Review Article

Bach1: Function, Regulation, and Involvement in Disease

Xinyue Zhang, Jieyu Guo, Xiangxiang Wei, Cong Niu, Mengping Jia, Qinhan Li, and Dan Meng

Department of Physiology and Pathophysiology, School of Basic Medical Sciences, Fudan University, Shanghai 200032, China

Correspondence should be addressed to Dan Meng; dmeng@fudan.edu.cn

Received 23 May 2018; Accepted 12 September 2018; Published 2 October 2018

Academic Editor: Kum Kum Khanna

Copyright © 2018 Xinyue Zhang et al. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

The transcription factor BTB and CNC homology 1 (Bach1) is widely expressed in most mammalian tissues and functions primarily as a transcriptional suppressor by heterodimerizing with small Maf proteins and binding to Maf recognition elements in the promoters of targeted genes. It has a key regulatory role in the production of reactive oxygen species, cell cycle, heme homeostasis, hematopoiesis, and immunity and has been shown to suppress ischemic angiogenesis and promote breast cancer metastasis. This review summarizes how Bach1 controls these and other cellular and physiological and pathological processes. Bach1 expression and function differ between different cell types. Thus, therapies designed to manipulate Bach1 expression will need to be tightly controlled and tailored for each specific disease state or cell type.

1. Introduction: Bach1 Structure and Cellular Distribution

BTB and CNC homology 1 (Bach1) is a member of the Cap 'n' Collar and basic region leucine zipper family (CNC-bZip) of transcription factors. It is widely expressed in mammalian tissues, and the human variant consists of 736 amino acids. The N-terminal region of Bach1 contains a BTB/POZ domain, which functions as a protein interaction motif, while the C-terminal bZip domain binds to DNA [1] and mediates the heterodimerization of Bach1 with small Maf proteins (e.g., MafF, MafG, and MafK) (Figure 1). Once formed, the Bach1-Maf heterodimers inhibit the transcription of many oxidative stress-response genes, including heme oxygenase-1 (HO-1) [2] and NADPH quinone oxidoreductase 1 (NQO1) [3], by binding to Maf recognition elements (MAREs) in the gene promoters. Another transcription factor in the basic region leucine zipper family, Bach2, is expressed in B cells, T cells, macrophages, and neural cells [4] and is involved in oxidative stress-mediated apoptosis, macrophage-mediated innate immunity, and adaptive immune response [5–7].

Bach1 contains six cysteine-proline (CP) motifs, four of which are located in a heme-binding region near the C-terminus. Heme inactivates Bach1 by interacting with two of the CP motifs, leading to the exclusion of Bach1 from the nucleus [8], and by promoting HOIL-1-mediated ubiquitination and degradation [9]. Bach1 nuclear export is also triggered by the antioxidant-induced phosphorylation of a tyrosine residue (Bach1 tyrosine 486) [10] and by cadmium, which activates a cytoplasmic localization signal (CLS) located in the Bach1 C-terminus via a mechanism that requires extracellular signal–related kinase (ERK) [11]; both heme- and cadmium-induced Bach1 nuclear export signals are dependent on chromosome region maintenance 1 (Crm1) [12]. After export into the cytoplasm, Bach1 forms fiber-like structures on microtubules by colocalizing with intracellular hyaluronic acid-binding protein (IHABP), which regulates the subcellular localization of Bach1 [13]. Furthermore, human cells also express an alternative splice variant of Bach1, Bach1t, which lacks the leucine zipper domain and is constitutively nuclear, suggesting that Bach1/Maf heterodimer formation may also have an important role in Bach1 subcellular localization and activity [14].

Bach1 competes with nuclear factor (erythroid-derived 2)-like-2 (Nrf2) for binding to the MAREs in oxidative stress-response genes. Under normal physiological conditions, nuclear Nrf2 contributes to vascular protection by inducing expression of the glutamate cysteine ligase modulatory subunit (GCLM) and the light chain component of system x_c^- (xCT) in human endothelial cells, while cytoplasmic
Nrf2 is bound and inhibited by Kelch-like ECH-associated protein 1 (Keap1) [15]. During oxidative stress, Nrf2 dissociates from Keap1, translocates into the nucleus, and binds to MAREs as a heterodimer with small Mafs, thereby activating oxidative stress-response genes (e.g., HO-1 and NQO1) [16], while Bach1 is displaced from MAREs and exported out of the nucleus [17] (Figure 2); evidence in hepatocytes suggests that both the nuclear import of Nrf2 and the dissociation of Bach1-MARE are promoted by sirtuin (Sirt) 6 [18]. Furthermore, a functional MARE site has been identified near the transcription start site of Bach1 transcript variant 2, and Nrf2 overexpression, as well as Nrf2-activating agents, upregulates Bach1 expression [19]. Thus, Bach1 appears to act as a functional inhibitor of Nrf2 under physiological oxygen levels [16], while Nrf2 restores Bach1 levels after oxidative stress-induced Bach1 nuclear export and degradation.

