May 16th, 1:45 PM

Broad Repertoire of T Cell Autoreactivity Directly from Islets of Donors with Type 1 Diabetes (T1D)

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Babon, Jenny Aurielle B.; DeNicola, Megan E.; Blodgett, David M.; Crevecoeur, Inne; Buttrick, Thomas S.; Maehr, Rene; Bottino, Rita; Naji, Ali; Kaddis, John; Elyaman, Wassim; James, Eddie A.; Haliyur, Rachana; Brissova, Marcela; Overburgh, Lut; Mathieu, Chantal; Delong, Thomas; Haskins, Kathryn; Pugliese, Alberto; Campbell-Thompson, Martha; Mathews, Clayton; Clayton; Atkinson, Mark A.; Powers, Alvin C.; Harlan, David; and Kent, Sally C., "Broad Repertoire of T Cell Autoreactivity Directly from Islets of Donors with Type 1 Diabetes (T1D)" (2017). *UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science Research Retreat*. 12.  
[http://escholarship.umassmed.edu/cts_retreat/2017/posters/12](http://escholarship.umassmed.edu/cts_retreat/2017/posters/12)

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Presenter Information

Keywords
type 1 diabetes, T1D, T cells, autoreactivity

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BROAD REPERTOIRE OF T CELL AUTOREACTIVITY DIRECTLY FROM ISLETS OF DONORS WITH TYPE 1 DIABETES (T1D)

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Type 1 diabetes (T1D) is an autoimmune disease characterized by the infiltration of lymphocytes into the insulin-producing β-cells in the pancreas. We have isolated live T cells sorted or grown directly from the isolated, handpicked islets of human donors with T1D. We received ~500 islet equivalent EQ of variable purity (10-90%) from 12 donors with T1D (disease duration 0.42-20 years) and from seven control donors and two donors with type 2 diabetes (T2D). A total of 321 T cell lines and clones were derived from the islets of donors with T1D (3 lines from the 9 control donors). These are 131 CD4+ lines and clones, 47 CD8+ lines and 143 lines that contain both CD4+ and CD8+ T cells. From 50 lines and clones examined to date, we have determined the autoreactivity of 19 and have seen a broad repertoire of T cell autoreactivity in the islets, including characterized targets and post-translationally modified targets. Autoreactivity of CD4+ T cell lines was to three different peptides from glutamic acid decarboxylase 65 (GAD; GAD₁₁₅-₁₂₇, GAD₂₇₄-₂₈₆, GAD₅₅₅-₅₆₇), proinsulin₁₇₆-₉₀, and to chromogranin A or proinsulin expressed by DR4+DQ8+ B cells transduced with lentivirus containing constructs with the open reading frames corresponding to whole autoantigens. Reactivity to modified peptides included the glucose-regulated protein 78 and islet amyloid polypeptide with arginine to citrulline modifications (GRP78₂₂₂-₃₀₅/Arg-Cit₂₉₇) and IAPP₅₅-₈₄/Arg-Cit₇₃, ₈₁), deaminations (IA-2₅₄₅-₅₆₂/Gln-Glu ₅₄₈, ₅₅₁, ₅₅₆), and to several insulin hybrid peptides. These autoreactive CD4+ T cell lines and clones secreted only pro-inflammatory cytokines (IFN-γ, TNFα) upon peptide stimulation. For CD₈+ T cells from islets, from one donor with T1D, we saw binding of a pool of HLA-A2 pentamers loaded with insulin B₁₀-₁₈, IA-2₉₇₉-₈₀₅ and insulin specific glucose-6-phosphatase catalytic subunit related protein, IGRP₆₆₅-₂₇₃. These results have implications for the development of successful prevention and reversal therapeutic strategies in T1D.

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