Development/Plasticity/Repair

Cell Migration along the Lateral Cortical Stream to the Developing Basal Telencephalic Limbic System

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During embryogenesis, the lateral cortical stream (LCS) emerges from the corticostriatal border (CSB), the boundary between the developing cerebral cortex and striatum. The LCS is comprised of a mix of pallial- and subpallial-derived neural progenitor cells that migrate to the developing structures of the basal telencephalon, most notably the piriform cortex and amygdala. Using a combination of *in vitro* and *in vivo* approaches, we analyzed the timing, composition, migratory modes, origin, and requirement of the homeodomain-containing transcription factor *Gsh2* (genomic screened homeobox 2) in the development of this prominent migratory stream. We reveal that Pax6 (paired box gene 6)-positive pallial-derived and Dlx2 (distal-less homeobox 2)-positive subpallial-derived subpopulations of LCS cells are generated in distinct temporal windows during embryogenesis. Furthermore, our data indicate the CSB border not only is comprised of separate populations of pallial- and subpallial-derived progenitors that contribute to the LCS but also a subpopulation of cells coexpressing Pax6 and Dlx2. Moreover, despite migrating along a route outlined by a cascade of radial glia, the Dlx2-positive population appears to migrate primarily in an apparent chain-like manner, with LCS migratory cells being generated locally at the CSB with little contribution from other subpallial structures such as the medial, lateral, or caudal ganglionic eminences. We further demonstrate that the generation of the LCS is dependent on the homeodomain-containing gene *Gsh2*, revealing a novel requirement for *Gsh2* in telencephalic development.

Key words: amygdala; development; pallium; radial glia; specification; subpallium

Introduction

The basal limbic system of the mammalian telencephalon is comprised of a number of complex structures that includes the piriform cortex, amygdala, and nucleus accumbens. These regions, together with other forebrain limbic structures (prefrontal cortex, cingulate cortex, hippocampus, and hypothalamus) form a circuit that regulates a number of essential behaviors, including specific aspects of memory and emotion and the regulation of motivational stages involved with drives. Currently, the level of understanding of basal telencephalic limbic system development does not rival that of the cerebral cortex. In the cerebral cortex,

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regional neuronal cell diversity is established by the convergence of migratory progenitor cells from both pallial (dorsal telencephalic) and subpallial (ventral telencephalic) compartments. Future excitatory neurons are locally generated in the pallial neuroepithelium and migrate radially to their laminar destination (Rakic, 1974). In contrast, the majority of inhibitory neurons is derived from the subpallial progenitor zones, most notably the medial (MGE) and caudal (CGE) ganglionic eminences, and migrate tangentially to the developing cerebral cortex (for review, see Corbin et al., 2001; Marin and Rubenstein, 2001). Importantly, these separate subpallial progenitor zones give rise to inhibitory neurons with distinct spatial, neurochemical, morphological, and electrophysiological characteristics (Nery et al., 2002; Xu et al., 2004; Butt et al., 2005).

In contrast to the vast waves of dorsally directed migrating neural precursor cells from the subpallium, cells of the lateral cortical stream (LCS) migrate in the opposite direction from dorsal to more ventral telencephalic regions. During embryogenesis, cells of the LCS emerge from the "molecular" corticostriatal border (CSB), the region of the dorsal LGE (dLGE) in which pallial gene expression [e.g., *Pax6* (paired box gene 6) and *Ngn2* (neurogenin homolog 2)] abuts subpallial gene expression [e.g., *Gsh2* (genomic screened homeobox 2) and *Dlx1/2* (distal-less homeobox 2) (for review, see Corbin et al., 2001; Molnár and Butler, 2002)]. This "molecular" CSB (herein referred to as CSB) is po-

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sitioned just ventral to the corticostriatal sulcus and also is the site of expression of a variety of specific intrinsic [e.g., *Dbx1* (developing brain homeobox 1), *Er81* (Ets transcription factor ER81), *Sp8* (a member of the *Sp1* zinc finger transcription factor gene family), and *Tsh1* (*Teashirt 1*)] and extrinsic [e.g., Sfrp2 (secreted frizzled-related protein 2), Tgf- α , and Fgf7] factors (Lu et al., 1996; Kim et al., 2001; Assimacopoulos et al., 2003; Stenman et al., 2003a; Caubit et al., 2005; Waclaw et al., 2006). Furthermore, gene expression studies have indicated that the LCS consists of at least two progenitor populations that arise from both the pallial and subpallial compartments (Stoykova et al., 1996; Puelles et al., 2000; Toresson et al., 2000; Yun et al., 2001; Medina et al., 2004; Tole et al., 2005).

The first evidence that the CSB region contributes cells to the basal telencephalic limbic system came from early birthdating studies (Hicks and D'Amato, 1968; Bayer and Altman, 1991) (for review, see Molnár and Butler, 2002), with more recent studies using DiI (de Carlos et al., 1996) or labeled retroviruses (Suzuki and Goldman, 2003), to reveal complex dynamic patterns of migration along the LCS to the basal telencephalon. A number of genetic studies are also consistent with the LCS being a significant source of cells for the subregions of the basal telencephalic limbic system, including the amygdala and piriform cortices (Stoykova et al., 2000; Toresson et al., 2000; Yun et al., 2001). Interestingly, it appears the CSB (dLGE) may also be the embryonic source of progenitor cells that migrate along the rostral migratory stream (RMS) to give rise to olfactory bulb interneurons, as well as to precursor cells in the postnatal subventricular zone (SVZ) (Marshall and Goldman, 2002; Stenman et al., 2003a, Caubit et al., 2005; Waclaw et al., 2006).

Despite the evidence that the LCS contributes neural progenitor cells to the basal telencephalic limbic system, little is currently known regarding the embryonic development of this complex migratory stream. In this study, we examined a number of important characteristics of the LCS, including the timing of the generation of migratory cells, cellular composition, pathway and mode of migration, embryonic origin, and the genetic requirement of the homeodomain-containing gene *Gsh2* in its development.

Materials and Methods

Animal use. Swiss Webster (Taconic Farms, Albany, NY) and CD1 (Harlan Sprague Dawley, Indianapolis, IN) mice used in these studies were maintained according to protocols approved by New York University School of Medicine and Georgetown University Medical Center. For staging of the embryos, midday of the day of vaginal plug detection was considered as embryonic day 0.5 (E0.5). For postnatal animals, the day of birth was considered as postnatal day 0. The generation and genotyping of $Gsh2^{-/-};Dlx2^{+/tauLacZ}$ and $Nkx2.1^{-/-};Dlx2^{+/tauLacZ}$ embryos were performed as described previously (Corbin et al., 2000; Nery et al., 2003). For Gsh2 and Nkx2.1 [NK2 transcription factor-related; also known as TTF1 (thyroid transcription factor 1)] genotypes, both littermate heterozygote and wild-type mice were used as controls. For cell and tissue transplantation experiments, transgenic embryos constitutively expressing either placental alkaline phosphatase (PLAP) (DePrimo et al., 1996) or green fluorescent protein (GFP) (Okabe et al., 1997) were used as donors as described previously (Nery et al., 2002; Butt et al., 2005). Furthermore, because the $Gsh2^{-/-}$ and $Nkx2.1^{-/-}$ mutant phenotypes are fully penetrant, in all cases the number of animals in which the phenotype was observed is equal to the *n* of animals examined.

Tissue preparation and histology. For immunofluorescence, *in situ* hybridization, and 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl- β -D-galactopyranoside (X-gal) staining, at E17.5 and younger, heads of embryos were postfixed in 4% paraformaldehyde (PFA) in 0.1 M PBS, pH 7.4, at 4°C for 4–6 h. For embryos older than E17.5 and postnatal mice, fixation was achieved

by transcardial perfusion and postfixation in 4% PFA. All brains were cryoprotected by sucrose immersion before embedding in HistoPrep (Fisher Scientific, Pittsburgh, PA) and frozen. Serial coronal sections of embedded tissue were cut $(20-40 \ \mu m$ thickness, depending on the age) using a cryostat. X-gal staining on frozen sections was preformed as described previously (Corbin et al., 2000).

