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Deregulation of innate and adaptive immune responses in human papillomavirus infection and cancer

1. The genome-wide data obtained from our study provide excellent entry points for in-depth studies on the molecular mechanisms utilized by high-risk HPV to evade host immunity (this thesis).

2. High-risk HPV deregulate the response of a cellular network comprising of chemotactic and proinflammatory genes (this thesis).

3. UCHL1 acts as a negative regulator of the pathogen recognition receptor pathways helping high-risk HPV to evade host immunity and allowing it to persist in keratinocytes (this thesis).

4. More evidence is needed to provide a definitive answer to the question about the therapeutic potentials of PD-1 and/or PD-L1 blockade in cervical cancer patients (this thesis).

5. It is not ethical, fair or socially responsible to have a public-health policy that forces men to rely on herd immunity, which won’t be reached for decades. Let’s start vaccinating men (against HPV) now. (Margaret Stanley, Vaccinate boys too. Nature 488, SI0, 30 August 2012).

6. Metastases are the cause of 90% of human cancer deaths (Patrick Mehlen and Alain Puisieux Metastasis: a question of life or death. Nature Reviews Cancer 6, 449-458, June 2006), therefore, studies on immunological biomarkers should preferably be carried out on samples of metastases rather than primary tumors.

7. Given recent advances in efficacy in numerous pilot trials, the next steps in clinical development will require multicenter trials to establish adoptive immunotherapy as a mainstream technology (Marcela V. Maus et. al., Adoptive Immunotherapy for Cancer or Viruses. Annual Review of Immunology, 32: 189-225, March 2014).

8. The future of oncology is tied to the future of combination therapies comprised of immunotherapies and with targeted agents, radiotherapy, and chemotherapy in the hope of achieving synergistic anti-tumor activity (Brian Rini, Future Approaches in Immunotherapy. Seminars in Oncology. 41 Suppl 5:S30-40, October 2014).

9. As an admirer of Socrates who stated “My advice to you is get married: if you find a good wife you’ll be happy; if not, you’ll become a philosopher”, I wish not to be a ‘Doctor of Philosophy’.

10. We have two ears and one mouth so that we can listen twice as much as we speak (Epictetus, AD 55 –AD 135).

11. Try not to become a man of success, but rather try to become a man of value (Albert Einstein, 1879 –1955).

12. Life is given to us, we earn it by giving it (Rabindranath Tagore, 1861 –1941)

Rezaul Karim