Reprogramming of the cardiac phosphoproteome in conjunction with proteome and transcriptome creates the enhanced performance and protection circuitry in response to chronic adenylyl cyclase-driven stress

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Abstract

Our previous work demonstrated the existence of a remarkable adaptive paradigm of heart
performance and protection in response to the constitutive challenge of marked cardiac-specific
overexpression of adenylyl cyclase type 8 (TGAC8). However, the molecular regulatory
mechanisms remain elusive. Because PKA signaling is the predominantly activated pathway in
the TGAC8 left ventricle (LV) performance and protection circuitry and phosphorylation related
pathways were enriched from transcriptome and proteome, we hypothesized that
phosphorylation states of numerous proteins are reprogrammed in pathways where the
transcriptome and proteome were activated in TGAC8 vs. WT. We conducted an unbiased
phosphoproteomics analysis in order to determine the role of altered protein phosphorylation in
the chronic adaptive heart performance and protection profile of adult TGAC8 LV at 3-4 months
of age, and integrated the phosphoproteome with transcriptome and proteome. Based on
differentially regulated phosphoproteins by genotype, numerous stress-response pathways within
reprogrammed TGAC8 LV, including PKA, PI3K and AMPK signaling pathways, predicted
upstream regulators, e.g., PDPK1, PAK1 and PTK2B, and downstream functions, e.g., cell
viability, protein quality control, and metabolism were enriched. In addition to PKA, numerous
other kinases and phosphatases were hyper-phosphorylated in TGAC8 vs. WT. Hyper-
phosphorylated transcriptional factors in TGAC8 were associated with increased mRNA
transcription, and immune responses and metabolic pathways. Combination of the
phosphoproteome with its proteome and with the previously published TGAC8 transcriptome
enabled the elucidation of which cardiac performance and adaptive protection profiles were
coordinately regulated at post-translational modification (PTM) (phosphorylation), translational
and transcriptional levels. Many stress-response signaling pathways, i.e., PI3K/AKT,
ERK/MAPK and ubiquitin labeling, were consistently enriched and activated in the TGAC8 LV
at transcriptional, translational and PTM levels. We verified some results through wet lab
experiments. Thus, PTM of protein by phosphorylation, per se, contributes immensely to the
heart performance and protection profile of TGAC8 LV, and is coordinately regulated with
altered transcription and translation in the TGAC8 to activate critical stress-response pathways.

Keywords

51 left ventricle, adenylyl cyclase 8, AC-cAMP-PKA-Ca^{2+} signaling, phosphoproteome, proteome,
52 transcriptome, PI3K/AKT signaling pathway.

Introduction

Cyclic AMP (cAMP) is a pivotal second messenger, which exerts multifaceted effects on most
significant physiological processes, such as cardiac contractility, glycogenolysis and lipolysis,
hormone release, etc[1]. In mammalians, there are nine transmembrane adenylyl cyclase (AC)
(mAC) isoforms (AC1-9) and one soluble AC (sAC, also called AC10) catalyzing the conversion
of ATP into cAMP[2], which usually activates the phosphorylation cascade, serving as the central

motif of cellular signaling[1,3]. Increased AC-cAMP-PKA-Ca^{2+} signaling is the quintessential
component of both acute and chronic cardiac responses.

AC8, the isoform, is highly expressed in brain regions[2,4]. Unlike two dominant cardiac AC
isoforms, AC5 and AC6, which are inhibited by intracellular Ca^{2+} and inhibited in heart failure
(HF), AC8 is stimulated by Ca^{2+}-calmodulin (CM)[5,6] and involved in nervous system functions,
like learning and memory[2,4]. Our lab and others have demonstrated that cardiac-specific
overexpression of AC8 (TGAC8) markedly increases the heart rate and ejection fraction, similar
to acute exercise but chronic and in the absence of corporal exertion, and persists on a 24 hours
per day and 7 days per week basis[5,7-9]. Despite this persistent high-level of heart performance
driven by markedly elevated level of AC8-cAMP-PKA-Ca^{2+} signaling, which usually proceeds
to near-term cardiac dysfunction, the TGAC8 survives for an extended period of time, up to
about one year of age without excessive mortality.

It is of utmost importance to unravel how the TGAC8 adapts the heart to this chronic stress, as
this knowledge can be applied to the study of cardiac physiology and pathology and even to
develop treatments for cardiovascular diseases (CVDs). In this regard, as a first "port-of-call",
we had recently compared the left ventricle (LV) transcriptome and proteome in TGAC8 and
WT littermates[10]. Because PKA signaling pathway was highly enriched in TGAC8 vs. WT, we
reasoned that protein phosphorylation will differ between TGAC8 and WT, and the
phosphorylation modification will play a crucial role in the remarkable adaptation capacity of the
TGAC8 heart in response to markedly increased AC8-cAMP-PKA-Ca^{2+} signaling. We have
assessed the concordance of the genotypic differences at the phosphorylation level to some
degree in western blot (WB) experiments[10].

As the body is a quite complex system, regulation at a single level cannot reveal the whole
picture in an organism, and multiple levels of regulatory mechanisms are coordinated to defend
against stimuli and maintain health[11]. Phosphorylation is one of the most important and most
extensively studied post-translational modifications (PTMs) on proteins. Various kinases and
phosphatases within cells phosphorylate and dephosphorylate a myriad of proteins respectively
to regulate their activities and affect multiple signaling pathways. In the present research, we
conducted Tandem Mass Tag (TMT)-labeling mass spectrometry (MS) of left ventricular
samples of the three-month old male TGAC8 and WT mice, to unravel the reprogrammed
phosphoproteome and proteome of the TGAC8 LV. In addition, by comparing genotypic
differences in the proteome and phosphoproteome of the present study with genotypic
differences in transcriptome published previously[10], we sought to determine whether some
adaptive mechanisms that emerge in the TGAC8 LV are regulated at transcriptional, translational
and PTM (phosphorylation) levels.

Materials and Methods

1. Animals.

The cardiac-specific overexpression of AC8 (TGAC8) mouse, generated by inserting a cDNA coding for human AC8 after the murine α-myosin heavy chain promoter, was a gift from Nicole Defer/Jacques Hanoune, Unite de Recherches, INSERM U-99, Hôpital Henri Mondor, F-94010 Créteil, France. The three-month old male TGAC mice were used as study cases, and age matched WT littermates, in the C57/BL6 background, were used as controls. All studies were performed in accordance with the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals published by the National Institutes of Health (NIH Publication no. 85-23, revised 1996). The experimental protocols were approved by the Animal Care and Use Committee of the National Institutes of Health (protocol #441-LCS-2016).

2. Isolate and store mouse heart.

Three-month old male C57 mice (TGAC8 and WT) were euthanized and the heart was isolated. The left ventricle (LV) tissues were extracted and stored in tubes at -80°C.

3. Mass spectrometry for phosphoproteome and data process.

TGAC8 and WT LVs were sent to National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda to conduct mass spectrometry using the standard tandem mass tag (TMT) labeling method to obtain the phosphoproteome and total proteome concurrently in the same platform. Mass spectrometry manipulation referred to our recently published paper[10].

Proteins from each group of samples are being quantified using the Bradford Assay Kit. Two-hundred micrograms of protein from each group will be labeled with Amine-Reactive Tandem Mass Tag Reagents (TMT Label Reagents; Thermo Scientific) according to the protocol supplied by the manufacturer. Briefly, protein will be denatured followed by reduction (TCEP) and alkylation (iodoacetamide) and then the alkylated proteins (200ug) for each sample were precipitated in 6 volumes of ice-cold acetone at -20 °C overnight and later reconstituted in Triethylammonium bicarbonate. Each sample was digested overnight using Trypsin enzyme (enzyme to substrate ratio of 1:12.5) to get the peptide solution. Trypsin will cleave proteins at lysine and arginine amino acid residues yielding tryptic peptides.

The 10-plex tandem mass tag (TMT) labeling was carried out according to Thermo Fisher Scientific's TMT Mass Tagging kits protocol. Each of the TMT 10-plex label reagents were reconstituted in Acetonitrile (ACN) and digested peptides from each sample were incubated with specific tags (126, 127N, 127C, 128N, 128C, 129N, 129C, 130N,130C and 131 respectively) for about 1 hour at room temperature. The TMT labeled samples are then combined and fractionated

using Off-Line high pH Basic Reverse Phase Fractionation to decrease the complexity of the
sample and to increase the number of peptides being identified into a total of 24 fractions which
will be later analyzed using LC-MS/MS. About 5% of the labeled tryptic peptides from each of
24-fractions were used for global proteomics analysis by nanoLC-MS/MS analysis while the
remaining 95% of samples in the 24-fractions were subjected to subsequent TiO2-enrichment for
quantitative phosphoproteomics analysis.