Immunohistochemistry. Cryocut mounted sections were air dried and underwent rinses in PBS before blocking of nonspecific binding sites using 10% normal serum diluted in PBS with 0.02% Triton X-100 to aid permeabilization. Primary antibody mixtures were made up in PBS (0.2% Triton X-100 with 1% normal serum) and incubated overnight at 4°C. The primary antibodies used were as follows: mouse-anti RC2 (1:5; Developmental Hybridoma Studies Bank, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA), mouse anti-neuronal class III β -tubulin (TUJ1) (1:2000; Covance Research Products, Berkeley, CA), goat anti- β -galactosidase (1:200; Biogen, Cambridge, MA), rat anti-5-bromo-2'-deoxyuridine (BrdU) (1:250; Serotec, Oxford, UK), rabbit anti-brain lipid binding protein (BLBP) (1:1500; gift from Dr. Todd Anthony, Rockefeller University, New York, NY), rabbit anti-Pax6 (1:1000; Covance Research Products), rabbit anti-Ki67 (1:500; Novocastra, Newcastle, UK), and rabbit-anticalbindin (1:400; Calbiochem, La Jolla, CA). For primary antibody detection, secondary antibodies against goat, mouse, rat, and rabbit IgG or mouse IgM (RC2) were used (cyanine 3 and 5, 1:200; FITC, 1:50; all from Jackson ImmunoResearch, West Grove, PA) and diluted as for the primary antibodies. Nuclear counterstaining was performed by incubation in To-Pro-3 iodide (1:100; Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA) for 10 min at room temperature. Final rinses in PBS were performed before coverslipping.

BrdU labeling. To label S-phase cells, an E15.5 $Dlx2^{+/tauLacZ}$ pregnant dam was administered BrdU (Sigma, St. Louis, MO) by intraperitoneal injection (dissolved in PBS) at a dose of 40 mg/kg. To achieve short-term labeling, the dam was killed after 2 h, and the embryos were harvested, fixed in PFA, and frozen embedded as described above. Cryostat sections were pretreated with 2N HCl for 45 min at 37°C for DNA denaturation, before standard immunohistochemical procedures.

Electron microscopy. Whole-mount E15.5 Dlx2^{+/tauLacZ} brains were fixed with 1% PFA/2% glutaraldehyde in 0.1 M phosphate buffer (PB) for 2 h, rinsed four times (5 min each) in PBS, and X-gal stained, and the CSB region from LacZ-positive (LacZ⁺) brains was dissected using Lumsden BioScissors (Bio-Rad, Hercules, CA). This was followed by postfixation with 1% osmium tetroxide in PB for 1 h. After additional rinsing (four times for 5 min each), the specimens were stained with 2% uranyl acetate for 20 min in the dark, rinsed (four times for 5 min each with dH₂O), and dehydrated through a series of graded ethyl alcohols (50, 70, 95, 95, 100, and 100%) for 10 min each. The specimens were transferred into 100% propylene oxide (two times for 15 min each) and finally into a 50:50 mixture of propylene oxide and the embedding resin (Embed 812; Electron Microscopy Sciences, Fort Washington, PA) overnight. Specimens were then transferred to fresh 100% embedding media for 6 h, changed into fresh 100% embedding media, and kept in a 62°C oven for 12–18 h. The blocks were cut at a thickness of 1 μ m or 85 nm for light microscopic or electron microscopic (H-7600; Hitachi, Pleasanton, CA) analysis, respectively. Slot copper grids (2×1) coated with Formvar/carbon film were used for electron microscopy.

Matrigel experiments. E13.5 embryos from $Gsh2^{+/-};Dlx2^{+/tauLacZ} \times Gsh2^{+/-}$ crosses were harvested by cesarean section of dams and rapidly placed in chilled L-15 medium (Invitrogen). Heads were dissected, embryo bodies were immediately processed for X-gal staining, and only brains from LacZ⁺ embryos were used. Embryos were genotyped as described previously (Corbin et al., 2000). Coronal explants containing the CSB region were dissected along the rostrocaudal axis of the brain by hand using Lumsden BioScissors. The ventralmost two-thirds of the LGE was cut away to permit cell migration on the Matrigel surface along the putative LCS. The explants were cultured in Neurobasal medium (Invitrogen), supplemented with penicillin/streptomycin (1:100; Invitrogen) B27 supplement (1:50; Invitrogen) and glutamine (1:100; Invitrogen) for 3–4 d *in vitro* (DIV). The explants were fixed in 4% PFA for 20 min, rinsed briefly in PBS, and then processed for X-gal staining. Whether Dlx2⁺ cell migration occurred along the putative LCS and RMS

in mutant and control explants was assayed blindly by two independent observers.

In utero transplantation. Cells dissected from different progenitor zones from E15.5 GFP+ (CSB) or E13.5 PLAP ⁺ (LGE, MGE, and CGE) transgenic mice were homotypically transplanted into age-matched wild-type embryos, guided by ultrasound biomicroscopy (UBM) microscopy (E-Technologies, Bettendorf, IA) as described previously (Liu et al., 1998; Wichterle et al., 2001; Nery et al., 2002; Butt et al., 2005). The transplanted embryos were harvested 2-4 d after transplantation by fixation of heads (younger than E17.5) or transcardial perfusion. Postfixed brains were cryoprotected by sucrose immersion before embedding in HistoPrep and sectioned coronally at 50 μ m on a cryostat. Sections from GFP+ transplanted brains were rinsed in PBS, coverslipped, and analyzed using epifluorescence microscopy. Sections from PLAP + transplanted brains were incubated in PBS at 65°C for 30 min, rinsed in alkaline phosphatase buffer (in mM: 100 Tris, pH 9.5, 50 MgCl₂, and 10 NaCl), and stained for alkaline phosphatase with nitroblue-tetrazolium-chloride/5-bromo-4-chlor-indolyl-phosphate (Roche, Indianapolis, IN).

Organotypic cultures. Time-mated wild-type CD1 dams at E13.5 gestation were killed, and harvested embryos were placed in chilled sterile HBSS (Cellgro, Herndon, VA). The brains were dissected in ice-cold HBSS and embedded in low-melting agarose (3% in HBSS), and 300- μ m-thick coronal sections were cut using a Vibratome (VT1000S; Leica, Nussloch, Germany). The sections were transferred onto black-gridded 0.45 μ m, 13 mm nitrocellulose membranes (Millipore, Bedford, MA) in media containing MEM supplemented with 10% fetal

bovine serum, L-glutamine, and penicillin/streptomycin, and placed in an incubator (37°C, 5% CO₂) for 1–2 h for recovery. Explants from the CSB, LGE, MGE, and CGE of GFP⁺ age-matched embryos were then grafted homotypically onto the wild-type cultures. After grafting GFP⁺ explants, the cultures were transferred into Neurobasal media containing B27 supplement and penicillin/streptomycin and were further incubated for 2 DIV. The cultures were fixed in 4% PFA for 30 min, mounted on cavity slides, and coverslipped for analysis. Process orientation was quantified by counting the number of cells in which the leading process could be clearly identified. Based on the orientation of the leading process, migratory direction was assigned to one of four bins each representing a quadrant of a circle.

