P2X<sub>4</sub> P2X<sub>5</sub> P2X<sub>6</sub> P2X<sub>7</sub> 600 500 400 300 200 (bp) В  $P2Y_1$ P2Y P2Y<sub>4</sub> P2Y<sub>6</sub> P2Y<sub>12</sub> P2Y<sub>13</sub> 600 500 400 300 200 (bp)

Figure 2. Expression of P2X and P2Y receptors mRNA. RT-PCR analysis of P2 receptor mRNA expression in microglial cells was done with primers specific for distinct P2 receptors subtypes. cDNA products were analyzed by 1.5% agarose gel electrophoresis. A representive gel with ethidium bromide-stained cDNA fragments of the P2 receptors.

receptors are expressed by rat microglia, mRNA was isolated from microglial cells and analyzed by RT-PCR. Amplified PCR products of the expected sizes were obtained for P2X<sub>1</sub> (434 bp), P2X<sub>3</sub> (272 bp),  $P2X_4$  (489 bp), and  $P2X_7$  (358 bp) receptor mRNAs (Figure 2A). Similarly, amplified PCR products of the expected sizes were obtained for the P2Y<sub>1</sub> (411 bp), P2Y<sub>2</sub> (244 bp), P2Y<sub>4</sub> (149 bp), P2Y<sub>6</sub> (325 bp), P2Y<sub>12</sub> (168 bp), and P2Y<sub>13</sub> (185 bp) receptor mRNAs from microglial cell total mRNA (Figure 2B). A recent study reported that microglia express various receptors for ATP including both P2X receptors (P2X<sub>3</sub>, P2X<sub>4</sub>, P2X<sub>5</sub>, P2X<sub>7</sub>) and P2Y receptors (P2Y<sub>1</sub>, P2Y<sub>2</sub>, P2Y<sub>4</sub>, P2Y<sub>6</sub>, P2Y<sub>12</sub>, P2Y<sub>13</sub>) (Light et al., 2006). At this point, we could not test the expression of P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptor, because rat P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptor has not been cloned.

# Effects of P2 receptor agonists on the release of IL-10 from microglial cells

We next examined the effects of various concentrations (1, 10, 100, 300, 1,000 µM) of agonists (2-meSATP, 2-meSADP,  $\alpha,\beta$ -meATP, BzATP, UTP, UDP, dATP) of the microglia-expressed P2 receptors (identified by RT-PCR) on the release of IL-10 from microglia. The agonists 2-meSADP, BzATP, and dATP increased the release of IL-10 in a dose-dependent manner, but 2-meSATP,  $\alpha,\beta$ meATP, UTP, and UDP did not (Figure 3). 2meSADP and BzATP showed the bell-shaped paradigm which has maximal IL-10 release at 100 μM. On the other hand, dATP-induced IL-10 release was sustained as agonist concentrations rose to 1 mM. The rank order of agonist potency was BzATP = dATP > 2-meSADP. Because 2meSADP is an agonist for both P2Y<sub>1</sub> and P2Y<sub>12</sub> receptors, and both P2X<sub>7</sub> agonist BzATP and dATP are potent P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptor agonists, these results indicate that purinergic modulation of IL-10 ex-

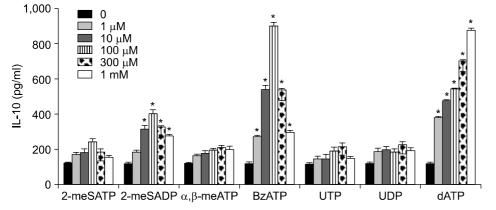


Figure 3. Effects of the P2 receptor agonist on the release of IL-10 from microglial cells. Microglial cells  $(3 \times 10^4 \text{ cells/well})$ were treated with 2-meSATP, 2meSADP. α,β-meATP, BZATP. UTP, UDP, and dATP at the indicated concentrations. The amount of IL-10 was measured 24 h after treatment. Data shown are mean  $\pm$  SEM of triplicate samples. The figure shows one representative of five independent experiments. \*P < 0.01 compared to control.

pression may be mediated by  $P2X_7$ ,  $P2Y_1$ ,  $P2Y_{11}$ , and  $P2Y_{12}$  receptors.

