# NOVEL MUTANTS OF THE HUMAN $\beta_1\text{-}ADRENERGIC$ RECEPTOR REVEAL AMINO ACIDS RELEVANT FOR RECEPTOR ACTIVATION\*

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Activation of G protein-coupled receptors like the  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor results in conformational changes which ultimately lead to signal propagation through a G protein to an effector like adenylyl cyclase. In this study we identify amino acids which seem to be critical for activation of the human  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor. Activation patterns of mutant receptors were analyzed using two structurally different ligands for Badrenergic receptors which both are mixed agonist/antagonists. **Broxaterol** and terbutaline are agonists at  $\beta_2$ - and  $\beta_3$ receptors, however, they act as antagonists at the  $\beta_1$ -subtype. We reasoned that this functional selectivity may be reflected by a corresponding sequence pattern in the subtypes. Therefore, receptor we exchanged single amino acids of the  $\beta_1$ adrenergic receptor for residues that were identical in the  $\beta_2$ - and  $\beta_3$ - subtypes but different the  $\beta_1$ -receptor. in Pharmacological characterization of such receptor mutants revealed that binding of a panel of agonists and antagonists including broxaterol and terbutaline was unaltered. However, two of the mutants (I185V and D212N) were activated by broxaterol and terbutaline which acted as antagonists at the wilde-type receptor. Two additional mutants (V120L and K253R) could be activated by terbutaline

alone which is structurally more closely related to endogenous catecholamines like epinephrine than to broxaterol. A model of the human  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor showed that the four gain-of-function mutations are outside of the putative ligand-binding domain substantiating the lack of an effect of the mutations on binding characteristics. These results support the notion that V120, I185, D212 and K253 are critically involved in conformational changes occuring during receptor activation.

#### Introduction

G protein-coupled receptors  $(GPCR)^2$ comprise a large number of structurally related membrane receptors many of which are important drug targets. Among the receptors targeted in established therapies βadrenergic receptors comprise one of the most important subgroups. The use of  $\beta$ blockers is indicated in virtually all major cardiovascular diseases whereas  $\beta_2$ -selective agonists are a mainstay in the treatment of asthma. Activation of GPCR is a complex process which results in a state that propagates a signal to the corresponding G protein. It is thought that more than one activated state may exist (1, 2) providing a basis for transduction of different ligandspecific signals via a given receptor subtype

(3). The notion that receptor activation is a multistep process wherby the receptor assumes a series of conformational intermediates provides an explanation for such functionally distinct states (4). Such functionally defined states could serve as distinct mediators of more specific drug actions.

conformational The investigation of intermediates should benefit from ligands which are able to distinguish their functional Alternatively, it would identity. be interesting to study distinct activation patterns at closely related receptor subtypes which might be different for a given ligand. We have recently discovered that some ligands exhibit distinct functional properties at the three subtypes of  $\beta$ -adrenergic receptors. In the course of a previous project for the development of subtype-selective ligands for human  $\beta$ -adrenergic receptors we noticed that the experimental compound broxaterol which is thought to be a  $\beta_{2}$ selective agonist, binds in fact with the same affinity to all three  $\beta$ -receptor subtypes (5, 6). Interestingly, this compound turned out to be an agonist at  $\beta_2$ - and  $\beta_3$ -receptors, but an antagonist at the  $\beta_1$ -receptor (5, 6) making it a  $\beta_2$ -/ $\beta_3$ -selective agonist in functional terms although it does not bind selectively to these subtypes. In a recent study we found similar functional  $\beta_2$ -selectivity for clinically used compounds including terbutaline and salbutamol (6). This discovery prompted us to undertake the present investigation were generated several gain-of-function we mutants of the  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptors which are activated by compounds like broxaterol and terbutaline. Based on the close sequence similarity between  $\beta$ -adrenergic receptor subtypes we reasoned that the functional selectivity of such compounds may have a corresponding sequence pattern in amino acids that are identical in  $\beta_2$ - and  $\beta_3$ - but different in the  $\beta_1$ -subtype. Sequence comparison of the entire receptor proteins revealed a total of 17 amino acids following this pattern with eight of these positions being located in transmembrane domains. We generated six mutants were a  $\beta_1$ -amino

