Fuc-TVII Is Required for T Helper 1 and T Cytotoxic 1 Lymphocyte Selectin Ligand Expression and Recruitment in Inflammation, and Together with Fuc-TIV Regulates Naive T Cell Trafficking to Lymph Nodes

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Abstract

To determine how the α(1,3)fucosyltransferases Fuc-TIV and Fuc-TVII, and the selectin ligands they control may contribute to the adaptive immune response, contact hypersensitivity (CHS) was characterized in mice deficient in either or both enzymes. We find a substantial CHS deficiency in Fuc-TVII−/− mice, and a complete deficiency in Fuc-TIV−/−/Fuc-TVII−/− mice. These defects are not accounted for by alterations in the number or function of epidermal Langerhans cells required for cutaneous antigen processing and presentation. By contrast, defective CHS in Fuc-TVII−/− mice or Fuc-TIV−/−/Fuc-TVII−/− mice is attributed in part to prominent, or nearly complete deficiencies, respectively, in the complement of naive T lymphocytes available in lymph nodes for antigen–dependent activation, expansion, differentiation, and dissemination. Fuc-TVII deficiency also deletes expression of E- and P-selectin ligands by Th1 and T cytotoxic 1 (Tc1) lymphocytes, annuls T cell trafficking to inflamed cutaneous sites in vivo, and thereby controls an essential component of the effenter phase of the cutaneous immune response. These observations indicate that collaborative contributions of Fuc-TIV and Fuc-TVII to L-selectin ligand synthesis, and to lymphocyte recruitment, are requisite components of the primary cellular immune response, and assign an essential role to Fuc-TVII in control of E- and P-selectin ligand expression by Th1 and Tc1 lymphocytes.

Key words: fucosyltransferase • selectin • T lymphocyte • Th1 • Tc1

Introduction

Adhesive interactions between the three members of the selectin family of cell adhesion molecules and their respective ligands mediate a proximal step in leukocyte emigration from the blood (1). Constitutive and inducible expression of E- and P-selectins by vascular endothelium initiates and sustains leukocyte rolling through engagement of specific glycoprotein counterreceptors on granulocytes, monocytes, and certain subsets of activated T lymphocytes (1, 2). These leukocyte counterreceptors are active as counterreceptors only after specific and appropriate posttranslational modification (2). L-selectin mediates shear-dependent adhesive interactions between lymphocytes and glycoprotein counterreceptors on high endothelial venules (HEVs)* in secondary lymphoid organs, in a process required for lymphocyte homing (1–3). L-selectin counterreceptors are expressed constitutively by HEVs in secondary lymphoid organs (2, 3), and inducibly in sites of chronic inflammation (4), and support L-selectin–dependent adhesion only when properly glycosylated. Selectin-dependent adhesion promotes interactions between leukocytes and activational stimuli derived from the vascular wall, leading to integrin activation, and leukocyte trans

*Abbreviations used in this paper: CHS, contact hypersensitivity; CMFDA, 5-chloromethylfluorescein diacetate; CTCM, complete tissue culture medium; DC, dendritic cell; DNFB, 2,4-dinitrofluorobenzene; EGFP, enhanced green fluorescent protein; HEV, high endothelial venule; LC, Langerhans cell; MLN, mesenteric LN; PLN, peripheral LN; Tc, T cytotoxic; WT, wild-type.
migration in acute and chronic inflammation or lymphocyte recruitment to secondary lymphoid organs (1).

While the glycosylation requirements for selectin counterreceptor activity are complex and incompletely defined, modification of their glycan components with one or more α(1,3)-linked fucose residues contributes prominently to their functional activity (2). Regulated and/or lineage specific expression of the α(1,3)fucosyltransferases (Fuc-Ts) responsible for α(1,3)fucosylation may thus control expression of selectin counterreceptor activities. Two of the six known mammalian Fuc-T loci (2, 5), termed Fuc-TVII and Fuc-TVII, have been implicated in the control of leukocyte and HEV selectin ligand activities by virtue of their expression patterns, the structures of the fucosylated glycans they elaborate, and from analysis of mice with induced null mutations in these loci (2, 6, 7).

Analyses of Fuc-TVII-deficient mice assign to this enzyme a primary though partial contribution to fucosylation-dependent E- and P-selectin counterreceptor activities on neutrophils, monocytes, and eosinophils, and to L-selectin ligand activity on the HEVs in secondary lymphoid organs (6). A role for Fuc-TV in the synthesis of selectin ligands has been less certain because biochemical and genetic studies implicating this enzyme in selectin ligand synthesis have been conflicting (2). However, recent analysis of mice made deficient in this enzyme demonstrate that Fuc-TV can provide a Fuc-TV-independent contribution to the expression of neutrophil ligands for E- and P-selectin (7, 8).

While these analyses imply important yet unequal roles for these two enzymes in the control of selectin counterreceptor activity on some leukocytes and by HEVs, their respective contributions to the cellular arm of the adaptive immune response have not yet been characterized. Furthermore, studies that implicate Fuc-TVII expression in determining selectin counterreceptor activities and trafficking properties of Th1 or T cytotoxic 1 (Tc1) lymphocytes are correlative (9–13) and a requirement for this enzyme has not yet been established through analysis of Th1 or Tc1 lymphocyte selectin counterreceptor expression or recruitment in the absence of Fuc-TVII. Similarly, a role for Fuc-TV in the control of lymphocyte selectin counterreceptor activity is uncertain (9, 13) and has not yet been explored though an analysis of T cell selectin ligand expression in the absence of Fuc-TV. Finally, although dendritic cells (DCs) can express selectin ligands in some contexts and are postulated to contribute to DC trafficking (14, 15), a role for Fuc-TV and Fuc-VII in selectin-dependent DC trafficking has not been examined.

