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Endosomal Chemokine Receptor Signalosomes Regulate Central Mechanisms Underlying Cell Migration

Hyunggu Hahn, Carole Daly, John Little IV, Nicole A Perry-Hauser, Emmanuel Flores-Espinoza, Asuka Inoue, Bianca Plouffe, Alex Rojas Bie Thomsen

Department of Molecular Pathobiology, New York University College of Dentistry, New York, United States • NYU Pain Research Center, New York University College of Dentistry, New York, United States • Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine, Queen's University Belfast, Belfast, United Kingdom • Department of Surgery, Columbia University Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, United States • Present affiliation: Departments of Psychiatry and Molecular Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, United States • Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Science, Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan • Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Science, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan

eLife Assessment

This is an **important** study that provides CCR7-APEX2 proximity labelling mass spectrometry data that is expected to provide new insights into CCR7 signaling partners and pathways. The study is technically easy to follow and the data is **convincing**. It will be interesting in the future to have complementary studies in lymphocytes/dendritic cells that endogenously express CCR7. This is of value to the community, and there are likely multiple opportunities to use the APEX2 data set to extend these findings, strengthen some claims, and even explore a new pathway identified in the APEX2 data set.

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Abstract

Chemokine receptors are GPCRs that regulate chemotactic migration of a wide variety of cells including immune and cancer cells. Most chemokine receptors contain features associated with the ability to stimulate G protein signaling during β-arrestin-mediated receptor internalization into endosomes. As endosomal signaling of certain non-GPCR receptors plays a major role in cell migration, we chose to investigate the potential role of endosomal chemokine receptor signaling on mechanisms governing this function. Applying a combination of pharmacological and cell biological approaches, we demonstrate that the model chemokine receptor CCR7 recruits G protein and β-arrestin simultaneously upon chemokine stimulation, which enables internalized receptors to activate G protein from endosomes. Furthermore, spatiotemporal-resolved APEX2 proteome profiling shows that endosomal CCR7 uniquely enriches specific Rho GTPase regulators as compared to plasma membrane CCR7, which is directly associated with enhanced activity of the Rho GTPase Rac1

and chemotaxis of immune T cells. As Rac1 drives the formation of membrane protrusions during chemotaxis, our findings suggest an important integrated function of endosomal chemokine receptor signaling in cell migration.

Introduction

Chemokines are small proteins secreted from locations of physiological damage such as infection and inflammation. From these locations a gradient of chemokines is generated that attracts immune cells by activating their cell surface chemokine receptors, triggering cell migration and differentiation to combat the pathophysiological state. The chemokine system is also taken advantage of by certain cancer cells including melanoma, glioblastoma, prostate, gastric, pancreatic, esophageal, ovarian, lung, colorectal, and breast cancer[1]. In malignant cells, upregulation of chemokine receptors allows them to invade and metastasize to locations distinct from their origin and from where specific chemokines are secreted[1].

There exist 23 chemokine receptors that belong to the highly druggable superfamily of G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs). Canonically, GPCRs activate heterotrimeric G proteins (Gαβγ) at the cell surface, causing downstream signaling throughout the cell[2]. This initial phase of G protein signaling is terminated via a specialized desensitization mechanism that includes phosphorylation of receptors by GPCR kinases and subsequent recruitment of β-arrestins (βarrs) to the phosphorylated receptor[3]. βarrs engage receptors at an overlapping transmembrane core region to where G proteins bind, and thus βarr recruitment to the receptor sterically blocks further G protein activation[4,5]. In addition, βarrs promote internalization of GPCRs into endosomes, thereby removing them from the source of the activating ligand[6].

In more recent times work has shown that some GPCRs continue to activate G proteins following βarr-mediated internalization into endosomes[7–15]. As G protein and βarr association to GPCRs have historically been considered mutually exclusive events, endosomal G protein signaling is difficult to reconcile within the general understanding of GPCR signaling. However, our recent work showed that certain GPCRs containing serine/threonine phosphorylation site clusters in their carboxy-terminal tail bind to βarrs in a specific conformation termed “tail conformation”[16–18]. In this conformation, βarr only interacts with the receptor carboxy-terminal tail thereby permitting the receptor transmembrane core to bind to G proteins simultaneously to form a GPCR–G protein–βarr complex or ‘megaplex’[9,16,19]. The formation of these megaplexes highlights how certain receptors that form strong association with βarrs can continue to stimulate G protein signaling over prolonged periods of time after they have been internalized into endosomes by βarrs. Despite having established a mechanistic understanding underlying endosomal G protein signaling by internalized GPCRs, knowledge about its functional role remains minimal.

Most chemokine receptors couple to similar G protein subtypes[20] and contain serine/threonine clusters in their carboxy-terminal tail (**Table 1**), which raises the possibility that formation of megaplexes and endosomal G protein signaling are general mechanisms applied by these receptors to influence physiological responses such as cell migration. Interestingly, endosomal signaling by other non-GPCR receptor systems such as receptor tyrosine kinases have a profound role in cell migration and control transport of various signaling complexes and other proteins between the cell surface and endosomal compartments during this process[21,22]. Therefore, our work here tests the hypothesis that chemokine receptors can stimulate G proteins from endosomes to regulate common signaling networks or ‘signalosomes’ that direct cell migration.

Chemokine receptor	Chemokines	C-terminal tail
CCR1	CCL3, CCL4, CCL5, CCL7, CCL8, CCL13, CCL14, CCL16, CCL23	RVAVHLVKWLPFLSVDRLERVSSTSPSTGEHELSAGF
CCR2A/B	CCL2, CCL7, CCL8, CCL11, CCL13, CCL16, CCL24, CCL26	A:CRIAPLQKPVCGGPGVRPGKNVKVTTQGLLDGRGKGKSIGRAPEASLQDKEGA B:KQCPVFYRETVDGVTSTNTPSTGEQEVSAGL
CCR3	CCL2, CCL5, CCL7, CCL8, CCL11, CCL13, CCL15, CCL24, CCL26, CCL28, CXCL9, CXCL10, CXCL11	HLLMHLGRYIPFLPSEKLERTSSVSPSTAEPELSIVF
CCR4	CCL17, CCL22	TCRGLFVLCQYCGLLQIYSADTPSSSYTQSTMDHDLHDAL
CCR5	CCL2, CCL3, CCL4, CCL5, CCL7, CCL8, CCL11, CCL13, CCL14, CCL16	KHIAKRFCKCCSIFQQEAPERASSVYTRSTGEQEISVGL
CCR6	CCL20, β-defensin 4A	CVRRKYKSSGFSCAGRYSENISRQTSETADNDNASSFTM
CCR7	CCL19, CCL21	DLGCLSQEQLRQWSSCRHIRRSSMSVEAETTTTFSP
CCR8	CCL1, CCL8	SCSQIFNYLGRQMPRESCEKSSSCQQHSSRSSSVDYIL
CCR9	CCL25	QWVSFTRREGSLKLSSMLLETTSGALSL
CCR10	CCL27, CCL28	GGSCPSGPQPRRGCPRRPRLSSCSAPTETHSLSWDN
CXCR1	CXCL6, CXCL8	GLVSKEFLARHRVTSYTSSSVNVSSNL
CXCR2	CXCL1, CXCL2, CXCL3, CXCL5, CXCL6, CXCL7, CXCL8	GLISKDSLPKDSRPSFVGSSSGHTSTTL
CXCR3	CCL5, CCL7, CCL11, CCL13, CCL19, CCL20, CXCL9, CXCL10, CXCL11, CXCL12α	GCPNQRGLQRQPSSSRRDSSWSETSEASYSGL
CXCR4	CXCL12, CXCL12α, CXCL12β, CXCL12γ, CXCL12δ, CXCL12ε, CXCL12φ	SVSRGSSLKILSKGKRGGHSSVSTESESSSFHSS
CXCR5	CXCL13	KLGCTGPASLCQLFPSWRRSSLSESENATSLTTF
CXCR6	CXCL16	CLPYLGVSHQWKSSEDNSKTFSASHNVEATSMFQL
XCR1	?	FWFCRLQAPSPASIPHSPGAFAYEGASFY
CX_3CR1	CX_3CL1	CLAVLCGRSVHVDFSSSESQRSRHGSVLSSNFTYHTSDGDALLLL

Table 1.

Schematic overview of the C-terminal tail region of common chemokine receptors.

Potential serine/threonine phosphorylation sites are colored red, and serine/threonine clusters are marked in grey.

Results

CCR7-induced G protein signaling is unaffected by βarr recruitment and βarr-mediated receptor endocytosis

To study the potential role of endosomal chemokine receptor signaling we used the model receptor CCR7, which is expressed by several subsets of immune cells and regulates their homing to the lymph nodes[23]. This receptor is an ideal model receptor to study endosomal G protein signaling as it is known to be active at endomembranes[24] and is stimulated by two endogenous chemokines CCL19 and CCL21 equally effective at 100 nM[25]. Compared with the full agonist CCL19 that robustly stimulates $G_{i/o}$ signaling, receptor phosphorylation, βarr recruitment, and CCR7 internalization, the agonist CCL21 promotes full $G_{i/o}$ protein activation but only partial receptor phosphorylation, βarr recruitment, and internalization of CCR7[25,26]. Using the enhanced bystander bioluminescence resonance energy transfer (EbBRET)-based biosensors RlucII-βarr1/2 and cell surface-anchored rGFP-CAAX to monitor βarr1/2 recruitment to plasma membrane upon chemokine-stimulation in CCR7-expressing HEK293 cells (**Fig. 1A**)[27], we confirmed that activating CCR7 by CCL19 leads to robust βarr1/2-recruitment, whereas CCL21 only promotes partial βarr1/2-recruitment responses (**Fig. 1B-C**). Co-expressing RlucII-βarr1/2 and the endosomally-located rGFP-Rab5 in HEK293-CCR7 cells (**Fig. 1A**)[27], CCL19 stimulation leads to similar strong βarr1/2 trafficking to endosomes whereas CCL21 stimulation of CCR7 only causes a minor translocation of βarr1/2 to the endosomes (**Fig. 1B-C**). No enhanced EbBRET between RlucII-βarr1/2 and rGFP-CAAX/Rab5 was detected upon chemokine stimulation in HEK293 cells that do not express CCR7 (**Fig. S1A-B**). These results suggest that CCR7 recruits and is internalized by βarrs robustly when stimulated with CCL19, but only to a modest degree by CCL21. Similar results were found when using β-galactosidase enzyme complementation-based DiscoverX assay to monitor direct βarr2 recruitment to CCR7 (**Fig. S1C-D**).

Next, to investigate how CCL19/CCL21-stimulated βarrs recruitment affects CCR7 internalization in real time, we applied a split NanoLuc (or NanoBiT) approach in which the small-BiT (SmBiT) is fused the carboxy-terminal of CCR7 and the large-BiT (LgBiT) is fused to the cell surface anchor CAAX. In resting state, the CCR7-SmBiT and LgBiT-CAAX are in subcellular proximity at the plasma membrane and form functional nanoluciferase enzymes, which catalyzes the conversion of coelenterazine h resulting in emission of a bright luminescence signal (**Fig. 1D**). Upon activation and internalization of CCR7, the CCR7-SmBiT is removed from the cell surface-located LgBiT-CAAX which results in a decrease in the luminescence signal (**Fig. 1D**). Strong and immediate reduction in this signal was observed when the cells were stimulated with CCL19 (**Fig. 1E-F**). In contrast, CCL21-stimulated CCR7 only led to a modest decrease in signal suggesting that CCL19-stimulation leads to robust CCR7 internalization whereas most CCR7 stays at the plasma membrane upon CCL21 activation (**Fig. 1E-F**). In addition to this approach, we also measured chemokine-stimulated trafficking of CCR7-SmBiT to the early endosomal FYVE-LgBiT marker (**Fig. 1D**). In this case, CCL19 stimulation led to a robust increase in luminescence whereas CCL21 activation only led to a partial increase in the signal (**Fig. 1G-H**). Interestingly, the kinetic patterns of the signals indicate that the trafficking of CCR7 to endosomes was slower and more transient as compared to its removal from the cell surface, which could be a result of further trafficking of the receptor to late or recycling endosomes as well as the trans-Golgi network (TGN; **Fig. 1G-H**). Moreover, CCL19/CCL21-stimulation did not promote internalization or trafficking to endosomes of the vasopressin type 2 receptor (V_2R)-SmBiT construct validating that these chemokines act specifically via the CCR7-SmBiT system (**Fig. S1E-F**).

Finally, to investigate how βarrs recruitment and receptor internalization affect G protein signaling in real-time, we applied the cAMP sensor CAMYEL[28] to monitor $G_{i/o}$ activity in HEK293-CCR7 cells. In contrast to βarrs recruitment and receptor internalization, CCL19 and

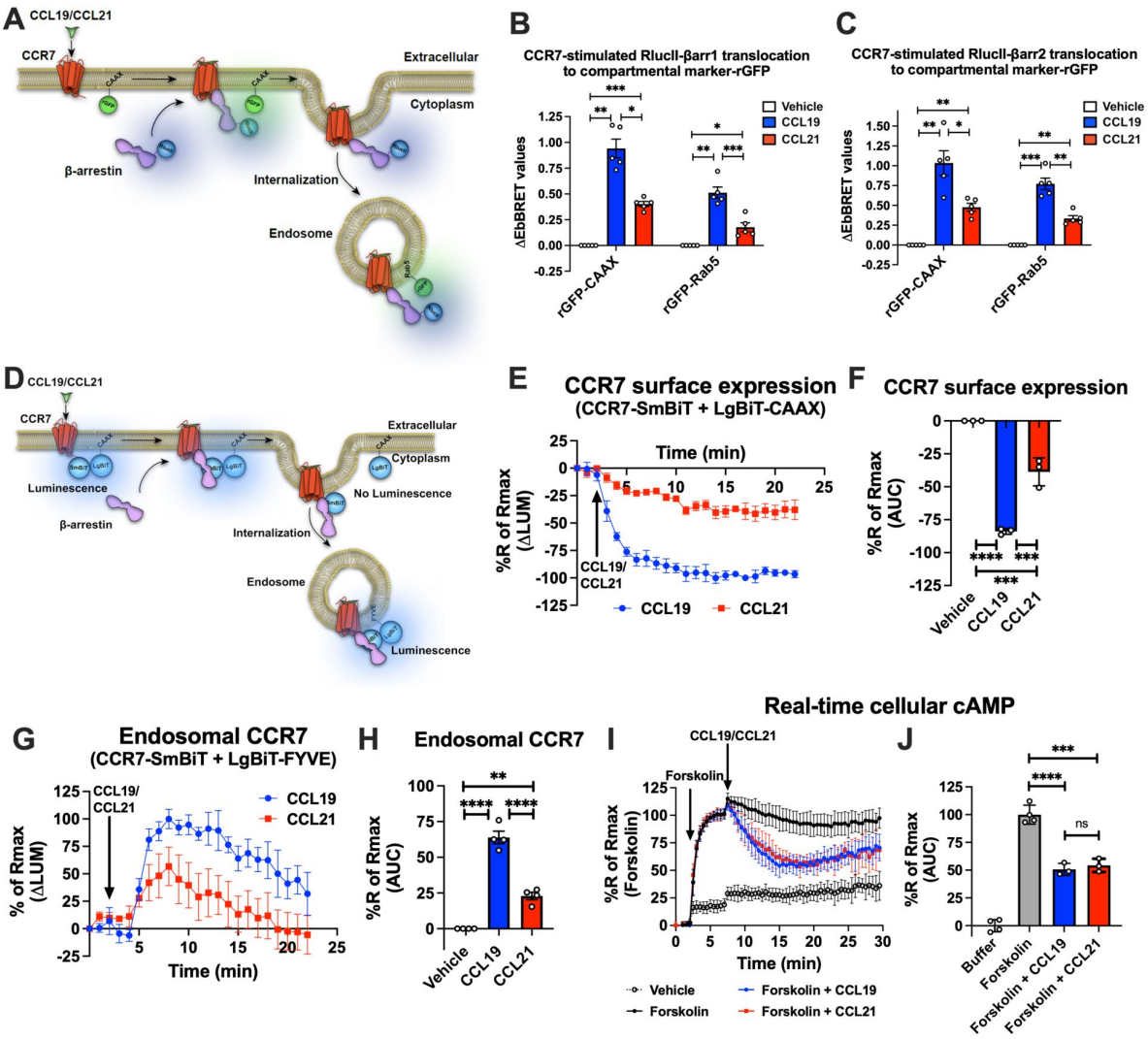


Figure 1.

CCR7-stimulated βarr recruitment, receptor internalization, and $G_{i/o}$ signaling.

(A) Schematic representation of the experimental design used to monitor EbBRET between RlucII-βarr1/2 and rGFP-CAAX or RlucII-βarr1/2 and rGFP-Rab5 upon chemokine stimulation of CCR7. (B-C) EbBRET signal between (B) RlucII-βarr1 or (C) RlucII-βarr2 recruitment to plasma membrane-anchored rGFP-CAAX or early endosome-anchored rGFP-Rab5 in response to 100 nM CCL19, 100 nM CCL21, or vehicle control stimulation. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=5 experiments. (D) Schematic representation of the experimental design used to monitor CCR7 internalization by detecting loss of luminescence generated by CCR7-SmBiT and LgBiT-CAAX or endosomal CCR7 translocation by measuring gain of luminescence by CCR7-SmBiT and LgBiT-FYVE. (E) Change in luminescence signal generated between CCR7-SmBiT and LgBiT-CAAX in response to 100 nM CCL19 or 100 nM CCL21. The response to chemokine stimulation was normalized to vehicle control. (F) Area under the curve (AUC) was used to calculate the total internalization response for each chemokine ligand. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=3 experiments. (G) Change in luminescence signal generated between CCR7-SmBiT and LgBiT-FYVE in response to 100 nM CCL19 and 100 nM CCL21. The response to chemokine stimulation was normalized to vehicle control. (H) Area under the curve (AUC) was used to calculate the total internalization response for each chemokine ligand. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=4 experiments. (I) HEK293-CCR7 cells transiently expressing the real-time cAMP sensor CAMYEL were challenged with 10 μM forskolin (or vehicle buffer) to increase cAMP production. 5 min later, the cells were stimulated with 100 nM CCL19, 100 nM CCL21, or vehicle buffer, and inhibition of cAMP production was followed as an indirect measurement of $G_{i/o}$ activation. (J) AUC was used to calculate the total cAMP for each chemokine ligand. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=3-4 experiments. (F, H, and J) One-way ANOVA or (B and C) two-way ANOVA with (B, C, F, H) Tukey's or (J) Sidak's multiple comparison post hoc tests were performed to determine statistical differences between the distinct conditions (*p < 0.05; **p < 0.01; ***p <0.001; ****p < 0.0001).

