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HLA CLASS II RESTRICTED MINOR HISTOCOMPATIBILITY ANTIGENS:
IDENTIFICATION, PROCESSING AND BIOLOGY

1. Identification of HLA class II restricted minor histocompatibility antigens is needed to elucidate the role of CD4$^+$ T-cells in GvL and GvHD, and is crucial for development of new T-cell based immunotherapies. (this thesis)

2. HLA class II restricted antigens can be distinguished by their (in)dependence of HLA-DM (this thesis)

3. A single point mutation in the HLA-DR α-chain disrupts the interaction with HLA-DM and makes surface presentation of HLA class II restricted antigens independent of HLA-DM (this thesis)

4. The release of cytosolic contents due to tissue damage mediated by activated allo-reactive T-cells may trigger a break in B-cell tolerance and production of auto-antibodies against intracellular self-antigens. (this thesis)

5. The possibility of intercellular antigen transfer extends the field of CD4$^+$ T-cell based immunotherapy to HLA class II negative tumors. (this thesis)

6. The impact of slight changes in antigen processing and presentation is demonstrated by the prevention of diabetes in HLA-DO over-expressing NOD mice. Yi et al., Journal of Clinical Investigation, 2010; 120; 1324-36.

7. Manipulating both the specificity of the effector cells and the conditions within the tumor environment is required for optimal exploitation of the therapeutic potential of posttransplant adoptive therapy with donor CD4$^+$ T cells. Falkenburg et al., Biology of Blood and Marrow Transplantation, 2011; 17; S33-38.

8. In vitro measured cytotoxicity does not necessarily correlate with the capacity to reject tumors in vivo. Perez-Diez et al., Blood, 2007; 109; 5346-54.

9. One function of HLA-DO is to promote T cell tolerance by shaping the visible image of self. Denzin et al., Front. Immunol, 2013; 17; 465.

10. Patients should not be treated by a doctor who is on duty for already more than 12 hours.

11. Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. (Nelson Mandela; 18 July 1918 – 5 December 2013)

12. The future belongs to those who can see opportunities before they get obvious. (Oscar Wilde; 16 October 1854 – 30 November 1900)