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High mobility group box-1 (hmgb1) in systemic vasculitides

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STELLINGEN

Behorend bij het proefschrift

High mobility group box-1 (HMGB1) in systemic vasculitides – the interplay with active disease, specific organ involvement and therapy

1. As a group, patients with antineutrophil cytoplasm antibody (ANCA)-associated vasculitis (AAV) and healthy controls (HC) present similar serum HMGB1 levels. This applies also to AAV patients with active nephritis but AAV patients without renal involvement present higher serum HMGB1 levels than HC (this thesis).
2. In contrast with active systemic lupus erythematosus, anti-HMGB1 antibodies are found in only a minority of AAV patients with active disease (this thesis).
3. Fluctuations in serum HMGB1 levels associate with an increased risk of relapse in AAV (this thesis).
4. Serum HMGB1 levels are not associated with subclinical atherosclerosis in granulomatosis with polyangiitis (GPA) while serum levels of the soluble receptor for advanced glycation-end products (sRAGE) levels are inversely correlated with intima-media thickness in carotid arteries of GPA patients (this thesis).
5. Serum HMGB1 levels are decreased in patients with GPA and Takayasu arteritis TA who use statins. *In vitro* experiments showed that atorvastatin inhibits HMGB1 and IL-8 release by activated HUVEC (this thesis).
6. Urinary HMGB1 levels are increased in AAV patients with active nephritis compared with HC and those levels decrease after achieving remission. Urinary HMGB1 levels are associated with numbers of urinary CD4⁺ T cells and CD4⁺ effector memory T cells (this thesis).
7. Serum HMGB1 levels do not differ between patients with large vessel vasculitis (LVV) and age- and sex-matched HC and these levels are not associated with disease activity in LVV (this thesis).
8. Serum HMGB1 levels are increased in patients with Behçet's disease compared with HC but are not associated with disease activity or specific organ involvement (this thesis).
9. Everything you can imagine is real.

Pablo Picasso

10. Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving.

Albert Einstein

11. *Labor improbus omnia vincit* – intensive work conquers everything.

Aluísio de Azevedo (Brazilian writer)