

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.  
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.**

NAME: George R. Dubyak

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login): GDUBYAK

POSITION TITLE: Professor of Physiology & Biophysics

EDUCATION/TRAINING (*Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.*)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia PA	B.S.	1974	Biology
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA	Ph.D.	1979	Cell Physiology
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA	Post-Doc	1982	Biophysics

**A. Personal Statement**

I have been an independent investigator in the fields of P2 nucleotide receptor signaling and ion channels as regulators of inflammation and vascular function for the past 30 years. These studies have generated 139 original research papers and 46 review article/ commentaries/ book chapters. The research has been funded through R01 and P01 grants from the NIH, as well as grants from the American Heart Association (AHA), including a career development award as an AHA Established Investigator. My laboratory investigates multiple aspects of signal transduction in inflammation, innate immunity, and vascular disease. Current areas of investigation include: 1) characterization of the NLRP3/caspase-1 inflammasome signaling pathways that mediate local IL-1 $\beta$ -based innate and adaptive immune responses at sites of microbial invasion or host tissue damage and stress; 2) the roles of various ion host cell channels or bacterial pore-forming proteins in driving innate immune responses; 3) characterization of the mechanisms that differentially direct cells towards pyroptosis, apoptosis, or necroptosis as distinct modes of regulated cell death; 4) the multiple mechanisms by which ATP is released from pyroptotic, apoptotic cells or necroptotic cells to act as a leukocyte chemoattractant. Two invited review articles/commentaries below are relevant summaries of some contributions to these research areas.

1. **Dubyak GR** (2012). P2X7 receptor regulation of non-classical secretion from immune effector cells. (Invited review). *Cell. Microbiol.* 14: 1697-1706. **PMC3473166** <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3473166/>
2. Antonopoulos C. and **Dubyak GR** (2014). Cancer chemotherapeutic agents engage multiple pathways for IL-1 $\beta$  production in myeloid leukocytes. *Oncol Immunology* Jan 1;3(1): e27499. **PMC400651**.

**B. Positions and Honors**

- 1982-1986** Research Assistant Professor of Biochemistry and Biophysics, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.
- 1986-present** Assistant (1986-1990), Associate (with tenure, 1990-1998), and Full (1998-present) Professor of Physiology and Biophysics, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH.
- 1987-present** Assist./Assoc./Full Prof (Secondary) of General Medical Sciences (Oncology), Assist./Assoc./Full Prof. (Secondary) of Pharmacology, Case Western Reserve University
- 2004-present** Professor (Secondary) of Pathology, Case Western Reserve University
- 2003-2017** Co-Director, Medical Scientist Training Program, Case School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University

**2017-present** Director, Biomedical Scientist Training Program, Case School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University

**1979- 1981** Muscular Dystrophy Association Post-Doctoral Fellow

**1989- 1994** Established Investigator of the American Heart Association

**2003** Kaiser-Permanente Award for Excellence in Medical School Teaching

**2007** Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society, Elected Faculty Member

**2008** Academy of Scholar Educators, CWRU School of Medicine

**1993-1997** NIH Study Section, Cellular Biology and Physiology II (CBY2)

**1997-2002** American Heart Association (National) Study Section, Molecular Signaling I

**1998-2002** American Heart Association (Ohio Valley Affiliate) Research Committee

**1991-2002** Editorial Board, The Journal of Biological Chemistry (two terms)

**2001-2005** Editorial Board, Molecular Endocrinology

**2005-2009** Editorial Board, Journal of Immunology

**2010-2015** Editorial Board, The Journal of Biological Chemistry (3<sup>rd</sup> term)

**1998-present** Editorial Board, American Journal of Physiology (Cell)

**2001-present** Editorial Board, Molecular Pharmacology

**2010-present** Editorial Board, Science Signaling

**Member:** American Physiological Society; American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, American Association of Immunologists, Biophysical Society

