

Can we use cellular markers to predict immunogenicity?

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www.imi.europa.eu

26-Feb-2014





The research leading to these results has received support from the Innovative Medicines Initiative Joint Undertaking under grant agreement n° [115303], resources of which are composed of financial contribution from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) and EFPIA companies' in kind contribution

WP2: Cellular characterization and mechanisms of the AD immune response



- WP2.1: To understand the cellular mechanisms causing AD responses
- WP2.2: To characterise ADA structurally and functionally
- WP2.3: To identify genetic markers predisposing to BP immunogenicity
- Patient cohorts:
 - RA patients treated with TNF inhibitors (infliximab, adalimumab, etanercept), rituximab
 - IBD patients treated with TNF inhibitors
 - MS patients treated with IFNβ and/or natalizumab
 - HA patients treated with FVIII
 - SLE patients treated with rituximab
- Considering including new BPs

UCL WP2 objectives



- WP2.1.1: Evaluation of early activation biomarkers as potential predictors of immunogenicity
 - Prospective: RA, MS, IBD
 - Cross sectional: RA, MS, SLE, IBD.
- WP2.1.7 : Evaluation of B cell AD cellular response.
 - Cross-sectional: RA, MS, IBD, HA
- WP2.1.8 : Numerical and functional analysis of regulatory B cells in ADA+/ADA- patients
 - Cross-sectional: pilot with RA, SLE then MS and HA

