A CONNECTION BETWEEN TRANSLATION AND SECRETION IS REVEALED BY TIF51A AND YPT1 GENETIC INTERACTIONS

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The translation initiation factor 5A (eIF5A) is essential and the only cellular protein that contains the aminoacid residue hypusine. eIF5A has been implicated in many cellular processes, but its precise biological function is not clear. Recently, eIF5A was shown to be directly involved with the translational machinery. A screen for synthetic lethal mutations was carried out with the tif51A-3 mutant and revealed a mutation (G80D) in the essential gene YPT1. This gene encodes a small GTPase involved with vesicular trafficking between the endoplasmatic reticulum and the Golgi. In order to assess the functionality of the secretory pathway, we investigated the maturation of the vacuolar glycoprotein carboxipeptidase Y (CPY) and verified that TIF51A mutants do not accumulate precursor forms of CPY at the nonpermissive temperature (37°C). Further, to verify the Ypt1 and eIF5A localization pattern, yeast extracts were separeted into soluble and microsomal fractions. We revealed that Ypt1 and eIF5A are both associated with microsomal membranes and also present in the soluble fraction. Microsomal membranes were then treated with EDTA or RNase to dissociate ribosomes and we demonstrate that eIF5A association with microsomal membranes is dependent on ribosome binding. Finally, we revealed that YPT1 mutants are sensitive to paromomycin, a protein synthesis inhibitor. Future studies may clarify the connection between translation and secretion.

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