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Concept & Implementation
by Robert Hoffmann

Glucose [?] regulates protein interactions within the yeast SNF1 protein kinase complex.

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The SNF1 protein kinase is broadly conserved in eukaryotes and has been implicated in responses to environmental and nutritional stress. In yeast, the SNF1 kinase has a central role in the response to glucose [?] starvation. SNF1 is associated with its activating subunit, SNF4, and other proteins in complexes. Using the two-hybrid system, we show that interaction between SNF1 and SNF4 is strongly regulated by the glucose [?] signal. Moreover, this interaction is appropriately affected by mutations in regulators, including protein phosphatase 1. We show that SNF4 binds to the SNF1 regulatory domain in low glucose [?], whereas in high glucose [?] the regulatory domain binds to the kinase domain of SNF1 itself. Genetic analysis further suggests that the SNF1 regulatory domain autoinhibits the kinase activity and that in low glucose [?] SNF4 antagonizes this inhibition. Finally, these interactions have been conserved from yeast to plants, indicating that homologs of the SNF1 kinase complex respond to regulatory signals by analogous mechanisms.

Genes Dev. (1996)

PMID: 8985180

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