

Functional overlap in the *src* gene family: inactivation of *hck* and *fgr* impairs natural immunity

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We have generated mice with targeted disruptions of the *src*-like genes *hck* and *fgr* to assess the role of these kinases in myeloid cell development and function. Hematopoiesis appears to proceed normally in both *hck*^{-/-} and *fgr*^{-/-} animals, and in *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} double homozygotes, but phagocytosis is impaired in *hck*^{-/-} macrophages. Macrophages cultured from doubly homozygous, *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} animals retain many other normal functional properties, suggesting that the deficiency of these kinases is complemented by other *src* family members. The specific activity of the Lyn protein kinase is increased in *hck*^{-/-} macrophages, implying that Lyn may compensate for a deficiency in Hck. Doubly mutant animals, however, have a novel immunodeficiency characterized by an increased susceptibility to infection with *Listeria monocytogenes*, indicating that either *hck* or *fgr* is required to maintain a normal natural immune response. These data provide the first direct example of genetic interactions between *src* gene family members.

[Key Words: kinase; *src*; macrophage; natural immunity]

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Many protein-tyrosine kinases have been implicated in the signal transduction pathways by which extracellular ligands induce proliferation, differentiation, and functional activation of hematopoietic cells. Of these kinases, the proteins encoded by the *src* gene family members are among the best characterized. All nine *src* family members are expressed in various hematopoietic lineages, with many cell types expressing multiple members of the gene family (Bolen 1991; Bolen et al. 1992; Cooper and Howell 1993). The roles of *src* family gene products in various signal transduction pathways has been implied by (1) coassociation of Src kinases with cell surface receptors; (2) stimulation of kinase activity following ligand binding to receptors; and (3) the effects of overexpression or loss of kinase activity in isolated cell lines and transgenic mice. Some of these studies suggest that Src kinases may have overlapping or complementary roles in signal transduction pathways. For example, Fyn and Lck play central roles in T-cell receptor (TCR)-mediated T-cell activation (Cooke et al. 1991; Appleby et al. 1992; Stein et al. 1992; Straus and Weiss 1992); Lyn and Yes are implicated in Fcε receptor signal transduction in mast cells (Eiseman and Bolen 1992a,b); and Lck, Fyn, and Lyn are each involved in IL-2 signal transduction pathways in T cells (Hatakeyama et al. 1991; Kobayashi et al. 1993).

A genetic approach to this problem of overlapping function between Src kinases would involve looking for second site mutations that modify the phenotype of *src*

family mutant animals. Such an approach has been used successfully to dissect the signal transduction pathways in which the *Drosophila abl* gene is involved (Hoffmann 1991). If two genes serve overlapping functions, mice made doubly mutant for each gene may manifest new phenotypes not found in single gene mutants. For example, *myf-5*^{-/-}*myoD*^{-/-} mice have a complete block in skeletal muscle formation, a phenotype not seen in the single mutant animals, indicating that these genes play functionally redundant roles in myogenesis (Rudnicki et al. 1993). Although the effects of combined mutations within the *src* gene family have not been reported previously, the effects of single mutations suggest that the *src* family genes have overlapping or complementary functions. Thus, disruption of *c-src* results in an obvious defect in only one cell type, osteoclasts, despite nearly ubiquitous expression of the gene, with very high levels of expression of Src protein in neurons and platelets (Soriano et al. 1991; Lowe et al. 1993). Similarly, disruption of *fyn* produces defects in TCR signaling that are overcome as T cells mature, suggesting that other kinases mediate signaling in peripheral T cells (Appleby et al. 1992; Stein et al. 1992).

hck and *fgr* encode *src* family protein tyrosine kinases that are largely coexpressed and coregulated in hematopoietic cells. mRNAs for these kinases are found principally in terminally differentiated myelomonocytic cells, including neutrophils, monocytes, and macrophages (Holtzman et al. 1987; Quintrell et al. 1987; Zie-

gler et al. 1987; Ley et al. 1989; Notario et al. 1989). *hck* mRNA is also found in low levels in B cells (Quintrell et al. 1987; Law et al. 1992), and *fgr* is expressed in NK cells (Inoue et al. 1990) and in Epstein–Barr virus-infected B cells (Gutkind et al. 1991). In monocytes and macrophages, synthesis of both *hck* and *fgr* mRNA is dramatically increased by activation with bacterial lipopolysaccharide (Ziegler et al. 1988; Yi and Willman 1989; Boulet et al. 1992). mRNAs encoding Hck and Fgr are also observed in leukemic cells that have initiated differentiation toward myelomonocytic lineages but not in undifferentiated cells or in cell lines arrested early in myelopoiesis (Willman et al. 1991). Hence, both kinases have been predicted to serve a role either in the terminal differentiation of myelomonocytic cells or in the specific functions of fully differentiated effector cells for natural immunity.

To seek the functions of *hck* and *fgr* in hematopoietic cell development and function and to look for evidence of complementation between these genes, we have generated *hck*- and *fgr*-deficient mice using gene targeting in embryonic stem (ES) cells and have bred these animals together to generate double homozygotes. Hematopoietic development appears normal in single and doubly mutant animals; however, phagocytosis is impaired in *hck*^{-/-} macrophages. On the other hand, doubly mutant mice are more susceptible to infection with *Listeria monocytogenes*, indicating that the Hck and Fgr gene

products are involved in the immune response to intracellular pathogens.

Results

Generation of *hck*^{-/-}, *fgr*^{-/-} and doubly homozygous *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} mice

Gene disruptions were performed by introducing targeting constructs into the AB-1 ES cell line by electroporation, selecting for cells that survive “positive–negative” selection (Mansour et al. 1988), and screening for the desired recombinants by PCR and Southern blotting. Hck proteins are normally translated from two initiation sites, a CUG codon present in exon 1 and an AUG codon in exon 2, producing two proteins, p59^{hck} and p56^{hck}, respectively (Lock et al. 1991). The *hck* gene was disrupted with a targeting construct that contains a *neo* expression cassette inserted at a restriction site 32 codons downstream from the AUG initiation methionine in exon 2 (Fig. 1A). The *fgr* gene was disrupted with two types of targeting constructs in which a *neo* expression cassette was inserted in the first coding exon (exon 2) to generate *fgr*ΔE2 or used to replace a 2.0-kb region of the gene, including exon 4 (*fgr*ΔE4, Fig. 1B). The latter mutation would truncate proteins initiated at AUG codon 59 in the 3' end of exon 2, a possible alternative start site for translation (C. Willman, pers. comm.).

