Site of Addition of N-Acetyl-galactosamine to the E1 Glycoprotein of Mouse Hepatitis Virus-A59

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Abstract. By pulse-chase labeling with [35S]methionine and long-term labeling with 3H-sugars, the E1 glycoprotein of coronavirus MHV-A59 has been shown to acquire O-linked oligosaccharides in a two-step process. About 10 min after synthesis of the E1 protein, N-acetyl-galactosamine was added. This was followed ~10 min later by the addition of both galactose and sialic acid to give the mature oligosaccharides. This sequence of additions was confirmed by analyzing the 3H-labeled oligosaccharides bound to each of the E1 forms using gel filtration on P4 columns. The intracellular location of the first step was determined by exploiting the temperature sensitivity of virus release. The virus normally buds first into a smooth membrane compartment lying between the rough endoplasmic reticulum and the cis side of the Golgi stack (Tooze et al., 1984). At 31°C the virus is assembled but does not appear to enter the Golgi stacks. The addition of N-acetyl-galactosamine is unaffected although the addition of galactose and sialic acid is inhibited. These results strongly suggest that addition of N-acetyl-galactosamine occurs in this budding compartment, the morphology of which is similar to that of transitional elements and vesicles.

Proteins exported from the endoplasmic reticulum (ER) move through each of the cisternae of the Golgi stack before they are directed to their correct destination either inside or outside the cell (Rothman, 1981; Griffiths and Simons, 1986; Pfeffer and Rothman, 1987). Many proteins undergo a series of posttranslational modifications during this transport including the addition of oligosaccharides which are either N-linked to asparagine or O-linked to serine or threonine. The sequence of modifications to these covalently bound oligosaccharides reflects the movement of the protein from one compartment to the next on the transport pathway. The addition and modification of the N-linked oligosaccharides has been extensively investigated (reviewed by Kornfeld and Kornfeld, 1980) but much less is known about the addition of O-linked oligosaccharides. For the simplest and most common type there is indirect evidence that construction of the O-linked glycans is a two-step process, the addition of N-acetyl-galactosamine (GalNAc) preceding that of galactose (Gal) and sialic acid (NANA). The addition of the last two sugars almost certainly occurs in the trans part of the Golgi stack (Cummings et al., 1983; Elhammer and Kornfeld, 1984). Proposals for the site of addition of the first sugar, however, range from the rough ER (Strous, 1979), where the proteins are assembled, to the cis part of the Golgi stack which is the entry point for proteins that have left the ER (Cummings et al., 1983; Roth, 1984), to the medial part (Niemann et al., 1982; Elhammer and Kornfeld, 1984), and finally to the trans-Golgi cisternae (Johnson and Spear, 1983). Most of the evidence supports the idea that GalNAc is added either just before or just after the protein leaves the ER. There are several reasons why it has proven so difficult to locate the site of this first sugar addition, of which the absence of a combined biochemical and morphological study of the O-glycosylation of a single protein must rank as the most important.

The E1 envelope protein of coronavirus MHV-A59 (Mouse Hepatitis Virus, strain A59) contains only O-linked oligosaccharides and is, therefore, a good model for studying addition of O-linked sugars. MHV-A59 buds intracellularly and E1 is the only viral membrane protein needed for budding (Holmes et al., 1981a, b; Rottier et al., 1981). After synthesis in the rough ER this protein is transported to a smooth membrane compartment between the rough ER and Golgi stack where it accumulates allowing nucleocapsids in the cytoplasm to bind which results in the formation of a virion (Holmes et al., 1981a; Tooze et al., 1984). The virions then follow the secretory pathway out of the cell (Holmes et al., 1981b; Tooze et al., 1987). The virions contain in addition to E1 a second envelope glycoprotein, E2, which is essential for infectivity (Sturman, 1981) and is incorporated at some as yet undefined stage during the budding or transport of the virions through intracellular compartments. E2 is a fusogen and is also transported in cellular membranes to the plasma.
membrane where it helps spread the infection by inducing the fusion of infected cells with contiguous uninfected cells (Sturman and Holmes, 1983).

Reduced temperature has proven to be a very useful tool in analyzing compartments on the exocytic transport pathway. Different steps are differentially sensitive so that proteins accumulate at different stages. This has led to the morphological characterization of a compartment similar to the coronavirus budding compartment, but found in baby hamster kidney (BHK) cells infected with Semliki Forest virus and incubated at 15°C (Saraste and Kuismanen, 1984). Here we exploit reduced temperature to prevent movement of coronavirus and analyze the oligosaccharides bound to E1 on the arrested virus. We also present evidence showing that the budding compartment, which by morphological criteria is clearly related to transitional elements and transitional vesicles, as classically defined in exocrine pancreatic cells by the work of Paleide and colleagues (Caro and Palade, 1964; Jamieson and Palade, 1967), is not created by the process of infection but exists in the uninfected cell. A physiological function of this compartment appears to be the addition of GalNAc, implying that it contains the enzyme which adds this sugar to serine and threonine residues.