To address these issues, we report here an analysis of the components of the immune system that contribute to contact hypersensitivity (CHS), a form of delayed-type hypersensitivity, in mice deficient in Fuc-TV, or in Fuc-TVII, or in both. We find a substantial yet incomplete reduction in CHS in Fuc-TVII−/− mice, and a virtual absence of CHS in mice deficient both in Fuc-TVII and Fuc-TV. Multiple Fuc-T-specific flaws account for the defects, and correspond to faulty accumulation of naïve T cells in peripheral LNs (PLNs) with attendant defects in the ability to generate memory/effector lymphocytes available for dissemination to peripheral sites, defective E- and P-selectin counterreceptor activity on Th1 and T cytotoxic 1 (Tc1) lymphocytes, and defective trafficking of effector T cells to sites of cutaneous inflammation. Considered together, these observations assign an essential role for Fuc-TVII in response to cutaneous antigenic challenge, and in the generation of E- and P-selectin counterreceptor activities by Th1 and Tc1 lymphocytes. These observations further assign an important role for Fuc-TV in these processes, and demonstrate that both enzymes contribute to multiple, distinct components of immune surveillance.

Materials and Methods

Mice. Strains of Fuc-TVII−/−, Fuc-TVII−/−, and Fuc-TVII−/−/ VII−/− mice that had been backcrossed nine or more generations to the C57Bl/6J strain (8) were used in all experiments except in Fig. 6, where recombinant inbred strains (6) were used. The construction and full characterization of a recombinant inbred strain that is homozygous for a null Fuc-TVII allele in which an enhanced green fluorescent protein (EGFP) is fused to the six NH2-terminal amino acids of Fuc-TVII (Fuc-TVII(EGFP/EGFP) mice) will be described elsewhere. Mice were housed and used in accordance with procedures approved by the University of Michigan Committee for Use and Care of Animals.

Flow Cytometry. All Abs and secondary reagents were obtained from BD Pharmingen. Cells were analyzed using a Becton Dickinson FACScan™, or a Coulter Elite flow cytometer.

CHS. For sensitization (16), 2,4-dinitrofluorobenzene (DNFB; Sigma-Aldrich) (0.5%) in a vehicle of 4:1 acetone in olive oil was applied to shaved abdominal skin on days 0 and 1. On day 5, the right ear was treated with 0.25% DNFB (10 μl on each side), and the left ear was treated with the vehicle. Swelling was measured before and 18–24 h after treatment using an engineer’s micrometer.

Langerhans Cell Migration and Function. Epidermal Langerhans cells (LCs) were isolated from ears and characterized by flow cytometry, or were studied in epidermal sheets (17). LC migration, and the antigen presentation function of migrated LCs in a mixed lymphocyte reaction assay, were assessed according to published procedures (17, 18).

Lymphocyte Activation, Expansion, and Polarization In Vivo. Mice were sensitized with 0.5% DNFB on their ears (see Fig. 5) or shaved abdomens (see Fig. 6) on day 0 and day 1. On day 4, the mice were killed, their draining PLNs (cervical, for ear sensitization; inguinal for abdominal sensitization) were removed and were used to prepare a single cell suspension. In some experiments (see Fig. 6), the cells were cultured for 4 h at 37°C in 10 μg/ml brefeldin A, 50 ng/ml phorbol myristic acetate, and 300 ng/ml ionomycin. Lymphocytes were phenotyped using monoclonal Abs specific for cell surface markers (CD4, CD8, CD19, CD44), or by staining for intracellular IFN-γ or IL-4 (19).

Generation of Th1 and Tc1 Cells In Vivo. CD4+ and CD8+ T cells for in vitro cytokine polarization were isolated from mesenteric LNs (MLNs) by panning. Single cell suspensions of MLNs were diluted into complete tissue culture medium (CTCM; RPMI 1640 with 10% fetal calf serum, 50 U/ml pen-strep, 2 mM glutamine, 10 mM Hepes, 1 mM sodium pyruvate, 0.1 mM MEM nonessential amino acids). CD4+ or CD8+ lymphocytes were enriched by staining MLN cells with a cocktail of rat mAbs against CD11b, IA, and CD16/32 (Fc: Block; BD Pharmingen),
Results

**CHS Is Attenuated in Fuc-TVII−/− Mice, and Absent in Fuc-TIV−/−/Fuc-TVII−/− Mice.** Fuc-TIV−/− mice sustain a slight decrement, relative to WT mice, in ear swelling after sensitization and challenge with the hapten DNFB, but this decrement does not reach statistical significance (Fig. 1). By contrast, Fuc-TVII−/− mice exhibit a significant reduction in response to DNFB sensitization and challenge (Fig. 1). Fuc-TVII−/− mice retain a significant response, however, and this is clearly Fuc-TIV dependent, as the doubly deficient mice do not respond to sensitization and challenge with DNFB (Fig. 1). Fuc-TVII therefore makes a prominent contribution to the immune response to a cutaneous antigen. The contribution by Fuc-TIV is subtle when Fuc-TVII expression is normal, and Fuc-TIV accounts for virtually all the response retained in the absence of Fuc-TVII.