CCL21 challenge inhibited forskolin-induced cAMP production to a similar extent in HEK293-CCR7 cells (**Fig. 1I-J**), but had no effect on the cAMP response in mock transfected HEK293 cells (**Fig. S1G-H**). This supports previous observations, which suggest that both CCL19 and CCL21 act as full agonists in stimulating $G_{i/o}$ signaling[25,26]. Interestingly, this $G_{i/o}$ signaling was sustained throughout the experiment and not acutely desensitized by βarrs recruitment and/or receptor internalization as other receptor systems (**Fig. 1I-J**)[29].

CCR7 engages with βarr1 and G_i protein simultaneously upon chemokine stimulation

Surprisingly, neither the degree of βarr recruitment nor receptor internalization appear to affect CCR7-mediated G protein signaling as expected for most GPCRs. As we recently found a correlation between the presence of phosphorylation site clusters in GPCRs and their ability to form GPCR–G protein–βarr megaplexes[9], here we hypothesized that CCL19-CCR7 stimulates $G_{i/o}$ while being internalized into endosomes by βarrs (**Fig. 2A**). As numerous $G_{i/o}$-coupled GPCRs recently were demonstrated to co-couple with G protein and βarrs, this hypothesis seems plausible[30]. In contrast, since CCL21 challenge only leads to minor CCR7 internalization, most of the CCL21-CCR7-mediated $G_{i/o}$ activation take place at the plasma membrane (**Fig. 2A**).

Simultaneous GPCR association with G protein and βarr is facilitated by βarrs complexing exclusively through the phosphorylated receptor carboxy-terminal tail. We have previously demonstrated that other GPCRs with carboxy-terminal phosphorylation site clusters bind to βarrs in this tail conformation, and thus, it seemed likely that CCR7 could form them as well. To test this, we used a βarr1 mutant where the region of βarr1 that interacts with GPCR transmembrane cores, the fingerloop (FL), is deleted (βarr1-ΔFL). We showed previously using negative stain electron microscopy and single-particle averaging that βarr1-ΔFL almost entirely forms tail conformation complexes with GPCRs[16]. Using the EbBRET pair RlucII-βarr1-ΔFL and rGFP-CAAX (plasma membrane-anchored rGFP) in CCR7-expressing HEK293 cells, we probed the degree of βarr1-ΔFL recruitment to CCR7 in response to CCL19, CCL21, or vehicle. In addition, we tested how well βarr1-ΔFL internalizes with CCR7 into endosomes using the EbBRET pair RlucII-βarr1-ΔFL and rGFP-Rab5 (early endosome-anchored rGFP). Interestingly, both CCL19 and CCL21 stimulation led to recruitment of βarr1-ΔFL to CCR7 at the membrane although CCL19 promoted this recruitment to a significantly higher degree than CCL21 (**Fig. 2B**). Furthermore, CCL19 and CCL21 stimulation promote βarr1-ΔFL translocation to endosomes (**Fig. 2B**). No response to chemokine stimulation was observed in mock transfected HEK293 cells that do not express CCR7 (**Fig. S2A**). These results indicate that CCR7 can form tail conformation complexes with βarr1 in cells and that the stability of this complex is sufficiently strong for βarr1 to internalize the receptor into endosomes.

Since CCR7 forms tail conformation complexes with βarr1 upon agonist stimulation where the G protein binding site is available, we next sought to interrogate whether the receptor binds to βarrs and $G_{i/o}$ simultaneously (**Fig. 2C**). To do this, we used a NanoBiT approach where SmBiT is fused to βarr1 and LgBiT is fused to the Gα subunit. If CCR7 recruits G protein and βarr1 simultaneously, the SmBiT-βarr1 and LgBiT-G will come into close proximity resulting in a luminescence signal. Instead of using the full-length Gα subunit for this approach as done previously[9], we used a truncated surrogate version commonly referred to as miniGi. MiniG proteins are engineered Gα subunits that have been developed for the major Gα subunit families (G_s, $G_{i/o}$, $G_{q/11}$, and $G_{12/13}$). Key modifications of these Gα subunits include: 1) a truncated N-terminal that deletes membrane anchors and Gβγ-binding surface; 2) deletion of the α-helical domain; 3) mutations that improve protein stability *in vitro*; and 4) a mutation in the C-terminal α5 helix that uncouples GPCR binding from nucleotide release, therefore stabilizing receptor– miniG protein complexes in the presence of guanine nucleotides[31,32]. These alterations also enable miniG proteins to report active receptor conformations in living cells by measuring their recruitment from the cytosol to GPCRs at

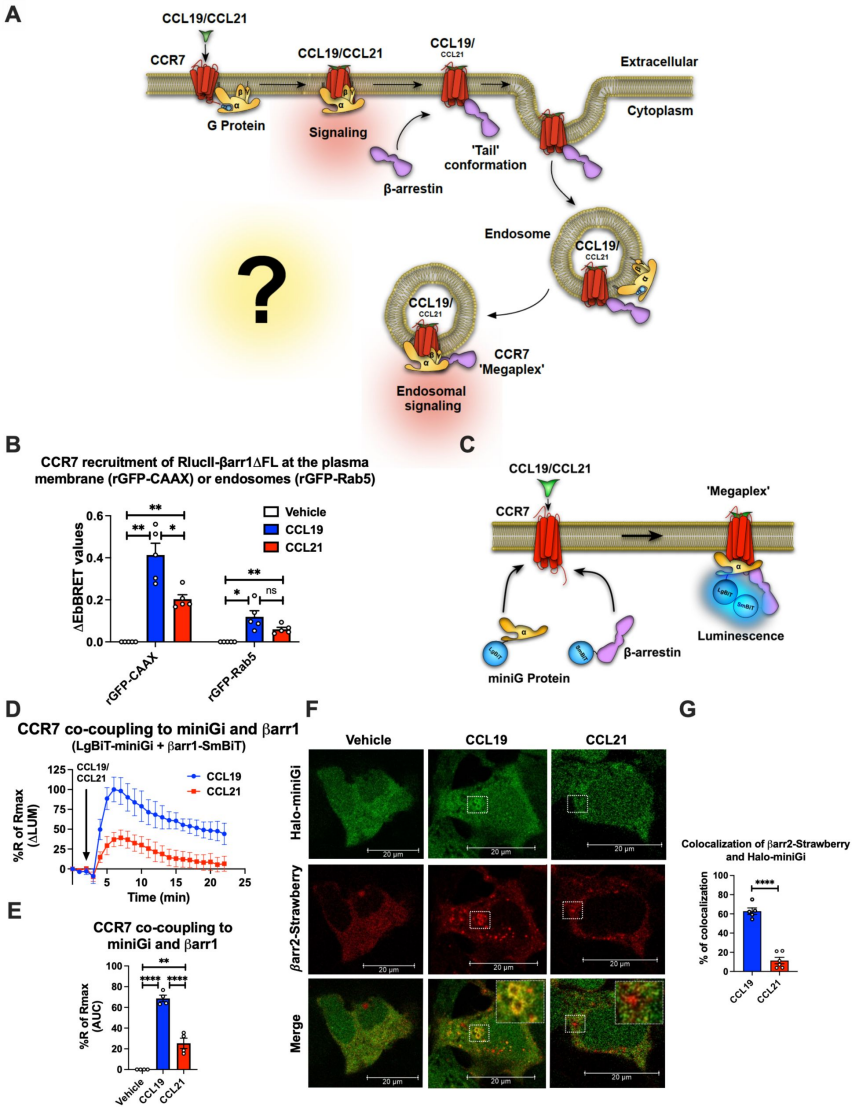


Figure 2.

Chemokine-induced CCR7–$G_{i/o}$–βarr complex formation.

(A) Schematic illustration of the working hypothesis. CCR7-mediated G protein signaling does not appear to be affected by βarr recruitment or receptor internalization. Therefore, we hypothesized that CCR7 associates and internalizes with βarr in the 'tail' conformation where βarr does not block the G protein-binding site within CCR7. As this site is available, CCR7 can interact simultaneously with G protein and βarr to form a CCR7–$G_{i/o}$–βarr megaplex, which enables the receptor to stimulate G proteins while being internalized into endosomes. (B) EbBRET signal between RlucII-βarr1ΔFL recruitment to plasma membrane-anchored rGFP-CAAX or endosomally-anchored rGFP-Rab5 in response to 100 nM CCL19, 100 nM CCL21, or vehicle control stimulation. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=5 experiments. (C) Schematic representation of the experimental design used to monitor luminescence upon proximity between SmBiT-βarr1 and LgBiT-miniG protein in response to CCR7 activation. (D) Change luminescence measured upon stimulation of HEK293-CCR7 cells expressing SmBiT-βarr1 and LgBiT-miniGi in response to 100 nM CCL19 or 100 nM CCL21 stimulation. The response to chemokine stimulation was normalized to vehicle control. (E) Area under the curve (AUC) was used to calculate the total response for each chemokine ligand. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=4 experiments. (F) Confocal microscopy imaging displaying HEK293 cells co-expressing, CCR7, βarr2-Strawberry and Halo-miniGi protein. In the experiment the cells were treated with either 100 nM CCL19, 100 nM CCL21, or vehicle control for 30 min. (G) Co-localization quantification analysis of βarr2-Strawberry and Halo-miniGi from the confocal microscopy images. (G) Student's *t* test, (E) one-way ANOVA, or (B) two-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparison post hoc tests were performed to determine statistical differences between the distinct conditions (*$p < 0.05$; **$p < 0.01$; ***$p < 0.001$; ****$p < 0.0001$).

different membrane compartments[31]. As most membranes involved in GPCR trafficking contain endogenous G proteins[33], the presence of active miniG-coupling receptors at these subcellular compartments suggests that G proteins are stimulated from these sites.

The properties of miniG proteins are also beneficial when monitoring simultaneous recruitment of SmBiT-βarr1 and LgBiT-miniG to GPCRs. Since both probes are expressed in the cytosol where they randomly collide, simultaneous translocation to the receptor in cell membranes will lead to a very specific increase in luminescence (**Fig. 2C**). In contrast, using a wild-type full length Gα subunit and βarr NanoBiT probes, which are located at membranes and cytosol, respectively, recruitment of βarrs to the receptor could lead to potential bystander effects as a result of βarrs-translocation from the cytosol to the plasma membrane.

In HEK293-CCR7 cells expressing SmBiT-βarr1 and LgBiT-miniGi, CCL19-stimulation leads to a robust increase in luminescence (**Fig. S2B-C**). This signal was specific for miniGi as stimulation of CCR7 in cells expressing SmBiT-βarr1 and LgBiT-miniGs led to a small decrease in luminescence (**Fig. S2B-C**). This reduction in basal luminescence might be caused by a reduction of random collision between SmBiT-βarr1 and LgBiT-miniGs upon CCR7 stimulation where SmBiT-βarr1, but not LgBiT-miniGs, translocates to the plasma membrane. These results indicate that CCL19-stimulated CCR7 recruits $G_{i/o}$ and βarrs simultaneously. Next, we compared the ability of CCL19 and CCL21 to provoke co-coupling of $G_{i/o}$ and βarrs to CCR7. Interestingly, both CCL19 and CCL21 stimulated co-coupling of $G_{i/o}$ and βarrs to CCR7, although CCL19 promoted formation of these complexes to a significantly larger degree than CCL21 (**Fig. 2D-E**). The response to chemokine stimulation was not observed in mock transfected HEK293 cells (**Fig. S2D**).

GPCR–G protein–βarr megaplexes have been described as a mechanism by which GPCRs that bind βarrs exceptionally well via the phosphorylated C-terminal tail can promote endosomal G protein signaling[9]. Therefore, we investigated whether $G_{i/o}$ and βarrs are recruited simultaneously to internalized CCR7 in endosomes using confocal microscopy. For this purpose, CCR7-expressing HEK293 cells co-expressing βarr2-Strawberry and Halo-miniGi were stimulated with either CCL19 or CCL21 for 30 min whereafter the subcellular location of these two probes was assessed by confocal microscopy. In this setup, CCL19-CCR7 recruited βarr2-Strawberry and Halo-miniGi to endosomal-shaped intracellular locations whereas this co-localization was minor for CCL21-CCR7 (**Fig. 2F-G**). Together, these results indicate that CCL19 stimulation leads to robust endosomal and CCR7-mediated recruitment of $G_{i/o}$ and βarr1.

Stimulation of CCR7 by CCL19 leads to robust activation of $G_{i/o}$ signaling from endosomes

To test whether the internalized CCR7 stimulates $G_{i/o}$ from endosomal compartments, we used the NanoBiT biosensor pair Rap1GAP-SmBiT and LgBiT-FYVE (**Fig. 3A**). Rap1GAP is an effector protein that specifically binds to active $G_{i/o}$, but not to inactive $G_{i/o}$[34], and thus, endosomal $G_{i/o}$ activation can be detected by measuring the recruitment of Rap1GAP-SmBiT to the endosomal marker LgBiT-FYVE[35]. Using this approach, we observed that both CCL19 and CCL21 stimulate recruitment of Rap1GAP-SmBiT to LgBiT-FYVE in HEK293-CCR7 cells (**Fig. 3B-C**). Similar to CCR7 internalization, CCL19 facilitated this response to a significant higher degree as compared to CCL21 (**Fig. 3B-C**). In addition, the recruitment of Rap1GAP-SmBiT to LgBiT-FYVE was blunted by the $G_{i/o}$ inhibitor pertussis toxin (PTX), and was not observed in mock transfected HEK293 (**Fig. S3A-C**). These results indicate that internalized CCR7 promotes endosomal $G_{i/o}$ activation.

To further validate if CCR7 activates $G_{i/o}$ at endosomes, we measured translocation of RlucII-miniGi protein to the early endosomal marker rGFP-Rab5a by EbBRET in response to CCR7 challenge (**Fig. 3D**). Using this approach, CCL19 stimulation led to a strong and significant increase in EbBRET signaling between RlucII-miniGi and rGFP-Rab5a indicating that CCL19-bound

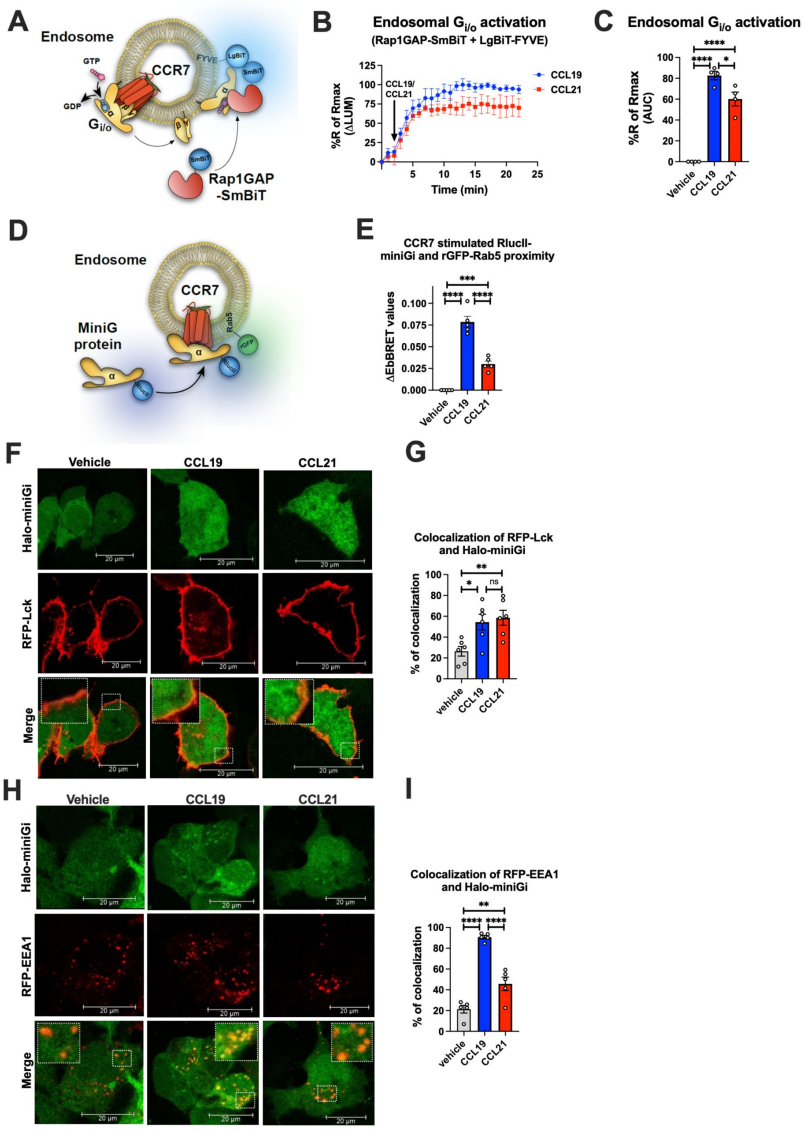


Figure 3.

Endosomal $G_{i/o}$ activation by internalized CCR7.

(A) Schematic representation of the experimental design used to measure luminescence upon proximity between Rap1GAP-SmBiT and LgBiT-FYVE in response to CCR7 activation. (B) Change in luminescence measured upon stimulation of HEK293-CCR7 cells expressing Rap1GAP-SmBiT and LgBiT-FYVE in response to 100 nM CCL19 or 100 nM CCL21 stimulation. The response to chemokine stimulation was normalized to vehicle control. (C) Area under the curve (AUC) was used to calculate the total response for each chemokine ligand. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=4 experiments. (D) Schematic representation of the EbBRET-based assay to monitor proximity between RlucII-miniGi and the endosomal marker rGFP-Rab5 upon CCR7 activation from endosomes. (E) EbBRET measurements from CCR7-expressing HEK293 cells co-transfected with RlucII-miniGi and rGFP-Rab5 upon stimulation with 100 nM CCL19, 100 nM CCL21, or vehicle control. Data represents the mean ± SE from N=5 independent experiments. (F) Confocal microscopy imaging displaying CCR7-expressing HEK293 cells co-transfected with the plasma membrane marker RFP-Lck and Halo-miniGi. The cells were stimulated with 100 nM CCL19, 100 nM CCL21, or vehicle control for 10 min. (G) Co-localization quantification analysis of RFP-Lck and Halo-miniGi from the confocal microscopy images. (H) Confocal microscopy imaging displaying CCR7-expressing HEK293 cells co-transfected with the endosomal marker RFP-EEA1 and Halo-miniGi. The cells were stimulated with 100 nM CCL19, 100 nM CCL21, or vehicle control for 30 min. (I) Co-localization quantification analysis of RFP-EEA1 and Halo-miniGi from the confocal microscopy images. (C, E, G, and I) One-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparison post hoc tests were applied to determine statistical differences between the distinct treatments (*p < 0.05; **p < 0.01; ***p < 0.001; ****p < 0.0001).