**Materials and Methods**

**Materials**

All cell culture reagents were supplied by BRL-Gibco, Karlsruhe, Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) and all cell culture plasticware by Falcon Labware, Becton, Dickinson & Co., Heidelberg, FRG. Monensin was a gift of Eli Lilly & Co., Indianapolis, IN. CCCP (carbonyl cyanide m-chlorophenyl hydrzone), Pronase (sp act 70,000 proteolytic units/g), and Pansorbin was supplied by Calbiochem-Behring Corp., Frankfurt, FRG. [1,6-3H]Galactosamine (sp act 30 mCi/mmol), [methyl-14C]BSA (sp act 17 mCi/mg), [3H]Methionine (sp act 10.4 mCi/mmol), I-[l-3H]galactose (sp act 10.4 mCi/mmol), and EN3HANCE were supplied by Calbiochem-Behring Corp., Frankfurt, FRG. [5,6-3H]Glucosamine (sp act 10 mCi/mmol), [methyl-14C]BSA (sp act 17 mCi/mg, [6-3H]-N-acetyl-mannosamine (sp act 30 mM/cm), and ENHANCE were supplied by New England Nuclear, Boston, MA. Na[3H]Ib (sp act 14.4 Ci/mm), [3H]Ibmannose (sp act 49.4 mCi/mmol), UDP-[3H]-l-[3H]galactosamine (sp act 45-55 mCi/mmol), d-[U-14C]galactose (sp act 10.4 mCi/mmol), N-acetyl [4,5,6,7,8,9-3H]Neuromus acid (NANA) (sp act 244 mCi/mmol), and [3H]Methionine (sp act 100-1,600 mCi/mmol) were obtained from Amersham Buchler GMH, Braunschweig, FRG. Test neuraminidase from *Vibrio cholerae* was obtained from the Behring Institute, Frankfurt, FRG. Neuraminidase (type V) isolated from *Clostridium perfringens* was obtained from Sigma, Chemical GmbH, Munich, FRG. Amberlite mixed bed resin MB-1 was purchased from BDH Chemicals, Ltd., Poole, England. Moviol was purchased from Thomas Scientific, Philadelphia, PA. All other solid chemicals and reagents were obtained from Sigma Chemical GmbH, Munich, FRG. Liquid reagents were obtained from E. Merck, Darmstadt, FRG.

**Cells and Virus**

MHV-A59 was propagated on sac-(-) cells (Tooze et al., 1984) and titred by plaque titration on confluent monolayers of L cells as follows. After infection for 1 h at 37°C, the monolayers were overlaid with 2% carboxymethyl cellulose and incubated for 24 h at 37°C in 95% air/5% CO₂ incubator. The monolayers were then fixed and stained with 35 mM Tris-CI buffer, pH 7.2, containing 0.25% (wt/vol) crystal violet, 1.75% (vol/vol) formaldehyde, 10% (vol/vol) MeOH, and 0.5% (vol/vol) CaCl₂ (Kääriäinen et al., 1969).

**Indirect Immunofluorescence**

Sac-(-) cells grown on coverslips and infected with MHV-A59 were fixed with 3% formaldehyde and labeled (Tooze et al., 1984) using either a mouse antibody directed against E1 (4-17-M1-F4-M1; gift of M. Koolen, Utrecht, and A. Osterhuis, National Institute of Public Health, Bilthoven, Holland) or an antibody directed against an endogenous Golgi protein (Burke et al., 1982). The second antibody (rabbit anti-mouse), kindly provided by Dr. B. Burke, European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Heidelberg, FRG, was affinity purified and conjugated to rhodamine. The fixed and labeled coverslips were mounted in Moviol and viewed by epifluorescence on a Zeiss photomicroscope III.

**Electron Microscopy**

Infected sac-(-) cells in 35-mm dishes were fixed, dehydrated, and embedded in Epon as previously detailed (Tooze et al., 1984).

**Immunoperoxidase Labeling**

The anti-E1 antibody (4-17-M1-F4-M1) was used for immunoperoxidase labeling after our standard protocol (Tooze et al., 1984).

