

1 Nomenclature

EC number

3.4.22.60

Recommended name

caspase-7

Synonyms

C14.004 (Merops-ID)

CMH-1

ICE-LAP3

ICE-like apoptotic protease 3

LICE2 cysteine protease

SCA-2

SREBP cleavage activity 2

apoptotic protease Mch-3

caspase 7 <2> [28]

CAS registry number

189258-14-8

2 Source Organism

<1> *Mus musculus* (no sequence specified) [22, 32]

<2> *Homo sapiens* (no sequence specified) [3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35]

<3> *Rattus norvegicus* (no sequence specified) [26]

<4> *Xenopus laevis* (no sequence specified) [2, 21, 29]

<5> *Homo sapiens* (UNIPROT accession number: P55210) [1,7,14,15,16]

<6> *Mus musculus* (UNIPROT accession number: P97864) [1,8,16]

<7> *Mesocricetus auratus* (UNIPROT accession number: P55214) [17]

3 Reaction and Specificity

Catalyzed reaction

strict requirement for an Asp residue at position P1 and has a preferred cleavage sequence of Asp-Glu-Val-Asp/-

Reaction type

hydrolysis of peptide bond

Natural substrates and products

S epidermal growth factor receptor + H₂O <2> (<2> cleavage during apoptosis [12]) (Reversibility: ?) [12]

P ?

S kinectin + H₂O <2> (<2> kinectin is cleaved by caspase 7 during apoptosis induced by different stimuli. Kinectin functions as a membrane anchor for kinesin and may be relevant to the disruption of vesicle trafficking during apoptosis [18]) (Reversibility: ?) [18]

P ?

S poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase + H₂O <2, 5> (<2> whereas caspase-7 can cleave poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase in vivo, a collaborating caspase facilitates access to poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase, possibly by enhancing nuclear entry [23]; <5> the cleavage of poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase observed during apoptosis cannot solely be attributed to CPP32 but can also be an activity of Mch2α [15]) (Reversibility: ?) [11, 15, 23]

P ?

S pro-endothelial monocyte-activating polypeptide II + H₂O <1> (<1> caspase-7-mediated generation and release of mature endothelial monocyte-activating polypeptide II may provide a mechanism for leukocyte recruitment to sites of programmed cell death, and thus may link apoptosis to inflammation [22]) (Reversibility: ?) [22]

P ?

S viral nucleocapsid protein of transmissible gastroenteritis coronavirus + H₂O <2> (<2> cleavage site VVPD359-/. Destruction of viral protein by the host cell death machinery [9]) (Reversibility: ?) [9]

P ?

S Additional information <2, 6> (<6> overexpression induces apoptosis [8]; <2> caspase-7 is the most downstream caspase, overexpression does not lead to the activation of other caspases [23]; <2> the enzyme is activated during Fas- and tumor necrosis factor-induced apoptosis [23,24]) (Reversibility: ?) [8, 23, 24]

P ?

Substrates and products

S Ac-DEVD-7-amido-4-methylcoumarin + H₂O <1, 2> (Reversibility: ?) [27, 29, 30, 32]

P Ac-DEVD + 7-amino-4-methylcoumarin

S Ac-DEVD-*p*-nitroanilide + H₂O <2> (Reversibility: ?) [34]

P *p*-nitroaniline + Ac-DEVD

S Ac-DQTD-7-amido-4-methylcoumarin + H₂O <2> (Reversibility: ?) [27]

P Ac-DQTD + 7-amino-4-methylcoumarin

S Ac-DVAD-*p*-nitroanilide + H₂O <2> (Reversibility: ?) [31]

P *p*-nitroaniline + Ac-DVAD

S Ac-LDVAD-*p*-nitroanilide + H₂O <2> (Reversibility: ?) [31]

