

# RNA editing enzyme APOBEC3A promotes pro-inflammatory M1 macrophage polarization

Emad Y. Alqassim, Shraddha Sharma, A. N. M. Nazmul H. Khan, Tiffany R. Emmons, Eduardo Cortes Gomez, Abdulrahman Alahmari, Kelly L. Singel, Jaron Mark, Bruce A. Davidson, A. J. Robert McGray, Qian Liu, Brian D. Lichty, Kirsten B. Moysich, Jianmin Wang, Kunle Odunsi, Brahm H. Segal & Bora E. Baysal

Communications biology | VOL 4 | January 2021 | 1-11. doi: 10.1038/s42003-020-01620-x

Papadimitriou Angelos

Supervisor: Associate Professor Dafou Dimitra

Thessaloniki 2022

### MAIN MODULES

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 2. RESULTS
- 3. LAB RESEARCH

#### **RNA** Editing

**APOBEC:** <u>ADAR:</u>  $H_2O$  $H_2O$  $NH_3$  $NH_3$  $NH_2$ 0  $\dot{N}H_2$ Post-transcriptional ٠ Deamination Deamination 'NΗ mechanism `NН НО — HO\_ °0 НО — N' но — Ν Ν Protein diversity ٠ О HO OH НÓ ÒН ĊН Two main protein families НÖ ĊН HÔ • Cytidine, C Uridine, U Adenosine, A Inosine, I (=G) APOBEC3A



#### Polarization of the Macrophage



٠

٠

#### siRNA Knockdown (KD)

- short interfering RNA (siRNA) STRINA **RISC** complex RNA-silencing complex (RISC) 111111111111 Cleavage
  - TargetmRNA DegradationofmRNA

# Scrambled cells Knockdown cells

#### Both transfected

- siRNA that don't recognize any sequence
  - siRNA that recognizes specific sequence

invitrogen Ambion® Silencer® Negative Control #1 siRNA has no significant sequence similarity to mouse, rat, or human gene sequences. The control has also been tested in cell-based screens and proven to have no significant effect on cell proliferation, viability, or morphology.



Western blot analysis of M1 SC control and M1 APOBEC3A KD samples

SC=scrambled cells

KD= Knockdown cells

A3A= APOBEC3A

 Reduced expression of APOBEC3A protein by siRNA KD

- M0  $\rightarrow$  M1 using LPS and IFN- $\gamma$
- Percent viable cells are similar in SC (93%) and KD (89%).
- APOBEC3A does not affect cell viability in M1 macrophages.



The percentage of the R46X event in macrophages cells 25-SC=scrambled cells KD= Knockdown cells SDHB c.C136U (R46X) 20 % Editing At the 136 nucleotide of the coding sequence,  $C \rightarrow U$ A3A= APOBEC3A 15 Propidium Iodide (PI) = DNA SDHB C>U binding-dye 10 Annexin V = binding protein SDHB=succinate 5 dehydrogenase subunit B • SDHB c.C136U RNA editing occurs in M1 gene macrophages but not in M0 or M2 macrophages 0 10 A3A 50 A3A 1 A3A 50 A3A 10 A3A 50 A3A 10 R46X= the editing event that occurs in SDHB c.C136U

- In eight additional donor samples
- APOBEC3A responsible for the observed SDHB c.C136U RNA editing in M1 macrophages.