CCR7 indeed activates $G_{i/o}$ robustly from endosomes (**Fig. 3E**). In contrast, CCL21 stimulation provoked a small yet significant increase of EbBRET response, demonstrating that $G_{i/o}$ protein is activated from endosomes by CCL21-bound CCR7 to a minor extent (**Fig. 3E**).

Similar trend was also observed by confocal microscopy visualization of CCR7-expressing HEK293 cells co-expressing Halo-miniGi and either the plasma membrane marker RFP-Lck or the early endosomal marker RFP-EEA1. In cells expressing RFP-Lck, CCR7 activation with either CCL19 or CCL21 leads to recruitment of Halo-miniGi to the cell surface (**Fig. 3F-G**). As expected, no significant difference between CCL19- and CCL21-stimulated translocation of Halo-miniGi to the plasma membrane was detected. However, in cells expressing RFP-EEA1, activation by CCL19, and to a minor degree CCL21, resulted in co-localization of Halo-miniGi and RFP-EEA1 at endosomes (**Fig. 3H-I**). Together these results suggest that CCL19-CCR7 promotes robust G protein activation from endosomes whereas CCL21-CCR7 predominantly activates $G_{i/o}$ at the cell surface and to a modest degree from endosomes.

CCR7 assembles distinct signalosomes upon stimulation with either CCL19 or CCL21

Limited knowledge exists regarding functional outcomes of endosomal G protein signaling by internalized GPCRs, particularly chemokine receptors. Thus, to examine the impact of compartmentalized CCR7 signaling on downstream effectors, we performed unbiased mass spectrometry (MS)-based proteome profiling using APEX2. APEX2 is an engineered ascorbate peroxidase enzyme that we fused to the CCR7 carboxy-terminal and uses H_2O_2 as an oxidant to catalyze a one electron oxidation of various small molecule substrates including biotin-tyramide (**Fig. 4A**). Oxidation of biotin-tyramide leads to generation of a highly reactive and short-lived (<1 ms) biotin-phenoxyl radical that conjugates to endogenous proteins that are in close proximity to the APEX2 enzyme (~20 nm, **Fig. 4A**)[36]. Thus, the APEX2 application allows for spatiotemporal control of the biotinylation process with high precision. The resulting biotinylated proteins are then enriched with pull-down experiments using neutravidin beads, and their identities analyzed by MS (**Fig. 4A**).

The CCR7-APEX2 construct expressed well at the cell surface (**Fig. S4A**) and receptor functionality construct was confirmed by assessing its ability to promote βarr1 translocation to the plasma membrane and early endosomes in response to CCL19 challenge (**Fig. S4B**). Additionally, CCL19 or CCL21 stimulation inhibited forskolin-induced cAMP production equally as expected (**Fig. S4C**). In addition, we verified that the APEX2 portion of fusion proteins only biotinylates proteins in the presence of both biotin-tyramide and hydrogen peroxide as expected (**Fig. 4B**). Using neutravidin beads, we demonstrated that proteins were pulled-down from HEK293-CCR7-APEX2 cell lysates where the biotinylation process had been initiated, whereas only negligible proteins were pulled-down in untreated cells (**Fig. 4C**). Together these results indicate that both receptor and APEX2's enzyme functions of the CCR7-APEX2 fusion are intact.

Using our experimental setup, we stimulated HEK293-CCR7-APEX2 cells pretreated with biotin-tyramide with either CCL19 or CCL21 for 0 minute, 2 minutes, 10 minutes or 25 minutes. Hereafter, the biotinylation reaction was initiated by addition of hydrogen peroxide for exactly 1 min, followed by extensive washing, cell lysis, enrichment of biotinylated proteins, and MS profiling.

From the MS profiling we identified a total of 584 proteins, whose enrichment was changed significantly upon stimulation with either CCL19 or CCL21 ($p < 0.05$ and change in intensity of $\log_2 > 1$) (**Fig. S5A-C**). Among robustly enriched proteins by CCR7 activation, several are involved in functions related to vesicle trafficking, signal transduction, cytoskeletal dynamics, and cell migration among others (**Fig. 5A**). Furthermore, as CCR7 is trafficked from the plasma membrane to endosomes within the first minutes of stimulation, we also included functionally validated APEX2-fused spatial references, PM-APEX2, ENDO-APEX2, and CYTO-APEX2 to control for

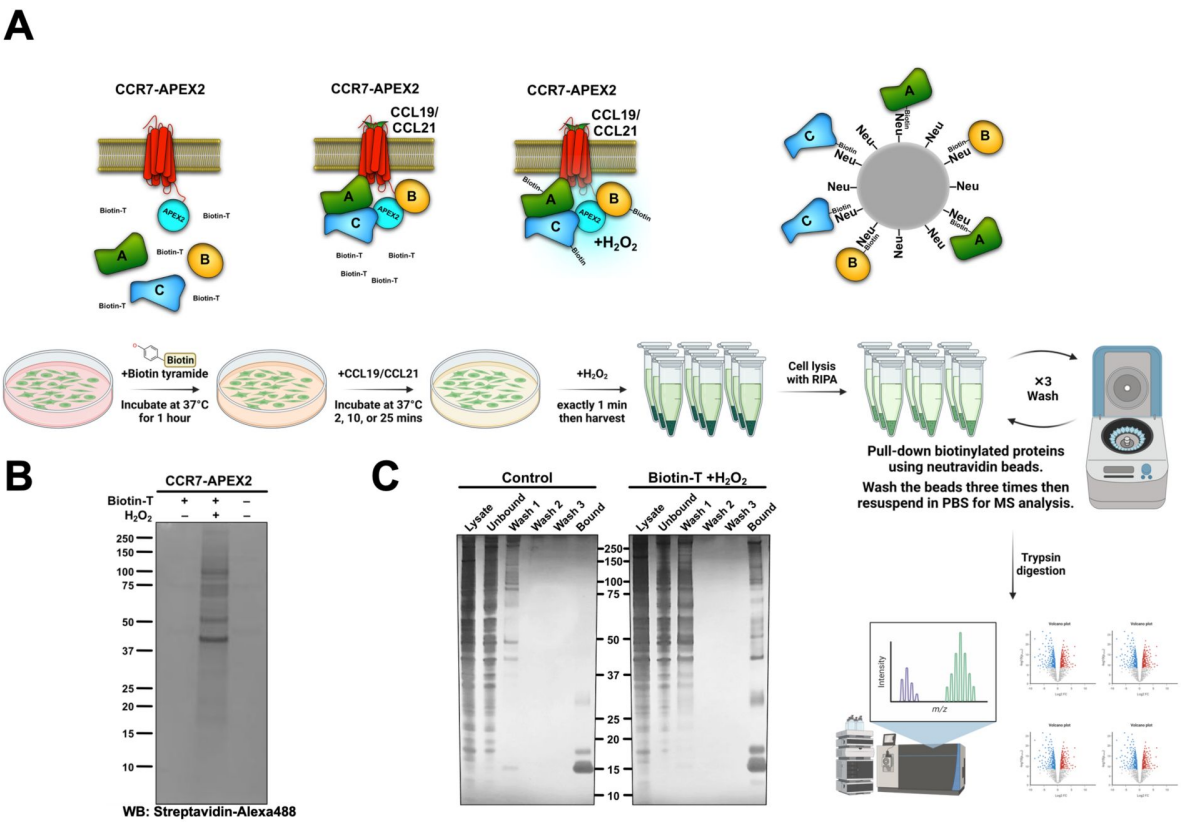


Figure 4.

APEX2-mediated biotinylation of proteins in proximity of CCR7.

(A) Schematic illustration of the workflow behind CCR7-APEX2-mediated biotinylation created with BioRender.com. First, the cells are loaded with biotin-tyramide (biotin-T) followed by stimulation of CCR7 by 100 nM CCL19 or CCL21 for 0 min, 2 min, 10 min, or 25 min. For the last 1 min of chemokine-stimulation hydrogen peroxide is added, which initiates the APEX2-mediated oxidation of biotin-tyramide into highly reactive and short-lived radicals. These radicals bind to proteins within close proximity to the APEX2 enzyme (~20nm), and thus, label proteins that are in complex with or in close proximity chemokine-stimulated CCR7. Next, the cells are lysed and the resulting biotinylated proteins are captured on neutravidin (Neu) beads followed by extensive washing. Finally, all biotin-labeled proteins are eluted, identified, and analyzed by LC-MS. (B) Western blot analysis of HEK293-CCR7-APEX2 cell lysates, which shows that the biotinylation only takes place in the presence of both biotin-tyramide and hydrogen peroxide. Biotinylated proteins were detected using streptavidin-alexa488. (C) Silver staining of the pull-down experiments demonstrating that the enrichment of biotinylated proteins using neutravidin-coated beads is highly specific. In the control sample, the bound fraction only displays neutravidin band on the SDS-PAGE, whereas the labeled sample shows multiples bands of biotinylated proteins.

the potential increase in random collisions between CCR7 and endosomal proteins that might occur upon receptor internalization (**Figs. 5B-D** and **S6**)[37]. Proteins enriched by both ENDO-APEX2 (as compared to both CYTO-APEX2 and PM-APEX2) and chemokine-stimulated CCR7-APEX2 include SNX3, RAB9A, ARH, and CCD93 (**Fig. 5A** and **5D**). Thus, these proteins might be enriched by CCR7-APEX2 due to chemokine-stimulated translocation from the plasma membrane to endosomes rather than participating in multiprotein functional complexes or signalosomes forming at CCR7.

As expected, proteins involved in receptor and vesicular trafficking including RIC1, SNX17, VA0D1, ARRB2, and DYN3, among others, were enriched over the entire time course of CCR7 activation (**Fig. 5A**). Most of these proteins were more enriched by CCL19 stimulation as compared to CCL21 challenge. In addition, we observed enrichment of endosomal proteins such as STX7, STX12, SNX3 and VTI1B for both CCL19 and CCL21 stimulation (**Fig. 5A**). Interestingly, proteins involved in lysosomal trafficking including LAMP1, VPS16, VAMP7, WDR91, and PP4P1 were enriched by CCL19 and to a lesser degree by CCL21 after 25 minutes of stimulation (**Fig. 5A**). Proteins involved in receptor trafficking via recycling endosomes or the trans-Golgi network such as SNX6, RAB7L, and GGA3 were also enriched at the later stages of CCR7 activation particularly when stimulated with CCL21 (**Fig. 5A**). In addition to these, proteins associated with the Golgi network (SNX3, COG5, YIF1A, SC22B, and AP3S1) were enriched by either CCL19 or CCL21 suggesting general CCR7 trafficking to this subcellular compartment as previously reported[24]. These results indicate that the trafficking pattern of CCR7 upon chemokine stimulation is tightly regulated between lysosomal degradation and recycling.

Among enriched signaling proteins, we observed robust enrichment of proteins regulating inositol 1,4,5-triphosphate signaling (ERLN1/2, IP3KA), diacyl glycerol signaling (DGKQ), calcium mobilization at the endoplasmic reticulum (TMCO1), and activity of the Rho GTPases (**Fig. 5A** and **5E**-G). These are all involved in signaling events downstream of heterotrimeric G protein activation. Another interesting signaling protein enriched by CCR7 activation includes a member of the eyes absent (EYA) subfamily of protein, EYA2. This protein have been shown to interact with and regulate $G\alpha_{i/o}$ and $G\alpha_{z}$ subunits[38,39], and EYA4, a member of the same family, was recently identified in a similar APEX2-based study of the μ-opioid receptor[40]. We also detected three novel interaction partners GRIP2, MARK4, and EI24 as being among the highest levels regardless of the activation ligand or time (**Figs. 5A** and **S5B**).

Endosomal $G_{i/o}$ signaling is important for Rac1 activation and chemotaxis

Rho GTPases such as RhoA, Rac1, Cdc42 regulate important aspects of chemotactic cell migration[22]. Activity of these effectors are regulated by other proteins such as Rho GTPase-activating proteins (GAPs), Rho guanine nucleotide exchange factors (GEFs), and Rho GDP dissociation inhibitors (GDIs) (**Fig. 5E**). Our APEX2-based proteomics results demonstrate that a number of these Rho GTPase regulators are enriched by chemokine-stimulation of CCR7, and thus, potentially form part of larger CCR7 signalosomes that control downstream Rho GTPase activity (**Fig. 5F-G**). Interestingly, some of these regulators, including RHG26, ARG28, RHG29, ACK1, and BORG5, were differentially enriched upon CCL19 or CCL21 stimulation (**Fig. 5F**). Therefore, it is possible that CCR7 signaling modulates activity of cell migratory Rho GTPases specifically at distinct cellular locations. To test this hypothesis, we focused on RhoA, Rac1, and Cdc42. Upon activation of RhoA, Rac1, and Cdc42, recruit protein kinase N1 (PKN1), p21 activated kinase 1 (PAK1), and Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome protein 1 (WAS1), respectively. We assessed the proximity of these biosensor pairs[41,42] in real-time upon chemokine stimulation by the NanoBiT approach in HEK293-CCR7 cells (**Fig. 6A**). Using this setup, we found that both CCL19 and CCL21 stimulated RhoA and Cdc42 activation to a similar extent, which indicates that the spatial aspect of G protein activation does not appear to influence RhoA and Cdc42 signaling (**Fig. 6B-C** and **6F-G**). In contrast, CCL19 promoted Rac1 signaling to a significantly greater extent than CCL21

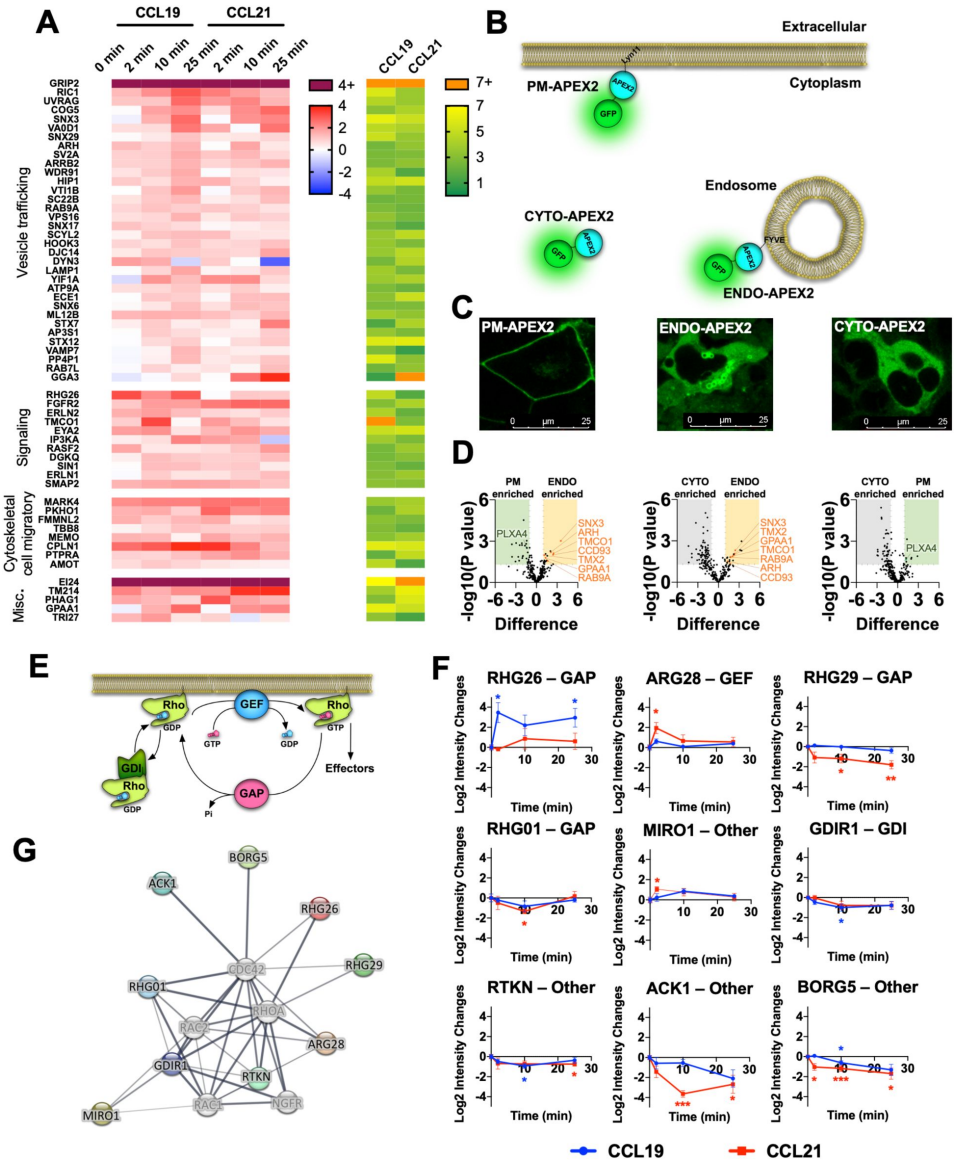


Figure 5.

Identification of protein enrichment in the proximal proteome of CCR7 following agonist stimulation.