P *p*-nitroaniline + Ac-LDVAD

- S** Ac-VDVAD-*p*-nitroanilide + H₂O <2> (Reversibility: ?) [31]
- P** *p*-nitroaniline + Ac-VDVAD
- S** DEVD-7-amido-4-methylcoumarin + H₂O <5> (Reversibility: ?) [15]
- P** DEVD + 7-amino-4-methylcoumarin
- S** DEVD-7-amido-4-trifluoromethylcoumarin + H₂O <2> (Reversibility: ?) [25]
- P** DEVD + 7-amino-4-methylcoumarin
- S** PARP + H₂O <2> (<2> cleaved by caspase-7 during the initiation of apoptosis, cleavage at a single aspartate residue into a large N-terminal fragment and a smaller C-terminal fragment that contains different functional domains [29]) (Reversibility: ?) [25, 29]
- P** ?
- S** acetyl-ASTD-7-amido-4-methylcoumarin + H₂O <1> (Reversibility: ?) [22]
- P** acetyl-ASTD + 7-amino-4-methylcoumarin
- S** acetyl-Asp-Glu-Val-Asp-7-amido-4-methylcoumarin <3> (Reversibility: ?) [26]
- P** acetyl-Asp-Glu-Val-Asp + 7-amino-4-methylcoumarin
- S** acetyl-DEVD-4-nitroanilide + H₂O <2> (Reversibility: ?) [10, 23]
- P** acetyl-DEVD + 4-nitroaniline
- S** acetyl-DEVD-7-amido-4-fluoromethylcoumarin + H₂O <2> (Reversibility: ?) [23]
- P** acetyl-DEVD + 7-amino-4-fluoromethylcoumarin
- S** acetyl-DEVD-7-amido-4-methylcoumarin + H₂O <1, 2> (<2> iDEVD is the optimal tetrapeptide recognition motif [4]) (Reversibility: ?) [4, 22]
- P** acetyl-DEVD + 7-amino-4-methylcoumarin
- S** acetyl-DQMD-4-nitroanilide + H₂O <2> (Reversibility: ?) [10]
- P** acetyl-DQMD + 4-nitroaniline
- S** acetyl-VDQQD-4-nitroanilide + H₂O <2> (Reversibility: ?) [10]
- P** acetyl-VDQQD + 4-nitroaniline
- S** acetyl-VDQVDGW-amide + H₂O <2> (<2> preferred peptide substrate [10]) (Reversibility: ?) [10]
- P** ?
- S** acetyl-VDVAD-4-nitroanilide + H₂O <2> (Reversibility: ?) [10]
- P** acetyl-VAVAD + 4-nitroaniline
- S** acetyl-VEID-4-nitroanilide + H₂O <2> (Reversibility: ?) [10]
- P** acetyl-VEID + 4-nitroaniline
- S** acetyl-VQVD-4-nitroanilide + H₂O <2> (Reversibility: ?) [10]
- P** acetyl-VQVD + 4-nitroaniline
- S** acetyl-VQVDGW-amide + H₂O <2> (<2> preferred peptide substrate [4]) (Reversibility: ?) [4]
- P** ?
- S** acetyl-YEVD-4-nitroanilide + H₂O <2> (Reversibility: ?) [10]
- P** acetyl-YEVD + 4-nitroaniline
- S** claspin + H₂O <2, 4> (<2,4> cleaved by caspase-7 during the initiation of apoptosis, cleavage at a single aspartate residue into a large N-terminal

fragment and a smaller C-terminal fragment that contain different functional domains [29]) (Reversibility: ?) [29]

P ?

S epidermal growth factor receptor + H₂O <2> (<2> cleavage during apoptosis [12]) (Reversibility: ?) [12]

P ?

S inhibitor of caspase-activated DNase + H₂O <1, 2> (<2> human caspase-7 is less efficient than caspase-3 at cleaving [32]; <1> mouse caspase-7 and caspase-3 are equally efficient at cleaving [32]) (Reversibility: ?) [32]

P ?

S kinectin + H₂O <2> (<2> proteolytic cleavage of the 160000 Da enzyme form to a 120000 Da fragment [18]; <2> kinectin is cleaved by caspase 7 during apoptosis induced by different stimuli. Kinectin functions as a membrane anchor for kinesin and may be relevant to the disruption of vesicle trafficking during apoptosis [18]) (Reversibility: ?) [18]

P ?

S poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase + H₂O <2, 5, 7> (<2> whereas caspase-7 can cleave poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase in vivo, a collaborating caspase facilitates access to poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase, possibly by enhancing nuclear entry [23]; <2> whereas caspase-7 can cleave poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase in vivo, a collaborating caspase facilitates access to poly(-ADP-ribose) polymerase, possibly by enhancing nuclear entry [23]; <5> the cleavage of poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase observed during apoptosis cannot solely be attributed to CPP32 but can also be an activity of Mch2α [15]) (Reversibility: ?) [11, 14, 15, 17, 23]

P ?

S pro-endothelial monocyte-activating polypeptide II + H₂O <1> (<1> caspase-7-mediated generation and release of mature endothelial monocyte-activating polypeptide II may provide a mechanism for leukocyte recruitment to sites of programmed cell death, and thus may link apoptosis to inflammation [22]) (Reversibility: ?) [22]

P ?