**[35S]Methionine Labeling of MHV-A59 and the E1 Glycoprotein**

Infected sac-(-) cells, in 35-mm dishes, were either pulse labeled or continuously labeled with [35S]methionine. After washing three times in methionine-free modified Eagle’s medium (MEM-net), cells were labeled with 100-250 µCi [35S]methionine for 5-10 min at 37°C, or for longer periods at 35, 31, 30, 25, and 20°C. Some cells were chased at 37 or 31°C for various times by the addition of growth medium containing 1.5 mg/ml of methionine, 10× the normal amount. For quantitation of the number of E1 molecules labeled [35S]methionine with a defined specific activity was used. The cells were washed with ice cold PBS and extracted with 1% Triton X-114 (TX-114) in PBS containing 40 µg/ml phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF) at 4°C. The insoluble residue was removed by centrifugation at 10,000 g, for 5 min at 4°C. The detergent phase, enriched in the E1 glycoprotein, was isolated from the detergent-soluble extract as described by Bordier (1981). The medium containing labeled virions was collected and layered onto a 20-50% continous sucrose gradient as described by Spann et al. (1981). The virions were harvested from the gradients after centrifugation for 3 h at 100,000 g. The E1 glycoprotein was extracted from virions using TX-114 as detailed above. The EI-enriched detergent extracts from cells or virus were solubilized and reduced in sample buffer, alkylated (Green et al., 1981), and then fractionated by SDS-PAGE using a 15% running gel and a 5% stacking gel (Maizel, 1971). Incorporation of radioactive [35S]methionine was determined after TCA precipitation (Mans and Novelli, 1961) and equal counts were loaded onto each lane unless otherwise indicated. Gels were fixed using 10% (vol/vol) TCA, treated with EN3HANCE, dried, and exposed to Kodak XAS film for 1-5 d at ~80°C.

To quantitate the [35S]methionine incorporated in the E1 glycoprotein the fluorogram was exposed to Kodak X-AR5 film. The fluorograph was then used to locate the E1 bands in the fluorogram. The excised pieces were rehydrated and incubated in 0.5 ml of 30% (vol/vol) H₂O₂ in 10 mM HCl at 60°C for 48 h. Scintillation fluid (10 ml) (Rotizant 22, Firma Roth, Karlsruhe, FRG) was then added and the samples were cooled to 4°C and counted. Gel pieces of equivalent sizes from areas containing no samples were treated similarly and used to provide blanks which were typically <1% of the experimental values.

**Immunoprecipitation and Neuraminidase Digestion of the E1 Glycoprotein**

[35S]Methionine-labeled cells were solubilized in RIPA buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.6, 0.15 M NaCl, 1% [wt/vol] Triton X-100, 0.1% [wt/vol] SDS, and 1% [wt/vol] sodium deoxycholate) containing a cocktail of protease inhibitors (40 µg/ml PMSF, 1 µg/ml leupeptin, 1 µg/ml antipain, 1 mM benzamidine, and 10 U/ml Trasylol). The extract was centrifuged at 10,000 g, and the supernatant was treated with 5 µl of a polyclonal antiserum raised against a Triton X-114 extract of gradient-purified virions (Tooze and Stanley, 1984). After overnight incubation at 4°C, the immune complexes were immobilized on Pansorbin for 1 h at 37°C and washed three times with RIPA buffer.

One half of the sample was then digested with 1 µU/ml neuraminidase from *Clostridium perfringens* in 10 mM sodium acetate buffer, pH 5.6, containing 1 mM CaCl₂, for 16 h at 37°C. The digested immune complexes were then washed well with 10 mM Tris-HCl buffer, pH 7.2, containing the protease inhibitor cocktail. These samples, together with the untreated ones, were then prepared for and fractionated by SDS-PAGE.
The growth medium was changed at 6 h after infection and cultures were either left at 37°C or shifted to 31°C for the time period indicated. The cultures were treated at 3.5 h after infection with proteinase K to remove any virions from the infecting stock bound to the surface. * Temperature of incubation.

### Table I. Inhibition of the Release of Plaque-forming Units at 31°C

| Hours after infection | 6-8 h | 6-12 h |
|----------------------|-------|--------|
| 37°C*                | 1.0 x 10^5 | 7.3 x 10^7 |
| 31°C†                | nd- | 8.1 x 10^7 |
| Inhibition at 31°C   | >1 x 10^5-fold | 900-fold |

### Preparation of E1 Glycopeptides

Infected sac(−) cells (2 x 10^6 cells) were labeled for 12 h with 25 μCi/ml [1,6-3H]glucosamine in MEM containing 10% the normal concentration of glucose (100 μg/ml), 10% (vol/vol) dialyzed FCS, 10 mM HEPES buffer, pH 7.2, 10 mM sodium pyruvate, and 100 μg/ml each of penicillin and streptomycin. The cells were solubilized in RIPA buffer and the E1 glycoprotein was immunoprecipitated as described above. The procedures described below are adapted from Cummings et al. (1983). After SDS-PAGE the individual glycosylated forms of E1 were excised from the dried gel, rehydrated, and digested with pronase (final concentration 5 mg/ml). The glycopeptides were eluted from the gel pieces using H₂O. The eluate containing the glycopeptides was then lyophilized and resuspended in H₂O.