TiO2 enrichment was conducted using a Titansphere Phos-kit (GL biosciences Inc.). The TMT
10-plex tagged tryptic peptides were reconstituted in Buffer B (25% lactic acid in 1% TFA, 80%
Acetonitrile). The TiO2 SpinTip (1mg resin/10ul tip) was incubated with the sample, washed
using the wash buffer following manufacturers protocol and the phosphopeptides were eluted in
elution buffer sequentially using 5% ammonium hydroxide solution and 5% pyrrolidine solution.
The eluted fraction was dried and reconstituted in 0.1% FA for subsequent clean-up using the
ZipTip C18-tips (Millipore). The sample from elution fraction of C18-tips were dried and
reconstituted in 0.1%FA for LC-MS/MS analysis.

The flow-through fraction and the wash fraction from the TiO2 spinTip was collected, pooled
into a total of 6 fractions and speedvac dried which will be later used for Fe-IMAC
phosphoenrichment protocol. The peptide sample from 6-pooled flow-through fractions from
TiO2 enrichment underwent second round of phosphoenrichment using High-Select Fe-NTA
Phosphopeptide Enrichment Kit (Thermo Scientific). The eluted fraction was dried and
reconstituted in 0.1% FA for subsequent LC-MS/MS analysis.

Protein identification by LC-MS/MS analysis of peptides was performed using an Orbitrap
Fusion Lumos Tribid mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific, San Jose, CA) interfaced
with an Ultimate 3000 Nano-HPLC apparatus (Thermo Fisher Scientific, San Jose, CA).
Peptides were fractionated by EASY-Spray PepMAP RPLC C18 column (2μm, 100A, 75 μm x
50cm) using a 120-min linear gradient of 5-35% ACN in 0.1% FA at a flow rate of 300 nl/min.
The instrument was operated in data-dependent acquisition mode (DDA) using FT mass analyzer
for one survey MS scan on selecting precursor ions followed by top 3 second data-dependent
HCD-MS/MS scans for precursor peptides with 2-7 charged ions above a threshold ion count of
10,000 with normalized collision energy of 37%. Survey scans of peptide precursors from 300 to
2000 m/z were performed at 120k resolution and MS/MS scans were acquired at 50,000
resolution with a mass range m/z 100-2000.

All MS and MS/MS raw spectra of TMT experiments from each set were processed and searched
using Sequest HT algorithm within the Proteome Discoverer 2.2 (PD2.2 software, Thermo Fisher
Scientific).The settings for precursor mass tolerance was set at 12 ppm, fragment ion mass
tolerance to 0.05 Da, trypsin enzyme with 2 mis cleavages with carbamidomethylation of
cysteine, TMT6-plex (lysine), TMT6-plex (peptide N-term) as fixed modification and
deamidation of glutamine and asparagine, oxidation of methionine as variable modifications.
The mouse sequence database from Swiss sprot was used for database search. Identified peptides

were filtered for maximum 1% FDR using the Percolator algorithm in PD 2.2 along with
additional peptide confidence set to high. Only peptide spectra containing all reporter ions were
designated as "quantifiable spectra" and used for peptide/protein quantitation. The final lists of
protein identification/quantitation were grouped and further filtered by PD 2.2 with at least 2
unique peptides per protein identified with high confidence. The quantitative protein ratios were
weighted and normalized by the median ratio for all quantifiable spectra of the peptides
pertaining to total protein identified.

For quantitative phosphopeptides analysis, an additional phosphorylation on Ser, Thr, Tyr
residues were specified as variable modifications. To confidently localize phosphorylation sites,
the phosphoRS 3.0 node integrated in PD 2.2 workflow was used. The algorithm of phosphoRS
3.0 software enables automated and confident localization of phosphosites by determining
individual probability values for each putatively phosphorylated site within the validated peptide
sequences. For each relative ratio group of phosphopeptides/sites, no normalization was applied.

To remove low quality signal, we remained peptides tagged with the medium and high
confidence. We divided the expressions of phosphoproteins to those of total proteins to obtain
the normalized phosphoproteome. As the expressions appeared to be near normal distribution,
we calculated the fold change by dividing the average value of TGAC8 samples by the average
value of WT samples, and calculated p-value using two-sided unpaired Student's t-test. Data
were deposited in MassIVE (ID: MSV000089850).

4. Analyses of the TGAC8 LV transcriptome.

The processed transcriptomic data were obtained from our recently published work (GEO:
GSE205234)[10]. The significantly changed mRNAs (TGAC8 vs. WT, q-value < 0.05) were
uploaded into DAVID[2] (version: 6.8; https://david.ncifcrf.gov/home.jsp) for Gene Ontology
(GO) term enrichments, and were also imported into Ingenuity Pathway Analysis[3] (IPA
(QIAGEN, March 2020)) for upstream kinases and phosphatases prediction. Kinases and
phosphatases were selected from the transcriptome and their changes at mRNA level were
displayed to observe their regulation by the overexpression of AC8.

5. Analyses of phosphoproteome and proteome.

Both unnormalized and normalized phosphoproteome were analyzed and visualized in PCA,
heatmap, and volcano plots. With the cutoff -log(p-value) > 1.3 and absolute(log2(fold change))
≥ 0.4, we obtained the significantly changed unnormalized and normalized phosphoproteins
(TGAC8 vs. WT) and imported them into IPA for functional analyses respectively, and
compared the canonical pathway enrichments from these two datasets. In IPA, the upstream
kinases were predicted based upon the unnormalized phosphoproteom, and the regulatory

pathways from the predicted upstream kinases to downstream effective signaling pathways were generated. Molecular and cellular functions were also enriched in IPA. The similar analyses to those conducted in the TGAC8 LV transcriptome were also done in the TGAC8 LV total proteome to observe the GO term enrichment, predicted activities of upstream kinases and phosphatases, and expression of kinases and phosphatases at protein level.

6. Analyses of phosphopeptides.

The upregulated phosphopeptides (TGAC8 vs. WT, p-value < 0.05 and log2(fold change) > 0) were processed in R. After split of peptides with multiple phosphosites into individual peptides and filtering of ambiguously identified sites, 2264 phosphopeptides were selected. Protein peptide sequences of full length were downloaded from Uniprot database[12] and matched to the protein accessions corresponding to processed and selected phosphopeptides. Peptides centered on the phosphosites and flanked by 6 amino acids on the N and C termini respectively were extracted from the matched protein peptide sequences, and uploaded into WebLogo[13] (http://weblogo.threeplusone.com/) and iceLogo[14] (https://iomics.ugent.be/icelogoserver/) for sequence motif analysis. In WebLogo online analysis, different amino acids were labeled in different colors representing different chemical properties (refer to figure legend). In iceLogo online analysis, a public amphiphilicity index of polar amino acids reported by Mitaku and colleagues[15] was used as an aid to characterize the amino acid preference at membrane-water interfaces. In addition, the phosphopeptides of PI3K/AKT substates were summarized and displayed in stacked bar plot.

7. Integrative analyses of transcriptome, proteome and phosphoproteome.

The changes of significantly regulated molecules (TGAC8 vs. WT, q-value or p-value < 0.05) in transcriptome, total proteome, and unnormalized phosphoproteome were displayed in circos plot. In addition, the changes at different level were compared and visualized in correlation scatter plots. The discordant proteins whose change directions in total proteome and phosphoproteome were opposite were used to analyze the specific regulation at the phosphorylation level by the use of Reactome and GO (Cellular Component and Biological Process) databases.

As to the coordinated regulation, the above mentioned significantly regulated molecules (TGAC8 vs. WT) in each dataset were imported into IPA for canonical pathway enrichment. PI3K/AKT, ERK/MAPK and protein ubiquitination signaling pathways were coordinated across all omics. The phosphopeptides of protein substrates of PI3K were extracted from the phosphopeptide dataset and the numbers of changed phosphopeptides (TGAC8 vs. WT) were summarized and visualized in stacked bar plot. The PI3K/AKT signaling pathway were visualized in IPA, and nodes in the pathways were marked in different colors in terms of their changes at different levels.

As kinases and phosphatases are pivotal in phosphorylation, and transcription factors (TFs) are important in transcription regulation, they were extracted from transcriptome, proteome, and phosphoproteome to observe their changes (TGAC8 vs. WT) and deduce their role in the reprogram of phosphoproteome. The upstream transcription regulators including but not only TFs were predicted on the basis of transcriptome and proteome by the utilization of knowledge base in IPA, and their expressions were searched in multiple datasets. Furthermore, TFs that were significantly regulated at phosphorylation level (TGAC8 vs. WT, p-value < 0.05) were defined as significantly changed phosphorylated TFs in this research, and they were uploaded into STRING database[4] (version: 11.0; http://string-db.org/) to generate protein-protein interaction network and enrich KEGG pathways. They were also imported into IPA for canonical pathway, molecular and cellular functions enrichments.