S pro-endothelial monocyte-activating polypeptide II + H₂O <1> (<1> pro-endothelial monocyte-activating polypeptide II in which the ASTD cleavage site is changed to the sequence ASTA, is not processed by caspase-7 [22]) (Reversibility: ?) [22]

P endothelial monocyte-activating polypeptide II + ?

S sterol regulatory element binding protein-2 + H₂O <7> (<7> SREBP-2 is sterol regulatory element binding protein-2 [17]) (Reversibility: ?) [17]

P ?

S tumor necrosis factor receptor-I + H₂O <2> (<2> mutation E260Q of tumor necrosis factor receptor-I is sufficient to prevent cleavage [19]) (Reversibility: ?) [19]

P ?

S viral nucleocapsid protein of transmissible gastroenteritis coronavirus + H₂O <2> (<2> cleavage site VVPD359/- [9]; <2> cleavage site

VVPD359-/. Destruction of viral protein by the host cell death machinery [9]) (Reversibility: ?) [9]

P ?

S Additional information <2, 5, 6> (<2> the preferred cleavage sequence is DEVD-/- [5,6]; <5> no cleavage of YVAD-7-amido-4-methylcoumarin [15]; <5> no cleavage of interleukin 1 β precursor [14]; <6> overexpression induces apoptosis [8]; <2> caspase-7 is the most downstream caspase, overexpression does not lead to the activation of other caspases [23]; <2> the enzyme is activated during Fas- and tumor necrosis factor-induced apoptosis [23,24]) (Reversibility: ?) [5, 6, 8, 14, 15, 23, 24]

P ?

Inhibitors

AC-DEVD-aldehyde inhibitor <2> [34]

AC-DQTD-CHO <2> [27]

Ac-DEVD-CHO <2, 4> [27, 29]

Ac-Z-Val-Ala-Asp-fluoromethylketone <2> [27]

DEVD-CHO <2> [25]

DEVD-aldehyde <5> (<5> potent inhibitor [15]) [15]

DEVD-fluoromethylketone <2> (<2> more specific than YVAD-cmk [12]) [12]

X-linked inhibitor of apoptosis <2> [30]

YVAD-aldehyde <5> (<5> weak inhibitor [15]) [15]

YVAD-chloromethylketone <2> [12]

Z-Val-Ala-Asp-fluoromethylketone <2, 3> (<2> inhibits Enterovirus 70-induced apoptosis and virus release, but not intracellular viral production [35]) [26, 29, 30, 35]

acetyl-AEVD-aldehyde <2> [3]

acetyl-Ala-Pro-Nle-Asp-aldehyde <2> [13]

acetyl-DEVD-aldehyde <2> [3, 11]

acetyl-IETD-aldehyde <2> [3]

benzyloxycarbonyl-ASTD-fluoromethylketone <1> (<1> 0.01 mM, complete inhibition of cleavage of pro-endothelial monocyte-activating polypeptide II [22]) [22]

benzyloxycarbonyl-DEVD-chloromethylketone <1> (<1> 0.01 mM, complete inhibition [22]) [22]

benzyloxycarbonyl-Pro-Nle-Asp-aldehyde <2> [13]

benzyloxycarbonyl-VAD-[(2,6-dichlorobenzoyl)-oxy]methyl ketone <2> [11]

benzyloxycarbonyl-VAD-fluoromethylketone <2> (<2> $t_{1/2}$ at 0.001 mM is 98 s [3]) [3]

cowpox seroin CrmA <5> (<5> very weak inhibitor [15]) [15]

ketonic peptides <2> (<2> in the straight-chain aliphatic series, increasing inhibition with increasing chain length, for the unsubstituted aromatic P1 inhibitors increasing potency with decreasing linker length [34]) [34]

Additional information <2> (<2> K_i -values higher than 0.01 mM are determined for acetyl-WEHD-aldehyde and acetyl-YVAD-aldehyde and cowpox serin CrmA [3]) [3]

Activating compounds

ceramide <2> [33]

FSH <3> (<3> antiapoptotic effect on granulosa cells and a proapoptotic effect on theca-interstitial cells [26]) [26]

LH <3> (<3> antiapoptotic effect on granulosa cells and a proapoptotic effect on theca-interstitial cells [26]) [26]

apoptosome complex <2> [30]

cytolethal distending toxin <2> (<2> from *Actinobacillus actinomycetemcomitans* [27]) [27]

gonadotropins <3> (<3> increases caspase-7 activity in both theca-interstitial cells and granulosa cells [26]) [26]

hypoxia <2> [33]

nitric oxide <2> [33]

topoisomerase II inhibitor etoposide <2> (<2> procaspase-7 cleavage (= activation of caspase-7), which is abrogated in cells with ectopically expressed p53 [25]) [25]

topoisomerase II poison etoposide <2> [29]