### Preparation of E1 Oligosaccharides by Mild Alkaline Hydrolysis

Glycopeptides were acetylated by treatment with acetic anhydride (Baenziger and Kornfeld, 1974) and desalted over an Amberlite mixed bed resin before mild alkaline hydrolysis. The eluate, after lyophilization, was re-suspended in 0.2 M sodium carbonate, pH 11.6, then treated with an equal volume of 2 M NaBH₄ in 100 mM NaOH, and incubated for 16 h at 45°C as described by Niemann and Klenk (1981). After neutralization at 4°C with glacial acetic acid, the oligosaccharides were passed over a Dowex 50W-X8H⁺ column and eluted with 1% (vol/vol) acetic acid. The peak fractions containing the oligosaccharides were pooled and lyophilized. The eluate containing the glycopeptides was then lyophilized and resuspended in H₂O.

### Table II. Effect of a Decrease to 31°C on the Distribution of E1

| Hours after infection | 6-8 h | 6-12 h |
|----------------------|-------|--------|
| 37°C                 | 1.0 x 10^5 | 7.3 x 10^7 |
| 31°C                 | 8.1 x 10^7 | 1.1 x 10^7 |

* Counts per minute in all forms of E1 detected by fluorography, including the lower molecular weight forms of E1 generated by proteinase K digestion (Rottier et al., 1984).
activity assay, El contained in virus particles released from the cells was quantitated. Infected cells were labeled from 6 to 9 h after infection with [35S]methionine at 37 and 31°C, the medium was collected, and any labeled virions associated with the plasma membrane were removed by proteinase K treatment at 4°C and pooled with the virions in the medium. After SDS-PAGE and fluorography of virions purified from the medium, the E1 band was excised and counted. As shown in Table II, the 6°C drop in temperature during the labeling period inhibited the release of virion-associated El by >80%. In marked contrast, however, the total amount of El synthesized was reduced by only ∼20% upon shifting the temperature to 31°C (Table II). Total protein synthesis, in both infected and uninfected cells, was on average decreased by only 23% over the same time period.

The discrepancy between the observed 1,000-fold decrease in the release of infectious virions (Table I) and the fivefold decrease in the release of virion-associated El (Table II) may mean that at 31°C more noninfectious particles are assembled and released. However, we favor an alternative explanation, namely, that proteinase K treatment damages some cells and leads to artificial release of intracellular virions because, when medium is collected from cells at 31°C without proteinase K treatment, the amount of methionine-labeled virion-associated El is below the limits of detection by fluorography after SDS-PAGE (data not shown). Furthermore, electron microscopic studies of thin sections of infected cells incubated at 31°C from 7 to 24 h after infection reveal very few extracellular virions associated with the plasma membrane (see below and Fig. 10).

These data show that El synthesis continues almost normally at 31°C but the release into the medium of virions is dramatically inhibited. To determine the site of accumulation of virions and El at 31°C a combination of both biochemical and morphological techniques was used.

**Glycosylation of El Is a Two-step Process**

At 37°C and 8 h after infection, sac(-) cells were pulsed for 5 min with [35S]methionine and then chased in the presence of excess unlabeled methionine for up to 40 min. Fig. 1 shows that a proportion of the unglycosylated El protein (Elu, lane 1) is converted after 10 min of chase to an intermediate form of higher molecular weight (Ei, lane 2) and after ∼20 min of chase (lane 3) to the mature forms (Eim), which in this experiment consisted of three distinct polypeptides differing in molecular mass by ∼4 kD. Three forms of El were always detected (Fig. 1, lane 4), and in some experiments varying but small amounts of two additional higher molecular mass forms were resolved. The observed increases in molecular mass must be due to the addition of O-linked oligosaccharides (Holmes et al., 1981a; Niemann and Klenk, 1981; Rottier et al., 1981), which is the only known posttranslational modification of El. The intermediate form El has, however, been previously detected and the heterogeneity of mature forms resolved in Fig. 1 was not seen in previous work with the same virus propagated in a different cell line (e.g., Niemann et al., 1982).

To determine the sugar composition of the oligosaccharides bound to each of the El forms, infected cells were labeled from 7 to 8.5 h after infection with [3H]-precursors of each of the sugars expected to be present in the O-linked oligosaccharides, extracted with Tx-114, and subjected to SDS-PAGE followed by fluorography. As expected, Elm, the unglycosylated form of El, was not labeled by any of the 3H-sugars (Fig. 2, cf. lane 1 with lanes 2–4). [3H]Galactose and [3H]N-acetyl-mannosamine are specific metabolic precursors of Gal and NANA, respectively (Neutra and Leblond, 1966; Monaco and Robbins, 1973), and these were found to label only the Elm forms (Fig. 2, cf. lane 1 with lanes 3 and 4). The presence of NANA in Elm was also confirmed by treatment of [35S]methionine-labeled El with neuraminidase. The Elm polypeptides alone were reduced in molecular mass to a form which migrated slightly slower than El (Fig. 3, lane 4) and was assumed to have O-linked oligosaccharides composed of Gal–GalNAc. Mature forms of El are known to contain two types of O-linked oligosaccharides: (a) a disialylated form (Niemann et al., 1984), NANAα2→3Galβ1→3(NANAα2→6)GalNAc; and (b) a monosialylated form, NANAα2→3Galβ1→3GalNAc.

