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<u>TOP</u> > <u>Available Issues</u> > <u>Table of Contents</u> > Abstract

ONLINE ISSN: 1880-313X PRINT ISSN: 0388-6107

Biomedical Research

Vol. 27 (2006), No. 2 April pp.61-67



[PDF (1759K)] [References]

Possible activation of murine T lymphocyte through CD98 is independent of interleukin 2/interleukin 2 receptor system

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(Received November 14, 2005) (Accepted January 26, 2006)

ABSTRACT

CD98 is a widely expressed cell surface heterodimetric protein of 125 kDa. Its expression is upregulated during lymphocyte activation induced by mitogen, superantigen, conventional antigen, and a combination of phorbol myristate acetate (PMA) and ionomycin. However, the role of CD98 in the immune system is not so well understood. The role of CD98 in murine T lymphocyte proliferation was investigated, especially in correlation with the interleukin 2 (IL-2)/interleukin 2 receptor (IL-2R) system. Monoclonal antibody (mAb) directed against murine CD98 heavy chain (mCD98HC) suppressed the proliferation of lymphocytes stimulated with concanavalin A (Con A). Anti-mCD98HC mAb did not suppress the expression of IL-2Rα. Anti-IL-2Rα mAb, which suppressed DNA synthesis, did not inhibit the expression of CD98HC. Murine IL-2 (recombinant), which induced considerable DNA synthesis by lymphocytes stimulated with a sub-optimal dose of Con A, did not induce CD98HC expression in lymphocytes. In addition, anti-mCD98HC mAb did

not inhibit the production of IL-2 by lymphocyte stimulated with Con A. Taken together with these findings, it was speculated that the CD98 system is independent of the IL-2/IL-2R system in murine T lymphocyte activation.



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Hiroshi KOMADA, Akiyo IMAI, Emi HATTORI, Morihiro ITO, Hideki TSUMURA, Toshiko ONODA, Mariko KURAMOCHI, Machiko TANI, Kanako YAMAMOTO, Mizuho YAMANE, Mitsuo KAWANO, Machiko NISHIO, Kimitaka YUASA, Myles O'BRIEN, Hidetaka YAMAMOTO, Jun UEMATSU, Masato TSURUDOME and Yasuhiko ITO; "Possible activation of murine T lymphocyte through CD98 is independent of interleukin 2/interleukin 2 receptor system", *Biomedical Research*, Vol. **27**, pp.61-67 (2006).

doi:10.2220/biomedres.27.61 JOI JST.JSTAGE/biomedres/27.61

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