
Introduction

Prof. Dr. Dr. Stephan von Gunten
MD PhD MME

Lecture series: Clinical Immunology





Research opportunities for students:

- M.Sc.
- Ph.D.
- M.D./Ph.D.
- Postdoctoral fellowships

www.pki.unibe.ch

Patients

Clinical Pharmacology

Preparing & dispensing drugs

Pharmacy

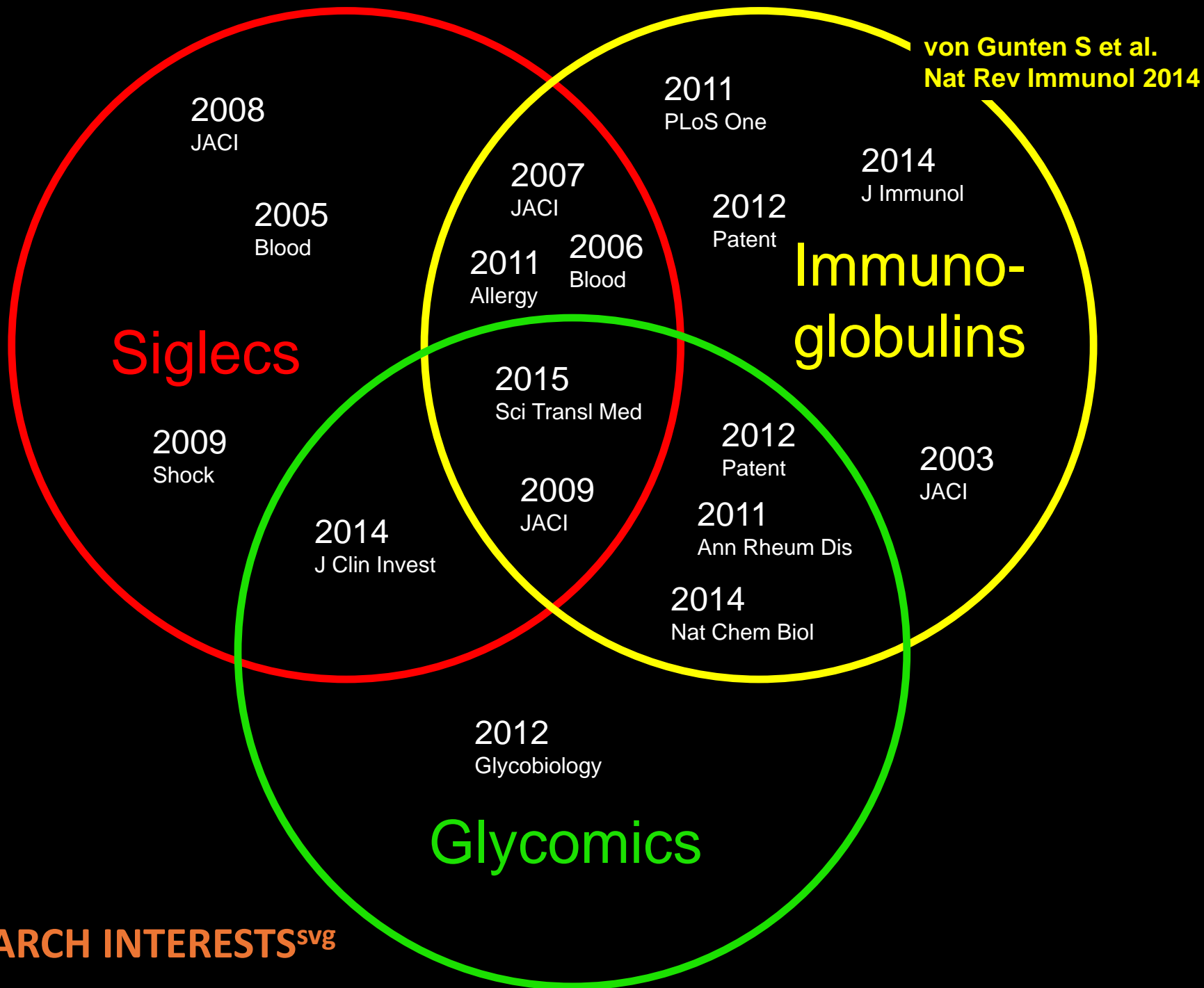
Toxicology

Mechanisms & discovery novel drug targets

Experimental Pharmacology



Immunopharmacology



Why do we need Clinical Immunology?

Immunologic mechanisms play a **key role** in the pathogenesis of practically all human diseases

Clinical Immunology **translates** progress made in Experimental Immunology into medicine

The translation concerns **pathogenesis, diagnostics, and therapy**

Clinical Immunology represents an **interdisciplinary** medical discipline, which interacts with and supports multiple other medical disciplines

Suggested textbook

English:

Abbas AK, Lichtman AH, and Pillai S:

Cellular and Molecular Immunology

Latest edition

SAUNDERS Elsevier

Handouts and exam

Handouts: www.pki.unibe.ch

Exam: www.pki.unibe.ch

June 6, 2019, 17.00-18.00 pm,

Ort: Hörsaal UG113 im Chemiegebäude, Freiestrasse 3

Institute of Pharmacology



Studies

Research

Continuing Education

Services

About Us

Courses

Lectures in Clinical
Immunology at the phil-
nat. faculty

Human medicine

Dentistry

Studienprogramme

Student Support

Lectures in Clinical Immunology at the phil-nat. faculty

4540-F52020-0: Selected topics in Clinical Immunology

Lecturers Bern Immunology Club (BIC); Coordination: Prof. Dr. S. von Gunten

Type Lecture, 2h / week, 3 ECTS

Semester Master Spring semester, on Thursdays, 4.15 - 6 p.m.

Place Institute of Cell Biology, Baltzerstr. 4, lecture room C161

miscellaneous The preconditions to visit this lectures are:

- participation in classes Immunology I and II of the Bachelor course or an equivalent education
- an Immunology textbook, we recommend Abbas AK, Lichtman AH und Pillai S: Cellular and Molecular Immunology, 8th Edition
- course preparation according to topic (reading respective chapters, download and study of lecture print-outs)
- knowledge of English language

Possible classification of defective immune systems

Immunodeficiency

- congenital
- acquired
- innate
- adaptive
- infectious
- non-infectious
- cellular
- humoral
- organ-restricted
- systemic
- iatrogenic
- Non-iatrogenic

Hyperreactivity

- autoimmunity
- allergy
- innate
- adaptive
- infectious
- non-infectious
- cellular
- humoral
- organ-restricted
- systemic
- iatrogenic
- Non-iatrogenic

Important diagnostic tools of a Clinical Immunologist

Immunoassay (sera, body fluids, cell supernatants)

Immunohistochemistry (biopsies)

Flow cytometry (blood cells)

Additional lab tests (PCR, proliferation, cytotoxicity, etc.)

