

Vascular Biology 2023

Platform Presentations from Selected Abstracts

Springer Award Lecture

Hemodynamic regulated genes that alter vascular development

Jihui Lee PhD, Megan E Goeckel MS, Amber N Stratman PhD

Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO, USA

- CXCR3 in endothelial cells is down regulated by the onset of blood flow
- CXCR3 in endothelial cells helps promote recruitment of mural cells
- Activated CXCR3 inhibits angiogenesis

Hemogenic Endothelium/Endothelial Diversity

01

Deciphering the function of the N-glycan code during the endothelial-to-hematopoietic transition

Taylor S. Turner, Beatriz C. Mercado, Dionna M. Kasper Ph.D.

Dartmouth Geisel School of Medicine, Hanover, NH, USA

- Cell-surface proteins in endothelial cells are decorated with specific N-glycan sugar structures.
- Zebrafish mutants with an altered endothelial N-glycome have more hematopoietic stem cells (HSC).
- Loss of N-glycans from Adam10, a Notch-processing enzyme, alters HSC production.

02

A set of short-lived sprouting vein cells fuels rapid growth of the postnatal liver

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- The liver forms and vascularizes new functional units, termed lobules, after birth.
- Newly forming liver lobules are vascularized by the sprouting of hepatic vein cells.
- Sprouting rapidly declines and lobule addition ends in the neonate, constraining final liver size.

Pro-Inflammatory Signaling

03

Single cell transcriptional-epigenetic profiling and compartmental cellular proteomics demonstrate that HIV-Nef extracellular vesicles modulate human macrophage heterogeneity to promote atherosclerosis

Sarvesh Chelvanambi PhD¹, Julius Decano MD¹, Yoshihiro Yanagihara DVM¹, Amelie Jule PhD², Yuto Nakamura PhD¹, Shin Mukai PhD¹, Takashi Enomoto PhD¹, Constance Delwarde PhD¹, Francesca Bartoli-Leonard PhD¹, Prabhash Kumar Jha PhD¹, Adrien Lupieri PhD¹, Joan T Matamalas PhD¹, Takeshi Tanaka PhD¹, Diego Santinelli-Pestana MD¹, Rile Ge PhD¹, Mary Whelan¹, Katelyn Perez¹, Taku Kasai PhD¹, Shiori Kuraoka¹, Shannon Ho-Sui PhD², Abhijeet R Sonawane PhD¹, Sasha A Singh PhD¹, Elena Aikawa MD PhD¹, Masanori Aikawa MD PhD¹

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- The HIV protein HIV-Nef within extracellular vesicles hijacks macrophage pro-inflammatory signaling.
- Network analysis of single cell multi-omics data to identify dysfunctional macrophages
- Validation studies show HIV-Nef impairs macrophage efferocytosis to accelerates atherosclerosis.

04

Increased endothelial levels of RNA binding protein Elavl1 (HuR) in atherogenic conditions post-transcriptionally defines cell phenotype and supports T cell survival

Sarah-Anne E. Nicholas M.S.¹, Stephen Helming M.S.¹, Jessica Hensel PhD¹, Christopher Pathoulas B.S.¹, Maria M Xu MD/PhD¹, Amy L Kimble B.S.¹, Antoine Menoret PhD¹, Brent Heineman B.S.¹, Evan R Jellison PhD¹, Bo Reese PhD², Beiyuan Zhou PhD¹, Annabelle Rodriguez-Oquendo MD¹, Anthony Vella PhD¹, Patrick A Murphy PhD¹

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- Endothelial splice factor Elavl1 reduces atherosclerotic plaque severity and CD8+ T cell numbers.
- Endothelial Elavl1 regulates alternative splicing and ribosomal loading of T cell survival factors.
- Endothelial Elavl1 is required for T cell survival post antigen stimulation.