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acid was substituted for the corresponding  $\beta_2 - \beta_3$ -amino acid and the functional characteristics of these mutants were analyzed. For mutation of such positions functionally different regions were selected. As the putative ligand binding domain is embedded in the transmembrane domains (7. 8) several mutations were introduced in transmembrane regions. The two mutants L154V and K253R are at the interface transmembrane domains between and intracellular loops two and three. respectively, which are thought to be involved in receptor-G protein coupling (9). Mutant D212N is located in the second extracellular (E2) loop in a position that has been shown to be relevant for ligand-receptor interaction in other GPCR (10-13). Four gain-of-function mutants were found which showed distinct ligand-dependent changes of activation patterns. Our data including a receptor model suggest that we have identified amino acid residues outside the ligand-binding domain that are critical for the activation of human  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptors.

#### **Experimental Procedures**

*Materials* - Oligonucleotides were synthesized by MWG-Biotech. Cell culture media and fetal calf serum were from penicillin PanSystems; (100 U/ml), streptomycin (100 µg/ml), L-glutamine and G-418 were purchased from Gibco-Life Technologies. Ligands were purchased from the following sources: (-)-epinephrine, (-)norepinephrine, CGP-20712 ((±)-2-hydroxy-5-[2-[[2-hydroxy-3-[4-[1-methyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-2yl]phenoxy]propyl]amino]ethoxy]benzamide), (-)-isoproterenol, terbutaline, from Sigma; and ICI-118551 ((±)-1-[2,3-(dihydro-7-methyl-1*H*-inden-4-yl)oxy]-3-[(1-methylethyl)amino]-2-butanol), from RBI. Salmeterol was kindly provided by Dr. H. Krohn (GlaxoSmithKline). Broxaterol was kindly synthesized by Prof. M. De Amici (Istituto di Chimica Farmaceutica e Tossicologica, Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy). (-)-3-<sup>125</sup>I-Iodocyanopindolol

(<sup>125</sup>I-CYP, specific radioactivity, 2200 Ci/mmol) was from Amersham Biosciences.  $[\alpha$ -<sup>32</sup>P]ATP was from PerkinElmer LifeScience. All other materials were from sources as described earlier (6, 14).

Mutagenesis and cell transfection - The cDNA encoding for human  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor (15); GenBank entry J03019) was mutated by PCR-mediated mutagenesis technique using VENT DNA polymerase (New England Biolabs). After confirmation of the mutation, the PCR products were digested with the appropriate enzymes and cloned into the expression vector pcDNA3 containing the wild type  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor cDNA to obtain full length mutated  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptors. The sequences of all resultant cDNAs were verified by automated sequencing. The cDNA of the  $\beta_2$ adrenergic receptor (16); GenBank entry Y00106) was cloned into the pcDNA3 expression vector as described earlier (6).

Cell culture and membrane preparation - CHO cells stably transfected with human βadrenergic receptor subtypes and different mutants of the  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor respectively, were grown and splitted in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium with nutrient mixture F12 (DMEM/F12), as described before (6). Before cells were harvested the culture medium was removed and cells were washed twice with PBS. Then membranes were prepared or cells were frozen on the dishes for later preparation of membranes. Crude membrane fractions were prepared from fresh (measurement of adenylyl cyclase) or frozen cells (radioligand binding) according to two different protocols, which have been described recently (14). The resulting membrane pellets were resuspended in 50 mM Tris/HCl pH 7.4 at a final protein concentration of 1 to Protein concentration was 2 mg/ml.determined by the method of Bradford (17) with bovine serum albumin (Sigma) as a standard.

