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Immune signatures in chronic inflammatory diseases

Esen, Idil

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Stellingen

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Immune signatures in chronic inflammatory diseases

Focus on metabolism and IL-6

- 1) GCA is characterized as a heterogeneous condition encompassing a range of symptoms, immune-related pathology, and variable treatment responses.
- 2) Leveraging the knowledge on functional heterogeneity of macrophages in GCA pathogenesis for finding novel biomarkers may aid in the diagnosis and monitoring of disease activity, as well as the design of macrophage-targeted therapies in GCA (this thesis).
- 3) Cellular metabolic markers and pathways should be further explored in GCA to improve the knowledge of GCA pathogenesis and the discovery of novel therapeutics (this thesis).
- 4) The cellular metabolic marker pyruvate kinase M2 (PKM2) reflects ongoing vessel wall inflammation in GCA patients and may aid in the diagnosis and monitoring of disease activity (this thesis).
- 5) Treatment with glucocorticoids leads to an increase in comorbidities and an unhealthy metabolic profile, stressing the need for prednisone-sparing targeted treatment in these vulnerable patients (this thesis).
- 6) The IL-6-IL-23-Th17 axis and its downstream Janus kinase (JAK)/signal transducers and activators of transcription (STATs) have potential roles as prognostic markers in GCA (this thesis) and in stratification of patients for TCZ treatment (this thesis).
- 7) "Metabolism was always there in the background, providing the cell with the energy and resources to do what was required, but was rarely recognized to determinedly influence, and be influenced by, the physiological state of the cell." - L. Bryan Ray
- 8) "Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less." - Marie Curie
- 9) "I think it's really important to have people who are kind of there at the boundary between research and medicine to facilitate the discovery of knowledge that will translate ultimately to improvements in clinical practice." - Gregg L. Semenza

Idil Esen

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