Additional information <3> (<3> caspase-7 activity not increased by IGF-I [26]) [26]

Turnover number (min⁻¹)

1.26 <2> (Ac-VDVAD-*p*-nitroanilide) [31]

5.5 <2> (acetyl-DEVD-7-amido-4-methylcoumarin, <2> pH 7.0 [4]) [4]

6.08 <2> (Ac-DVAD-*p*-nitroanilide) [31]

6.08 <2> (Ac-LDVAD-*p*-nitroanilide) [31]

6.3 <2> (acetyl-DEVD-7-amido-4-methylcoumarin, <2> pH 7.5 [4]) [4]

6.9 <2> (acetyl-DEVD-7-amido-4-fluoromethylcoumarin, <2> pH 7.2, 37°C [23]) [23]

10.3 <2> (acetyl-DEVD-*p*-nitroanilide, <2> pH 7.2, 37°C [23]) [23]

Additional information <2> [10]

K_m-Value (mM)

0.012 <2> (acetyl-DEVD-4-nitroanilide, <2> pH 7.5, 30°C [10]) [10]

0.015 <2> (acetyl-DEVD-7-amido-4-methylcoumarin, <2> pH 7.0 [4]) [4]

0.0605 <2> (acetyl-DEVD-7-amido-4-fluoromethylcoumarin, <2> pH 7.2, 37°C [23]) [23]

0.0646 <2> (acetyl-DEVD-4-nitroanilide, <2> pH 7.2, 37°C [23]) [23]

0.1 <2> (acetyl-DEVD-7-amido-4-methylcoumarin, <2> pH 7.5 [4]) [4]

0.125 <2> (acetyl-VDQVDGW-amide, <2> pH 7.5, 30°C [10]) [10]

0.13 <2> (acetyl-DQMD-4-nitroanilide, <2> pH 7.5, 30°C [10]) [10]

0.13 <2> (acetyl-VQVDCGW-amide, <2> pH 7.5, 30°C [4]) [4]

0.2 <2> (acetyl-VDVAD-4-nitroanilide, <2> pH 7.5, 30°C [10]) [10]

0.2193 <2> (Ac-DVAD-*p*-nitroanilide) [31]

0.3149 <2> (Ac-VDVAD-*p*-nitroanilide) [31]

0.3239 <2> (Ac-LDVAD-*p*-nitroanilide) [31]

0.49 <2> (acetyl-YEVD-4-nitroanilide, <2> pH 7.5, 30°C [10]) [10]

0.57 <2> (acetyl-YEID-4-nitroanilide, <2> pH 7.5, 30°C [10]) [10]

2.1 <2> (acetyl-YQVD-4-nitroanilide, <2> pH 7.5, 30°C [10]) [10]
3.1 <2> (acetyl-VDQKD-4-nitroanilide, <2> pH 7.5, 30°C [10]) [10]

K_i-Value (mM)

1.6e-006 <2> (acetyl-DEVD-aldehyde, <2> pH 7.5, 25°C [3]) [3]
1.8e-006 <5> (DEVD-aldehyde, <5> pH 7.5, 37°C [15]) [15]
3.5e-005 <2> (acetyl-DEVD-aldehyde, <2> pH 7.5 [10]) [10]
0.000425 <2> (acetyl-AEVD-aldehyde, <2> pH 7.5, 25°C [3]) [3]
0.00328 <2> (acetyl-IETD-aldehyde, <2> pH 7.5, 25°C [3]) [3]
0.126 <2> (benzyloxycarbonyl-Pro-Nle-Asp-aldehyde, <2> pH 7.5, 25°C [13]) [13]
0.133 <2> (acetyl-Ala-Pro-Nle-Asp-aldehyde, <2> pH 7.5 [13]) [13]

pH-Optimum

6.5 <7> (<7> cleavage of sterol regulatory element binding protein [17]) [17]
7 <2> (<2> reaction with acetyl-DEVD-7-amido-4-methylcoumarin [4]) [4]

pH-Range

6-7 <7> (<7> pH 6.0: about 35% of maximal activity, pH 7.0: about 15% of maximal activity, cleavage of sterol regulatory element binding protein [17]) [17]