Adenylyl cyclase activity and radioligand binding studies - Determination of adenylyl cyclase activity in cell membranes was based on the method originally described by Jakobs et al. (18), for details see (6). Accumulation of  $[\alpha - {}^{32}P]$ cAMP was linear over at least 20 min under all conditions. The basal and isoproterenolstimulated adenylyl cyclase activity. respectively, in the different cell clones characterized in Table 3 was (all values in pmol/mg membrane protein/min):  $13.5 \pm$ 1.26 and 19.1  $\pm$  1.57 ( $\beta_1$ -Wildtype); 16.9  $\pm$ 1.22 and 25.6  $\pm$  1.91 ( $\beta_2$ -Wildtype); 12.4  $\pm$ 0.73 and 15.3  $\pm$  0.91 ( $\beta_1$ -V120L); 16.3  $\pm$ 1.24 and 23.0  $\pm$  2.35 ( $\beta_1\text{-}L154V);$  11.3  $\pm$ 1.21 and 13.9  $\pm$  1.38 ( $\beta_1$ -I185V); 13.2  $\pm$  0.39 and  $16.2 \pm 1.45$  ( $\beta_1$ -D212N);  $12.3 \pm 0.83$  and  $18.9 \pm 1.65 \ (\beta_1-K253R); \ 12.5 \pm 2.58 \ and$  $15.1 \pm 3.14 (\beta_1 - F362L).$ 

The radioligand binding experiments were performed with membranes prepared as described above and followed the procedure as outlined previously (6). For competition binding approximately 50 pM <sup>125</sup>I-CYP were used and assays were done in the presence of 100  $\mu$ M GTP to ensure monophasic competition curves for agonists. Membranes with  $\beta_1$ -wildtype and mutant receptors used in competition binding experiments showed comparable receptor expression (Table 1). K<sub>D</sub>-values for <sup>125</sup>I-CYP and K<sub>i</sub>-values from competition experiments were calculated from saturation experiments by nonlinear curve fitting with the program SCTFIT (19).

Receptor homology modeling - The alignment of the primary sequences (Swiss-Prot entries P02699: rhodopsin, P08588: β<sub>1</sub>adrenergic receptor) was generated with the program ClustalW. To ensure that residues corresponding secondary-structure in elements were properly classified, the aligned structures were examined using the program Jpred (20). For every receptor 15 regions were identified according to the topology of rhodopsin (21, 22): 7 transmembrane helices, 3 cytoplasmic loops, 3 extracellular loops, the extracellular Nterminus and the cytoplasmic C-terminus. The amino acid sequences of these areas flanked by 4 additional amino acid were submitted to the WU-Blast server to search in the RCSB Protein Databank (23) for additional fragments with a known 3D The structure-based multiple structure. sequence alignments of all the fragments plus the rhodopsin data were merged as input for the homology modeling to obtain threedimensional models of the  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor (24-26). The program MODELLER (24-26) was used to generate the threedimensional structures of  $\beta_1$ -receptor and during this process the models were refined by molecular dynamics routines with incremental increases in simulation temperature from 150°K to 1000°K, followed by incremental temperature decreases from 1000°K to 300°K. Several slightly different models have been calculated by varying the initial parameters, and the variability and energy among these models has been used to estimate the lower limit of the error in the corresponding regions of the fold. The models obtained were submitted to the PROCHECK package for the structure evaluation (27).

Ligand docking - The AutoDock 3.0 program was used to perform an automatic docking exploration for different conformations of the ligand in the  $\beta_1$  models (28). This automated docking program uses a grid based method for energy calculation of the flexible ligand in complex with a rigid protein. Points on the 3D grid are placed such that they cover the entire inner cavity of the  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor, and are probed with the atoms that constitute the ligand. The docking experiments explored the interaction of terbutaline with the binding region of  $\beta_1$ -subtype.

The simulation was carried out within a 22Å cube using a 0.375Å grid spacing. AutoDock uses an adaptive global–local search method based on Lamarckian genetics (LGA) in conjunction with an empirical force field that allows the prediction of binding free energies for docked ligand. In our setup we used a starting population of 50 ligand conformations with a stopping criterion of a maximum of ten million energy evaluations. The number of dockings was set to 250 to get good statistics of the docked complex and the resulting bound states were clustered in groups on the basis of an RMSD value of 0.5 Å relative to the initial starting position of the ligand. These numbers together with AutoDock's default parameters has been shown to be a useful setting for blind docking (29). From the 250 simulations performed the binding modes with the most populated clusters was selected.