Data analysis. Digital photographs of X-gal-stained brains were obtained using bright-field microscopy (Axioplan 2; Zeiss, Oberkochen, Germany). For fluorescence, digital photographs were obtained from epifluorescence microscopy (Axiophot; Zeiss) and selected for additional analysis performed by confocal microscopy (LSM510 META; Zeiss). For some panels, each fluorophore was scanned sequentially, and Z-stacks of the images obtained were collapsed into a single projection image using the LSM510 software. These images were reconstructed, and the images obtained with different filters were merged using Adobe Photoshop 6.0 software (Adobe Systems, San Jose, CA). Adjustments to color and/or contrast were applied across each image as a whole and equally to control and mutant brains. For anatomical descriptions, the Paxinos and Franklin (2000) adult mouse brain atlas was used. To determine the extent of colocalization of immunofluorescent markers, the following criteria were applied: (1) in all cases, we also stained the sections with To-Pro-3 iodide as a nuclear marker to visualize individual cell nuclei, and colocalized cells were only scored as double labeled if an immunopositive cell body was clearly surrounded by an immunopositive nucleus that also was



Figure 1. $DIx2^+$ and $Pax6^+$ cells of the LCS during embryogenesis. The LCS consists of two subsets of cells: a pallial-derived population that is $Pax6^+$ (*A*–*C*) and a subpallial-derived population that is $DIx2^+$ (*D*–*F*). At E11.5, Pax6 is highly expressed in the pallial and CSB ventricular zone (*A*). At this age, a few $Pax6^+$ cells were observed along the putative route of the LCS (*A*, arrowheads) and at the pial surface (double arrowheads). At E15.5, $Pax6^+$ cells were observed along the route of the LCS (*B*, arrowheads) and in the developing basolateral complex of the amygdala (*B*). By E18.5, multiple $Pax6^+$ cells were observed in distinct developing emerging amygdala nuclei (*C*), including the cortical, basomedial nuclei, and medial nuclei. At E13.5, the first $DIx2^+$ cells emanated from the CSB (*D*, arrowhead). By E15.5, $DIx2^+$ cell migration along the LCS was highly prominent (*E*, arrow), with $DIx2^+$ cells found in the prospective basolateral complex and cortical nuclei (arrowheads) of the developing amygdala. By E18.5, $DIx2^+$ cells continued to migrate along the LCS (arrow) and accumulated in the piriform cortex (black line) and cortical amygdala nucleus (*F*, arrowhead). AMY, Amygdala; BLC, basolateral complex; CTX, cerebral cortex; PIR, piriform cortex; STR, striatum. Scale bar: *A*, 50 μ m; *B*, *D*, *E*, 100 μ m; *C*, *F*, 150 μ m.

To-Pro-3 iodide positive; (2) images used for quantification were individual optical confocal sections as opposed to a collapsed projection image; and (3) in all cases, quantification was undertaken by two independent observers.

Results

Time course of Pax6 ⁺ and Dlx2 ⁺ cell migration to the basal telencephalon

Previous studies have revealed the presence of putative LCSderived Pax6⁺ cells in the region of the developing basolateral telencephalon from as early as E12.5 (Tomioka et al., 2000; Toresson et al., 2000; Yun et al., 2001; Hirata et al., 2002; Stenman et al., 2003b). In contrast, little is known regarding the timing of migration of the Dlx2⁺ population along this route. Therefore, to directly compare the time course of the development of these two migratory populations, Pax6⁺ cells were visualized by immunofluorescence, and Dlx2⁺ cells were detected by X-gal stain-ing of brains of $Dlx2^{+/tauLacZ}$ mice. Previous characterization of $Dlx2^{+/tauLacZ}$ brains revealed that tauLacZ expression in these animals recapitulates normal Dlx2 expression (Corbin et al., 2000; Nery et al., 2003). Of these two populations, $Pax6^+$ cells exited the CSB and migrated to the basolateral telencephalon before Dlx2⁺ cells, with a number of Pax6⁺ cells present in the region of the developing piriform cortex by as early as E11.5 (Fig. 1A). Migration of Pax6⁺ cells appeared most robust at midneurogenesis (Fig. 1B, C). Intense Pax6 immunoreactivity was observed in basal telencephalic cells, although its expression appeared to be partially downregulated en route to these destinations (Figs. 1*B*, 2*A*). In contrast, the $Dlx2^+$ population did not



Figure 2. Dlx2 and Pax6 expression at the corticostriatal border. At E13.5, Pax6 $^+$ cells (red) are shown emanating from the border with Dlx2 $^+$ cells (green) and migrating along the LCS (arrowheads) to the developing piriform cortex (*A*). Higher magnification of the boxed region in (*A*) revealed numerous Pax6 $^+$ cells (arrowheads) in the Dlx2 $^+$ subpallium (*B*). Many of these Pax6 $^+$ cells also expressed Dlx2 (arrow), in which a Pax6 $^+$ nucleus was surrounded by a Dlx2 $^+$ cell body as shown in *C*. At E15.5, the LCS consisted of both Dlx2 $^+$ and Pax6 $^+$ cells (arrow) (*D*). Higher magnification of the boxed region in *D* also revealed numerous Pax6 $^+$ cells in the subpallium (arrowheads), many of which expressed Dlx2 $^+$ (*F*, arrows). At E18.5, Pax6 $^+$ and Dlx2 $^+$ cells were intermingled in both the pallial and subpallial aspects of the border (*G*). High magnification of the boxed regions in *G* revealed numerous Pax6 $^+$ and Dlx2 $^+$ cells intermingled throughout the border region (*H*, *I*, arrows). In each case, To-Pro-3 iodide (To-Pro-3; blue) staining was used to label individual cell nuclei. Scale bar: *A*, 200 μ m; *B*, 50 μ m; *C*, *F*, *H*, *I*, 20 μ m; *D*, 100 μ m; *E*, 35 μ m; *G*, 80 μ m. CTX, Cerebral cortex.

begin to emerge from the CSB until ~ 2 d later at E13.5 (Figs. 1*D*, 2A). Similar to the Pax6⁺ population, a robust stream of Dlx2⁺ migratory cells was observed along the LCS by mid-neurogenesis (Fig. 1*E*), with migration of both populations completed by early postnatal ages (data not shown). Both Pax6⁺ and Dlx2⁺ populations appeared to migrate to specific emerging amygdala nuclei and other basal telencephalic structures. By E15.5, Pax6⁺ cells were observed accumulating in the prospective basolateral complex, cortical and basomedial nuclei of the amygdala, as well as the olfactory tubercle and ventral pallidum, with a few cells also present in the piriform cortex (Fig. 1B, C and data not shown). Interestingly, similar to the Pax6⁺ cells, Dlx2⁺ cells putatively arising from the LCS were also observed accumulating in the basolateral complex, basomedial and cortical nuclei of the amygdala, and the piriform cortex (Figs. 1E, F, 2A) (see Figs. 4I, 8E and data not shown).

The corticostriatal border is a complex mix of Pax6 $^+$ and Dlx2 $^+$ cells

During development, the Pax6⁺ and Dlx2⁺ cells of the LCS emanate from the CSB. To investigate the cellular composition of this border during the time course of migration along the LCS, we performed double immunostaining to visualize Pax6⁺ and Dlx2⁺ cells. In these and all other experiments described below, Pax6⁺ cells were detected using Pax6 antibodies, whereas Dlx2⁺ cells were detected using antibodies to β -galactosidase in sections from $Dlx2^{+/tauLacZ}$ mice. At E11.5 and E13.5, Pax6⁺ cells migrated along the LCS to the region of the developing piriform cortex (Figs. 1B, 2A). Higher magnification of CSB region interestingly revealed numerous Pax6⁺ cells in the subpallial $Dlx2^+$ region (Fig. 2B), with many of these cells coexpressing Dlx2 (Fig. 2C). At E15.5, when prominent cell Dlx2⁺ migration occurred along the LCS (Figs. 1E, 2D), Pax6/Dlx2 double-labeled cells continued to be observed in the subpallium and along the proximal LCS (Fig. 2E, F). In contrast, at E13.5 and E15.5, Dlx2+ cells were absent from the Pax6⁺ pallial side of border (Fig. 2B-F). At E18.5, the composition of the CSB dramatically changed, with multiple Pax6/Dlx2 coexpressing cells intermingled throughout the CSB and LCS (Fig. 2G,H) (see Fig. 4E–G).