**C. Contributions to Science** (based on 139 original research papers and 46 reviews/ book chapters/commentaries)

1. Characterization of novel innate immune signaling pathways regulated by P2 nucleotide receptors in myeloid leukocytes: My post-doctoral research provided some of the first support for cell surface receptors that are recognized by extracellular ATP/UTP as agonists and coupled to inositol phospholipid hydrolysis and (1,4,5)-InsP<sub>3</sub>-mediated Ca<sup>2+</sup> release. Detailed functional characterization of these receptors, eventually defined as the P2Y2 subtype of the larger (8 genetically distinct subtypes) P2Y GPCR family, was the major initial focus of my research as an independent investigator. Those studies determined that P2Y2 and other P2Y subtypes were highly expressed in neutrophils and other myeloid leukocytes. My group subsequently demonstrated that P2Y2 receptors also triggered activation of phospholipase D (PLD) signaling which provides important 2<sup>nd</sup> messengers for primary granule secretion from neutrophils, a critical early component of the innate immune response. We also surprisingly found that PLD signaling in macrophages could be stimulated by the ionotropic “P2Z” receptor, later identified as the P2X7 subtype of the larger (7 genetically distinct subtypes) P2X family of ATP-gated ion channel receptors. These studies motivated my lab’s ongoing work to characterize both the basic cell/molecular biology of the P2X7 receptor and its roles in innate immunity.

- a. Cowen DS, Lazarus HM, Shurin SB, Stoll SE, and **Dubyak GR**. (1989) Extracellular ATP activates calcium mobilization in human phagocytic leukocytes and neutrophil/monocyte progenitor cells. *J. Clin. Invest.* 83: 1651-1660. **PMC303873**. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC303873/>
- b. Hong S, Schwarz N, Brass A, Seman M, Haag F, Koch-Nolte F, Schilling WP, and **Dubyak GR** (2009) Differential regulation of P2X7 receptor activation by extracellular NAD and ecto-ARTs in murine macrophages and T cells. *J. Immunol.* 183: 578-592. **PMC2768492** <http://www.jimmunol.org/cgi/content/full/183/1/578>
- c. Lioi AB, Ferrari BM, **Dubyak GR**, Weinberg A., and Sieg SF (2015) hBD-3 increases CD86 expression on monocytes by activating the ATP-gated channel P2X7. *J. Immunol.* 195: 4438-4445. **PMC4610865** <http://www.jimmunol.org/content/195/9/4438.long>
- d. Karmakar M, Katsnelson MA, **Dubyak GR**, and Pearlman E. (2016) P2X7 receptors on murine and human neutrophils mediate NLRP3 inflammasome dependent IL-1 $\beta$  secretion in response to ATP. *Nature-Communications*. Feb 15;7:10555. doi: 10.1038/ncomms10555 **PMC4756306** <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4756306/>

2. Characterization of transcriptional and ionic signals that regulate assembly of inflammasome signaling platforms, caspase-1 activation, and IL-1 $\beta$  secretion: A major focus of my research for the last 10 years has been to define the mechanisms by which ATP-gated P2X7 receptor channels or other stimuli that perturb ionic homeostasis trigger the very rapid and efficient assembly of NLRP3 inflammasome signaling complexes. The latter mediate accumulation of active caspase-1, caspase-1 processing of IL-1 $\beta$ , and the non-classical

secretion of the mature IL-1 $\beta$  from macrophages and dendritic cells. Other studies have identified synergistic roles for both pre-transcriptional (IKK-mediated phosphorylation) and transcriptional (NF $\kappa$ B-based) phases of Toll-like receptor signaling to inflammasome regulation.