Functional tests (skin, nose, lung, gut)

Patients

Clinical Pharmacology

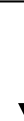
Preparing & dispensing drugs

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Toxicology

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Experimental Pharmacology



Immunopharmacology

Allgemeine Informationen Von Psoriasis betroffene Körperteile

Arten der Psoriasis

Therapie

- Therapeutische Strategien
- Topische Behandlungen
- Lichttherapien
- Systemische Behandlungen
- Methotrexat
- Retinoide
- Ciclosporin
- Fumarate
- Kortikosteroide
- Biologics

Kombinationstherapien

Langzeittherapie

Therapie "problematischer" Hautbereiche

- Andere Behandlungsformen
- Behandlungsresistente Psoriasis

Pflege

Kinder und Jugendliche

Schwangerschaft

Soziale Aspekte

Vorbereitung auf den Sommer

Fragen an den Arzt

Umgang mit Psoriasis im alltäglichen Leben

Forschung

Biologics

„[Biologische Substanzen](#)“ (Biologics, Biologika, Biologicals) werden mittels gentechnischer Verfahren (biotechnologisch) hergestellt. Im Gegensatz zu traditionellen systemischen Therapien, die das ganze Immunsystem beeinflussen, wie Methotrexat und Cyclosporin, wirken Biologics sehr gezielt und stellen möglicherweise eine sicherere Behandlungsform dar. Da diese Präparate noch verhältnismäßig neu sind, ist die Sicherheit einschließlich der Langzeitsicherheit noch nicht ausreichend untersucht.

Biologics wirken auf T-Lymphozyten, die hauptsächlich für die Entzündung bei der Psoriasis verantwortlich sind. Einige Biologics hemmen die Aktivierung der T-Lymphozyten. Andere verhindern die Produktion der Substanzen, die von ihnen freigegeben werden. Eine weitere Gruppe verringert die Zahl T-Lymphozyten.

Die Behandlung wird gewöhnlich gut vertragen. Je nach Wirkungsweise und Art der Anwendung (Injektionen, Infusionen) kann es zu unterschiedlichen Nebenwirkungen kommen, wie allergische Reaktionen oder örtliche Reaktionen an der Einstichstelle (Blutungen, Blutergüsse, Rötung, Juckreiz, Schmerzen oder Schwellungen). Da durch die Biologics bestimmte Reaktionen des Immunsystems unterdrückt werden, ist auch das Infektionsrisiko erhöht. Wenn Sie mit einem solchen Medikament behandelt werden, ist es daher wichtig, dass Sie auf mögliche Anzeichen einer Infektion, wie Fieber, Husten oder andere grippeähnliche Beschwerden achten und Ihren Arzt darüber informieren.

Biologics sind Fusionsproteine, rekombinante Proteine oder monoklonale Antikörper. Da die Herstellung sehr aufwändig ist, sind die Präparate im Vergleich zu herkömmlichen Medikamenten sehr teuer. Sie bleiben daher in der Regel Patienten mit schweren Formen der Psoriasis und Psoriasis-Arthritis vorbehalten, die auf andere systemische Medikamente oder eine PUVA-Therapie nicht ansprechen bzw. wenn diese Therapieformen nicht angewendet werden können.

Etanercept

Dieses chimäre Protein hemmt den Tumornekrosefaktor TNF-alpha. Dadurch lassen sich die Entzündungsprozesse stoppen, die zur Entstehung der psoriatischen Hautveränderungen führen.

Etanercept wird zweimal wöchentlich unter die Haut (subkutan) gespritzt und kann auch vom Patienten selbst verabreicht werden. Das Medikament ist sowohl zur Therapie der Schuppenflechte als auch bei Psoriasis-Arthritis sowie bei Morbus Bechterew (eine chronisch entzündliche rheumatische Erkrankung mit Schmerzen und Versteifung von Gelenken) zugelassen.

Biotechnology

Targeted
therapy

Safe (?)

T cells (?)

DRUG TRIALS

Violent Reaction to Monoclonal Antibody Therapy Remains a Mystery



Anti-CD28 mAb (TGN1412) Trial

The worst affected volunteers were **kept alive with mechanical life support** and large doses of steroids to reduce inflammation.

Marshall E, Science 2006

Roulette. Six healthy volunteers injected with a test drug had to be rushed into critical care at Northwick Park Hospital; two others injected with a placebo weren't affected.

Cytokine storm induced by anti-CD28 antibody

March 13, 2006, London, UK :

8 healthy male volunteers participated in a placebo-controlled phase 1 study using an anti-CD28 monoclonal antibody (TGN1412, TeGenero)

6 received verum and developed a severe systemic inflammatory response syndrome

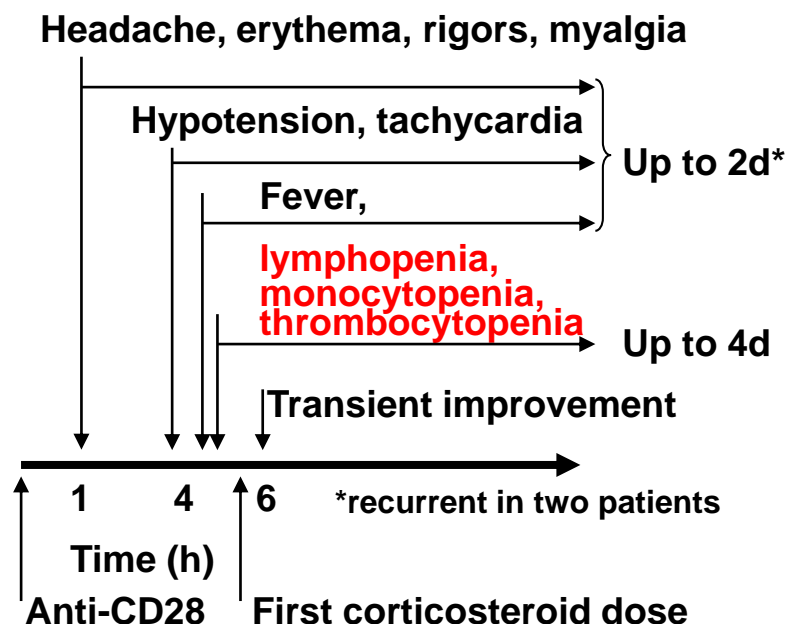
2 received placebo – no effect

Report about clinical and pathological findings during the first 30 days after the infusion

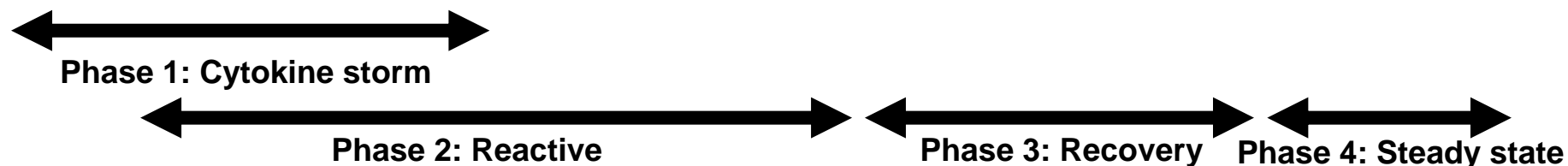
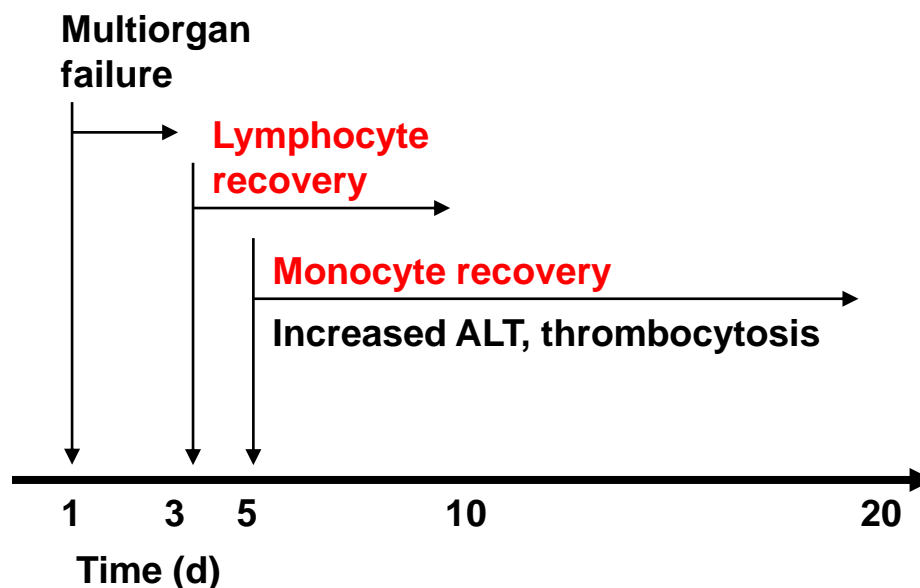
Symptoms