Global immunophenotyping as a tool ABIR:SK

A new methodology

• Validation with healthy donors

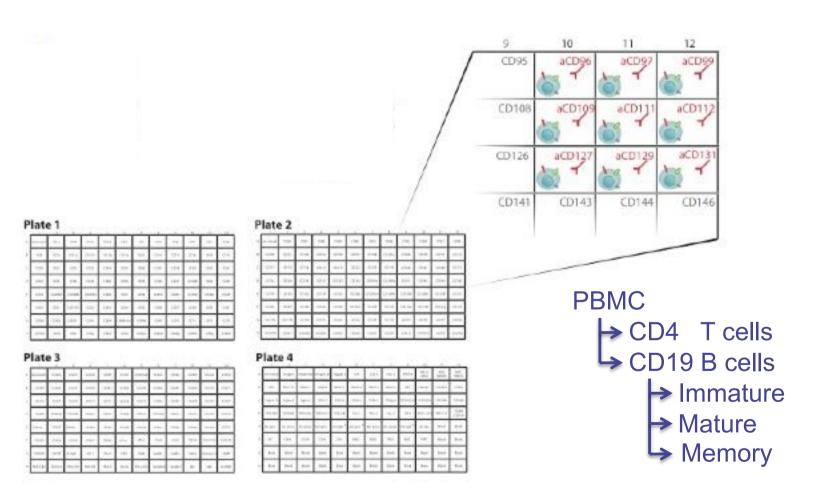
Early Results

- Studying B cell populations
- Patients with MS

Ongoing plans

Novel flow cytometry platform: LEGENDScreen platform

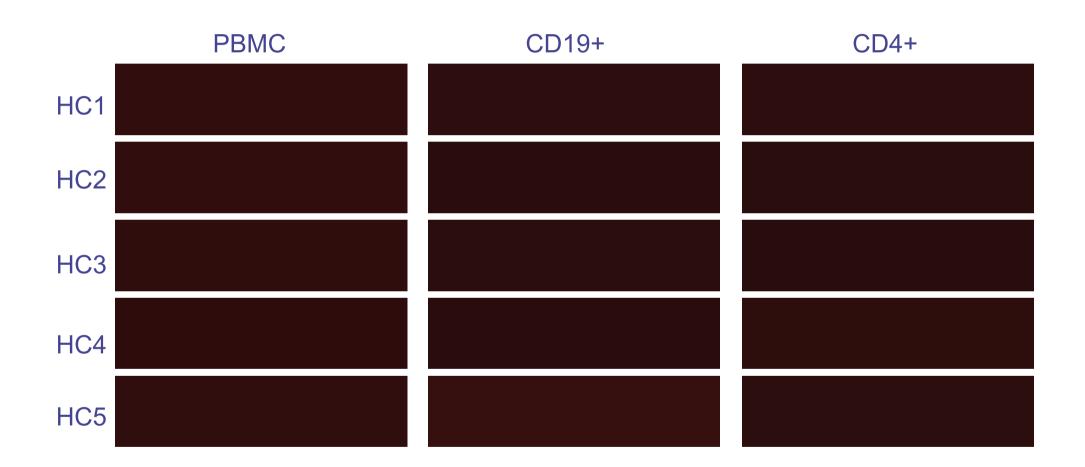




332 CD antigens in parallel

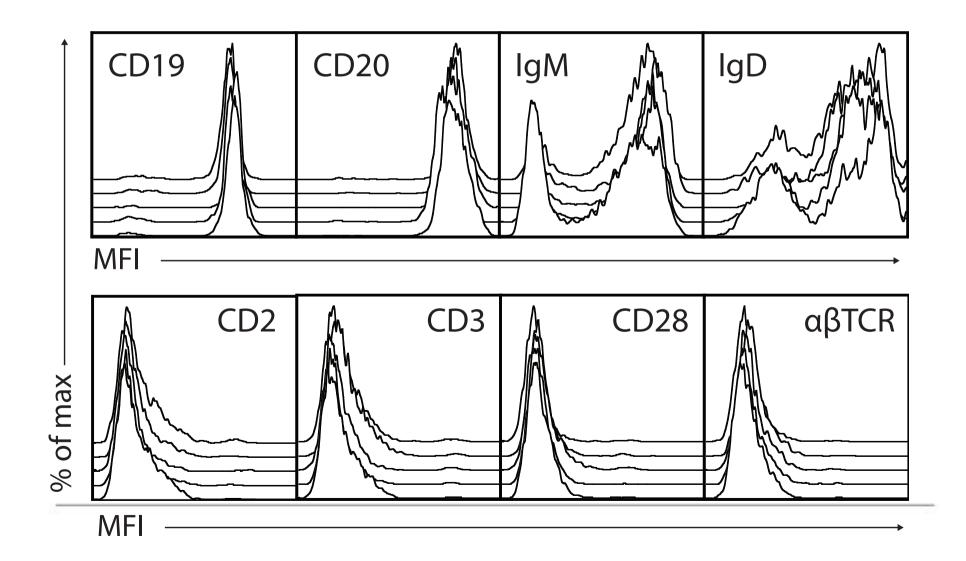