Expression of proliferative and postmitotic markers in the LCS

To further characterize the migrating cells of the LCS, Pax6 or Dlx2 immunolabeling was combined with Ki67 (Dlx2 only) or TUJ1 to determine whether LCS subpopulations were proliferative or postmitotic, respectively. To facilitate Pax6 immunolabeling with a cell cycle marker, we also labeled S-phase cells *in vivo* by BrdU administration and short-term survival (2 h) at E15.5, the time point of robust migration along the LCS of both cell populations. At

E15.5 and E18.5, a subpopulation of Dlx2⁺ cells of the LCS was proliferating (Fig. 3A, B and data not shown) as indicated by colocalization with Ki67. The percentages of proliferating Dlx2⁺ cells along the LCS were as follows: at E15.5, 25% (79 of 314; n =4 brains) of cells were double Dlx2⁺/Ki67⁺, and, at E18.5, 28% (60 of 212; n = 3 brains) of cells were double positive. Analysis of the Pax6 population at E15.5 also revealed that 36% (83 of 234; n = 4 brains) of Pax6⁺ cells along the LCS continued to proliferate during migration (supplemental Fig. 1, available at www. jneurosci.org as supplemental material). Furthermore, at least a subset of Dlx2⁺ cells will differentiate into neurons because 16% $(30 \text{ of } 187; n = 3 \text{ brains}) \text{ and } 11\% (6 \text{ of } 48; n = 3 \text{ brains}) \text{ of } \text{Dlx2}^+$ cells expressed TUJ1 at E15.5 and E18.5, respectively (Fig. 3C,D and data not shown). Similarly, some Pax6⁺ cells will differentiate into neurons because 8% (26 of 324; n = 4 brains), 9% (51 of 554; n = 5 brains), and 9% (17 of 190; n = 2 brains) of Pax6⁺ cells coexpressed TUJ1 at E13.5, E15.5, and E18.5, respectively (Fig. 3E, F and data not shown). It is important to note, however, that because Pax6 and Dlx2 typically mark cells in an undifferentiated state, the percentages of Pax6⁺ and Dlx2⁺ cells that will actually differentiate into neurons may be higher. Together, these exper-



Figure 3. Expression of TUJ1 and Ki67 in the lateral cortical stream. At E15.5, Dlx2 ⁺ cells are shown migrating along the LCS (red) through a region of Ki67 $^+$ proliferating cells (green, **A**). Higher magnification of boxed area in A revealed that some Dlx2 $^+$ cells were also Ki67 $^+$, as indicated by a DIx2 $^+$ cell body surrounding a Ki67 $^+$ nucleus (arrows), whereas other DIx2 $^+$ cells were Ki67 negative (arrowheads, **B**). At this same age, Dlx2 $^+$ (red) cells of the LCS migrated into a high TUJ1 (green) expressing region (C). Higher magnification of boxed area in C also revealed that some DIx2 $^+$ cells coexpressed the neuronal marker TUJ1 (D, arrows). At E15.5, Pax6 $^+$ cells (red) were also observed migrating along the LCS into a TUJ1 $^+$ (green) region (*E*). Higher magnification of the boxed region in *E* revealed that some of these Pax6 + cells were also TUJ1 $^+$ (arrows), whereas others were TUJ1 negative (arrowheads, \pmb{F}). Scale bar: *A*, *C*, *E*, 100 μm; *B*, *D*, *F*, 20 μm. CTX, Cerebral cortex.

iments indicate that a subset of Dlx2 ⁺ and Pax6 ⁺ cells are proliferating during migration along the LCS, and at least some of these progenitor cells will give rise to neurons in the basal telencephalon.

Pax6⁺ and Dlx2⁺ cells of the LCS are intermingled and putatively migrate following radial glia

We next wanted to examine the migratory route from E13.5 to E18.5, the time frame of greatest migration along the LCS, in more detail. During this window of development, a distinct RC2⁺ radial glial cascade from the corticostriatal border to the ventrolateral telencephalon was observed (Fig. 4A-H). These ra-



Route of Dlx2 $^+$ and Pax6 $^+$ cell migration along the LCS. As shown at E13.5 (**A**) and Figure 4. E15.5 (\boldsymbol{B}), the route of the LCS is marked by a prominent cascade of RC2 $^+$ (green) radial glia (arrows). At E13.5 and E15.5, a pool of Pax6 $^+$ cells (blue) was observed in the ventrolateral telencephalon (A, B, arrowheads). At E15.5, migrating Dlx2 $^+$ cells (red) were observed along the proximal aspect of the LCS (C, arrow). High magnification of boxed region in C revealed distinct cellular distributions of Pax6⁺ cells (blue, arrowheads) compared with Dlx2⁺ cells (arrows), with Pax6⁺ cells dispersed widely and Dlx2 $^+$ cells more tightly packed (**D**). This pattern of Dlx2 $^+$ cell dispersion along the LCS was also observed at E18.5 (*E–H*, arrows). However, some Dlx2 ⁺ cells were also more closely associated with radial glia (F-H, arrows) and not in packed, chain-like configurations. Additionally, a subset of cells along the LCS appeared to coexpress Pax6 and Dlx2 (F, G, double arrowheads), with some of these cells in chain-like configurations. By E18.5, the DIx2 ⁺ stream of the LCS split into lateral (arrow) and medial (arrowhead) routes (H). These Dlx2 $^+$ (red) cells were in proximity to calbindin $^+$ cells (green). CTX, Cerebral cortex. Scale bar: *A*, *E*, 100 μm; *B*, 200 μm; *C*, 80 μm; *D*, *F*–*H*, 30 μm; *I*, 350 μm.



Figure 5. Dlx2 ⁺ cells of the LCS morphologically resemble chain migration *in vivo*. Sagittal (*A*–*C*) and coronal (*D*, *E*) views of E15.5 LacZ-stained *Dlx2*^{+/touLocZ} brains revealed tightly packed, chain-like cellular clusters along the LCS. In the sagittal view in *A*, two prominent Dlx2 ⁺ migratory populations are shown; those migrating from the CGE toward the developing cortex (arrowhead) and those migrating ventrally along the LCS toward the basal telencephalon (boxed region). Higher magnification of the boxed region in *A* shows cascades of chain-like Dlx2 ⁺ cells emanating from the CSB region and migrating more ventrally (*B*, arrows). High magnification of the same region from a different brain also revealed similar Dlx2 ⁺ chain-like configurations of cells migrating ventrolaterally (*C*, arrows). Similar distribution patterns of Dlx2 ⁺ cells (arrows) were also observed in coronal views of the LCS at low- (*D*) and high- (*E*) power views. Also note the difference in the configuration of the Dlx2 ⁺ cells of the LCS (arrow) versus Dlx2 ⁺ cells (asterisks) also in close apposition to each other. *G*, In contrast, some Dlx2 ⁺ cells were also observed to migrate in isolation and more closely associated with radial glia. Arrowheads in *F* and *G* show perinuclear LacZ precipitate marking Dlx2 ⁺ cells. CTX, Cerebral cortex; RG, radial glia. Scale bars: *A*, 900 µm; *B*, 350 µm; *C*, 150 µm; *D*, 100 µm; *E*, 25 µm; *F*, *G*, 4 µm.

