CHRD 2024: Abstract Submission Form

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Role in the project

Perform Experiments Analyze Data Write Abstract Presenter Status PhD Student

Research Category Basic Science

Title

PI3kδ Hyperactivation (APDS) In B Cells Drives Lung Architecture Breakdown and Airway Dysfunction.

Background

Activated PI3Kdelta-Syndrome(APDS) is a congenital immune deficiency caused by PI3KD gene mutations and is characterized by severe immunodeficiency, recurrent respiratory disease and bronchiectasis starting in early childhood. While B-cell dysfunction is known to occur in the lymphoid tissues of patients with the disease, its impact on the respiratory tract is unclear.

Objective

This study aims to investigate if PI3Kδ hyperactivation in B-cells can disrupt lung function. We hypothesize that PI3Kdelta-mediated dysregulated B-cells in the lungs impair antibody production, lung immune cell/cytokine responses and airway function.

Methods

In a quantitative study, 15 genetically modified mice (PI3K δ GOF//B) with the PI3K δ gene mutation mimicking APDS in humans, and control/WT group (no mutation) were assessed at 12 weeks for airway function and lung histopathology at steady state. Mice were subsequently challenged for experimental asthma (using house dust mite) to recapitulate airway. Tests done included Airway hyper-responsiveness (AHR), Lung histopathology, antibody assessment by ELISA, and immune cell/cytokine analysis using the laser-based test, Flow cytometry. Data were statistically analyzed using ANOVA and students T-test (p<0.05).

Results

Lungs of PI3K δ GOF//B mice at steady state and in asthma showed increased Total airway resistance (Rrs)(p= 0.0001), Tissue damping (G)(p= 0.0001) and Elastance (H)(p= 0.015) when compared to control group.

Histopathology revealed a compromised lung tissue architecture in the mutants following asthma challenge marked by an increase in airway inflammation(H&E)(p= 0.03), mucus (p= 0.005) and collagen deposition(p= 0.06) in the airways.

Lung immune cell assessment in the mutant revealed the expansion of B-cells (p= 0.040) which expressed the suppressive markers PDLI(p= 0.020) and interleukin IL10 at baseline(p= 0.004) and in disease(p= 0.01).

IgE antibody levels were decreased(p=0.016) while IgM (p=0.010) was increased in the mutants, characteristic of a compromised antibody response.

Conclusion

The results support our hypothesis that APDS in B cells undoubtedly disrupts lung homeostasis and impairs airway function.

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No

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