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**Adoptive Transfer of 5-Chloromethylfluorescein Diacetate–labeled Activated Effector Lymphocytes.** Wild-type (WT) mice served as recipients, WT, Fuc-TIV−/−, and Fuc-TVII−/− mice were used as donors; Fuc-TIV−/−/Fuc-TVII−/− mice could not be used as donors because it was not possible to isolate sufficient numbers of lymphocytes from the DNFB-activated PLNs to allow adoptive transfer (see Fig. 5). Donors and recipients were sensitized with 0.5% DNFB on their shaved abdomens on day 0 and day 1. Donors were killed on day 4, their draining PLNs were removed, single cell suspensions were prepared, and cells were labeled with 5 μM 5-chloromethylfluorescein diacetate (CMFDA; Molecular Probes) (6). Anesthetized recipients received 20 × 10^6 labeled cells by tail vein injection. Recipients were immediately challenged with 0.25% DNFB on the right ear, and treated with vehicle on the left ear. Ear swelling was measured 24 h later, the recipients were killed, and the dorsal portion of the epithelium and dermis from each ear were removed. Single cell suspensions of the ear tissue were prepared using a published protocol (20), and assessed for CMFDA+ by flow cytometry. Vehicle-treated ears from sensitized recipients served as a control for nonspecific trafficking of adoptively transferred CMFDA-labeled lymphocytes. Ears from sensitized and challenged mice, not injected with CMFDA-labeled cells, were analyzed in parallel to determine background fluorescence. Dead cells were excluded from the analyses using propidium iodide staining, and using appropriate forward and side scatter profiles. The ear swelling response and the influx of recipient-derived CD45+ leukocytes in the hapten-treated ears were equivalent in all recipients regardless of the genotype of donor cells injected, confirming that the recipients sustained a normal response to antigenic challenge, and indicating that adoptive transfer did not alter the course of the CHS response.

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Figure 1. CHS. Mice were sensitized with 0.5% DNFB on the abdomen on day 0 and day 1, then challenged on the ear on day 4 with 0.25% DNFB on the ear (Sensitization and Challenge). Swelling in response to nonspecific irritation by DNFB was measured after a single application of 0.25% DNFB to nonsensitized mice (Challenge). The numbers of mice were derived from the analyses using propidium iodide staining, and using appropriate forward and side scatter profiles. The ear swelling response and the influx of recipient-derived CD45+ leukocytes in the hapten-treated ears were equivalent in all recipients regardless of the genotype of donor cells injected, confirming that the recipients sustained a normal response to antigenic challenge, and indicating that adoptive transfer did not alter the course of the CHS response.
Defective Th1 and Tc1 Selectin Ligands in Fucosyltransferase-null Mice

LC Number, Migration, and Antigen Presentation Activity Are Not Altered in Fuc-T Deficiency. LCs are absolutely required for a CHS response (21, 22). E- and P-selectin ligands are expressed by human LCs, and are implicated in LC recruitment to the skin (14, 15, 23, 24). We therefore sought to determine if the Fuc-T–dependent deficiencies in CHS may be accounted for by deficits in localization of LCs to the epidermis, in LC emigration from the skin to regional PLNs, or in their antigen presentation capability. The number of LCs in the epidermis does not vary among the four strains (Table I), nor does the distribution of these cells within the epidermis, or their morphology (Fig. 2). These observations indicate that neither Fuc-TIV nor Fuc-TVII are required for populating the epidermis with LCs, and indicate that Fuc-T–dependent deficiencies in CHS cannot be accounted for by an inability of LCs to localize to the epidermis, or to differences in their distribution within this tissue.

To assess migration of epidermal LCs to draining LNs, ears were painted with FITC to label, activate, and incite migration of LCs (17, 18). MHC class II bright FITC + cells (representing skin-derived LCs (18), as confirmed by light microscopic examination of Wrights stained cytospin preparations of the sorted cells; data not shown), were recovered from the draining LNs and quantitated 18–24 h later. An apparent migration decrement was observed only in Fuc-TIV−/−/Fuc-TVII−/− mice, though this decrement does not reach statistical significance (Fig. 3 A), and the small size, hypocellularity, and perturbed cellular comple-

Table I. Epidermal LCs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Genotype</th>
<th>Percentage of LC a</th>
<th>LC b</th>
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<tr>
<td>WT</td>
<td>1.75 ± 0.83</td>
<td>450 ± 115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuc-TIV−/−</td>
<td>1.45 ± 0.55</td>
<td>370 ± 111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuc-TVII−/−</td>
<td>1.96 ± 0.67</td>
<td>460 ± 110</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fuc-TIV−/−/VII−/−</td>
<td>2.08 ± 0.58</td>
<td>587 ± 264</td>
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aFlow cytometry was used to determine the fraction of cells within a cell suspension prepared from an epidermal sheet that are of the MHC class II bright CD45+ phenotype, and that correspond to LCs. Data are mean values (6 SD), from four independent experiments, and are not significantly different between the genotypes as assessed by the Kruskal-Wallis test.

bMHC class II bright cells (LCs) were identified in epidermal sheets by fluorescent microscopy (Materials and Methods). Data are mean values (6 SD) of the MHC class II bright cells per mm2 of epidermal tissue, derived from enumerating fluorescent cells/field in at least five fields/epidermal sheet from four independent experiments, and are not significantly different between the genotypes as assessed by the Kruskal-Wallis test.