Stem Cells/Organoids/In vitro models

05

Modeling the multicellular and flow control perspective of the blood-brain barrier

Ian C Harding¹, Nicholas R O'Hare¹, Ira M Herman², Eno E Ebong¹

¹Northeastern University, Boston, MA, USA. ²Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, MA, USA

- A robust blood-brain barrier and its intricate mechanosensitivity are successfully modeled in vitro.
- Pericytes, astrocytes, flow impact blood-brain barrier permeability via endothelial cell junctions.
- Pericytes, astrocytes, and flow impact blood-brain barrier permeability via endothelial glycocalyx.

06

Transcription factor-driven generation of human vascular organoids

Liyan Gong Ph.D.^{1,2}, Kai Wang Ph.D.^{3,2}, Allen Chilun Luo Master³, Rui-Zeng Lin Ph.D.^{1,2}, Juan M. Melero-Martin Ph.D.^{1,2,4}

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- Generation of vascular organoids by orthogonal activation of two TFs, ETV2 and NKX3.1.
- Our method allowed for the co-differentiation of iECs and iMCs in a 3D configuration, in 5 days.
- The VO could engraft in vivo and serve as vascular therapeutic agents.

Blood Flow Regulation

07

Exercise training improves coronary vasodilation in the ischemic heart through recruitment of Kv7 channels

Trevor Self, Cristine Heaps

Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, USA

- Exercise training presents as an effective therapeutic intervention for ischemic heart disease.
- Vascular adaptations to ischemic heart disease converge on voltage-gated potassium channels.
- Exercise training modulates Kv7 function to improve vasodilation in the ischemic heart.

08

Endothelial Pannexin1 overexpression impairs ischemic stroke outcome in a sex-dependent manner

Amanda K Mauro PhD¹, Maria Tomàs Gracia¹, Colleen K Duffy¹, Chris Medina², Kodi Ravichandran PhD³, Brant E Isakson PhD², Miranda E Good PhD¹

¹Tufts Medical Center, Boston, MA, USA. ²University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, USA. ³Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO, USA

- Pannexin1 regulates cerebral vascular reactivity and inflammation and may mediate stroke recovery.
- Overexpression of endothelial Pannexin1 increases myogenic tone and infarct size in females.
- Female cerebrovascular function may be more sensitive to increased levels of endothelial Pannexin1.

Resolution of Inflammation

09

Meningeal lymphatic endothelial cell regulation of T cell function and migration

Aurora Kraus PhD, Daniel Castranova MS, Brant M Weinstein PhD

NIH/NICHD, Bethesda, MD, USA

- Immune-lymphatic interactions
- Lymphocyte migration
- Live-imaging of meninges

10

Long noncoding RNA regulation of inflammation in atherosclerosis

Morgane Gourvest Ph.D., Jose Gabriel Barcia Durá Ph.D., Tracy Zhang BSc, Jesse Wang, Alexandra Newman Ph.D., Samantha Dupuis, Chiara Giannarelli MD, Ph.D, Coen van Solingen Ph.D, Kathryn J Moore Ph.D

NYU Cardiovascular Research Center, Leon H. Charney Division of Cardiology, Department of Medicine, New York University Langone Health, NYC, NY, USA

- LncRNA are key regulators of gene expression, prompting interest in their roles/ clinic potential
- The novel lncRNA Caslr is a key regulator of inflammatory signaling in plaque macrophages
- Caslr is evolutionarily conserved. Its targeting may be thus beneficial in treating atherosclerosis.