#### Results

Figure 1 shows a sequence comparison documenting the high sequence identity of the human  $\beta$ -adrenergic receptor subtypes in particular in the transmembrane domaines. Broxaterol and terbutaline activate only  $\beta_2$ and  $\beta_3$  receptors as opposed to agonists like isoproterenol or fenoterol which activate all three subtypes of  $\beta$ -receptors. Therefore, amino acids which are shared between the  $\beta_2$ and  $\beta_3$ -adrenergic receptor but are different in the  $\beta_1$ -subtype are investigated as to their importance for the specific activation pattern of broxaterol and terbutaline. In Figure 1 respective amino acids are emphasized with a box. Mutation of such amino acids in the  $\beta_1$  receptor to the corresponding amino acid of the  $\beta_2/\beta_3$  subtypes was accomplished by a PCR-approach (see Experimental Procedures). A selection of the sites following this pattern was chosen for mutation (arrows in Figure 1, Table 1).

The functional characteristics of the mutated receptors were investigated in CHOcells stably transfected with mutant and wildtype receptors. Figure 2A shows that broxaterol does not stimulate adenylyl cyclase activity via  $\beta_1$ -receptors but has partial agonistic activity at the  $\beta_2$ -subtype as has been shown before (5, 6). The  $\beta_1$ receptor mutants V120L, L154V, K253R and F362L behave like the wildtype receptor as broxaterol does not mediate a stimulation of adenylyl cyclase. In contrast, broxaterol does stimulate adenylyl cyclase via mutants I185V located in TM4 and D212N in the second extracellular loop (Figure 2A). The stimulation of adenylyl cyclase activity mediated by these gain-of-function mutants is comparable to the stimulation achieved by the full agonist isoproterenol.

In addition to broxaterol we tested the efficacy of terbutaline which is another compound that had shown a mixed  $\beta_1$ antagonist- $\beta_2$ -/ $\beta_3$ -agonist profile (6). Figure 2B confirms the minimal efficacy of terbutaline at the  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor (19% compared to isoproterenol) and near full efficacy at the  $\beta_2$ -receptor. Terbutaline behaves similar to broxaterol at the  $\beta_1$ receptor mutants L154V and F362L as it shows an identical minimal functional response at these mutants as well as at the wildtype receptor (Figure 2B). The mutants I185V and D212N mediate a stimulation of adenylyl cyclase by terbutaline which is in correspondence to the agonistic activity shown for broxaterol at these mutants. In contrast to the structurally different compound broxateral, terbutaline activates adenylyl cyclase also via the mutants V120L at the extracellular end of TM2 and K253R which is located at the cytoplasmic face of TM5 (Figure 2B). Again, the efficacy of terbutaline at these mutants is similar to isoproterenol. All gain-of-function mutants showed the same or a slightly lower basal activity compared to the  $\beta_1$ -wildtype (see Experimental Procedures).

The mutant  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptors were tested for their binding characteristics and expression levels. Table 1 shows that wildtype  $\beta_1$ - and  $\beta_2$ -receptors and all mutant  $\beta_1$ receptors bind the nonselective antagonist <sup>125</sup>I-CYP with similar K<sub>D</sub> values. Also, the expression levels of the cell lines studied are in the same order of magnitude excluding that the observed gain-of-function may be a result of massive overexpression of the respective mutant receptor.

As a next step it was confirmed that the mutations leading to activation by broxaterol or terbutaline did not cause a pharmacological conversion of  $\beta_1$ - into  $\beta_2$ - (or  $\beta_3$ -) adrenergic receptors. One of the main characteristics of  $\beta_2$ -adrenergic receptors is the low affinity for norepinephrine compared to epinephrine whereas the  $\beta_1$ -subtype does not distinguish between these two endogenous catecholamines. In contrast, the  $\beta_3$ -subtype shows a marked preference for norepinephrine over epinephrine. Table 2 shows that all mutants clearly maintain the pharmacological identity of a wildtype  $\beta_1$ adrenergic receptor.

In addition, more detailled competition studies were performed with a panel of agonists that confirmed that the mutants share all their pharmacological characteristics with the wildtype  $\beta_1$ -receptor (Table 3). The affinity of some prototypical subtype-selective antagonists was also not affected by any of the mutations introduced into the  $\beta_1$ -sequence (Table 3).