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Figure 2. Distribution of epidermal LCs. Epidermal sheets were isolated from the dorsal portion of the ear of WT and Fuc-T–deficient mice, stained with DEC-205, and examined by fluorescence microscopy (Materials and Methods; original magnification: ×500).
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Partial and Virtually Complete Deficits of Naive T Cells in the PLNs of Fuc-TIV<sup>−/−</sup> and Fuc-TVII<sup>−/−</sup>/VII<sup>−/−</sup> Mice, Respectively. Homeostasis in LN cellularity, and corresponding cellular immune function, including response to cutaneous antigenic challenge, is regulated prominently by L-selectin–dependent lymphocyte trafficking to secondary lymphoid organs (25–26). As Fuc-TIV and Fuc-TVII both contribute to L-selectin ligand synthesis by PLN HEVs and to lymphocyte homing (6, 8), we sought to determine if their deficiency alters the number and phenotype of T lymphocytes in a manner that contributes to defective CHS in Fuc-T–deficient mice.

WT and Fuc-TIV<sup>−/−</sup> PLNs do not differ in total cellularity, and have essentially identical numbers of CD19<sup>+</sup> B cells, CD3<sup>+</sup> T cells (Fig. 4 A), and T cells with a memory/effector (CD4<sup>+</sup>CD44<sup>hi</sup>CD45RB<sup>lo</sup>) or naive (CD4<sup>+</sup>CD44<sup>lo</sup>CD45RB<sup>hi</sup>) phenotype (29, 30; Fig. 4 A). These observations indicate that any contribution by Fuc-TIV to maintaining homeostasis in lymphocyte numbers in PLNs is too subtle to detect with these methods, or is fully masked by Fuc-TVII–dependent processes.

By contrast, the substantial reduction in totalcellularity observed in Fuc-TVII<sup>−/−</sup> PLNs (6; Fig. 4 A) is accounted for by reductions of 70, 63, and 46%, respectively, in CD19<sup>+</sup> B lymphocytes, CD4<sup>+</sup> lymphocytes, and CD8<sup>+</sup> lymphocytes. Striking reductions are also observed in naive CD4<sup>+</sup> T lymphocytes (58% reduction) and naive CD8<sup>+</sup> T lymphocytes (54% reduction; Fig. 4 A), as are significant reductions in T cells of the memory/effector phenotype (Fig. 4 A). These observations disclose that Fuc-TVII is thus responsible for a major contribution to the maintenance of cellularity of B cells, naive T cells, and memory/effector cells in PLNs.

The partial reduction in B cells, naive T cells, and memory/effector T cells in Fuc-TVII<sup>−/−</sup> PLNs implies a residual ability to recruit such cells to these organs, and aligns with the Fuc-TIV–dependent residual L-selectin ligand expression and lymphocyte homing activities assigned by analysis of Fuc-TIV<sup>−/−</sup>/Fuc-TVII<sup>−/−</sup> mice (8). Indeed, in Fuc-TIV<sup>−/−</sup>/VII<sup>−/−</sup> nodes, a 95% reduction in cellularity, relative to WT PLNs (Fig. 4 A), is accounted for by a 91% decrease in B lymphocyte content, profound deficiencies of CD4<sup>+</sup> and CD8<sup>+</sup> populations (decreased 97 and 92%, respectively; Fig. 4), selective losses of CD4<sup>+</sup> and CD8<sup>+</sup> cells of the naive phenotype (reductions of 97 and 96%, respectively), and significant decrements in memory/efector cells (Fig. 4 A).

Reduced accumulation of B lymphocytes and naive or memory/efector T cells are not accounted for by decreases in the number available for recruitment, as essentially equivalent numbers of these cells are present in the peripheral blood of WT and Fuc-TIV<sup>−/−</sup>/Fuc-TVII<sup>−/−</sup> mice (Fig. 4 B), nor by deficiency of L-selectin, as this molecule is expressed at normal levels on all three Fuc-T–deficient strains (6, 8). By contrast, Fuc-TVII contributes prominently but incompletely to the synthesis of L-selectin ligands on PLN HEVs, and to lymphocyte homing (6). Partial reductions in the accumulation of B and T cells in

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**Figure 3.** LC migration. FITC was applied to ear pinnae, and draining cervical nodes were removed 18–24 h later. Single cell suspensions were made from the PLNs, were stained with Abs specific for MHC class II and CD86, and were then subjected to flow cytometry analysis (Materials and Methods). (A) Quantitation LCs recently migrated to PLNs. The number of FITC<sup>+</sup> MHC class II<sup>hi</sup> cells in the draining PLNs were calculated for each genotype. Data are mean values of LCs per draining PLN (± SE) obtained in four independent experiments. Mean values are not significantly different as judged by the Kruskal-Wallis test (P = 0.06). (B) FACS<sup>®</sup> analysis of LCs recently migrated to a draining PLN. Representative two-parameter histograms of viable (based on forward and side scatter parameters) MHC class II<sup>hi</sup> cells. The number in the upper right hand quadrant is the percentage of MHC class II<sup>hi</sup> cells that are both FITC<sup>+</sup> and CD86<sup>+</sup>.
Fuc-TVII−/− mice are thus likely consequent to partial deficits in L-selectin–dependent lymphocyte homing processes that recruit these cells to PLNs (28, 31). We also infer that the profound decrement in B lymphocyte content and nearly complete absence of naive and memory/effector T cells in Fuc-TIV−/−/VII−/− PLNs result from the loss of Fuc-TIV–dependent L-selectin ligands that contribute to residual L-selectin–dependent recruitment in Fuc-TVII−/− mice (8).