2. Bach1 in Oxidative Stress and Heme Homeostasis

Bach1-deficient mice are more resistant to the oxidative stresses associated with trinitrobenzene sulfonic acid-(TNBS-) induced colitis [20], hyperoxic lung injury, nonalcoholic steatohepatitis [21], and cardiovascular disease [22], as well as bleomycin-induced pulmonary fibrosis [23], while declines in Bach1 expression or activity reduced measures of oxidative stress-induced apoptosis in pancreatic β-cells [24] and the damaging effects of ultraviolet radiation in keratinocytes [25]. Furthermore, we have shown that Bach1 overexpression enhances the production of reactive oxygen species (ROS) from the mitochondria of endothelial cells and in the ischemic limbs of mice, which leads to increases in apoptosis and declines in angiogenesis [26]. Many of the genes targeted by Bach1 (e.g., NQO1, glutamate-cysteine ligase catalytic subunit (GCLC), glutamate-cysteine ligase modifier (GCLM), and solute carrier family 7 member 11 (SLC7A11)) [3, 27] also participate in redox regulation, including HO-1, which is essential for cell survival under conditions of oxidative stress and for the maintenance of cellular iron homeostasis in higher eukaryotes [28]. HO-1 expression is suppressed by Bach1 when heme levels are low, but higher heme levels inhibit Bach1-DNA binding and promote Bach1 nuclear export and degradation [12], thereby inducing HO-1 expression, which subsequently degrades heme while generating antioxidant molecules such as ferrous iron, carbon monoxide (CO), and biliverdin. Thus, the Bach1/HO-1 pathway forms a feedback loop that maintains heme homeostasis during periods of oxidative stress. Bach1 also appears to increase the cytotoxicity of an anticancer drug by downregulating HO-1 expression in human primary acute myeloid leukemia (AML) cells [29].

3. Bach1 in the Cell Cycle, Senescence, and Mitosis

The effect of Bach1 on cell proliferation and survival can differ profoundly depending on the cell type and experimental conditions. In endothelial cells, we have shown that exogenous Bach1 expression inhibited proliferation and the expression of cyclin D1 while inducing cell-cycle arrest and caspase 3-dependent apoptosis [26]; however, proliferation was also impaired in Bach1-deficient aortic smooth muscle cells (SMCs) [30], and Bach1 deficiency reduced both proliferation and activated p53-dependent senescence in murine embryonic fibroblasts under conditions of oxidative stress [31]. Notably, although many of the genes targeted by Bach1, such as E2F1, cyclin-dependent kinase 6 (CDK6), calmodulin 1 (CALM1), transcription factor binding to IGHM enhancer 3 (TFE3), EWS RNA-binding protein 1 (EWSR1), and BCL2-like 11 (BCL2L11), participate in cell-cycle control and apoptosis [27], phosphorylated Bach1 interacts with hylauronan-mediated motility receptor (HMMR) and CRM1 to stabilize the orientation of the mitotic spindle, and depletion of endogenous Bach1 impaired spindle formation, in dividing HeLa cells [32–34]. Thus, Bach1 appears to have two distinct roles in cell proliferation, one as a transcriptional regulator of cell-cycle proteins and another during chromosomal alignment, which are dependent upon the phosphorylation state of Bach1.

In addition, Bach1 is also associated with an age-dependent loss of adaptive homeostasis. Bach1 was increased in all tissues (heart, liver, and lung) of aging mice [35] and was higher in human bronchial epithelial cells from older adults than from young adult donors [36]. Thus, Bach1 appears to attenuate redox adaptive homeostasis in aging mice and old people. Another aging-associated disease osteoarthritis is also found to be related to Bach1 due to oxidative damage. Inhibition of Bach1 by carnosic acid can induce HO-1 expression and attenuate cartilage degradation [37].

4. Bach1 in Angiogenesis and Myocardial Protection

We have shown that measurements of perfusion, vascular density, and the expression of proangiogenic cytokines were greater in the limbs of Bach1-deficient mice than in the limbs of wild-type mice after surgically induced hindlimb ischemia [38]. Bach1 appears to limit the angiogenic response to ischemic injury, and at least one of the mechanisms by which

**Figure 1:** Schematic diagram of the structure of Bach1.
Bach1 suppresses angiogenesis involves Wnt/β-catenin signaling. Canonical Wnt/β-catenin signaling regulates gene transcription by facilitating the transport of cytoplasmic β-catenin into the nucleus, where β-catenin forms a complex with transcription factor 4 (TCF4)/lymphoid enhancer-binding factor 1 (LEF1) and recruits transcription factors, such as CREB-binding protein (CBP), that initiate Wnt-targeted gene expression [39]. The binding of β-catenin also displaces histone deacetylase 1 (HDAC1) [40] and other transcriptional corepressors from TCF4 [41] and recruits transcriptional coactivators such as the histone acetyl transferase p300/CBP [42]. Bach1 functions as a competitive inhibitor of β-catenin/TCF4 binding, recruits HDAC1 to the promoter of TCF4-targeted genes, and prevents β-catenin from being acetylated by p300/CBP, thereby reducing the expression of downstream Wnt targets, such as vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and interleukin- (IL-) 8, that promote angiogenic activity in human ECs [38] (Figure 3). Bach1 also appears to suppress developmental angiogenesis in zebrafish by impeding Wnt/β-catenin signaling and the expression of VEGF and IL-8 [43].