8. Western blot.

Snap-frozen left ventricle (LV) tissue from three-month-old male mice was homogenized and lysed in ice cold RIPA buffer (Thermo Fisher Scientific: 25 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.6), 150 mM NaCl, 1% NP-40, 1% sodium deoxycholate, 0.1% SDS) supplemented with a Halt protease inhibitor cocktail (Thermo Fisher Scientific), Halt phosphatase inhibitor cocktail (Thermo Fisher Scientific) and 1 mM phenylmethyl sulfonyl fluoride, using a Precellys homogenizer (Bertin Instruments) with tissue homogenization kit CKMix (Bertin Instruments) at 4 °C. Extracts were then centrifuged at 10,000×g for 10 min at 4 °C and the protein concentration of the soluble fraction determined using the Bicinchoninic Acid (BCA) Assay (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Samples were denatured in Laemmli sample buffer (BioRad Laboratories) containing 355 mM 2-mercaptoethanol at 95 °C for 5 min, and proteins (10–50 µg/lane) resolved on 4–20% Criterion TGX Stain Free gels (Bio-Rad Laboratories) by SDS/PAGE. Gels then exposed to UV transillumination for 2.5 min to induce crosslinking of Stain Free gel trihalo compound with protein tryptophan residues. Proteins were then transferred to low fluorescence polyvinylidene difluoride (LF-PVDF) membranes (BioRad Laboratories) using an electrophoretic transfer cell (Mini Trans-Blot, Bio-Rad). Membrane total protein was visualized using an Amersham Imager 600 (AI600) (GE Healthcare Life Sciences) with UV transillumination to induce and a capture fluorescence signal.

Blocked membranes (5% milk/tris-buffered saline with Tween-20, TBST) were incubated with the following primary antibodies: (1) Anti-Phospho-PKA Substrate (RRXS*/T*) antibody, Cell Signaling Technologies, Cat.#9624, 1:1000 dilution; (2) Anti-Ubiquitin antibody produced in rabbit, Sigma-Aldrich, SAB1306582, 1:200 dilution; (3) Anti-pan-AKT antibody, Cell Signaling Technologies, Cat.#4691, 1:1000 dilution; (4) Anti-Phospho-pan-AKT (Thr308) antibody, Cell Signaling Technologies, Cat.#13038, 1:1000 dilution; (5) Anti-Phospho-pan-AKT (Ser473) antibody, Cell Signaling Technologies, Cat.#4060, 1:1000 dilution; (6) Anti-AKT2 antibody, Abcam, Cat.#13038, 1:1000 dilution; (7) Anti-Phospho-AKT2 (Ser473) antibody, Cell Signaling

Technologies, Cat.#ab131168, 1:1000 dilution; (8) Anti-ERK1/2 antibody, Cell Signaling Technologies, Cat.#4695, 1:1000 dilution; (9) Anti-Phospho-ERK1/2 (Thr202/Tyr204) antibody, Cell Signaling Technologies, Cat.#4376, 1:1000 dilution; (10) Anti-p21 Ras antibody, Cell Signaling Technologies, Cat.#3965, 1:1000 dilution; (11) Anti-GAPDH antibody, Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Cat.# sc-32233, 1:1000 dilution; (12) Anti-c-Raf antibody, ThermoFisher Scientific, Cat.# PA5-29333, 1:1000 dilution; (13) Anti-Phospho-c-Raf (Ser338) antibody, Cell Signaling Technology, Cat.# 9427, 1:1000 dilution; (14) Anti-MEK1/2 antibody, Cell Signaling Technology, Cat.# 9126, 1:1000 dilution; (15) Anti-Phospho-MEK1/2 (Ser221) antibody, Cell Signaling Technology, Cat.# 2338, 1:1000 dilution.

Primary antibodies were then detected using horseradish peroxidase (HRP) conjugated antibody (Invitrogen) at 1:10,000. Bands were visualized using Pierce SuperSignal West Pico Plus ECL substrate kits (Thermo Scientific), the signal captured using an Amersham Imager 600 (AI600) (GE Healthcare Life Sciences) and quantified using ImageQuant TL software (GE Healthcare Life Sciences). Band density was normalized to total protein. Two-tailed unpaired Student's t test with Welch's correction was used for statistics.

9. Protein synthesis detection.

Protein synthesis was assessed by SUnSET-Western Blot as previously described in the above section. Briefly, the puromycin solution was prepared in PBS, sterilized by filtration, and a volume of 200 µl was injected in mice intraperitoneally, to achieve a final concentration of 0.04 µmol/g of body mass. After 30 min, mice were sacrificed, the LV was harvested and snap frozen in liquid nitrogen. Protein extraction was performed using Precellys, quantified with BCA assay 25 µg of total protein were separated by SDS-PAGE; proteins were then transferred onto PVDF membrane and incubated overnight in the anti-puromycin primary antibody (MABE343, Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO). Visualization of puromycin-labeled bands were obtained using horseradish peroxidase conjugated anti-mouse IgG Fc secondary antibody (Jackson ImmunoResearch Laboratories Inc, West Grove, PA, USA), using Pierce Super Signal ECL substrate kit (Pierce/ Thermo Scientific Rockford, IL). Chemiluminescence was captured with the Imager AI600 and densitometry analysis was performed using ImageQuantTL software (both by GE, Boston, MA). Total protein was used as control for protein loading. Genotypic differences of protein synthesis were tested via an as unpaired t-test.

10. Proteasome activity detection.

Flash frozen tissue was homogenized in ice-cold cytosolic extraction buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 250 mM Sucrose, 5 mM MgCl2, 0.5 mM EDTA, and 1 mM DTT). A bicinchoninic acid (BCA) assay (Pierce) was used to determine the protein concentrations. All samples were equally concentrated in proteasome assay buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 40 mM KCl, 5 mM MgCl2,

and 1 mM DTT). Proteasome activity was determined in the presence of 28 μM ATP using the
Suc-LLVY-AMC (18 μM, Boston Biochem #S280) fluorogenic substrate with and without
proteasome inhibition (MG 132, 1 mM, Sigma). The plate was read at an excitation wavelength
of 380 nm and an emission wavelength of 469 nm using a Spectramax M5 (Molecular Devices).
Activity was calculated by subtracting the background (proteasome inhibited value) from the
reading (proteasome activated value).

11. Protein soluble and insoluble fractions detection.

Protein aggregates were measured using Proteostat (Enzo, ENZ-51023) following the
manufacturer's instructions. For this assay left ventricle myocardial lysate (Cell Signaling lysis
buffer) was obtained, protein concentration assayed (BCA assay [Pierce]). Ten μg of protein
loaded into a 96-well microplate and protein aggregates were analyzed using the Proteostat assay
kit (Enzo Life Sciences) following the manufacturer's instructions. Background readings were
subtracted from sample recordings and were normalized to wild-type values.

12. Data process and graphics production.

Most raw data were precleared and processed using RStudio (version: 1.1.463) in R language
(version: 3.5.3), in which the tidyr package and dplyr package were applied. In addition,
GraphPad Prism (version: 7), Microsoft Excel (version: 2019) and Adobe Illustrator (version:
CC 2019) were also used for statistics and graphics. Venn diagrams were generated in Venny[5]
(version: 2.1.0; http://bioinfogp.cnb.csic.es/tools/venny/index.html). Circos plot was generated
using Circos software[6] in Perl language.

Results

1. The TGAC8 reprograms the LV phosphoproteome.

The TMT-labeling quantitative MS identified **12963 phospho-peptides** (File 1: Sheet 1) and
3646 phosphoproteins (File 1: Sheet 2). The principal component analysis (PCA) (Figure 1A)
of the 3646 phosphoproteins in each mouse showed that the TG and WT samples were
distinguished into two groups completely. The heatmap (Figure 1B) showed the intra-group
consistency of upregulated phosphoproteins in TGAC8 compared to WT. Within the cutoff at -
log10(p-value) > 1.3 and absolute value of log2(fold-change(TG/WT)) ≥ 0.04, 781
phosphoproteins were differentially regulated by genotype. Of the 781 phosphoproteins, the
phosphorylation levels of 741 proteins were increased and only 40 were decreased in the TGAC8
vs. WT LV (Figure 1C).

2. Functional analyses of the phosphoproteome.

We performed the canonical pathway, upstream regulation, and downstream function analyses of the remodeled LV phosphoproteome of TGAC8 using the Ingenuity Pathway Analysis (IPA) software.