Hapten-dependent Lymphocyte Expansion In Vivo Requires Fuc-TIV and Fuc-TVII. To determine how each Fuc-T may contribute to hapten-dependent generation of memory/effector T cells in vivo, we examined lymphocyte expansion (reflecting increases in recruitment [32, 33] and proliferation [34]), activation, and differentiation in PLNs draining the site of cutaneous DNFB sensitization. Sensitization elicited large and significant increases in cellularity in WT, Fuc-TIV−/−, and Fuc-TVII−/− PLNs, relative to mice treated with vehicle only (Fig. 5 A). A significant increase was also observed in Fuc-TIV−/−/VII−/− PLNs after sensitization, but the absolute number of cells in vehicle-treated mice or after sensitization was extremely low (Fig. 5 A). CD19+ B lymphocytes contribute substantially to the expanded cell populations in the PLNs, as do CD3+ T cells (Table II). T and B cells account for >90% of the cells in the nodes, except in doubly deficient mice, where the relative larger fraction of non-B and non-T cells is accounted for by stromal cell elements, DCs, and Gr-1+ myeloid lineage cells (data not shown).

In response to DNFB sensitization, activated (CD44high) CD4+ and CD8+ T cells increase 5.8- and 7.1-fold, respectively, in WT PLNs, and 4.5- and 3.4-fold, respectively, in Fuc-TIV−/− PLNs, and their absolute numbers do not vary between the two strains (Fig. 5, B and C). Fuc-TIV thus does not contribute significantly to the expansion of PLN T cells after cutaneous antigenic stimulation, or any such contribution is masked by Fuc-TVII–dependent contributions. In Fuc-TVII−/− mice, activated CD4+ and CD8+ T cells increase 5.7- and 6.4-fold, respectively, after DNFB sensitization, though the absolute number of such cells is significantly decreased, relative to WT and Fuc-TIV−/− mice (Fig. 5, B and C). By contrast, there is a pro-
found reduction in the absolute numbers of activated CD4+ and CD8+ T cells recovered from DNFB-sensitized Fuc-TIV−/− or Fuc-TVII−/− draining PLNs, though 2.1- and 4.1-fold increments are observed. Fuc-TVII thus contributes significantly, but not exclusively, to increases in the number of activated CD4+ and CD8+ lymphocytes in PLNs after antigen challenge. These results further imply that Fuc-TIV is responsible for the significant numbers of T lymphocytes recovered from Fuc-TVII−/− PLNs after DNFB sensitization, and for corresponding increments in activated CD4+ and CD8+ T lymphocyte recovery observed in these mice.

**Fuc-T Deficiency Yields Decrements in Accumulation of IFN-γ-expressing CD4 and CD8+ Lymphocytes In Vivo, but Is Permissive for Normal Th1 and Tc1 Polarization In Vitro.** Th1 and Tc1 lymphocytes, defined in part by their characteristic IFN-γ expression properties (35), are generated in draining PLNs after antigen sensitization, traffic via the circulation to the skin, and contribute to the cutaneous inflammatory response during elicitation/challenge (35–37). Th1 and Tc1 progenitors most likely derive from naive T lymphocytes recruited to PLNs primarily by L-selectin–dependent mechanisms (discussed in reference 11). As Fuc-TIV and Fuc-TVII contribute to L-selectin–dependent lymphocyte recruitment (6, 8), we sought to determine if their deficiency altered the accumulation or generation of such IFN-γ-expressing lymphocytes in a way that contributes to defective CHS in the Fuc-T−deficient mice. The numbers of these cells were equivalently low in the PLNs of nonsensitized WT and all Fuc-T−deficient strains (Fig. 6). Significant increases in these cells are observed in WT and Fuc-TIV−/− mice after DNFB sensitization (Fig. 6, A and B). By contrast, in Fuc-TVII−/− mice and the doubly deficient mice, sensitization did not significantly increase the number of such IFN-γ-positive CD4+ or CD8+ lymphocytes. Graded, genotype-specific decrements in the absolute number of these cells recovered from the PLNs of the sensitized mice were also observed, and are most apparent and significant in the doubly deficient mice (Fig. 6). These decrements imply that Fuc-TIV and Fuc-TVII contribute independently to hapten-dependent accumulation of Th1 and Tc1 cells in vivo. To exclude the possibility that the Fuc-Ts also or instead contribute to properties intrinsic to Th1 and Tc1 precursors that allow them to proceed through the polarization process, WT- and Fuc-T−deficient naive T cells were characterized for their ability to differentiate into Th1 or Tc1 cells in vitro. These experiments show that naive CD4+ or CD8+ T cells isolated from each Fuc−T null strain respond to cytokine polarization by differentiating into cells with a Th1 (IFN-γ*IL-4−) or Tc1 (IFN-γ*IL-4−) phenotype (Figs. 7 A and 8 A). These observations imply that defective generation of Th1 and Tc1 cells in Fuc-TVII−/− and Fuc-TIV−/−/VII−/− mice in response to hapten sensitization (Fig. 6) is due to a deficiency in the number of naive Th1 cell and Tc1 cell progenitors available for cytokine-dependent polarization, and not to an intrinsic differentiation defect. In vitro polarization towards the Th2 (CD4+IFN-γ*IL-4+) and Tc2 (CD8*IFN-γ*IL-4+) phenotypes is also retained in the absence of Fuc-TIV and/or Fuc-TVII (data not shown), indicating that neither enzyme is required for these alternative differentiation pathways.