Of 36 *neo*⁺/*tk*⁻ colonies (56%) transfected with the

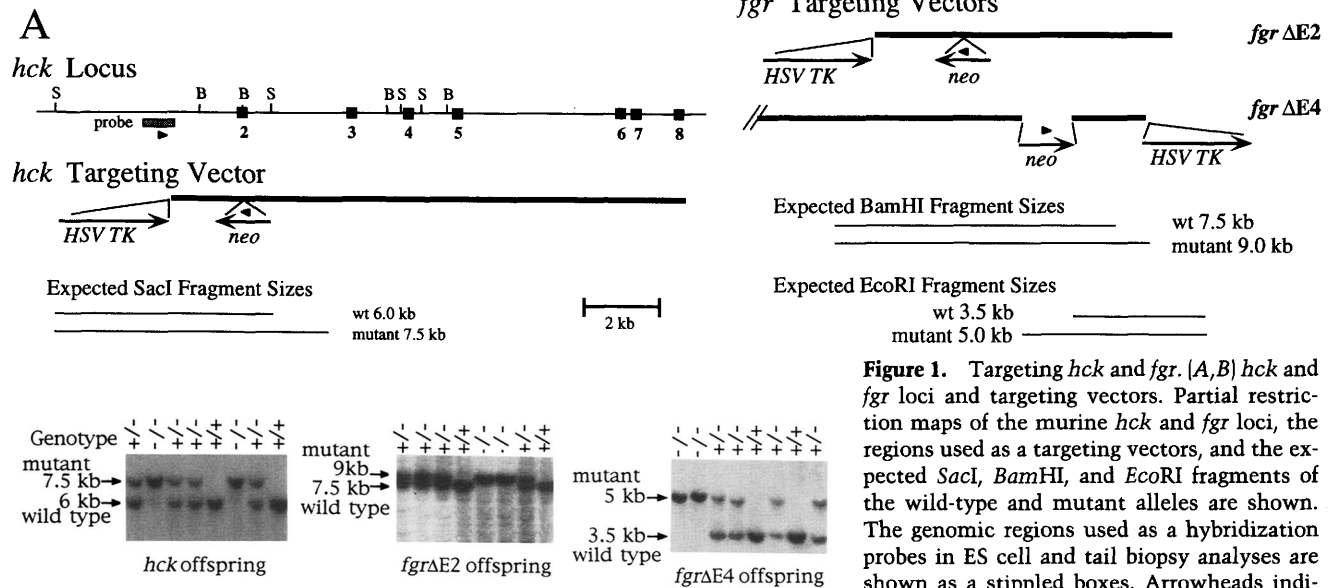


Figure 1. Targeting *hck* and *fgr*. (A,B) *hck* and *fgr* loci and targeting vectors. Partial restriction maps of the murine *hck* and *fgr* loci, the regions used as a targeting vectors, and the expected *Sac*I, *Bam*HI, and *Eco*RI fragments of the wild-type and mutant alleles are shown. The genomic regions used as a hybridization probes in ES cell and tail biopsy analyses are shown as a stippled boxes. Arrowheads indicate PCR primers. Solid boxes with numbers indicate exons. Restriction sites are abbreviated as B (*Bam*HI); S (*Sac*I); and R (*Eco*RI). (C) Tail DNA from 2 week-old offspring derived from heterozygous matings of *hck*, *fgr*ΔE2, and *fgr*ΔE4 animals was digested with *Sac*I, *Bam*HI, or *Eco*RI, respectively, and hybridized with the probes indicated in A and B.

hck targeting vector, 20 scored positive by PCR. Similarly, 54 of 100 *neo*⁺/*tk*⁻ colonies (54%) transfected with *fgr*ΔE2 and 32 of 50 *neo*⁺/*tk*⁻ colonies (64%) transfected with *fgr*ΔE4 were positive in a PCR assay. These very high targeting frequencies were observed in several separate experiments. *Sac*I digests of genomic DNA from all PCR-positive *hck* colonies demonstrated a novel 7.5-kb fragment resulting from homologous insertion of the vector into *hck*. Genomic DNA from eight of each of the PCR-positive *fgr*ΔE2 and *fgr*ΔE4 colonies yielded a novel 9.0-kb *Bam*HI fragment and 5.0-kb *Eco*RI fragment, respectively, that are diagnostic for the targeted allele. Hybridization with a *neo* probe confirmed the presence of a single copy of the replacement vector at each locus (data not shown).

ES cell clones successfully targeted with the *hck*, *fgr*ΔE2, and *fgr*ΔE4 vectors were injected into C57BL/6J blastocysts, giving rise to three, two, and one germ-line chimeras, respectively. Animals heterozygous and homozygous for either the *hck* or *fgr* mutation display no overt phenotype, are fertile, and transmit each mutation at the expected Mendelian frequency (Fig. 1C; Table 1). To generate mice that were deficient in both *hck* and *fgr*, we crossed *hck*^{-/-} and *fgr*ΔE2 animals to obtain *hck*^{+/-}-*fgr*^{+/-} compound heterozygotes. The compound heterozygotes transmitted the two mutant genes

Table 1. Genotypes of offspring derived from *hck*, *fgr*, and *hck*-*fgr* heterozygous parents

	<i>hck</i> ^{+/-} × <i>hck</i> ^{+/-}		
	wild type	<i>hck</i> ^{+/-}	<i>hck</i> ^{-/-}
	52/203 (26%)	104/203 (51%)	47/203 (23%)
	<i>fgr</i> ^{+/-} × <i>fgr</i> ^{+/-}		
	wild type	<i>fgr</i> ^{+/-}	<i>fgr</i> ^{-/-}
<i>fgr</i> ΔE2	15/68 (22%)	38/68 (56%)	15/68 (22%)
<i>fgr</i> ΔE4	28/114 (25%)	55/114 (48%)	31/114 (27%)
	<i>hck</i> ^{+/-} - <i>fgr</i> ^{+/-} × <i>hck</i> ^{+/-} - <i>fgr</i> ^{+/-}		
	<i>hck</i> ^{+/+} <i>fgr</i> ^{+/+}	<i>hck</i> ^{+/+} <i>fgr</i> ^{+/-}	<i>hck</i> ^{+/+} <i>fgr</i> ^{-/-}
Observed	11/150 (7%)	17/150 (11%)	5/150 (3%)
Expected	(6%)	(12%)	(6%)
	<i>hck</i> ^{+/-} <i>fgr</i> ^{+/+}		
	<i>hck</i> ^{+/-} <i>fgr</i> ^{+/+}	<i>hck</i> ^{+/-} <i>fgr</i> ^{+/-}	<i>hck</i> ^{+/-} <i>fgr</i> ^{-/-}
Observed	23/150 (15%)	39/150 (26%)	21/150 (14%)
Expected	(12%)	(24%)	(12%)
	<i>hck</i> ^{-/-} <i>fgr</i> ^{+/+}		
	<i>hck</i> ^{-/-} <i>fgr</i> ^{+/+}	<i>hck</i> ^{-/-} <i>fgr</i> ^{+/-}	<i>hck</i> ^{-/-} <i>fgr</i> ^{-/-}
Observed	14/150 (9%)	12/150 (8%)	8/150 (5%)
Expected	(6%)	(12%)	(6%)

Offspring from *hck* or *fgr* heterozygous parents or *hck*-*fgr* compound heterozygous parents were genotyped as in Fig. 1C. The presence of the *hck* mutant allele can usually be confirmed phenotypically in 129Sv/C57BL6J hybrid animals because *hck* is closely linked to *Agouti* on chromosome 2. Among 350 offspring from *hck* heterozygous parents, we observed 4 recombinants between *hck* and *Agouti*.

at the expected Mendelian frequency, so that one-sixteenth of their offspring were double homozygotes (Table 1). The doubly homozygous mice are also overtly normal and fertile, allowing establishment of a *hck*^{-/-}-*fgr*^{-/-} breeding colony.

To verify that each gene disruption creates a null mutation, we have examined *hck* and *fgr* mRNAs in bone marrow-derived macrophages, and Hck and Fgr proteins in total bone marrow. Wild-type and *hck*^{+/-} cells contain a single 2.0-kb *hck* mRNA whose level is increased following activation with bacterial lipopolysaccharide (LPS) (Fig. 2A). LPS-activated *hck*^{-/-} cells have a second 3.5-kb *hck* RNA, which hybridized with a *neo* probe (not shown), confirming that it is a *hck*-*neo* fusion transcript. In addition, we detected a low abundance *hck*-specific RNA that is slightly smaller than normal *hck* mRNA; this species is derived from splicing of exon 1 directly to exon 3, as determined by reverse transcriptase (RT) PCR analysis (Fig. 2B). The shorter RNA lacks the initiator AUG codon from exon 2, as well as the *neo* insertion; in addition, the *hck* coding sequence from exon 3 is out of frame relative to the CUG translational start from exon 1. Thus, this RNA should be unable to encode functional Hck protein. To confirm the absence of normal Hck protein, we examined bone marrow by immunoblot analysis and immune complex kinase assays using antisera raised against the unique domain of Hck (see Materials and methods). Both p56^{hck} and p59^{hck} were detected in bone marrow from wild-type and *hck*^{+/-} animals but were absent in *hck*^{-/-} samples (Fig. 3A). Likewise, no kinase activity was detectable in immunoprecipitates formed with the anti-Hck antisera and extracts of *hck*^{-/-} bone marrow (Fig. 3B).

