



Mediators of Inflammation

Special Issue on

Inflammatory Mediators and Fungal Infections

CALL FOR PAPERS

Primary immunodeficiencies and increased administration of immunosuppressive drugs lead to an increased fungal infection susceptibility. Furthermore, fungal infections are significant disease burden in immunocompetent subjects. Optimal protective response against fungi involves a coordinated activation of phagocytes and T cells. In many circumstances, however, host defense is often followed by undesired side effects, such as tissue damage. As an example, pulmonary fibrosis can occur in response to *Aspergillus fumigatus* colonization in the lungs. Migration of phagocytes and T cells into fungal infected tissues might lead to the formation of granulomas. These structures are formed in attempt to control microbial burden but can ultimately contribute to fungal latency and recurrence. Elucidating this complexity (fungal clearance versus tissue damage) might prompt the development of improved therapeutic approaches. These will be adequate, as they provide an increase in resistance mechanisms involved in the inhibition of fungal burden, absolutely necessary in the case of immunosuppressed individuals. However, in some cases, at the same time that they induce this resistance, they must be able to limit the exaggerated response responsible for tissue damage.

We are inviting investigators to contribute with original research articles and review articles focusing on the cellular and molecular mechanisms involved in the inflammatory reactions triggered in response to pathogenic fungi. Experimental approaches with either humans or experimental models are welcome.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Introduction on the classification of pathogenic fungi and type
- ▶ Roles of phagocytic cells (M1 and M2 macrophages, dendritic cells, keratinocytes, and neutrophils) during fungal infection
- ▶ Bioactive lipids as modulators of host immune response to fungi
- ▶ Role of pattern recognition receptors (PRRs) in susceptibility and resistance to fungal infections
- ▶ T cell populations involved in resistance and tolerance mechanisms important in the generation of antifungal immunity
- ▶ Biomarkers for fungal infections
- ▶ Role of innate lymphoid cells in fungal infections

Authors can submit their manuscripts via the Manuscript Tracking System at <http://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/mi/imfi/>.

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First Round of Reviews

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Friday, 20 November 2015