The 3D model of the  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor in Figure 3A shows the location of the mutations which changed the functional responses to broxaterol and terbutaline. The model is based on the crystal structure of rhodopsion (21) and was generated as described in the Experimental Procedures. In Figure 3B some amino acids thought to be involved in agonist recognition are shown. These amino acids were previously identified as critical for agonist binding in models for both  $\beta_1$ - (30) and  $\beta_2$ -receptors (7, 8). In addition, terbutaline is docked into the putative binding site of the receptor. The docking of terbutaline was simulated with various starting positions but independent of the starting conditions about a quarter of the obtained structures fitted to the same position (RMSD 0.5Å). The model suggests that all mutated amino acids are too far away from the binding pocket to be directly implicated in ligand binding. The closest distance between the ligand and a mutated amino acid in the transmembrane region of 7.7 Å is found between terbutaline and I185.

#### Discussion

Recently it was found that not only the experimental drug broxaterol but, surprisingly, also clinically used compounds like terbutaline bind nonselectively to human  $\beta$ -receptors. However, they exhibit functional selectivity as they act as agonists

only at  $\beta_2$ - and  $\beta_3$ -adrenergic receptors whereas they are antagonists at the  $\beta_{1}$ subtype (5, 6). The lack of binding selectivity of such compounds suggests that their interaction with the ligand-binding domain does not provide a sufficient explanation for the observed functional differences at β-adrenergic receptor subtypes. There seem to exist common features of the ligand-binding domains that dictate the binding affinity. However, it may be reasonable to assume that receptor activation is additionally controlled by subtype-specific sequence patterns of amino acids outside the ligand-binding domain. Therefore, nonselective ligands that are mixed agonist/antagonists like broxaterol or terbutaline should be interesting tools to study receptor activation. Based on the high sequence identity between the subtypes of  $\beta$ adrenergic receptors it seemed possible to trace down amino acids that are responsible for the subtype-specific activation patterns of broxaterol and terbutaline. Such positions should play a prominent role in receptor activation in general. We reasoned that the observed functional pattern for mixed agonists/antagonists might be reflected by a corresponding sequence pattern in the three  $\beta$ -adrenergic receptor subtypes. The gain-offunction mutants of the  $\beta_1$ -receptor that were found in the course of this study confirm this initial hypothesis.

Several of the generated mutants showed altered functional characteristics compared to the wildtype  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor. It can be excluded that these changes are caused by a decrease in structural constraints as all gain-of-function mutants showed the same or a slightly lower basal activity compared to the  $\beta_1$ -wildtype. Interestingly, we found two  $\beta_1$ -mutants at which broxaterol turned into an agonist whereas for terbutaline two additional gain-of-function mutations were identified. Broxaterol is an unusual Bagonist as it does not share a catechol or related structural motif with the endogenous ligands epinephrine and norepinephrine or most typical  $\beta$ -adrenergic agonists. It seems reasonable, therefore, that more gain-offunction mutants were found for terbutaline than for broxaterol as the catechol and related structures are important for receptor activation (31).

One obvious explanation for the functional effect of exchanging amino acids in the  $\beta_1$ -receptor for  $\beta_2$ - or  $\beta_3$ -residues would be a change of the pharmacological characteristics and a concomitantly altered activation pattern. Our data clearly show mutated  $\beta_1$ -receptors that the are pharmacologically absolutely identical with the wildtype receptor. Closer investigation with a number of subtype-selective agonists and antagonists confirmed that all mutants independent of their activation by broxaterol pharmacologically terbutaline are or indistinguishable from  $\beta_1$ -wildtype receptors. The receptor model shown in Figure 3 also suggests that the mutations did not alter the ligand binding pocket. Therefore, our data provide evidence that single amino acids in various positions which do not seem to be involved in ligand recognition are decisive for the agonistic properties of a receptor ligand.

Overall, the number of mutations of the  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor reported in the literature is rather limited compared to numerous mutations of the  $\beta_2$ -receptor. A number of mutations turning  $\beta_1$ -receptors into constitutively active receptors has been described (32). A polymorphism of the  $\beta_1$ -subtype human with functional consequences is known in position 389 (33). It turned out that an Arg in position 389 is more common than the Gly originally identified as the amino acid in the wildtype receptor. The variant with an Arg-389 is functionally different from the wildtype as it shows both higher basal and isoproterenolstimulated adenylyl cyclase activity based on enhanced  $G_s$  coupling (33). To our knowledge, so far no  $\beta_1$ -receptor mutants were known that turn an antagonist into an agonist.

