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Human skin equivalents for atopic dermatitis: investigating the role of filaggrin in the skin barrier

1. Reduced filaggrin expression does not affect the stratum corneum barrier properties of human skin models
   this thesis

2. Whereas a reduction in filaggrin expression does not affect the skin barrier directly, it may have an indirect effect by enhancing epidermal bacterial colonization
   this thesis

3. While the use of primary keratinocytes results in human skin equivalent that represents many aspects of native human skin, the use of well characterized keratinocyte cell lines has many practical advantages
   this thesis

4. Whereas a human skin equivalent is an excellent tool to investigate various epidermal and dermal processes, its usage for multi-factorial skin diseases remains a challenge
   this thesis

5. It is difficult to assess how filaggrin deficiency leads to the barrier abnormality in AD, because Th2 dominant inflammation can secondarily compromise barrier function by multiple mechanisms, including an acquired reduction in filaggrin

6. Although it is widely hypothesized that filaggrin deficiency provokes a permeability barrier abnormality, the cellular basis for such an abnormality is unknown

7. To study the pathologic features and pharmacologic intervention of atopic dermatitis, there is a need for skin models that mimic atopic dermatitis

8. There are 4 epidermal elements that help maintain skin homeostasis. They are physical, chemical, microbial and immunologic barriers and most of these have been shown to be defective in patients with atopic dermatitis

9. “Do not believe in anything simply because you have heard it or merely on the authority of your teachers and elders. But after observation and analysis, when you find that anything agrees with reason and is conducive to the good and benefit of one and all, then accept it and live up to it.”
   Gautama Buddha

10. “No matter in which condition we are, it is always possible to approach it with a positive attitude”
    The 14th Dalai Lama

11. You can please some of the people all of the time, you can please all of the people some of the time, but you can’t please all of the people all of the time
    John Lydgate

12. A picture says more than a 1000 words, but you need the experience to be able to tell the whole story

Vincent van Drongelen
Leiden, 16 december 2014