



Figures and figure supplements

The adhesion function of the sodium channel beta subunit (β 1) contributes to cardiac action potential propagation

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Figure 1. ID Localization of Na_V1.5 and β 1. (A) Representative confocal images of GP left ventricular (LV) sections co-labeled for Na_V1.5 (green; top) / β 1 (green; bottom) along with N-cad (red). (B) Schematic diagrams, and representative confocal images of N-cad (red), and β 1 (green) illustrate the *Figure 1 continued on next page*



Figure 1 continued

plicate, and interplicate regions of the ID when viewed *en face*. The cartoon on the right summarizes the essential question addressed using STORM: Where within the ID are Na_V1.5 and β 1 localized? Representative STORM images showing x-y plane views of *en face* IDs labeled for: (**C**) Cx43 (green) and Nav1.5 (red), (**D**) N-cad (green) and Na_V1.5 (red), (**E**) Cx43 (green) and β 1 (red), (**F**) N-cad (green) and β 1 (red). Individual fluorophore molecules localized were at 20 nm lateral resolution, but are represented as 50 nm spheres to enhance visibility in print. The inset in C is shown rotated by 90° along the z-axis, and illustrates a Cx43 cluster flanked on either side by a cluster of Na_V1.5.



Figure 1—figure supplement 1. Validation of Na_V1.5 and β 1 antibodies. Representative confocal images of GP LV sections labeled using the novel rabbit (A) anti-Na_V1.5 and (B) β 1 antibodies in the absence (left) and presence (right) of a peptide corresponding to the respective epitopes. Western immunoblots of whole cell lysates of GP LV tissue labeled with the novel (C) Na_V1.5 and (D) β 1 antibodies in the absence (left lanes) and presence (right lane) of peptides corresponding to the respective epitopes. Western immunoblots of β 1 expression in (E) 1610 Parental and β 1OX cells and (F) in membrane lysates from the brains of *Scn1b*/ β 1-null (β 1 -/-) and WT (β 1 +/+) littermate mice (three experimental replicates shown). DOI: https://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.37610.003



Figure 1—figure supplement 2. Validation of Na_V1.5, β 1 antibody specificity. A dot blot experiment showing Na_V1.5 and β 1 antibody binding to specifically peptides corresponding to the epitopes against which they were raised. Both antibodies displayed selective affinity for their corresponding epitopes, with no evidence of cross-reactivity to each other's epitopes. DOI: https://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.37610.004



Figure 1—figure supplement 3. ID localization of β 1 via confocal immunofluorescence. (A) A confocal image of a transmural section of GP LV labeled for β 1 (green), Cx43 (red), and nuclei (blue).

Higher magnification images of *en face* IDs labeled for (B) β 1 (green) along with Cx43 (red), and (C) β 1 (green) along with N-cad (red) are also presented.



Figure 2. STORM-RLA quantification of Na_V1.5 and β 1 localization. (A) A graph summarizing STORM-RLA analysis of relative localization between clusters of co-labeled proteins. The solid bars indicate clusters with any overlap, the shaded bars represent adjacent clusters (corresponding to perinexal localization), and the clear bars indicate clusters distant from each other. (B) A summary graph of the degree of overlap, that is the fraction of cluster volume involved in overlap for those clusters, which demonstrated any overlap (corresponding to the filled bars in A). (D–F) Summary histograms generated by STORM-RLA show the closest inter-cluster distances between clusters of co-labeled proteins (n = 3 hearts, four image volumes per heart). The yellow boxes on each plot highlight negative inter-cluster distances, which correspond to overlapping clusters. Dashed black lines mark the median values. The green boxes indicate overlap of Na_V1.5/ β 1 clusters with perinexal regions surrounding Cx43 clusters (extending 200 nm from the GJ/Cx43 cluster edge [Veeraraghavan et al., 2015]).



