

Role of the B cell receptor in B cell oncogenesis





Stefano Casola, MD; PhD



No conflicts to disclose



Progression through B cell development is strictly dependent on continuous expression of a functional B cell antigen receptor (BCR)



Mature B cell neoplasms conserve BCR expression





BCR importance for mature B cell neoplasms: hints from genetics

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			555555	
		CDR III		
	number of	R/S value for FRs		
population	sequences	bp	codons	
n-frame		2.6		
gG/lgA memory	19	1,0	1.0	
gM memory	38	1.6	1.6	
plasma cells	32	1.5	1.6	
GC B cells (RNA)	15	1.3	1.5	
GC centroblasts	49	1,9	1.8	
DLL	19	1.2	1.3	
Burkit's lymphoma	20	1.1	1.2	
ollicular lymphoma	20	1.1	1.2	
LP HD	8	1.5	1.6	
lassical HD	12	1.9	2.3	
out-of-frame				
various populations	29	3.0	36	

Klein et al. Immunol. Rev. 1998







Follicular lymphoma



Ten Hacken et al., Leukemia 2019

• Stereotypic BCRs

BCR activation in malignant B cells







How does the BCR influence lymphoma growth?

Casola et al, Immunol. Rev. 2019

Inhibiting BCR signaling effectors is effective against several forms of mature B cell neoplasms



Jerkeman, Staudt et al, J Intern Med., 2017



How do malignant B cells react to BCR inactivation?



BCR extinction does not prevent MYC lymphoma growth in vivo



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Varano et al, Nature 2017

BCR enhances MYC lymphoma cell competitive fitness



Burkitt lymphoma



Davis, Staudt et al., Nature, 2010 Schmitz, Staudt et al., Nature, 2012 Cheong, Chiarle et al., Nature Commun., 2016 Havranek et al. Blood 2017 Phelan et al. Nature 2018

BCR-less lymphoma subclones restore optimal fitness





The BCR signalosome controlling Myc-driven lymphoma fitness



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Lymphoma respond to BCR loss rewiring exogenous glucose and glutamine catabolism





Lower glutaminolysis Compensatory carbon re-routing via PC

Human mature B cell neoplasms can spontaneously evolve into BCR-less variants

Burkitt lymphoma



Diffuse Large B cell Lymphoma lymphoma



Varano et al, Nature 2017



Possible B cell tumor evolution trajectories under anti-BCR therapies





Casola et al, Immunol. Rev. 2019

Open questions

- 1. How Ig-less lymphomas overcome BCR requirement for survival, and how do they evolve compared to their BCR⁺ counterparts?
- 2. Are distinct B cell malignancies selecting similar mechanism(s) to bypass BCR inactivation?
- 3. Can such knowledge help design new treatments to eradicate tumor B cells resisting BCR extinction/inhibition?



Role of the CD19/PI3K δ axis in the survival of Ig-less MYC lymphomas



MYC lymphomas overcome combined BCR/CD19 loss





BCR/CD19 mutant lymphomas gain resistance to PI3K δ inhibition



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How can lymphomas bypass the BCR/CD19/PI3K δ signaling axis?





Tracking lymphoma evolution in response to BCR extinction

Single cell RNA-seq



Trajectory inference of MYC lymphoma evolution following BCR inactivation



BCR regulates the epigenetic landscape of lymphoma B cells



BCR loss reduces protein synthesis rate in lymphoma cells



BCR-defective MYC lymphomas depend more on MTORC1 signaling





BCR-less lymphomas with chronic RAS/MAPK activation suffer from pharmacological MEK inhibition





BCR inactivation enhances radiosensitivity of Myc lymphomas





Possible influence of the BCR on MYC lymphoma immunogenicity





Fighting/preventing B cell tumor resistance to BCR inhibition: the next goals





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Single cell transcriptional signatures discriminating specific transitions of Myc lymphoma evolution following BCR loss