Vascular Malformations

11

Mek inhibition reduced vascular tumor growth and coagulopathy in a mouse model with hyperactive GNAQ

Elisa Boscolo PhD¹, Sandra Schrenk PhD²

¹Cincinnati children's Hospital, Cincinnati, OH, USA. ²Cincinnati children's Hospital, Cincinnati, OH, USA

- Gain-of-function GNAQ (p.Q209L) mutation in the endothelium causes vascular lesions in mice
- GNAQ (p.Q209L) expression in mouse endothelium increases ERK activation
- The formation of vascular lesions is inhibited by a treatment with a MEK inhibitor

12

Sirolimus in slow-flow vascular malformations: preliminary results of the European multicentric phase III trial

Emmanuel Seront MD, PHD¹, An Van Damme MD, PHD¹, Catherine Legrand², Annouk Bisdorff-Bresson MD³, Philippe Orcel MD⁴, Thomas Funck-Brentano MD⁴, Marie-Antoinette Sevestre Pietri MD⁵, Anne Dompmmartin MD, PHD⁶, Isabelle Quere MD⁷, Nicole Revencu MD, PhD¹, Pascal Brouillard PhD², Frank Hammer MD¹, Philippe Clapuyt MD¹, Dana Dimitriu MD¹, Miikka Vikkula MD, PhD^{1,8}, Laurence Boon MD, PhD^{1,2}

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Picardie, Amiens, France. ⁶CHU Université Caen Normandie, Caen, France. ⁷CHU Montpellier, Hôpital Saint Eloi, Montpellier, France. ⁸de Duve Institute, Brussels, Belgium

- Clinical trial
- Venous malformation
- Lymphatic malformation

12a

iPSC-derived EC to model port wine birthmark in a microphysiological system

William Van Triqt PhD Candidate, Chris Hatch, Zee Piermatteo, Kristen Kelly MD, Christopher Hughes PhD
UC Irvine, Irvine, CA, USA

- iPSC-derived endothelial cells with the port wine birthmark GNAQ mutation form dilated microvessels.
- Mutant GNAQ endothelial cells recapitulate disease phenotype in a complex organ-on-chip model.
- Port wine birthmark lesions are formed by intrinsic aberrant angiogenic signaling.

Cardiovascular Cell Biology

13

Obesity in angiogenesis and regenerative lung growth

Tendai Hunyenyiwa, Priscilla Kyi, Tadanori Mammoto, Akiko Mammoto
Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA

- Post-PNX lung growth is inhibited in obese mice.
- Post-PNX increases in the levels of angiogenic factors are inhibited in obese mouse lungs.
- Twist1 and VEGF signaling may contribute to the inhibition of angiogenesis in an obese condition.

14

First proximity proteomic map of vascular CaV1.2

Aaron Rodriques PhD, Jared Kushner
Columbia University, New York, New York, USA

- Calcium channels are essential for generating vascular tone. Still, channel complex is ill-defined.
- Protein interactions are hard to identify for in membranes and in small tissues like microvessels.
- Here we adapt proximity proteomics to identify the Calcium channel domain in rat blood vessels.

Lymphatic Development

15

Inhibiting Foxc2 to dampen epsin expression mitigates obesity and lymphedema

Hong Chen PhD¹, Kui Cui PhD²

¹Harvard Medical School/BCH, Boston, MA, USA. ²HMS/Boston Childrens Hospital, Boston, MA, USA

- High fat diet induces Foxc2 in LEC which activates epsins expression to downregulate VEGF signaling
- Foxc2 halts capillary to collecting LEC transition and button to zipper conversion to fuel obesity.
- Loss of Foxc2 enhances lymphangiogenesis, improves obesity-associated lymphedema resolution.

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Requirement for lymphatic endothelial Notch4 in murine male livers

Glicella M Salazar-De Simone PhD¹, Joseph D McCarron BS¹, Raine-Monet S Williams², Utpal B Pajvani MD¹, June K Wu MD¹, Carrie J Shawber PhD¹

¹Columbia University Irving Medical Center, New York, New York, USA. ²Columbia University, New York, New York, USA

- Canonical Notch signaling is enriched in the murine hepatic lymphatic endothelium.
- Loss of postnatal LEC Notch4 was associated with liver fibrosis males, but not females.
- Notch inhibition was associated with reduced portal lymphatic hyperplasia in a murine NASH model.