The intermediate form of El (Elr) was labeled by [3H]glucosamine (Fig. 2, lane 2) which is converted by cells into [3H]GalNAc, [3H]NANA, and [3H]GlCNAC. Elr does not, however, contain NANA because it was not labeled by [3H]-N-acetyl-mannosamine (Fig. 2, lane 4). Elr was also not labeled by [3H]Gal (Fig. 2, lane 3). Based on the known structure of the oligosaccharides, these data indicate that GalNAc is most likely the only sugar present in the El form.
Figure 3. Neuraminidase digestion of E1. Infected sac(-) cells were pulse labeled for 10 min with 0.2 µCi/µl [35S]methionine or pulse labeled and chased for 60 min at 37°C. After immunoprecipitation, the samples were divided in half and were either (lanes 1 and 2) incubated without neuraminidase in the digestion buffer or (lanes 3 and 4) with 0.2 mU/ml neuraminidase in the digestion buffer at 37°C overnight. Equal volumes were loaded onto each lane. *, the major digestion product after neuraminidase treatment.

The Intermediate Form of E1 Contains GalNAc

To confirm that the intermediate form of E1 results from the addition of GalNAc, infected cells were labeled from 4 to 16 h after infection with [3H]glucosamine at 37°C. The virus was purified from the medium, solubilized in Tx-114, and pooled with the labeled cells that were also solubilized in Tx-114. After phase extraction, E1 was immunoprecipitated and resolved by SDS-PAGE followed by fluorography. The polypeptides were excised from the gel in two groups, the lower (Elu and Eli) and higher (Elm) molecular mass forms, and analyzed by P4 column chromatography after alkaline hydrolysis to release the oligosaccharide side chains. Any oligosaccharides released from the lower molecular mass forms of E1 must have originated from Eli since Elu is not labeled by [3H]glucosamine (Fig. 2, lane 2). As shown in Figure 4 a, a single peak of 3H-sugar ran at the position of GalNAcitol (the alcohol derivative of GalNAc), which was not sensitive to treatment with neuraminidase (Fig. 4 b). The two predominant 3H-labeled oligosaccharides from Elu, (peaks Fig. 4 c, A and B) correspond to the disialylated and monosialylated oligosaccharides. After treatment with neuraminidase, both A and B were converted quantitatively to NANA (Fig. 4 d, peak C) and Ga1[3→3]GalNAcitol (Fig. 4 d, peak D). These sugars, as well as GalNAcitol (Fig. 4 d, peak E), are present in the untreated samples (Fig. 4 c), most likely as degradation products of alkaline hydrolysis.

Taken together, the experiments described so far show that GalNAc is the first sugar added to the E1 protein, followed at a later time by Gal and NANA.

Reduced Temperature Blocks Conversion of E1 to the Mature Form

To examine the effect of decreased temperature on the glycosylation of E1, infected cultures were labeled for 10 min at 37°C and then chased at either 37 or 31°C (Fig. 5). After 90 min of chase at 31°C, the infected cultures were returned to 37°C for a further 90 min, the amounts of the Elu, and El, forms decreased (Fig. 5, lane 6) concomitant with release of virus.

Reduced Temperature Does Not Change the Amount of the Intermediate Form of E1

Cells infected for 7 h at 37°C were incubated for 3 h at various lower temperatures in the presence of [35S]methionine. The total amount of E1 present both intracellularly and in virions adhering to the surface was then determined after the extract was subjected to SDS-PAGE. The three different
forms of E1 were excised from the gel and quantitated; the results are presented in Fig. 6a. As expected from Fig. 5, a decrease in the incubation temperature reduces the percentage of E1m and increases the percentage of E1. Surprisingly, the percentage of E1 remains approximately constant at all the temperatures. In a separate experiment the absolute amounts of each of the E1 forms were measured at both 37 and 31°C and, as shown in Fig. 6b, the decrease in the mature forms, E1m, was accompanied by an increase in the unglycosylated form, E1{sub}. but there was no change in the amount of the intermediate form, E1i.

**Perinuclear Localization of E1 at 37 and 31°C**

To relate the block in oligosaccharide maturation to the intracellular localization of E1, infected cells were labeled for indirect immunofluorescence microscopy, using a mAb against E1. At 7 h after infection at 37°C, E1 was restricted to a perinuclear region (Fig. 7a) and the pattern of labeling was similar to, but more extensive than, that observed with antibodies specific for an endogenous Golgi protein (data not shown). Between 7 and 12 h after infection at 37°C syncytia developed, each containing several hundred nuclei, and concomitantly E1 became detectable in the rough ER throughout the cytoplasm (Fig. 7b). At these late times the mAb against E1 also labeled patches at the cell surface (Fig. 7b); this labeling we attribute to released progeny virions, which are known to remain closely associated with the cell surface (Dubois-Dalcq et al., 1984).

