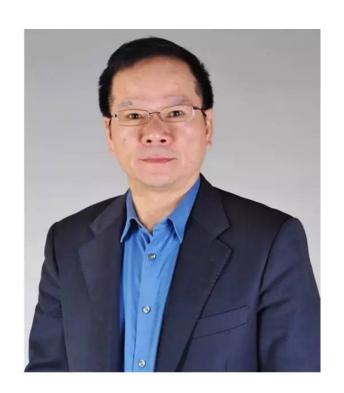
厦门大学林圣彩团队破解葡萄糖感受新机制

Scientists from Xiamen University discovered the Subversive Mechanism of Glucose Sensing for the First Time



林圣彩教授

【Nature 系列】2017年8月3日,厦门大学林圣彩教授团队与英国邓迪大学 Grahame Hardie 教授团队合作在 Nature 杂志上发表了题为 "Fructose-1,6-bisphosphate and aldolase mediate glucose sensing by AMPK"的研究论文,颠覆性的发现了一种独立于经典 AMP 途径的依赖于糖酵解通路的代谢酶 aldolase(醛缩酶)的非催化功能的 AMPK 激活机制。

这一发现打破了"AMPK的激活仅仅依赖于细胞内 AMP 浓度的变化"这一学术界长久以来的共识,赋予了 AMPK 这一经典蛋白新的含义,被同行学者誉为"里程碑式的工作"、"建立了细胞能量代谢的新范式"。

经典理论认为,葡萄糖作为机体主要的能源物质,一旦缺乏会消耗 ATP,进而引起另一种代表低能量状态的分子——AMP 水平的上升,AMP 会直接激活 AMPK。被激活的 AMPK 能够迅速启动脂肪、蛋白质的分解代谢,关闭与它们的合成代谢,从而起到维持机体的能量和物质代谢的平衡,弥补机体因葡萄糖不足引起的胁迫压力的重要作用。

现在,林圣彩团队却发现,无论在不含葡萄糖的细胞培养条件下,还是在饥饿的低血糖的动物体内,都不能观测到 AMP 水平的上升。这意味着,机体内还存在着一套不为人知、独立于 AMP 的感应葡萄糖水平的机制。

在进一步的研究中他们揭示了这一完整过程:葡萄糖水平下降引起葡萄糖代谢物——果糖 1,6-二磷酸(fructose-1,6-bisphosphate)水平下降,该过程进一步地被糖酵解通路上的代谢酶——醛缩酶(aldolase)感应,后者将启动林圣彩教授课题组先前发现的激活 AMPK 的溶酶体途径进而介导 AMPK 的激活。该过程完全不涉及 AMP 水平,或者说能量水平的变化,是一条全新的、完全建立在实际生理情况上的通路。

林圣彩将把葡萄糖水平总结为一种"状态信号",以区别于传统的"能量信号"。他介绍,葡萄糖的存在作为一种"状态",可以引起一系列生理生化反应。葡萄糖水平对机体代谢的调节不需要"绕道"能量水平,而是可以直接地被感应,进而行使作用。



Fructose-1,6-bisphosphate and aldolase mediate glucose sensing by AMPK

果糖 1,6-二磷酸、醛缩酶感应葡萄糖水平激活 AMPK

厦门大学林圣彩、英国邓迪大学 Grahame Hardie

2017年8月3日

doi:10.1038/nature23275

The major energy source for most cells is glucose, from which ATP is generated via glycolysis and/or oxidative metabolism. Glucose deprivation activates AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK)1, but it is unclear whether this activation occurs solely via changes in AMP or ADP, the classical activators of AMPK2, 3, 4, 5. Here, we describe an AMP/ADP-independent mechanism that triggers AMPK activation by sensing the absence of fructose-1,6-bisphosphate (FBP), with AMPK being progressively activated as extracellular glucose and intracellular FBP decrease. When unoccupied by FBP, aldolases promote the formation of a lysosomal complex containing at least v-ATPase, ragulator, axin, liver kinase B1 (LKB1) and AMPK, which has previously been shown to be required for AMPK activation6, 7. Knockdown of aldolases activates AMPK even in cells with abundant glucose, whereas the catalysis-defective D34S aldolase mutant, which still binds FBP, blocks AMPK activation. Cell-free reconstitution assays show that addition of FBP disrupts the association of axin and LKB1 with v-ATPase and ragulator. Importantly, in some cell types AMP/ATP and ADP/ATP ratios remain unchanged during acute glucose starvation, and intact AMP-binding sites on AMPK are not required for AMPK activation. These results establish that aldolase, as well as being a glycolytic enzyme, is a sensor of glucose availability that regulates AMPK.