Validation: reproducibility





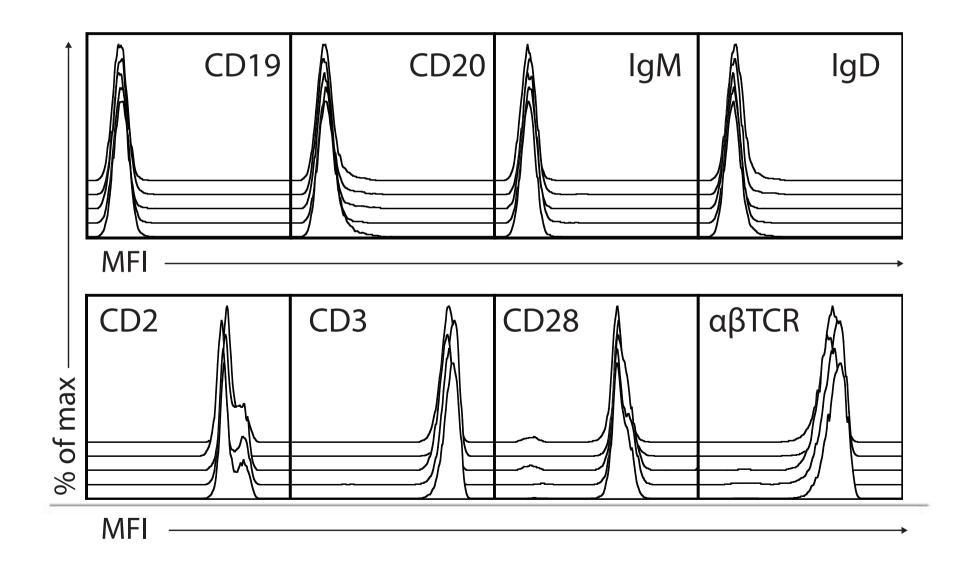
Validation: CD19+ gate





Validation: CD4+ gate



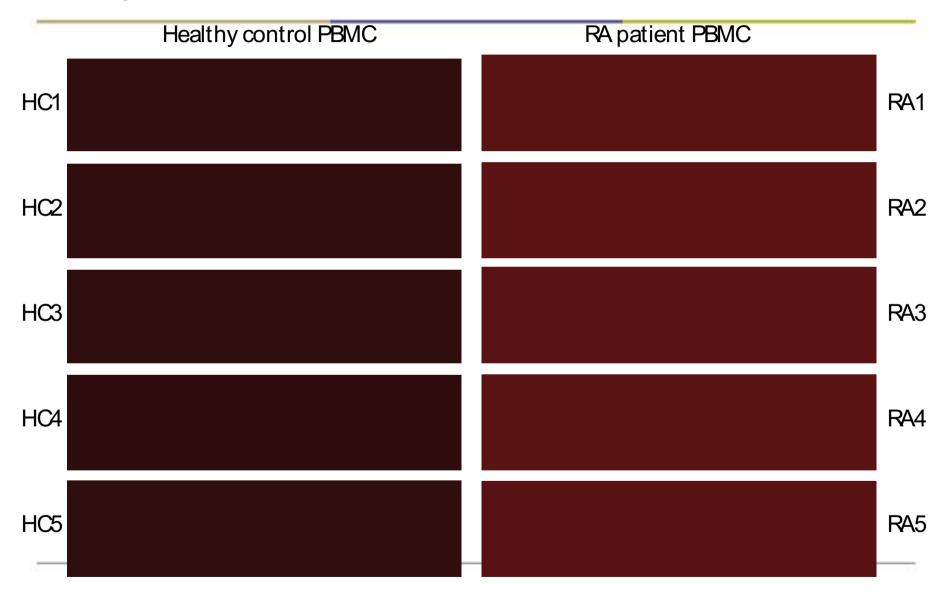




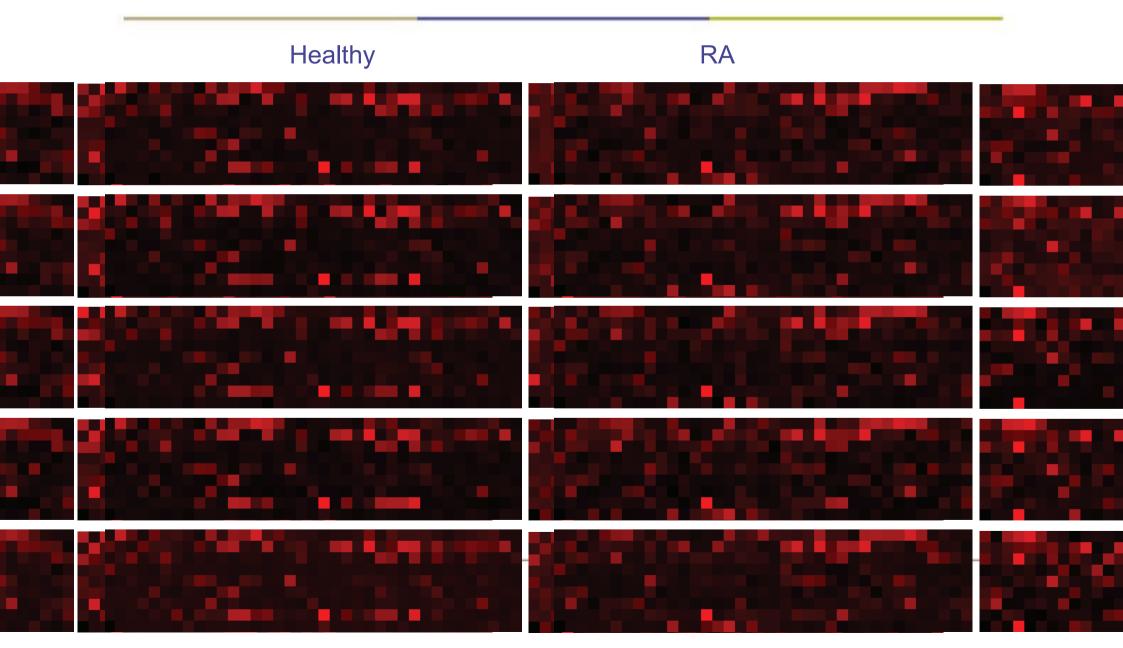
Age	Sex	Disease Activity Score	C-reactive Protein	Treatment
49	F	5.4	9.7	MTX HCQ
62	F	5.1	9.1	MTX SPZ
60	F	5.1	9.5	MTX SPZ
45	М	5.3	2.8	SPZ HCQ
61	F	5.6	10.7	SPZ