In contrast, when the cells were shifted at 7 h after infection to 31°C and incubated until 12 h after infection, the E1 labeling within the cells remained restricted to the perinuclear region, although the area and intensity of labeling increased above that seen at 7 h after infection (Fig. 7, a and c). Furthermore, neither the rough ER nor the surface of cells incubated from 7 to 12 h after infection at 31°C labeled for E1. These observations imply that E1 accumulated in the perinuclear region during the incubation at 31°C and that virions were not transported out of the cell. During the 5-h incubation at 31°C, the syncitia also failed to enlarge significantly. The viral envelope glycoprotein E2 is responsible for viral-induced cell fusion (Sturman and Holmes, 1985) and we attribute the lack of growth of the syncytia to the failure in the transport of virions out of the cells. There may also be, at 31°C, a reduction in the transport to the plasma membrane of E2 as a membrane glycoprotein, independent of the transport of virions, but this was not investigated. This inhibition of the enlargement of the syncytia was reversible; they expanded rapidly within 2–3 h after a return to 37°C (data not shown).

**Intracellular Localization of Viral Budding**

Budding of progeny virions, which occurs at membranes with a high concentration of the viral E1 spike glycoprotein, was first detected in thin sections under the electron microscope between 6 and 7 h after infection. At these early times, the first and only site of budding was a smooth membranous compartment with a complex and irregular vesiculotubular morphology (Fig. 8). This compartment, which we refer to here as the budding compartment, was always closely associated with cisternae of the rough ER, including transitional elements. Usually, but not always, the budding compartment was also juxtaposed to the cis side of the Golgi stack (see Fig. 2). Since the membrane of the budding compartment is smooth it cannot be the site of synthesis of E1 or its insertion into membranes. Furthermore, we have previously reported that budding compartment does not contain a cytochemical marker of the rough ER (Toозе and Holmes, 1984). We conclude that the initial site of accumulation of E1 to levels that support budding is a distinct smooth-
membraned compartment usually found between transitional elements of the rough ER and usually lies between them and the Golgi complex.

Examination of single and serial sections showed that this distinct compartment also exists in uninfected cells (Fig. 9), where it is also invariably associated with transitional elements of the rough ER and Golgi stacks. Comparison of Figs. 8 and 9 shows that the budding compartment is more dilated in infected than in uninfected cells. In part, no doubt, this is a result of the budding of virions, each ~1,000 Å in diam, into this compartment in the infected cells. Although we have not made extensive morphometric analyses of the budding compartment, it is clear from examination of single and serial sections that its volume and surface area are smaller than those of either the Golgi complex or the rough ER.

Beginning between 8 and 9 h after infection at 37°C, the rough ER becomes a site of budding of virions and progressively more viruses bud and accumulate in this compartment (Tooze et al., 1984, 1985). Virions can also be seen increasingly in the rims of Golgi cisternae and in post-Golgi vesicles transporting the virus to the cell surface. The Golgi cisternae become distended and eventually vesiculate; by 12 h after infection cell lysis starts (Tooze et al., 1984; and unpublished observations).

Localization of E1 by Immunoelectron Microscopy

Using an immunoperoxidase labeling technique and a mAb against an amino-terminal epitope of E1 (Tooze and Stanley, 1986), we determined at the level of resolution of the electron microscope which membranes contained E1 at different times after infection at the two temperatures. At 5-7 h after infection at 37°C, the rough ER was not labeled but the budding compartment was labeled as expected from indirect immunofluorescence microscopy. There was also distinct labeling of all the stacked cisternal membranes of the Golgi complex (Fig. 11). The reaction product was found on the luminal side of these compartments (Fig. 11) consistent with the fact that the mAb recognizes an amino-terminal epitope of E1. Continued incubation at 37°C increased the number of labeled compartments to include the rough ER (Tooze et al. 1985).

The labeling of Golgi cisternae at 5-7 h after infection indicates that some E1 reaches the cisternal membranes as an integral membrane protein. However, the absence of budding of virions directly into the Golgi cisternae at these early times after infection (Tooze et al., 1984; Figs. 9 and 11) indicates that the amount of E1 in these membranes is below the threshold concentration necessary for budding but clearly is not below the threshold of detection by the immunoperoxidase technique which involves enzymatic amplification.

After a shift from 37 to 31°C at times between 5 and 7 h after infection, with 3-5 h further incubation at the lower temperature, the labeling pattern of E1 using the im-