dial glia are clearly evident at E13.5 and E15.5 and extended from the CSB to the ventrolateral telencephalic pial surface, with the putative migrating cells of the LCS appearing to follow this trajectory throughout development (Fig. 4A-H). High-power examination of Pax6⁺ and Dlx2⁺ cells in relation to the curvilinear trajectory of these radial glia revealed distinct patterns of cell dispersion. Although the Pax6 antibody only marked cell nuclei, the Pax6⁺ pattern of cell dispersion was suggestive of a radial mode of migration (Fig. 4*D*–H). In contrast, Dlx2⁺ cell migration appeared to be more complex. Multiple clusters of apparently migrating Dlx2⁺ cells appeared "chain-like" (Fig. 4C–H), similar to chain migration that has been described for the rostral migratory stream (RMS) from the striatal SVZ to the olfactory bulb (Lois et al., 1996; Wichterle et al., 1999). Interestingly, these Dlx2⁺ clusters, although following the route outlined by the radial glial cascade, did not appear to contact the radial glia but instead appeared embedded within the loosely packed radial glial fascicles (Fig. 4C-H) (supplemental movie 1, available at www. ineurosci.org as supplemental material). Some individual Dlx2⁺ cells more closely apposed to radial glia were also observed (Fig. 4F-H). Thus, it appears that the mode of migration of the Dlx2⁺ cells of the LCS may be complex, perhaps comprising multiple modes of migration. By E18.5, Dlx2⁺ cells of the both the lateral

and medial branches of the LCS were located in close proximity to cells that express the neurochemical marker calbindin (Fig. 4*I*), which is normally expressed in \sim 50% of inhibitory interneurons (for review, see Markram et al., 2004). This observation is consistent with our previous data (Nery et al., 2003), which revealed that some Dlx2⁺ cells of the piriform cortex are calbindin⁺. Thus, the Dlx2⁺ cells of the LCS are likely to be a source of inhibitory neurons in the basal telencephalon.

Ultrastructural and *in vitro* analysis of Dlx2⁺ cell migration along the LCS

Because our above immunofluorescence analysis was suggestive that at least a subset of Dlx2⁺ cells of the LCS may migrate via chain migration, we further analyzed their patterns of cell dispersion in vivo by light microscopic examination of X-gal-stained telencephalic sections and whole mounts by electron microscopy (Fig. 5), as well as by in vitro cell migration assays (Fig. 6). Cell dispersion patterns of Dlx2⁺ cells of the LCS as revealed by X-gal staining of sagittal and coronal E15.5 Dlx2^{+/tauLacZ} sections and whole mounts revealed configurations of cells putatively migrating in a linked, chain-like manner, with multiple cells aligned in a row (Fig. 5A–E). Electron microscopic analysis of the LCS revealed Dlx2⁺ cell bodies, identified by X-gal perinuclear precipitate, in close apposition to each other in the absence of nearby radial glia (Fig. 5F), similar to the arrangements observed by fluorescent and light microscopic analyses (Figs. 4D, F-H, 5A-

E). Interestingly, ultrastructural analysis revealed some individual $Dlx2^+$ cells in apparent contact with putative radial glia (Fig. 5*G*), also consistent with the immuno-fluorescence analysis (Fig. 4*F*–*H*) (supplemental movie 1, available at www.jneurosci.org as supplemental material), which indicated that some $Dlx2^+$ cells may also use the radial glia as a scaffold.

Dynamic migration of Dlx2⁺ cells was also examined in Matrigel, a highly permissive substrate for migration. In these experiments, MGE (n = 7), LGE (n = 7, 2 without CSB and 5 with)CSB), CGE (n = 6), and CSB (n = 37) explants were dissected from $Dlx2^{+/tauLacZ}$ brains at E13.5 and cultured in Matrigel for 3-4 DIV. Explants were subsequently X-gal stained to visualize Dlx2⁺ migrating cells. After 3–4 DIV, Dlx2⁺ cells from the CSB migrated out of the explants as chains in a direction similar to the basolateral route of *in vivo* migration (Fig. 6B,C) (see Fig. 10*A*,*B*,*D*). Interestingly, the *in vivo* pattern of Dlx2⁺ cell migration along the LCS also appeared distinct from that of the pallialdirected Dlx2 ⁺ migrating cells (Figs. 5D, 6A). Therefore, we next compared the dynamics of Dlx2⁺ cell migration from the CSB to that of other subpallial progenitor regions in vitro. In contrast to the robust migration observed from CSB explants, the LGE core (LGE minus CSB region) did not display significant migratory capacity (Fig. 4D), whereas MGE- and CGE-derived $Dlx2^+$ cells

migrated as loose chains (Fig. 4E, F) in a manner similar to that observed previously (Wichterle et al., 1999; Nery et al., 2002, 2003). Thus, these *in vivo* and *in vitro* results revealed that the Dlx2⁺ cells of the LCS have an innate capacity to migrate as chains and in a manner distinct from that of the Dlx2⁺ cells derived from other subpallial progenitor regions.

Cells of the lateral cortical stream are predominantly generated locally at the corticostriatal border

Currently, the source of progenitor cells that comprise the LCS is unknown. We hypothesized that the cells of the LCS may (1)originate solely from the CSB or (2) comprise a heterogeneous population with a contribution from other subpallial progenitor zones such as the MGE, LGE, and/or CGE. We examined the source of the LCS using a combination in vivo and in vitro approaches. For the in vivo approach, progenitor cells from the MGE (n = 25), LGE (n = 5), CGE (n = 10), and CSB (n =7) were transplanted in utero, and their contribution to the LCS was compared. In these studies, either GFP⁺ (Fig. 7*B*,*C*) or $PLAP^+$ (Fig. 7D–I) labeled cells were isolated from transgenic donor animals and subsequently homotopically and homochronically transplanted into wild-type brains with the aid of ultrasound imaging (Fig. 7A). Although it was technically challenging to successfully target the CSB (7 of

56 surviving embryos were correctly targeted), in correctly targeted brains, numerous cells were observed migrating along the LCS in a pattern highly similar to their normal path of migration. In contrast, MGE, LGE, or CGE transplanted cells did not contribute to the LCS in vivo (Fig. 7D-I). Considering the technical difficulty in transplanting CSB cells in vivo, we further examined the migratory potential of these cells in slice culture preparations. In these experiments, E13.5 GFP⁺ explants from the CSB or MGE were homotypically grafted into wild-type organotypic cultures, and the location of migratory cells was examined after 2 DIV. GFP⁺ transplants to the CSB (n = 22) revealed numerous cells that migrated along the route of the LCS to developing basal telencephalic regions (Fig. 7*J*), with the majority (62%, 60 of 97) of cell processes oriented ventrally (Fig. 7K, N, O). GFP⁺ grafts from the MGE (n = 17) revealed extensive cell migration, including tangential migration to the pallium and numerous cells in the basal telencephalon (Fig. 7L), consistent with previous studies (Marin et al., 2001, 2003). However, similar to the in vivo transplantation experiment (Fig. 7D, E), the GFP ⁺ cells in the region of the LCS from MGE grafts predominantly (88%, 134 of 153) had processes oriented dorsally (Fig. 7M-O) and not ventrally as would be expected if these cells were en route to the basal telencephalon along the LCS. Therefore, although these MGE-derived cells were in the region of the LCS, it appeared that a vast majority of these cells were destined for the pallium. Organotypic cultures with CGE grafts (n = 6) did not exhibit any cell migration along the posterior LCS, because CGE-derived cells assumed a direct,

ventral migratory route to the basal telencephalon (data not shown).

To further examine the potential contribution of the MGE to the LCS, we analyzed the status of Dlx2⁺ migration in knock-out mice lacking *Nkx2.1* in which the MGE is lost (Sussel et al., 1999). As shown at E14.5 (n = 6 control, n = 6 mutants), there was no qualitative reduction in Dlx2⁺ cell migration along the LCS, further indicating little or no contribution from the MGE (or *Nkx2.1*⁺ anterior CGE) to the LCS (supplemental Fig. 2*A*, *B*, available at www.jneurosci.org as supplemental material). Interestingly however, at more posterior levels, ventral-directed Dlx2⁺ cell migration from the CGE appeared reduced in *Nkx2.1^{-/-}* mutants (supplemental Fig. 2*C*,*D*, available at www. jneurosci.org as supplemental material).