(A) Heatmap visualizing select proteins with significant increase ($p < 0.05$ and Log_2 fold-increase > 1) in the proximal proteome of CCR7 for at least one timepoint following chemokine stimulation. Data represent the mean of N=4 experiments. The proteins are clustered according to their function with corresponding significance score, which was calculated by combining the absolute value of Log_2 fold-change and −Log10 p value as previously suggested[65]. (B) Schematic representation showing organelle markers fused to APEX2 used for spatial controls. (C) Confocal microscope images of HEK293-CCR7 cells expressing each of the organelle markers (PM-APEX2, ENDO-APEX2, and CYTO-APEX2) at their respective subcellular locations. (D) Volcano plots of enrichment differences of PM vs CYTO, ENDO vs PM, and ENDO vs CYTO, respectively. Proteins represented as green dots are significant in PM-CYTO/ENDO-PM pair for plasma membrane protein, and red dots in ENDO-CYTO/ENDO-PM pair for endosomal proteins. (E) Schematic illustration showing the roles of RhoGAP, RhoGEF, and RhoGDI in regulation of the family of Rho-GTPase function. (F) Differential enrichment of RhoGAP, RhoGEF, RhoGDI and other proteins that regulate Rho-GTPase signaling with significant change in the CCR7 proximal proteome following chemokine stimulation. Student's t tests were applied to determine statistical differences between unstimulated cells and chemokine stimulation at different time points (*$p < 0.05$; **$p < 0.01$; ***$p < 0.001$) (G) Interaction network of RhoGAP, RhoGEF, and RhoGDI proteins with significant change in the CCR7 proximal proteome following chemokine stimulation.

stimulation (**Fig. 6D-E**). No change in RhoA, Rac1, or Cdc42 activity upon CCL19/CCL21 challenge was detected HEK293 cells that do not express CCR7 (**Fig. S7A-C**). However, CXCL12 stimulation led to enhanced activity of RhoA, Rac1, or Cdc42 in HEK293 cells, which express CXCR4 (**Fig. S7D-F**). Pre-incubating the HEK293-CCR7 cells with the $G_{i/o}$ inhibitor PTX, virtually eliminated the chemokine-induced activation of Rac1, indicating that CCR7-stimulateted Rac1 signaling is mediated via a $G_{i/o}$-dependent mechanism (**Fig. 6H-I**). Interestingly, pre-treatment of the HEK293-CCR7 cells with the endocytosis inhibitor Dyngo-4a[7] reduced chemokine-stimulated CCR7 internalization and Rac1 activation robustly (**Fig. 6J-K** and **S7G-H**). This reduction was significantly smaller as compared to cells pre-incubated with an inactive Dyngo compound[7] (**Figs. 6J-K** and **S7G-H**). Furthermore, overexpression of the hemagglutinin-tagged dominant negative dynamin 1 K44A mutant (HA-Dyn-K44A) diminished chemokine-activated CCR7 internalization and Rac1 activity suggesting that CCR7-mediated Rac1 activation depends on receptor internalization (**Figs. 6L-M** and **S7I-K**). Also, pre-incubating the cells with the endocytosis inhibitor PitStop2, which acts on clathrin rather than dynamin, led to a severe reduction in chemokine-stimulated CCR7 internalization and Rac1 activity (**Figs. 6N-O** and **S7L-M**). Finally, we mutated all potential serine/threonine phosphorylation sites in the carboxy-terminal tail of CCR7 and found that this CCR7-ΔST construct expresses well at the cell surface, but does not internalize upon CCL19 stimulation (**Fig. S7N-P**). When expressed in HEK293 cells, the ability of CCR7-ΔST to activate Rac1 in response to chemokine-stimulation is severely reduced as compared to signaling by internalized CCR7 as a mechanism to activate Rac1.

As Rac1 is a key regulator of chemotaxis, we next tested the ability of CCL19 and CCL21 to promote cell migration of endogenously CCR7-expressing Jurkat T cells[43] towards either CCL19 or CCL21. As in HEK293-CCR7 cells, CCL19 and CCL21 stimulation led to similar inhibition of forskolin-stimulated cAMP production in Jurkat T cells confirming that CCR7 activation by either chemokine results in comparable stimulation of $G_{i/o}$ signaling (**Fig. 7A**). Interestingly, Jurkat T cells migrated more efficiently towards a gradient of CCL19 as compared with CCL21, which was assessed by the transwell chemotaxis assay (**Fig. 7B**). These findings raised the possibility that endosomal $G_{i/o}$ signaling plays a major role in chemotaxis. To test this hypothesis, we pre-treated the Jurkat T cells with the $G_{i/o}$ inhibitor PTX, which almost completely abolished the ability of the cells to migrate towards both CCL19 and CCL21 (**Fig. 7C**). Interestingly, pre-incubation with the endocytosis inhibitors Dyngo-4a or PitStop2 led to a significant reduction in chemotaxis of both CCL19 and CCL21-stimulated cells as compared to the inactive Dyngo or PitNot compounds, respectively (**Fig. 7D-E**). Finally, as CCR7-mediated endosomal $G_{i/o}$ signaling was shown to enhance Rac1 activity, we pre-treated Jurkat T-cells with the Rac1 inhibitor EHT1864. As expected, EHT1864 reduced Jurkat T-cell chemotaxis towards both CCL19 and CCL21 (**Fig. 7F**). Collectively, these finding suggest that endosomal $G_{i/o}$ signaling by internalized CCR7 promote chemotaxis of Jurkat T cells.

Discussion

Historically, GPCRs have been thought to activate heterotrimeric G proteins exclusively from the cell surface, which leads to downstream signaling events that regulate cell physiological responses. This G protein signaling has been characterized as short-lived due to a specialized desensitization mechanism that includes receptor phosphorylation by GPCR kinases and subsequent recruitment of βarrs to the phosphorylated receptor. The GPCR–βarr interaction both uncouples G protein from the receptor and promotes receptor endocytosis, which are hallmarks of receptor desensitization.

This paradigm, however, has been challenged by multiple observations, which show GPCRs that continue to activate G proteins from internalized compartments, such as from endosomes. Paradoxically, GPCRs that promote endosomal G protein signaling most substantially include receptors such as the V_2R, parathyroid hormone receptor 1, protease-activated receptor type 2, and neurokinin 1 receptor that all associate strongly with βarrs via phosphorylation site clusters

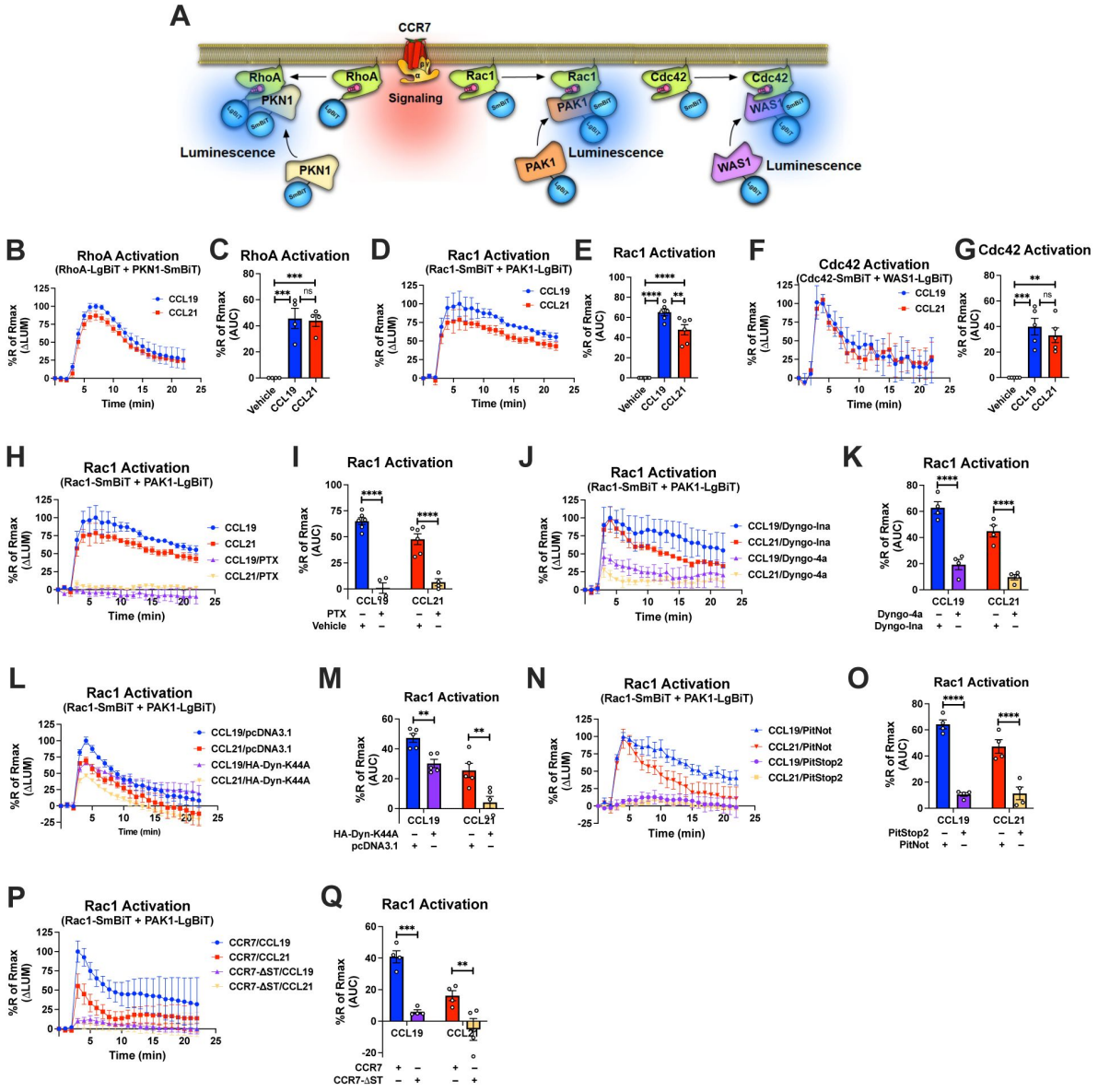


Figure 6.

Compartmentalized CCR7 signaling and regulation of RhoA, Rac1, and Cdc42 signaling as well as chemotaxis.

(A) Schematic description of the RhoA/Rac1/Cdc42 NanoBiT assay. (B, D, and F) Change in luminescence measured upon stimulation of HEK293-CCR7 cells expressing (B) SmBiT-PKN1/LgBiT-RhoA, (D) SmBiT-Rac1/LgBiT-PAK1, or (F) SmBiT-Cdc42/LgBiT-WAS1 in response to 100 nM CCL19 or 100 nM CCL21 stimulation. The response to chemokine stimulation was normalized to vehicle control. (C, E, and G) Area under the curve (AUC) was used to calculate the total (C) RhoA, (E) Rac1, and (G) Cdc42 activity response for each chemokine ligand. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=4-6 experiments. (H, J, L, and N) HEK293-CCR7 cells were either pre-treated with (H) 100 ng/ml PTX or control buffer for 16 hours, (J) 30 μM of the endocytosis inhibitor Dyngo-4a or the inactive Dyngo control compound for 30 minutes, (L) co-transfected with the dominant negative HA-Dyn-K44A mutant or mock pcDNA3.1 control plasmid, or (N) pre-treated with 10 μM of the endocytosis inhibitor PitStop2 or the inactive PitNot control compound for 30 minutes. (P) HEK293 cells were co-transfected with either wild-type CCR7 or CCR7-ΔST. (H, J, L, N, and P) Changes in luminescence were measured upon stimulation of HEK293-CCR7 cells expressing SmBiT-Rac1/LgBiT-PAK1 in response to 100 nM CCL19 or 100 nM CCL21 stimulation. The response to chemokine stimulation was normalized to vehicle control. (I, K, M, O, and Q) AUC was used to calculate the total Rac1 activity response for each condition. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=4-6 experiments. (C, E, and G) One-way ANOVA or (I, K, M, O, and Q) two-way ANOVA with (C, E, and G) Tukey's or (I, K, M, O, and Q) Sidak's multiple comparison post hoc tests were performed to determine statistical differences between the distinct treatments (*$p < 0.05$; **$p < 0.01$; ***$p < 0.001$; ****$p < 0.0001$).

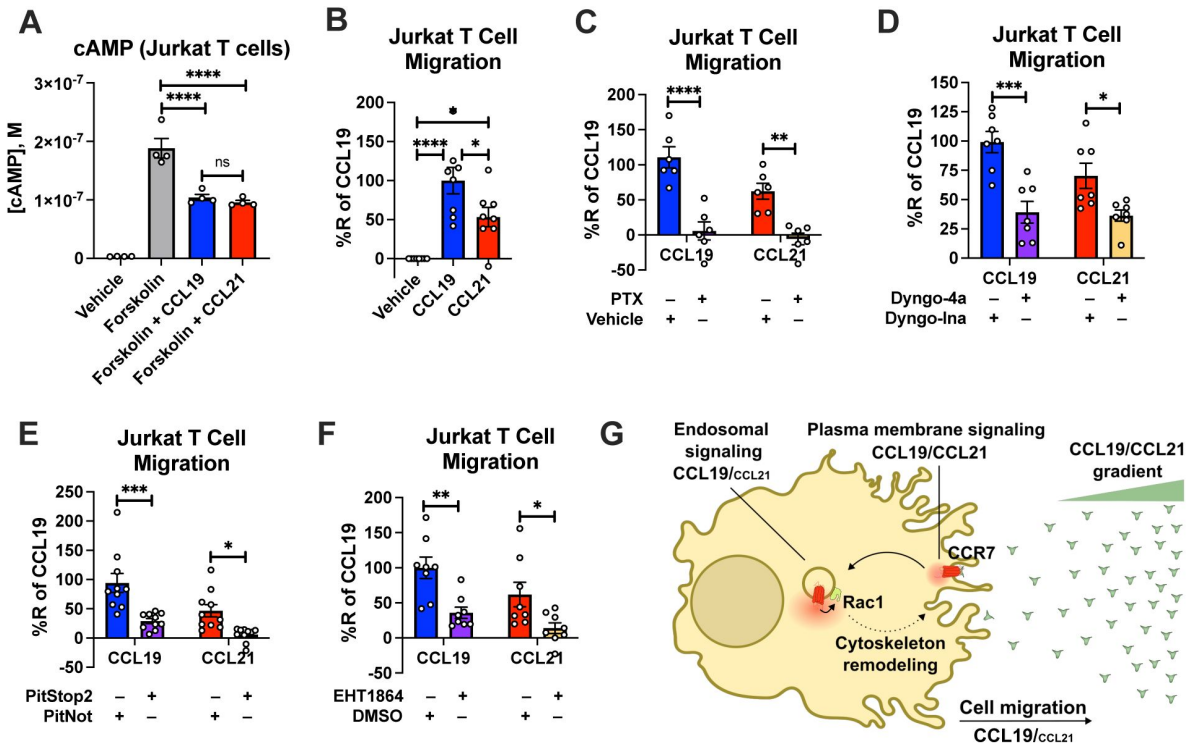


Figure 7.

CCR7-mediated chemotaxis of Jurkat T-cells.

(A) CCR7 stimulation of $G_{i/o}$ signaling in Jurkat T cells. Jurkat T cells were challenged with 10 µM forskolin (or vehicle buffer) to increase cAMP production either with or without 100 nM CCL19 and 100 nM CCL21. The accumulation of cAMP was determined using the Cisbio cAMP dynamic assay. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=4 experiments. (B) Chemotaxis of Jurkat T cells towards a gradient of 100 nM CCL19, 100 nM CCL21, or vehicle control. Total cells migrated through the transwell chamber were normalized to the CCL19 response. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=8 experiments. (C-F) Chemotaxis of Jurkat T cells that were either pre-treated with (C) 100 ng/ml PTX or control buffer for 16 hours, (D) 30 µM of the endocytosis inhibitor Dyngo-4a or the inactive Dyngo control compound for 30 minutes, (E) 10 µM of the endocytosis inhibitor PitStop2 or the inactive PitNot control compound for 30 minutes, (F) or 10 µM of the Rac1 inhibitor EHT1864 or DMSO-containing control buffer for 30 minutes. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=6-10 experiments. (A-B) One-way ANOVA or (C-F) two-way ANOVA with (A and C-F) Sidak's or (B) Tukey's multiple comparison post hoc tests were performed to determine statistical differences between the distinct treatments (*$p < 0.05$; **$p < 0.01$; ***$p < 0.001$; ****$p < 0.0001$). (G) Schematic illustration of how endosomal CCR7 signaling promotes chemotaxis.

located at their carboxy-terminal tail[7,9,12,44,45]. Recently, we demonstrated that GPCRs with these carboxy-terminal clusters associate with βarrs exclusively through this region to form tail conformation GPCR–βarr complexes[16]. Since βarrs do not block the G protein-binding site in this tail conformation, the receptor can associate with βarrs and G proteins simultaneously to form GPCR–G protein–βarr megaplexes[9,19]. The assembly of these megaplexes allows the receptor to continue to stimulate G protein signaling while being internalized into endosomes by βarrs.

The chemokine receptor CCR7 contains serine/threonine phosphorylation site clusters on its carboxy-terminal tail (**Table 1**), which have been shown to be fully phosphorylated upon CCL19 stimulation, but not CCL21 stimulation[25,26]. In the present study, we also found a correlation between this reported CCR7 phosphorylation pattern, formation of tail conformation CCR7–βarr1 complexes, simultaneous recruitment of G protein and βarr to CCR7, robust endosomal G protein signaling, Rac1 signaling, and cell migration (**Figs. 1**-**3**, **6D-E, 6H-Q**, and **7A-F**). As most chemokine receptors also contain serine/threonine clusters in their carboxy-terminal tails similar to CCR7, it not only raises the possibility that these receptors can promote endosomal G protein signaling, but also that this mode of signaling regulates important aspects of the physiological functions associated with these receptors (**Table 1**). In fact, removing the carboxy-terminal tail or mutating its phosphorylation sites in the chemokine receptors CXCR1-4 reduces their ability to internalize and promote cellular chemotaxis towards a chemokine-gradient[46–48]. Similar reduction in Akt signaling and chemotaxis of immune cells towards gradients of different chemokines were observed upon pharmacological inhibition of endocytosis[49,50]. Additionally, removal of intracellular loops in CXCR4 reduces G protein activation and is associated with decreased capacity of CXCR4 to promote cell migration indicating a co-dependency of G protein signaling and receptor internalization on this cell physiological function[46]. Notably, the chemokine receptor CCR1 displays constitutive G protein activation and internalization in HEK293 cells by a mechanism where $G\alpha_{i/o}$ and βarr complex with the receptor simultaneously[51]. This constitutive CCR1-mediated G protein activation from internalized compartment was reported to stimulate cell migration. Finally, sustained $G_{i/o}$ signaling by internalized sphingosine-1-phophate type 1 receptor has been shown to promote cell migration in human umbilical vein endothelial cells[14]. Thus, previous observations together with our results are supportive of certain aspects of cell migration being regulated by internalized chemokine receptor signaling.

To obtain a greater understanding of the impact of endosomal chemokine receptor signaling on cell physiological responses, we applied an unbiased MS-based proteome profiling approach using CCR7-APEX2 expressing HEK293 cells. We found that CCR7 activation leads to enrichment of multiple proteins of key functions including vesicle trafficking, signal transduction, and cytoskeletal dynamics/cell migratory, among others (**Fig. 5A**). The proteins GRIP2 and EI24 were among the most enriched following CCR7 activation. GRIP2 and EI24 have not previously been reported as having roles in GPCR biology. GRIP2 has been shown to bind AMPA ionotropic glutamate receptors via PDZ-domains to regulate their intracellular trafficking[52,53]. Whether GRIP2 plays similar role in the trafficking of chemokine receptors remains to be tested. EI24 is a protein whose expression is enhanced by p53 activation, and plays a role in in growth suppression and apoptosis as well as in autophagy through formation of degradative autolysosomes[54]. As with GRIP2, the potential role of EI24 in chemokine receptor biology is unknown. Another highly enriched protein was cytosolic EYA2, which interacts with members of the *Sine oculis* (Six) family of homeodomain transcription factors. This interaction facilitates the translocation of EYA proteins into the nucleus, where the EYA/Six complex regulates transcription of a number of genes involved in development and cancer[55]. Interestingly, EYA2 can interact directly with $G\alpha_{i/o}$ and Gαz subunits and regulate their activity[38,39]. This interaction prevents their translocation to the nucleus, and thus, block their role as transcription co-factors[38]. Coincidently, EYA4 was recently identified in a similar APEX2-based study of the μ-opioid receptor, and thus, might be more involved in downstream signaling responses of $G_{i/o}$-coupled receptors such as chemokine receptors than currently appreciated[40].

