

# Regulation of Macropinocytosis in Mammalian Cell Lines

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# Macropinocytosis

- Mediates non-selective uptake of molecules
- Regulated by receptor tyrosine kinases: EGF and PDGF
- Activation of factors lead to actin polymerization → macropinosome formation
- Actin polymerization initiated by activation of GTPases working with phosphoinositide 4,5 – biphosphate
- Above factors activate proteins that bind PI(4,5)P<sub>2</sub>, actin and the Arp2/3 complex
- Binding of these factors coordinate the formation of Arp2/3 complex with an actin monomer on a pre-existing actin filament

# Our Experiment

- Amiloride found to inhibit macropinocytosis
  - Prevents Cdc42 and Rac1 signaling
- EGF found to promote macropinocytosis

- Why are we Interested?
  - Actin dependent ruffling – involved in cell motility
    - Tumor progression
  - Immunity
    - Way in which antigen presenting cells sample surroundings for antigens
  - Pathogens take advantage of macropinocytosis to infect cells

## HYPOTHESIS:

The cells receiving amiloride treatment will have a significantly lower uptake of dye than the cells not receiving amiloride and the cells receiving EGF treatment will have a significantly higher uptake of dye than cells not receiving treatment.

3 ml of cell into 4 separate tubes



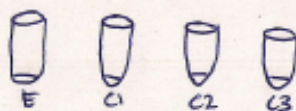
vortex, remove supernatant, careful not to touch cells

add drug 33  $\mu$ L (amiloride Hek)  
100  $\mu$ L (Epidermal Growth factor Hek)  
incubate 30min

Top up to 1ml using DMEM/10% FBS

Drug into E & C3 only

vortex remove supernatant



This becomes stock, add drug to E & C3  
and add 100  $\mu$ L of dye to E & C1

Top up to one ml total using DMEM

From this take 100  $\mu$ L immediately after  
solutions mixed and place in new  
epitube tube. This is 0min

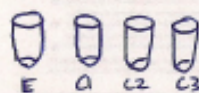
E = dye + drug

C1 = dye - drug

C2 = -dye - drug

C3 = -dye + drug

0min



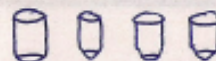
to this you  
require to  
"wash" cells  
DONE by

Wash process add 1ml PBS, resuspend cells

- vortex

- repeat this 3x

to supernatant



+ Add 300  $\mu$ L of 4% PFA/PBS  
(fixation) leave to incubate for 15min



Meanwhile other ninjas have take  
out 100  $\mu$ L after 10min, from  
first 100  $\mu$ L, Repeat wash, fix  
process.

Do this until 40min, at 10min interval

Placing in wells

From each use place 100  $\mu$ L in each replicate well

0min	000	000	000	000
10min	000	000	000	000
20min	000	000	000	000
30min	000	000	000	000
40min	000	000	000	000

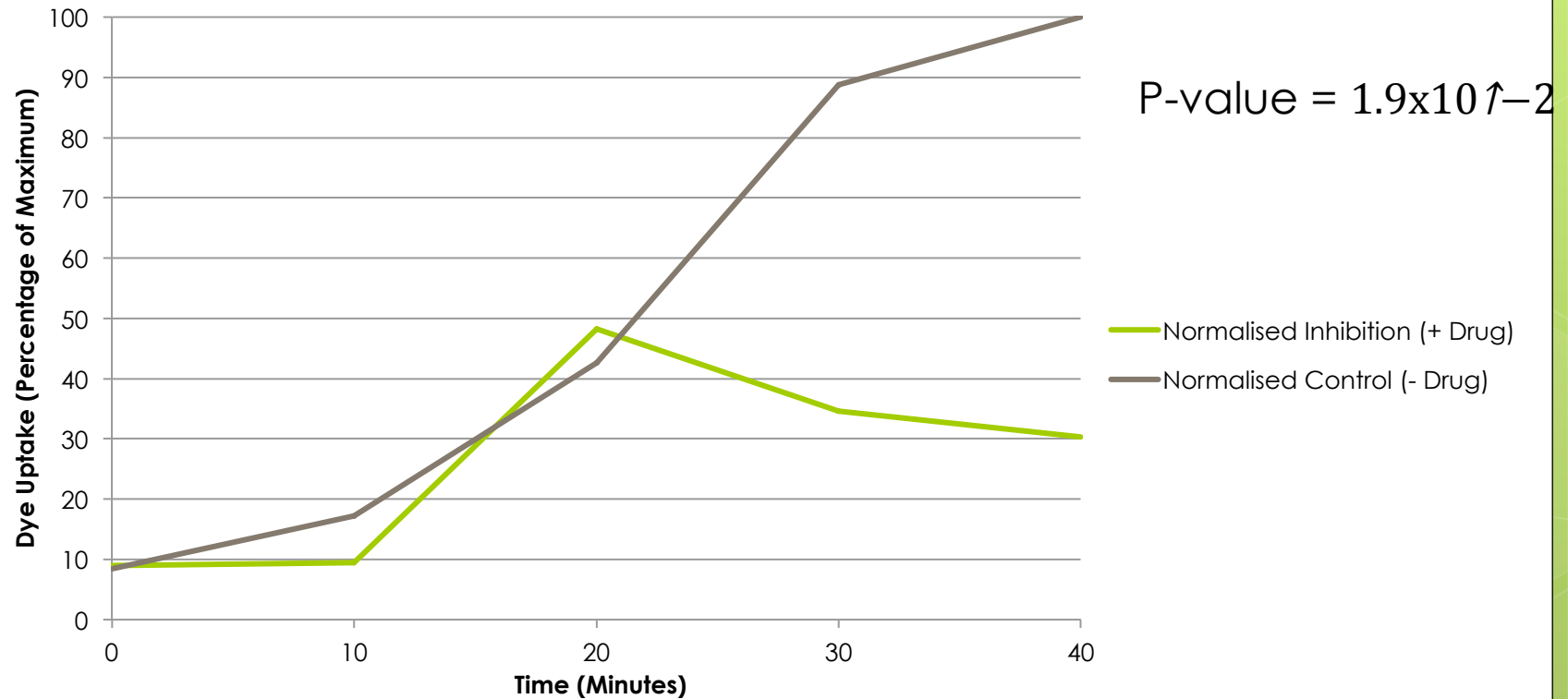
once all full

Give to tutor to analyse.