Figure 3. β adp1 – a novel inhibitor of β 1-mediated adhesion. (A) Representative traces (top) and summary plot (bottom) of intercellular junctional resistance measured by ECIS in 1610 β 1OX, and 1610 Parental cells (five experimental replicates with two technical replicates per experiment; 4 × 10⁴ cells/well). (B) Homology model of the β 1 ectodomain based on the β 3 crystal structure, with the β adp1 sequence highlighted. (C) Docking of β adp1 with the β 1 homology model in silico in a low-energy conformation with the adhesion surface of the β 1 Ig loop. (D) Representative traces (left) and summary plot (right) demonstrating the effects of β adp1 on intercellular junctional resistance in 1610 β 1OX and 1610 parental cells (five experimental replicates with two technical replicates per experiment, 10⁴ cells/well, *p<0.05 by 2-factor ANOVA). (E) Effects of β adp1 on the formation of intercellular interactions between sub-confluent 1610 β 1OX and 1610 Parental cells, quantified as the change in resistance over 24 hr following plating in the absence/presence of β adp1.



Figure 3—figure supplement 1. R85D mutation abrogates β adp1 effects on β 1-mediated adhesion. Effects of β adp1 and β adp1-R85D on the formation of intercellular interactions between sub-confluent 1610 β 1OX cells forming into monolayers. The change in resistance over 24 hr from plating in the presence of peptide was normalized to the vehicle control measurement obtained simultaneously (*, p<0.05 vs. 0 μ M β adp1). DOI: https://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.37610.008







Figure 4. Modulating β 1-mediated adhesion. (A) A representative confocal image from a GP LV perfused with biotinylated β adp1 (β adp1-b) shows Cx43 (green) and β adp1-b (red) immunosignals. (B) Representative TEM images of GJ and perinexi from hearts perfused with control Tyrode's solution *Figure 4 continued on next page*



Figure 4 continued

(top) and β adp1 (100 μ M; bottom). (C) A summary plot of inter-membrane distance at perinexal (open bars) and non-junctional ID (hatched bars) from hearts perfused with vehicle (white), β adp1 (orange), or a scrambled version of β adp1 (β adp1-scr; gray) [n = 3 hearts/dose, *p<0.05 by 2-factor ANOVA].



Figure 4—figure supplement 1. Perinexal

ultrastructure in β 1-null mice. (A) Representative TEM images of GJ and perinexi (shaded in red), and (B) summary plots of intermembrane distance at perinexal and non-perinexal sites from WT, and β 1-null littermate mice (*, p<0.05 vs. WT).





Figure 5. β adp1 effects on I_{Na}, APs. (A) Representative I_{Na} traces from myocytes during vehicle control, or treatment with β adp1 or β adp1-scr. Current-voltage relationships during treatment with (B) 50, or (C) 100 μ M peptides. (D) Summary plots of I_{Na} density. (E) Representative AP traces and (F) AP duration during peptide treatment. Number of cells measured indicated on bar graphs.



Figure 6. β adp1 effects on I_{Na}. (A) Representative confocal image of NRVMs labeled for Cx43 (red) and β 1 (green). (B) Paired brightfield and fluorescence images along with an overlay demonstrate Cx43-EGFP fluorescence at cell-to-cell contacts. (C) Paired images of cell surface (SICM) and Figure 6 continued on next page



Figure 6 continued

Cx43-EGFP fluorescence (surface scanning confocal microscopy; SSCM) at a cell-to-cell contact site. (**D**) Representative SICM images of cell-to-cell contacts under control conditions and following 30 min of treatment with β adp1 or β adp1-scr (50 μ M) illustrate sites where I_{Na} was measured using SPC. (**E**) Representative traces and summary plot of I_{Na} from Cx43-EGFP fluorescence-adjacent junctional sites (Control: n = 12, β adp1: n = 8, β adp1-scr: n = 6; *p<0.05 vs control). (**F**) Representative traces and summary plot of whole-cell I_{Na} density (n = 6/ group). DOI: https://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.37610.013



Figure 6—figure supplement 1. β 1 expression in NRVMs. (A) Confocal images of Cx43 (green) along with β 1 (red; left) or N-Cad (red; right) and nuclei (blue) in untransduced and Cx43-EGFP-expressing NRVMs. (B) Confocal images of Cx43 (green), β 1 (red), and nuclei (blue) in NRVMs under control conditions and following 30 min of treatment with β adp1 or β adp1-scr (50 μ M). DOI: https://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.37610.014



Figure 6—figure supplement 2. β adp1 effects on I_{Na} at cell-to-cell contacts. (A) Representative SICM images of the surface of untransduced and Cx43-EGFP expressing NRVMs showing cell-to-cell contact sites under control conditions and following 60 min of treatment with β adp1 or β adp1-scr *Figure 6—figure supplement 2 continued on next page*