- a. Kahlenberg JM, Lundberg KC, Kertesz SB, Qu Y, and **Dubyak GR** (2005) Potentiation of caspase-1 activation by the P2X7 receptor is dependent on Toll-like receptor signals and requires NF $\kappa$ B-driven protein synthesis. *J. Immunol.*, 175:7611-7622. <http://www.jimmunol.org/cgi/content/full/175/11/7611>
- b. Martin BN, Wang C, Herjan T, Willette-Brown J, Gulen MF, Zhou H, Bulek K, Franchi L, Sato T, Narla G, Zhong X-P, Alnemri E, Thomas J, Klinman D, Fitzgerald K, Karin M, Nunez G, **Dubyak G**, Hu Y, and Li X (2014) IKK $\alpha$  negatively regulates ASC-dependent inflammasome activation. *Nature-Commun*, 5:4977 doi: 10.1038/ncomms5977 (2014). **PMC42978287**. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4298287/>
- c. Katsnelson MA, Rucker LG, Russo HM, **Dubyak GR**. (2015) K<sup>+</sup> efflux agonists induce NLRP3 inflammasome activation independently of Ca<sup>2+</sup> signaling. *J Immunol.* 194:3937-3952. **PMC4390495** <http://www.jimmunol.org/content/194/8/3937.long>
- d. Martin BN, Wang C, Kang Z, Gulen MF, Zepp JA, Zhao J, Do J, Zhang C, El-Sanadi C, Sarkar A, Wewers MD, Kaiser J, Mocarski ES, **Dubyak GR**, Ransohoff RM, and Li X. (2016) T cell-intrinsic ASC critically promotes Th17-mediated experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis. *Nature-Immunology*. 17(5):583-92. **PMC5385929** <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5385929/>

3. Characterization of inflammasome-mediated pathways for non-classical secretion of IL-1 $\beta$  and other inflammatory mediators: Unlike most inflammatory cytokines, IL-1 $\beta$  lacks a signal sequence for targeting to the canonical ER/Golgi based pathways for constitutive secretion. Our studies have linked non-classical IL-1 $\beta$  secretion to inflammasome-regulated mobilization of exosomes and microvesicles as well as induction of pyroptotic death of macrophages and dendritic cells. These studies have predominantly used P2X7 receptor activation as to initiate the IL-1 $\beta$  processing and release cascade.

- a. Qu Y, Franchi L, Nunez G, and **Dubyak GR** (2007) Non-classical IL-1 $\beta$  secretion stimulated by P2X7 receptors is dependent on inflammasome activation and correlated with exosome release in murine macrophages. *J. Immunol.* 179: 1913-1925. <http://www.jimmunol.org/cgi/content/full/179/3/1913>
- b. Qu Y, Ramachandra L, Franchi L, Mohr S, Harding CV, Nunez G, and **Dubyak GR** (2009) P2X7 receptor-stimulated secretion of MHC-II-containing exosomes requires the ASC/NLRP3 inflammasome but is independent of caspase-1. *J. Immunol.* 182:5052-5062. **PMC2768485**. <http://www.jimmunol.org/cgi/content/full/182/8/5052>
- c. Antonopoulos C, Russo HM, El-Sanadi C, Martin BN, Li X, Kaiser WJ, Mocarski ES, and **Dubyak GR**. (2015). Caspase-8 as an effector and regulator of NLRP3 inflammasome signaling. *J Biol Chem.* 290: 20167-20184. **PMC4536427** [Available on 2016-08-14] <http://www.jbc.org/content/290/33/20167.long>
- d. Katsnelson MA, Lozada-Soto K, Russo HM, Miller BA, and **Dubyak GR** (2016). NLRP3 inflammasome signaling is activated by low-Level lysosome disruption but inhibited by extensive lysosome disruption: Roles for K<sup>+</sup> efflux and Ca<sup>2+</sup> influx. *Am J Physiol Cell Physiol.* 311: C83-C100. 2016. **PMC4967136**.

4. Cellular mechanisms for extracellular accumulation and metabolism of ATP and other nucleotides in inflammation, apoptosis, and necroptosis: A parallel component of my group's focus on signaling by extracellular ATP has been characterization of the mechanisms by which ATP is exported into, and metabolized within, extracellular compartments. We established novel methods involving cell surface-immobilized luciferase to track highly localized release and clearance of extracellular ATP in several cell models, including astrocytes, macrophages, T cells, and tumor cells. Other studies have defined specific roles of various ecto-nucleotide phosphohydrolases or pyrophosphatases in the conversion of extracellular ATP to other bioactive mediators (e.g. adenosine or pyrophosphate) in different cell or tissue models. Recent studies have focused on defining how plasma membrane pannexin-1 channels are regulated to function as a major conductive pathway for ATP efflux from apoptotic cells and possibly in other modes of regulated cell death.