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Piezo2 regulation of lymphangiogenesis

Zuzanna J Juśkiewicz MS^{1,2}, Melissa A Luse MS^{1,2}, Luke S Dunaway PhD¹, Skylar A Loeb BS^{1,2}, Brant E Isakson PhD^{1,2}

¹Robert M. Berne Cardiovascular Research Center, University of Virginia School of Medicine, Charlottesville, Virginia, USA. ²Department of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics, University of Virginia School of Medicine, Charlottesville, Virginia, USA

- Piezo2 is a marker of lymphatic capillary vessels.
- Piezo2 regulates expression of Vegfr3 in lymphatic capillary endothelium.
- Piezo2 affects weight gain.

18

Rictor induces AKT signaling to regulate lymphatic valve formation and maintenance

Richa Banerjee MS¹, Luz A Knauer¹, Drishya Iyer PhD¹, Sara E Barlow¹, Joshua P Scallan PhD², Ying Yang PhD¹

¹University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, USA. ²University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, USA

- Rictor regulates the formation and maintenance of lymphatic valves
- Rictor deletion increases nuclear Foxo1 expression in lymphatic endothelial cells.
- Foxo1 deletion rescues lymphatic valve defects by promoting the growth of new valves.

Systemic Inflammatory Networks

19

Pro-inflammatory macrophage IL-12 and IL-23 modulate vascular smooth muscle cell differentiation via the histone methyltransferase SETD4

Kevin D Manqum MD, PhD, Amrita Joshi PhD, Sonya Wolf PhD, Emily Barrett MD, Bethany B Moore PhD, Frank M Davis MD, Katherine A Gallagher MD

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA

- Diabetes is associated with increased risk of vascular disease (e.g. restenosis).
- The histone methyltransferase SETD4 is increased in diabetic SMC and inhibits SMC gene expression
- IL-12 and IL-23 upregulate SETD4 expression and negatively regulate SMC gene expression

20

Adipocyte extracellular vesicles mediate obesity-accelerated atherosclerosis

Dharti Shantaram MS, Valerie P Wright BA, Joey Liu PhD, Xilal Y Rima PhD, Jacob Doon-Ralls BS, Eduardo Reategui PhD, Willa Hsueh MD

The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA

- Adipose tissue inflammation accelerates atherosclerosis in obesity.
- Extracellular vesicles mediate metabolic complications like atherosclerosis and insulin resistance.
- Adipocyte extracellular vesicles activate immune cells that mediate inflammation in obesity.

Mechanical Forces and the Vasculature

21

DLC1 promotes mechanotransductive feedback for YAP via Rho GAP-mediated focal adhesion turnover

Aukie Hooglugt¹, Miesje van der Stoep¹, Apeksha Shapeti², Hans van Oosterwyck², Reinier Boon¹, Stephan Huvneers¹

¹Amsterdam UMC, Amsterdam, Netherlands. ²KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

- DLC1 is a direct target of YAP/TAZ signaling and drives collective migration and sprouting.
- DLC1 provides mechanotransductive feedback for YAP transcriptional activity.
- Signaling through the RhoGAP domain of DLC1 limits intracellular tension at focal adhesions

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Novel roles for centriolar protein WDR90 in endothelial cells and cardiac tissue

Sarah Colijn PhD, Sheng-Chih Jin PhD, Amber Stratman PhD

Washington University, St. Louis, MO, USA

- De novo mutations in centriolar protein WDR90 have been identified as drivers of CHD
- Adult zebrafish wdr90 mutants display partial lethality, stenosis, and small hearts
- Endothelial WDR90 co-localizes with VE-cadherin and the tips of microtubules

Emerging Topics in Microcirculation

23

A novel approach to restore endothelial glycocalyx in sepsis using liposomal nanocarriers of preassembled glycocalyx, followed by quantitative analysis of endothelial glycocalyx with sidestream dark field image

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New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY, USA

- Novel therapy using liposome to deliver preassembled glycocalyx to endothelial cells was introduced.
- Significantly impaired flow-induced dilation in septic mice was fully restored in response to LNPG.
- Chronic changes of EG and effect of LNPG can be monitored by cranial window approach.