Arsenite stimulates angiogenesis by promoting the dissociation of Bach1 from HO-1 enhancer elements in endothelial cells [44], and the subsequent increase in HO-1 expression upregulates the expression of proangiogenic molecules such as VEGF [45]. In the heart, HO-1 expression also protects against ischemia and reperfusion injury [46], and the deletion of Bach1 upregulated HO-1, which subsequently inhibited transverse aortic constriction- (TAC-) induced left ventricular hypertrophy and remodeling [47]. However, the cardioprotective effects associated with Bach1 deficiency in mice also appear to be partially mediated by activation of the STAT3 pathway and by the inhibition of p38/MAPK signaling and apoptosis [22], and Bach1 deficiency reduces the proliferation of SMCs as well as neointimal formation in a murine model of arteriosclerosis via an HO-1-independent mechanism [30].

5. Bach1 in Cancer

Bach1 depletion had no effect on the growth of breast cancer cells in culture or on primary tumor growth in mice [48]; however, the expression of Bach1 and its target genes has been linked to a higher risk of breast cancer recurrence in patients [49], as well as increases in cell invasion and migration of prostate and colon cancer cells [50–52], while lower Bach1 levels have been associated with declines in breast tumor metastasis [48]. The prometastatic activity of Bach1 is at least partially mediated by increases in the expression of metastatic genes such as CXC-chemokine receptor 4 (CXCR4), high-mobility group AT-hook 2 (HMGA2), vimentin, and matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs) 1, 9, and 13 [51, 52]. Furthermore, Bach1 both suppresses and is suppressed by the metastasis-suppressor Raf kinase inhibitory protein (RKIP), and computational models suggest that this interplay between Bach1 and RKIP, as well as their downstream targets, could provide a mechanism by which environmental factors and stochastic fluctuations can trigger a metastatic phenotype in previously noninvasive cells without altering the cells’ genomes [53]. Furthermore, Bach1 represses its own expression by binding to its promoter region and therefore has its own negative feedback loop [53]. This indicates that Bach1 is under tight control, and cells cannot tolerate too high expression level suggesting that Bach1 can have profound physiological effects that become deleterious when too extreme.

Bach1 is also involved in epigenetic mechanisms of cancer progression. In both colorectal cancer and melanoma, the B-Raf protooncogene variant BRAF (V600E) upregulates v-maf avian musculoaponeurotic fibrosarcoma oncogene homolog G (MAFG), which heterodimerizes with Bach1 and recruits both chromodomain helicase DNA-binding protein 8 (CHD8, a chromatin remodeling factor) and the DNA methyltransferase DNMT3B, leading to the hypermethylation and transcriptional silencing of tumor-suppressor
genes [54, 55] (Figure 4). Bach1 also promotes temozolomide (TMZ) resistance in patients with glioblastoma by antagonizing the p53-mediated suppression of O6-methylguanine DNA methyltransferase (MGMT); once activated, MGMT counteracts the antitumor effect of TMZ by reversing the TMZ-induced methylation of guanine residues [56].

Notably, Bach1 can also function as a tumor suppressor, and at least some of its anticancer properties can likely be attributed to its role as a regulator of HO-1 expression. In acute myeloid leukemia cells, lower levels of Bach1 expression were associated with increases in HO-1 levels and in cell viability after exposure to an anticancer drug [29], and CXCR3-B appears to inhibit the growth of breast cancer cells by promoting the nuclear localization of Bach1, which subsequently suppresses HO-1 [57]. Bach1 also suppresses the expression of transketolase (TKT), an enzyme that is required for the growth of hepatic cancer cells because it participates in the pentose phosphate pathway and in the production of the antioxidant molecule NADPH [58]. Furthermore, although oxidative stress is known to contribute to both aging and tumorigenesis and Bach1 deficiencies increase HO-1 expression, Bach1 does not appear to influence aging in mice and the rate of spontaneous tumorigenesis in p53-deficient mice and in Bach1-p53 double-deficient mice was similar [59]. Thus, Bach1 function differs between different cancer cell types, even within the same cell type (e.g., breast cancer cells), and Bach1 may have a different effect on cancer cell growth and cancer metastasis [53, 57]. In fact, a previous study has shown that Bach1 can function as both an activator and a repressor of transcription on the same gene, depending on the cellular context [1]. Therefore, while some evidence suggests that Bach1 inhibition may be an effective therapeutic approach for the treatment of breast cancer [60], the role of Bach1 in cancer growth, progression, and metastasis appears to vary and must be thoroughly characterized for each type of cancer at different stages of tumor progression.