Cytokine storm induced by anti-CD28 antibody

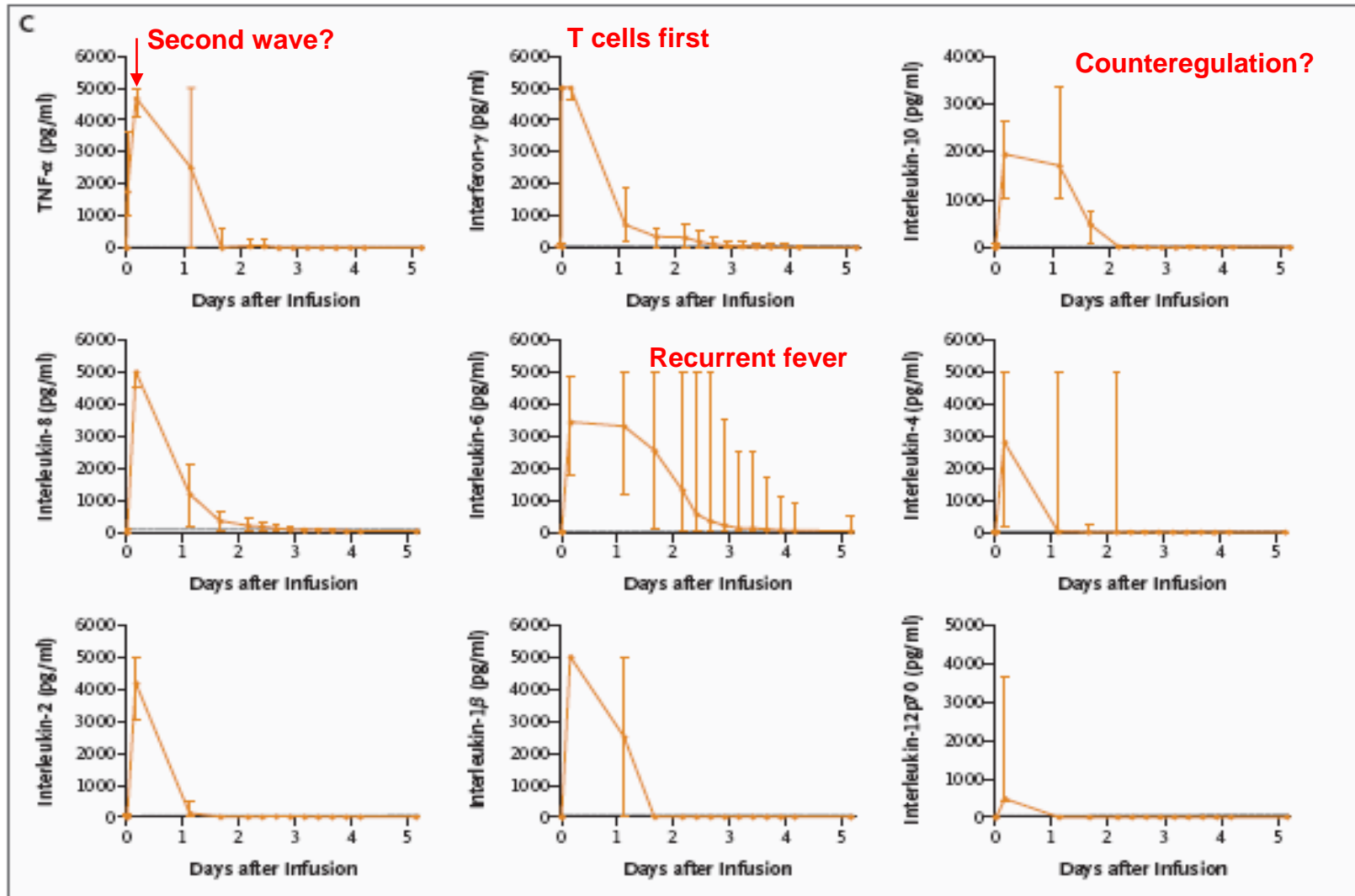
Clinical Investigation Unit



Intensive Care Unit (authors)



Cytokine storm induced by anti-CD28 antibody



Clinical trials in the area of biologics

Biologics are highly efficient drugs, but can be **dangerous** from the beginning

Detailed **knowledge** of the immune system is required

Early clinical trials are usually **supervised by clinical pharmacologists**

Involvement of a **clinical immunologist** seems to be advisable

Do we need a clinical **immunopharmacologist**?

Do we need clinical immunopharmacologists?

« Pharmacologists usually forget that Immunology also deals with receptors, agonists, antagonists, second messenger systems, and genetic variations (for instance, most Pharmacology text books devote 10 times more space to the pharmacology of the autonomic nervous system compared with the immune system)»

«Many diseases are caused by abnormalities in the immune system, therefore many new drugs acting on immune cells are used»

«Therefore, this imbalance, although understandable on historical grounds, causes problems and does not prepare clinical pharmacologists for the future»

-«We need clinical pharmacologists to manage the translational interface required for these novel therapeutic interventions»

DRUG TRIALS

Violent Reaction to Monoclonal Antibody Therapy Remains a Mystery



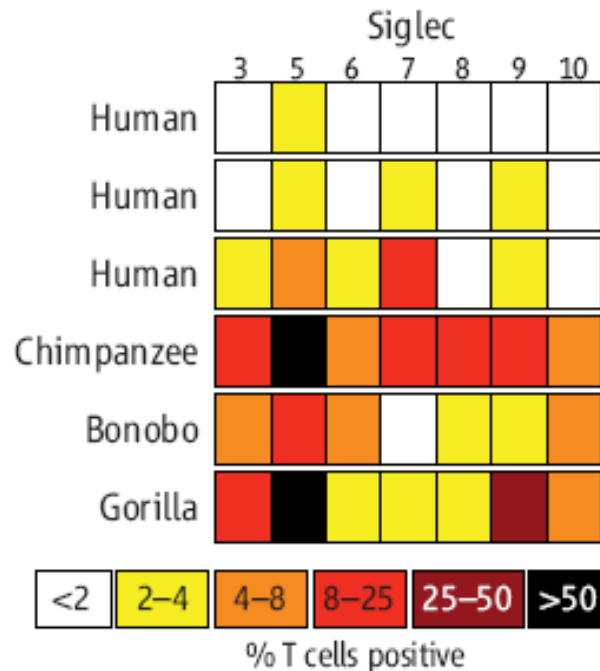
“TGN1412 and analogous antibodies bind to the CD28 receptor on T cells, triggering a powerful expansion of cells dominated by regulatory T cells.