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Oxidation of low-density lipoprotein (oxLDL) by hemoglobin causes lung microvascular endothelial barrier dysfunction via lectin-like oxLDL receptor-1 (LOX-1)

Jamie E Meegan PhD, Lorraine B Ware MD, Julie A Bastarache MD

Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN, USA

- Cell-free hemoglobin (Hb) is a mechanistic driver of microvascular endothelial injury.
- Oxidation of LDL by hemoglobin (Hb-oxLDL) worsens lung microvascular barrier dysfunction.
- Hb-oxLDL disrupts lung microvascular endothelium through lectin-like oxLDL receptor-1 (LOX-1).

Aging, Metabolism and the Vasculature

25

Nucleoporin93 (Nup93) limits YAP activity to prevent endothelial cell senescence and dysfunction

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¹Department of Physiology and Biophysics, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA. ²Center for Cardiovascular Research, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA

- Nucleoporin93 (Nup93) expression is critical for endothelial cell health by limiting YAP activity
- Inhibiting YAP activity in Nup93-null ECs attenuates aspects of cell senescence and inflammation
- Aging may involve the loss of endothelial Nup93 as a mechanism of EC senescence and dysfunction

26

The VEGF-A isoforms switch and opposing VEGF receptors binding as mechanisms of impaired inflammatory angiogenesis in the context of advanced aging.

Chris S Mantsounga PhD, Sheila Sharma Master, Julia Pierce BS, Jade C Neverson BS, Rachel Carley Pharm D,

Crystal Perry BS, Olivya Caballero BS, Elizabeth Amelotte PhD, Elizabeth O Harrington PhD, Frank Sellke MD,

Gaurav Choudhary MD, Alan R Morrison MD PhD

Providence VA Medical Center, Providence, RI, USA

- Uncoupling of IL-1beta and VEGF-A in inflammatory angiogenesis in the context of Aging
- VEGF-A isoforms switch
- VEGF-A receptors signal differently based on VEGF-A or VEGF-A isoforms involved in the signaling.

Adv. Engineering Models & Imaging Techniques

27

Advancing custom patterned vessels in engineered human myocardium as a revascularization co-therapy for heart regeneration

Rajeev J Kant PhD, Stephanie M Roser ScM, Kiera D Dwyer BS, Anaya Kaul, Evan Ren, Collin Polucha BS, Kareen LK

Coulombe PhD

Brown University, Providence, RI, USA

- New therapies for heart failure with reduced ejection fraction are urgently needed.
- We developed patterned arteriole-scale channels in vascularized engineered human myocardium (vEHM).
- Host vessels connect to perfused vEHM to increase vessel and cardiomyocyte density in the MI heart.

28

Perfusable vascular organoids for blood-brain barrier modeling

Yu Jung Shin, Ying Zheng

University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA

- Utilizing vascular organoids and microfluidic vessels for modeling perfusable vasculature in vitro.
- Investigating blood vessel development and remodeling under defined pressure and flow.
- Understanding acquisition of blood-brain barrier phenotype in vascular organoids.

3D Imaging and Organotypic Vasculature

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Defining the cellular complexity of the zebrafish bipotential gonad

Michelle E Kossack PhD, Lucy Tian BS, Kealyn Bowie BS, Jessica S Plavicki PhD

Brown University, Providence, RI, USA

- The zebrafish bipotential gonad is vascularized
- Vascular and lymphatic endothelial cells are present in the zebrafish biopotential gonad.
- The gonadal artery supplies blood to the zebrafish biopotential gonad.