PBMC cell surface signature: Healthy vs RA









Global immunophenotyping as a tool ABIR:SK

• A new methodology

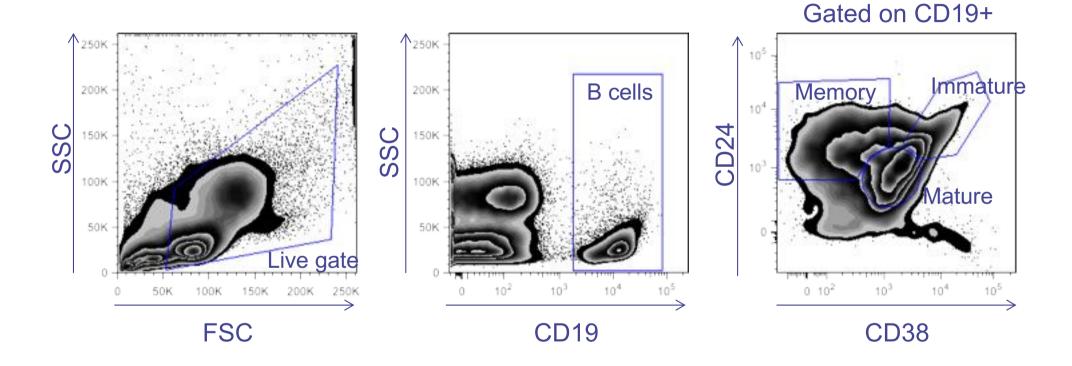
• Validation with healthy donors

Early Results

- Studying B cell populations
- Patients with RA, SLE and MS

Ongoing plans

| 13

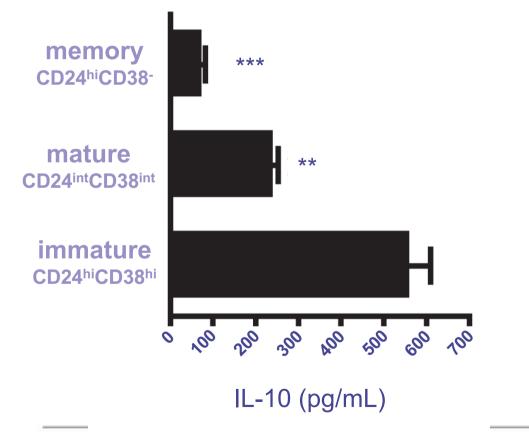


B cell subpopulations in PBMCs

Gating strategy



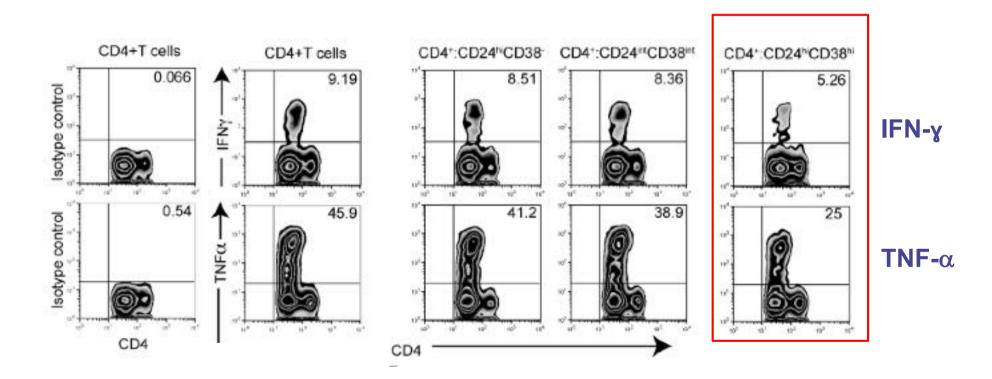




IL-10 producing B cells are enriched in the CD24^{hi}CD38^{hi} gate

Blair et al. Immunity; 2010



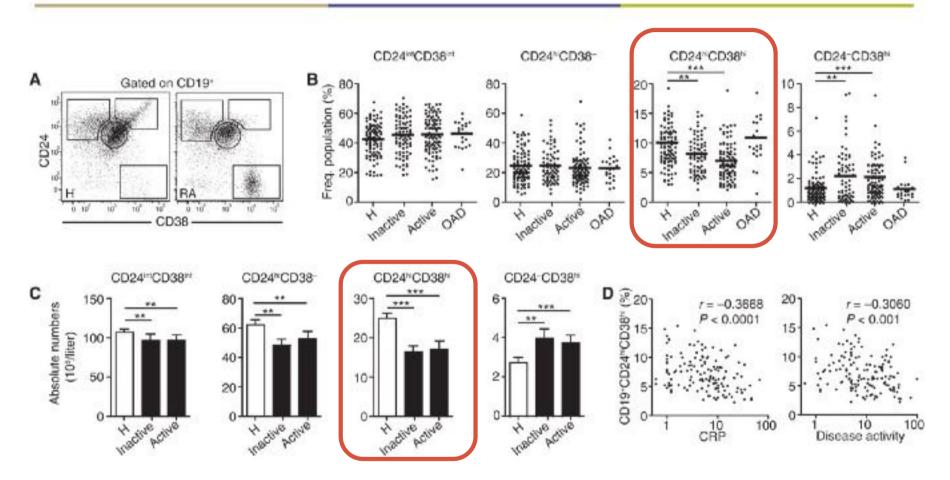


CD24^{hi}CD38^{hi} B cells suppress T helper cell differentiation

Blair et al. *Immunity*; 2010 Flores-Borja et al. *Science Trans Med*; 2013

B cell sub-populations Relevance to Autoimmunity





Number and frequency of CD24^{hi}CD38^{hi} B cells are reduced in patients with active RA