4 Enzyme Structure

Molecular weight

26000 <2> (<2> active form of caspase-7, Western blot analysis [35]) [35]
32000 <2> (<2> procaspase-7, Western blot analysis [35]) [35]
60000 <2> (<2> procaspase-7, immunoblotting [30]) [30]
200000 <2> (<2> X-linked inhibitor of apoptosis-caspase-7 complex, immunoblotting [30]) [30]
250000 <2> (<2> Western blot analysis [29]) [29]

Subunits

tetramer <2> [30]

Additional information <2, 5> (<2> 2 * 35000, procaspase-7 C285A mutant, in the homodimeric procaspase-7 each monomer is organized in two structured subdomains connected by partially flexible linkers, which asymmetrically occupy and block the central cavity, SDS-PAGE [20]; <5> it is proposed that the 22000 Da peptide and the 12000 Da peptide are two subunits of the enzyme [14,15]) [14, 15, 20]

Posttranslational modification

proteolytic modification <2, 5, 7> (<2> viral nucleocapsid protein of transmissible gastroenteritis coronavirus triggers the processing of procaspase 6 in human rectal tumor cell line HRT18jap1 [9]; <5> Mch3 α is made of two subunits derived from a precursor ProMch3 α . Asp23 and Asp198 are the most likely processing sites. Bacterially expressed Mch3 has intrinsic autocatalytic and autoactivation activity [15]; <7> enzyme is synthesized as an inactive 30000-35000 Da precursor and is thought to be cleaved during apopto-

sis to generate active fragments of 20000 Da and 10000 Da [17]; <2> the N-peptide of caspase-7 must be removed, probably by caspase-3, before efficient activation of the zymogen can occur in vivo. The N-peptide serves to physically sequester the caspase-7 zymogen in a cytosolic location that prevents access by upstream activators, caspase-8, caspase-9 and caspase-10 [23]; <5> both Mch4 and the serine protease granzyme B cleave proMch3 at a conserved IXXD-S sequence to produce the large and small subunits of the active protease. Mch3 is a target of mature protease in apoptotic cells [7]; <2> activation site is IQAD (P4,P3,P2,P1) [6]; <2> the 12000 Da and the 11000 Da polypeptides are generated by processing of the CMH-1 protein at Asp198-Ser199 and to a lesser extent at Asp206-Ala207 [23]; <5> CPP32 can efficiently cleave proMch3 α [15]) [6, 7, 9, 14, 15, 17, 23]

5 Isolation/Preparation/Mutation/Application

Source/tissue

Chang cell <2> (<2> conjunctival cell [35]) [35]
HEK-293 cell <2> [33]
HRT-18 cell <2> [9]
HeLa cell <2> [18, 28, 29]
JURKAT cell <2> [18, 19, 24, 27, 29]
MCF-7 cell <2> [30]
MOLT-4 cell <2> [27]
NCI-H1299 cell <2> [25]
SH-SY5Y cell <2> [33]
T-cell <5> [15]
T-lymphocyte <2> [27]
brain <1, 6> (<6> low activity [8]) [8, 32]
egg <4> [29]
granulosa cell <3> [26]
heart <6> [8]
kidney <1, 6> [8, 32]
liver <1, 6, 7> [8, 17, 32]
lung <5, 6> (<5> fetal lung [16]) [8, 16]
neuron <2> [33]
skeletal muscle <6> [8, 16]
skin <5> [1]
spleen <1, 5, 6> (<5> gestational spleen [16]) [8, 14, 16, 32]
stomach <1> [32]
tadpole <4> (<4> stage 62 tadpole tail [2]) [2]
tail <4> (<4> stage 62 tadpole tail [2]) [2]
telencephalon <1> (<1> precursor neurons [32]) [32]
testis <6> [8]
Additional information <2, 3> (<2> NCI-H358 cell [25]; <3> theca-interstitial cells, preovulatory follicles [26]; <2> U3A cell, 2fTGH cell, G8 cell, 1CC cell, 1C5 cell [28]) [25, 26, 28]

Localization

cytoplasm <2> [33]

cytosol <1, 2, 7> [17, 18, 29, 32]

nucleus <2, 4> (<4> caspase-7 is activated and accumulates in the nucleus. A prodomain of caspase-7, 31 amino acid residues, inhibits both the apoptosis-inducing activity and the nuclear localization, removal of the prodomain induces both the nuclear import of the catalytic protease and the cell killing activity [21]) [21, 29, 33]

plasma membrane <7> (<7> juxtamembrane structures [17]) [17]