Two *fgr* mRNAs are present in bone marrow-derived macrophages from wild-type mice, and both increase in abundance following activation of cells with LPS (Link et al. 1992). The two normal *fgr* mRNAs were absent in *fgr*^{-/-} cells, but two larger species were weakly detected with *fgr* and *neo* probes (Fig. 2A). These putative *fgr*-*neo* fusion transcripts were confirmed by RT PCR analysis, using primers flanking the *neo* insertion. No aberrantly spliced *fgr* RNAs were found (Fig. 2B). p55^{fgr} was detected in extracts of wild type and *fgr*^{+/-} bone marrow but not in extracts prepared from *fgr*ΔE2 and *fgr*ΔE4 animals, using a polyclonal anti-Fgr antiserum raised against the unique domain of the protein (Fig. 3A). No Fgr protein kinase activity was detected in *fgr*^{-/-} bone marrow (Fig. 3B). Therefore, insertion of *neo* into the *fgr* gene results in the production of low levels of readthrough transcripts that do not code for Fgr protein. Together, these results indicate that the disruptions in both *hck* and *fgr* result in loss of normal proteins and, hence, are very likely null mutations. Because the antisera used in these experiments were raised against the unique amino-terminal regions of Hck and Fgr, we cannot exclude that carboxy-terminal fragments of each protein may be produced.

Analysis of macrophage function in mutant mice

Histological samples prepared from bone marrow,

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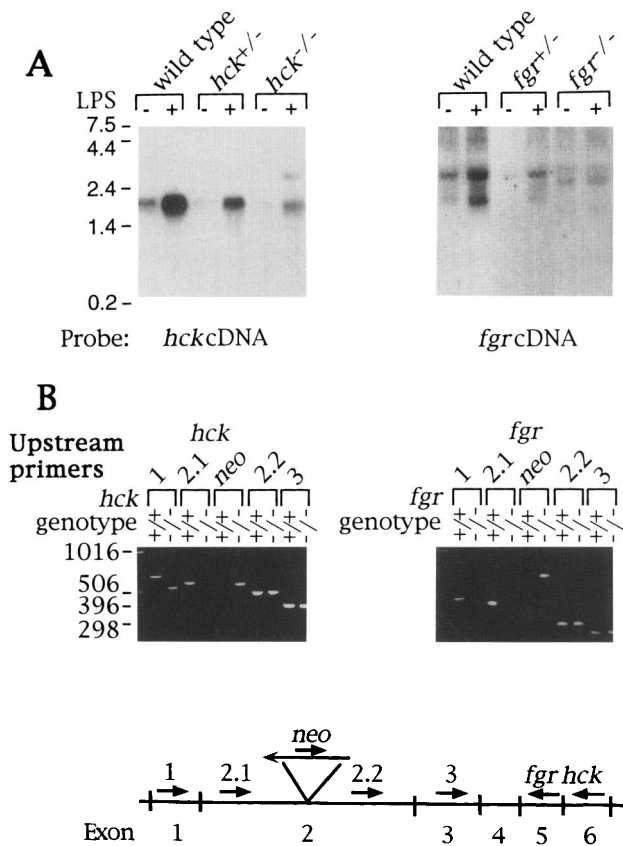


Figure 2. Hybridization and RT PCR Analyses of RNA from bone marrow macrophages cultured from *hck*^{-/-} and *fgr*^{-/-} animals. (A) Total RNA (10 μ g) from either resting (-) or LPS-activated (+) macrophages, isolated from animals with the indicated *hck* or *fgr* genotypes, was electrophoresed in formaldehyde gels and transferred to nylon sheets. Samples were hybridized with *hck* or *fgr* cDNA probes isolated from the unique 5'-terminal regions of each cDNA clone. Sizes (kb) of RNA markers are shown. (B) RT PCR analysis of total RNA (1 μ g) from LPS-activated macrophages was carried out using the primers shown in the schematic below (not to scale). For each mutant macrophage line, an upstream primer from exon 1, two primers from exon 2 (flanking the *neo* insertion), one from within *neo*, and one from exon 3 were used with a downstream primer (from exon 6 for *hck* or exon 5 for *fgr*) in a PCR reaction. Note that amplification across the entire *neo* cassette does not occur, so that *hck-neo* or *fgr-neo* fusion transcripts do not give rise to the expected PCR products with exon 1 or upstream exon 2 primers. DNA markers (in nucleotides) are shown.

spleen, liver, thymus, lymph nodes, and peripheral blood cells from *hck*^{-/-}, *fgr*^{-/-}, and *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} animals were normal by conventional light microscopy. In addition, FACS analysis revealed no abnormalities in the numbers and percentages of cells within the myeloid and lymphoid compartments of each strain (Table 2). Mutant animals had normal numbers of resident peritoneal macrophages, as defined by cytological morphology and staining with the macrophage marker F4/80 (Austyn and Gordon 1981). Therefore, no deficiencies in hematopoietic development appear to occur in the absence of *hck*,

fgr, or both genes. In addition, no gross pathological or histological changes in nonhematopoietic organs were observed in any of the mutants.

We examined macrophages derived from *hck*^{-/-}, *fgr*^{-/-}, and *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} animals to assess whether these mutations affected the functional properties of fully differentiated myeloid cells (Table 2). Of the numerous tests of in vitro function assayed, the single defect observed was impaired phagocytosis of latex beads by *hck*^{-/-} cells. Thioglycollate-elicited macrophages from *hck*^{-/-} mice have a reduced rate of ingestion of sIgG-coated latex beads compared with wild-type or *hck*^{+/-} cells (Fig. 4A). The reduced uptake varied from ~20–60% of normal levels over multiple different experiments. Phagocytosis of latex beads is dependent on formation of active microtubules, as it can be blocked by incubation of cells at 4°C or by depolymerization of microtubules with cytochalasin B. Ingestion of BSA-coated beads was also reduced in *hck*^{-/-} cells (not shown), indicating that the defect is not restricted to Fc γ R-dependent phagocytosis. A similar impairment in latex bead phagocytosis was observed in thioglycollate-elicited *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} cells (Fig. 4B). Macrophages from *fgr*^{-/-} mice take up latex beads normally; the defect seen in *hck*^{-/-} cells is not exacerbated by the *fgr* mutation. In contrast to latex bead phagocytosis, macrophages from wild-type, *hck*^{-/-}, *fgr*^{-/-}, and *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} animals rapidly ingested sIgG–SRBC, with equivalent levels of maximal uptake occurring after 20 min of incubation, indicating that the mutations do not affect Fc receptor signaling. We conclude that the Hck kinase plays an essential role in Fc γ receptor-independent phagocytosis in thioglycollate-elicited macrophages. Although the Fgr kinase is associated with Fc γ receptors in neutrophils and is activated following receptor cross-linking (Hamada et al. 1993), our results demonstrate that this kinase is not required for Fc γ receptor-dependent phagocytosis in macrophages.

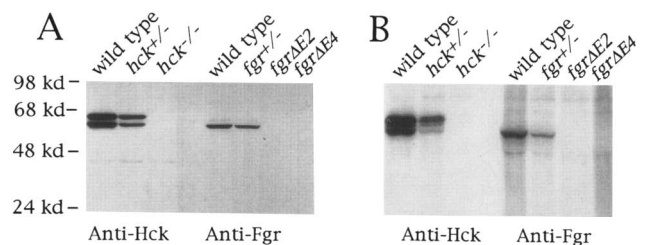


Figure 3. Analysis of Hck and Fgr proteins from mutant animals. (A) Whole-cell extracts were prepared from total bone marrow isolated from wild-type, heterozygous, and mutant animals. Each extract (25 μ g) was resolved on a 10% SDS–polyacrylamide gel, transferred to nitrocellulose sheets, and immunoblotted with anti-Hck or anti-Fgr antisera prepared as described (see Materials and methods). Protein markers (in kD) are shown. (B) Bone marrow protein extracts (250 μ g) were immunoprecipitated with anti-Hck or anti-Fgr antisera and incubated with [γ -³²P]ATP for 15 min at room temperature. Radiolabeled (autophosphorylated) bands were resolved on a 10% SDS–polyacrylamide gel.