Another protein that was robustly enriched upon CCR7-APEX2 activation was the Rho GTPase GAP RHG26. Notably, this enrichment was exclusively observed when HEK293-CCR7-APEX2 cells were stimulated by CCL19, but much less by CCL21 (**Fig. 5A** and **5F**). Other regulators of Rho GTPases were also enriched by CCR7 activation and some of them were differentially enriched by either CCL19 or CCL21 stimulation (**Fig. 5F**). These results raise the possibility that CCR7 assembles compartment-specific signalosomes that could play an important role in downstream Rho GTPase activity. In fact, we discovered that the Rho GTPase Rac1 was specifically activated by G protein signaling by internalized CCR7 whereas the Rho GTPases RhoA and Cdc42 were stimulated equally by plasma membrane and endosomal CCR7 signaling (**Fig. 6**). Rac1 plays a key role in cell migration, which we further demonstrated in this study (**Fig. 7F**), and can be activated in endosomes by RhoGEFs such as Tiam1 and Vav1[21,24]. Previously, a chemokine-stimulated association between CCR7 and Vav1 at endomembranes was reported, which depends on recruitment of βarrs and Src[24]. The formation of this signaling complex was shown to directly activate Rac1. In contrast to our findings, the formation of this signaling complex did not depend on $G_{i/o}$ protein and occurred mostly at the Golgi network[24]. Interestingly, we also observed an enrichment of Golgi network proteins upon CCL19 and CCL21 stimulation of the CCR7-APEX2 construct (**Fig. 5A**), which raises the possibility that Rac1 can be activated by distinct CCR7-mediated mechanisms at different subcellular compartments.

Activation of Rac1 leads to its translocation to the cell surface via recycling endosomes, a process reported to occur in response to stimulation of CCR7 as well as several receptor tyrosine kinases (**Fig. 7G**)[21,24]. From this subcellular region, Rac1 activates the major effector PAK1, which phosphorylates LIM kinase and cortactin, among others, to coordinate actin polymerization at the plasma membrane region[56]. This polymerization leads to formation of cytoskeletal actin filaments that serve as underlying stabilizing structures of newly formed filopodia and lamellipodia[56]. As these membrane protrusions constitute a major mechanistic step during cell migration, endosomal Rac1 activation plays a central role in this cell physiological process[22]. To this end, we found that CCL19 triggers chemotaxis of Jurkat T cells more robustly as compared to CCL21 despite both chemokines activating CCR7-mediated G protein signaling to the same extent (**Fig. 7A-B**). Similar findings that demonstrate CCL19's superior ability to promote chemotaxis of other CCR7-expressing cells as compared to CCL21 have previously been reported[25,57–60]. Furthermore, using pharmacological intervention we demonstrated that $G_{i/o}$ signaling from internalized compartments play a significant role in the chemotaxis response to CCR7 activation (**Fig. 7C-E**). Thus, the findings from our study highlight endosomal G protein signaling by some chemokine receptors as a potential mechanism that regulates key aspects of cell migration.

Materials and methods

Reagents

Hank's balanced salt solution (HBSS), forskolin, G418, HEPES, NaCl, phosphate saline buffer (PBS) tablets, 3-isobutyl-1-methylxanthine (IBMX), KCl, $MgCl_2$, $NaHCO_3$, NaH_2PO_4, glucose, sodium ascorbate, sodium azide, biotin-tyamide, sodium deoxycholate, Tris-HCl, H_2O_2, sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS), phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF), ethanol, chloroacetamide (CAA), Tween-20, tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine (TCEP), ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA), $CaCl_2$, and rabbit anti-β-tubulin antibody (cat. no. T2200), anti-FLAG M2-HRP conjugated antibody (Cat. A8592, Sigma-Aldrich) were all purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium (DMEM) high glucose, Opti-MEM™ reduced serum/no phenol red, Dulbecco's PBS (DPBS), fetal bovine serum (FBS), penicillin/streptomycin, Lipofectamine 3000, zeocin, puromycin, donkey anti-mouse IgG antibody conjugated to Alexa Fluor™ 488 (cat. no. A21202), SuperSignal™ West Pico PLUS Chemiluminescent Substrate, and silver stain kit were all purchased from Thermo Fisher Scientific. Coelenterazine h, coelenterazine 400a, and Deep Blue C™ were all purchased from NanoLight Technology. NeutrAvidin™ agarose, paraformaldehyde, and Triton X-100 were

purchased from Fisher Scientific. CCL19 was purchased from Chemotactics. CCL21 was purchased from GenScript. Trolox was purchased from Millipore Halo Tag ligand was purchased from Promega. Salmon sperm DNA was purchased from Invitrogen. Linear polyethyleneimine 25K (PEI) was purchased from Polysciences. Mouse anti-HA antibody (cat. no. sc-7392) was purchased from Santa Cruz. Donkey anti-rabbit IgG F(ab')2 conjugated to horseradish peroxidase (HRP; cat. no. NA9340) was purchased from Cytiva.

Plasmid constructs

Human CCR7 in pcDNA3 was previously described[26]. Human CCR7 was N-terminally tagged with an influenza hemagglutinin signal sequence followed by a FLAG-tag (MKTIIALSYIFCLVFA + DYKDDDDK) into pTWIST/CMV/Zeo and synthesized by Twist Bioscience. For CCR7 trafficking NanoBiT assays, a SmBiT[42] was C-terminally tagged to the human CCR7 sequence through a linker (GGSG) and synthesized by Twist Bioscience. The CCR7-ΔST and CCR7-ΔST-SmBiT constructs were synthesized with 11 mutations of serine and threonine residues in the receptor C-terminal tail (S348A, S356A, S357A, S364A, S365A, S367A, T372A, T373A, T374A, T375A, and S377A). For βarr1 trafficking NanoBiT assays, a SmBiT was N-terminally tagged to the human βarr1 sequence through a flexible linker (GGSGGGGSGGSSSGG) and synthesized by Twist Bioscience. In addition, the plasma membrane anchored LgBiT-CAAX and endosomally anchored LgBiT-FYVE have previously been described[61]. For proximity biotin labelling, CCR7 was N-terminally tagged with an influenza hemagglutinin signal sequence followed by a FLAG-tag, and with APEX2 added to the C-terminus through a flexible linker (GGSGGGGSGGSSSGG) and synthesized into pTwist/CMV/Puro using the EcoRI and NheI restriction sites of the vector by Twist Bioscience. Lyn11-GFP-APEX2 (PM-APEX), 2×FYVE-GFP-APEX2 (ENDO-APEX), and GFP-APEX2 (CYTO-APEX) were a kind gift from Dr. Mark von Zastrow and were designed as plasma membrane, endosomal, and cytosolic spatial references, respectively[37]. The CAMYEL biosensor was previously described[28]. RlucII-βarr1 and RlucII-βarr1-ΔFL were previously described[16,62]. The RlucII-βarr2 construct (*Renilla* Luciferase II in the carboxy-terminal of βarr2) was built by replacing the GFP10-EPAC sequence from the previously published GFP10-EPAC-RlucII[62,63] with the coding sequence of human βarr2. The rGFP-CAAX and rGFP-Rab5a are cloned into pcDNA3.1(+) and were previously described[27]. MiniGi[32] (also referred to as miniGsi) and miniGs[32] were N-terminally tagged with a LgBiT[42] through a linker (GGSG), and the LgBiT was N-terminally tagged with a nuclear export signal (MLQNELALKLAGLDINKT) via a linker (GGSG), and synthesized into pTwist/CMV using the NotI and BamHI restriction sites of the vector by Twist Bioscience. Rap1GAP[34] was C-terminally tagged with a SmBiT[42] through a linker (GSAGTGGRAIDIKLPAT) and synthesized into pTwist/CMV using the NotI and BamHI restriction sites of the vector by Twist Bioscience. Human βarr1 was also N-terminally tagged with SmBiT[42] through a linker (GGSG) synthesized by Twist Bioscience. The RlucII-miniGsi was synthesized by Twist Bioscience. The Venus tag from the NES-venus-mGsi contruct[31] was replaced by a *Renilla* Luciferase II and cloned in pTwistCMV expression vector using HindIII and NheI restriction sites of the vector. The NanoBiT-RhoA sensor comprising the SmBiT-RhoA and the LgBiT-PKN1-GDB constructs was described previously[42]. The NanoBiT-Rac1 sensor comprising the SmBiT-Rac1 and the LgBiT-PAK1-GDB constructs and the NanoBiT-Cdc42 sensor comprising the SmBiT-Cdc42 and the LgBiT-WAS-GDB constructs were generated by replacing firefly luciferase fragments of previously described Rac1 and Cdc42 constructs[41] with the NanoBiT fragments. Specifically, the human Rac1 (residues 2-192) and the GTPase-binding domain (GBD) of the human PAK1 (residues 67-150) were N-terminally fused to SmBiT and LgBiT, respectively, with a 15-amino acid flexible linker (GGSGGGGSGGSSSGG). Similarly, the human Cdc42 (residues 2-191) and the GBD of the human WAS (residues 220-288) were N-terminally fused to SmBiT and LgBiT, respectively, with the flexible linker. Coding sequence for Rac1, PAK1-GDB, Cdc42 and WAS-GBD were human codon-optimized and gene-synthesized by Genscript and inserted into the pCAGGS plasmid using an NEBuilder assembly kit. βarr2-Strawberry[9] was a gift from Prof. Larry Barak (Duke University, USA). Halo-miniGi (also referred to as miniGsi) was kindly provided by Prof. Nevin A. Lambert (Augusta University, USA). RFP-EEA1 (TagRFP-T-EEA1 cloned into pEGFP-C1 vector) and HA-Dyn-K44A (cloned into pcDNA3.1)

constructs were gifts from Silvia Corvera and Sandra Schmid (respectively Addgene plasmids #42635 and #34683). RFP-Lck (C-tRFP-Lck cloned into PCMV6-AC-RFP expression vector) was purchased from Origene (#RC100049).

Cell cultures and Transfection

HEK293 cells (Life Technologies, cat. no. R705-07) were cultured in DMEM high glucose supplemented with 10% (v/v) fetal bovine serum (FBS) and 100 U/ml penicillin/streptomycin (1% (v/v) P/S). Jurkat T cells (ATCC, cat. no. TIB-152, clone E6-1) were cultures in RPMI 1640 media supplemented with 10% FBS and 1% P/S. The cell lines were not authenticated after receiving them from the supplier.

DNA for BRET or confocal imaging experiments to be transfected was combined with salmon sperm DNA to obtain a total of 1 µg DNA/condition. PEI was combined with DNA and incubated 20 minutes before added to the cells. DNA constructs for all other experiments were transfected into the cells using Lipofectamine 3000.

Stable cell line construction

Transfected and construct-expressing HEK293 cells were placed in culture media containing 500 µg/mL G418 (HEK293-CCR7), 2 µg/mL puromycin (HEK293-CCR7-APEX2), 100 µg/ml zeocin (HEK293-CCR7 cells used to generate cell lines stably expressing PM-APEX2, ENDO-APEX2, or CYTO-APEX2), or 100 µg/mL zeocin + 100 µg/mL G418 (HEK293-CCR7-PM-APEX2, HEK293-CCR7-ENDO-APEX2, or HEK293-CCR7-CYTO-APEX2) to initiate selection of stably transfected cells. Individual clones/colonies were expanded and functional expression of constructs was verified by fluorescence imaging (PM-APEX2, ENDO-APEX2, or CYTO-APEX2), or CCL19-medtaed inhibition of forskolin-stimulated cAMP production (CCR7 and CCR7-APEX2).

CAMYEL real-time cAMP assay

The CAMYEL biosensor[28] (YFP-Epac-Rluc) transfected cells were equilibrated in HBSS supplemented with 10 mM HEPES (pH 7.4) at 37°C for 30 minutes. Coelenterazine-h was added at a final concentration of 5 µM before starting the measurement. After establishing a baseline response for 2 minutes, cells were stimulated with forskolin at a final concentration of 10 µM and the response was measured. Five minutes after the forskolin stimulation, CCL19 or CCL21 was added at a final concentration of 100 nM and the luminescence was measured for further 15 minutes. The signal was detected at 550 nm using a CLARIOstar instrument (BMG LabTech). No blinding from the different conditions was done.

BRET-based assays

Transfected cells were washed with DPBS and assayed in Tyrode's buffer (137 mM NaCl, 0.9 mM KCl, 1 mM $MgCl_2$, 11.9 mM $NaHCO_3$, 3.6 mM NaH_2PO_4, 25 mM HEPES, 5.5 mM glucose, 1 mM $CaCl_2$, pH 7.4) at 37°C. 100 nM CCL19, or 100 nM CCL21, or vehicle were added to cells and incubated at 37°C for 30 minutes. 5 minutes before reading, Renilla luciferase II (RlucII) substrate (coelenterazine 400a; Deep Blue C™) was added at a final concentration of 2.5 µM. All BRET measurements were performed using a FLUOstar Omega microplate reader (BMG Labtech) with an acceptor filter (515 ± 30 nm) and donor filter (410 ± 80 nm). BRET was calculated by dividing GFP emission by RlucII emission. No blinding from the different conditions was done.

DiscoverX PathHunter β-arrestin assay

The PathHunter protein complementation assay (DiscoverX) using the PathHunter® HEK 293 CCR7 β-Arrestin cell line was performed according to the manufacturer's protocol using and read for chemiluminescent signaling on a NovoStar plate reader (BMG Labtech). No blinding from the different conditions was done.

NanoBiT assays

Multiple NanoBiT assays were performed between CCR7-SmBiT/LgBiT-CAAX, CCR7-SmBiT/LgBiT-FYVE, LgBiT-miniG/SmBiT-βarr1, LgBiT-RhoA/SmBiT-PKN1-GDB, LgBiT-PAK1-GBD/SmBiT-Rac1, and LgBiT-WAS1-GDB/SmBiT-Cdc42 to check the interaction between each biosensor pair. NanoBiT biosensor transfected cells were equilibrated in Opti-MEM™ at 37°C for 60 minutes. Coelenterazine-h was added at a final concentration of 10 µM before starting the measurement. After establishing a baseline response for 2 minutes, cells were stimulated with CCL19 or CCL21 added at a final concentration of 100 nM and the luminescence was measured for further 20 minutes. The signal was detected at 550 nm using a PHERAstar *FSX* instrument (BMG LabTech). No blinding from the different conditions was done.

Confocal microscopy

Confocal microscopy experiments were conducted on CCR7 expressing HEK293 cells co-transfected with Halo-miniGi/βarr2-Strawberry, Halo-miniGi/RFP-Lck, or Halo-miniGi/RFP-EEA1. On the same day as the experiments, Oregon green Halo Tag ligand was added to Halo-miniGi expressing cells at a final concentration of 1 µM in the media and incubated 15 minutes at 37°C. Cells were washed 3 times with media and incubated 30 minutes for the last wash at 37°C. Media was then aspirated, replaced by Tyrode's buffer and 100 nM CCL19, 100 nM CCL21, or vehicle were added and cells incubated for 30 minutes at 37°C. Cells were fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde in PBS for 10 minutes at room temperature, washed with DPBS, incubated 10 minutes in DPBS and then DPBS replaced by Tyrode's buffer. Cells were visualized using a Leica SP8 confocal microscope and analyzed using Leica Application Suite X (LASX). The same microscope was used to determine correct subcellular localization of the PM-APEX2, ENDO-APEX2, and CYTO-APEX2 proteins in HEK293 cells. No blinding from the different conditions was done.

Co-localization analysis

Co-localization was performed using Imaris software version 9.9.1 (Bitplane, Oxford instruments, Switzerland). Cells were selected using the "surfaces" module and cells containing regions of interest were selected. Channels for each fluorophore within the selected cells were masked to exclude all other cells or noise within the image. The Coloc module was then used to calculate co-localized voxels between the different channels. Thresholds were selected based on levels of intensity. Data are reported as percentage of red volume (red voxels) above the threshold that is co-localized with green volume (green voxels) above the threshold. No blinding from the different conditions was done.

Cisbio cAMP d2 dynamic assay

HEK293-CCR7-APEX2 or Jurkat T cells were harvested and resuspended in assay buffer (500 nM IBMX + 20 mM HEPES in HBSS buffer, pH 7.4). In a white small volume 384-well plate, 5 µL of ligand buffer (assay buffer + 20 µM forskolin) containing 200 nM CCL19, 200 nM CCL21, or vehicle was mixed with 5 µL of cell suspension. The plate was incubated at room temperature for 30 minutes. Next, 10 µL of lysis buffer containing 1.25% Eu^{3+}-anti-cAMP antibody and 1.25% cAMP-d2 was added and the plate was incubated for 1 hour at room temperature. The plate was read on an PHERAstar FSX instrument (BMG LabTech) where wells were excited with light at 340 nm and emission light was measured at 615 nm and 665 nm. The TR-FRET 665 nm/615 nm ratio, which is inversely proportional with the cAMP production, was used in combination with a cAMP standard curve to calculate the cAMP production in the cells. No blinding from the different conditions was done.

Western blotting

To confirm correct biotinylation in HEK293-CCR7-APEX2, HEK293-CCR7-PM-APEX2, HEK293-CCR7-ENDO-APEX2, or HEK293-CCR7-CYTO-APEX2 cell lines, western blotting was conducted using streptavidin-Alexa488. All biotinylated proteins were visualized on an Amersham Typhoon instrument (Cytiva).

To confirm expression of HA-tagged Dynamin-K44A mutant (HA-Dyn-K44A) or β-tubulin, western blotting was performed using a mouse anti-HA antibody followed by donkey anti-mouse IgG antibody conjugated to Alexa Fluor™ 488 or rabbit anti-β-tubulin antibody followed by donkey anti-rabbit IgG F(ab')2 conjugated to HRP. Protein bands representing HA-Dyn-K44A were visualized on an Amersham Typhoon instrument (Cytiva) while bands corresponding to β-tubulin was visualized in ChemiDoc XRS+ (Bio-Rad) using SuperSignal^{TM} West Pico PLUS Chemiluminescent Substrate. No blinding from the different conditions was done.