≈2

Editing

C>U

SDHB

SC=scrambled cells KD= Knockdown cells A3A= APOBEC3A

Propidium Iodide (PI) = DNA binding-dye

Annexin V = binding protein

SDHB=succinate dehydrogenase subunit B gene

R46X= the editing event that occurs in SDHB c.C136U



- KD of APOBEC3A during M1 polarization reduced RNA editing levels in 180 of these
  209 (~86%) sites
- APOBEC3A catalyzes the majority of C>U RNA editing sites during M1 polarization
- Synonymous (98/180 = 54.4%)
- Non-synonymous (36/180 = 20%)
- 3'-UTR (33/180 = 18.3%)

#### Editing level in 209 editing sites



SC=scrambled cells KD= Knockdown cells A3A= APOBEC3A Propidium Iodide (PI) = DNA binding-dye Annexin V = binding protein SDHB=succinate dehydrogenase subunit B gene R46X= the editing event that occurs in SDHB c.C136U

• APOBEC3A expression is significantly enriched in SC relative to KD

- 1. Effective knockdown and
- 2. APOBEC3A is required for high expression levels of pro-inflammatory genes IL6, IL23A, IL12B and CD86 in M1 macrophages



SC=scrambled cells KD= Knockdown cells A3A= APOBEC3A Propidium Iodide (PI) = DNA binding-dye Annexin V = binding protein SDHB=succinate dehydrogenase subunit B gene R46X= the editing event that occurs in SDHB c.C136U



Cytokine production by M1 APOBEC3A SC and M1 APOBEC3A KD macrophages was assessed by ELISA

• APOBEC3A KD decreased TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-1, and IL-6 secretion by M1 macrophages

SC=scrambled cells KD= Knockdown cells A3A= APOBEC3A Propidium Iodide (PI) = DNA binding-dye Annexin V = binding protein SDHB=succinate dehydrogenase subunit B

R46X= the editing event that occurs in SDHB c.C136U

gene

- CD86  $\rightarrow$  marker for M1 macrophages
- Compared to M1 APOBEC3A SC macrophages, M1 APOBEC3A KD macrophages showed a reduction in CD86 expression



SC=scrambled cells

KD= Knockdown cells

A3A= APOBEC3A

Propidium Iodide (PI) = DNA binding-dye

Annexin V = binding protein

SDHB=succinate dehydrogenase subunit B gene

R46X= the editing event that occurs in SDHB c.C136U

Lab research



#### Lab research

- Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats (CRISPR)
- Protospacer Adjacent Motif (PAM)

• Double-Strand Break (DSB)



- Non-Homologous End Joining (NHEJ)
- Homology-directed repair (HDR)

Lab research

## After the creation of the cell lines...

- Western blot
- Flow cytometry
- Activate M1 and M2 state
- RT-PCR
- ELISA
- Bioinformatics analyses

### References

- Alqassim, E. Y., Sharma, S., Khan, A. N. M., Emmons, T. R., Cortes Gomez, E., Alahmari, A., ... & Baysal, B. E. (2021). RNA editing enzyme APOBEC3A promotes pro-inflammatory M1 macrophage polarization. Communications biology, 4(1), 1-11.
- Germic, N., Frangez, Z., Yousefi, S., & Simon, H. U. (2019). Regulation of the innate immune system by autophagy: monocytes, macrophages, dendritic cells and antigen presentation. Cell Death & Differentiation, 26(4), 715-727.
- Jiang, F., & Doudna, J. A. (2017). CRISPR–Cas9 structures and mechanisms. Annual review of biophysics, 46, 505-529.
- Kockler, Z. W., & Gordenin, D. A. (2021). From RNA world to SARS-CoV-2: the edited story of RNA viral evolution. Cells, 10(6), 1557.
- Mehrabian, M., Brethour, D., MacIsaac, S., Kim, J. K., Gunawardana, C. G., Wang, H., & Schmitt-Ulms, G. (2014). CRISPR-Cas9-based knockout of the prion protein and its effect on the proteome. PloS one, 9(12), e114594.
- Saradna, A., Do, D. C., Kumar, S., Fu, Q. L., & Gao, P. (2018). Macrophage polarization and allergic asthma. Translational Research, 191, 1-14.

Lab 7.17 Biology Apartment → Associate Professor Dafou Dimitra Lab 3.10 Pharmacy Apartment → Professor Sklaviadis Theodoros Assistant Professor Xanthopoulos Konstantinos