Gsh2 is required for development of the LCS

Previous studies have revealed that *Gsh2* is required for development of the LGE and pattering of the CSB (Szucsik et al., 1997; Corbin et al., 2000; Toresson et al., 2000; Yun et al., 2001). Because our above data indicated that the CSB was the source of cells of the LCS (Fig. 7) (supplemental Fig. 2, available at www. jneurosci.org as supplemental material), we therefore hypothesized that defects in CSB establishment may profoundly affect development and/or migration of the LCS. To test this hypothesis, we first examined the status of the Dlx2⁺ population of the LCS in *Gsh2^{-/-}* mutant mice. At E15.5, in control telencephalons (n = 9), Dlx2 expression was observed in the ganglionic eminences and in cells of the LCS (Figs. 1E, 8*A*). In contrast, E15.5



Figure 6. DIx2 ⁺ cells of the LCS migrate as chains *in vitro*. β -Galactosidase immunostaining of $DIx2^{+/taulacZ}$ coronal telence-

phalic sections at E16.5 also showed that Dlx2⁺ cells of the LCS (*A*, arrow) appeared to migrate in a manner distinct from that of

Dlx2⁺ cells tangentially migrating to the cerebral cortex (**A**, arrowheads). In **B**–**F**, explants from the corticostriatal border region, LGE, MGE, and CGE were dissected from Dlx2^{+/tauLacZ} animals at E13.5 and cultured in Matrigel for 3–4 d. CSB explants stained for

LacZ revealed cells that migrated away from the CSB in tightly packed configurations (arrow in **B** and a higher magnification

shown in C). In contrast, explants from the LGE did not display significant migration (D), whereas cells from the MGE (E) and CGE

(F) migrated as loose chains (E, F, arrowheads), similar to that observed for pallial-directed migrating Dlx2 + cells as shown in A

(and shown in Fig. 5*D*). CTX, Cerebral cortex. Scale bar: **A**, 100 μm; **B**, **D**, 250 μm; **C**, **E**, **F**, 75 μm.



Figure 7. The corticostriatal border is the primary source of cells of the LCS. GFP (B, C) or PLAP (D-I) cells were homotopically transplanted at E15.5 to the CSB (B, C) or at E13.5 to the MGE, CGE, or LGE (D-I) with the aid of ultrasound-quided microscopy (A, asterisk indicates needle placement at CSB) and analyzed 2-4 d after transplantation. CSB transplanted cells migrated along the LCS (B, C, arrowheads). In contrast, although MGE transplanted cells were also observed along the route of the LCS (D, E), many of these cells possessed leading processes directed toward the developing cerebral cortex (*E*, *M*, arrowheads). Both CGE-derived (*F*, G) and LGE-derived (H, I) cells did not migrate along the LCS. In vitro, explants from GFP $^+$ donors were homotopically transplanted at E13.5 into wild-type coronal telencephalic organotypic slice cultures and cultured for 2 DIV. CSB transplants (asterisk shows region of transplant) revealed robust migration along the LCS (J), with many cells extending a leading process in the direction of the ventrolateral telencephalon (K, arrowheads). Homotopically transplanted GFP + MGE cells were also observed along the region of the LCS (L), but most of cells displayed dorsally directed leading processes (M, arrowheads). Quantification of process orientation (cells were placed into 1 of 4 bins based on the direction of the leading process) revealed that 88% (134 of 153) of MGE cells had processes directed dorsally (bins 1, 4), whereas 62% (60 of 97) of LCS cells had processes oriented ventrally (bins 2, 3) (N). Breakdown of percentages of cells found in each bin for MGE and LCS cells is shown graphically in O. For MGE grafts, a total of 153 cells were counted, and for CSB grafts, a total of 97 cells were counted. The numbers of cells whose process orientation fell into each bin were as follows: MGE-MGE grafts, bin 1 (47 cells), bin 2 (8 cells), bin 3 (11 cells), bin 4 (87 cells); LCS-LCS grafts, bin 1 (12 cells), bin 2 (18 cells), bin 3 (42 cells), bin 4 (25 cells). CTX, Cerebral cortex; GE, ganglion eminence; STR, striatum; Scale bar: **B**, **D**, **F**–**I**, 250 μm; **C**, **J**, **L**, 300 μm; **E**, 125 μm; **K**, **M**, 40 μm.

 $Gsh2^{-/-}$ mutant mice (n = 6) possessed only a few Dlx2⁺ cells at the proximal part of the LCS and none along the normal route of LCS migration (Fig. 8B). The perinatal lethality of $Gsh2^{-/-}$ mutants precluded an examination of these animals at later time points, and, although patterning of the striatum was essentially recovered by E18.5 (Corbin et al., 2000; Toresson et al., 2000; Yun et al., 2001), analysis at E18.5 revealed that the migration of Dlx2⁺ cells along the LCS did not recover (control, n = 3; $Gsh2^{-/-}$ mutants, n = 4) (Fig. 8C-F). Furthermore, consistent with previous observations (Toresson et al., 2000; Yun et al., 2001; Stenman et al., 2003b), $Gsh2^{-/-}$ mutants (n = 5) displayed a significant decrease in the number of Pax6⁺ cells in the basal telencephalon compared with controls (n = 3) as shown at E12.5 (Fig. 9*C*,*D*).

We hypothesized that the loss of Dlx2 + cell migration along the LCS could result from a defect in the pathway in which these cells migrate (extrinsic defect), a lack of proper specification of these cells (intrinsic defect), or a combination of the two. To further explore the nature of the defect, we first examined the status of the LCS radial glia in Gsh2^{-/-} mutant mice. The molecular boundary separating the CSB from the pallium is located ventral to the ventricular angle, in which BLBP⁺ fibers of the LCS were observed in E12.5 control embryos (n = 5) (Fig. 9A) (Anthony et al., 2004; Yoon et al., 2004). As described previously (Corbin et al., 2000; Toresson et al., 2000; Yun et al., 2001), the loss of Gsh2 results in an expansion of pallial gene expression into the LGE at early (younger than E15.5) embryonic time points. Here, we found that BLBP + fibers appeared to have emerged more distally from the ventricular angle than in controls, indicating that the domain of BLBP⁺ radial glia was shifted ventrally in $Gsh2^{-/-}$ mutant mice (n = 6) (Fig. 9A, B). However, individual BLBP⁺ or RC2⁺ fibers that extended from the CSB to the basal telencephalic pial surface exhibited no apparent abnormality in their trajectory or fasciculation, indicating that the integrity of the radial glia was maintained in $Gsh2^{-/-}$ mutant mice (Fig. 9*C*–*F*).

We also further examined whether $Dlx2^+$ cells in $Gsh2^{-/-}$ animals maintained their intrinsic capacity to migrate *in vitro* on a permissive substrate for migration. In these experiments, E13.5 CSB explants from $Gsh2^{-/-};Dlx2^{+/tauLacZ}$ and $Gsh2^{+/-};Dlx2^{+/tauLacZ}$ or $Gsh2^{+/+};Dlx2^{+/tauLacZ}$ control brains were cultured in Matrigel. After 3–4 DIV, X-gal staining



Figure 8. The LCS is significantly affected in $Gsh2^{-/-}$ mutants. Dlx2 ⁺ cell migration along the LCS was reduced in $Gsh2^{-/-}$; $Dlx2^{+/tautac2}$ mutant mice (A, C, E) compared with controls (B, D, F). As shown at both E15.5 (A, B) and E18.5 (C, D), only a few cells were observed leaving the corticostriatal border in mutant mice compared with controls (arrows). A higher magnification of the Dlx2 expression in the CSB region in C and D is shown in c' and d'. At E18.5, the lateral and medial branches of Dlx2 ⁺ cells that extend from the LCS into the basal telencephalon in controls (E, arrows) were not observed in $Gsh2^{-/-}$; $Dlx2^{+/tautac2}$ mutant mice (F). AMY, Amygdala; CTX, cerebral cortex. Scale bar: A-F, 150 μ m.

of control explants revealed two primary migrating streams of Dlx2⁺ cells. Dlx2⁺ cells of the presumptive LCS extended ventrally from the CSB region, and Dlx2⁺ cells of the putative RMS emerged dorsal to the CSB (Fig. 10*A*–*D*). Cell migration in control explants (n = 22 animals, 77 total explants), occurred predominantly along both the presumptive RMS and LCS (79.2%, 61 of 77 explants), although a minority of explants exhibited RMS cell migration only (20.8%, 16 of 77 explants) (Fig. 10*G*). In contrast, in *Gsh2^{-/-}* mutant mice (n = 7 animals, 27 total explants), cell migration along both routes occurred at a much lower frequency (22.2%, 6 of 27 explants), with RMS-only cell migration observed in the vast majority of explants (77.8%, 21 of 27 explants) (Fig. 10*G*). These results indicate that migratory defect along the LCS in *Gsh2^{-/-}* mutant mice cannot be rescued on a permissive substrate for migration.