ELISA cell surface expression

Cell surface expression of CCR7-APEX2 was evaluated using ELISA. HEK293 cells or HEK293 cells stably expressing CCR7-APEX2 were seeded in poly-D-lysine coated 96-well white plates. Cells were fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde and blocked with 2% BSA in PBS, then incubated 1 hour at room temperature with Anti-FLAG M2-HRP conjugated antibody diluted 1:10,000 in blocking buffer. Enzymatic chemiluminescence was generated by addition of SuperSignal West Pico PLUS as substrate and measured on a CLARIOstar plate reader (BMG LabTech) with the emission filter 410-80.

Cell migration

Jurkat T cells suspended in culture medium were transferred into Costar® Transwell® polycarbonate membrane inserts with 5 µm pore size (Millipore Sigma). Each insert was fitted into a well in a 24 well plate containing culture media with either vehicle control solution, 100 nM CCL19, or 100 nM CCL21. Cells were allowed to migrate from the top insert to the lower well chamber of the plate for 2 hours at 37 °C at 5% CO_2. At the end of the experiment, all migrated cells from the lower chamber were collected and transferred to a Countess™ Cell Counting Chamber Slide (Thermo Fisher Scientific) and counted using a Countess™ 3 Automated Cell Counter (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Cells used for assessment of $G_{i/o}$ protein involvement in CCR7-stimulated migration, were pretreated with 100 ng/ml PTX or vehicle control for 16 hours prior to the experiment. Cells used for assessment of the dependency of receptor internalization in CCR7-stimulated chemotaxis, were pretreated with 30 µM Dyngo-4a or inactive Dyngo control compound for 30 minutes prior to the experiment. In additional experiments the cells were pre-incubated with 10 µM PitStop2 or inactive PitNot control compound for 30 minutes prior to the experiment. Cells used for assessment of Rac1's role in CCR7-stimulated chemotaxis were pretreated with 10 µM EHT1864 or DMSO control for 30 minutes prior to the experiment. All chemotaxic responses were normalized to passive cell migration towards the control as 0% and CCL19 as 100% response. No blinding from the different conditions was done.

Data and statistical analysis

All graphs were generated and analyzed using GraphPad Prism 8 (GraphPad Software). Data are presented as mean ± SEM and N referring to the number of independent experiments (or biological replicates) that have been conducted. Differences were assessed using Student's *t* test for two comparisons and one- or two-way ANOVA and Tukey's post hoc test for multiple comparisons. $P < 0.05$ was considered significant at the 95% confidence level.

APEX2 labeling

CCR7-APEX2 transfected HEK293 cells were preincubated with 500 µM biotin-tyramide for 1 hour at 37 °C. 100 nM CCL19, 100 nM CCL21 or vehicle were added to stimulate cells for 0, 2, 10, or 25 minutes. The proximity labeling was initiated by addition of freshly diluted H_2O_2 from a 30% (v/v) stock solution to a final concentration of 1 mM. The culture media was removed exactly 1 minute later, and the cells were washed three times with ice cold quenching buffer (PBS supplemented with 10 mM sodium ascorbate, 10 mM sodium azide, and 5 mM Trolox). The cells were detached by adding 5 mL of the quenching buffer supplemented with 5 mM EDTA and incubating at room temperature for 10 minutes with agitation. Detached cells were transferred to a 15-mL conical tube and centrifuged at 1,000×g at 4°C for 10 minutes to remove the supernatant. The pellet was stored at −80°C until cell lysis.

The frozen cell pellet was lysed with 1 mL RIPA buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, 150 mM NaCl, 1% Triton X-100, 0.5% sodium deoxycholate, 0.1% SDS, pH 7.4) supplemented with 1 mM PMSF for 30 minutes at room temperature with agitation. The cell lysate was further solubilized by brief sonication and centrifuged at 12,000×g at 4°C for 10 minutes to remove any insoluble cell debris. NeutrAvidin™ agarose beads were pre-washed three times with 20 bed volumes of the RIPA buffer and incubated with the supernatant overnight at 4°C with agitation. After the incubation, the beads were washed by incubating at room temperature for 10 minutes each with 40 bed volumes of buffer A (2% SDS), buffer B (50 mM HEPES, 500 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 1% Triton X-100, 0.1% sodium deoxycholate, pH 7.4), then buffer C (10 mM Tris-HCl, 500 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 0.1% Tween-20, 0.5% sodium deoxycholate, pH 8.0) with agitation. The beads were further washed twice with 20 bed volumes of 100 mM HEPES (pH 7.4) and once with PBS (pH 7.4) to remove trace amount of detergent. Washed beads were resuspended in 100 µL PBS and subjected to mass spectrometry analysis. No blinding of the different conditions was done.

Mass spectrometry and data acquisition

Proteins on the NeutrAvidin™ agarose beads were eluted by incubating with 50 µL of 50 mM Tris-HCl, 5% SDS, 10 mM TCEP, 20 mM CAA (pH 7.4) at 90°C for 20 minutes. Eluted proteins were purified and digested on magnetic beads following SP3 workflow[64]. Eluates were transferred into clean Eppendorf tubes and mixed with SP3 magnetic beads. Proteins were precipitated by mixing with equal volume of ethanol and SP3 beads were washed three times with 200 µL of 85% ethanol to remove any traces of SDS from the elution buffer. The SP3 beads were suspended in 50 µL of 50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.4) and the proteins on the beads were digested with trypsin (4 ng/µL) at 37°C overnight. Trypsin digestion was quenched by adding TFA to a final concentration of 0.5%. Peptide digests were transferred from the magnetic beads into the clean tubes. SP3 beads were washed with 50 uL of 5% ACN 0.2% TFA. The peptides were loaded on Evotips C18 (Evosep) for subsequent LC-MS/MS analysis using Evosep One LC system coupled to Q Exactive™ HF-X Hybrid Quadrupole-Orbitrap™ MS instrument (Thermo Scientific) operating in data-independent acquisition mode (DIA). Peptides were separated online utilizing 15SPD method (88 min LC gradient length). High resolution full MS1 spectra were acquired with a resolution of 120,000, automatic gain control (AGC) target at 3,000,000 and maximum ion injection time at 60 ms, with a scan range of 350–1,650 m/z. Following each full MS1 scan, 22 data-independent high energy collisional dissociation (HCD) MS/MS scans were acquired at the resolution of 30,000, AGC target of 3,000,000 with stepped normalized collision energy (NCE) of 22.5, 25, and 27.5 Collected DIA data were analyzed using Spectronaut software (Biognosis; *https://biognosys.com/shop/spectronaut*) and searched in directDIA mode against the SwissProt subset of the human UniProt database (*http://www.uniprot.org/*). Database search was performed in integrated search engine Pulsar (Biognosis). For the database search, the enzyme specificity was set to trypsin with the maximum number of missed cleavages allowed set to two. Oxidation of methionine was searched as variable modification, whereas carbamidomethylation of cysteines was searched as a fixed modification. The false discovery rate (FDR) for peptide, protein, and site identification was set to 1%. Protein

quantification was performed on MS2 level using 3 most intense fragment ions per precursor. Proteins identified with a single peptide was removed from further analysis. The mass spectrometry raw files are accessible under MassIVE ID: MSV000090362 at *https://massive.ucsd.edu*. Subsequent data analysis steps were performed in Perseus and GraphPad Prism.

Statistical analysis of the MS data

For spatiotemporal characterization of CCR7 upon agonist stimulation, global median normalization was performed for dataset from each time points (0, 2, 10, and 25 minutes after agonist stimulation). Pairwise differential expression analysis was performed by comparing the stimulated datasets (2, 10, and 25 minutes) to the unstimulated (0 minute) dataset using t-test model, assuming equal variance for each protein being compared. For each stimulated time point, proteins with p value < 0.05 and $\log_2$(fold-change) > 1 were considered significant. Significance score for the proteins were calculated by taking the absolute value of the $\log_2$(fold-change) and adding $-\log_{10}(p \text{ value})$[65].

Proteins with relevance to Rho, Rac, or CDC42 were selected manually from the list and subjected to further analysis for the role of CCR7 in cell motility. These proteins were searched on the STRING database to build a network functional relevance.

For spatial references PM-APEX2, ENDO-APEX2, and CYTO-APEX2, global median normalization was also performed. Pairwise differential expression analysis between each pair (ENDO against PM, ENDO against CYTO, and PM against CYTO) were performed as above. For each comparison pair, proteins with p value < 0.05 and $\log_2$(fold-change) > 1 were considered significant. Then, proteins commonly appear significant for ENDO and PM from the t-tests were chosen as spatial references.

Data and material availability

The mass spectrometry raw files are accessible under MassIVE ID: MSV000090362 at *https://massive.ucsd.edu*

Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and will be fulfilled by the lead contact, Alex RB Thomsen (art8@nyu.edu). All plasmid constructs and cell lines generated by the authors will be distributed upon request.

Supplementary figures

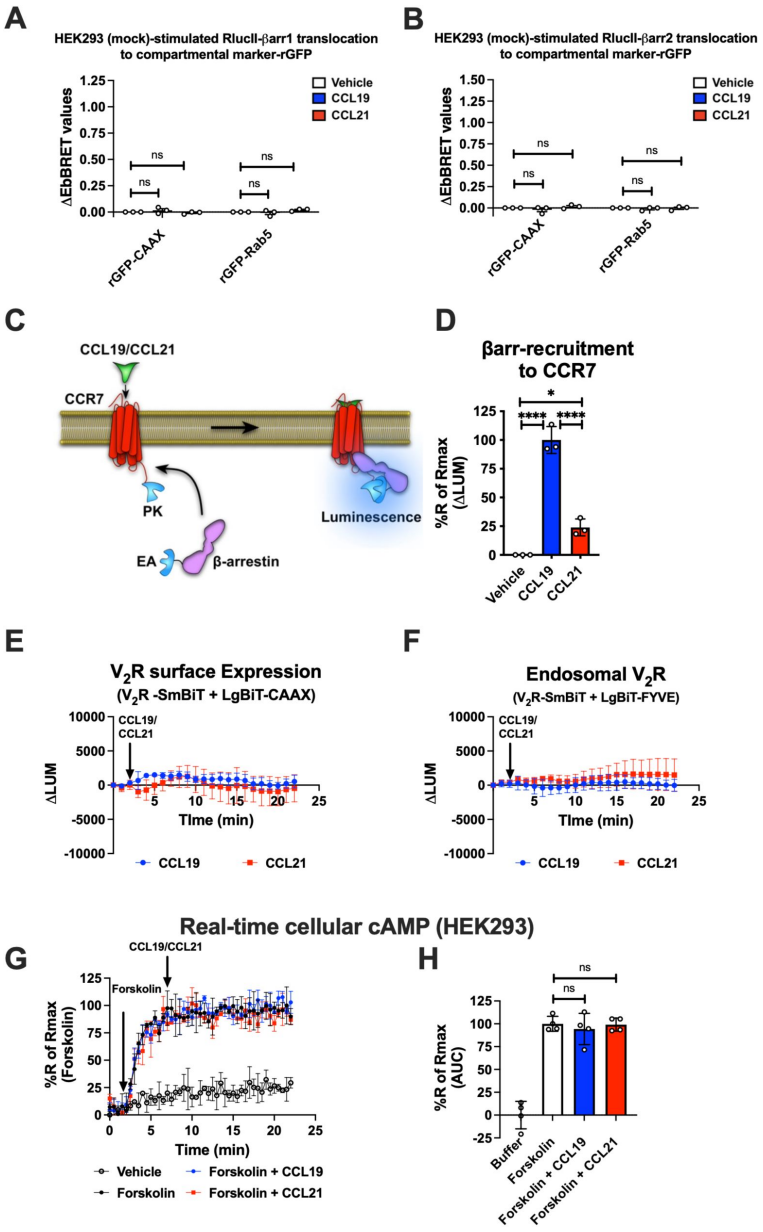


Figure S1.

(A-B) EbBRET signal between (B) RlucII-βarr1 or (C) RlucII-βarr2 recruitment to plasma membrane-anchored rGFP-CAAX or early endosome-anchored rGFP-Rab5 in response to 100 nM CCL19, 100 nM CCL21, or vehicle control stimulation in mock transfected HEK293 cells. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=3 experiments. (C) Schematic illustration of the DiscoverX enzyme fragment complementation assay used to monitor the recruitment of βarr2-EA (EA; N-terminal deletion mutant of β-galactosidase enzymatic acceptor) to CCR7-PK (PK; small enzyme donor ProLink™) upon chemokine stimulation. (D) βarr2 recruitment to CCR7 in HEK293 cells upon 100 nM CCL19, 100 nM CCL21 or vehicle control using the DiscoverX assay. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=3 experiments. (E-F) Change in luminescence signal generated between V_2R-SmBiT and (E) LgBiT-CAAX or (F) LgBiT-FYVE in response to 100 nM CCL19 or 100 nM CCL21. The response to chemokine stimulation was normalized to vehicle control. Representative data of N=3 experiments. (G) Mock transfected HEK293 cells expressing the real-time cAMP sensor CAMYEL were challenged with 10 μM forskolin (or vehicle buffer) to increase cAMP production. 5 min later, the cells were stimulated with 100 nM CCL19, 100 nM CCL21, or vehicle buffer, and inhibition of cAMP production was followed as an indirect measurement of $G_{i/o}$ activation. (H) AUC was used to calculate the total cAMP for each chemokine ligand. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=4 experiments. (D and H) One-way ANOVA with (D) Tukey's or (H) Sidak's multiple comparison post hoc test was performed to determine statistical differences between the distinct conditions (*$p < 0.05$; ****$p < 0.0001$).

Figure S2.

(A) EbBRET signal between RlucII-βarr1ΔFL recruitment to plasma membrane-anchored rGFP-CAAX or endosomally-anchored rGFP-Rab5 in response to 100 nM CCL19, 100 nM CCL21, or vehicle control stimulation in mock transfected HEK293 cells. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=3 experiments. (B) Change in luminescence measured upon stimulation of HEK293-CCR7 cells co-expressing SmBiT-βarr1 and either LgBiT-miniGi or LgBiT-miniGs in response to 100 nM CCL19 stimulation. The response to CCL19 was normalized to vehicle control. (C) Area under the curve (AUC) was used to calculate the total response for each chemokine ligand. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=4 experiments, and one-way ANOVA with Dunnett's multiple comparison post hoc test was performed to determine statistical differences between the distinct treatments (***$p < 0.001$; ****$p < 0.0001$). (D) Change in luminescence signal generated between SmBiT-βarr1 and LgBiT-miniGi in response to 100 nM CCL19 or 100 nM CCL21 stimulation in mock transfected HEK293 cells (no CCR7). The response to chemokine stimulation was normalized to vehicle control. Representative data of N=3 experiments.

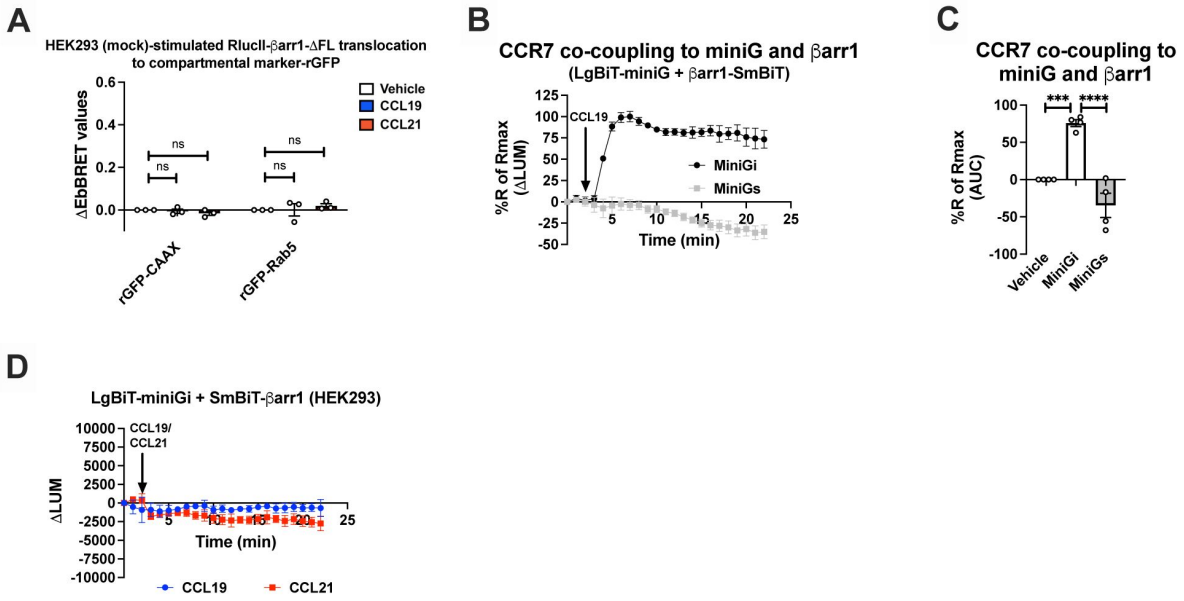
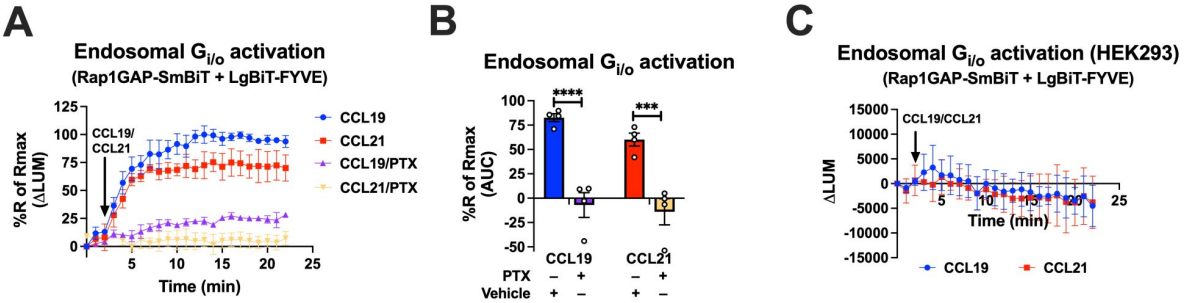


Figure S3.