Even at “horrific” doses in **rats and mice**,... regulatory cells dominated, giving credence to the view that these cells’ damping effect would swamp out the more harmful effects of conventional T cells, also activated by TGN1412. The **monkey** study supported this confidence,”

Marshall E, Science 2006

IMMUNOLOGY

Differences in Immune Cell “Brakes” May Explain Chimp-Human Split on AIDS



Disease dodger? Higher levels of Siglecs expressed by ape T cells may explain why they do not suffer many common ailments that plague humans.

“When it comes to the immune system, be careful about predicting whether a primate model will predict human responses.” (Ajit Varki)

“The new insights on Siglecs may also help avoid tragedies like the one that recently occurred in a U.K. drug trial.”

Cohen J, Science 2006

ANIMAL MODELS

BENEFITS/ACHIEVEMENTS:

- *In vivo* (physiological setting)
- History of revolutionary findings
- Disease pathogenesis
- Drug safety
- Advantage publication/funding



CHALLENGES:

- Non-human
- Traditions, glorification
- Artificial, partial aspects of disease
- Accidents (over-/misinterpretations)
- Labor-intensive experimentation
- High costs
- Ethical concerns
- Intellectual challenges (species, model)

NEED FOR A SCIENTIFIC AND PUBLIC DISCOURSE

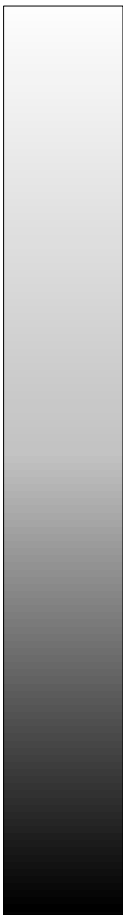
ANIMAL MODELS: SKILLS

- Study design (science, ethics, costs)
- Confounding variables (species differences, model, strains)
- Update methodological approach
- Identification of model weaknesses and development of alternatives
- Avoidance of mis- or overinterpretations in translation to humans (drug safety, textbooks)
- Attitude (objective/critical, avoid glorification [*in vivo* but non-human])
- Communication with peers and public

DISEASE MODELS

Evolutionary relationship

Max.



Individual patient

Patient cohorts (clinical studies)

Primates

Dogs

Cats

Rodents

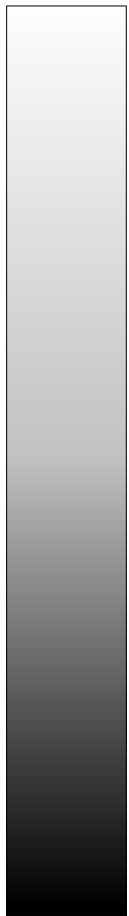
Fishes

Drosophila

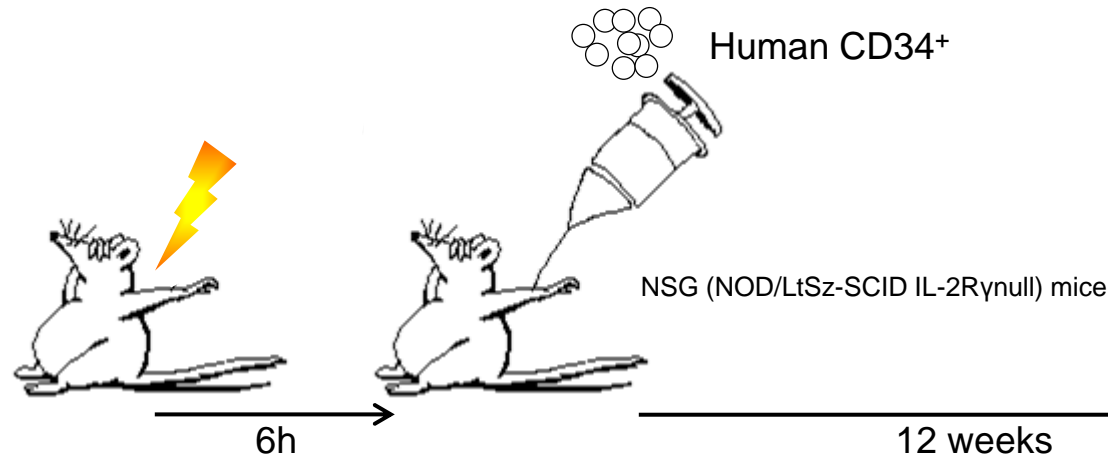
Humanized
mice

Ethical concerns

Max.



IN VIVO EXPERIMENTS USING MICE WITH A HUMAN NK CELL COMPARTMENT



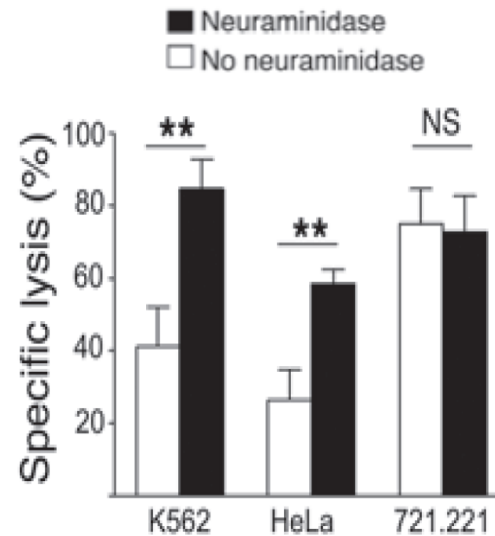
Reconstitution of human immune system components was checked:

human Siglec-7, BUT NOT Siglec-9 on NK cells

Siglec-7L

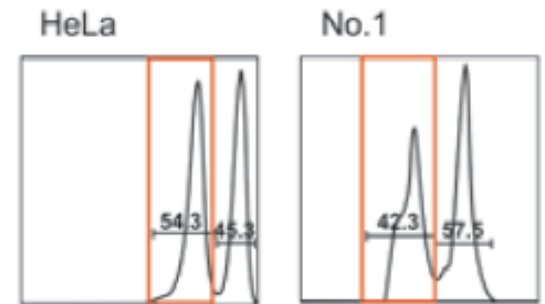
Siglec-9L

neuraminidase
No
Neuraminidase



Pre-transfer

Post-transfer



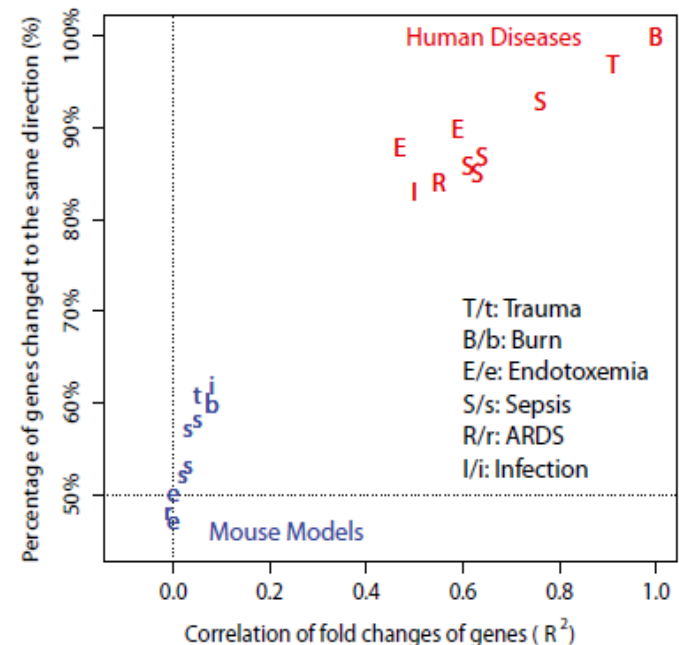
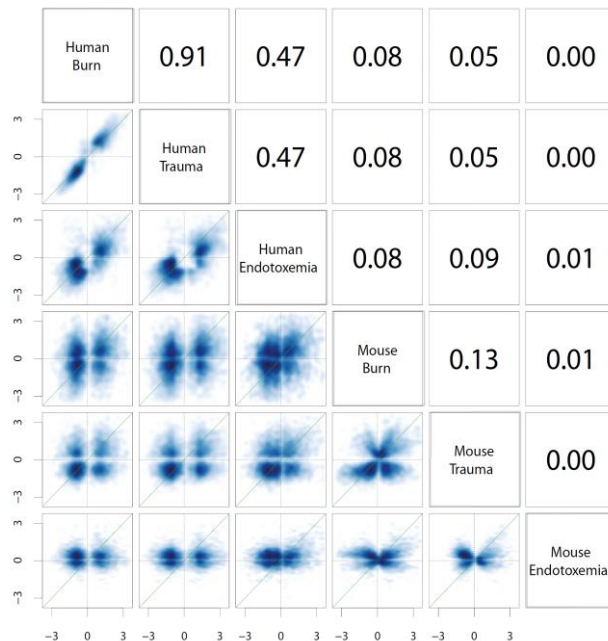
2013