30

Human bone-specific endothelial cells mediate osteogenesis via KIT ligand

Xiang Li Ph.D.^{1,2}, Hwan D. Kim Ph.D.^{1,2,3}, Allen C. Luo M.S.¹, Nathaniel S. Hwang Ph.D.⁴, Rwei-Zeng Lin Ph.D.^{5,2}, Juan M. Melero-Martin Ph.D.^{5,2,6}

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- Human bone arteriole endothelial cells (ECs) are endowed with unique osteoinductive properties.
- KITLG of bone ECs enables the recruitment of hematopoietic progenitor cells to mediate osteogenesis.
- The mechanism of osteogenesis via tissue-specific EC can benefit effort for bone tissue engineering.

Vascular Biomaterials and Bioengineering

31

Growth of an engineered vascular graft in simulated repair of absent pulmonary artery branch

Zeeshan H Syedain PhD¹, Gurumurthy Hiremath MD¹, John P Carney¹, Jill Schappa Faustich DVM¹, Tate Shannon BS¹, Andrea Rivera¹, Richard Bianco¹, Robroy MacIver MD², John Mayer MD³, Robert T Tranquillo PhD¹

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- The growing TEVG implanted into a pulmonary artery allows for near-normal vascular growth.
- The non-growing ePTFE graft implanted into a pulmonary artery causes abnormal vascular growth.
- Perturbation of hemodynamic growth signals associated with a 50-50 flow split is OK if transient.

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Sex differentiating factors in the pathophysiology of human ascending aortic disease

Soheila AA Ghavimi PhD^{1,2}, Ryan N Martinez MS¹, Colin Flaherty¹, Lana Vogler¹, Arianna Antigua¹, Amarri Harrison BS¹, Kim I de la Cruz MD^{1,2}, Marie Billaud PhD^{1,2}

¹*Brigham & Women's Hospital, Boston, MA, USA.* ²*Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA*

- Ascending aortic aneurysms affect more men than women, yet kill more women than men.
- The proteomic profile of aneurysmal aortic specimens from men is distinct from that of women.
- Primary SMC isolated from men and women aneurysmal aortas respond differently to ECM substrates.

33

Precision nanomedicine targeting novel endothelial mechano-sensing mechanisms to treat vascular diseases

Yun Fang

University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA

- Precision nanomedicine platforms to target dys-regulated endothelial mechano-sensing mechanisms.
- Polymer or liposome-based nanoparticles to deliver therapeutic nucleotides .
- VCAM1-targeting liposomes effectively delivered functional mRNAs to promote vascular health.

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Biophysical rejuvenation of mesenchymal stem cells for enhancing vascular regeneration

Miles Massidda PhD, Andrei Demkov, Aiden Sices, Jason Lee PhD, Muyeong Lee, Jonghwan Kim PhD, Aaron Baker

PhD

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, USA

- Mechanical conditioning leads to a increase in proliferation and expansion potential in MSCs.
- Mechanical conditioning reduces senescence in MSCs from elderly patients.
- Mechanical conditioning leads to rapid enhancement of DNA damage repair mechanisms.

Neurovascular Unit and Disease

35

Hypoxia acts as an accelerant of Cerebral Cavernous Malformations disease through neuroinflammation signaling

Helios A Gallego-Gutierrez PhD¹, Eduardo Frias-Anaya PhD¹, Brendan Gongol PhD², Shantel Weinsheimer PhD³, Marco Orecchioni PhD⁴, Aditya Sriram³, Robert Shenkar PhD⁵, Romuald Girard PhD⁵, Klaus Ley M.D.⁴, Helen Kim MPH, PhD³, Issam A. Awad M.D.⁵, Mark H. Ginsberg M.D.¹, Miguel A Lopez-Ramirez PhD¹