6. Bach1 in Hematopoietic Differentiation and Immunity

β-Globin gene activation is a crucial step during erythroid differentiation and is impeded by Bach1 [61], which forms a heterodimer with MafK and recruits three transcriptional corepressor complexes nucleosome remodeling and deacetylase (NuRD), switch-insensitive 3a (SIN3A), and switch/sucrose nonfermentable (SWI/SNF) to the locus control region (LCR) of the β-globin gene [62]. During erythroid differentiation, Bach1 is replaced by the transcriptional activator p45, which releases the corepressor complexes from the LCR and activates β-globin transcription by recruiting coactivators such as CBP, transactivation domain-interacting protein (TIP), and stem cell leukemia (SCL) to the LCR; c-Jun N-terminal kinase (JNK) stabilizes the p45/MafK heterodimer by phosphorylating the Ser157 residue of p45 [62, 63]. Bach1 is also displaced from the β-globin LCR (without altering the binding activity of MafK) by intracellular heme [17], and heme biosynthesis requires GATA-1, a master regulator of erythropoiesis that is also transcriptionally suppressed by Bach1. GATA-1 activates globin transcription when heme biosynthesis is normal, but in heme-deficient erythroid cells, Bach1 accumulates and suppresses the GATA-1-mediated transcriptional activation of globin [64]. Heme-induced Bach1 degradation also promotes the transcription factor SPI-C expression in monocytes and the development of bone
marrow macrophages [65], and when Bach1 was overexpressed (under the control of the GATA-1 promoter) in transgenic mice, megakaryocyte maturation was significantly impaired and the animals developed thrombocytopenia, likely because Bach1 suppressed the expression of p45-targeted genes such as thromboxane synthase [66]. Bach1 also regulates adipogenesis in primary mouse embryonic fibroblasts by suppressing the expression of peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor (PPAR)γ and PPARγ-dependent adipocyte differentiation [67].

Bach1 also has a role in the immune system and autoimmune disease. Bach1 regulates the expression of core macrophage-associated genes, such as aldol-keto reductase family 1 member B10 (Akr1b10), biliverdin reductase B (Blvrb), calcium/calmodulin-dependent protein kinase 1 (Camk1), and glutamate-ammonia ligase (Glul) [68], and both Bach1 and Bach2 promote B-cell development by suppressing myeloid genes in lymphoid progenitor cells [69]. During inflammation, the Bach1/NO-1 pathway regulates osteoclastogenesis, and Bach1 deficiency reduced the severity of osteoarthritis in mice by upregulating NO-1 expression [70, 71]. Bach1 deficiency also impaired the development of antigen-presenting cells (APCs) in mice, which disrupted the T-cell response and partially protected the animals from experimentally induced autoimmune encephalomyelitis [72].

7. Conclusions and Future Perspectives

In summary, Bach1 is an important transcription factor that regulates mechanisms involved in ROS production, cell cycle, heme homeostasis, hematopoiesis, and immunity and has a function in cardiovascular disease (e.g., angiogenesis and cardiac hypertrophy) and cancer. Bach1 also regulates adipocyte-related genes, the pentose phosphate pathway, and Wnt/β-catenin signaling, which suggests that Bach1 may influence the development and progression of metabolic disease, especially since some Wnt family members and/or downstream targets of Wnt have been linked to insulin sensitivity [73] and diabetes [74]. Other aspects of Bach1 activity that merit continued study include its involvement in epigenetic modifications (e.g., histone methylation and chromatin remodeling). It is clear that Bach1 expression and function differ between different cell types. Future studies should elucidate the role of Bach1 in each type of cancer progression based on clinical studies. Thus, the diverse physiological activity of Bach1 suggests that therapies designed to manipulate Bach1 expression will need to be tightly controlled and tailored for each specific disease state or cell type.

Abbreviations

Bach1: BTB and CNC homology 1  
CNC-bZip: Cap ‘n’ Collar and basic region leucine zipper family  
HO-1: Oxygenase-1  
NQO1: NADPH quinone oxidoreductase 1  
MAREs: Maf recognition elements  
CP: Cysteine-proline  
CLS: Cytoplasmic localization signal  
ERK: Extracellular signal-related kinase  
Crm1: Chromosome region maintenance 1  
IHABP: Intracellular hyaluronic acid-binding protein  
Keap1: Kelch-like ECH-associated protein 1  
Sirt: Sirtuin  
TNBS: Trinitrobenzene sulfonic acid  
ROS: Reactive oxygen species  
GCLC: Glutamate cysteine ligase catalytic subunit  
SLC7A11: Solute carrier family 7 member 11  
CO: Carbon monoxide  
AML: Acute myeloid leukemia  
SMCs: Smooth muscle cells  
CDK6: Cyclin-dependent kinase 6  
CALM1: Calmodulin 1  
TFE3: Transcription factor binding to IGHM enhancer 3  
EWSR1: EWS RNA-binding protein 1  
BCL2L11: BCL2-like 11  
HMHR: Hyaluronan-mediated motility receptor
TCF4: Transcription factor 4
LEF1: Lymphoid enhancer-binding factor 1
CBP: CREB-binding protein
HDAC1: Histone deacetylase 1
VEGF: Vascular endothelial growth factor
IL: Interleukin
TAC: Tacrolimus
CXCRI4: CXC-chemokine receptor 4
HMGA2: High-mobility group AT-hook 2
MMPs: Matrix metalloproteinases
RKIP: Raf kinase inhibitory protein
MAFG: Musculoaponeurotic fibrosarcoma oncogene homolog G
CHD8: Chromodomain helicase DNA-binding protein 8
TMZ: Temozolomide
MGMT: Methylguanine DNA methyltransferase
NuRD: Nucleosome remodeling and deacetylase
SIN3A: Switch-insensitive 3a
SWI/SNF: Switch/sucrose nonfermentable
LCR: Locus control region
JNK: c-Jun N-terminal kinase
PPAR: Peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor
Akr1b10: Aldo-keto reductase family 1 member B10
Blvrb: Biliverdin reductase B
Camk1: Calcium/calmodulin-dependent protein kinase 1
Glu1: Glutamate-ammonia ligase
APCs: Antigen-presenting cells.