Activation of a GPCR is thought to be associated with conformational changes in the receptor protein. Current concepts suggest that after initial contact between an agonist and the ligand binding domain a multistep process guides the receptor through a series of conformational intermediates (4, 34). Different conformational states may be responsible for the selective activation of signaling cascades mediated through different G proteins like in the case of the  $\beta_2$ -adrenergic receptor (35). They may also the basis for functionally distinct be responses to different concentrations of a ligand as has been shown for CGP 12177 and other compounds (3). It is clear that any motion in the receptor protein resulting in changes conformational requires the existence of hinges or pivots to allow for structural changes to occur. In addition to amino acids responsible for ligand-receptor interaction other critical amino acids should exist that act as key points for such motion. It is not surprising, therefore, that mutations of amino acids that are not involved in ligand-recognition may have effects on receptor function. Although we do not know the exact mechanism which underlies the functional changes caused by mutation it is obvious though that residues V120, I185, D212 and K253 play a critical role in the activation of the human  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor.

Isogaya et al. (8) describe a number of mutations including mutation of V120 which is one of the positions leading to a gain-offunction mutation in our study. The mutation of V120 to A shows an indirect contribution to subtype-selectivity of selected agonists (8). Although ligand binding is not affected in our study we also find that activation by terbutaline, but not by broxaterol is changed by mutation of V120 to L in our case, confirming a significant role of this position.

A number of studies suggest that the E2 loop plays an important role in ligand binding and receptor activation at least in some GPCR (10-13). Our data support this notion as the D212N mutant shows a functional change compared to the wildetype receptor as it can be activated by both broxaterol and terbutaline. A number of mutations in the E2 loop of the C5a receptor resulted in constitutive activity, therefore, a role as a negative regulator of receptor activation was proposed for the E2 loop (13). Position D212 in the human  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor does not seem to function in such a way as the mutation to N does not result in a change in basal receptor activity. In the case of the dopamine  $D_2$  receptor a contribution of the E2 loop to the ligand binding site was suggested (12). In particular our binding data led us to conclude that D212 is not directly involved in ligand binding as the D212N mutation like all other mutations presented in this study did not affect agonist All functionally or antagonist binding. changed mutants including the D212N mutation support the concept that amino acids outside the ligand-binding domain contribute relevant structural elements for receptor activation and thus for ligand efficacy.

The model of the human  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor shows that the gain-of-function mutants described here are very unlikely close enough to the docked ligand terbutaline to directly interfere with ligand-receptor Further confirmation of this interaction. notion comes from the absolutely unaffected pharmacological characteristics of all functionally significant mutants investigated in our study. The mutations affect residues outside the ligand-binding domain and reveal, therefore, that the respective amino acids contribute to the control of the activation process independent of ligandreceptor recognition. It turned out that the ligands broxaterol and terbutaline which are nonselective in binding but functionally selective are ideal pharmacological tools to analyze the activation process in conjunction with point mutation and receptor modeling.

In summary, we present data revealing an important role of V120, I185, D212 and K253 for the activation of the human  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor. The mutation of these positions to the corresponding amino acids of the  $\beta_2$ -/ $\beta_3$ -subtype results in a gainof-function as the  $\beta_1$ -antagonists broxaterol and terbutaline turn into agonists at these mutants. We conclude that the mutated positions represent critical residues for conformational changes that occur during receptor activation. This notion is supported by a receptor model suggesting that the amino acids mutated in this study are not involved in direct ligand-receptor recognition.

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#### Footnotes

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<sup>11</sup>These authors contributed equally to this work

<sup>2</sup>The abbreviations used are: GPCR, G protein-coupled receptor(s); <sup>125</sup>I-CYP, <sup>125</sup>I-iodocyanopindolol; TM, transmembrane domain; E2 loop, second extracellular loop

#### **Legends to Figures**

Figure 1

Sequence comparison of  $\beta$ -adrenergic receptor subtypes. Amino acids identical in two or three subtypes are shown in bold, homologous residues are given in black. All other amino acids are in gray. Transmembrane domains are marked by a line below the  $\beta_3$ -sequence. The boxed positions represent amino acids that are identical in the  $\beta_2$ - and  $\beta_3$ -receptor but different in the  $\beta_1$ -subtype. Arrows mark the mutations characterized in this study.