- a. Prosdocimo DA, Douglas DT, Romani A, O'Neill WC, and **Dubyak GR**. (2009) Autocrine ATP release coupled to extracellular pyrophosphate accumulation in vascular smooth muscle cells. *Am J. Physiol. Cell.* 296:C828-839. **PMC2670657**. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2670657/>
- b. Blum AE, Walsh BC, and **Dubyak GR** (2010) Extracellular osmolarity modulates G protein-coupled receptor dependent ATP release from 1321N1 astrocytes. *Am J. Physiol. Cell.* 298: 386-396. **PMC2822496** <http://ajpcell.physiology.org/content/298/2/C386.long>
- c. Boyd-Tressler A, Peneula S, Laird DW, and **Dubyak GR**. (2014). Chemotherapeutic drugs induce ATP release via caspase-gated pannexin-1 channels and a caspase/pannexin-1 independent mechanism. *J Biol Chem.* 289:27246-27263 **PMC4175357** <http://www.jbc.org/content/289/39/27246.long>
- d. Boyd-Tressler A, Lane GS, and **Dubyak GR**. (2017). Up-regulated ectonucleotidases in Fas-Associated Death Domain Protein- and Receptor-Interacting Protein Kinase 1-Deficient Jurkat leukemia cells counteract extracellular ATP/AMP accumulation via pannexin-1 channels during chemotherapeutic drug-induced apoptosis.

5. Characterization of regulated cell death signaling pathways during innate immune response, tissue damage, and metabolic stress: Our ongoing studies of proinflammatory signaling and ATP release mechanisms have also directed additional research into how these responses are integrated with the various modes of regulated cell death. For example, we determined that brief activation of P2X7 receptors in the absence of toll-like receptor signaling or inflammasome signaling triggers apoptotic death of macrophages. In contrast, activation of the same receptors in inflammatory macrophages or microglia elicits caspase-1-mediated pyroptotic death. Delineation of the molecular mechanisms by which caspase-1 triggers gasdermin D-mediated pyroptosis, an intrinsically proinflammatory mode of regulated lytic cell death, is currently a major area of investigation.

- a. Qu Y, Misaghi S, Newton K, Gilmour LL, Louie S, Cupp JE, **Dubyak GR**, Hackos D, and Dixit VM (2011). Pannexin-1 is required for ATP release during apoptosis but not inflammasome activation. *J. Immunol.* 186: 6553-6561. <http://www.jimmunol.org/content/186/11/6553.long>
- b. Antonopoulos C, El-Sanadi C, Kaiser WJ, Mocarski ES, and **Dubyak GR**. (2013) Pro-apoptotic chemotherapeutic drugs induce non-canonical processing and release of IL-1 $\beta$  via caspase-8 in dendritic cells. *J. Immunol.* 191:4789-4803. **PMC3870469** <http://www.jimmunol.org/content/191/9/4789.long>
- c. Russo HM, Rathkey J, Boyd-Tressler A, Katsnelson MA, Abbott DW, and **Dubyak GR** (2016) Active caspase-1 induces plasma membrane pores that precede pyroptotic lysis and are blocked by lanthanides. *J Immunol.* 197:1353-1367. **PMC4976007** <http://www.jimmunol.org/content/197/4/1353.long>
- d. Rathkey JK, Benson BL, Chierieleison SM, Yang J, Xiao TS, **Dubyak GR**, Huang AY, and Abbott DW (2017) Live-cell visualization of gasdermin D-driven pyroptotic cell death. *J Biol Chem.* 292: 14649-14658. **PMC5582855**

#### Complete List of Published Work in MyBibliography:

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/myncbi/george.dubyak.1/bibliography/40450251/public/?sort=date&direction=descending>

#### D. Additional Information: Research Support and/or Scholastic Performance

##### Active

NMSS RG 5130A2/1 (PI: X. Li) 10/01/14 – 09/30/17

“Cellular and molecular mechanisms of the inflammasome in CNS inflammation”

National Multiple Sclerosis Society

G. Dubyak Role: Co-investigator (5 %)

Goals: The major goal is to characterize canonical and non-canonical mechanisms of inflammasome activation in antigen-presenting cells and T cells in mouse models of demyelinating diseases.