**References**

[1] T. Oyake, K. Itoh, H. Motohashi et al., "Bach proteins belong to a novel family of BTB-basic leucine zipper transcription factors that interact with MaFK and regulate transcription through the NF-E2 site," *Molecular and Cellular Biology*, vol. 16, no. 11, pp. 6083–6095, 1996.

[2] J. Sun, H. Hoshino, K. Takaku et al., "Hemoprotein Bach1 regulates enhancer availability of heme oxygenase-1 gene," *The EMBO Journal*, vol. 21, no. 19, pp. 5216–5224, 2002.

[3] S. Dhakshinamoothy, A. K. Jain, D. A. Bloom, and A. K. Jaiswal, "Bach1 competes with Nrfr2 leading to negative regulation of the antioxidant response element (ARE)-mediated NAD(P)H:quinone oxidoreductase 1 gene expression and induction in response to antioxidants," *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, vol. 280, no. 17, pp. 16891–16900, 2005.

[4] H. Hoshino and K. Igarashi, "Expression of the oxidative stress-regulated transcription factor bach2 in differentiating neuronal cells," *The Journal of Biochemistry*, vol. 132, no. 3, pp. 427–431, 2002.

[5] M. Watanabe-Matsui, A. Muto, T. Matsui et al., "Heme regulates B-cell differentiation, antibody class switch, and heme oxygenase-1 expression in B cells as a ligand of Bach2," *Blood*, vol. 117, no. 20, pp. 5438–5448, 2011.

[6] A. Muto, S. Tashiro, H. Tsuchiya et al., "Activation of MaF/AP-1 repressor Bach2 by oxidative stress promotes apoptosis and its interaction with promyelocytic leukemia nuclear bodies," *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, vol. 277, no. 23, pp. 20724–20733, 2002.

[7] R. Ebina-Shibuya, M. Watanabe-Matsui, M. Matsumoto et al., "The double knockout of Bach1 and Bach2 in mice reveals shared compensatory mechanisms in regulating alveolar macrophage function and lung surfactant homeostasis," *The Journal of Biological Chemistry*, vol. 160, no. 6, pp. 333–344, 2016.

[8] K. Ogawa, J. Sun, S. Taketani et al., "Heme mediates derepression of Maf recognition element through direct binding to transcription repressor Bach1," *The EMBO Journal*, vol. 20, no. 11, pp. 2835–2843, 2001.

[9] Y. Zenke-Kawasaki, Y. Dohi, Y. Katoh et al., "Heme induces ubiquitination and degradation of the transcription factor Bach1," *Molecular and Cellular Biology*, vol. 27, no. 19, pp. 6962–6971, 2007.

[10] J. W. Kaspar and A. K. Jaiswal, "Antioxidant-induced phosphorylation of tyrosine 486 leads to rapid nuclear export of Bach1 that allows Nrf2 to bind to the antioxidant response element and activate defensive gene expression," *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, vol. 285, no. 1, pp. 153–162, 2009.

[11] H. Suzuki, S. Tashiro, J. Sun, H. Doi, S. Satomi, and K. Igarashi, "Cadmium induces nuclear export of Bach1, a transcriptional repressor of heme oxygenase-1 gene," *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, vol. 278, no. 49, pp. 49246–49253, 2003.

[12] H. Suzuki, S. Tashiro, S. Hira et al., "Heme regulates gene expression by triggering Crm1-dependent nuclear export of Bach1," *The EMBO Journal*, vol. 23, no. 13, pp. 2544–2553, 2004.

[13] C. Yamasaki, S. Tashiro, Y. Nishito, T. Sueda, and K. Igarashi, "Dynamic cytoplasmic anchoring of the transcription factor Bach1 by intracellular hyaluronic acid binding protein IHABP," *The Journal of Biochemistry*, vol. 137, no. 3, pp. 287–296, 2005.

[14] R. Kanetaki, T. Toki, M. Yokoyama et al., "Transcription factor BACH1 is recruited to the nucleus by its novel alternative spliced isoform," *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, vol. 276, no. 10, pp. 7278–7284, 2001.

[15] M.-K. Kwak, N. Wakabayashi, K. Itoh, H. Motohashi, M. Yamamoto, and T. W. Kensler, "Modulation of gene expression by cancer chemopreventive dithiolethiones through the Keap1-Nrf2 pathway. Identification of novel gene clusters for cell survival," *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, vol. 278, no. 10, pp. 8135–8145, 2003.

[16] S. J. Chapelle, T. P. Keeley, D. Mastroncola et al., "Bach1 differentially regulates distinct Nrf2-dependent genes in human venous and coronary artery endothelial cells adapted to physiologic oxygen levels," *Free Radical Biology & Medicine*, vol. 92, pp. 152–162, 2016.

[17] J. Sun, M. Brand, Y. Zenke, S. Tashiro, M. Grouidine, and K. Igarashi, "Heme regulates the dynamic exchange of Bach1 and NF-E2-related factors in the Maf transcription factor..."
network,” Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, vol. 101, no. 6, pp. 1461–6, 2004.