Additional information <2> (<2> human caspase-7 is not a nuclear caspase removal of the N-peptide does not allow an active transport or accumulation of human caspase-7 in the nuclei [23]) [23]

Purification

<1> [32]

<2> [32, 34]

<2> (by nickel affinity chromatography, anion exchange chromatography and gel filtration) [31]

<2> (partially purified X-linked inhibitor of apoptosis-caspase-7 complex by gel filtration and immunopurification, SDS-PAGE) [30]

<5> [14]

<7> [17]

Crystallization

<2> (2.9 Å crystal structure of recombinant C285A procaspase, sitting drop vapor diffusion method) [20]

Cloning

<1> (cloned into the NcoI site of the pET11d vector and expression in Escherichia coli BL21codon+) [32]

<2> [3, 24, 25, 31, 32]

<2> (expression in CG1945 yeast strain) [33]

<2> (expression in Escherichia coli) [34]

<2> (expression in Escherichia coli BL21 (DE3) transformed with a pET-21b plasmid expression vector) [30]

<4> [2]

<5> (bacterially expressed Mch3 has intrinsic autocatalytic and autoactivation activity) [15]

<5> (overexpression in COS cells) [14]

<6> [8]

<7> [17]

Engineering

C285A <2> (<2> mutant procaspase-7 shows no autoactivation [20]) [20]

Application

medicine <1, 2, 4> (<2> *Actinobacillus actinomycetemcomitans* cytolethal distending toxin acts as an immunosuppressive factor, it possesses the ability to induce human T-cell apoptosis through activation of caspase-7 [27]; <2>

acute hemorrhagic conjunctivitis, Enterovirus 70 infection induces caspase-7-mediated apoptosis [35]; <2> cleavage of claspin by caspase-7 inactivates the Chk1 signaling pathway, this mechanism may regulate the balance between cell cycle arrest and induction of apoptosis during response of genotoxic stress [29]; <2> hydrophobic P5 residue has a favorable contribution to the recognition and hydrolysis of substrates but not by caspase-7, this information helps to design specific inhibitors for each caspase [31]; <2> low-dosage topoisomerase II inhibitor etoposide effectively inhibits proliferation rate [25]; <2> strong correlation between caspase-7 activity, normal brain development, and apoptotic DNA fragmentation in Casp3-/-mice [32]; <1> strong correlation between caspase-7 activity, normal brain development, and apoptotic DNA fragmentation in Casp3-/-mice, caspase-7 is a caspase-3 surrogate in Casp3-/-mice [32]; <2> substitution in the P1 position could be used in synergy with other elements to obtain highly potent and isozyme-selective caspase inhibitors [34]; <2> SUMO-1 modification in caspase-7 may contribute to the cleavage of nuclear substrates during neuronal apoptosis [33]) [25, 27, 29, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35]

Additional information <2> (<2> apoptosis is preceded by proteolytic cleavage of e.g. caspase 7, prolonged nuclear localization of activated signal transducer and activator of transcription 1 results in apoptosis involving specific regulation of caspase pathway [28]) [28]

References

- [1] Strausberg R.L.; Feingold E.A.; Grouse L.H.; Derge J.G., et al.: Generation and initial analysis of more than 15,000 full-length human and mouse cDNA sequences. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, **99**, 16899-16903 (2002)
- [2] Nakajima, K.; Takahashi, A.; Yaoita, Y.: Structure, expression, and function of the *Xenopus laevis* caspase family. *J. Biol. Chem.*, **275**, 10484-10491 (2000)
- [3] Garcia-Calvo, M.; Peterson, E.P.; Leiting, B.; Ruel, R.; Nicholson, D.W.; Thornberry, N.A.: Inhibition of human caspases by peptide-based and macromolecular inhibitors. *J. Biol. Chem.*, **273**, 32608-32613 (1998)
- [4] Garcia-Calvo, M.; Peterson, E.P.; Rasper, D.M.; Vaillancourt, J.P.; Zamboni, R.; Nicholson, D.W.; Thornberry, N.A.: Purification and catalytic properties of human caspase family members. *Cell Death Differ.*, **6**, 362-369 (1999)
- [5] Chang, H.Y.; Yang, X.: Proteases from cell suicide: functions and regulation of caspases. *Microbiol. Mol. Biol. Rev.*, **64**, 821-846 (2000)
- [6] Thornberry, N.A.; Rano, T.A.; Peterson, E.P.; et al.: A combinatorial approach defines specificities of members of the caspase family and granzyme B. Functional relationships established for key mediators of apoptosis. *J. Biol. Chem.*, **272**, 17907-17911 (1997)
- [7] Fernandes-Alnemri, T.; Armstrong, R.C.; Krebs, J.F.; Srinivasula, S.M.; Wang, L.; Bullrich, F.; Fritz, L.C.; Trapani, J.A.; Tomaselli, K.J.; Litwack, G.; Alnemri, E.S.: In vitro activation of CPP32 and Mch3 by Mch4, a novel human apoptotic cysteine protease containing two FADD-like domains. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, **93**, 7464-7469 (1996)