Table 2. Summary of tested properties of macrophages from mutant mice

Genotypes	<i>hck</i> ^{-/-}	<i>fgr</i> ^{-/-}	<i>hck</i> ^{-/-} <i>-fgr</i> ^{-/-}
Histology, hematopoietic cell compartments ^a	nl	nl	nl
Uptake of IgG-coated or BSA-coated latex beads ^b	reduced	nl	reduced
Uptake of IgG-SRBCs ^c	nl	nl	nl
Production of cytokines and NO ₂ in response to LPS, heat-killed <i>Listeria</i> , Zymosan ^d	nl	nl	nl
PMA-triggered respiratory burst ^e	nl	nl	nl
IFN-γ-induced expression of Ia antigens ^f			nl
Tumor cell cytotoxicity ^g			nl
Formation of peritoneal exudate ^h	nl	nl	nl
Tyrosine phosphorylation responses ⁱ	nl	nl	nl
<i>Listeria</i> killing in vitro ^j			nl
<i>Listeria</i> antigen presentation ^k			nl

All tests were carried out with both thioglycollate-elicited and bone marrow-derived macrophages. (nl) Normal.

^a Assayed by FACS analysis of bone marrow, spleen, thymus, and resident peritoneal cells with myeloid markers Mac-1, and Gr-1; lymphoid markers CD-3, CD-4, CD-8, B220, and sIgM; and monocyte/macrophage marker F4/80.

^b Assayed by flow cytometry using fluorescent latex beads.

^c Assayed by indirect immunofluorescence.

^d Cell-free supernatants from macrophages were assayed at 16 hr following addition of LPS, heat-killed *Listeria*, or Zymosan for TNF-α, IL-1α, and IL-6 by ELISA and NO₂⁻ by addition of Greiss reagent. Induction of mRNAs encoding TNF-α, TGF-β, IL-10, IL-12, MIP-1α, and inducible nitric oxygen synthetase were measured by RT-PCR.

^e Assayed by the superoxide dismutase-inhibitable reduction of cytochrome *c*.

^f Macrophages were cultured for 16 hr in 100 μ/ml IFN-γ and assessed for Ia expression by FACS analysis.

^g Assayed by 48-hr ⁵¹Cr-releasing using P815 and YAC-1 cells as targets.

^h Assayed by cell counts and morphology at varying times following injection of thioglycollate.

ⁱ Total cellular protein phosphotyrosine assayed by Western blot of whole cell extracts made 15 min following stimulation with LPS, phorbol myristate, GM-CSF, anti-Mac-1 or anti-FcγR.

^j LPS- and TNF-α-activated macrophages were cultured with live *Listeria*, and bactericidal activity was measured.

^k Macrophages were cultured with heat-killed *Listeria* and used as targets in CTL assay using splenocytes from *Listeria*-infected animals.

Because the Src kinases have been implicated in a wide variety of cell signaling pathways, we examined total cellular phosphotyrosine levels in resident peritoneal macrophages, and bone marrow-derived macrophages in response to LPS, phorbol myristate, Zymosan, granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor (GM-CSF), Mac-1 (integrin), and FcγR cross-linking. Cells from wild-type and mutant mice were challenged with each of the above agents for 15 min, and phosphotyrosine-containing proteins were detected by immunoblotting. No significant deficits in tyrosine phosphorylation were observed in macrophages from *hck*^{-/-}, *fgr*^{-/-}, and *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} mice.

Because the *fgr* gene is expressed in natural killer (NK) and IL-2 stimulated killer (LAK) cells, we tested the ability of these cells from mutant mice to lyse a variety of tumor cell targets (Ryan et al. 1991). The ability of NK and LAK cells from wild type, *hck*^{-/-} and *fgr*^{-/-} mice to lyse four different tumor cell lines was equivalent. All cell types showed augmented killing when targets were incubated with anti-H2 mAbs, indicating no impairment of ADCC in these cells.

Analysis of other src kinases in *hck*^{-/-} and *fgr*^{-/-} mice

The lack of defects in most of the above assays could be attributable to a compensatory increase in the activity of other Src family kinases in response to the loss of Hck or Fgr. To look for modulation of Src kinases in mutant animals we examined Hck, Fgr, Lyn, and Src kinase and protein levels in bone marrow-derived macrophages from *hck*^{-/-} and *fgr*^{-/-} mice. The amount of immunoprecipitable Lyn kinase activity (judged by autophosphorylation) was increased in *hck*^{-/-} macrophages compared with wild-type cells (Fig. 5A). No significant differences were seen in Lyn protein levels in *hck*^{-/-} and wild-type cells, by performing immunoblots with the same cell extracts (Fig. 5B). We conclude that the specific kinase activity of Lyn is increased in *hck*^{-/-} macrophages. Quantitative analysis of three independent experiments indicated that Lyn kinase activity is increased two- to threefold in both resting and activated *hck*^{-/-} macrophages (Fig. 5C). In contrast, we observed no modulation of Fgr or Src kinase activity or protein levels in *hck*^{-/-} macrophages. Likewise, no modulation of Hck, Lyn, or Src kinase activities or protein levels were seen in resting, primed, or activated *fgr*^{-/-} macrophages (data not shown).

Immune response to infectious challenge in mutant mice

To determine whether the mutant animals have defects in resistance to microbial disease, we infected mice with the protozoan *Leishmania major* and the bacterial pathogen *L. monocytogenes*. The cell membranes of the intracellular amastigote of *Leishmania* are inherently resistant to the low levels of reactive oxygen and nitrogen intermediates produced by resting macrophages (Hand-

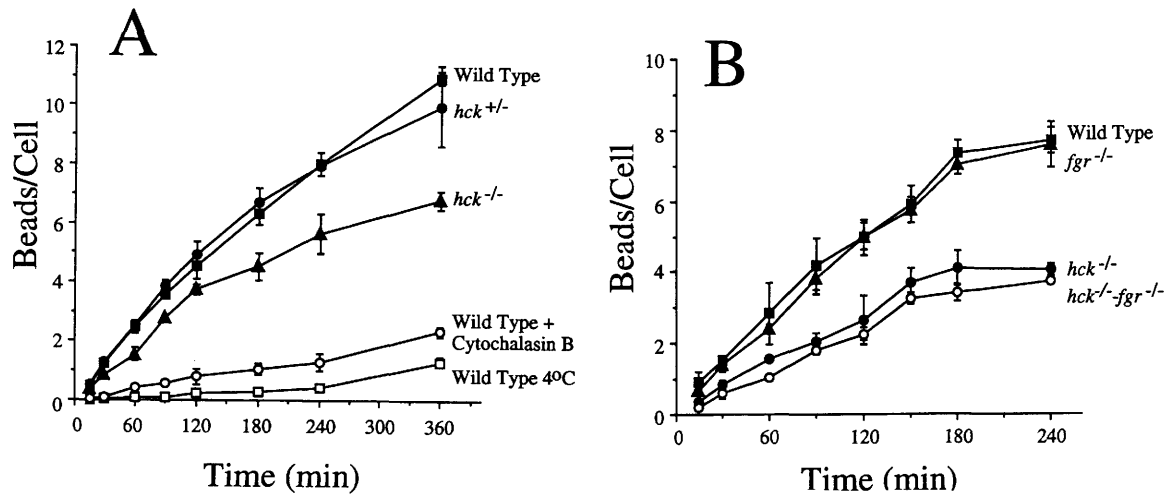


Figure 4. Uptake of fluorescent IgG-Coated latex beads by thioglycollate-elicited macrophages. (A) Latex bead uptake was assayed by incubating cells with fluorescent beads (Oda and Maida 1986). Thioglycollate-elicited macrophages (5×10^5 cells) from wild-type, *hck*^{+/-}, and *hck*^{-/-} mice were cultured in 24-well dishes for 16 hr in α -MEM/10% FCS, then incubated with fluorescent IgG latex beads at a ratio of 25 beads per cell and assayed as described in Materials and methods. Cytochalasin B was added to some wild-type cultures to a final concentration of $20 \mu\text{M}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ hr prior to addition of beads. Others were cooled to 4°C 1 hr prior to addition of beads. Each data point represents three separate determinations \pm the standard error of the mean. (B) Latex bead uptake as above using cells isolated from wild-type, *fgr*^{-/-}, *hck*^{-/-} and *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} mutant animals.

man et al. 1986). *Listeria* is a Gram-positive bacterium that can survive intracellularly in nonactivated macrophages by escaping from the phagosome into the cytoplasm of the cell (Tilney and Portnoy 1989; Bancroft et al. 1991). Clearance of these infections is dependent on macrophage activation mediated by the production of cytokines from macrophages, T_H1 and NK cells (Scott 1993).