2.1. Canonical pathway analysis of the remodeled LV phosphoproteome of TGAC8.

To study the mechanism at phosphorylation level, we first performed canonical pathway analysis using IPA. Top canonical pathways within the phosphoproteome that were statistically differentially enriched in TGAC8 vs. WT were displayed in the bar plot (Figure 1D and File 2: Sheet 1). Of these pathways, cardiac hypertrophy signaling (enhanced) is most highly activated (z-score as high as 4.867) (Figure 1D). The combination of Supplementary Figure 1 and File 2: Sheet 2 and our recently published work[10] showed that the phosphorylation status of numerous molecules, e.g., Ca^{2+} ATPase, RyR2, Ncx, involved in excitation, calcium cycling, contraction, relaxation and protein synthesis, was elevated in the TGAC8 vs. WT LV. However, we have demonstrated that at three-month of age, the mouse age in the present study, the LV mass is not elevated in TGAC8 vs. WT[10]. Of note, transcriptomic, proteomic and WB analyses indicated that pathologic hypertrophic markers were not increased in TGAC8 vs. WT[10]. In this regard, the activation of key stress response signaling pathways, e.g., protein kinase A (PKA) signaling, PI3K signaling, and AMPK signaling, may protect against pathological changes, that result in an increase in cardiac mass in TGAC8 despite its chronic increase in performance. For example, activated PKA signaling can restrict the activity of AC8, acting as a feedback to fine-tune the downstream signaling networks inside the body[3]. Additionally, nitric oxide (NO) signaling may coordinate cardiac protection in the increase in cardiac mass (Figure 1D). Increased phosphorylation status of HSP90 and Akt in TGAC8 synergistically increase eNOS activity[16], and increased NO produced by eNOS may modulate the function of the ryanodine receptor Ca^{2+} release channel (RyR2) on the cardiac sarcoplasmic reticulum[17]. The TMT-labeling MS identified significant upregulated phosphorylation in the peptides of RyR2 (RISQTSQVSIDAAHGYSPR, E9Q401 [2805-2823]) (File 1: Sheet 1) , consistent with the PKA induced phosphorylation of RyR2-S2809 mediating the increase in Ca^{2+} spark amplitude[18].

2.2. Upstream regulators of the remodeled LV phosphoproteome of TGAC8.

As known, the overexpression of AC8 activates the AC8-cAMP-PKA phosphorylation axis[9]. There were 2264 phosphosites whose names and locations are unambiguous within the 4990 upregulated phosphopeptides (p-value ≤ 0.05 and log2(fold-change(TG/WT)) ≥ 0) in TGAC8 vs. WT. The majority of these phosphosites were serines (S) and threonines (T), and a few were tyrosines (Y) (Figure 2A). By using WebLogo, we profiled the phosphorylation motif sequences (Figure 2B). A typical PKA and AKT substate motif, R-R-X-pS/T, was the most abundant substrate motif, consistent with increased PKA dependent phosphorylation (Figure 2B-2D)[19,20].

In addition to S and T, the center phosphosites also included phosphotyrosine (Y). The center
phosphosites were mainly flanked by the P-E-E sequence on the C terminus, endowing a strong
hydrophobic and acidic property to the C terminus of the substrate sequences (Figure 2B),
supported by the amphiphilicity index analysis in iceLogo (Figure 2D). Because phosphorylation
substrate motifs were not restricted to PKA's substrate motif, additional kinases must be also
involved in reprogramming the TGAC8 phosphoproteome. Therefore, we were inspired to
explore additional kinase-substrate pathways mediating the effect of the cardiac-overexpression
of AC8 here.

IPA predicted that 26 kinases were responsible for the above-mentioned phosphorylation motifs
(File 2: Sheet 3), among which, three had previously been identified to differ by genotype in the
LV transcriptome, 18 were shown to differ by genotype in the LV proteome, and 18 were
identified in the present phosphoproteome. Of note, most of the identified kinases were
upregulated in TGAC8 vs. WT at transcription, translation and PTM (phosphorylation) levels.
Within the phosphoproteome, eight kinases were predicted to be differentially activated by
genotype, and the phosphorylation level of four of these (PDPK1, PAK1, PTK2B and GSK3B)
was increased in TGAC8 vs. WT. These four kinases each phosphorylates various proteins to
regulate cellular functions. For example, a previous study observed that in human glioblastoma
cell lines, T98G and U87MG cells, the interference of human PDPK1 mRNA by siRNA
decreased the phosphorylation level of human BAD protein (S112, S136 and S155) and activated
cell death to suppress tumorigenesis[21]. Another study reported that in mouse myoblast cell line,
C2C12 cells, PDPK1 protein phosphorylated the mouse ULK1 protein[22]. Increased
phosphorylation states of BAD (upregulated at S112, S136 and S155) and ULK1 (upregulated at
S450, S521 and S637/638) in TGAC8 may be linked to activated PDPK1.

Different kinases can coordinate to reprogram the complex regulation network in the organism.
Consistent with the IPA canonical pathway analysis, the phosphorylation level of 27 proteins
(including the three kinases (PDPK1, PAK1 and PTK2B) auto-phosphorylating themselves)
were elevated by the three kinases to regulate cardiac stress signaling pathways, including PKA
signaling, ERK/MAPK signaling, cardiac hypertrophy signaling (enhanced), and renin-
angiotensin signaling (Figure 1E), to cope with the cardiac stress in the TGAC8. For example,
GSK3B is involved in multiple biological processes. PDPK1 phosphorylated GSK3B at S9[23,24]
and PTK2B phosphorylated GSK3B at S9 and Y216[25,26] to inhibit the kinase activity of GSK3B.
In this phosphoproteome, GSK3B was phosphorylated at multiple sites, including S9, Y216,
S219 and S545, and thus GSK3B inhibition was linked to the cardiac adaptation[27,28].

2.3. Downstream functions of the remodeled LV phosphoproteome of TGAC8.

To study the downstream functions of these phosphoproteins, we performed molecular and
cellular functions analysis in IPA. The enriched functions were mainly in three categories, i.e.,
cell viability, protein quality control, and metabolism (Figure 1F and File 2: Sheet5). The
functions of cellular assembly and organization, cellular function and maintenance, and cell

death and survival were ranked as the top three terms, indicating the important role of the
reprogrammed phosphoproteome in improving cell viability in response to the chronic stress of
the overexpression of AC8 in the mouse heart.

3. Integrative analyses of transcriptome, proteome and phosphoproteome.

We next integrated changes in PTM (phosphorylation) in TGAC8 vs. WT with genotypic
differences in protein translation and in transcription. The circos plot (Figure 3A) illustrates the
genotypic differences (TGAC8 vs. WT) in **molecules** identified across the transcriptome,
proteome, and phosphoproteome. In addition, the correlation scatter plots (Figure 3B)
demonstrated a moderate level of correlation of genotypic differences of molecular changes
within phosphoproteome and transcriptome, and a somewhat stronger correlation between
genotypic differences of molecular changes within phosphoproteome and proteome (Figure 3C).
Concordant and discordant enrichments of canonical pathways differed by genotype among the
three omics are shown in Figure 3D. A comparison of genotypic differences within the three
omics highlights the importance of protein phosphorylation, and the phosphorylation was
coordinated with and supplemental to transcription and translation.

Because kinases and phosphatases are the key regulators of phosphorylation, and
phosphorylation of transcription factors (TFs) are the primary determinant of their activities in
transcription, we compared genotypic differences in kinases, phosphatases and TFs within the
phosphoproteome and proteome with our previously published genotypic differences in the
TGAC8 vs. WT transcriptome[10] (Figure 3E). We identified 196 kinases, 71 phosphatases and
191 TFs in the present phosphoproteome (Figure 3F). The protein phosphorylation status of
about one half of these molecules differed significantly (p-value < 0.05) by genotype (Figure
3G), and the protein phosphorylation status of majority of these molecules was increased (Figure
3H-3J). The genotypic differences in the transcription (mRNA expression obtained from RNA-
seq) and translation (protein expression obtained from mass spectrometry) of these molecules,
however, differed from those in the phosphoproteome (Figure 3E). Because there were more
molecules that were unchanged or reduced in the TGAC8 vs. WT transcriptome or proteome
than in the phosphoproteome, it is clear that the changes in protein phosphorylation are of utmost
importance in the coordination of transcription, translation and PTM, that underlie the adaptive
response of the TGAC8 LV to the marked, chronic increase stress of its intrinsically activated
AC-cAMP-PKA-Ca^{2+} signaling. Thus, by utilizing multiple bioinformatic analysis methods, we
not only dissected the reprogrammed phosphoproteome and deduced its functions in the TGAC8
mouse LV, but also profiled the coordination of phosphoproteome, transcriptome and proteome.