Figure 6—figure supplement 2 continued

(50 μ M). (B) Local I_{Na} density at junctional (solid bars) and non-junctional (hashed bar) sites (n's indicated in parentheses above bars; *p<0.05 vs. non-junctional). (C) Representative traces of local I_{Na} at junctional sites under control conditions and following peptide treatment. (D) Summary plots of junctional I_{Na} density under control conditions and following peptide treatment: (D) Summary plots of reaction in a 12, β adp1: n = 9, β adp1-scr: n = 6; Cx43-EGFP: Control: n = 12, β adp1: n = 8, β adp1-scr: n = 6; *p<0.05 vs. control). (E) Summary plot of non-junctional I_{Na} density under control conditions and following peptide treatment (Control: n = 12, β adp1: n = 12, β adp1-scr: n = 6; Ty = 0.05 vs. control). (E) Summary plot of non-junctional I_{Na} density under control conditions and following peptide treatment (Control: n = 12, β adp1: n = 12, β adp1: n = 12, β adp1: n = 12, β adp1. n = 12, β adp1

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Figure 7. β adp1 effects on cardiac electrophysiology. (A) Representative traces of volume-conducted ECGs from GP ventricles during control (black) and β adp1 (10 μ M; orange) perfusion. The solid gray vertical line marks the start of the QRS in both traces while gray and red dotted lines mark the end of the QRS in the control and β adp1 traces, respectively. Likewise, gray and red dashed lines mark the ends of the T wave in the control and β adp1 traces, respectively. The bottom orange trace shows an example of a polymorphic ventricular tachycardia (PVT) observed during β adp1 perfusion. Summary plots of (B) QRS duration and (C) QT interval during control, β adp1 (10 μ M) and β adp1-scr (10 μ M) perfusion (*p<0.05 vs. control). (D) Summary plot of QRS prolongation relative to control induced by different doses of β adp1 (*p<0.05 vs. control). Representative optical (E) APs and (F) isochrone maps of activation during unipolar epicardial pacing during control and β adp1 treatment (10 μ M). The white symbols indicate the sites of pacing. (G) Summary plots of longitudinal conduction velocity (CV_L; top), transverse conduction velocity (CV_T; middle) and anisotropy ratio (AR; bottom) during control (white), β adp1 (10 μ M; orange) and β adp1-scr (10 μ M; gray) perfusion (*p<0.05 vs. control). (H) Summary plots of normalized CV_L (top), CV_T (middle) and AR (bottom) at different doses of β adp1 during pacing at 300 ms cycle length (n = 3 per dose per treatment, *p<0.05 by 2-factor ANOVA).







Figure 7—figure supplement 2. β adp1 effects on conduction in iPSC-CMs. Confocal images of Cx43 (red) co-labeled with (A) Na_V1.5 (green) and (B) β 1 (green) in monolayers of iPSC-CMs. Insets show higher magnification views of regions highlighted by the dashed white boxes. (C) Optical AP upstrokes from equally spaced sites in the absence (black) and presence (orange) of β adp1. The earlier upstrokes from the two conditions are temporally aligned to illustrate differences in activation delay over an equal distance. (D) Summary plot of CV during control and following treatment with β adp1 or β adp1-scr (three experimental replicates with two technical replicates per experiment; *p<0.05 vs. control). DOI: https://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.37610.018



Figure 8. Schematic diagram of the cardiac ephapse. Top. A schematic diagram illustrating the organization of Na_v1.5, β 1, Cx43 and N-cad to different ID nanodomains. Note that plicate (fascia adherens/area composita) and interplicate (GJ, perinexus) regions of the ID are displayed side-by-side for convenience of representation, although they are, in reality, oriented along perpendicular axes. Bottom left. Illustration of an intact perinexus with close membrane apposition displayed with an ECG trace of intrinsic activity and illustration of normal intrinsic activation sequence represented on a diagram of the heart. The earliest sites of activation are represented in blue, and the latest in red as illustrated by the color bar. Bottom right. Illustration of a widened perinexus resulting from β adp1 inhibition of β 1-mediated adhesion with an ECG trace of a resulting PVT and illustration of arrhythmic activation sequence represented on a diagram of the heart.