# Effects of P2 receptor antagonists on the release of IL-10 from microglial cells

To determine which subtype of P2 receptor was responsible for the modulation of IL-10 expression, we then examined the effects of the specific antagonist of the P2X<sub>7</sub>, P2Y<sub>1</sub>, P2Y<sub>11</sub>, or P2Y<sub>12</sub> receptors, and an antagonist of the P2X<sub>1</sub>, P2X<sub>3</sub>, and P2X<sub>4</sub> receptors. ATP- $\gamma$ S (100 µM)-induced IL-10 release was restored by TNP-ATP (an antagonist of the P2X<sub>1</sub>, P2X<sub>3</sub>, and P2X<sub>4</sub> receptors) (Figure 4A). 2-meSADP (100  $\mu$ M)-induced IL-10 release was inhibited by MRS2179 (a P2Y<sub>1</sub> antagonist), but 2meSAMP (a P2Y<sub>12</sub> antagonist) up-regulated 2-meSADP (100  $\mu$ M)-induced IL-10 release (Figure 4B). On the other hand, BzATP (300  $\mu$ M)-induced IL-10 release was not restored by oATP (a P2X<sub>7</sub> antagonist) (Figure 4C). BzATP (100  $\mu$ M)-induced IL-10 release was inhibited by 5'-AMPS (a P2Y<sub>11</sub> antagonist) (Figure 4D). These results indicate that both the P2Y<sub>1</sub> and P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptors are major receptors involved in IL-10 expression, and that the P2X<sub>1</sub>, P2X<sub>3</sub>, P2X<sub>4</sub> receptor group, or the P2Y<sub>12</sub> receptor, negatively modulates the P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptor or the P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptor, respectively.

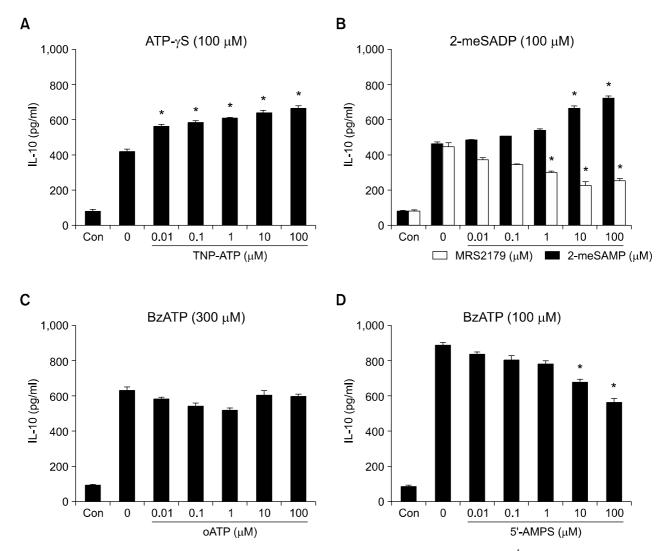


Figure 4. Effects of the P2 receptor antagonist on the release of IL-10 from microglial cells. Microglial cells ( $3 \times 10^4$  cells/well) were pretreated with TNP-ATP, MRS2179, 2-meSAMP, oATP, or 5'-AMPS for 30 min at the indicated concentrations, then treated with ATP- $\gamma$ -S (100  $\mu$ M), 2-meSADP (100  $\mu$ M), and BZATP (100 or 300  $\mu$ M). The amount of IL-10 was measured 24 h after treatment. Data shown are mean  $\pm$  SEM of triplicate samples. The figure shows one representative of five independent experiments. \**P* < 0.01 compared to the agonist alone.