[18] S. O. Ka, I. H. Bang, E. J. Bae, and B. H. Park, “Hepatocyte-specific sirtuin 6 deletion predisposes to nonalcoholic steatohepatitis by up-regulation of Bach1, an Nrf2 repressor,” The FASEB Journal, vol. 31, no. 9, pp. 3999–4010, 2017.

[19] H.-K. Jyrkkänen, S. Kuosmanen, M. Heinäniemi et al., “Novel insights into the regulation of antioxidant-response-element mediated gene expression by electrophiles: induction of the transcriptional repressor BACH1 by Nrf2,” Biochemical Journal, vol. 440, no. 2, pp. 167–174, 2011.

[20] A. Harusato, Y. Naito, T. Takagi et al., “BTB and CNC homolog 1 (Bach1) deficiency ameliorates TNBS colitis in mice: role of M2 macrophages and heme oxygenase-1,” Inflammatory Bowel Diseases, vol. 19, no. 4, pp. 740–753, 2013.

[21] M. Inoue, S. Tazuma, K. Kanno, H. Hyogo, K. Igarashi, and K. Chayama, “Bach1 gene ablation reduces steatohepatitis in mouse MCD diet model,” Journal of Clinical Biochemistry and Nutrition, vol. 48, no. 2, pp. 161–166, 2011.

[22] Y. Yano, R. Ozono, Y. Oishi et al., “Genetic ablation of the transcription repressor Bach1 leads to myocardial protection against ischemia/reperfusion in mice,” Genes to Cells, vol. 11, no. 7, pp. 791–803, 2006.

[23] Y. Liu and Y. Zheng, “Bach1 siRNA attenuates bleomycin-induced pulmonary fibrosis by modulating oxidative stress in mice,” International Journal of Molecular Medicine, vol. 39, no. 1, pp. 91–100, 2017.

[24] K. Kondo, Y. Ishigaki, J. Gao et al., “Bach1 deficiency protects pancreatic β-cells from oxidative stress injury,” American Journal of Physiology-Endocrinology and Metabolism, vol. 305, no. 5, pp. E641–E648, 2013.

[25] J. L. Zhong, C. Raval, G. P. Edwards, and R. M. Tyrrell, “A role for Bach1 and HO-2 in suppression of basal and UV A-induced HO-1 expression in human keratinocytes,” Free Radical Biology & Medicine, vol. 48, no. 2, pp. 196–206, 2010.

[26] X. Wang, J. Liu, L. Jiang et al., “Bach1 induces endothelial cell apoptosis and cell-cycle arrest through ROS generation,” Oxidative Medicine and Cellular Longevity, 2016, Article ID 6234043, 13 pages, 2016.

[27] H. J. Warnatz, D. Schmidt, T. Manke et al., “The BTB and CNC homology 1 (BACH1) target genes are involved in the oxidative stress response and in control of the cell cycle,” Journal of Biological Chemistry, vol. 286, no. 26, pp. 23521–23532, 2011.

[28] K. Igarashi and M. Watanabe-Matsui, “Wearing red for signaling: the heme-bach axis in heme metabolism, oxidative stress response and iron immunology,” The Tohoku Journal of Experimental Medicine, vol. 232, no. 4, pp. 229–253, 2014.

[29] T. Miyazaki, Y. Kirino, M. Takeno et al., “Expression of heme oxygenase-1 in human leukemic cells and its regulation by transcriptional repressor Bach1,” Cancer Science, vol. 101, no. 6, pp. 1409–1416, 2010.

[30] S. Omura, H. Suzuki, M. Toyofuku, R. Ozono, N. Kohno, and K. Igarashi, “Effects of genetic ablation of Bach1 upon smooth muscle cell proliferation and atherosclerosis after cuff injury,” Genes to Cells, vol. 10, no. 3, pp. 277–285, 2005.

[31] Y. Dohi, T. Ikura, Y. Hoshikawa et al., “Bach1 inhibits oxidative stress–induced cellular senescence by impeding p53 function on chromatin,” Nature Structural & Molecular Biology, vol. 15, no. 12, pp. 1246–1254, 2008.

[32] J. Li, H. Shima, H. Nishizawa et al., “Phosphorylation of BACH1 switches its function from transcription factor to mitotic chromosome regulator and promotes its interaction with HMMR,” The Biochemical Journal, vol. 475, no. 5, pp. 981–1002, 2018.

[33] J. Li, T. Shiraki, and K. Igarashi, “Transcription-independent role of Bach1 in mitosis through a nuclear exporter Crm1-dependent mechanism,” FEBS Letters, vol. 586, no. 4, pp. 448–454, 2012.

[34] J. Li, T. Shiraki, and K. Igarashi, “Bach1 as a regulator of mitosis, beyond its transcriptional function,” Communicative & Integrative Biology, vol. 5, no. 5, pp. 477–479, 2012.

[35] L. C. D. Pomatto, M. Cline, N. Woodward et al., “Aging attenuates redox adaptive homeostasis and proteostasis in female mice exposed to traffic-derived nanoparticles (‘vehicular smog’),” Free Radical Biology & Medicine, vol. 121, pp. 86–97, 2018.