(A) Change in luminescence measured upon stimulation of HEK293-CCR7 cells expressing Rap1GAP-SmBiT and LgBiT-FYVE in response to 100 nM CCL19 or 100 nM CCL21 stimulation. The response to chemokine stimulation was normalized to vehicle control. The cells had been pre-incubated with 100 ng/ml PTX or vehicle control for 16 hours. (B) Area under the curve (AUC) was used to calculate the total response for each chemokine ligand. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=4 experiments, and two-way ANOVA with Sidak's multiple comparison post hoc test was performed to determine statistical differences between the distinct conditions (***$p < 0.001$; ****$p < 0.0001$). (C) Change in luminescence measured upon stimulation of mock transfected HEK293 cells expressing Rap1GAP-SmBiT and LgBiT-FYVE in response to 100 nM CCL19 or 100 nM CCL21 stimulation. The response to chemokine stimulation was normalized to vehicle control. Representative data of N=3 experiments.



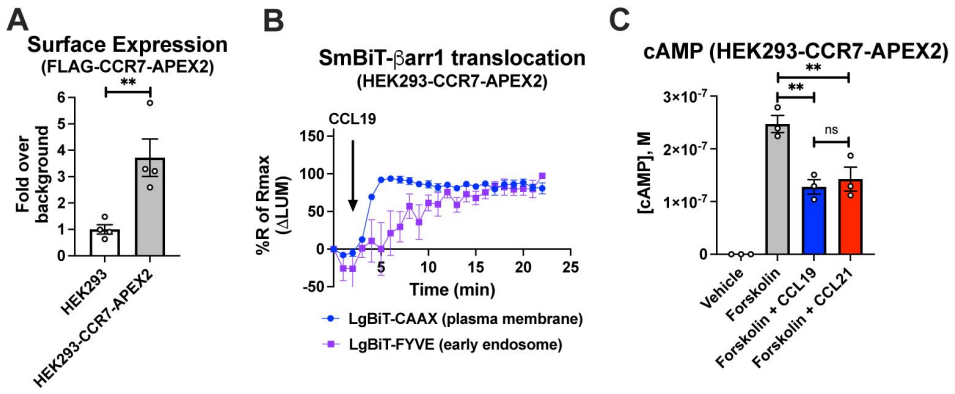


Figure S4.

Surface expression and validation of functionality of the CCR7-APEX2 construct.

(A) Surface expression of the N-terminally FLAG-tagged CCR7-APEX2 construct measured by ELISA using an anti-FLAG antibody. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=4 experiments, and student's *t* tests were performed to determine statistical differences between the distinct conditions (**$p < 0.01$). (B) Change in luminescence measured upon 100 nM CCL19 stimulation of HEK293-CCR7-APEX2 cells expressing SmBiT-βarr1 and LgBiT-CAAX or LgBiT-FYVE. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=4 experiments. (C) CCR7-APEX2 stimulation of $G_{i/o}$ signaling. HEK293-CCR7-APEX2 cells were challenged with 10 μM forskolin (or vehicle buffer) to increase cAMP production either with or without 100 nM CCL19 or 100 nM CCL21 followed by cAMP determination using the Cisbio cAMP dynamic assay. Data represent the mean ± SE of N=3 experiments, and one-way ANOVA with Sidak's multiple comparison post hoc test was performed to determine statistical differences between the distinct treatments (**$p < 0.01$).

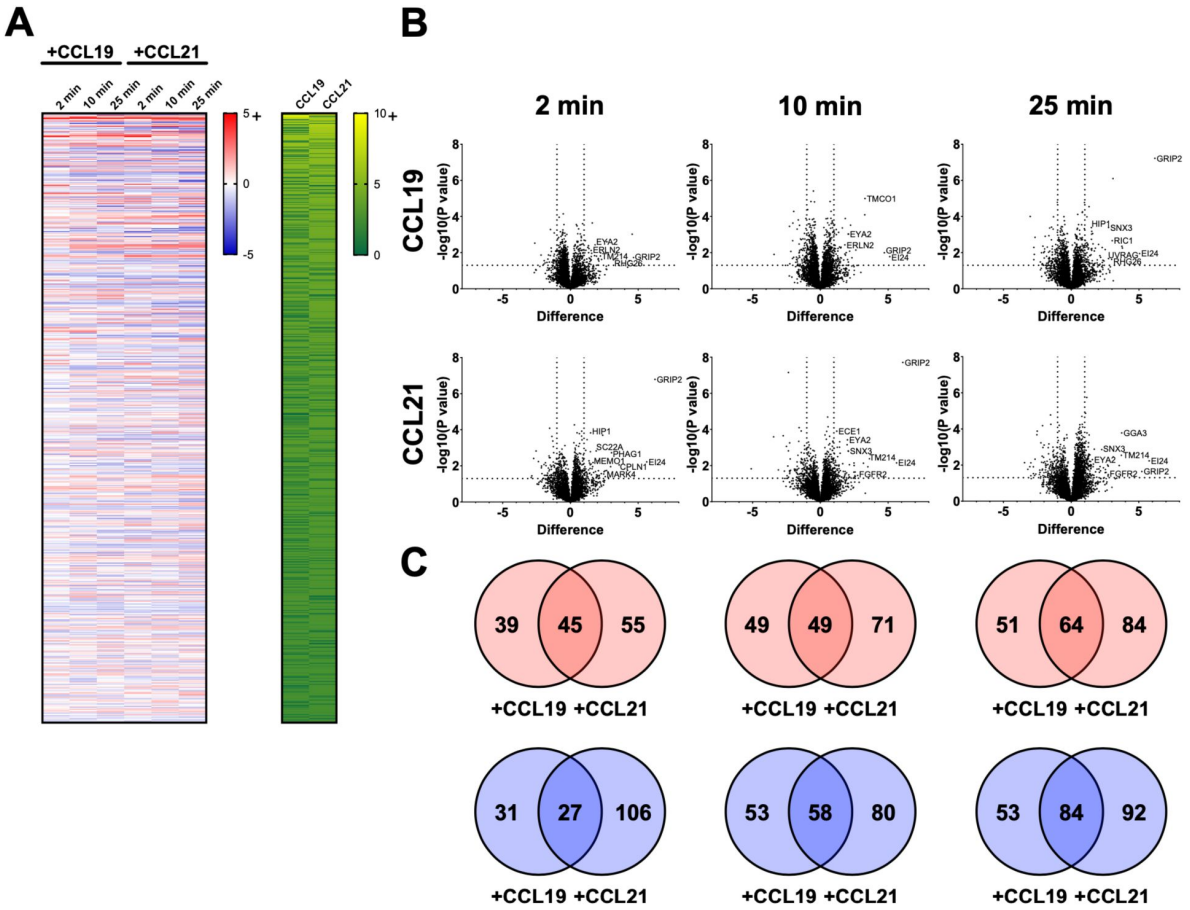


Figure S5.

Identification of enrichment in proximal proteome of CCR7 following agonist stimulation.

(A) Heatmap visualizing proteins with significant change ($p < 0.05$ and Log_2 fold-change > 1) in the proximal proteome of CCR7 for at least one timepoint following chemokine stimulation. (B) Volcano plots showing changes in CCR7 proximity proteome following agonist stimulation. Total of 5582 proteins were analyzed by Student's *t* test against the MS data from the unstimulated samples. (C) Venn diagrams displaying numbers of proteins that were enriched positively (red) or negatively (blue) in response to CCL19 and/or CCL21 stimulation for different amount of time.

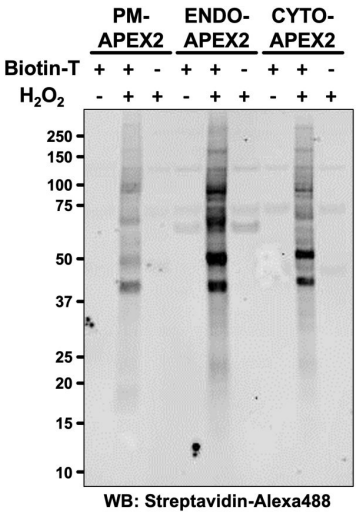


Figure S6.

Western blot analysis of HEK293 cells transfected with PM-APEX2, ENDO-APEX2, or CYTO-APEX2 shows that the biotinylation only takes place in the presence of both biotin-tyramide and hydrogen peroxide, and that they have different proximity proteome. Biotinylated proteins were detected using streptavidin-alexa488.

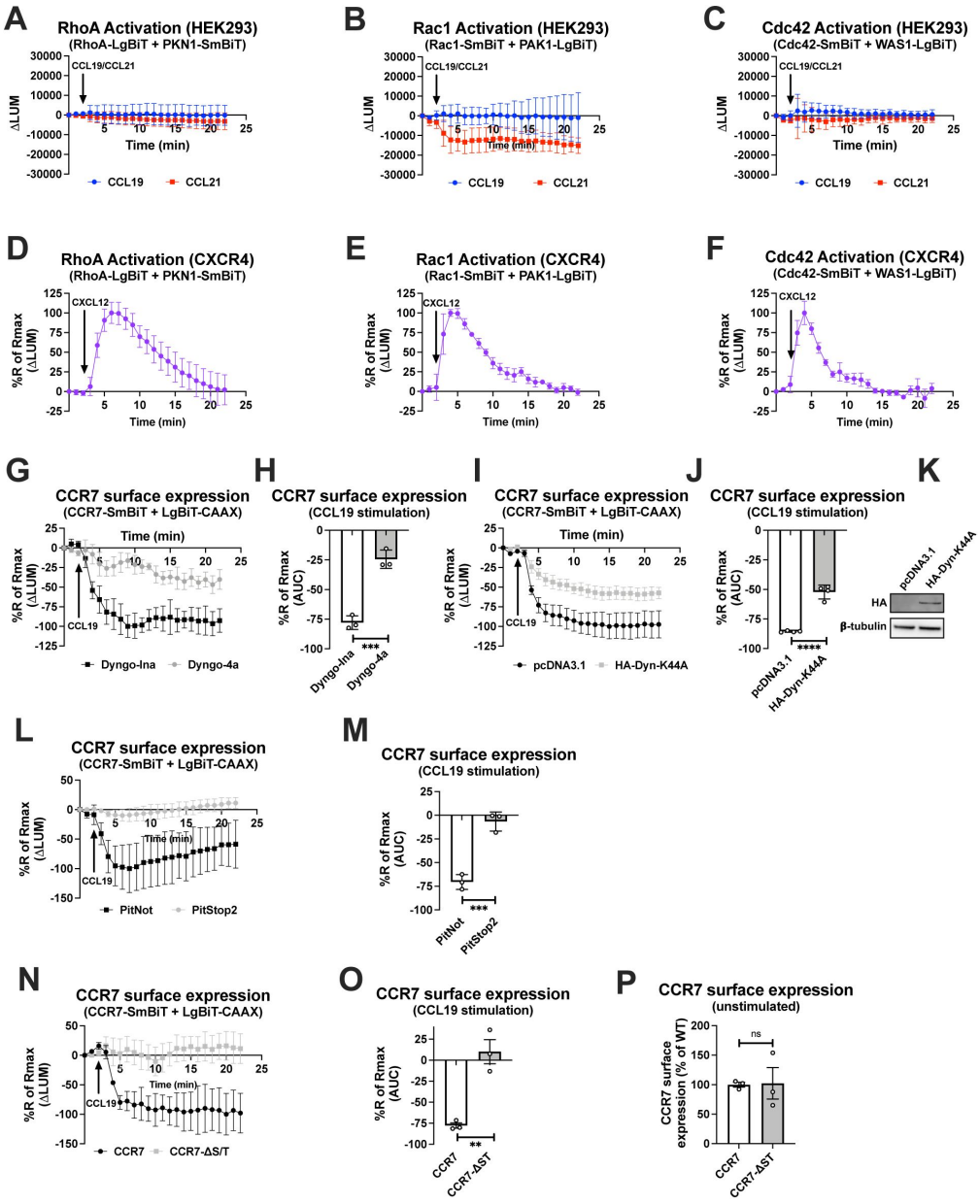


Figure S7.

(A-F) Change in luminescence measured upon stimulation of HEK293 cells expressing (A and D) SmBiT-PKN1/LgBiT-RhoA, (B and E) SmBiT-Rac1/LgBiT-PAK1, or (C and F) SmBiT-Cdc42/LgBiT-WAS1 in response to (A-C) 100 nM CCL19/CCL21 stimulation or (D-F) 100 nM CXCL12 stimulation. The response to CCL19, CCL21, and CXCL12 was normalized to vehicle control. Representative data of N=3 experiments. (G, I, and L) Change in luminescence signal in HEK293 cells between CCR7-SmBiT and LgBiT-CAAX in response to 100 nM CCL19. The response to CCL19 stimulation was normalized to vehicle control. The experiments were conducted in the presence of (G) 30 μM Dyngo-4a or the inactive Dyngo control compound, (I) overexpression of the dominant negative HA-Dyn-K44A mutant or mock transfection, (L) or pre-treatment of 10 μM PitStop2 or the inactive PitNot control compound. (N and P) Luminescence signal between LgBiT-CAAX and either wild-type CCR7-SmBiT or CCR7-ΔST-SmBiT mutant in response to (N) 100 nM CCL19 or (P) at resting state. (H, J, M, and O) Area under the curve (AUC) was used to calculate the total internalization response. (H, J, M, O, and P) Data represent the mean ± SE of N=3-4 experiments, and student's *t* tests were performed to determine statistical differences between the distinct conditions (**p<0.01; ***p < 0.001; ****p<0.0001). (K) Western blot analysis of HEK293 cells transfected with the CCR7-SmBiT/LgBiT-CAAX NanoBiT biosensors, and pcDNA3.1 (left lane) or HA-Dyn-K44A (right lane). Expression of HA-tagged proteins was detected using a primary anti-HA antibody (upper panel) and the expression of β-tubulin was visualized using a primary anti-β-tubulin antibody.

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Author contribution

Conceptualization, A.R.B.T., B.P. H.H., C.D., and J.L.IV; Methodology, H.H., C.D., J.L.IV., and A.I.; Investigation, H.H., C.D., J.L.V., N.A.P-H., E.F.E., B.P., and A.R.B.T.; Writing – Original Draft, A.R.B.T. and B.P.; Writing – Review & Editing, H.H., C.D., J.L.IV, N.A.P-H, A.I; Funding Acquisition, A.R.B.T., B.P., and A.I.; Resources, A.R.B.T., A.I., and B.P.; Supervision, A.R.B.T. and B.P.

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Author information

Hyunggu Hahn*
Department of Molecular Pathobiology, New York University College of Dentistry, New York, United States, NYU Pain Research Center, New York University College of Dentistry, New York, United States

*Contributed equally and are co-first authors

Carole Daly*
Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine, Queen's University Belfast, Belfast, United Kingdom

*Contributed equally and are co-first authors

John Little IV*
Department of Molecular Pathobiology, New York University College of Dentistry, New York, United States, Department of Surgery, Columbia University Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, United States
ORCID iD: 0000-0003-2034-2684

*Contributed equally and are co-first authors

Nicole A Perry-Hauser
Department of Surgery, Columbia University Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, United States, Present affiliation: Departments of

Psychiatry and Molecular Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, United States
ORCID iD: 0000-0003-3130-3023

Emmanuel Flores-Espinoza
Department of Molecular Pathobiology, New York University College of Dentistry, New York, United States, NYU Pain Research Center, New York University College of Dentistry, New York, United States

Asuka Inoue
Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Science, Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan, Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Science, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan

Bianca Plouffe
Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine, Queen's University Belfast, Belfast, United Kingdom
ORCID iD: 0000-0002-8321-0796

For correspondence: b.plouffe@qub.ac.uk

Alex Rojas Bie Thomsen
Department of Molecular Pathobiology, New York University College of Dentistry, New York, United States, NYU Pain Research Center, New York University College of Dentistry, New York, United States, Department of Surgery, Columbia University Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, United States
ORCID iD: 0000-0003-1638-8911

For correspondence: art8@nyu.edu

Editors

Reviewing Editor
Felix Campelo
Institute of Photonic Sciences, Barcelona, Spain

Senior Editor
Felix Campelo
Institute of Photonic Sciences, Barcelona, Spain

Reviewer #1 (Public review):

Summary:

Hahn et al use bystander BRET, NanoBiT assays and APEX2 proteomics to investigate endosomal signaling of CCR7 by two agonists, CCL19 and CCL21. The authors suggest that CCR7 signals from early endosomes following internalisation. They use spatial proteomics to try to identify novel interacting partners that may facilitate this signaling and use this data to specifically enhance a Rac1 signaling pathway. The most novel findings are the APEX2 proteomics studies that provide new mechanisms.

Strengths:

(1) The APEX2 resource will be valuable to the GPCR and immunology community. It offers many opportunities to follow up on findings and discover new biology. The authors have

used the resource to validate earlier findings in the current manuscript and in previous manuscripts.

(2) The results section is well written and can be followed very easily by the reader.

(3) Some findings verify previous studies (e.g. endomembrane signalling).

Weaknesses:

(1) The findings are interesting although the studies are almost all performed in HEK293 cells. I understand that these are commonly used in GPCR biology and current tools need to be improved in order to perform similar analyses in more relevant cell-lines. Future studies should focus on validating the findings of the current study in physiologically-relevant cell-lines.

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Reviewer #2 (Public review):

Summary:

This manuscript describes a comprehensive analysis of signalling downstream of the chemokine receptor CCR7. A comprehensive dataset supports the authors' hypothesis that G protein and beta arrestin signalling can occur simultaneously at CCR7 with implications for continued signalling following receptor endocytosis.

Strengths:

The experiments are well controlled and executed, employing a wide range of assay, using in the main, CCR7 transfectants. Data are well presented, with the authors claims supported by the data. The paper also has an excellent narrative which makes it relatively easy to follow. I think this would certainly be of interest to the readership of the journal.

Weaknesses:

The experiments are currently representative of signalling events in HEK293 transfectants and await verification in more relevant systems e.g. T-cells and dendritic cells.

Appraisal and Discussion

Overall, the authors appear to have achieved their experimental aims and provide substantial evidence that chemokine receptors can stimulate G proteins from within endosomes to regulate signalling pathways involved in cell migration. This builds upon earlier studies from the Legler group which showed that endocytosed CCR7 could activate Rac1 and influence lamellipodia formation. An unbiased mass spectrometry-based proteome profiling approach was used by the authors of this study to identify several candidate proteins which appear to play a role in receptor trafficking and signalling downstream of CCR7. These data may provide clues as to how other chemokine receptors are regulated post endocytosis in various leukocyte subsets.

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Author response:

The following is the authors' response to the original reviews.