3.1. Implications of coordinated changes in protein phosphorylation and transcription in
TGAC8 vs. WT.

The most likely type of coordination between protein phosphorylation and transcription is related
to phosphorylation states of TFs which is determined by kinases and phosphatases activities.
Analysis of the remodeled LV transcriptome of TGAC8 in Gene Ontology (GO) analysis using
DAVID online software discovered that enrichments of numerous phosphorylation and
dephosphorylation related biological processes and molecular functions significantly differed by
genotype (Figure 4A), and that the coordinated expression of numerous kinases and
phosphatases also differed by genotype (Figure 4B-4C and File 8). Because expression levels of
kinases and phosphatases do not denote their activation states, we utilized IPA to predict the
genotypic differences in activation states of upstream kinase and phosphatase (regulators of the
transcriptome). Intriguingly, 60 kinases were predicted to be upstream regulators of the
remodeled LV transcriptome of TGAC8, and the majority of these kinases were predicted to be
activated in TGAC8 vs. WT (Figure 4D and File 9). In contrast, much fewer phosphatases were
predicted between TGAC8 and WT, and most of these were predicted to be inhibited (Figure 4E
and File 9). Thus, the differential genotypic enrichment of phosphorylation status and predicted
activation of kinases and phosphatases identified in our post hoc analysis of our previously
reported TGAC8 vs. WT transcriptome[10] are linked to the differential genotypic reprogramming
of the phosphoproteome discovered in the present study.

We utilized IPA to predict the activation states of upstream transcription regulators on the basis
of the remodeled LV transcriptomes and proteomes, and then determined their expression levels
in transcriptome, proteome and phosphoproteome (Figure 4F). Because TFs are the main
regulators of transcription, and because phosphorylation of TFs usually regulates their
activities[29-31], we focused our subsequent analysis on functions of those TFs that were
differentially phosphorylated in TGAC8 vs. WT. To confirm the hypothesis that the TGAC8
might exert transcriptional control by TFs phosphorylation, we retrieved all TFs identified in our
previous transcriptome and proteome[10] and mapped them to the current phosphoproteome in
order to determine their genotypic differences in phosphorylation status. Of the 191 TFs also
identified in this phosphoproteome, 92 TFs differed significantly by genotype in phosphorylation
status (p-value < 0.05). In agreement with the general upregulated transcription in TGAC8 LV[10],
nearly all of the TFs that differed by genotype had increased phosphorylation level (Figure 4G
and File 3). The only exception was purine rich element binding protein G (Purg), known to be
hyper-phosphorylated in solid tumors[32].

We conducted Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) pathway analysis to further
probe the predicted facts of TFs that were generally hyper-phosphorylated in TGAC8 vs. WT.
Numerous immunity related pathways, cancer related pathways, and metabolism related
pathways were enriched (Figure 4H and File 4). We then utilized IPA for in-depth analysis.
Numerous metabolic canonical pathways (glucocorticoid receptor signaling and PPAR
signaling), a cancer related canonical pathway (regulation of epithelial-mesenchymal transition
pathway), and immunity related canonical pathways (role of JAK1, JAK2 and TYK2 in
interferon signaling, IL-9 signaling, JAK/Stat signaling, etc.) were enriched (Figure 4I and File

5: Sheet 1). Intriguingly, the sumoylation pathway was markedly inhibited. Because both
sumoylation and phosphorylation are important PTMs in transcriptional regulation[33,34], it is
possible that the upregulated protein phosphorylation and inhibited protein sumoylation pathway
in TFs coordinately activate transcription and improve immunity in the TGAC8 LV. In addition,
cell viability and metabolism in molecular and cellular functions were enriched in TGAC8 vs.
WT (Figure 4J and File 5: Sheet 2), consistent with enrichments of aforementioned KEGG
pathways and IPA canonical pathways (Figure 4H and 4I).

Taken together, we have discovered the existence of substantial crosstalk between protein
phosphorylation and transcription in the TGAC8 LV: phosphorylation of TFs reprograms
immunity and metabolism related pathways and functions in the TGAC8 LV, likely serving to
maintain cell survival in response to the chronic stress of marked AC8 overexpression.

3.2. Coordinated changes in protein expression and phosphorylation of the remodeled
proteome and phosphoproteome of TGAC8.

Having discovered the coordinated changes in the remodeled TGAC8 transcriptome and
phosphoproteome (Figure 4A-4E), we next sought to discover the extent to which changes in the
remodeled phosphoproteome of the TGAC8 LV were coordinated with changes in its remodeled
proteome. Numerous biological processes and molecular functions that were related to
phosphorylation and dephosphorylation were enriched in the remodeled TGAC8 LV proteome
(Figure 5A), as were numerous kinases and phosphatases (Figure 5B-5C and File 10). Twenty-
nine kinases that differed by genotype were predicted to be upstream regulators of the proteome,
and most of these were predicted to be activated in TGAC8 vs. WT. Fewer phosphatases than
kinases that differed by genotype were identified as upstream regulators of the remodeled
TGAC8 LV proteome (Figure 5D-5E and File 11).

One strategy adopted to probe deeper into the coordinated changes in the proteome and
phosphoproteome of the TGAC8 LV was to normalize the phosphoproteome to the total
proteome (in other words, to divide the phosphorylation expression by protein expression) (File
1: sheet4). Of the 3927 phosphoproteins identified in our mouse LV samples, 2164 were
identified in both the proteome and phosphoproteome, and these were focused for subsequent
analyses. After normalization, WT and TGAC8 samples manifested clear genotypic differences
in PCA analysis (Figure 5G), and phosphorylation status of numerous proteins normalized to the
protein expression level still differed by genotype without cutoff (Figure 5H) and with cutoff (-
log(p-value) > 1.3 and absolute(log2(TG/WT)) ≥ 0.4) (Figure 5I). Even after normalizing the
phosphorylation level to the protein expression level, the enrichments of canonical pathways in
TGAC8 were quite consistent with those of unnormalized phosphoproteome (Figure 5J and File
6). Cardiac hypertrophy signaling (enhanced) and cardiac hypertrophy signaling took the top two
places, emphasizing the important role of phosphorylation in the regulation of cardiac functions
in response to chronic stress when coordinated with changes in the total proteome.

Many important stress-response signaling pathways were enriched from phosphoproteome, e.g., PKA signaling, ERK/MAPK signaling, insulin receptor signaling, and PI3K/AKT signaling (Figure 6A). Three of these pathways, PI3K/AKT, ERK/MAPK and ubiquitin labeling, were also markedly enriched in our previous analysis on total proteome in TGAC8 LV[10]. By integrating and comparing the enrichments from transcriptome, proteome and phosphoproteome, we were able to identify the three signaling pathways in the TGAC8 LV, PI3K/AKT, ERK/MAPK and ubiquitin labeling, that were regulated concordantly in transcription, translation, and PTM (phosphorylation) (Figure 6B). WB validated activation of PI3K/AKT signaling pathway in TGAC8, reproducing the results of our prior study using different antibodies (Figure 6C-6D and Supplementary 3A (more significant)). We also demonstrated in that study that ERK/MAPK signaling was also activated in TGAC8 vs. WT (Supplementary 3B-3C). Activation of PI3K/AKT and ERK/MAPK signaling is crucial for enhanced protein quality control (the increase in protein synthesis and degradation) in the TGAC8 LV[10] (Supplementary 3D- 3G). Although protein ubiquitination, an important process in protein degradation, was enriched in TGAC8 LV within IPA analysis, its activity could not be predicted on the basis of present knowledge base of IPA. Its WB analysis, however, indicated that ubiquitination is indeed increased in TGAC8 vs. WT (Figure 6E).

We next sought to identify which molecules linked to PI3K/AKT signaling (one of the most important pathways in this mouse model) differed in TGAC8 vs. WT. Among the significantly changed upstream molecules, the majority were upregulated. AKT, a central molecule in the pathway, was also increased in proteome and phosphoproteome (Figure 6F). By searching and mapping the substrates of AKT, we unraveled that the phosphorylation levels of AKT peptide substrates were mostly elevated in TGAC8 vs. WT (Figure 6G). Therefore, the downstream effects and functions of AKT signaling were activated in TGAC8 LV: (1) upregulating GSK3 to improve energy metabolism; (2) activating mTOR pathway to increase protein synthesis and cell growth; (3) promoting NF-κB mediated transcription; (4) upregulating BAD and eNOS only at phosphorylation level to enhance cell survival and cardiovascular functions. In summary, to adapt the heart to stress for improved survival, the TGAC8 reprogram the cardiac LV phosphoproteome to a large degree.