PNAS

Genomic responses in mouse models poorly mimic human inflammatory diseases

Junhee Seok^{a,1}, H. Shaw Warren^{b,1}, Alex G. Cuenca^{c,1}, Michael N. Mindrinos^a, Henry V. Baker^c, Weihong Xu^a, Daniel R. Richards^d, Grace P. McDonald-Smith^e, Hong Gao^a, Laura Hennessey^f, Celeste C. Finnerty^g, Cecilia M. López^c, Shari Honari^f, Ernest E. Moore^h, Joseph P. Mineiⁱ, Joseph Cuschieri^j, Paul E. Bankey^k, Jeffrey L. Johnson^h, Jason Sperry^l, Avery B. Nathens^m, Timothy R. Billiar^l, Michael A. Westⁿ, Marc G. Jeschke^o, Matthew B. Klein^j, Richard L. Gamelli^p, Nicole S. Gibran^j, Bernard H. Brownstein^q, Carol Miller-Graziano^k, Steve E. Calvano^r, Philip H. Mason^e, J. Perren Cobb^s, Laurence G. Rahme^t, Stephen F. Lowry^{r,2}, Ronald V. Maier^j, Lyle L. Moldawer^c, David N. Herndon^g, Ronald W. Davis^{a,3}, Wenzhong Xiao^{a,t,3}, Ronald G. Tompkins^{t,3}, and the Inflammation and Host Response to Injury, Large Scale Collaborative Research Program⁴

^aStanford Genome Technology Center, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA 94305; Departments of ^bPediatrics and Medicine, ^cAnesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine, and ^dSurgery, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA 02114; ^eDepartment of Surgery, University of Florida College of Medicine, Gainesville, FL 32610; ^fIngenuity Inc., Redwood City, CA 94063; ^gDepartment of Surgery, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA 02114; ^hDepartment of Surgery, Harborview Medical Center, Seattle, WA 98195; ⁱShriners Hospitals for Children and Department of Surgery, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX 77550-1220; ^jDepartment of Surgery, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Denver, CO 80045; ^kDepartment of Surgery, Parkland Memorial Hospital, University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX 75390; ^lDepartment of Surgery, Harborview Medical Center, University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, WA 98195; ^mDepartment of Surgery, University of Rochester School of Medicine, Rochester, NY 14642; ⁿDepartment of Surgery, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Presbyterian University Hospital, University of Pittsburgh, PA 15213; ^oDepartment of Surgery, St. Michael's Hospital, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada M5B 1W8; ^pDepartment of Surgery, San Francisco General Hospital, University of California, San Francisco, CA 94143; ^qDivision of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Department of Surgery, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada M4N 3M5; ^rDepartment of Surgery, Stritch School of Medicine, Loyola University, Chicago, IL 60153; ^sDepartment of Anesthesiology, Washington University, School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO 63110; and ^tDepartment of Surgery, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, New Brunswick, NJ 08903



Murphy K, Travers P, Walport M, Janeway C. 2012. *Janeway's Immunobiology*. New York: Garland Science:

“Responses to several TI-2 antigens are made prominently by B-1 cells (also known as CD5 B cells), which comprise an autonomously replicating subpopulation of nonconventional B cells”

“... controversy regarding whether B1 cells exist at all in Homo sapiens,....”

Griffin DO, J Exp Med 2011

“To B1... or not to B1: that really is still the question!”

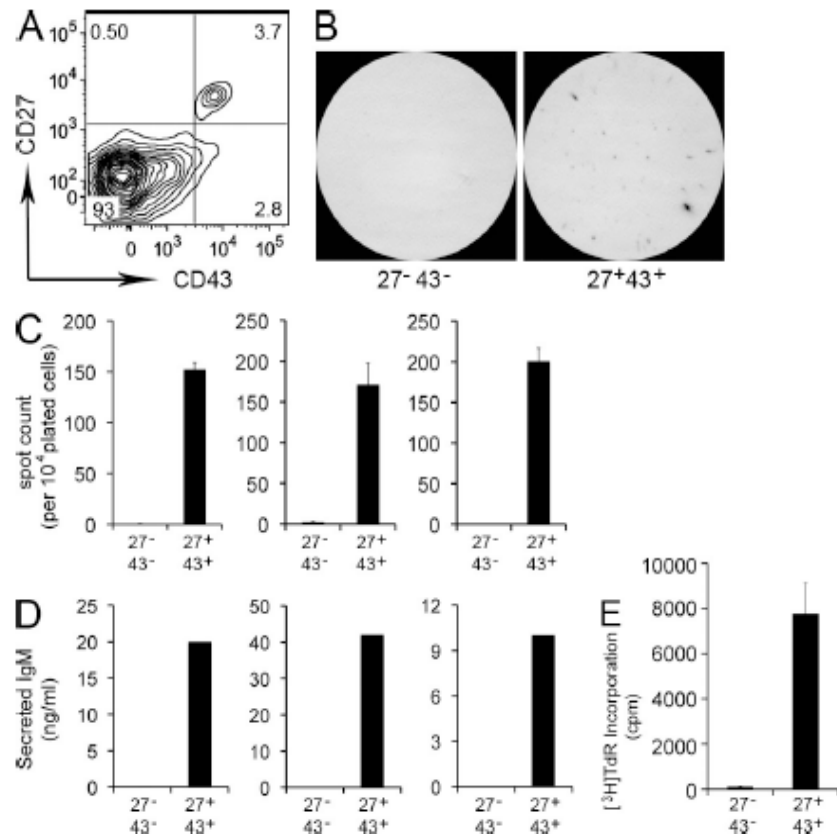
Tangye SG, Blood 2013

Human B1 cells in umbilical cord and adult peripheral blood express the novel phenotype CD20⁺CD27⁺CD43⁺CD70⁻

Daniel O. Griffin,^{1,2} Nichol E. Holodick,² and Thomas L. Rothstein^{2,3,4}

¹Elmzei Graduate School of Molecular Medicine and ²Center and for Oncology and Cell Biology, the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research, Manhasset, NY 11030

³Department of Medicine and ⁴Department of Molecular Medicine, Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine, Manhasset, NY 11030



J Exp Med 2011

J Exp Med. 2011 Dec 19;208(13):2563-4. doi: 10.1084/jem.20112232.