> ***Public Reviews:***
>
> ***Reviewer #1 (Public Review):***
>
> *Summary:*
>
> *Hahn et al use bystander BRET, NanoBiT assays, and APEX2 proteomics to investigate endosomal signaling of CCR7 by two agonists, CCL19 and CCL21. The authors suggest that CCR7 signals from early endosomes following internalisation. They use spatial proteomics to try to identify novel interacting partners that may facilitate this signaling and use this data to specifically enhance a Rac1 signaling pathway. Many of the results in the first few figures showing simultaneous recruitment of Barr and G proteins by CCR7 have been shown previously (Laufer et al, 2019, Cell Reports), as has signaling from endomembranes, and Rac1 activation at intracellular sites. The new findings are the APEX2 proteomics studies, which could be useful to the scientific community. Unfortunately, the authors only follow up on a single finding, and the expansion of this section would improve the manuscript.*

First of all, we would like to thank the reviewer for helping with the manuscript. The summary is mostly accurate except for the statement that simultaneous recruitment of barr and G protein to CCR7 has been shown before. It should also be noted that it has not been demonstrated that CCR7 activates G proteins from endosomes previously nor has the functional role of this signaling mechanism. However, that CCR7 activity at endomembranes is associated with Rac1 signaling was demonstrated in the Laufer et al. study as the reviewer correctly points out.

> *Strengths:*
>
> *(1) The APEX2 resource will be valuable to the GPCR and immunology community. It offers many opportunities to follow up on findings and discover new biology. The resource could also be used to validate earlier findings in the current manuscript and in previous manuscripts. Was there enrichment of early endosomal markers, Barr and Gi as this would provide further evidence for their earlier claims regarding endosomal signaling? Previous studies have suggested signaling from the TGN, so it is possible that the different ligands also direct to different sites. This could easily be investigated using the APEX2 data.*

Thank you for your comment. We do in fact observe enrichment of TGN/Golgi markers in response to chemokine stimulation, which we now have highlighted in the manuscript (fourth paragraph on page 7).

> *(2) The results section is well written and can be followed very easily by the reader.*

We are glad that the reviewer found the results section very readable.

> *(3) Some findings verify previous studies (e.g. endomembrane signalling). This should be acknowledged as this shows the validity of the findings of both studies.*

This is correct. We have now included more discussion of previous work related to CCR7 signaling at endomembranes (thirdparagraph on page 10).

> *Weaknesses:*
>
> *(1) The findings are interesting although the studies are almost all performed in HEK293 cells. I understand that these are commonly used in GPCR biology and are easy to*

> *transfect and don't express many GPCRs at high concentrations, but their use is still odd when there are many cell-lines available that express CCR7 and are more reflective of the endogenous state (e.g. they are polarised, they can perform chemotaxis/ migration). Some of the findings within the study should also be verified in more physiologically relevant cells. At the moment only the final figure looks at this, but findings need to be verified elsewhere.*

We thank the reviewer for raising this point and giving us an opportunity to elaborate in further detail. The major goal of our study was to investigate whether CCR7 activates G protein from endosomes, the underlying mechanism, and functions of this potential signaling mechanism. The reason we chose CCR7 as our model receptor was that it belongs to a group of GPCRs, the chemokine receptors, that most often have features associated with the ability to promote endosomal G protein activation (phosphorylation site clusters in the C-terminal region).

Specific detection of G protein activation at distinct subcellular compartments is currently very challenging in truly endogenous systems despite new innovative biosensors that are available (not just related to CCR7, but GPCRs in general). To our knowledge, most if not all studies that detect direct activation of G protein at a specific compartment whether at the plasma membrane, endosome, Golgi, or other compartments, have overexpressed either the receptor, G protein, or both. This is why we choose the HEK293 cell system for most of our experiments, which are easy to manipulate. That being said, we did confirm major findings in an indirect manner using Jurkat T-cells, which express CCR7 endogenously and are physiological relevant. Our hope is that in the future we will be able to use highly sensitive biosensors to directly confirm our findings in such a cell system as the reviewer wisely suggests.

> *(2) The authors acknowledge that the kinetic patterns of the signals at the early endosome are not consistent with the rates of internalisation. They mention that this could be due to trafficking elsewhere. This could be easily looked at in their APEX2 data. Is there evidence of proximity to markers of other membranes? Perhaps this could be added to the discussion. Similarly, previous studies have shown that CCR7 signaling may involve the TGN. Was there enrichment of these markers? If not, this could also be an interesting finding and should be discussed. It is also possible that the Rab5 reporter is just not as efficient as the trafficking one, especially as in later figures the very convincing differences in the two ligands are not as robust as the differences in trafficking.*

Excellent point. We have now highlighted the possibility of CCR7 being further trafficked to the trans-Golgi network (TGN) as possible explanation for the transient translocation of activated CCR7 to the early endosome in Fig. 1G-H (second paragraph on page 3).

Furthermore, in the APEX2 experiment we observe enrichment of proteins involved in lysosomal trafficking (LAMP1, VPS16, VAMP7, WDR91, and PP4P1) by CCL19 stimulation at 25 min, and recycling endosomes/TGN markers (SNX6, RAB7L, and GGA) by CCL21 stimulation at 25 min. In addition to this, several markers of TGN/Golgi (SNX3, COG5, YIF1A, SC22B, and AP3S1) were enriched as well in response to both CCL19 and CCL21 stimulation. We have now included a statement in the manuscript, which describes the likely trafficking of CCR7 to the TGN/Golgi in response to CCL19 and CCL21 stimulation (fourth paragraph on page 7).

> *(3) In the final sentence of paragraph 2 of the results the authors state that the internalisation is specific to CCR7 as there isn't recruitment to V2R. I'm not sure this is the best control. The authors can only really say it doesn't recruit to unrelated receptors. The authors could have used a different chemokine receptor which does not respond to these ligands to show this.*

The point with this control experiment was to demonstrate that the loss of NanoBiT signal in response to CCL19 in CCR7-SmBiT/LgBiT-CAAX expressing cells, but not in V2R-SmBiT/LgBiT-CAAX expressing cells, was a result of bona fide CCR7 internalization rather than potential artifactual effects of CCL19 on the NanoBiT system. Our intent was not to demonstrate specificity of CCL19 among chemokine receptors, which already has been thoroughly tested in previous studies. We have now modified the sentence (second paragraph on page 3) "Moreover, CCL19/CCL21-stimulation of receptor internalization to endosomes is specific to CCR7 as none of the chemokines promote internalization or trafficking to endosomes of the vasopressin type 2 receptor (V_2R)-SmBiT construct (Fig. S1E-F)" to "Moreover, CCL19/CCL21-stimulation did not promote internalization or trafficking to endosomes of the vasopressin type 2 receptor (V_2R)-SmBiT construct, which validates that these chemokines act specifically via the CCR7-SmBiT system (Fig. S1E-F)."

> *(4) The miniGi-Barr1 and imaging showing co-localisation could be more convincing if it was also repeated in a more physiological cell line as in the final figure. Imaging of CCR7, miniGi, and Barr1 would also provide further evidence that the receptor is also present within the complex.*

We agree with the reviewer's assessment. However, as mentioned above it is currently extremely challenging to detect endogenous G protein coupling/activation to endogenous receptors. In addition, we are not sure if overexpressing fluorophore-tagged receptor, miniG, and barr1 in a physiological-relevant cell line would provide truly physiological conditions as the expression of these proteins still would be artificially high. This is why we chose to conduct these mechanistic experiments in HEK293 cells and then indirectly verify key findings in an endogenous and physiological-relevant cell line.

> *(5) The findings regarding Rac1 are interesting, although an earlier paper found similar results (Laufer et al, 2019, Cell Reports), so perhaps following up on another APEX2-identified protein pathway would have been more interesting. The authors' statement that Rac1 is specifically activated, and RhoA and Cdc42 are not, is unconvincing from the current data. Only a single NanoBiT assay was used, and as raw values are not reported it is difficult for the reader to glean some essential information. The authors should show evidence that these reporters work well for other receptors (or cite previous studies) and also need evidence from an independent (i.e. non-NanoBiT or BRET) assay.*

The major focus of the study was to investigate whether CCR7 can activate G protein after having been internalized into endosomes via formation of CCR7-Gi/o-barr megaplexes, and to dissect out potential functions of said endosomal G protein signaling. To do this, we used CCL19 and CCL21 which stimulate G protein to the same extent but differ in their ability of promote barr recruitment and receptor internalization with CCL19 being superior to CCL21. To this end, we found that CCL19 also promote endosomal G protein activation to a greater extent than CCL21, and therefore, we specifically looked for proteins enriched by CCL19 in our APEX experiment. This led us to some Rho GTPase regulators that were differentially enriched by CCL19 and CCL21. We agree that there were other interesting effectors related to CCR7 biology identified in the APEX experiment such as EYA2, GRIP2, and EI24. However, those proteins were enriched similar by CCL19 and CCL21 challenge, and thus, do not seem to be activated specifically at endosomes. Following the same argument, we also did not observe any difference in the activity of RhoA or Cdc42 when stimulated with CCL19 or CCL21, so we cannot conclude that these signaling proteins are activated specifically in endosomes. On the other hand, Rac1 was stimulated to a larger degree by CCL19 than CCL21, its activity was inhibited by the Gi/o inhibitor PTX and endocytosis inhibitors Dyngo-4a and PitStop2. CCR7-mediated Rac1 signaling was also inhibited by expression of a dominant negative dynamin mutant that inhibits receptor internalization, and Rac1 was not activated by an

internalization-deficient CCR7-DS/T mutant. Finally, the involvement of Rac1 in CCR7 mediated chemotaxis of Jurkat T cells was also demonstrated. We believe that these findings together provide strong basis for the claim that endosomal Gi/o protein signaling by CCR7 activates Rac1.

Following the reviewer's suggestion, we have now included experiments to show that the activation of RhoA, Rac1, and Cdc42 by CXCR4 also can be detected by the NanoBiT biosensors (Fig. S7D-F). We have also added the appropriate references to the original studies where these biosensors were developed in the results section (first paragraph on page 8).

> *(6) At present, the studies in Figure 7 do not go beyond those in the previous Laufer et al study in which they showed blocking endocytosis affected Rac1 signalling. The authors could show that Rac1 signalling is from early endosomes to improve this, otherwise, it could be from the TGN as previously reported.*

The major purpose of Figure 7 was to indirectly confirm findings from HEK293 cells experiments and to tie them to physiological functions. Our experiments using Jurkat T-cells show that CCL19 promote stronger chemotactic response than CCL21 despite similar Gi/o response. In addition, we showed that CCR7-mediated Gi/o activation, receptor endocytosis, as well as Rac1 activity, are required to drive chemotaxis. The Laufer et al. study did not investigate whether CCR7 activates G protein after having been internalized into endosomes via formation of CCR7-Gi/o-barr megaplexes, and thus, did not focus on functional outcomes of this signaling mechanism. Based on this, we believe our work provides new and valuable knowledge to the field.

> ***Reviewer #2 (Public Review):***
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> *Summary:*
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> *This manuscript describes a comprehensive analysis of signalling downstream of the chemokine receptor CCR7. A comprehensive dataset supports the authors' hypothesis that G protein and beta-arrestin signalling can occur simultaneously at CCR7 with implications for continued signalling following receptor endocytosis.*

We would like to thank the reviewer for helping with the manuscript. We agree on all points made and have now updated the manuscript accordingly.

> *Strengths:*
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> *The experiments are well controlled and executed, employing a wide range of assays using - in the main - CCR7 transfectants. Data are well presented, with the authors' claims supported by the data. The paper also has an excellent narrative which makes it relatively easy to follow. I think this would certainly be of interest to the readership of the journal.*

We appreciate the positive assessment of strengths.

> *Weaknesses:*
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> *Since the authors show a differential enrichment of RhoGTPases by CCR7 stimulation with CCL19 versus CCL21, I think that they also need to show that the Gi/o coupling of HEK-292-CCR7-APEX2 cells to both CCL19 and CCL21 is not perturbed by the modification. Currently, the authors only show data for CCL19 signalling, which leaves the potential for a false negative finding in terms of CCL21 signalling being selectively impaired. This should be relatively easy to do and should strengthen the authors' conclusions.*

We agree with the reviewer and have now included experiments to show that both CCL19- and CCL21-mediated CCR7-APEX2 stimulation leads to Gi/o activation (Fig. S4C). In addition, our proteomics experiments show strong effects of both CCL19 and CCL21 stimulation, which suggest that the receptor is activated by both ligands.

> *The authors conclude the discussion by suggesting that their findings highlight endosomal signalling as a general mechanism for chemokine receptors in cell migration. I think this is an overreach. The authors chose several studies of CXC chemokine receptors to support their argument that C-terminal truncation or mutation of the C-terminal phosphorylation sites impairs endocytosis and chemotaxis (refs 40-42). However, in some instances e.g. at the related chemokine receptor CCR4, C-terminal removal of these sites impairs endocytosis but promotes chemotaxis (Nakagawa et al, 2014); Anderson et al, 2020). I therefore think that either the final statement needs to be tempered down or the counterargument discussed a little.*

We appreciate the reviewer highlighting this point. We have now modified the concluding sentence from “Thus, the findings from our study highlight endosomal G protein signaling by chemokine receptors as a potential general mechanism that regulates key aspects of cell migration” to “Thus, the findings from our study highlight endosomal G protein signaling by some chemokine receptors as a potential mechanism that regulates key aspects of cell migration.” We hope that the temper level of this sentence is more appropriate.

References:

Anderson, C. A. et al. A degradatory fate for CCR4 suggests a primary role in Th2 inflammation. J Leukocyte Biol 107, 455-466 (2020).

Nakagawa, M. et al. Gain-of-function CCR4 mutations in adult T cell leukaemia/lymphoma. Journal of Experimental Medicine 211, 2497-2505 (2014).

> ***Recommendations for the authors:***
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> ***Reviewer #1 (Recommendations For The Authors):***
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> *(1) The results section is well written, although the introduction needs more information on what is known about CCR7 trafficking and endomembrane signaling. I understand this is because the authors wanted to focus on GPCR signaling, but the study will equally be of interest to researchers in the immunology and chemokine fields, and therefore more CCR7-focussed discussion in the introduction would be useful. Similarly, the discussion would benefit from more discussion of previous studies of CCR7 trafficking and endomembrane signaling (in particular the Laufer et al paper) to acknowledge that many of the findings within this paper verify previous studies.*

We have now included additional immunology/endomembrane background information about CCR7 at the place where the receptor is introduced (first paragraph on page 3). We have also expanded our discussion of our work in relation to the Laufer et al. study (third paragraph on page 10).

> *(2) On page 5, the authors state that 'The response to chemokine stimulation was not observed in mock transfected HEK293 cells'. Figure S4D does not have a legend so it is difficult to see what they mean by mock transfected. Do they mean not transfecting with anything or not with the receptor? The better control would be transfecting the reporters but not the receptor. This may have been done, but the wording needs clarifying and S4D needs a legend.*

Thanks for pointing this out. We believe the reviewer refers to Figure S2D and we have now highlighted/clarified the legend better. Mock transfected conditions refer to HEK293 cells transfected with the reporter, but not the receptor. This is written in the legend as "(D) Change in luminescence signal generated between SmBiT-barr1 and LgBiT-miniGi in response to 100 nM CCL19 or 100 nM CCL21 in mock transfected HEK293 cells (no CCR7)", which we believe should be clear to the audience.

> *(3) The validation of the APEX2 receptor construct relies on a single assay with one ligand. The authors should show that the receptor expresses at the cell surface, is internalised normally, and that both ligands activate the receptor.*

We have now included additional data to show that (1) the receptor is expressed at the cell surface, (2) that the CCR7-APEX2 recruits barr1 to the plasma membrane, (3) that this association leads to barr1 translocation to the early endosomes as an indirect measurement of receptor internalization, and (4) that both CCL19- and CCL21-stimulation inhibit forskolin induced cAMP production (Fig.S4A-C, and described in fifth paragraph on page 6).

> *(4) The APEX2 section is very short, especially as this is novel data. It lacks some important information, e.g. when the authors state that 'we identified a total of 579 proteins', is this in total for both ligands, separately or were some shared? More information on each ligand separately and combined would make this clearer.*

We have now specified that the identified total proteins enriched from our APEX2 approach is when the cells are stimulated with either CCL19 or CCL21 (third paragraph on page 7). Furthermore, we have included a Venn diagram in Fig. S5C to show how many proteins were enriched by CCL19 or CCL21 stimulation and how many of those were shared at different time points.

> *(5) The discussion would benefit from some further work. The current first two paragraphs just reiterate the introduction and don't discuss the current paper so could be removed completely. The Laufer et al study needs much more discussion as they report many of the findings of the current paper (signaling following endocytosis, Rac1 endomembrane signaling) five years ago. The APEX2 findings that are discussed, though interesting, are not followed up by further experimental evidence and there is little discussion of why the two ligands have different responses or what the physiological effects could be.*

We appreciate the reviewer's effort in helping with the discussion. To this end, we have now expanded our discussion of the mentioned paper further as suggested (third paragraph on page 10). We agree that the findings from our APEX experiment are interesting, but the focus of this study relates to proteins enriched specifically at endosomes. Several of the most enriched proteins did not show this localization bias, which is why these proteins were not further investigated.

> *Minor changes:*
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> *(1) The authors should remove the word 'recent' at the start of the first sentence of the third paragraph. Endosomal signaling by GPCRs was described 15 years ago so cannot really be seen as recent anymore.*

We have now adjusted the manuscript accordingly.

> *(2) Tukey defaulted to Turkey in some places.*

We thank the reviewer for pointing out these typos, which now have been corrected.

> ***Reviewer #2 (Recommendations For The Authors):***
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> *Minor Points:*
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> *(1) ACKRs do not couple to G proteins so it is peculiar to see them in this table. I would limit the table to the conventional CCR1-10, CXCR1-6 and XCR1. The ligand for XCR1 is XCL1 which is absent from the table.*

We have now modified the table accordingly.

> *(2) CCL19 (formerly known as ELC) has been long known to be a more efficacious and potent ligand in chemotaxis assays (Bardi et al, 2001). This earlier reference should be added to the citations in the preceding statement on page 10.*

This is an important study showing that CCL19 is more efficacious than CCL21 in promoting chemotaxis and that this has been known for decades. We have now included the reference accordingly (reference 59 in second paragraph on page 11).

> *(3) Figure 6, Panel Q. I think the legends for CCR7 and CCR7 delta ST might be flipped.*

We thank the reviewer for pointing out this error. We have now corrected the figure panel.

> *(4) Figure S5 (or 5) might benefit from simple Venn diagrams showing the numbers of differentially enriched proteins following treatment with the two ligands at different time points.*

We have included a Venn diagram in Fig. S5C to show how many proteins were enriched by CCL19 or CCL21 stimulation and how many of those where shared.

Reference:

Bardi, G., Lipp, M., Baggiolini, M. & Loetscher, P. The T cell chemokine receptor CCR7 is internalized on stimulation with ELC, but not with SLC. European Journal of Immunology 31, 3291-3297 (2001).

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