[36] L. Zhou, H. Zhang, K. J. A. Davies, and H. J. Forman, “Aging-related decline in the induction of Nrf2-regulated antioxidant genes in human bronchial epithelial cells,” Redox Biology, vol. 14, pp. 35–40, 2018.

[37] H. Ishitobi, Y. Sanada, Y. Kato et al., “Carnosic acid attenuates cartilage degeneration through induction of heme oxygenase-1 in human articular chondrocytes,” European Journal of Pharmacology, vol. 830, pp. 1–8, 2018.

[38] L. Jiang, M. Yin, X. Wei et al., “Bach1 represses Wnt/β-catenin signaling and angiogenesis,” Circulation Research, vol. 117, no. 4, pp. 364–375, 2015.

[39] J. Behrens, J. P. von Kries, M. Kuhl et al., “Functional interaction of β-catenin with the transcription factor LEF-1,” Nature, vol. 382, no. 6592, pp. 638–642, 1996.

[40] A. N. Billin, H. Thirlwell, and D. E. Ayer, “β-catenin–histone deacetylase interactions regulate the transition of LEF1 from a transcriptional repressor to an activator,” Molecular and Cellular Biology, vol. 20, no. 18, pp. 6882–6890, 2000.

[41] D. L. Daniels and W. I. Weis, “Bach1 mediates cardiac protection against ischemia/reperfusion in mice lacking Bach1, a transcriptional repressor to an activator,” The FASEB Journal, vol. 20, no. 1, pp. 91–100, 2006.

[42] K. L. Zeng, D. Schmidt, T. Manke et al., “The BTB and CNC homology 1 (BACH1) target genes are involved in the oxidative stress response and in control of the cell cycle,” Journal of Biological Chemistry, vol. 286, no. 26, pp. 23521–23532, 2011.

[43] H. J. Warnatz, D. Schmidt, T. Manke et al., “The BTB and CNC homology 1 (BACH1) target genes are involved in the oxidative stress response and in control of the cell cycle,” Journal of Biological Chemistry, vol. 286, no. 26, pp. 23521–23532, 2011.

[44] T. Miyazaki, Y. Kirino, M. Takeno et al., “Expression of heme oxygenase-1 in human leukemic cells and its regulation by transcriptional repressor Bach1,” Cancer Science, vol. 101, no. 6, pp. 1409–1416, 2010.

[45] S. Omura, H. Suzuki, M. Toyofuku, R. Ozono, N. Kohno, and K. Igarashi, “Effects of genetic ablation of Bach1 upon smooth muscle cell proliferation and atherosclerosis after cuff injury,” Genes to Cells, vol. 10, no. 3, pp. 277–285, 2005.

[46] Y. Dohi, T. Ikura, Y. Hoshikawa et al., “Bach1 inhibits oxidative stress–induced cellular senescence by impeding p53 function on chromatin,” Nature Structural & Molecular Biology, vol. 15, no. 12, pp. 1246–1254, 2008.

[47] S. Mito, R. Ozono, T. Oshima et al., “Myocardial protection against pressure overload in mice lacking Bach1, a
transcriptional repressor of heme oxygenase-1,” *Hypertension*, vol. 51, no. 6, pp. 1570–1577, 2008.

[48] J. Yun, C. A. Frankenberger, W. L. Kuo et al., “Signalling pathway for RKIP and Let-7 regulates and predicts metastatic breast cancer,” *The EMBO Journal*, vol. 30, no. 21, pp. 4500–4514, 2011.

[49] Y. Liang, H. Wu, R. Lei et al., “Transcriptional network analysis identifies BACH1 as a master regulator of breast cancer bone metastasis,” *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, vol. 287, no. 40, pp. 33533–33544, 2012.

[50] G. D. Zhu, F. Liu, S. OuYang et al., “BACH1 promotes the progression of human colorectal cancer through BACH1/CXCR4 pathway,” *Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications*, vol. 499, no. 2, pp. 120–127, 2018.

[51] N. Shajari, S. Davudian, T. Kazemi et al., “Silencing of BACH1 inhibits invasion and migration of prostate cancer cells by altering metastasis-related gene expression,” *Artificial Cells, Nanomedicine, and Biotechnology*, vol. 46, no. 7, pp. 1495–1504, 2018.

[52] S. Davudian, N. Shajari, T. Kazemi et al., “BACH1 silencing by siRNA inhibits migration of HT-29 colon cancer cells through reduction of metastasis-related genes,” *Biomedicine & Pharmacotherapy*, vol. 84, pp. 191–198, 2016.

[53] J. Lee, J. Lee, K. S. Farquhar et al., “Network of mutually repressive metastasis regulators can promote cell heterogeneity and metastatic transitions,” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, vol. 111, no. 3, pp. E364–E373, 2014.

[54] M. Fang, J. Ou, L. Hutchinson, and M. R. Green, “The BRAF oncoprotein functions through the transcriptional repressor MAFG to mediate the CpG island methylation phenotype,” *Molecular Cell*, vol. 55, no. 6, pp. 904–915, 2014.

[55] M. Fang, L. Hutchinson, A. Deng, and M. R. Green, “Common BRAF (V600E)-directed pathway mediates widespread epigenetic silencing in colorectal cancer and melanoma,” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, vol. 113, no. 5, pp. 1250–5, 2016.