Wild-type and *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} doubly homozygous mice were infected with *L. major* via foot pad injection, and foot swelling was monitored weekly for 6 weeks. All animals were able to resolve the infection. These mice demonstrated normal delayed-type hypersensitivity reactions to skin challenge with *Leishmania* antigens, as well as the presence of circulating antibodies to *Leishmania* as demonstrated by immunoblot. Hence, *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} mice are able to mount both humoral and cell-mediated immunity to chronic *Leishmania* infection.

Wild-type, *hck*^{-/-}, *fgr*^{-/-}, and *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} mice (both inbred 129/Sv and hybrid animals) were challenged with *Listeria* by intraperitoneal injection. There was very little mortality in infected wild-type, *hck*^{-/-}, or *fgr*^{-/-} mice, and there were no significant differences in numbers of splenic or peritoneal *Listeria* colony-forming units among the different animals at several time points. In contrast, the ability of *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} double homozygotes to resolve this infection is impaired (Fig. 6A and data not shown). Within 2 days following infection, although wild-type mice appeared healthy, the doubly mutant animals appeared very ill (roughed fur, decreased mobility, conjunctival exudates, weight loss). The *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} mice had 100- to 1000-fold more *Listeria* in spleens and peritoneal cells after 9 days of infection. With an inoculum of 10^4 organisms, 4 of 24

hck^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} animals died over the 9 day course of infection, whereas all wild-type and singly mutant animals survived. When the *Listeria* inoculum was increased to 4×10^4 cfu, and animals were monitored for mortality alone, >70% of the *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} animals died within 10 days following injection; fewer than 10% of the wild-type animals succumbed to the infection (Fig. 6B). Thus, neither *hck* nor *fgr* alone is essential to mount an effective immune response to *Listeria*. However, deficiency of both kinases produces a marked defect in the cell-mediated immune response to this organism.

Discussion

We have used gene targeting methods to disrupt two *src* family genes, *hck* and *fgr*, which are coexpressed in the myelomonocytic lineage. Phagocytosis by macrophages from *hck*-deficient mice is impaired, but no other defects were observed, and the *fgr*-deficient animals appeared normal by all tested criteria. Doubly homozygous *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} macrophages had no supplemental defects. However, doubly homozygous, *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} animals are more susceptible to infection by *L. monocytogenes* than are wild-type or singly mutant mice, indicating that these genes cooperate to establish an immune defense against this (and perhaps other) intracellular pathogens.

Targeting of *hck* and *fgr*

At least two features of targeting the *hck* and *fgr* loci proved to be unusual. First, the efficiency of homologous recombination was unusually high, even when the targeting vector (for *hck*) was prepared with DNA from a

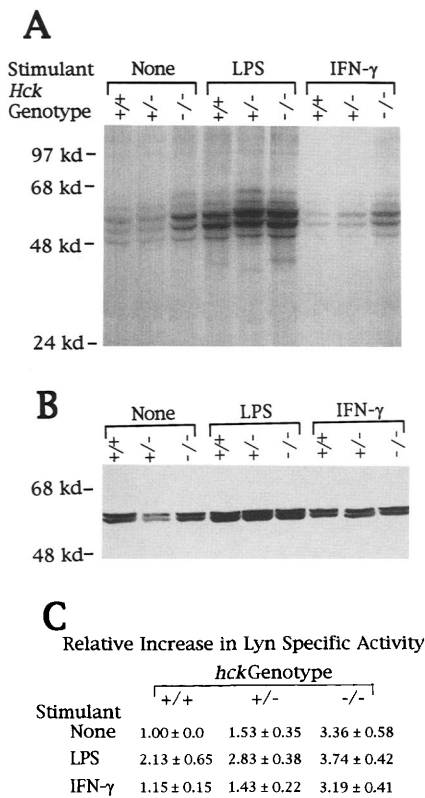


Figure 5. Measurement of *lyn* kinase activity and protein levels in *hck*^{-/-} macrophages. (A) Protein extracts (250 μ g) from resting, LPS-activated, and INF- γ -treated bone marrow macrophages isolated from wild-type, *hck*^{+/-} or *hck*^{-/-} mice were immunoprecipitated with anti-Lyn antisera (see Materials and methods). Immunoprecipitates were incubated with [γ -³²P]ATP for 15 min at room temperature, and phosphorylated proteins were resolved on a 10% SDS-polyacrylamide gel. (B) Twenty-five micrograms of the above extracts were electrophoresed on 10% SDS-polyacrylamide gels, transferred to nitrocellulose, and immunoblotted with the anti-Lyn antisera. (C) Lyn specific activity was quantitated by dividing the total Lyn kinase activity by the protein level for each sample. Results were normalized to resting macrophages. Data represents mean \pm s.d. of three independent experiments.

mouse strain that differed from the source of ES cells (te Riele et al. 1992). Second, insertion of a *neo* gene within a coding exon of *hck* resulted in production of an aberrantly spliced transcript that lacks sequences from the interrupted exon (Fig. 2). This effect on RNA splicing has not been reported previously in ES cell gene targeting experiments and is consistent with an exon scanning model for RNA splicing (Niwa et al. 1992). Although exon skipping of this type does not appear to allow synthesis of a functional *hck* gene product (Fig. 3), it could in principle produce proteins lacking only those sequences encoded by the disrupted exon, thereby undermining the intention to create a null allele. Such observations emphasize the importance of direct measurement of the products of targeted loci.

Effects of *hck* and *fgr* deficiencies on macrophage functions and hematopoiesis

We have tested macrophages from the mutant mice for many properties that can be measured in vitro (Table 2), but the only deficiency observed was impaired phagocytosis by Hck-deficient cells. This defect is probably not attributable to alterations in Fc γ R-mediated phagocytosis, as *hck*^{-/-} cells take up sIgG-SRBC phagocytosis normally, signal through Fc γ R (as judged by tyrosine phosphorylation), and are deficient in phagocytosis of BSA-coated latex beads. Instead, some other intracellular event, such as phagosome membrane trafficking, may be impaired in *hck*^{-/-} macrophages; similar explanations have been proposed for the inhibitory effects of transforming growth factor- β (TGF- β) on phagocytosis and the generation of oxidants (Gresham et al. 1991). Alone, the diminished phagocytosis of *hck*^{-/-} macrophages does not appear to result in a major physiologic defect, as *hck*^{-/-} mice are able to resist infection by *L. monocytogenes* and *L. major*. However, in concert with the *fgr* mutation, the phagocytic defect may be a contributory factor in the sensitivity of *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} mice to *Listeria* (see below).

The lack of novel phenotypes in macrophages cultured from doubly mutant mice may be explained in several ways: (1) Other *src* family kinases may compensate for the *hck* and *fgr* mutations; (2) *hck* and *fgr* may serve nonoverlapping functions in macrophages; (3) in vitro assays of macrophage function may not detect subtle deficiencies that are significant in vivo. Our observation that Lyn kinase activity is elevated in *hck*^{-/-} cells suggests that modulation of Lyn activity may relieve functional impairments threatened by a loss of Hck. The degree of increase in Lyn kinase activity in *hck*^{-/-} macrophages is moderate, approximately twofold. This is similar to the normal physiologic responses of Src kinases, as observed when Lck is activated following CD4 crosslinking, when Lyn is activated after Fc ϵ R crosslinking, or when Src is activated during mitosis (Bolen et al. 1992; Bagrodia et al. 1993). A larger (10-fold) increase in Src kinase activity (e.g., that achieved by mutating Tyr-527; Piwnicka-Worms et al. 1987) will render the kinase oncogenic. The increased activity of Lyn is likely a result of under-phosphorylation of its regulatory carboxy-terminal tyrosine, possibly as a result of reduced Csk kinase activity or increased phosphatase activity (Cooper and Howell 1993). The modulation of Lyn kinase activity in *hck*^{-/-} cells suggests that these kinases may have related functions; however, a direct demonstration that Lyn and Hck serve redundant functions will require generation of *hck*^{-/-}*lyn*^{-/-} double homozygous mice.