#### Figure 2

Gain-of-function of  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor mutants. Open and black columns show the broxaterol- or terbutaline-stimulated activity of adenylyl cyclase in the  $\beta_1$ - and  $\beta_2$ -wildtype receptors, respectively, relative to the signal of the full agonist isoproterenol. **A** In four of the  $\beta_1$ -mutants broxaterol does not show agonistic activity similar to the wildtype receptor. However, mutants I185V and D212N are activated by broxaterol almost to the level of activation observed in the  $\beta_2$ -receptor. **B** No activation of adenylyl cyclase was observed in

mutants L154V and F362L whereas mutants V120L, I185V, D212N and K253R are activated by terbutaline.

#### Figure 3

Model of the human  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor. **A** Amino acids shown correspond to the mutations that caused functional changes for broxaterol and/or terbutaline. **B** Amino acids thought to be directly involved in ligand recognition are shown in detail. Two of the mutated amino acids (I185 and D212) are also shown. The closest distance (7.7 Å) between terbutaline (bonds in light gray) and a mutated amino acid is marked with a white line to I185.

#### Table 1

	<u>K<sub>D</sub> (pM)</u>	95% confidence limits	$B_{max} \pm SEM$ (fmol/mg)
β1	38.5	26.6 - 55.9	$398 \pm 84$
$\beta_2$	16.7	9.1 - 30.6	$124 \pm 7$
V120L	13.9	7.4 - 26.5	$411 \pm 21$
L154V	33.6	25.4 - 44.5	$273 \pm 16$
I185V	12.7	7.5 - 21.6	$576 \pm 125$
D212N	23.5	12.7 – 43.4	$370 \pm 54$
K253R	45.5	35.2 - 58.9	$205 \pm 19$
F362L	27.6	22.0 - 34.7	$287 \pm 31$

Characteristics of wild-type human  $\beta_1$ - and  $\beta_2$ -receptors, and mutants of the  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor. Values are means from 3-6 experiments.

### Table 2

Affinity of epinephrine and norepinephrine at wild-type human  $\beta_1$ - and  $\beta_2$ -receptors, and functionally altered mutants of the  $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptor.

	epinephrine			norepinephrine		
${\beta_1}^*$	4000	(2,800 - 5,500)	3,600	(2,400 – 5,200)		
$\beta_2 *$	700	(500 - 1,000)	26,000	(23,000 - 30,000)		
$\beta_3 *$	130,000	(120,000 - 140,000)	4,000	(2,800 - 5,500)		
V120L	5,400	(2,700 - 10,700)	2,100	(1,100 - 3,800)		
I185V	5,600	(3,600 - 8,700)	3,800	(1,400 - 10,400)		
D212N	4,500	(3,400 - 5,900)	2,600	(1,900 – 3,600)		
K253R	6,900	(2,800 - 17,000)	3,100	(1,000 – 9,300)		

 $\overline{*}$  values are from (6)

Table 3	Affinity of agonists and antagonists at wild-type and mutant $\beta_1$ -adrenergic receptors. K <sub>i</sub> values are from competition experiments with
	<sup>125</sup> I-CYP as a radioligand. K <sub>i</sub> values are in nM with 95% confidence intervals in parentheses.