A human equivalent of mouse B-1 cells?

Descatoire M, Weill JC, Reynaud CA, Weller S.

J Exp Med. 2011 Dec 19;208(13):2565-6. doi: 10.1084/jem.20112203.

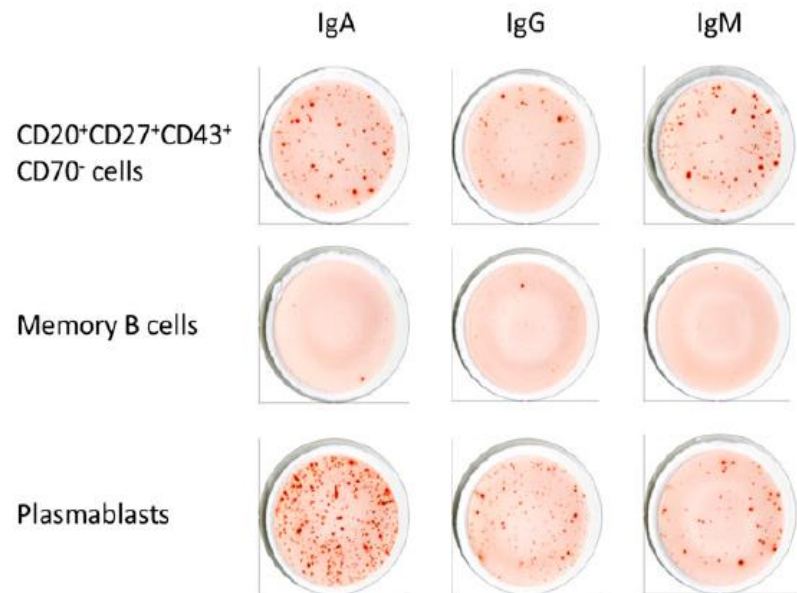
The nature of circulating CD27⁺CD43⁺ B cells.

Perez-Andres M, Grosserichter-Wagener C, Teodosio C, van Dongen JJ

IMMUNOBIOLOGY

Characterization of proposed human B-1 cells reveals pre-plasmablast phenotype

Kris Covens,^{1,2} Bert Verbinen,^{1,3} Nick Geukens,¹ Isabelle Meyts,⁴ Frans Schuit,⁵ Leentje Van and Xavier Bossu^{1,3}



Blood 2013

IVIg pluripotency and the concept of Fc-sialylation: challenges to the scientist.

von Gunten S, Shoenfeld Y, Blank M, Branch DR, Vassilev T, Käsermann F, Bayry J, Kaveri S, Simon HU.

Nat Rev Immunol. 2014 May;14(5):349. doi: 10.1038/nri3401-c1.

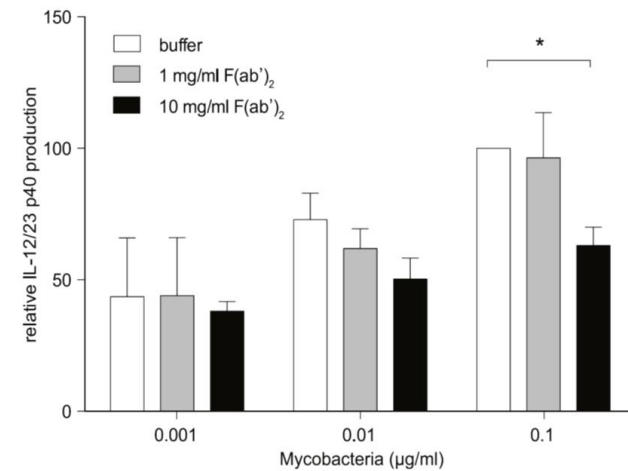
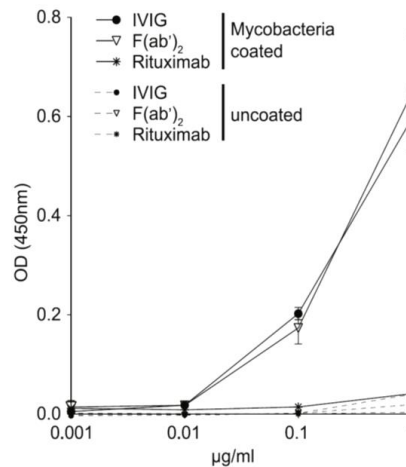
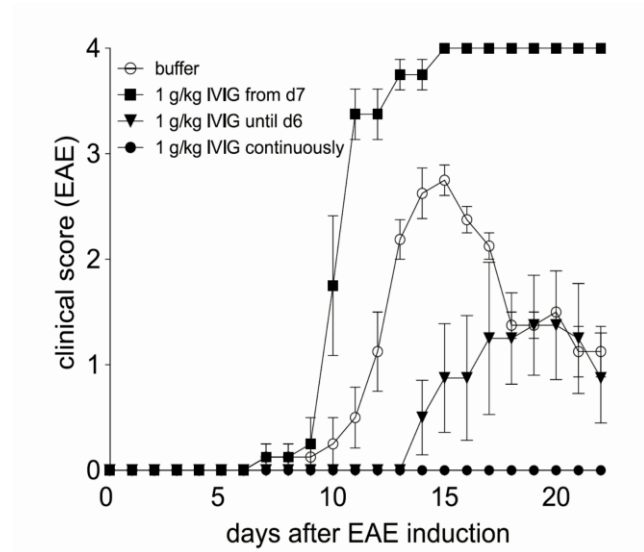
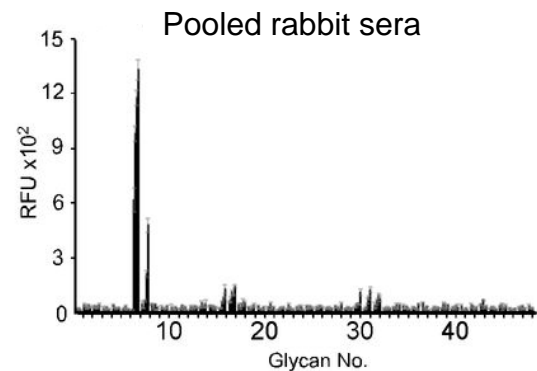
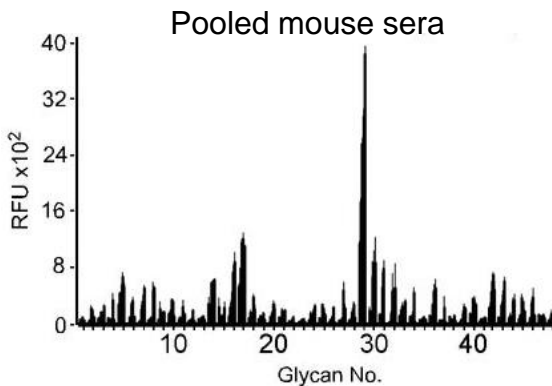
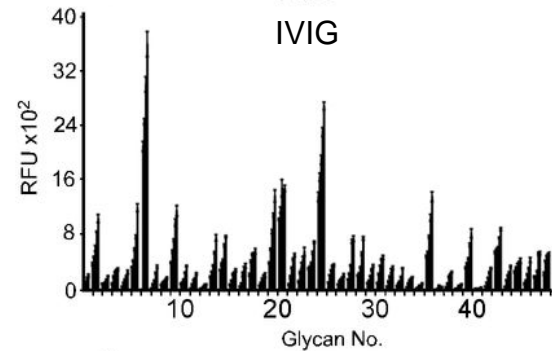
PMID: 24762829