Several pieces of evidence support the model that *hck* and *fgr* have nonoverlapping functions in macrophages. First, we have found that Hck and Fgr have different subcellular locations in macrophages; Hck is found exclusively in the cytoplasm, whereas Fgr is found in the nucleus and cytoplasm (data not shown). Second, the roles of Hck, Fgr, and Lyn in monocyte and macrophage

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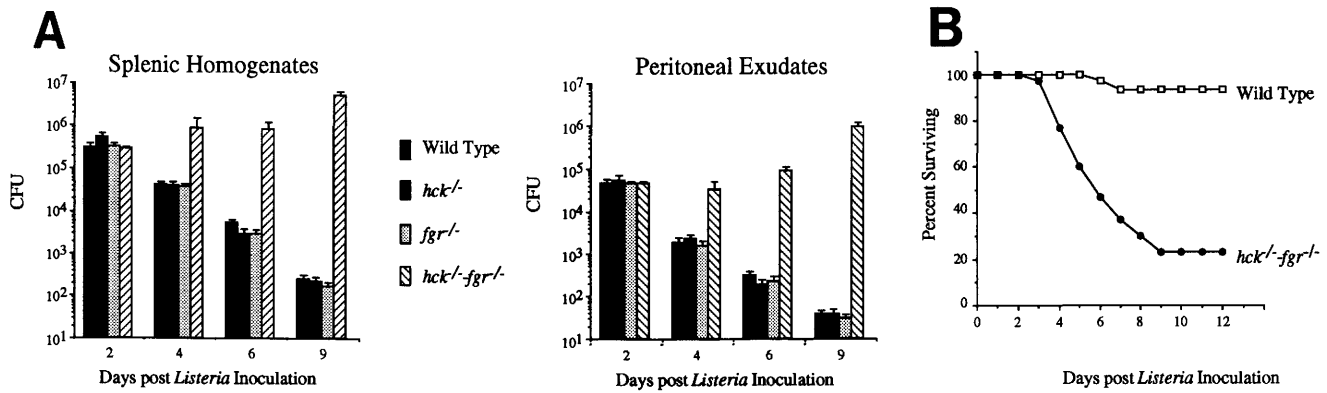


Figure 6. *hck-fgr* double homozygotes are susceptible to *L. monocytogenes*. (A) Wild-type, *hck*^{-/-}, *fgr*^{-/-}, and *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} mice were inoculated with 10⁴ cfu of *Listeria* by intraperitoneal injection and sacrificed on the days indicated. Bacterial cfu was measured in homogenates of spleen (left) and peritoneal (right) exudates. Each bar presents average cfu from five animals ± the standard error of the mean. Four *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} mice died during the experiment and are not included in the analysis. (B) Thirty-five wild-type or *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} mutant animals were inoculated with 4 × 10⁴ cfu of *Listeria* and observed for mortality. The percentage of original mice surviving at each day is shown.

activation is suggested by the observation that the activity and tyrosine phosphorylation of these kinases increases rapidly after stimulation of cells with LPS (Stefanova et al. 1993). However, Hck and Lyn are modulated within 1 min of stimulation while changes in Fgr occur after 15 min of treatment with LPS. The differential response of Hck and Lyn compared with Fgr suggests different roles for these kinases in the LPS response.

Because both *hck* and *fgr* are expressed late in myeloid development, these genes might be predicted to play no major role in hematopoiesis. Consistent with this prediction, *hck*^{-/-}, *fgr*^{-/-}, and *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} mice display normal hematopoietic development, as judged by histologic examination and cell-surface antibody staining. However, we have recently observed that animals lacking both *hck* and *src* have hematopoietic defects characterized by anemia, leukopenia, and an accumulation of immature cells in the spleen, suggesting a block in hematopoiesis (C.A. Lowell and H.E. Varmus, unpubl.). Therefore, we favor the argument that the developmental roles of *hck* and *fgr* are fulfilled by other genes, such as *src* and *lyn*, coexpressed in hematopoietic cells.

Natural immunity in *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} mice

In contrast to results obtained from *in vitro* assays of macrophage function, synergy between *hck* and *fgr* was observed *in vivo* as *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} animals are more susceptible than wild-type, *hck*^{-/-}, or *fgr*^{-/-} mice to *L. monocytogenes*. The mechanism of reduced defense is, however, not known. Recently, many of the cellular responses involved in natural resistance to *Listeria* have been defined. Production of TNF-α, IL-10, and IL-12 by *Listeria*-infected macrophages influences the development of T_H1 or T_H2 subtype cells, which produce gamma interferon (IFN-γ) or IL-4, respectively (Scott 1993). These cytokines have opposing effects: IFN-γ primes macrophages to destroy the organisms, whereas IL-4 sup-

presses macrophage activation, allowing bacterial proliferation. Blocking the IFN-γ response, either by injection of neutralizing anti-IFN-γ mAb or by targeted disruption of the IFN-γ receptor, renders mice susceptible to *Listeria* (Buchmeier and Schreiber 1985; Huang et al. 1993). *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} macrophages respond normally to heat-killed *Listeria* and IFN-γ *in vitro* as judged by induction of these cytokine RNAs and production of reactive nitrogen intermediates (Table 2). Splenocytes from infected mutant animals also respond normally. These results are surprising in light of the fact that production of NO• has been claimed to be a major mediator of natural resistance to *Listeria*; animals treated with aminoguanidine (an inhibitor of nitric oxide synthetase) are markedly susceptible to *Listeria* (Beckerman et al. 1993). Therefore, our mice are defective in other, as yet undefined, components of natural immunity to *Listeria*. The susceptibility of *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} mice to *Listeria* could be the result of the cumulative effects of each mutation on different cellular immune functions—for example, the reduced nonreceptor phagocytosis seen in *hck*^{-/-} cells, compounded with an alteration in chemotaxis of monocytes to the spleen or reduced adhesion of cells to capillary endothelium. Such an explanation would predict that the biochemical mechanism for the genetic interaction between *hck* and *fgr* is quite indirect. The specificity of the altered natural immune response of *hck*^{-/-}*fgr*^{-/-} animals needs to be evaluated further by determining the susceptibility of these mice to infection by a number of bacterial, viral, and protozoan organisms.

src family genetics

Our observation that both *hck* and *fgr* are required for resistance to *Listeria* infection is the first direct demonstration of genetic synergy within the *src* gene family. Genetic interactions between other *src* family members is probably quite common. For example, animals ho-

mozygous for *hck* and *src* mutations exhibit hematopoietic deficiencies that do not occur in singly mutant mice, implying that *hck* and *src* have complementary roles in blood cell ontogeny (C.A. Lowell and H.E. Varmus, unpubl.). Overlapping function among the Src family members Fyn, Yes, and Src is also suggested by the observation that animals deficient for two of these kinases exhibit novel and severe phenotypes not seen in the singly deficient mice (P. Stein and P. Soriano, unpubl.). To explore the full range of physiological functions performed by members of the *src* gene family, it will be important to mutate the remaining members of the *src* gene family, especially those with patterns of expression that overlap *hck* and *fgr*, and to make different combinations of *src* family kinase-deficient mice.