Discussion

The lateral cortical stream is a heterogeneous population of neural progenitor cells

During embryogenesis, the LCS arises from the CSB and migrates toward the basal telencephalon. This migratory route is accom-



Figure 9. Status of radial glia in $Gsh2^{-/-}$ mutants. At E12.5, the domain of BLBP + radial glia appeared to be shifted more ventral in $Gsh2^{-/-}$ mutants (A, B, arrowheads mark distance between lower limit of BLBP expression in the LGE and the LGE/MGE sulcus). As revealed by Pax6 immunostaining, a reduction in the number of Pax6 + cells (green, arrows) in the ventrolateral telencephalon was observed in $Gsh2^{-/-}$ mutants compared with controls (C, D). However, in $Gsh2^{-/-}$ mutants, RC2 + radial glial morphology (red, double arrowheads C, D and boxed regions shown in higher magnification in E, F) appeared normal. Scale bar (in A): A, B, 150 μ m; C, D, 50 μ m; E, F, 20 μ m.

panied by the presence of radial glia that forms a circumferential fiber band that extends to the ventrolateral telencephalon (Smart and Sturrock, 1979; Misson et al., 1988; Edwards et al., 1990). Although it has been suggested that the LCS provides cells to the ventrolateral neocortex, piriform cortex, endopiriform nucleus, claustrum (Bayer and Altman, 1991), and the dense cell layer of the olfactory tubercle (Tamamaki et al., 2001), little is known regarding the developmental profile of this migratory stream and the genetic factors governing its development. Here, consistent with previous studies (Stoykova et al., 1996; Puelles et al., 2000; Hirata et al., 2002; Tole et al., 2005), we show that the LCS is a heterogeneous population comprised of separate pallial Pax6 +derived and subpallial Dlx2⁺-derived cells. Our data also interestingly indicate that the LCS is comprised of an additional population of progenitor cells that coexpress both pallial (Pax6) and subpallial (Dlx2) markers.

Based on the known developmental potential of the pallium and the subpallium, it is reasonable to hypothesize that the Pax6⁺ cells of the LCS will give rise to excitatory cells of the basal telencephalic limbic system and the Dlx2⁺ cells will give rise to inhibitory neurons. If this turns out to be the case, the migration of this combined population along the LCS would be an exception to other migratory routes in the forebrain whereby putative excitatory and inhibitory cell populations migrate independently (for review, see Corbin et al., 2001; Marin and Rubenstein, 2001; Monuki and Walsh, 2001). The ultimate fate of the cells that coexpress both Pax6 and Dlx2 is, however, less straightforward to predict. Based on this dual-marker expression, these cells appear to represent a subpopulation of progenitors of mixed pallial and



Figure 10. The defect in Dlx2 ⁺ migration in *Gsh2*^{-/-} mutants along the LCS is not rescued *in vitro*. Telencephalic explants of the CSB region were dissected from *Gsh2*^{-/-};*Dlx2*^{+/taulacZ} and control animals at E13.5 and were cultured on Matrigel for 3–4 d, fixed, and subsequently LacZ stained. In control brains (*A*–*D*), robust, Dlx2 ⁺ chain-like migration was observed along the presumptive LCS and RMS. Boxed regions in *A* and *B* are shown at higher magnification in *C* and *D*, respectively. Arrows in *C* show tight chains of putative RMS migrating Dlx2 ⁺ cells. Arrows in *D* show chains of Dlx2 ⁺ putative LCS cells. A reduced number of explants from *Gsh2*^{-/-};*Dlx2*^{+/taulacZ} mice (*E*, *F*), displayed migration along the LCS. The asterisk indicates region of expected LCS migration in mutant explants. In controls (*n* = 22 animals, 77 explants), 79.2% of explants displayed migration along both RMS and LCS, whereas in *Gsh2*^{-/-};*Dlx2*^{+/taulacZ} mutants (*n* = 7 animals, 27 explants), only 22.2% of explants displayed migration along both RMS and LCS. Scale bar: *A*, *B*, *E*, *F*, 250 µm; *C*, *D*, 100 µm.

subpallial phenotype that migrate to the ventrolateral telencephalon. However, it is possible that these cells are derived from the subpallium, which as observed previously (Puelles et al., 2000; Yun et al., 2001), also expresses low levels of Pax6. Thus, this coexpressing population may in fact be a unique subpopulation of subpallial-derived cells distinct from the subset of progenitors that only express Dlx2. However, if indeed these cells are subpallial in origin, they still may be fated to a GABAergic phenotype. Alternatively, because there is a much larger population of cells that expresses both pallial and subpallial markers at the CSB (Corbin et al., 2003), earlier in development before the LCS emerges (\sim E10.5), it is also possible that these later Pax6/Dlx2 coexpressing cells are derived from these earlier coexpressing border cells.

Regardless of their pallial, subpallial, or mixed origin, the majority of migrating cells of the LCS appear to contribute to the amygdala, a major structure of the mammalian limbic system. The amygdala (or amygdalar complex) is a highly differentiated and complex region of the basal telencephalon and is comprised of at least 10 functionally and anatomically distinct subnuclei (for review, see Price et al., 1987; Alheid, 2003). Previous analysis of the composition of the distinct amygdala nuclei revealed that they can be grouped into two basic functional subdivisions: those that possess excitatory neurons and those that possess inhibitory projection neurons (inhibitory interneurons are dispersed throughout all amygdala nuclei) (for review, see Swanson and Petrovich, 1998). Thus, at the cellular level, the amygdala shares similarities with both the cerebral cortex and the striatum. This observation has lead to a model proposed by Swanson and Petrovich (1998), which hypothesized that the amygdala is comprised of both pallial- and subpallial-derived cells. Genetic and transplantation-based fate mapping of both pallial-derived (Gorski et al., 2002) and subpallial-derived (Nery et al., 2002; Stenman et al., 2003a) progenitor cells, as well as gene expression studies (Fernandez et al., 1998; Puelles et al., 1999, 2000; Zirlinger et al., 2001; Medina et al., 2004; Remedios et al., 2004; Tole et al., 2005), have lent significant credence to this model. Our observations in the present study are also consistent with this model, because the LCS appears to be a major source of both pallial- and subpallialderived cells of the amygdala. Furthermore, although LCS cells migrate to numerous other ventral telencephalic structures, in agreement with previous studies (Stoykova et al., 1996; Tole et al., 2005), we observe Pax6⁺ and Dlx2⁺ cells populating distinct subsets of developing amygdala nuclei such as the basolateral complex and basomedial and cortical nuclei. Furthermore, colocalization of both Pax6⁺ and Dlx2⁺ cells with the early neuronal marker TUJ1 indicates that at least some of these cells will differentiate into neurons. Considering that previous studies have also indicated that progenitor cells of the CSB also have a potential to develop into cortical astrocytes and oligodendrocytes (Marshall and Goldman, 2002), it will be important to determine whether cells of the LCS also give rise to basal telencephalic glia.