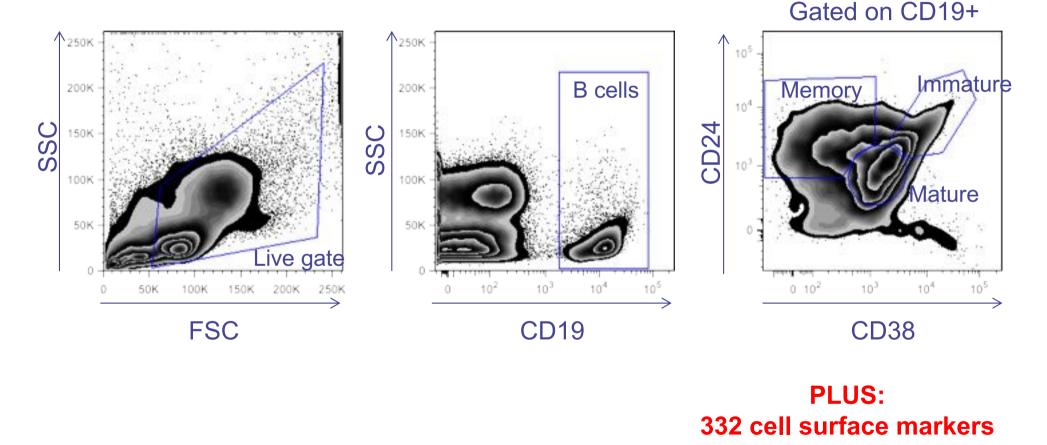
Flores-Borja et al. Science Trans Med; 2013



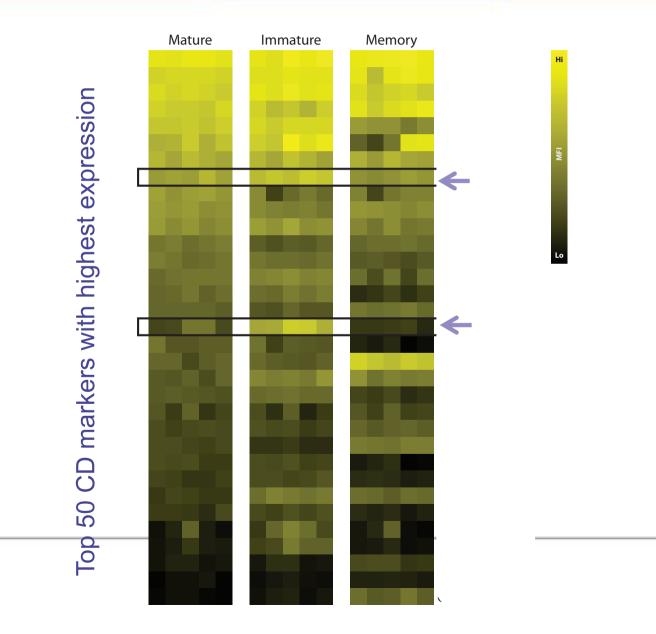
ABIR:SK

LegendScreen gating strategy

Gating strategy

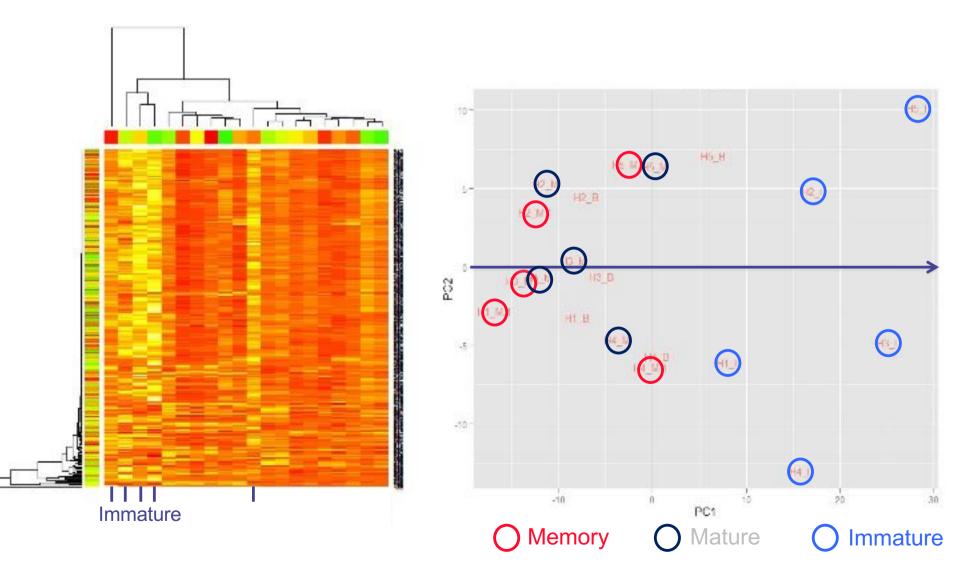


Results: B cell subsets have distinct ABIR:SK expression profiles in healthy donors