\* Drug conc Amiloride 1mM

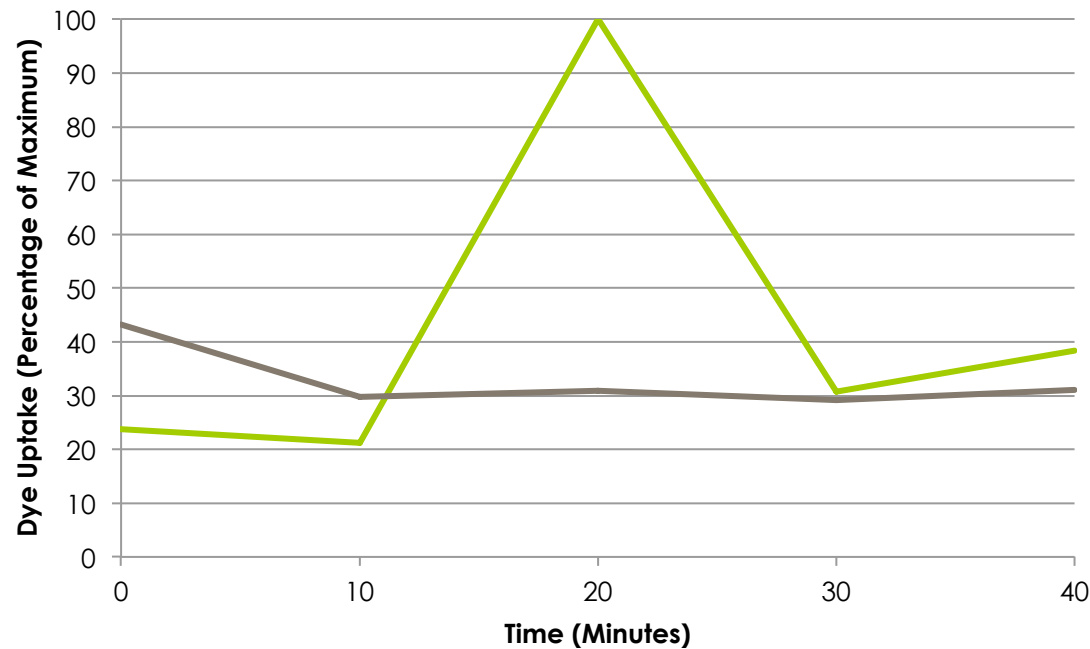
\* Inhibitory conc EGF 100ng/mL

## Dye Uptake in Amiloride Macropinocytosis Inhibited and Uninhibited HeLa Cells



	Exp			Control 1			Control 2			Control 3		
Time (m)	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trail 3	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trail 3	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trail 3	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trail 3
0	17931	16708.6	14449.9	16990.7	16816.5	12863.6	13831.8	12813.6	6806.87	12659.2	12874.5	9500
10	14650	13789.9	17265	16378	19395.7	16429.5	10357.7	8512.42	6271.15	10095.1	8206.69	12535.7
20	44694.7	32972.8	34255.8	34094	29392.9	27685.5	6873.1	9617.98	7814.59	11254.9	11735.5	13284.5
30	35071.6	26201.3	25160.6	85142.2	41612.9	37774.1	6717.17	8982.33	9715.91	9938.85	10186.8	12098
40	27080.7	25022.4	27264.4	71501	51521.1	58918.3	8161.19	8947.54	8208.72	9846.42	9365.59	12571.4

## Dye Uptake in EGF Macropinocytosis Enhanced and Unenhanced Hek293 Cells



P-value =  $1.1 \times 10^{-3}$

— Normalised Enhancement (+ Drug)  
— Normalised Control (- Drug)

	Exp			Control 1			Control 2			Control 3		
Time (m)	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3
0	27991.4	19673.3	15158.5	46904.1	28649.3	26470.5	4865.96	5493.2	4378.43	5650.41	4712.18	4503.65
10	29238.2	13025.9	13441	27755.5	28414.2	18340.9	4844.49	5006.8	4421.63	4418.89	4158.76	4261.73
20	87823.1	66621.6	63285.2	26118.1	27237.1	25507.9	4498.3	7985.84	4071.19	5706.02	5977.44	4016.72
30	29306.5	24406	24933.9	23328.8	24365.7	23494.4	4712.77	4549.65	2997.43	5532.53	5325.36	5791.25
40	37934.7	32834.6	23162.2	27468.5	26239.6	26072.1	5339.45	5644.71	6042.86	5979.94	5985.99	4427.05



# Conclusions

**Drug Treatments can be used to regulate macropinocytosis in mammalian cell lines.**

- Amiloride Inhibits Macropinocytosis
- EGF enhances Macropinocytosis

## Limitations

- Inconsistent dye uptake per endosome
- pH sensitive dye deactivated by acidic environment of the endosome
- Mechanism of inhibition/enhancement not fully understood

## Future Directions

- Same drugs in other endocytotic conditions
- Behaviour of other molecules and uptake via macropinocytosis