**Th1 and Tc1 Lymphocytes Are Deficient in E- and P-Selectin Ligand Activities in the Absence of Fuc-TVII.** E- and P-selectin ligand activities are expressed by a substantial fraction of the cells in populations of lymphocytes expressing the

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**Table II. B and T Cells in PLNs Before and After DNFB Sensitization**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Genotype</th>
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<tr>
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Flow cytometry was used to determine the fraction of T and B cells within the total nucleated cells recovered from PLNs of mice that had been sensitized with DNFB, or that had been treated with vehicle only (Materials and Methods). Data are mean values derived from between 4 and 10 independently evaluated mice.
Th1 or Tc1 phenotype (9, 11–13). Correlative and indirect evidence associates Fuc-TVII and expression of E- and P-selectin ligands on Th1 and Tc1 cells (9, 11–13) but a requirement for Fuc-TVII in E- or P-selectin ligand expression by Th1 or Tc1 cells has not been established, and a definitive role for Fuc-TIV in T cell selectin ligand expression remains unexplored. To directly determine if Fuc-TIV and/or Fuc-TVII are essential to T cell selectin ligand expression, E- and P-selectin ligand expression was assessed on Th1 and Tc1 cells generated from each Fuc-T null strain. Representative two-parameter histograms demonstrate that the selectin-IgM chimeras bind equivalently to WT and Fuc-TVII−/− Th1 cells (Fig. 7 B), and Tc1 cells (Fig. 8 B). By contrast, the E- and P-selectin-IgM chimeras do not bind to Th1 and Tc1 cells generated from either of the Fuc-TVII−/− deficient strains (Figs. 7 B and 8 B). Lack of selectin ligand expression does not reflect inefficient polarization, faulty activation, or defective expression of PSGL-1, a major glycoprotein carrier of Th1 cell E- and P-selectin ligands (38), as Fuc-TVII−/− and Fuc-TIV−/−/VII−/− lymphocytes do not differ from WT cells in expression of IFN-γ (35; Figs. 7 A and 8 A), or CD25 and PSGL-1 (data not shown). Fuc-TVII is therefore essential to the synthesis of functional E- and P-selectin ligands on Th1 and Tc1 lymphocytes, whereas any contribution by Fuc-TIV to E- or P-selectin counterreceptor activities on these cells, either
in the presence or in the absence of Fuc-TVII is negligible, or is too subtle to detect with the flow cytometry–based assay. As reported by others (9, 12, 13, 39–41), WT Th2 and Tc2 cells do not express ligands for E- or P-selectins, nor do Th2 and Tc2 cells generated from the three Fuc-T–deficient strains (data not shown).

**T Cell Recruitment to Sites of Cutaneous Inflammation Is Fuc-TVII Dependent.** In the elicitation phase of CHS, E- and P-selectins are implicated in the recruitment of cytokine-polarized CD4+ and CD8+ effector T cells to the cutaneous site of inflammation (12, 39–41). To address the contributions of Fuc-TIV and Fuc-TVII to this process in vivo, adoptive transfer was used to assess trafficking of activated Fuc-T–deficient T cells to a cutaneous site inflamed by hapten challenge (Fig. 9). Donor cells in these experiments derive from the PLNs of DNFB-sensitized WT, Fuc-TIV+/−/−, or Fuc-TVII+/−/− mice (Materials and Methods). Characterization of such donor cell populations indicate that they are equivalent in the fraction of activated CD44hi cells (Fig. 9 A) that encompass the CD4+ and CD8+ effector T cells to a cutaneous site inflamed by hapten challenge (Fig. 9). Donor cells in these experiments derive from the PLNs of DNFB-sensitized WT, Fuc-TIV+/−/−, or Fuc-TVII+/−/− mice (Materials and Methods). Characterization of such donor cell populations indicate that they are equivalent in the fraction of activated CD44hi cells (Fig. 9 A) that encompass the CD4+ and CD8+ effector T cells to a cutaneous site inflamed by hapten challenge (Fig. 9).

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Such donor cell populations derived from WT or Fuc-TIV+/−/− mice accumulate to equivalently low levels in vehicle-treated recipient ears, and to significantly and equivalently higher levels in DNFB-challenged ears (Fig. 9 D). Fuc-TIV deficiency thus is not accompanied by defective lymphocyte trafficking to inflamed cutaneous sites. By contrast, Fuc-TVII+/−/−–derived donor lymphocytes accumulate to significantly lower levels in DNFB-challenged ears, corresponding to a fivefold reduction, relative to WT or Fuc-TIV+/−/− donor cells (Fig. 9 D). Deficiency of selectin ligand expression by Fuc-TVII+/−/− effector T lymphocytes therefore accompanies defective recruitment of these cells to sites of cutaneous inflammation. Accumulation of Fuc-TVII+/−/− donor cells in vehicle treated ears is also sig-