- [8] van de Craen, M.; Vandenabeele, P.; Declercq, W.; van den Brande, I.; van Loo, G.; Moelmans, F.; Schotte, P.; van Criekinge, W.; Beyaert, R.; Fiers, W.: Characterization of seven murine caspase family members. *FEBS Lett.*, **403**, 61-69 (1997)
- [9] Eleouet, J.F.; Slee, E.A.; Saurini, F.; Castagne, N.; Poncet, D.; Garrido, C.; Solary, E.; Martin, S.J.: The viral nucleocapsid protein of transmissible gastroenteritis coronavirus (TGEV) is cleaved by caspase-6 and -7 during TGEV-induced apoptosis. *J. Virol.*, **74**, 3975-3983 (2000)
- [10] Talanian, R.V.; Quinlan, C.; Trautz, S.; Hackett, M.C.; Mankovich, J.A.; Banach, D.; Ghayur, T.; Brady, K.D.; Wong, W.W.: Substrate specificities of caspase family proteases. *J. Biol. Chem.*, **272**, 9677-9682 (1997)
- [11] Margolin, N.; Raybuck, S.A.; Wilson, K.P.; Chen, W.; Fox, T.; Gu, Y.; Livingston, D.J.: Substrate and inhibitor specificity of interleukin-1 β -converting enzyme and related caspases. *J. Biol. Chem.*, **272**, 7223-7228 (1997)
- [12] Bae, S.S.; Choi, J.H.; Oh, Y.S.; Perry, D.K.; Ryu, S.H.; Suh, P.G.: Proteolytic cleavage of epidermal growth factor receptor by caspases. *FEBS Lett.*, **491**, 16-20 (2001)
- [13] Kissilev, A.F.; Garcia-Calvo, M.; Overkleeft, H.S.; Peterson, E.; Pennington, M.W.; Ploegh, H.L.; Thornberry, N.A.; Goldberg, A.L.: The caspase-like sites of proteasomes, their substrate specificity, new inhibitors and substrates, and allosteric interactions with the trypsin-like sites. *J. Biol. Chem.*, **278**, 35869-35877 (2003)
- [14] Lippke, J.A.; Gu, Y.; Sarnecki, C.; Caron, P.R.; Su, M.S.-S.: Identification and characterization of CPP32/Mch2 homolog 1, a novel cysteine protease similar to CPP32. *J. Biol. Chem.*, **271**, 1825-1828 (1996)
- [15] Fernandes-Alnemri, T.; Takahashi, A.; Armstrong, R.C.; Krebs, J.; Fritz, L.C.; Tomaselli, K.J.; Wang, L.; Yu, Z.; Croce, C.M.; Salveson, G.; Earnshaw, W.C.; Litwack, G.; Alnemri, E.S.: Mch3, a novel human apoptotic cysteine protease highly related to CPP32. *Cancer Res.*, **55**, 6045-6052 (1995)
- [16] Juan, T.S.-C.; McNiece, I.K.; Argento, J.M.; Jenkins, N.A.; Gilbert, D.J.; Copeland, N.G.; Fletcher, F.A.: Identification and mapping of Casp7, a cysteine protease resembling CPP32 β , interleukin-1 β converting enzyme, and CED-3. *Genomics*, **40**, 86-93 (1997)
- [17] Pai J.-T., Brown M.S., Goldstein J.L.: Purification and cDNA cloning of a second apoptosis-related cysteine protease that cleaves and activates sterol regulatory element binding proteins. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, **93**, 5437-5442 (1996)
- [18] Machleidt, T.; Geller, P.; Schwandner, R.; Scherer, G.; Kronke, M.: Caspase 7-induced cleavage of kinectin in apoptotic cells. *FEBS Lett.*, **436**, 51-54 (1998)
- [19] Ethell, D.W.; Bossy-Wetzel, E.; Bredesen, D.E.: Caspase 7 can cleave tumor necrosis factor receptor-I (p60) at a non-consensus motif, in vitro. *Biochim. Biophys. Acta*, **1541**, 231-238 (2001)
- [20] Riedl, S.J.; Fuentes-Prior, P.; Renatus, M.; Kairies, N.; Krapp, S.; Huber, R.; Salvesen, G.S.; Bode, W.: Structural basis for the activation of human pro-caspase-7. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, **98**, 14790-14795 (2001)