Comparing expression of 332 markers revealed that B cell subsets can be distinguished

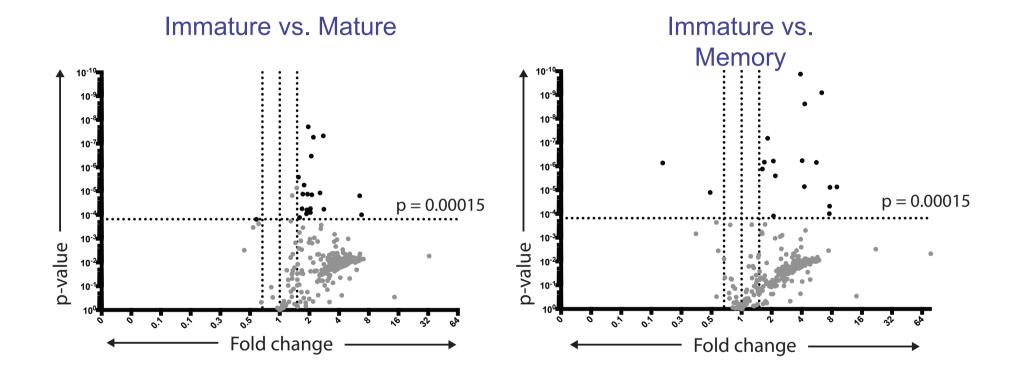




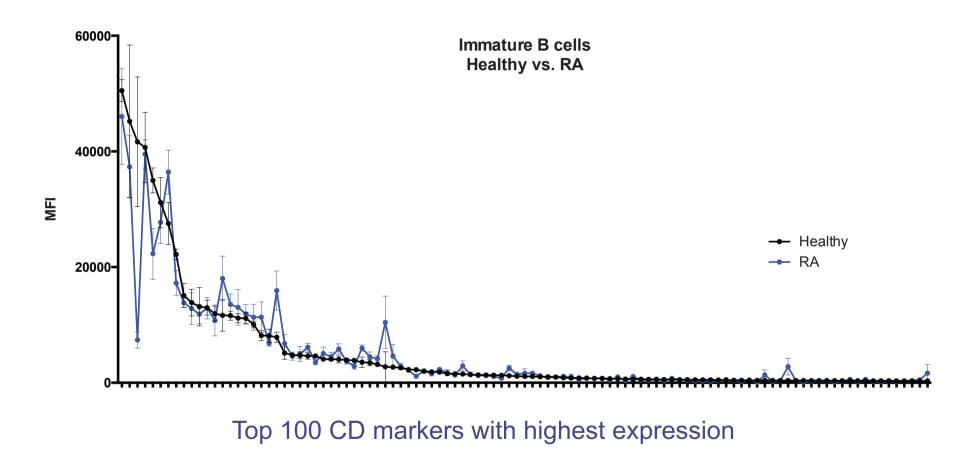
Pierre Dönnes: WP4

Specific markers show significantly altered expression in B cell subsets ABIRISK

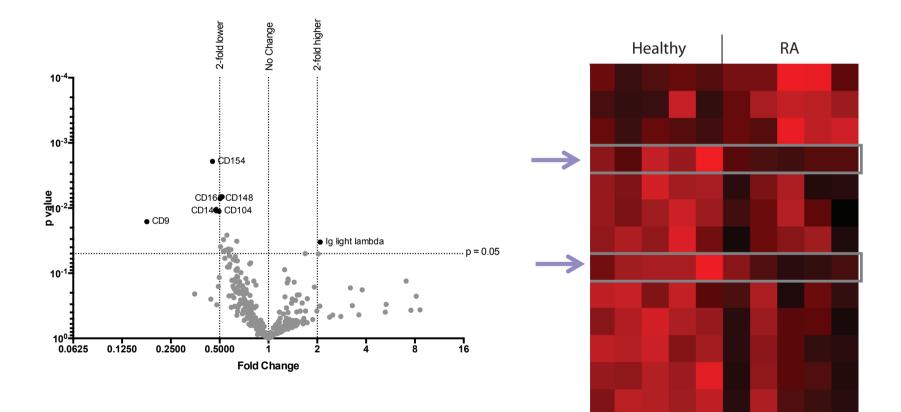




Comparison of Immature B cells from Healthy vs. RA patients revealed ABIRISIS differential expression of some markers