compound	$\underline{\beta_1 WT}^*$	V120L	I185V	<b>D212N</b>	K253R	
isoproterenol	220	280	260	300	450	
	(150 - 340)	(210 - 360)	(170 - 400)	(200 - 400)	(170 - 1,190)	
broxaterol	1,300	1,100	1,400	910	870	
	(930 - 1,900)	(1,000 - 1,100)	(980 - 2,000)	(560 - 1,500)	(560 - 1,400)	
terbutaline	31,000	34,000	40,000	48,000	50,000	
	(19,000 - 52,000)	(30,000 - 39,000)	(22,000 - 73,000)	(24,000 - 98,000)	(39,000 - 63,000)	
salmeterol	1,600	1,400	900	1,300	1,200	
	(1,100 - 2,300)	(1,100 - 1,700)	(700 - 1,200)	(560 - 3,000)	(780 - 2,000)	
ICI 118551	50	53	56	100	85	
	(40 - 361)	(32 - 89)	(32 - 98)	(44 - 240)	(56 - 130)	
CGP 20712A	4.7	2.9	2.8	3.9	4.7	
	(4.0 - 5.5)	(1.8 - 4.7)	(1.8 - 4.2)	(1.6 - 9.9)	(2.5 - 8.7)	

values are from (6)

## FIGURE 1

$\beta_1$	53	LSQQWT <b>AG</b>	M-GLLMALIV	LIVAGNVLV	IVAIAKTPRL	QTLTNLFIMS	LASADLVMGL	109
$\beta_2$	28	RDEVWVVG	M-GIVMSLIV	LAIVFGNVLV	ITAIAKFERL	QTVTNYFITS	LACADLVMGL	84
$\beta_3$	31	PGVPWEAA	LAGALLALAV	LATVGGNLLV	IVAIA WTPRL	QTMTNVF <u>V</u> TS	LAAADLVMGL	88
				TM 1			TM 2	
						1		
			×			×		
$\beta_1$	110	<b>LVVPFGAT</b> IV	VWGRWEYGSF	FCELWTSVDV	LCVTASIETL	CVIALDRYLA	ITSPFRYQSL	169
$\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}_2}$	85	AVVPFGAAHI	LMKMWTFGNF	WCEFWTSIDV	LCVTASIETL	CVIAVDRYFA	ITSPFKYQSL	144
$\beta_3$	89	LVVPPAATLA	LTGHWPLGAT	GCELWTSVDV	LCVTASIETL	CALAVDRYLA	VTNPLRYGAL	148
					TM 3			
			/		/			
					×			
$\beta_1$	176	RGLVCTVWAI	SALVSFLPIL	MHWWR A E S D -	EARRCYNDPK	CCDFVTNRAY	AIASSVVSFY	234
$\beta_2$	151	RVIILMVWIV	S GL T SFLP I Q	MHWYRATHQ-	EAINCYANET	CCDFFTNQAY	AIASSIVSFY	209
$\beta_3$	155	RTAVVLVWVV	SAAVSFAPIM	<u>SQW</u> WRVGADA	<b>EA</b> QRCHS <b>NP</b> R	CCAFASN <u>MPY</u>	VLLSSSVSFY	214
		TM 4					TM 5	
				•				
			K					
$\beta_1$	235	VPLCIMAFVY	LRVFREACKQ	VKKIDSCERR	<b>F</b> LGG	VALREQK <b>AL</b> K	TLGIIMG	334
$\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}_2}$	210	VPLVIMVFVY	SRVFQEAKRQ	LQKIDKSEGR	<b>F</b> HVQ	FCLKEHKALK	TLGIIMGTFT	283
$\beta_3$	215	LPLLVMLFVY	ARVFVVATRQ	<b>L</b> RLLRGEI <b>GR</b>	<b>F</b> PPE	lp <b>lreh</b> r <b>al</b> C	TLGLIMGTFT	302
					,			
				K				
$\beta_1$	335	LCWLPFFLAN	<b>VV</b> K <b>A</b> FHR-E <b>L</b>	<b>VP</b> DRL <b>F</b> VF <b>FN</b>	WLGYANSAFN	PIIYCRSPDF	RKAFQRLLC .	392
$\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_2$	284	LCWLPFFIVN	IVHVIQD-NL	irkevyil <b>ln</b>	WIGYVNSGFN	PLIYCRSPDF	RIAFQELLC .	341
β	303	LCWLPFFLAN	<b>V</b> LR <b>A</b> LGGPSL	VPGPAFLALN	WLGYANSAFN	PLIYCRSPDF	RSAFRRLLC .	361
- 0		TM 6			<b>TM</b> 7			









# Novel mutants of the human $\beta1\text{-}adrenergic$ receptor reveal amino acids relevant for receptor activation

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