**Figure 8.** Selectin ligand expression by Tc1 cells in WT and Fuc-T–deficient mice. CD8+ T cells were isolated from mesenteric nodes and cultured in vitro under Tc1 polarization conditions (Materials and Methods). Cells were then subjected to flow cytometry analysis to confirm Tc1 polarization by assessing expression of intracellular IFN-γ and IL-4 (A), or to assess selectin ligand expression using P-selectin-IgM or E-selectin-IgM chimeras (B). Divalent calcium dependence observed for binding of the P-selectin-IgM chimera (B, bottom) was also observed for the E-selectin-IgM chimera (data not shown). Data shown are representative of two or more independent experiments.
Figure 9. Recruitment of activated T cells into inflamed skin in WT and Fuc-T–deficient mice. Lymphocytes were isolated from the PLNs of mice previously sensitized with DNFB, and were used in flow cytometry analyses (A–C), or were labeled with CMFDA and used in adoptive transfer experiments (D) (Materials and Methods). (A) The fraction of activated (CD44high) lymphocytes (mean ± SE) determined by flow cytometry. (B) Expression of P-selectin ligands or the Fuc-TVII locus (reported by EGFP) by flow cytometry in WT, Fuc-TVII−/−, and Fuc-TVII(EGFP/EGFP) mice. The top pair of representative two parameter flow cytometry histograms show CD44 expression level versus P-selectin-IgM chimera binding in lymphocytes prepared from DNFB-sensitized WT or Fuc-TVII−/− mice. The bottom pair of representative two parameter flow cytometry histograms show CD44 expression level versus green fluorescence in lymphocytes prepared from DNFB-sensitized WT or Fuc-TVII(EGFP/EGFP) mice. Numbers in the top right and top left quadrants are the percentage of all viable cells in the node that fall within that quadrant. Schematic depictions of the WT Fuc-TVII locus (reference 6), the null Fuc-TVII locus (reference 6), and the Fuc-TVII null/EGFP knock-in locus (Materials and Methods) in Fuc-TVII(EGFP/EGFP) mice are at the bottom. DNA and protein sequences in the region encompassing the initiation codon of the Fuc-TVII-EGFP fusion protein are above the Fuc-TVII null/EGFP knock-in schematic. (C) The fraction of CD44high cells in WT, Fuc-TVII−/−, or Fuc-TVII(EGFP/EGFP) cells that are positive for E-selectin-IgM or P-selectin-IgM chimera binding (mean ± SE) determined by flow cytometry (black bars), or the fraction of Fuc-TVII(EGFP/EGFP) cells (see B) that are green fluorescent (dashed box overlying the Fuc-TVII−/− bars; mean ± SE). (D) Adoptive transfer. 2 × 10^6 CMFDA-labeled cells were administered by tail vein injection to DNFB-sensitized WT recipients. Recipients were immediately challenged with DNFB on one ear, and were treated with vehicle on the other ear. 24 h later, the number of CMFDA-positive donor cells in the dermis and epidermis combined, for each ear, was enumerated by flow cytometry (mean ± SE). Differences in CMFDA+ cell accumulation between genotypes were analyzed as in Fig. 1.
nificantly deficient, relative to WT or Fuc-TIV<sup>−/−</sup> donor cell trafficking to vehicle-treated ears (Fig. 9 D). To the extent that vehicle-treated ears are reflective of a relatively noninflamed state, this latter observation implies the existence of constitutive Fuc-TVII-dependent recruitment process that may populate the skin with selectin ligand–positive T lymphocytes. It remains to be determined if Fuc-TVII–dependent selectin ligand expression by Fuc-TVII<sup>−/−</sup> donor cells accounts for the small amount of their apparent residual trafficking to DNFB-challenged ears observed in these experiments.

Discussion

Several distinct α(1,3)fucosyltransferases can construct sialylated, fucosylated molecules capable of contributing to the activities of counter-receptors for E-, P-, and L-selectins (1, 2). Their expression patterns and gene ablation studies implicate two (Fuc-TVII and/or Fuc-TIV) in the physiological control of selectin ligand activity on neutrophils, monocytes, and HEVs (6–8). However, a role for Fuc-TVII in determining expression of Th1 and Tc1 cell E- and P-selectin ligands has been inferred only through correlative associations between its expression and selectin ligand display, and a requirement for either Fuc-TVII or Fuc-TIV in this process has not been established. Furthermore, requirements have not been established for either enzyme in the control of selectin ligand–dependent LC recruitment and migration, in effector T cell trafficking in vivo, or generally in the support of cell-mediated immunity in vivo. We address each of these issues by analyzing the components of the CHS response in mice deficient in Fuc-TIV, Fuc-TVII, and both Fuc-TIV and Fuc-TVII. These analyses disclose that both fucosyltransferases contribute essentially to the adaptive immune response by regulating selectin–dependent T lymphocyte migration.

During the afferent phase of CHS, LCs are required for antigen acquisition and processing, for delivery of processed antigen to naive T cells in draining LNs, and for events leading to T cell activation and expansion (21, 22, 42). Selectin ligands are indirectly implicated in recruitment of LC precursors from the blood, as blood-derived DCS express E- and P-selectin ligands (15, 23), engage in selectin–dependent tethering and rolling on endothelium in noninflamed skin, and can be recruited to inflamed cutaneous sites (15). LCs themselves express the sialyl Lewis X determinant (14) and cutaneous lymphocyte antigen (CLA; reference 24), surrogate markers for selectin ligand activity (2). However, we find normal numbers of resident epidermal LC in the absence of Fuc-TIV and/or Fuc-TVII, and observe that emigration and the general function of LCs are intact in the absence of Fuc-TIV or Fuc-TVII. A possible modest reduction in LC emigration is observed in Fuc-TIV<sup>−/−</sup>/Fuc-TVII<sup>−/−</sup> mice. This could be a direct result of selectin ligand loss by the LCs, or an indirect consequence of the perturbed PLN microenvironment in these mice, and may contribute modestly to the CHS defect in these mice. Notwithstanding this caveat about LC migration in the doubly deficient mice, these results imply that any contribution by selectin ligands to populating noninflamed epidermis with LCs, or to LC function generally, must be determined by other fucosyltransferases, or by selectin ligands that are fucosyltransferase independent. Whether either enzyme controls DC recruitment in the context of cutaneous inflammation remains to be determined.