- [21] Yaoita, Y.: Inhibition of nuclear transport of caspase-7 by its prodomain. *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.*, **291**, 79-84 (2002)
- [22] Behrensdorf, H.A.; van de Craen, M.; Knies, U.E.; Vandenebeele, P.; Clauss, M.: The endothelial monocyte-activating polypeptide II (EMAP II) is a substrate for caspase-7. *FEBS Lett.*, **466**, 143-147 (2000)
- [23] Denault, J.B.; Salvesen, G.S.: Human caspase-7 activity and regulation by its N-terminal peptide. *J. Biol. Chem.*, **278**, 34042-34050 (2003)
- [24] Duan, H.; Chinnaiyan, A.M.; Hudson, P.L.; Wing, J.P.; He, W.-W.; Dixit, V.M.: ICE-LAP-3, a novel mammalian homologue at the Caenorhabditis elegans cell death protein Ced-3 is activated during Fas- and tumor necrosis factor-induced apoptosis. *J. Biol. Chem.*, **271**, 1621-1625 (1996)
- [25] Chiu, C.C.; Lin, C.H.; Fang, K.: Etoposide (VP-16) sensitizes p53-deficient human non-small cell lung cancer cells to caspase-7-mediated apoptosis. *Apoptosis*, **10**, 643-650 (2005)
- [26] Yacobi, K.; Wojtowicz, A.; Tsafiriri, A.; Gross, A.: Gonadotropins enhance caspase-3 and -7 activity and apoptosis in the theca-interstitial cells of rat preovulatory follicles in culture. *Endocrinology*, **145**, 1943-1951 (2004)
- [27] Ohara, M.; Hayashi, T.; Kusunoki, Y.; Miyauchi, M.; Takata, T.; Sugai, M.: Caspase-2 and caspase-7 are involved in cytolethal distending toxin-induced apoptosis in Jurkat and MOLT-4 T-cell lines. *Infect. Immun.*, **72**, 871-879 (2004)
- [28] Sironi, J.J.; Ouchi, T.: STAT1-induced apoptosis is mediated by caspases 2, 3, and 7. *J. Biol. Chem.*, **279**, 4066-4074 (2004)
- [29] Clarke, C.A.; Bennett, L.N.; Clarke, P.R.: Cleavage of claspin by caspase-7 during apoptosis inhibits the Chk1 pathway. *J. Biol. Chem.*, **280**, 35337-35345 (2005)
- [30] Twiddy, D.; Cohen, G.M.; Macfarlane, M.; Cain, K.: Caspase-7 is directly activated by the approximately 700-kDa apoptosome complex and is released as a stable XIAP-caspase-7 approximately 200-kDa complex. *J. Biol. Chem.*, **281**, 3876-3888 (2006)
- [31] Fang, B.; Boross, P.I.; Tozser, J.; Weber, I.T.: Structural and kinetic analysis of caspase-3 reveals role for S5 binding site in substrate recognition. *J. Mol. Biol.*, **360**, 654-666 (2006)
- [32] Houde, C.; Banks, K.G.; Coulombe, N.; Rasper, D.; Grimm, E.; Roy, S.; Simpson, E.M.; Nicholson, D.W.: Caspase-7 expanded function and intrinsic expression level underlies strain-specific brain phenotype of caspase-3-null mice. *J. Neurosci.*, **24**, 9977-9984 (2004)
- [33] Hayashi, N.; Shirakura, H.; Uehara, T.; Nomura, Y.: Relationship between SUMO-1 modification of caspase-7 and its nuclear localization in human neuronal cells. *Neurosci. Lett.*, **397**, 5-9 (2006)
- [34] Goode, D.R.; Sharma, A.K.; Hergenrother, P.J.: Using peptidic inhibitors to systematically probe the S₁ site of caspase-3 and caspase-7. *Org. Lett.*, **7**, 3529-3532 (2005)
- [35] Chen, D.; Texada, D.E.; Duggan, C.; Deng, Y.; Redens, T.B.; Langford, M.P.: Caspase-3 and -7 mediate apoptosis of human Chang's conjunctival cells induced by enterovirus 70. *Virology*, **347**, 307-322 (2006)