5R01-EY014362 (10-14) (PI: E. Pearlman) 01/01/14 – 12/31/18

"Innate Immunity in Bacterial Keratitis"

G. Dubyak Role: Co-investigator (5 %)

National Institutes of Health/ National Eye Institute

Goals: The project seeks to define the role of the inflammatory cytokine IL-1 $\beta$  in regulating corneal disease due to either *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) or *Streptococcus pneumoniae* infection. One aim led by the Dubyak lab examines the role of extracellular ATP and host cell purinergic receptors in amplifying inflammasome activity and IL-1 $\beta$  production during bacterial keratitis in the cornea.

2R01EY022052-04 (PI: Arne Rietsch) 08/01/15 – 07/31/20

“*P. aeruginosa* Type III Secreted Effectors in Corneal Disease”

G. Dubyak Role: Co-Investigator (5 %)

National Institutes of Health/ National Eye Institute

Aims: *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is a common cause of eye infections. If left untreated, these infections can result in rapid loss of vision. The bacterium injects toxic proteins (ExoS and Exo T) into host immune cells that normally engulf and kill the invading bacteria. The project seeks to define the mechanisms by which invasive isolates of *P. aeruginosa* use ExoS and ExoT to inhibit the two major bactericidal functions of neutrophils, reactive oxygen species production and fusion of antimicrobial granules with the bacteria-containing phagosome. Better understanding of their function will lead to the design of targeted therapies to combat or prevent these infections.

NIH 1R21AR069785-A1 (PI: Edward Greenfield) 4/1/2017-3/31/2019

“P2X7R: a novel therapeutic target for orthopaedic implant loosening”

G. Dubyak Role: Co-investigator (7.5 % effort)

National Institutes of Health/ National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal & Skin Diseases

Aims: The long-term goal is to discover novel underlying mechanisms and thereby identify novel therapeutic targets for patients with aseptic loosening. This R21 application will test the overall hypothesis that extracellular ATP (eATP) increases the biologic activity of orthopaedic wear. P2X7R is the primary macrophage receptor for elevated levels of eATP and eATP is the only known ligand for P2X7R. The activation of P2X7R by eATP increases many other types of inflammation but has not previously been studied in aseptic loosening.

### **Completed**

NIH R01-GM36387 (22-25) (PI: G. Dubyak) 03/01/11 - 07/01/16

“Regulation of Caspase-1 Signaling and Inflammation by the P2X7 ATP Receptor”

G. Dubyak Role: PI

Goals: The major goals are: 1) to characterize the molecular mechanisms by which inflammasome signaling and IL-1 $\beta$  production is activated by extracellular ATP-dependent and extracellular ATP-independent mechanisms in dendritic cells to regulate immunogenic anti-tumor responses; 2) to define the cellular mechanisms for regulated release of ATP from apoptotic tumor cells.

AHA 13PRE16860052 (M. Katsnelson) 07/01/2013-06/30/2015

“Regulation of NLRP3 Inflammasome Activation and IL-1 $\beta$  Release by Loss of Lysosomal Integrity”

American Heart Association Pre-Doctoral Fellowship

G. Dubyak Role: Fellowship Sponsor and Dissertation Research Mentor

Goals: The major goal of this fellowship is to characterize how perturbation of plasma membrane and organellar ion homeostasis mediates the activation of inflammasomes and IL-1 $\beta$  secretion by proinflammatory crystals and amyloid aggregates that disrupt lysosome integrity.