Figure 7. Indirect immunofluorescence of infected sac(-) cells labeled with a mAb specific for El. Infected sac(-) were incubated at 37°C until (a) 7 h after infection, (b) 12 h after infection, or (c) incubated until 7 h after infection at 37°C and then shifted to 31°C until 12 h after infection, fixed, and labeled. Bar, 10 μm.
Figure 8. A gallery of micrographs of the budding compartment in sac(−) cells at 6–7 h after infection with MHV-A59. The smooth-membraned budding compartment with progeny virions and budding figures (arrows) is closely associated with cisternae of the rough ER, including transitional elements (te in B), which at this early stage of infection are not a site of virus budding. These examples were selected to show budding compartments not juxtaposed to Golgi stacks and therefore are comparable to the budding compartment in an uninfected cell shown in Fig. 9. (Budding compartments close to Golgi stacks are shown in Fig. 11.) Note the irregular form of this compartment and its distension by the accumulating virions. Frequently parts of the cytoplasmic face of the budding compartment have a "bristle" coat and appear to be sites of fusion of small vesicles (arrowheads in A, B, D, and E). This coat differs in morphology from the coats of typical coated vesicles (open arrows in A and C). Orci et al. (1986) have shown by immunocytochemistry that coats of this type associated with Golgi membranes lack clathrin. Bars, 0.25 μm.
Figure 9. Serial sections through a budding compartment in an uninfected sac(-) cell. In uninfected cells this compartment (arrowheads) is found closely associated with transitional element regions of the rough ER (arrows). Often the budding compartment occurs between transitional elements and Golgi stacks but sometimes, as this figure shows, it is not adjacent to a Golgi stack. In this situation, because of the absence of smooth cis-Golgi membranes, it is easier to trace the budding compartment through serial sections. Note the complex irregular morphology of the budding compartment and the absence of ribosomes from its membrane. The micrographs shown are of nine sections (S1–S5, S7, and S10–S12) from a continuous ribbon of 13 sections, each ~50–60 nm thick. In this example, therefore, the budding compartment extended through a depth of ~650 nm. All micrographs are at the same magnification. Bar, 0.25 μm.
munoperoxidase technique was very similar to that seen at 7 h after infection at 37°C. Reaction product was seen in the budding compartment and some in the Golgi cisternae (data not shown).

**Discussion**

There are at least two posttranslational modifications which result in a change in the molecular mass of coronavirus E1. The first involves addition of GalNAc ~10 min after synthesis; the molecular mass increase of 1 kD would correspond to the addition of three GalNAc molecules. The sequence of E1 (Armstrong et al., 1984) shows that there are four potential glycosylation sites for O-linked oligosaccharides at the amino terminus of the protein (NH$_2$-Ser-Ser-Thr-Thr) of which a maximum of three are used (Niemann et al., 1984). About 10 min later, Gal and NANA are added to give a variety of mature E1 forms which can be explained by variation in the number of GalNAc residues that are modified and by the heterogeneity of the mature sialylated oligosaccharides.

The addition of Gal and NANA probably occurs in the trans-Golgi complex, because the necessary enzymes are found there (Carlson et al., 1973; Sadler et al., 1979; Rearick et al., 1979; Elhammer and Kornfeld, 1984) and drugs which inhibit transport into and through the Golgi complex (Quinn et al., 1983; Tartakoff et al., 1983) inhibit formation of the mature oligosaccharide structure. We have found that both monensin and CCCP inhibit the glycosylation of E1 in a manner essentially identical to the inhibition at 31°C (Tooze, 1987). Such results must, however, be interpreted with some caution because with these drugs it is often impossible to distinguish between inhibition of transport and direct inhibition of the enzymes which add the sugars.

The pathway taken by newly synthesized E1 is complicated by the intracellular budding of the virus. At its simplest, one can envisage that E1 moves to the budding compartment, nucleocapsids bind and bud, and E1 then moves through the secretory pathway as part of the maturing virion. However, immunoperoxidase labeling shows clearly that E1 in the Golgi complex is not only present in virions but also in every cisternal membrane (see Fig. II). The amount of E1 in Golgi membranes cannot be estimated because of the catalytic nature of the peroxidase technique but, until very late in the viral infection, it must be lower than that needed to support
budding of the virus. This accumulation of E1 in the Golgi membranes during infection may represent a dead end caused by "leakage" of E1 from the budding compartment if the nucleocapsids are unable to trap all of the E1 in budding virions. This idea is supported by the finding that E1 is not transported beyond the Golgi stack in cellular membranes (Tooze and Stanley, 1986; Tooze et al., 1987). Alternatively, cisternal E1 may represent a genuine part of the maturation pathway. E1 may have to move through Golgi cisternae and then back again to the budding compartment before it can participate in the budding reaction. This seems very unlikely, however, because all attempts to show movement of other ER proteins to the Golgi stack and back again have failed (Yamamoto et al., 1985; Brands et al., 1985). It is, therefore, more reasonable to assume that E1 is transported from the membrane of the ER to the budding compartment where it reaches a concentration sufficient to allow budding for the first time. Thereafter, incorporated into the envelope of progeny virions, it moves through the Golgi stack and thence to the cell surface with only a small amount leaking to the Golgi stack independent of the virions. As the infection progresses the amount of E1 being synthesized increases (our unpublished data) and at the same time budding of progeny virions directly into the lumen of the rough ER begins and increases. We interpret this to indicate that the rate of insertion of E1 into the rough ER membrane beings to exceed the rate of its transport out of the ER to the budding compartment.