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- Hypoxia accelerates CCM by increasing angiogenesis, neuroinflammation, and vascular thrombosis
- CX3CR1-CX3CL1 signaling pathway contributes to heterogeneity in CCM
- CX3CR1 could be a potential marker for CCM aggressiveness

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Moderately advanced age exacerbates neuroinflammation, blood-brain barrier leakage, and behavioral deficits in a mouse model of COVID-19

KaReisha F. Robinson PhD¹, Seshadri Niladhuri¹, Troy N. Trevino PhD¹, Genesis L. Abad¹, Avital Fogel², Guliz O. Clare MS³, Jake Class¹, Leon Tai PhD¹, Jalees Rehman PhD¹, Justin M. Richner PhD¹, Sarah E. Lutz PhD¹

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- Patients with Long Covid experience neurological defects such as delirium, confusion, and headaches.
- Acute, mild SARS-CoV-2 infection and age exacerbates blood-brain barrier leakage and gliosis.
- Using MA10 SARS-CoV-2, mice exhibited motor-coordination and neurological deficits.

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Combined single-cell and intranuclear CITE-seq reveals transcriptional association of reduced TDP-43 in brain vascular endothelial cells

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¹University of Connecticut School of Medicine, Farmington, CT, USA. ²University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, USA

- A novel technique for enriching endothelial cell nuclei for single-nucleus profiling.
- Co-measurement of nuclear proteins and transcriptomes at the single-cell level
- A reactive capillary population associated with low TDP-43 and inflammatory signaling

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Targeting metabolic alterations to prevent moyamoya-like cerebrovascular disease

Callie Kwartler PhD¹, Anita Kaw MD/PhD¹, Jose Emiliano Esparza Pinelo BS¹, Amelie Pinard PhD², Hannah Krenz¹, Caroline Kernell BA³, Dianna Milewicz MD/PhD¹

¹UTHouston McGovern Medical School, Houston, TX, USA. ²University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, USA. ³University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX, USA

- Acta2 p.R179 variants cause moyamoya-like disease and lead to immature smooth muscle cells (SMCs)
- Nicotinamide riboside (NR) restores differentiated SMC phenotype in Acta2 p.R179 SMCs
- An RNF213 variant that causes moyamoya disease leads to similar SMC phenotypes that respond to NR

Inflammation in Cancer

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The oral bacterium *Streptococcus mutans* promotes tumor metastasis by inducing vascular inflammation and thrombosis

Li Yu Ph.D.¹, Nako Maishi Ph.D.¹, Erika Akahori Bachelor¹, Yuying Hong Bachelor¹, Akira Hasebe Ph.D.¹, Ryo Takeda Ph.D.¹, Aya Matsuda Ph.D.¹, Yasuhiro Hida Ph.D.², Yoshimasa Kitagawa Ph.D.¹, Kyoko Hida Ph.D.¹

¹Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan. ²Fujita Health University, Toyoake, Aichi, Japan

- Oral bacteria invade the blood circulation and induce inflammation in endothelial cells
- Endothelial inflammation disrupts vascular integrity and pro-thrombosis formation
- Vascular inflammation and thrombosis promote tumor cell metastasis to distant organs

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Circulating factors as key contributors to endothelial dysfunction following anticancer therapy

Stephen T Hammond PhD¹, Janée D Terwoord PhD^{2,1}, Yoshinori Nishijima PhD¹, Shelby N Hader MS¹, Erin Birch BS¹, Andreas M Beyer PhD¹

¹Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI, USA. ²Rocky Vista University, Irvins, UT, USA

- Anticancer therapy (CTx) induces microvascular dysfunction via unestablished mechanisms.
- We found that circulating nucleotides contribute to the onset of these abnormalities.
- Pretreatment with a nucleotide scavenger reversed CTx-induced microvascular dysfunction.