Replacement Therapy	Immunomodulatory Therapy
<p>FDA-Approved</p> <p><i>Primary immunodeficiencies (PID):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Common variable immunodeficiency disordersCongenital agammaglobulinemia and hypoglobulinemiaSevere combined immunodeficiencies (SCID)Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome <p><i>Secondary immunodeficiencies (SID):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">After immunosuppression in solid organ transplantationAllogeneic bone marrow transplantationChronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL)Congenital / Pediatric HIV infection <p>Off-Label Uses</p> <p><i>Secondary immunodeficiencies (SID), associated with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Anti-CD20 therapyChemotherapyHemolytic anemiaRheumatoid arthritisSjögren's syndromeSystemic lupus erythematosus (SLE)Low-grade non-Hodgkin's lymphomaMultiple myeloma	<p>FDA-Approved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyradiculoneuropathy (CIDP)Immune thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP)Kawasaki diseaseMultifocal motor neuropathy (MMN)Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) <p>Off-Label Uses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Anti-Factor VIII autoimmune diseaseAnti-phospholipid syndromeAutoimmune blistering diseaseAutoimmune hemolytic anemiaAutoimmune neutropeniaBirdshot retinopathyCytomegalovirus infectionDermatomyositisEpidermolysis bullosa acquisitaFetal hemolytic diseaseFetal neonatal alloimmune thrombocytopenia (FNAIT)Graft-versus-host diseaseHIV-associated thrombocytopeniaInclusion body myositisLambert-Eaton myasthenic syndromeMucous membrane (cicatrical) pemphigoidMultiple sclerosisMyasthenia gravis (MG)Necrotizing fasciitisNeonatal alloimmune thrombocytopeniaOpsoclonus myoclonus syndrome (OMS)Pemphigus foliaceusPemphigus vulgarisPolymyositisPolyradiculoneuropathyRefractory dermatomyositisRefractory polymyositisRelapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis (RRMS)Rheumatoid arthritisSepsis syndromeSevere anemia associated with parvovirus B19Severe dermatomyositisSevere polymyositisSteroid-dependent atopic dermatitisStiff Person syndrome (SPS)Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE)Systemic vasculitisToxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN)Vasculitis syndrome

CLINICAL USE OF INTRAVENOUS IMMUNOGLOBULINS (IVIg)

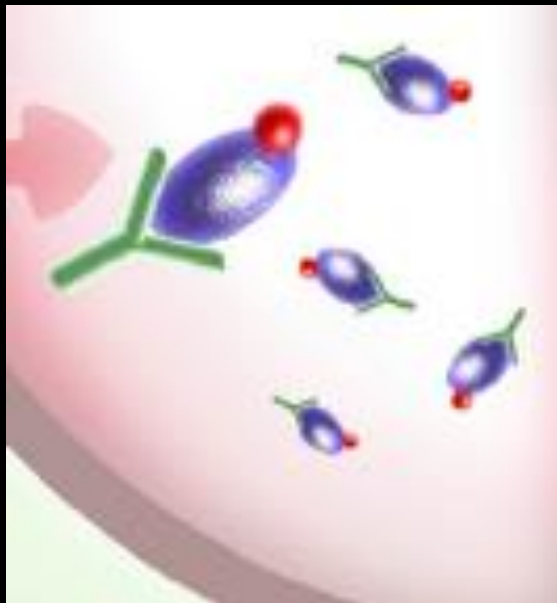
SPECIES DIFFERENCES!

Experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE): B6 mice immunized with MOG₃₅₋₅₅ peptide emulsified in complete Freund's adjuvant (CFA)



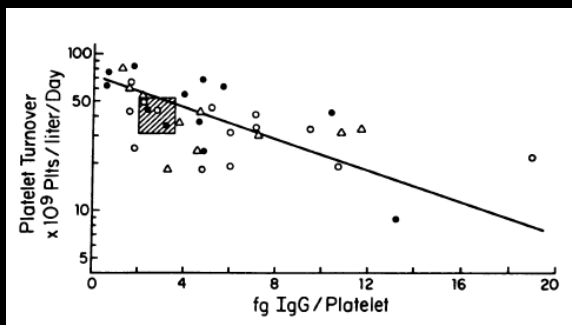
Immune thrombocytopenia (ITP): mechanisms