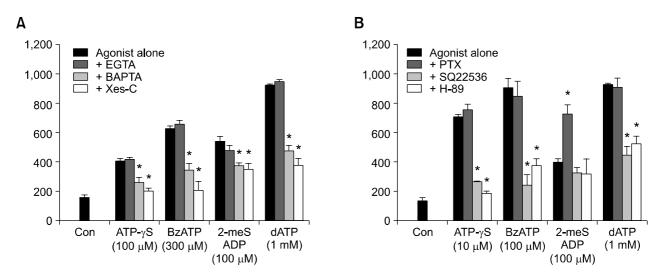


Figure 5. Effects of the calcium chelators and inhibitor of IP<sub>3</sub>, adenylate cyclase, or PKA on IL-10 release from microglial cells. Microglial cells ( $3 \times 10^4$  cells/well) were pre-treated with EGTA (500  $\mu$ M, 20 min), BAPTA-AM (50  $\mu$ M, 1 h), Xes-C (100 nM, 20 min), PTX (500 ng/ml, 1 h), SQ22536 (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), or H-89 (10  $\mu$ M, 20 min), then treated with ATP- $\gamma$ -S, BzATP, 2-meSADP, and dATP at the indicated concentrations. The amount of IL-10 was measured 24 h after treatment. Data shown are mean  $\pm$  SEM of triplicate samples. The figure shows one representative of three independent experiments. \*P < 0.01 compared to agonist alone.

# Effects of Ca<sup>2+</sup> chelators and the inhibitors of IP<sub>3</sub>, adenylate cyclase, and PKA on IL-10 release from microglial cells

We investigated the effects of BAPTA-AM (a membrane permeable Ca2+ chelator) and Xes-C (an IP3 inhibitor) on the IL-10 production. As expected, ATP-γS (100 μM), BzATP (300 μM), dATP (1 mM), and 2-meSADP (100 uM)-induced IL-10 expression was down-regulated with BAPTA-AM or Xes-C treatment, indicating that intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> release contributes the IL-10 production. However, IL-10 production by ATP- $\gamma$ S (100  $\mu$ M) or BzATP (300  $\mu$ M) was not affected when the cells were preincubated in EGTA-containing Ca2+-free medium, indicating that Ca<sup>2+</sup> influx through P2X<sub>1</sub>, P2X<sub>3</sub>, P2X<sub>4</sub>, P2X<sub>7</sub> receptor group did not inhibit the IL-10 production (Figure 5A). As can be seen in Figure 5B, ATP- $\gamma$ S (10  $\mu$ M), BzATP (100  $\mu$ M), and dATP (1 mM)-induced IL-10 production was down-regulated by SQ22536 (an adenylate cyclase inhibitor) or H-89 (a PKA inhibitor), and 2-meSADP (100 µM)-induced IL-10 production was more upregulated by pertussis toxin (PTX; a Gi protein inhibitor). These results suggest that intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> release and/or cAMP-activated PKA are the main contributors to extracellular ATP-(or ADP)mediated IL-10 expression.

### Discussion

In this study, we presented evidences for crosstalk

between P2 receptors in a situation where P2Y<sub>1</sub> and P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptors are major receptors involved in extracellular ATP-(or ADP)-mediated IL-10 production, and P2X<sub>1</sub>, P2X<sub>3</sub>, P2X<sub>4</sub> receptor group, or the P2Y<sub>12</sub> receptor, negatively modulate the P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptor or the P2Y<sub>1</sub> receptor, respectively.

The P2Y<sub>1</sub> and P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptors are coupled to  $G_{q}$ , promoting PLC-catalyzed generation of an IP<sub>3</sub>, and subsequent release of intracellular calcium (Ralevic and Burnstock, 1998). Therefore, we investigated the effects of BAPTA-AM and Xes-C (an IP3 inhibitor) on IL-10 production. As expected, the IL-10 expression induced by ATP- $\gamma$ S (100  $\mu$ M), BzATP (300 μM), dATP (1 mM), or 2-meSADP (100 μM) was down-regulated by BAPTA-AM or Xes-C treatment, indicating that intracellular Ca2+ release contributes to IL-10 production (Figure 5A). In accord with these results, previous study demonstrated that  $Ca^{2+}$  and calmodulin (CaM) stimulated adenylate cyclase (Simonds, 1999), and that prostaglandin E<sub>2</sub> (PGE<sub>2</sub>), which was shown to accumulate cAMP in microglia, enhanced the LPSinduced IL-10 expression by microglia (Patrizio et al., 1996; Aloisi et al., 1999).