4. Discordant regulation of the phosphoproteome and proteome in TGAC8 LV.

Among the 443 proteins that differed by genotype in both protein phosphorylation and protein expression levels, 33 were changed discordantly at the two levels (in opposite directions, i.e., upregulated in proteome but downregulated in phosphoproteome, or vice versa) (Figure 7A and File 7: Sheet 1). We uploaded the 33 discordant proteins into STRING online software for functional analyses. The GO_CC (Cellular Component) analysis resulted in many **mitochondrial components**, indicating the involvement of phosphorylated proteins in mitochondria (Figure 7B and File 7: Sheet 2). Reactome pathway analysis showed that in

addition to mitochondria, metabolic pathways were enriched significantly in TGAC8 (Figure 7C and File 7: Sheet 3). Mitochondria are the hub of metabolism and multiple metabolic processes are executed in mitochondria. Consistently, both metabolism and mitochondria related processes were ranked the top processes in GO_BP (Biological Process) analysis (Figure 7D and File 7: Sheet 4). Therefore, the discordant part between total proteome and phosphoproteome indicated that the phosphorylation plays a critical role in the regulation of mitochondria and metabolism in the TGAC8, distinct from its role in regulation at the translational level.

5. Deduced schematic of coordination of phosphoproteome with transcriptome and proteome in TGAC8 mouse LV.

A deduced schematic integration of the remodeled phosphoproteome, proteome and transcriptome of the TGAC8 LV is shown in Figure 8. The TGAC8 mouse initially induces a PKA dependent phosphorylation via AC8-cAMP-PKA axis. Many cytoplasmic proteins including TFs are thus phosphorylated and then transported into the nucleus where TFs recognize and bind to the promoters to activate the transcription of more regulatory factors, including kinases, phosphatases, and TFs. The activation states of these factors are changed upon phosphorylated in cytosol, thereby activating additional kinases-controlled phosphorylation cascades and reprogramming the cardiac phosphoproteome comprehensively.

Discussion

Our prior study[10] investigated the adaptive mechanisms that emerge in the TGAC8 heart to marked chronic stress of increased AC8-cAMP-PKA-Ca^{2+} signaling. In that study, a large number of proteins differed in TGAC8 vs. WT. The TGAC8 induced a chronic cardiac exercise phenotype in the heart, i.e., an increase in heart rate and contractility. These functional changes were accompanied by an increased cardiac biomass and energy demand. Multiple signaling pathways, related to nutrient sensing, energy production, cardiac cellular stress, cardiac stress response, growth factor signaling, and cell proliferation, were identified as downstream mediating the effect of the activated AC8-cAMP-PKA-Ca^{2+} signaling in the TGAC8 LV.

Our goals here were to determine which proteins in TGAC8 LV differed in expression and phosphorylation status compared to WT, and which kinases/phosphatases play roles in these altered phosphorylation statuses in the TGAC8. By the utilization of TMT-labeling MS, we obtained 12963 phosphopeptides and 3646 phosphoproteins, and observed the general upregulation of phosphorylation. We observed the enrichments of phosphorylation, upregulated expression of kinases, and predicted activation of upstream kinases. We made use of phosphoproteome complementary to transcriptome and proteome to expand our understanding of the regulatory mechanism how the TGAC8 adapts to chronic stress of activated AC8-cAMP-PKA-Ca^{2+} signaling. This approach enabled us to appreciate how changes in the transcription,

translation and PTM of proteins in the TGAC8 LV may singly or coordinately enable the
TGAC8 to endure the chronic AC8-induced stress (Figure 8).

First, the TGAC8 induced a PKA dependent phosphorylation via the AC8-cAMP-PKA axis
(typical substrate motif of PKA dependent phosphorylation). Most of previous studies only
focused on PKA phosphorylated targets as downstream effects of activated AC8. For example,
AC8 induced cAMP activates PKA to increase the phosphorylation of many key proteins in
cardiovascular system, e.g., ryanodine-receptor-type 2 (RyR2), L-type Ca^{2+} channels (LTCC),
phospholamban (PLN or PLB), etc[10]. In this research, we identified 29 phosphosites on RyR2, 15
phosphosites on LTCC alpha 1 and beta 2, and 2 phosphosites (S16 and T17) on PLN. SERCA2
and the majority of them were increased in phosphorylation statuses in the TGAC8 LV (File 1:
Sheet 1). It is worth noting that PLN is phosphorylated on S16 by PKA whereas on T17 by Ca^{2+}-
calmodulin-dependent protein kinase (CaMKII)[35].

After the activation of phosphorylation cascade, many cytoplasmic proteins including TFs were
thus phosphorylated and then transported into the nucleus where TFs recognize and bind to the
promoters to activate transcription. For example, Figure 4 F and 4G showed that many
transcriptional regulators were phosphorylated in TGAC8 vs. WT. The phosphorylation of
STAT1[36,37], STAT3[37], HTT[38] and CREB1[39] is associated with the activation of their
transcriptional activities. The elevated TFs phosphorylation and possibly activated transcription
were consistent with the general increase in transcriptome[10]. The hyper-phosphorylated TFs
might contribute to the improved immunity, metabolism and cell viability in TGAC8 (Figure 4H-
4I). For example, STAT family proteins are transcription activators, and their phosphorylation is
involved in inflammation and immune response[40,41]. The present study identified increased
phosphorylation levels in S727 on STAT1 and S726/S727 on STAT3 (File 1: Sheet 1), in line
with our previous report which identified hyper-phosphorylation of components within
inflammation and immune response signaling pathways such as JAK/STAT and JNK
pathways[10].

Upon the activation of RNA transcription, numerous molecules, including kinases, phosphatases,
and TFs, were transcribed more in TGAC8 than WT, thereby, activating other kinases-controlled
phosphorylation cascades in addition to PKA. The additional kinases and phosphorylation
cascades could also be directly activated by the overexpression of AC8 in another manner to be
determined. In this study, with the three datasets, IPA predicted many other kinase-substrate
reactions in addition to PKA. PDPK1, PAK1 and PTK2B were the three most consistent kinases.
In the context of the overexpression of AC8, these three kinases could be activated to
phosphorylate multiple proteins to activate PKA pathway (positive feedback) and MAPK/ERK
pathway (also known as Ras-Raf-MEK-ERK pathway) to maintain heart health (Figure 1E and
Supplementary Figure 2). Previously, we showed their WB results that MAPK/ERK pathway
were activated due to increased protein expression of p21 Ras and the elevated phosphorylation
levels of c-Raf, MEK1/2 and ERK1/2 as well as their increased ratios of phosphorylation to
protein expression[10]. In the present study, S233 and S621/S641 on Isoform 2 of RAF proto-

oncogene serine/threonine-protein kinase were hyper-phosphorylated in TGAC8 (File 1: Sheet
1). Importantly, the multifunctional molecule, GSK3B, was the downstream of PDPK1 and
PTK2B in the integrated regulation network. GSK3B is involved in metabolism and cardiac
hypertrophy[42,43]. Interestingly, AC8 is required for glucose homeostasis and hypothalamic
adaptation to high-fat diet[44]. The phosphorylation of GSK3B is also a critical mediator in
convergence of cardioprotection signaling[27,28]. We previously detected the increase in the protein
expression of GSK3B[10] and here identified the hyper-phosphorylated S9 on GSK3B (File 1:
Sheet 1). The bioinformatic analysis strategy here revealed a larger kinase-substrate network
important in the remodeling of the TGAC8 heart. We plan to validate these kinase-substrate
reactions in more follow-up studies and provide the reliable mechanism in cardiovascular
research.

Taken together, the TGAC8 upregulates phosphorylation to reprogram the heart. Based on
results in this study combined with our recently published work on TGAC8 LV[10], we generated a
comprehensive circuitry (Supplementary Figure 4). Navigating this figure "by the numbers":
marked, chronic, cardiac specific overexpression of AC8 (1) chronically increases cAMP (2) and
PKA-Ca^{2+} signaling (3), resulting, not only in an incessantly increased cardiac performance, due
to elevated heart rate and LV contractility (4), but also activation of growth factor signaling
pathways (5), leading to increase in energy demand due to increased transcription and increased
amino acid, nucleotide, protein, lipid and lipoprotein synthesis, increased protein quality control,
including proteosome activity, autophagy, mitophagy, cytokine signaling and inflammation (6).
Chronic high level of AC8 activation elicits numerous stress responses (8) including increased
nutrient sensing with increased AMPK signaling (10A), increased ROS scavenging, protection
against cell death, and also induction of signaling to minimize the impact of AC-PKA signaling
(10B). Shifts in energy production and utilization to deal with the marked energy demands of the
TGAC8 heart (10, 12) include: enhancement of glucose metabolism is pronounced (11, 13),
whilst utilization of fatty acids to produce energy is reduced (11) but an increase in glucose
catabolism (10, 11) is accompanied by an increased anabolism (12), supported by increased
aerobic glycolysis (11,13); increased utilization of the pentose phosphate shunt (5, 13) supports
increased amino acid, nucleotide, protein and lipoprotein synthesis induced by growth factor
signaling (5), resulting in an increase in LV biomass (14). This adaptive profile balances energy
requirements necessary for an incessant marked increase in cardiac performance (4), for
increased RNA transcription, protein translation and quality control required for cardiac growth
(14), and for other biological processes within the LV myocardium (6). This pattern of consilient
adaptations (6-15) sustains an incessant increase in cardiac performance while conferring cardio-
protection to the TGAC8 heart.