In Fuc-TVII<sup>−/−</sup> mice, and in Fuc-TIV<sup>−/−</sup>/Fuc-TVII<sup>−/−</sup> mice, substantial, or profound deficiencies are observed, respectively, in the PLN content of B cells, memory T cells, and naive T cells. Fuc-TIV and Fuc-TVII collaboratively contribute to the synthesis of L-selectin ligands on PLN HEVs, and to lymphocyte homing to PLNs (6, 8). L-selectin is required for homing of naive T cells to PLNs (26, 28), contributes to B cell homing (31), and in humans is implicated in the homing of CCR7<sup>+</sup> central memory T cells (43). The numbers of peripheral blood B cells, naive T cells, and memory T cells available for homing are normal in Fuc-TVII<sup>−/−</sup> and Fuc-TIV<sup>−/−</sup>/Fuc-TVII<sup>−/−</sup> mice, and their L-selectin expression levels are normal (6, 8). These considerations infer that defects in HEV-borne L-selectin ligands, and corresponding defects in L-selectin–dependent lymphocyte adhesion and homing thus account for the paucity of such cells in these animals. Reductions in accumulation of activated CD4<sup>+</sup> and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells, including Th1 and Tc1 cells, in Fuc-TVII<sup>−/−</sup> and Fuc-TIV<sup>−/−</sup>/Fuc-TVII<sup>−/−</sup> PLNs in response to DNFB sensitization are clearly not consequent to an intrinsic defect in the ability to become activated or cytokine polarized, but instead likely reflect a quantitative deficiency of cells available to respond to this hapten. Such quantitative reductions in cells available for antigen–dependent activation and proliferation are reminiscent of L-selectin<sup>−/−</sup> mice (25–27), and of mice treated with Abs to L-selectin (28), where CHS defects are assigned to an inability to populate PLNs with naive T cells. The partial and nearly complete deficiencies, respectively, in the content of PLN naive T cells in Fuc-TVII<sup>−/−</sup> or doubly deficient mice likely contribute to their partial or complete defects in CHS response by severely (Fuc-TVII<sup>−/−</sup> mice) or profoundly diminishing (doubly deficient mice) the number of hapten–specific memory T cells generated during sensitization that are available for distribution to the skin and other nonlymphoid tissues (37, 44, 45).

Recruitment of hapten–primed T lymphocytes to the cutaneous site of hapten challenge also provides a primary contribution to the CHS response. Recruitment of activated T cells to inflammatory sites requires E- and P-selectins expressed at such sites and selectin ligands expressed by Th1 and Tc1 cells (38–41, 46, 47). Prior studies correlate inducible expression of Fuc-TVII with differentiation of T cells to Th1 or a Tc1 phenotype and their expression of E- and/or P-selectin ligands (9, 11–13), though a requirement for Fuc-TVII in control of selectin ligand expression in these polarized cell types, in vitro, or in vivo, or in T cell trafficking to inflamed sites in vivo was not addressed. Our observations demonstrate that Fuc-TVII is an essential con-
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comitant to normal E- and P-selectin ligand expression by Th1 and Tc1 cells generated in vitro or in vivo, and is required for normal recruitment of hapten-sensitized T cells to cutaneous sites of hapten challenge. These defects will thus contribute to the faulty CHS response in Fuc-TVII−/− mice by diminishing recruitment of memory effector T cells, at least in the context of haptenic challenge. The CMFDA-labeled cells used in the adoptive transfer experiments (Fig. 9) are largely activated CD4+ and CD8+ T cells (Fig. 5). Nonetheless, as unfraccionated LN suspensions were used in these studies, additional work will be necessary to define the efficiency with which each cell type traffics in this model, and how Fuc-TVII deficiency may diminish or delete such trafficking. Absence of T cell selectin ligand expression in these mice may also contribute to their defective CHS responses by disallowing dissemination of hapten-specific memory T cells to skin and other peripheral tissues after hapten sensitization, although a requirement for the selectins and their ligands in distributing antigen-specific memory cells to peripheral tissues (44, 45) remains to be established.

Inducible expression of Fuc–TIV is inconsistently observed in association with Th1 polarization (9, 13). Our observations indicate that Fuc–TIV deficiency in the context of a normal Fuc–TVII locus does not detectably diminish Th1 and Tc1 cell selectin ligand expression or trafficking. It remains to be determined if Fuc–TIV directs residual E- or P-selectin ligand expression by activated, cytokine-polarized T cells, as does in neutrophils (8), if this accounts for the small amount of trafficking by Fuc–TVII−/− donor cells to the cutaneous site of hapten challenge in our adoptive transfer experiments, and if this in turn permits the residual CHS response observed in Fuc–TVII−/− mice.

Neutrophil recruitment is also required for the CHS response (48), in part by promoting recruitment of CD8+ T cells after hapten challenge (19, 37), and presumably by release of inflammatory mediators. Recruitment of neutrophils to the skin in response to nonspecific irritation is diminished or deleted such trafficking. Absence of T cell selectin ligand expression in these mice may also contribute to their defective CHS responses by disallowing dissemination of hapten-specific memory T cells to skin and other peripheral tissues after hapten sensitization, although a requirement for the selectins and their ligands in distributing antigen-specific memory cells to peripheral tissues (44, 45) remains to be established.

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