Several cell surface molecules have been identified as significantly different in RA compared to ABIRESIK healthy immature B cells



Follow-up in ADA+ and ADA- patients





- Tool to define immature B cell phenotype
- Clinical tool to identify differences in B cell phenotype in healthy donors and RA patients
- Functional relevance of selected markers

Global immunophenotyping as a tool ABIR:SK

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• Validation with healthy donors

Early Results

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- Patients with MS (ADA+ vs ADA-)

Ongoing plans

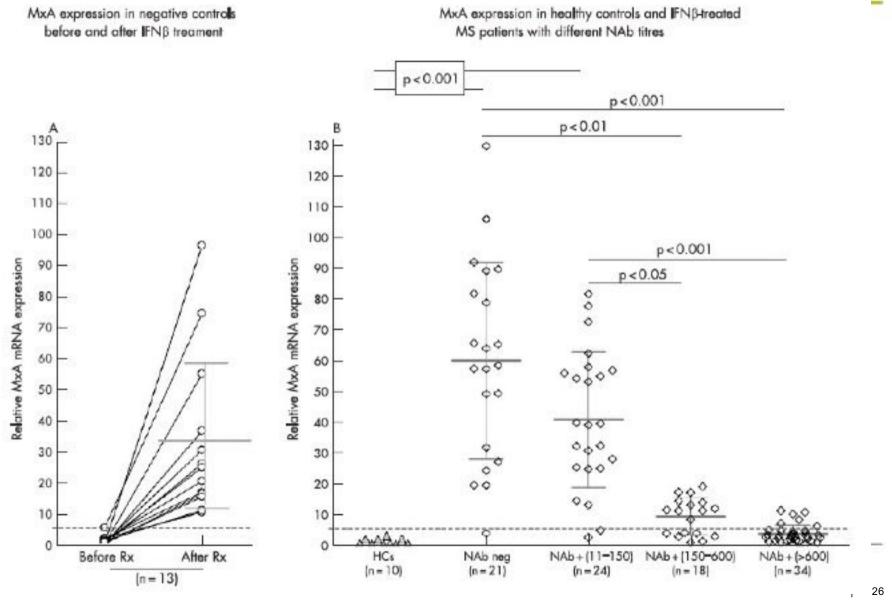
Differential Immunophenotype of ADA+ and ADA- MS patients



- 32 MS patient's (14 Male & 18 Female)
 - 10 CIS (clinically isolated syndrome)
 - 22 RRMS (remitting relapsing)patients
- EDSS (expanded disability status) between 1 and 4 (mean 2.09)
- Average age: 38.5 ± 9.5 years
- 22 treated with IFN-β 1a (11 Avonex[™];11 Rebif[™])
- I0 treated with IFN-β 1b (6 Extavia[™]; 4 Betaferon[™])
- Blood sampled 10-14h after last IFN-β injection
- 18 Assayed for MxA expression (13 high, 2 middle, 3 low)
- Neutralizing Abs determination: 11 positive / 25 assayed (44% of tested)
- Neutralizing Abs titre: unknown

Rational for sample selection





Sominanda et al 2008 JNNP



ABIRISK Number	Gender	Birth Date	Time between last injection and blood sampling (hours)	MS Course	Date of onset	EDSS	Medication	MxA	NABs
Abirisk 008	М	23/12/1960	14	RR MS	15/03/2011	2.5	Avonex	High MxA	ND
Abirisk 009	М	09/12/1969	12	CIS	15/10/2006	4	Extavia	Low MxA	ND
Abirisk 013	F	09/02/1977	12	RR MS	15/06/1998	1.5	Betaferon	Low MxA	ND
Abirisk 023	М	18/11/1967	11	RR MS	15/04/2011	2	Avonex	High MxA	NABs Neg

Cell Populations of Interest



• Peripheral blood Tfh cells

- Phenotype: CD4+CXCR5+:
- IgM, IgG and IgA secretion (IL-21 & ICOS dependent);
- B cell proliferation (IL-21 & ICOS dependent);
- B cell differentiation in CD38+CD19lo plasmablasts;

Peripheral blood CD19+ B cells

- Subpopulations phenotype:
- CD19+CD24hiCD38hi (Transitional B cells- Bregs)
- CD19+CD24intCD38int (Mature B cells)
- CD19+CD24hiCD38- (Memory B cells)
- Myeloid Derived Suppressor Cells (MDSCs)
 - Phenotype: CD14+DR-/lo
 - Reported to both suppress or enhance the autoimmune response in EAE

LegendScreen[™]



Plate 1

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Plate 2

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Investigate frequency of different cell populations as well as immune 'signature' of specific subpopulations