Open questions and limitations

In addition to the fascinating adaptive mechanisms in the TGAC8 LV discussed above, the
present research also raised some interesting open-mind questions, such as cardiac hypertrophy
signaling and sumoylation pathway enriched here.

Although the cardiac β-AR signaling is desensitized in many pathological conditions, like aging,
so as to despair the cardiovascular system functions, cAMP bioavailability could maintain
cardiac functions in the aged heart. Based on this, the overexpression of AC8 in heart was
regarded as a potential therapeutic way to increase the bioavailability of cardiac cAMP
independent of β-AR stimulation to improve cardiac functions[7]. Unexpectedly, the cardiac-
specific chronic activation of the cAMP pathway (overexpressing β1- AR, β2-AR, Gas, PKA,
PP1 inhibitor-1 (I-1), etc.) that enhances cardiac functions in young animals induces progressive
cardiomyopathy and premature death during aging[45]. Consistently, in the present research,
although the enriched cardiac hypertrophy signaling (enhanced) was not accompanied with the
markable hypertrophy phenotype in young male TGAC8 mice, it indicated a cardiac remodeling
that could lead to hypertrophy if accompanied with additional stresses, like aging. This
assumption was supported by another research on the TGAC8 mouse which reported early
alterations of myocardial structure, i.e., cardiomyocyte hypertrophy and endocardial fibrosis, in
twelve-month old TGAC8 mice compared with their WT littermates[46]. Therefore, our established
bioinformatic analysis strategy is a novel paradigm in **predicting** progressive cardiomyopathy
and premature death using early reprograming of omics in young age. More importantly, the
mechanisms discovered here in the young adult TGAC8 mice could be utilized in maintaining
cardiac health in older TGAC8 mice.

Interestingly, more and more PTMs have been discovered nowadays and they often occur at the
same time or on the same protein to carry important biological processes coordinately[47,48]. For
example, in rat hearts subjected to ischemia, lysine acetylation interferes with activities of
protein kinases to increase proximal dephosphorylation, which is involved in the regulation of
cell survival or death[49]. In the present research, sumoylation pathway was inhibited along with
the upregulated phosphorylation (Figure 4I), indicating the cross-talk between these two PTMs
in the mouse heart. In human cell-lines, the switch from phosphorylation to sumoylation could
repress the Raf/MEK/ERK signaling to improve the immunity, resulting in the declined infection
of influenza A virus[50]. In human HEK293 cells, the coordinated phosphorylation and
sumoylation can also control MEF2 transcriptional activity[51]. However, the competition of
phosphorylation and sumoylation in cardiomyocytes was unclear. In this research, we observed
the upregulated phosphorylation and inhibited sumoylation pathway enriched from TFs in the
TGAC8 mouse LV. The regulated PTMs were speculated to be involved in the increased
transcription and improved immunity. To validate the effect on sumoylation by elevated
phosphorylation in our next studies, we could perform WB with the antibody against pan-
sumoylation to detect the general sumoylation change in the TGAC8 LV. In addition, we could
detect the sumoylation changes after mimicry upregulation or downregulation of phosphorylation
using activators or inhibitors in primary cardiomyocytes to prove the interplay between
phosphorylation and sumoylation in cardiomyocytes.

Summary

The reprogrammed phosphoproteome activated stress response signaling pathways to defend
against cardiac stress in young mice, improve cell viability and suppress cell death. On one hand,
the reprogramed phosphoproteome enhances transcription to improve the immunity and
metabolism; on the other hand, it coordinates with the proteome to improve mitochondrial
functions and metabolism. Finally, although we revealed the coordination of regulation at
different levels, which provides a roadmap to guide the integration of transcription, translation
and PTM, our results set the stage for additional studies in this remarkable TGAC8 model: What
kinases are specifically involved in the PTM identified here? How are these phosphorylated
proteins specifically distributed in subcellular locations? The present study focuses on a
comprehensive in silico analysis of functionally coherent and data-driven transcription,
translation, and post-translation patterns that were well translated in the contribution to AC8-
overexpression cardiac outcomes, while further investigation is warranted to see whether the hub
pathway/function predictions via gene sets, phosphopeptides, and phosphoproteins could be used
as biomarkers or impact the diagnostic specificity for transgenic AC8 cardiac health and
pathology.

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 Figure Legends

Figure 1. TGAC8 reprograms the LV phosphorylation state. A. PCA plot of phosphoproteome in
TGAC8 vs. WT LVs. **B**. Heatmap of scaled expressions of phosphorylated proteins. **C**. Volcano plot of
phosphoproteome. Red dots represent upregulated phosphoproteins with -log10(p-value) > 1.3 and
log2(fold change) ≥ 0.4; blue dots represent downregulated phosphoproteins with -log10(p-value) > 1.3
and log2(fold change) ≤ -0.4; grey dots represent nonsignificantly regulated phosphoproteins with -
log10(p-value) ≤ 1.3 or absolute(log2(fold change)) < 0.4. **D**. Top 21 canonical pathways enriched from
phosphoproteome. Orange and blue bars represent activated and inhibited pathways respectively. The
darker the color is, the greater the absolute(z-score) is, and the more significantly enriched the pathway is.
E. Regulatory pathway from upstream kinases. Three dots in the center represent the predicted upstream
kinases. Surrounding dots represent identified phosphoproteins differentially regulated in
phosphoproteome. Terms on the bottom represent canonical pathways in which the phosphoproteins are
involved. Meanings of colors refer to the box of prediction legend besides the graph. **F**. Enriched
molecular and cellular functions from the phosphoproteome. They are related to three categories,
including cell viability, protein quality control, and metabolism.

Figure 2. Characteristics of upregulated phosphopeptides. A. Composition of phosphosites that reside
on the upregulated phosphopeptides. **B**. Sequence logo diagrams of upregulated phosphopeptides centered
on the phosphosites and flanked by 6 amino acids on the N and C termini respectively using WebLogo
online software. Colors of amino acids represent different chemical properties. **C**. Western blots of
phosphorylation of PKA substrates and their statistics results: RRXS*/T*. Unpaired Student's t test with
Welch's correction was used. **D**. Test the amphiphilicity feature of the upregulated phosphopeptides using
iceLogo online software and referring to a published work by Mitaku and colleagues in 2002[15].

Figure 3. Integrative analysis of transcriptome, proteome and phosphoproteome. A. Circos plot of
gene expression at different levels from transcription, to protein, and to phosphorylation. Bars in each
layer of circle represent changes of significantly regulated molecules (q-value or p-value < 0.05) in
transcriptome, total proteome, and unnormalized phosphoproteome. Bar height, color and direction
represent log2(fold change). Red and upward indicate upregulation, and blue and downward indicate
downregulation. **B-C**. Scatter plots of correlation between phosphoproteome and transcriptome (**B**) or
total proteome (**C**). **D**. Comparison of canonical pathway enrichments from the transcriptome, total
proteome, and phosphoproteome. Enrichment z-scores were calculated in IPA, and were scaled to
generate heatmap in R language. **E**. Integrative graph of expression of all phosphoproteins and selected
types of molecules. Bar plot on the bottom displays expression of all significantly changed (p-value <
0.05) phosphoproteins in unnormalized phosphoproteome. Y-axis denotes log2(fold change), and x-axis
denotes each molecule ranked by log2(fold change). Bars were colored by -log10(p-value). Stick plots on
the top display kinases, phosphatases and transcription factors (TFs) selected from the bottom bar plot and
their changes in transcriptome (RNA), total proteome (pro), and normalized phosphoproteome (norm).
From top to bottom: each large block denotes the changes of certain types of molecules (from kinases to
phosphatases, to TFs). In each block, the three rows from top to bottom indicate the changes in
transcriptome, total proteome, and normalized phosphoproteome. Each stick represents a molecule and

color represents the change: red: (p-value or q-value < 0.05) and log2FC > 0; blue: (p-value or q-value <
0.05) and log2FC < 0; black: (p-value or q-value ≥ 0.05) or log2FC = 0; grey: unidentified in one of the
omics. Their locations are matched to those in the bottom bar plot. **F-J**. Pie plots of composition of
phosphoproteins in the unnormalized phosphoproteome. Regardless of p-value, numbers of four types of
proteins, including kinases, phosphatases, TFs and others, are displayed in **F**. After filtration with cutoff
p-value < 0.05, numbers of those types of proteins are displayed in **G**. Extracted from G, numbers of
upregulated and downregulated kinases (**H**), phosphatases (**I**) and TFs (**J**) are displayed.