Materials and methods

Derivation of *hck* and *fgr* mice

The *hck* targeting vector consisted of a herpes simplex virus thymidine kinase (HSV TK) expression cassette (pgkTK-pgkPA), a short arm of 1.8 kb from the 5' region of mouse *hck*, a pgkneo-pgkPA expression cassette, and a long arm of 12 kb of *hck* genomic sequence. The *Bam*HI site in exon 2 was mutated to encode stop codons in all three reading frames followed by a *Sal*I site. The *neo* cassette was inserted into the *Sal*I site in the opposite transcriptional orientation from *hck*. The vector was linearized at a unique *Eco*RI site in the plasmid polylinker located 3' to the long arm of *hck* genomic sequence. The construct was made from a *hck* clone isolated from a BALB/c library (Ziegler et al. 1987); hence, it is nonisogenic relative to the AB-1 ES cells derived from strain 129. The *fgr*ΔE2 vector contains a pgkTK-pgkPA gene, 2.3 kb of *fgr*, a pol2Sneo-bpA (Soriano et al. 1991) expression cassette, and a long arm of 6.0 kb of *fgr* genomic sequence. The *neo* cassette was inserted into an *Xho*I site that was generated by deleting 66 nucleotides of exon 2 by site-directed mutagenesis. The *fgr*ΔE2 vector was linearized at a unique *Sal*I site in the plasmid polylinker downstream from the long arm of homology. The *fgr*ΔE4 vector includes 9.0 kb of *fgr*, a pgkneo-bpA expression cassette, a short arm of 2.0 kb of *fgr*, and a pgkTK-pgkPA gene. The *neo* cassette replaces a 2-kb *Eco*RI fragment that includes all of exon 4, which encodes amino acids 98–133—most of the SH3 domain of Fgr protein (King and Cole 1990). The *fgr*ΔE4 vector was linearized at a unique *Xho*I site in the 5' plasmid polylinker upstream from the long homology arm. The *fgr* targeting constructs were made from a *fgr* genomic clone isolated from a 129/Sv library.

Vectors were introduced into AB-1 ES cells by electroporation as described previously (Soriano et al. 1991), selected in 300 μg/ml (total powder) of G418, and 0.2 μM FIAU for 10 days. Selection against HSV TK reduced the number of *neo*⁺ colonies by two- to fivefold in multiple experiments. Surviving colonies were screened by PCR as described (Soriano et al. 1991) using 10 nm primers; amplification was for 40 cycles (30 sec at 93°C, 2 min at 60°C, 2 min at 65°C). Primers were derived from *hck* or *fgr* genomic sequences adjacent to the short arm of homology in each vector [for *hck*, 5'-GGACCTAGGGAT-TCTCTGCTGCATGC-3'; for *fgr*ΔE2, 5'-GTGAGTGTGCC-AAGCTGAGAAGCATCC-3'; for *fgr*ΔE4, 5'-CCGAATC-CATGGACCTCCACTTGTTC-3'] and from the 5' end of the *neo* gene (5'-CCAGTCATAGCCGAATAGCCTCTCCACC-3'). PCR-positive clones were expanded, and homologous insertion of the targeting vectors was confirmed by blot hybridization

with probes isolated from flanking genomic sequences not present in the targeting vectors [for *hck*, a 350-bp *Eco*RI-*Kpn*I 5'-flanking fragment; for *fgr*ΔE2, a 500-bp *Bam*HI-*Eco*RV 5'-flanking fragment; for *fgr*ΔE4, a 1-kb *Eco*RI-*Eco*RV 3'-flanking probe]. Expanded ES clones were confirmed to contain a single replacement vector inserted into *hck* or *fgr* by DNA analysis, using multiple digests and hybridization with both 5'- and 3'-flanking probes. Tissue culture manipulations and blastocyst injections were performed as described (Soriano et al. 1991). Germ-line chimeras were crossed with C57BL/6J females to produce hybrid animals, and F₁ offspring from this cross were backcrossed one generation to C57BL/6J to establish mutant strains for subsequent analysis. Two independent murine lines containing the *hck* mutation and one each with the *fgr*ΔE2 and *fgr*ΔE4 mutations were established from independent chimeras. No phenotypic differences were seen between the two *hck* lines or between the *fgr*ΔE2 or *fgr*ΔE4 lines. The *fgr*ΔE2 mice were used for the majority of macrophage functional assays. Chimeras were also bred to 129/Sv females to maintain the *hck* and *fgr* mutations on an inbred genetic background.

Cell culture

Bone marrow-derived macrophages were obtained from precursor cells as described (Yi and Willman 1989) except that monocytes were cultured in 20% murine L-cell conditioned media. After plating of nonadherent monocyte precursors, cells were cultured for 6–8 days and then used for phagocytosis and activation assays. Thioglycollate-elicited macrophages were prepared by intraperitoneal injection of 2 ml of aged (>6 weeks) 2% thioglycollate broth (GIBCO), followed by flushing the peritoneal cavity with PBS/0.2% BSA 4 days later. Thioglycollate-elicited cells were cultured in α-MEM + 10% FCS for 4 hr, nonadherent cells were removed, and adherent cells were cultured for 1–3 days.

RNA analysis

Total RNA was prepared from bone marrow-derived macrophages (Chomczynski and Sacchi 1987), electrophoresed on 1% formaldehyde gels, and transferred to nylon membranes (Sambrook et al. 1989). *hck* mRNA was detected by hybridization with a 515-bp *Eco*RI-*Hinc*II fragment from the 5' end of the *hck* cDNA clone (Holtzman et al. 1987), which encodes the amino-terminal unique domain and a portion of the SH3 region. *fgr* mRNA was detected by with a 750-bp *Spe*I-*Apa*I from the 5' end to the *fgr* cDNA (King and Cole 1990), which encodes the amino-terminal unique domain, SH3 and a portion of the SH2 region of Fgr. cDNA was made for RT PCR analysis using 1 μg of total RNA and 40 ng of random hexamers under standard reaction conditions in a volume of 20 μl. The reaction was carried out for 1 hr at 37°C, terminated by heating to 65°C for 10 min, and diluted to 200 μl. Five-microliter portions of the cDNAs were used in PCR reactions done under conditions described above. The following PCR primers were used: *hck* exon 1, 5'-GGTCGGTCTAGCTGCGAGGATC-3'; *hck* exon 2.1, 5'-CGAGGTTCCCTCCGAGATGGAACC-3'; *hck* exon 2.2, 5'-CGTCCAGCAAGCTGGGACCA-3'; *hck* exon 3, 5'-GCTATTCACCGTGAAGACCTCAGC-3'; *hck* exon 6, 5'-TTGTAGTGGAGCAGCAGTTCCTGC-3'; *fgr* exon 1, 5'-GTCCTATTGACCCAGGAGTAGG-3'; *fgr* exon 2.1, 5'-GGAATGGGCTGTGTGTTCTGCA-3'; *fgr* exon 2.2, 5'-CA-ACACTGGCAACATCGAGAAGC-3'; *fgr* exon 3, 5'-CCA-TATCCGTCGCCCTGTACGA-3'; *fgr* exon 5, 5'-CTACTGATCTTTCCGAAGTAC-3'; *neo* + mRNA, 5'-GCATCGCCT-TCTATCGCCTTCTGACG-3'. Quantitative RT PCR analysis

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of cytokine mRNAs (TNF- α , TGF- β , IL-10, IL-12, MIP-1 α , and iNOS) was performed as described (Reiner et al. 1993b), except that PCR conditions used were as described above. Macrophages were stimulated with INF- γ , LPS, zymosan, TNF- α , heat-killed *Listeria*, or by in vitro infection with *L. major*. The amount of cDNA used in each experiment was normalized based on amplification of hypoxanthine phosphoribosyltransferase (Reiner et al. 1993b).

Antibodies

Rabbit antisera containing anti-Hck, Fgr, and Lyn antibodies were raised by immunization with Hck-glutathione S-transferase (GST), Fgr-GST, and Lyn-GST fusion proteins. Regions coding for the unique domain of each kinase (*hck* amino acids 3–60; *fgr* amino acids 3–67, *lyn* amino acids 3–67) were cloned into the pGEX-2T GST expression vector and GST fusion proteins were produced in *E. Coli* as described (Grieco et al. 1992). Antisera was affinity purified by chromatography over columns containing the GST fusion protein covalently coupled to Affigel (Bio-Rad) and eluted with sequential glycine (pH 3.0) and triethylamine (pH 11.5) treatments as described (Harlow and Lane 1988). Antisera were used at ~1 μ g/ml for immunoblotting and at 1 μ g/250 μ g of protein extract for immunoprecipitation. Anti-Src mAb 327 (Lipsich et al. 1983) was used for detection of Src. Antibodies for cell labeling were purchased from Boehringer and Pharmingen (either as FITC-labeled or biotin conjugated) and were used in FACS analysis as recommended by the supplier. Analysis was carried out on a FACSCAN flow cytometer (Becton-Dickinson).