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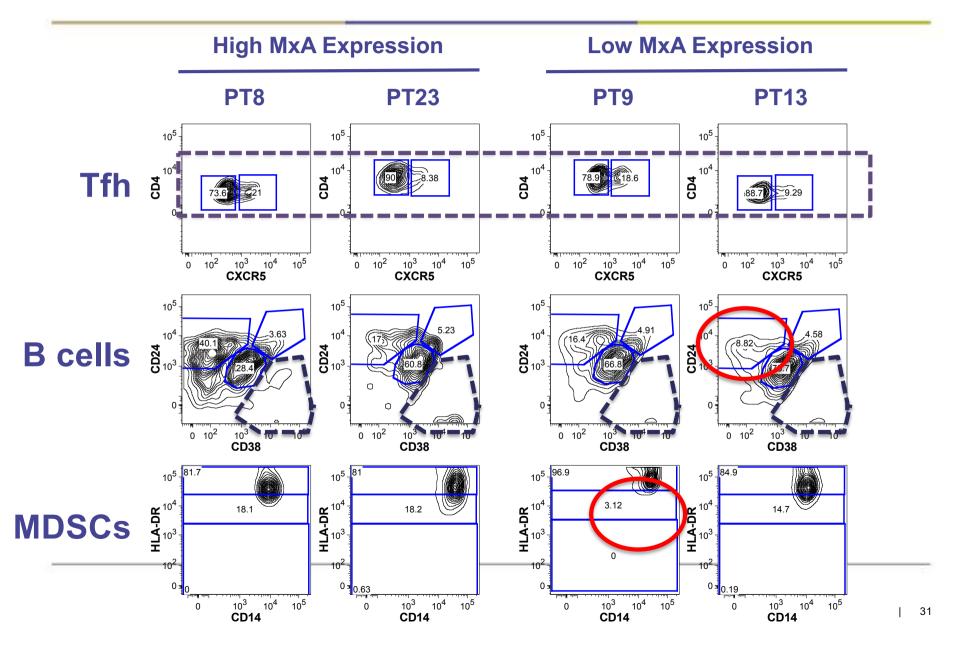
Plate 2

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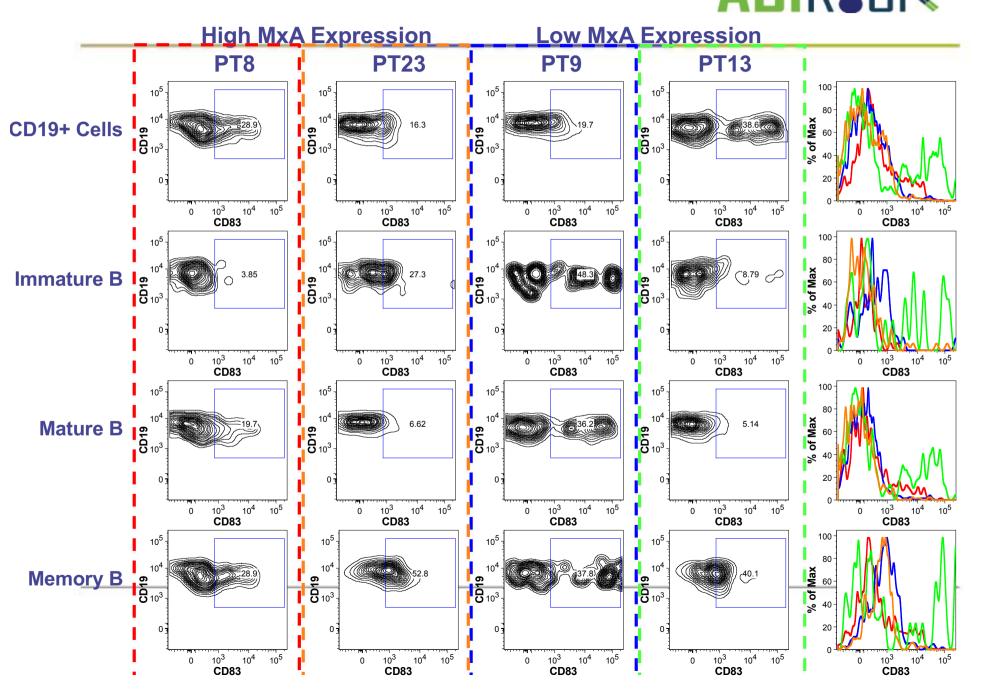
Plate 4

Preliminary Data





B cells Activation Markers







- Performing LegendScreen analysis on ADA+ and ADAsamples from patients with MS, RA and SLE, IBD cohort to follow
- Developing strategies to analyse the data advanced statistical help
- Develop custom phenotyping panels for screening the prospective cohorts
- Identified markers analysed further for biological significance

Acknowledgements