[56] E. Nie, X. Jin, W. Wu et al., “BACH1 promotes temozolomide resistance in glioblastoma through antagonizing the function of p53,” *Scientific Reports*, vol. 6, no. 1, article 39743, 2016.

[57] M. Balan and S. Pal, “A novel CXCR3-B chemokine receptor-induced growth-inhibitory signal in cancer cells is mediated through the regulation of Bach-1 protein and Nrf2 protein nuclear translocation,” *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, vol. 289, no. 6, pp. 3126–3137, 2014.

[58] I. M.-J. Xu, R. K.-H. Lai, S.-H. Lin et al., “Transketolase counteracts oxidative stress to drive cancer development,” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, vol. 113, no. 6, pp. E725–E734, 2016.

[59] K. Ota, A. Brydun, A. Itoh-Nakadai, J. Sun, and K. Igarashi, “Bach1 deficiency and accompanying overexpression of heme oxygenase-1 do not influence aging or tumorigenesis in mice,” *Oxidative Medicine and Cellular Longevity*, vol. 2014, Article ID 757901, 12 pages, 2014.

[60] M. Aletaha, B. Mansoori, A. Mohammadi, M. Fazeli, and B. Baradaran, “Therapeutic effects of bach1 siRNA on human breast adenocarcinoma cell line,” *Biomedicine & Pharmacotherapy*, vol. 88, pp. 34–42, 2017.

[61] K. Igarashi, H. Hoshiba, A. Muto et al., “Multivalent DNA binding complex generated by small Maf and Bach1 as a possible biochemical basis for β-globin locus control region complex,” *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, vol. 273, no. 19, pp. 11783–11790, 1998.

[62] M. Brand, J. A. Ranish, N. T. Kummer et al., “Dynamic changes in transcription factor complexes during erythroid differentiation revealed by quantitative proteomics,” *Nature Structural & Molecular Biology*, vol. 11, no. 1, pp. 73–80, 2004.

[63] T. L. Lee, Y. C. Shyu, P. H. Hsu et al., “JNK-mediated turnover and stabilization of the transcription factor p45/NF-E2 during differentiation of murine erythroleukemia cells,” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, vol. 107, no. 1, pp. 52–57, 2010.

[64] N. Tanimura, E. Miller, K. Igarashi et al., “Mechanism governing heme synthesis reveals a GATA factor/heme circuit that controls differentiation,” *EMBO Reports*, vol. 17, no. 2, pp. 249–265, 2016.

[65] M. Haldar, M. Kohyama, A. Y. L. So et al., “Heme-mediated SPI-C induction promotes monocyte differentiation into iron-recycling macrophages,” *Cell*, vol. 156, no. 6, pp. 1223–1234, 2014.

[66] T. Toki, F. Katsuoka, R. Kanezaki et al., “Transgenic expression of BACH1 transcription factor results in megakaryocytic impairment,” *Blood*, vol. 105, no. 8, pp. 3100–8, 2005.

[67] M. Matsumoto, K. Kondo, T. Shiraki et al., “Genomewide approaches for BACH1 target genes in mouse embryonic fibroblasts showed BACH1-Pparg pathway in adipogenesis,” *Genes to Cells*, vol. 21, no. 6, pp. 553–567, 2016.

[68] E. L. Gautier, T. Shay, J. Miller et al., “Gene-expression profiles and transcriptional regulatory pathways that underlie the identity and diversity of mouse tissue macrophages,” *Nature Immunology*, vol. 13, no. 11, pp. 1118–1128, 2012.

[69] A. Itoh-Nakadai, R. Hikota, A. Muto et al., “The transcription repressors Bach2 and Bach1 promote B cell development by repressing the myeloid program,” *Nature Immunology*, vol. 15, no. 12, pp. 1171–1180, 2014.

[70] M. Hama, Y. Kirino, M. Takeno et al., “Bach1 regulates osteoclastogenesis in a mouse model via both heme oxygenase-1-dependent and heme oxygenase-1-independent pathways,” *Arthritis & Rheumatism*, vol. 64, no. 5, pp. 1518–1528, 2012.

[71] T. Takada, S. Miyaki, H. Ishitobi et al., “Bach1 deficiency reduces severity of osteoarthritis through upregulation of heme oxygenase-1,” *Arthritis Research & Therapy*, vol. 17, no. 1, p. 285, 2015.

[72] A. Y.-L. So, Y. Garcia-Flores, A. Minisandram et al., “Regulation of APC development, immune response, and autoimmunity by Bach1/HO-1 pathway in mice,” *Blood*, vol. 120, no. 12, pp. 2428–2437, 2012.

[73] M. Abiola, M. Favier, E. Christodoulou-Vafeiadou, A. L. Pichard, I. Martelly, and I. Guillet-Deniau, “Activation of Wnt/β-catenin signaling increases insulin sensitivity through a reciprocal regulation of Wnt10b and SREBP-1c in skeletal muscle cells,” *PLoS One*, vol. 4, no. 12, article e8509, 2009.

[74] H. J. Welters and R. N. Kulkarni, “Wnt signaling: relevance to β-cell biology and diabetes,” *Trends in Endocrinology and Metabolism*, vol. 19, no. 10, pp. 349–355, 2008.