1950: Self-experiment Dr. W. Harrington



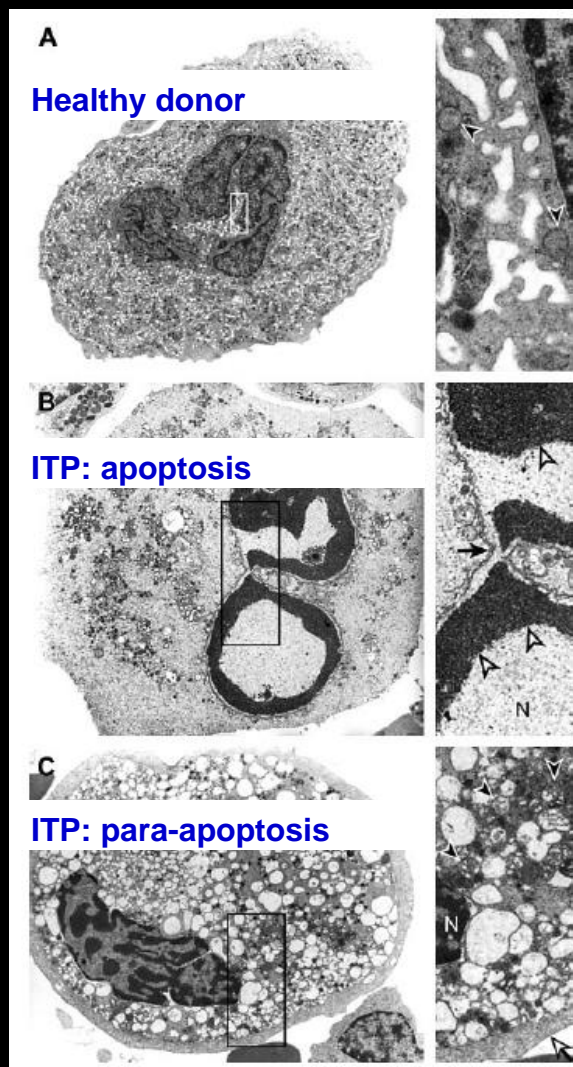
Kinetic experiments

-> platelet **generation** problem



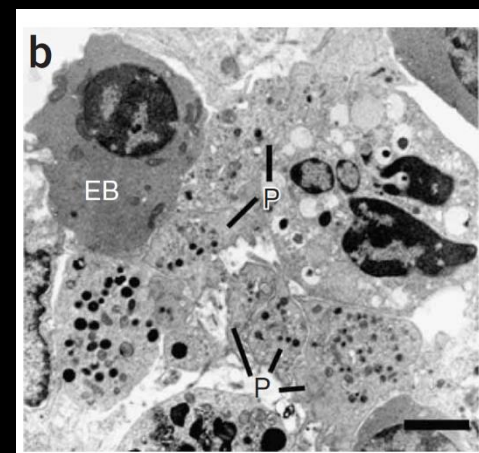
Ballem PJ et al. J Clin Invest. 1987

Megakaryocyte death



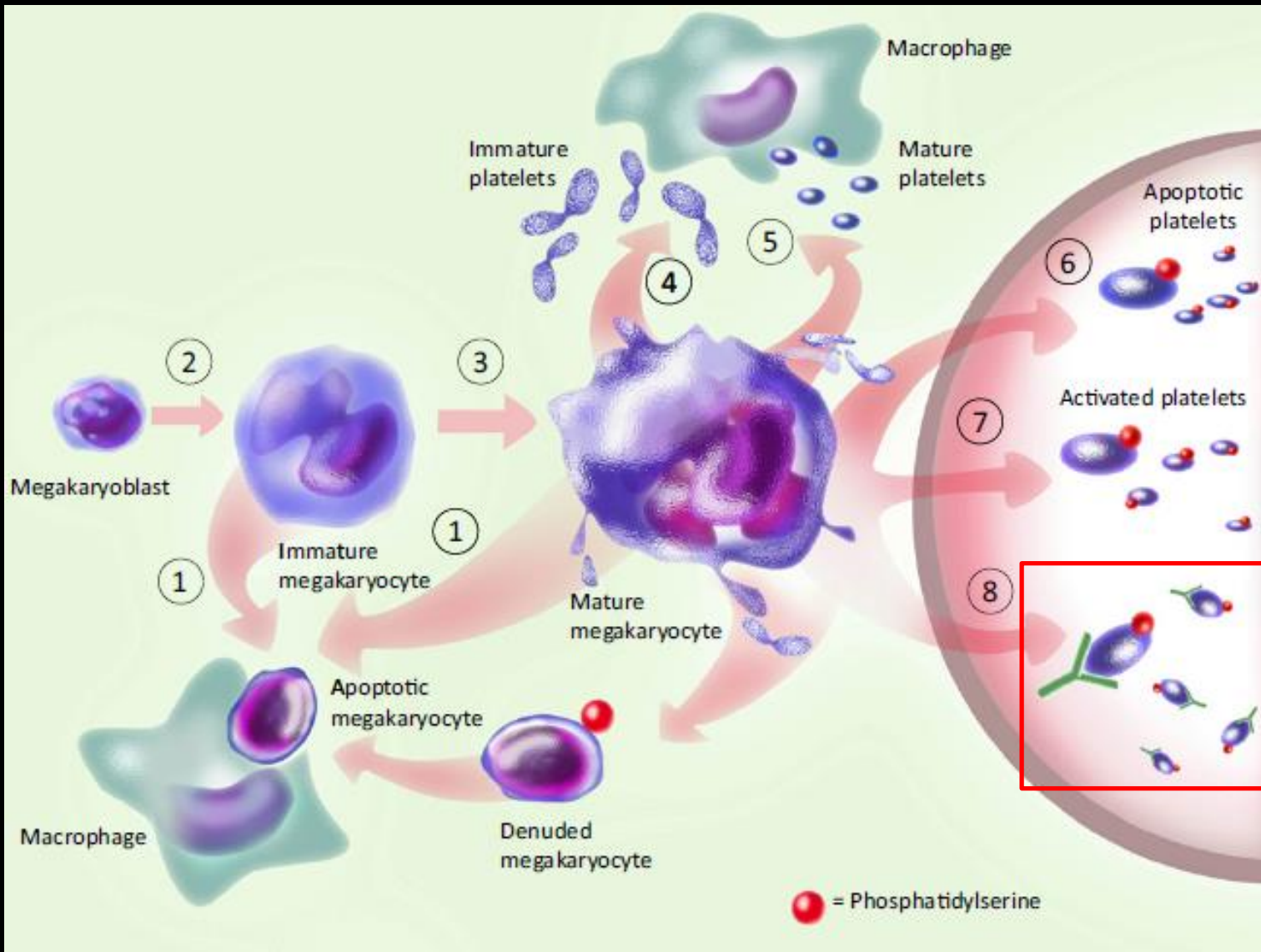
Houwerzijl EJ, Blood. 2004

Ineffective megakaryopoiesis



Morison IM, Nat Genet. 2008

Immune thrombocytopenia (ITP): mechanisms



Current models of ITP

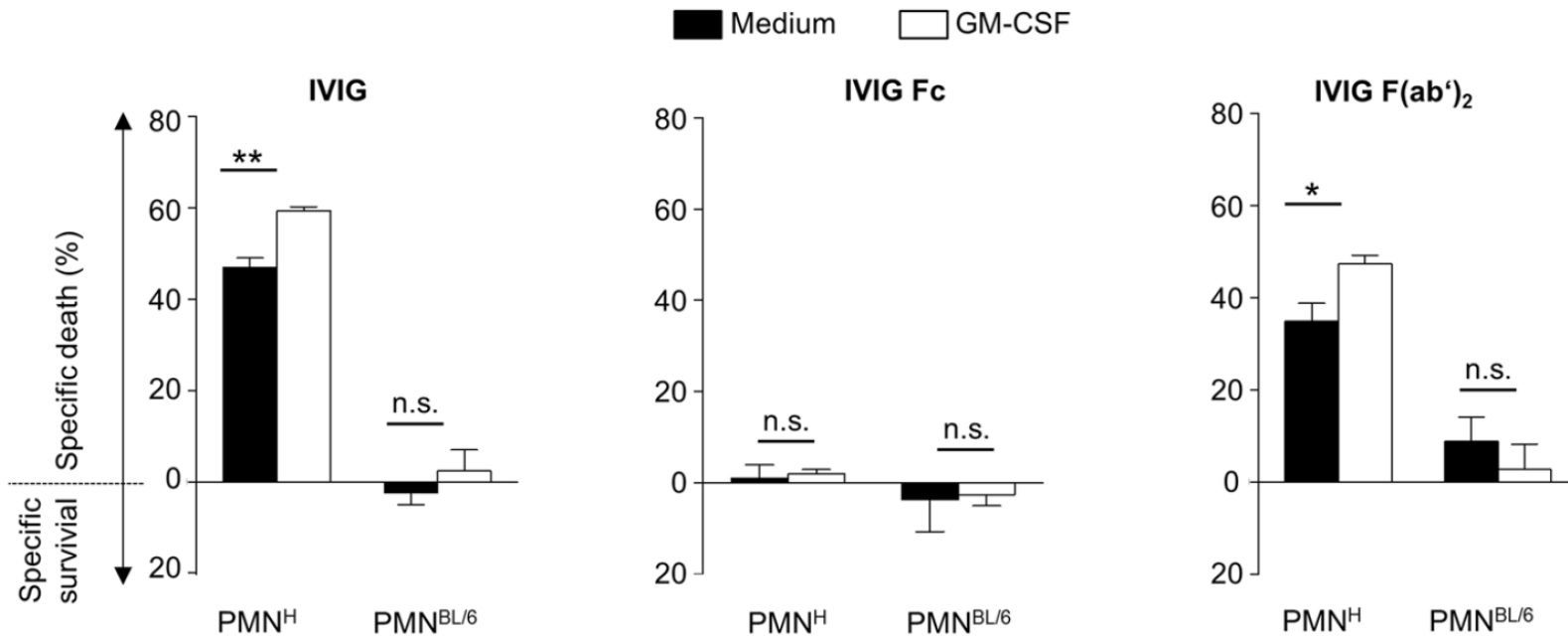
von Gunten S, Semin Hematol **modified**

IVIg pluripotency and the concept of Fc-sialylation: challenges to the scientist.

von Gunten S, Shoenfeld Y, Blank M, Branch DR, Vassilev T, Käsermann F, Bayry J, Kaveri S, Simon HU.

Nat Rev Immunol. 2014 May;14(5):349. doi: 10.1038/nri3401-c1.

PMID: 24762829



Schneider C et al. Sci Rep 2016