Phagocytosis assays

Phagocytosis of sheep red blood cells (coated with rabbit anti-SRBCs) was performed exactly as described (Greenberg et al. 1991). Macrophage-surface bound SRBCs were removed by hypotonic lysis, and intracellular SRBCs were detected by staining with Texas-red labeled goat anti-rabbit IgG. Phagocytosed SRBC were quantitated by counting >100 macrophages cells per sample. Phagocytosis of latex beads was performed as described (Oda and Maida 1986), except that cells were lysed in 0.2% Triton to allow protein measurement using the Bio-Rad protein assay. Maximal specific uptake (defined by uptake at 37°C vs. 4°C) was observed at a ratio of 25 beads per cell. Fluorescence was converted to beads per cell using a standard curve of fluorescence versus a known number of beads. Fluorescent 2.0- μ m particles designed for phagocytic cell studies (Bioclean) were purchased from Duke Scientific (Palo Alto, CA).

Cytokines and NO₂⁻ assays

TNF- α and IL-1 α , secretion into macrophage culture media was assayed by ELISA using kits purchased from Genzyme. IL-6 ELISAs were performed by Stacy Fuchino at DNAX (Palo Alto, CA). Cells (10⁶) were cultured in 24-well dishes in 1 ml of media (DMEM + 10% FCS) with increasing concentrations of LPS for 16 hr, and 50–100 μ l of media was assayed for the above cytokines. The dose-response curve of cytokine production versus LPS concentration was compared among different cell types. The same cell culture medias were assayed for NO₂⁻, a stable by-product of NO \bullet , using a microplate assay in which 100 μ l of media was incubated with an equal volume of Griess reagent (1% sulfanilamide/0.1% naphthylethylene diamine dihydrochloride/2.5% H₃PO₄) for 15 min at room temperature and absorbance was measured at 570 nm using sodium nitrite as a standard. LPS (*E. coli* K-235 from Sigma) concentrations used

ranged from 0.1 ng/ml to 1 μ g/ml. Macrophage culture media were determined to be LPS free using the *Limulus* lysate assay (Microbiologic Associates) in which the minimal level of detection is 10 pg/ml. Zymosan (Sigma) was used in concentration ranges of 5–100 μ g/ml, and heat-killed *Listeria* was used in a range of 10⁵–10⁸ cfu/ml in macrophage activation experiments. INF- γ was purchased from Genzyme.

Respiratory burst

The phorbol 12-myristate 13-acetate (PMA)-induced respiratory burst of thioglycollate-elicited and bone marrow-derived macrophages was assessed by reduction of cytochrome *c* as described (Pick and Mizel 1981). Cells (10⁵) were cultured in 96-well dishes with or without LPS, INF- γ , or TNF- α for 16 hr. Respiratory burst was stimulated by incubating cells with 1 μ M PMA in HBSS containing 100 μ M cytochrome *c* for 2 hr, after which reduced cytochrome *c* was measured at 550 nm. Superoxide dismutase was added to some samples to confirm that reduction of cytochrome *c* was O₂⁻ mediated.

Tumoricidal assays

Isolation and culture of NK and IL-2-activated LAK cells followed by tumoricidal assays was done exactly as described (Ryan et al. 1991). Tumor cell targets used were the P815 mastocytoma cell line, the YAC-1 lymphoma line, the B16L melanoma line, and the R1-1 T-cell lymphoma line. Tumoricidal activity of cultured macrophages was determined using the same assay, except that the macrophages were incubated with labeled target cells for 48 hr. Macrophages were either unactivated or activated by prior incubation with LPS for 16 hr prior to culture with target cells.

Macrophage signaling

Macrophage cultures (5 \times 10⁶) were washed with PBS and incubated with DMEM, 0.2% BSA for 3 hr at 37°C; NaVO₃ was added to 100 μ M for 15 min and the cells were stimulated with LPS (100 ng/ml), PMA (100 nM), GM-CSF (40 ng/ml; Genzyme) or zymosan (50 μ g/ml) for 15 min. Signaling via Fc γ R was assayed by incubation of cells with 10 μ g/ml of anti-Fc γ RII/III mAb 2.4G2 (Pharmingen) or 50 μ g/ml of murine IgG for 10 min followed by cross-linking with 80 μ g/ml of rabbit anti-rat F(ab')₂ or 100 μ g/ml of goat anti-mouse F(ab')₂ for 15 min. Cells were washed once with PBS and lysed in 250 μ l of lysis buffer (150 mM NaCl, 10 mM Tris-HCl at pH 7.5, 10 mM EDTA, 1% Triton X-100, 0.5% deoxycholate, 1 mM NaVO₄, 2 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride, 2 μ M leupeptin, 2 μ M pepstatin, 0.1% aprotinin), and extracts were prepared for immunoblot analysis for phosphotyrosine.

Immunoblot analysis and in vitro kinase assays

Bone marrow extracts were prepared by flushing marrow from femurs and tibias from pairs of animals with PBS/0.2% BSA, followed by hypotonic lysis of RBCs, then lysis of leukocytes in 1 ml of lysis buffer. Bone marrow-derived macrophages (5 \times 10⁶ cells) were lysed in 250 μ l of lysis buffer. Lysates were clarified by centrifugation for 15 min and protein determined by Bio-Rad protein assay. Extracts (25 μ g) were electrophoresed on 10% SDS-polyacrylamide gels (or 8% gels for total phosphotyrosine blots), and electrotransferred to nitrocellulose for 1 hr at 0.4 mA as described (Harlow and Lane 1988). Filters were blocked with 2% BSA in Tris-HCl-buffered saline (TBS) (pH 7.5) for 1 hr at room temperature and incubated with 1 μ g/ml of affinity-puri-

fied antisera or anti-phosphotyrosine mAb 4G10 (from D. Kaplan, UBI Products) in TBS, 2% BSA, 0.2% Tween 20 for 16 hr at 4°C. Filters were washed extensively with TBS and incubated with horseradish peroxidase-conjugated anti-mouse antibody (Amersham) in TBS, 2% BSA, 0.2% Tween 20 for 1 hr at 4°C, followed by washing, then developed using the Enhanced Chemiluminescence detection system (Amersham). Immunoprecipitations were carried out using 250 µg of protein extract incubated with 1 µg of antisera for 1 hr at 4°C followed by incubation with protein A-coupled Sepharose beads (Sigma) for 30 min at 4°C. Beads were washed extensively and incubated in kinase reaction buffer (20 mM HEPES at pH 7.0, 10 mM MgCl₂, 10 mM MnCl₂, 0.5% Triton X-100) with 1 µCi of [³²P]ATP for 15 min. Reactions were stopped by washing beads in lysis buffer, and autophosphorylated proteins were electrophoresed on 10% SDS-polyacrylamide gels.

Infection studies

The *L. monocytogenes* isolate was obtained from the Long Hospital (University of California, San Francisco). To ensure a standard inoculum, a single colony was grown in brain-heart infusion broth and a frozen stock (in 15% glycerol) was prepared. Repeated titer of the stock showed no change during the 6 months that experiments were conducted. Bacteria from the frozen stock were diluted into LB broth to give the desired inoculum and injected into animals intraperitoneally. At varying times following infection, animals were sacrificed and splenic and peritoneal homogenates were prepared. Animals that had already succumbed to the infection were not analyzed further. Tissues were homogenized in PBS and bacterial titers determined by serial dilution and culture on LB plates. Infection with *L. major* was performed as described (Reiner et al. 1993a).

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