Cells of the lateral cortical stream display distinct migratory characteristics

Our data indicate that Pax6⁺ and Dlx2⁺ cells of the LCS migrate as a mixed population following the curvilinear trajectory of the radial glia scaffold. The pattern of Pax6⁺ cell dispersal and locations along the LCS indicate that these cells migrate along the radial glial scaffold. Interestingly, in contrast, our in vivo and in vitro analyses of the Dlx2⁺ population suggest that migration of this population is more complex. Although we have yet to demonstrate definitive chain migration in time-lapse microscopy studies, our multiple in vitro and in vivo analyses strongly indicate that chain migration represents a major mode of migration via which these cells transit to their final destinations in the basal telencephalic limbic system. To date, the only identified chain migrating progenitor population in the telencephalon is the RMS, the source of replenishing olfactory bulb interneurons throughout adulthood (Luskin, 1993; Lois and Alvarez-Buylla, 1994; Doetsch and Alvarez-Buylla, 1996; Alvarez-Buylla and Garcia-Verdugo, 2002). The reason cells use different modes of migration is unclear, although the differential speed at which chain versus radial migration occur may be important. For example, chain migrating cells of the RMS travel approximately three times faster than radially migrating cells, indicating the former mode as a more effective means to rapidly transit cells to their

final destinations (Wichterle et al., 1997). We further show that the timing of the migration of these separate populations is distinct, with the onset of Pax6⁺ cell migration along the LCS preceding that of the Dlx2 $^+$ population by $\sim\!\!2$ d (E11.5 vs E13.5). Thus, conceivably Dlx2 $^+$ cells may use chain migration as a means to populate basal telencephalic regions more rapidly. Our data also reveal that the putative chain migrating Dlx2⁺ cells of the LCS, although closely associated with the radial glia guide, do not appear to migrate along this substrate. Thus, perhaps these radial glia provide a permissive environment for directed migration to the basal telencephalon similar to the role of the glial tube in the chain migration of RMS progenitors to the olfactory bulb. In addition to this apparent chain-like migration, a number of Dlx2⁺ cells that were observed along the LCS appeared less as chains but as individual cells more closely associated with radial glia, indicating that the mode of migration of Dlx2⁺ cells is likely complex. It will be interesting to explore whether these putative differences represent separate subpopulations of migrating $Dlx2^+$ progenitors or whether individual $Dlx2^+$ cells use both chain and radial migration as they transit to the basal telencephalon. It is also important to note that the chain-like appearance of Dlx2⁺ cells from the CSB, both *in vivo* and *in vitro*, contrasted to the loose chains that emanated from the MGE or CGE and is in agreement with regional subpallial variation in migratory capacity (Wichterle et al., 2001; Nery et al., 2003).

The lateral cortical stream is generated locally at the corticostriatal border progenitor zone

Emerging spatiotemporal patterns of gene expression suggest that embryonic telencephalic regions undergo a developmental parcellation according to predefined genetic codes (for review, see Rallu et al., 2002; Campbell, 2003; Puelles and Rubenstein, 2003). Recently, it has been shown that the spatial and temporal origin of subpallial precursors predicts the mature physiological properties of interneurons in the somatosensory cortex (Butt et al., 2005), thus revealing a functional component to the regional identity of subpallial progenitor zones such as the MGE and CGE. Such early specification of neural progenitors predicts that each telencephalic progenitor zone will be a source of cells with distinct functional characteristics in the mature brain. This (Butt et al., 2005) and other work (Stenman et al., 2003a) has also interestingly revealed that the CGE and LGE can be further subdivided into subregions with distinct developmental capacity.

The CSB is marked by a number of genes whose expression is restricted to this region (e.g., *Dbx1*, *Sfrp2*, *Er81*, *Sp8*, and *Tsh1*) (Lu et al., 1996; Kim et al., 2001; Stenman et al., 2003a; Caubit et al., 2005; Waclaw et al., 2006), indicating that the CSB may also be a unique progenitor zone in the developing telencephalon. One prediction of this is that progenitor cells of the LCS are generated locally at the CSB and not imported from the other telencephalic progenitor zones (e.g., MGE, LGE, or CGE). Indeed, our shortterm fate mapping of in utero transplanted progenitor cells, cell tracking in organotypic cultures, in vitro Matrigel cultures, and analysis of Nkx2.1 mutant mice revealed that the MGE, LGE, or CGE contributes little to the LCS. Because telencephalic neural progenitors are specified early and functionally differentiate according to their regional origin (Nery et al., 2002; Xu et al., 2004; Butt et al., 2005), we further postulate that locally generated CSB cells that form the LCS will in turn have their own intrinsic physiological characteristics in the mature basal telencephalic limbic system. Such specification may in part or wholly underlie the preferential localization of Pax6⁺ and Dlx2⁺ cells in emerging amygdaloid nuclei as observed in the present study.

Our previous *in utero* transplantation studies have shown that other subpallial progenitors (specifically those arising from the MGE and CGE) also generate cells destined for the amygdala (Nery et al., 2002), indicating that there are multiple embryonic sources of amygdala cells. Thus, similar to the apparent mechanism of the generation of cellular diversity in the cerebral cortex, it is likely that the basal telencephalic limbic system is contributed to by a number of distinct subpallial and pallial telencephalic progenitor regions, including the CSB. Thus, together these data should have broad implications for unraveling the developmental origins of cellular diversity in the mature amygdala.

Gsh2 is required for the generation of the lateral cortical stream

Gsh2 is essential for the specification of the dorsal LGE and correct positioning of the CSB (Corbin et al., 2000; Toresson et al., 2000; Yun et al., 2001). Previous studies have also indicated that Gsh2 is also required for proper specification and/or migration of the Pax6⁺ population of the LCS (Toresson et al., 2000; Yun et al., 2001; Stenman et al., 2003c). Here, we found that, in addition to the defect in Pax6⁺ cells, the Dlx2⁺ component of the LCS was entirely absent in $Gsh2^{-/-}$ mutant mice. Interestingly, although proper CSB border positioning is reestablished by midneurogenesis in $Gsh2^{-/-}$ mutants (Corbin et al., 2000; Toresson et al., 2000; Toresson and Campbell, 2001; Yun et al., 2001), the loss of Dlx2⁺ cells along the LCS, unlike the olfactory bulb interneuron defect in these mice, does not partially recover. This may reflect that fact that cells of the basal telencephalic limbic system appear to be specified during a fixed window of development (McConnell and Angevine, 1983; Bayer and Altman, 1991; present study), whereas olfactory bulb neurogenesis continues through adulthood (for review, see Alvarez-Buylla and Garcia-Verdugo, 2002).

The inability to rescue the Dlx2⁺ migratory defect in our Matrigel experiment indicates that one function of *Gsh2* is in the specification of Dlx2⁺ population of the LCS or in the regulation of the capacity of these cells to migrate. However, the function of *Gsh2* in the generation of the LCS may be more complex. For example, although our data indicate that the integrity and fasciculation of the LCS radial glia is normal in *Gsh2^{-/-}* mutants, more subtle abnormalities in radial glial function cannot be ruled out (e.g., the loss of secreted factors that may promote Dlx2⁺ chain migration). Indeed, the ventral shift of BLPB⁺ radial glia in *Gsh2* mutants indicates that this may be the case. Thus, the potential function of *Gsh2* in both the specification of migratory progenitor cells of the LCS and of the radial glial guide warrants additional investigation.

In summary, our data indicate that the LCS is a complex migratory route comprising distinct subtypes of neural progenitor cells that contribute to distinct basal telencephalic nuclei. Thus, determining the genetic cascades required for the specification of this cell population and the ultimate fate of these cells in the mature brain will have broad implications for unraveling the developmental logic underlying the generation of neuronal cell diversity in the developing basal telencephalic limbic system and in particular the amygdala.

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