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Endothelial cell-selective adhesion molecule alters tumor microenvironment and promotes tumor growth in a mouse model of diastolic heart failure

Zsolt Bagi¹, Liwei Lang², Ashwin Ajith³, Anatolij Huruzsko¹

¹Augusta University, Augusta, GA, USA. ²Augusta, University, GA, USA. ³Augusta University, Augusta, GA, USA

- Incidence of multiple types of cancer is significantly higher in heart failure
- In heart failure pro-inflammatory tumor microenvironment promotes tumor growth.
- ESAM may act to promote tumor angiogenesis, neutrophil and MDSCs tumor infiltration.

Plasticity of the Vasculature

43

Cell cycle-dependent regulation of endothelial cell chromatin availability and transcription factor activity during arterial-venous specification

Nicholas W Chavkin PhD, Karen K Hirschi PhD

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, USA

- Endothelial cell chromatin availability is regulated in a cell cycle-dependent manner.
- E2F and SOX binding motifs are differentially available in cell cycle states of endothelial cells.
- E2F and SOX family members are predicted to activate arterial and venous genes, respectively.

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Evolutionarily conserved mechanisms drive ontogeny and arterial endothelial heterogeneity of the lung vasculature

Prashant Chandrasekaran PhD¹, MinQi Lu MB¹, Hongbo Wen BS¹, Nigel Michki PhD¹, Annabelle Jin¹, Wenli Yang PhD², David B Frank MD, PhD¹

¹Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, USA. ²University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA

- Cardiopulmonary progenitor cells give rise cardiac lineages and all mesodermal lineages of the lung.
- Single cell transcriptomics deciphers arterial endothelial heterogeneity and early CPP commitment.
- CPP differentiation is evolutionarily conserved.

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Hematopoietic potential of the endocardium in zebrafish embryos

Suman Gurung, Nicole K. Restrepo, Saulius Sumanas

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- Endocardium gives rise to neutrophils in zebrafish
- Endocardial hematopoiesis is not dependent on Etv2/Etsrp or Scl/Tal1 function
- Hedgehog signaling and Gata5/6 function are required for endocardial hematopoiesis

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Non-canonical telomerase reverse transcriptase controls osteogenic reprogramming of aortic valve cells through STAT5

Rolando A Cuevas PhD¹, Luis Hortels PhD², Claire Claire Chu Bs¹, Ryan Wong Bs¹, Alex Crane Bs¹, Camille Boufford Bs¹, Cailyn Regan Bs¹, William J Moorhead Bs¹, Michael J Bashline MD¹, Aneesha Parwal Bs¹, Angelina M Parise Bs¹, Parya Behzadi PhD¹, Mark J Brown Bs¹, Aditi Gurkar PhD¹, Dennis Bruemmer MD³, John Sembrat¹, Ibrahim Sultan MD¹, Thomas Gleason MS¹, Marie Billaud PhD⁴, Cynthia St. Hilaire PhD¹

¹University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, USA. ²University of Freiburg, Freiburg, Germany. ³Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH, USA. ⁴Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Maryland, USA

- Calcific aortic valve disease is the most prevalent form of aortic valve pathology.
- Genetic loss or depletion of telomerase reverse transcriptase blocks calcification.
- Telomerase TERT and STAT5 are novel initiators of osteogenic reprogramming in valve cells.

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Molecular signature of smooth muscle cell expansion in hypoxia-induced pulmonary hypertension: identification of Cthrc1 as a possible target

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- Pulmonary hypertension (PH) involves excess smooth muscle cell (SMC) proliferation and migration.
- Single cell RNA sequencing delineates molecular signature of SMC expansion during PH progression.
- Cthrc1 is a potential target for PH, regulating pulmonary arteriole hypermuscularization.

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Longitudinal mapping of lung regeneration reveals the emergence of injury-associated endothelial cell states

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- Pulmonary endothelial cells respond strongly to interferon signaling after viral lung injury
- The pulmonary endothelium is highly plastic, with multiple cell states arising during regeneration
- Endothelial cell proliferation is important for lung regeneration