Reducing the temperature to 31°C profoundly inhibits the release of virions into the medium. All the morphological evidence suggests that at 31°C it is the entry of virions into the Golgi complex that is inhibited; as a result, few virions are seen in the Golgi cisternae or in the post Golgi transport vesicles and the Golgi stack maintains its normal morphology. The inhibition of virion transport is accompanied by an inhibition of terminal glycosylation. This would be expected if (a) terminal glycosylation occurred in the trans-Golgi complex and, (b) if the E1 is delivered there normally incorporated in the envelopes of progeny virions rather than as an integral protein of cellular membranes. But at 31°C, addition of GalNAc still occurs to an unchanged extent suggesting that this sugar is added in or just before the budding compartment.

Interestingly, the amount of E1 containing GalNAc (EI,) does not change when the temperature is reduced. The de-
crease in Elm is accompanied only by an increase in Elm. This correlates with the increase in budding into the rough ER and further argues that GalNAc is not added in the rough ER but in the budding compartment. If GalNAc was added either cotranslationally or while the El resided in the rough ER membrane, an increase in the amount of the El, form would be expected both at 37 and 31°C as the concentration of El reaches levels that not only support budding into this compartment but also can readily be detected by immunocytochemistry (Tooze et al., 1985). However, the constant amount of El containing GalNAc (El1) implies that the compartment in which the sugar is added has a limited capacity and is smaller than the rough ER. Morphological evidence indicates that the budding compartment fulfills these criteria.

The budding compartment is not a product of infection because it is found in uninfected sac(−) cells and our preliminary observations of serial sections of rat exocrine pancreatic cells and murine AtT20 cells shows that it is not peculiar to sac(−) cells. In all three cell types, the budding compartment is found frequently in close association with patches of rough ER differentiated into transitional elements in regions juxtaposed to the cis side of the Golgi apparatus. However, the budding compartment and transitional elements of the rough ER in sac(−) cells are not restricted to this region; they also occur associated with patches of rough ER remote from the Golgi apparatus. The existence of peripheral transitional elements in pancreatic cells has long been known (Jamieson and Palade, 1967). Our observations, together with those of Saraste and Kuismanen (1984), Tartakoff (1986), and Merisko et al. (1986) indicate that the structure of the transitional element–transitional vesicle region of the cell is considerably more complex than hitherto appreciated.

Fig. 12 summarizes our interpretation of the results described above which suggest that GalNAc is added in the budding compartment. This is not to say that the enzyme, N-acetyl-galactosaminyltransferase, is found exclusively in this compartment, although available fractionation data shows that it is restricted to smooth membranes (Kim et al., 1971; Ko and Raghuopathy, 1972; Hanover et al., 1980, 1982; Elhammer and Kornfeld, 1984). One must remember that the position of an enzyme can only be inferred from the position of the substrate and product subject to certain strict criteria. Obviously, the enzyme cannot be located in the pathway after the point at which the substrate acquires the sugar, but it can exist at any site up to the point at which the substrate appears to be modified. This is because the substrate may have to assume a particular conformation before it can be acted upon by the enzyme. The N-acetyl-galactosaminyltransferase could be present earlier in the pathway than the budding compartment but the El may not be a substrate until it reaches the budding compartment. Alternatively, the means of detecting the modification may depend on the substrate conformation. The presence of protein-bound GalNAc in the cis Golgi as detected by lectin labeling (Roth, 1984) may reflect addition of the sugar in this compartment or in some prior compartment in which the protein-bound oligosaccharide is inaccessible to the lectin. These possibilities are not normally considered but they could explain the large and otherwise irreconcilable discrepancies in the location that has been assigned to N-acetyl-galactosaminyltransferase (Strous, 1979; Niemann et al., 1982; Cummings et al., 1983; Johnson and Spear, 1983). These differences will only be resolved by locating the enzyme itself using an immunocytochemical technique.

The transport to the plasma membrane of the envelope glycoproteins of the influenza virus, SFV, and VSV can be slowed in the trans-most Golgi compartment by reducing the incubation temperature from 37 to 20°C (Matlin and Simons, 1983; Saraste and Kuismanen, 1984; Fuller et al., 1985). Blocking the transport of these proteins from the rough ER to the Golgi stacks requires a further reduction in temperature to 16°C (Saraste and Kuismanen, 1984). By contrast, lowering the incubation temperature by only 6°C, from 37 to 31°C, results in at least a 1,000-fold reduction in the release of MHV-A59 virions and concomitantly blocks the completion of the O-glycosylation of the El viral envelope glycoprotein, as we have shown here. Why the transport of MHV-A59 particles from the budding compartment to the Golgi apparatus and thence out of the cell is so very much more cold sensitive than the transport out of the rough ER of the envelope glycoproteins of VSV and SFV remains to be explained. Possibly the difference stems from the fact that in one case it is whole virions which are being transported and, in the other, viral glycoproteins inserted into cellular membranes.

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