Previous work has shown that agonists for the P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptor are ATP- $\gamma$ S, BzATP, ATP, and ADP- $\beta$ S (Communi *et al.*, 1999). Indeed, exposure to these nucleotides increased the release of IL-10 (Figures 1 and 3), and IL-10 release mediated by ATP- $\gamma$ S (10  $\mu$ M), BzATP (100  $\mu$ M), and dATP (1 mM) was down-regulated by an adenylate cyclase inhibitor, SQ22536, and a PKA inhibitor, H-89 (Figure 5B). These results are consistent with

previous findings that P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptors activate adenylate cyclase and contribute to cAMP formation (Torres et al., 2002). Recent studies showed that ATP-yS enhanced LPS-induced IL-10 production in human monocyte-derived dendritic cells (Marteau *et al.*, 2004), and that ATP- $\gamma$ S and BzATP inhibited the production of TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-8, and MIP-1 $\beta$  in human mast cells through a G<sub>s</sub>-coupled receptor (Feng et al., 2004). At this point, we can not rule out the involvement of other P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptor subtypes in our study, as BzATP (100 µM)-induced IL-10 release was only partially inhibited by 5'-AMPS (a P2Y<sub>11</sub> antagonist) (Figure 4D), and P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptor-transcripts have not been found in rats and mice (von Kügelgen, 2006). To date, the P2Y<sub>11</sub> receptor is the only cloned ATP-binding P2Y family member known to stimulate G<sub>s</sub> proteins (Communi et al., 1999).

Data from work with agonists indicated that the P2X receptors did not contribute to IL-10 production (Figure 3), but TNP-ATP (an antagonist of the P2X<sub>1</sub>, P2X<sub>3</sub>, and P2X<sub>4</sub> receptors) up-regulated ATP- $\gamma$ S (100  $\mu$ M)-induced IL-10 production (Figure 4A). These results suggest that there is reciprocal crosstalk between the P2Y<sub>11</sub> and P2X receptors, through which plasma membrane depolarization by Na<sup>+</sup> and Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry from the extracellular space negatively modulates IL-10 expression. Previous study showed that depolarization induced by P2X receptor-mediated Na<sup>+</sup> influx inhibited store-operated channels (SOC)-mediated Ca2+ entry resulting from P2Y activation (Wang et al., 2000). Therefore, down-regulation of IL-10 production by 100  $\mu$ M ATP- $\gamma$ S may be mediated by P2X<sub>1</sub>, P2X<sub>3</sub>, and P2X<sub>4</sub> receptors-mediated inhibition of Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry through SOC.

Unlike the  $G_q$ -coupled P2Y<sub>1</sub> receptor, the ADPselective P2Y<sub>12</sub> and P2Y<sub>13</sub> receptors both use  $G_i$ proteins to inhibit adenylate cyclase (Communi *et al.*, 2001). In accord with these data, our results showed that 100  $\mu$ M 2-meSADP-induced IL-10 production was up-regulated by 2meSAMP (a P2Y<sub>12</sub> antagonist) and PTX (a P2Y<sub>12</sub> receptor inhibitor), but down-regulated by MRS2179 (a P2Y<sub>1</sub> antagonist) (Figure 4B and 5B), indicating reciprocal crosstalk between P2Y<sub>1</sub> and P2Y<sub>12</sub> receptors. Crosstalk between the downstream pathways of P2Y<sub>1</sub> and P2Y<sub>12</sub> receptors was demonstrated in the regulation of platelet aggregation and astrocytes cell death (Hardy *et al.*, 2004; Mamedova *et al.*, 2006).

In conclusion, our study provides evidence that extracellular ATP-(or ADP)-mediated IL-10 production in microglia is mediated via  $P2Y_1$  and  $P2Y_{11}$ . Further, IL-10 production is modulated by crosstalk between  $P2Y_1$  and  $P2Y_{12}$  receptors, and  $P2Y_{11}$  and P2X receptors.

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