Figure 4. Coordination of phosphoproteome and transcriptome. A. GO term enrichments of
biological processes and molecular functions about phosphorylation and dephosphorylation from
transcriptome. **B-C**. Changes of kinases (**B**) and phosphatases (**C**) whose q-values are less than 0.05 in
transcriptome. **D-E**. States of upstream kinases (**D**) and phosphatases (**E**) predicted based on
transcriptome. Z-scores were calculated in IPA. Positive and negative z-scores indicate activated and
inhibited states respectively. The larger absolute values of z-score indicate more activated or inhibited
states. **F**. Heatmap of predicted upstream transcription regulators (left) and their changes in different
omics datasets (right). Left: Fill color represent activation z-scores in transcriptome and total proteome.
Red and blue indicate activated and inhibited states respectively. Molecules are ranked by z-scores in
transcriptome. Right: Fill color represent changes in transcriptome, total proteome, unnormalized
phosphoproteome, and normalized phosphoproteome: orange: (p-value or q-value < 0.05) and log2FC >
0; yellow: (p-value or q-value ≥ 0.05) and log2FC > 0; green: (p-value or q-value < 0.05) and log2FC <
0; light blue: (p-value or q-value ≥ 0.05) and log2FC < 0; grey: unidentified in one of the omics. **G**.
Changes of differentially regulated TFs with p-value < 0.05 in the unnormalized phosphoproteome. **H**.
KEGG pathway enrichments of the differentially regulated TFs. They are in four primary categories:
cancer, immunity, metabolism and others. **I**. Top 20 canonical pathways enriched from the
phosphoproteome using IPA. The darker the color is, the greater the absolute(z-score) is, and the more
significantly enriched the pathway is. **J**. Enriched molecular and cellular functions from the
phosphoproteome using IPA. They are in two primary categories: cell viability and metabolism.

Figure 5. Analysis of normalized phosphoproteome. A. GO term enrichments of biological processes
and molecular functions about phosphorylation and dephosphorylation from the present proteome. **B-C**.
Changes of kinases (**B**) and phosphatases (**C**) whose q-values are less than 0.05 in previous proteome. **D-**
E. States of upstream kinases (**D**) and phosphatases (**E**) predicted based on the present proteome. Z-scores
were calculated in IPA. Positive and negative z-scores indicate activated and inhibited states respectively.
The larger absolute values of z-score indicate more activated or inhibited states. **F**. Venn plot of new total
proteome and unnormalized phosphoproteome that were conducted concurrently in the same platform. **G**.
PCA plot of phosphoproteome normalized to total proteome. **H**. Heatmap of expressions of
phosphoproteins normalized to total proteins. **I**. Volcano plot of normalized phosphoproteome. Red dots
represent upregulated phosphoproteins with -log10(p-value) > 1.3 and log2(fold change) ≥ 0.4; blue dots
represent downregulated phosphoproteins with -log10(p-value) > 1.3 and log2(fold change) ≤ -0.4; grey
dots represent nonsignificantly regulated phosphoproteins with -log10(p-value) ≤ 1.3 or
absolute(log2(fold change)) < 0.4. **J**. Comparison of canonical pathway enrichments between

unnormalized and normalized phosphoproteome. Orange fill colors indicate that all comparable pathways
on the top are activated in both omics datasets. The darker the color is, the greater the absolute(z-score) is,
and the more significantly enriched the pathway is.

Figure 6. Coordinated regulation of transcriptome, proteome and phosphoproteome on PI3K/AKT
and ERK/MAPK signaling pathways and protein synthesis and degradation. A. Canonical pathway
enrichment of phosphoproteome only with cutoff p-value < 0.05. The darker the color is, the greater the
absolute(z-score) is, and the more significantly enriched the pathway is. **B**. Comparison of PI3K/AKT
signaling and protein ubiquitination pathways enriched from transcriptome (red outline), proteome (blue
outline) and phosphoproteome (green outline). **C-D**. Western blots of two phosphorylation sites on pan-
AKT protein for verification of phosphorylation and activation of PI3K/AKT signaling pathway in
TGAC8 vs. WT. **E**. Western blot of ubiquitination in TGAC8 vs. WT. **F**. Pathway graph of PI3K/AKT
signaling marked with changes in transcriptome (left box), proteome (middle box) and phosphoproteome
(right box). Fill colors indicate changes: red and green indicate upregulation and downregulation
respectively; grey indicates nonsignificant regulation. **G**. Phosphopeptide number of substrates of PI3K.
Y-axis represents protein substates of PI3K; x-axis represents number of phosphopeptides. Red and blue
bars indicate upregulated (p-value < 0.05 and log2(fold change) > 0) and downregulated (p-value < 0.05
and log2(fold change) < 0) phosphopeptides respectively. Two-tailed unpaired Student's t test with
Welch's correction was conducted and p-values were shown in plots.

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Figure 7. Analyses of proteins changed discordantly in proteome and phosphoproteome. A. Venn
diagram of significantly regulated proteins in total proteome and significantly regulated phosphoproteins
in unnormalized phosphoproteome that were conducted concurrently in the same platform. **B-D**.
Functional analyses of proteins whose expressions are changed discordantly at total protein and
phosphorylation levels. Mitochondria and others are enriched in cellular component analysis (**B**).
Functions related to metabolism, mitochondria and others are enriched in Reactome pathway (**C**) and
biological process analyses (**D**).

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Figure 8. Deduced schematic of coordination of phosphoproteome with transcriptome and
proteome in TGAC8 mouse LV. Based on our results, we deduced a mechanism of reprogramed
phosphoproteome in TGAC8 mouse LV: First, TGAC8 mouse induces a PKA dependent phosphorylation
via AC8-cAMP-PKA axis. Many cytoplasmic proteins including TFs are thus phosphorylated and then
transported into the nuclear where TFs recognize and bind to the promotors to activate the transcription of
more regulatory factors, including kinases, phosphatases, and TFs. The activation states of these factors
are changed upon phosphorylated in cytosol, thereby activating additional kinases-controlled
phosphorylation cascades and reprogramming the cardiac phosphoproteome comprehensively. Left
column: AC8-cAMP-PKA signaling; middle column: phosphorylation (phosphoproteome); lower right:
transcription (transcriptome); upper right: translation (proteome).

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 Figures and Supplementary Figures

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Figure 2. Characteristics of upregulated phosphopeptides.

Figure 3. Integrative analysis of transcriptome, proteome and phosphoproteome.

 Figure 4. Coordination of phosphoproteome and transcriptome.

1048   **Figure 5. Analysis of normalized phosphoproteome.**

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Figure 6. Coordinated regulation of transcriptome, proteome and phosphoproteome on PI3K/AKT

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1066 **Figure 8. Deduced schematic of coordination of phosphoproteome with transcriptome and**
1067 **proteome in TGAC8 mouse LV.**

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Supplementary Figure 1. The enriched pathway, Cardiac Hypertrophy Signaling (Enhanced), from the phosphoproteome.

1087   **Supplementary Figure 2. The regulatory pathway under the control of a predicted upstream**
1088   **kinase, PDPK1.**

Symbol	Entrez Gene Name	UniProt	Log Ratio	p-value	Location	Family
AKT2	AKT serine/threonine kinase 2	Q60823	0.840825	0.007813	Cytoplasm	kinase
BAD	BCL2 associated agonist of cell death	Q61337	0.476462	7.81E-06	Cytoplasm	other
EEF2K	eukaryotic elongation factor 2 kinase	O08796	-0.42591	0.004744	Cytoplasm	kinase
GSK3B	glycogen synthase kinase 3 beta	Q9WV60	0.556065	0.002741	Nucleus	kinase
MTOR	mechanistic target of rapamycin kinase	Q9JLN9	0.640641	0.000144	Nucleus	kinase
PDPK1	3-phosphoinositide dependent protein kinase 1	Q9Z2A0	0.651174	0.02451	Cytoplasm	kinase
PKN1	protein kinase N1	P70268-2	0.600171	0.007485	Cytoplasm	kinase
PRKCB	protein kinase C beta	P68404-2	-0.44609	0.001011	Cytoplasm	kinase
RPS6KA3	ribosomal protein S6 kinase A3	P18654	0.580733	0.005794	Cytoplasm	kinase
ULK1	unc-51 like autophagy activating kinase 1	O70405	0.549454	0.015177	Cytoplasm	kinase

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Supplementary Figure 3. Cross verification of activated PI3K/AKT and ERK/MAPK signaling pathways and enhanced protein synthesis and degradation from our previous study.

1112   **Supplementary Figure 4. A comprehensive circuitry of TGAC8 mouse heart concluded from this**
1113   **phosphoproteome combine with previous transcriptome and proteome.**

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