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Sandrine Alais, H el ene Dutartre, Renaud Mahieux. Comparative infection of autologous primary T cells and monocytes derived DCs using cell-free virus preparation, viral biofilm, pseudotyped-virus or viral synapse. *Retrovirology*, BioMed Central, 2014, 11 (Suppl 1), pp.P99. <inserm-00924976>

HAL Id: inserm-00924976

<http://www.hal.inserm.fr/inserm-00924976>

Submitted on 7 Jan 2014

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POSTER PRESENTATION

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Comparative infection of autologous primary T cells and monocytes derived DCs using cell-free virus preparation, viral biofilm, pseudotyped-virus or viral synapse

Sandrine Alais, H el ene Dutartre[†], Renaud Mahieux^{*†}

From 16th International Conference on Human Retroviruses: HTLV and Related Viruses
Montreal, Canada. 26-30 June 2013

HTLV-1 infected T cells and blood dendritic cells (DCs) can be found in HTLV-1 carriers. It is currently believed that T cell infection requires cell-cell contact, while DCs could also be infected with cell-free virus. However, a comparative study using different modes of viral preparation for infecting human primary autologous T and DC cells has not been performed. Supernatant from HTLV-1 chronically infected T cells, cell conjugates between HTLV-1 infected cells and target cells, or purified viral biofilm were used side-by-side to infect autologous human primary lymphocytes and monocytes-derived dendritic cells. To monitor the early steps of viral infection, we also used pseudotyped viruses carrying either the HTLV-1 or the VSV envelopes. Infection was then followed by flow cytometry, ELISA, immunofluorescence, real-time PCR and alu-PCR. Our first data show that, depending on the source of viruses, lymphocytes have distinct susceptibility to HTLV-1 infection. The impact of the viral source in the spread of HTLV-1 infection will be discussed.

Published: 7 January 2014

doi:10.1186/1742-4690-11-S1-P99

Cite this article as: Alais et al.: Comparative infection of autologous primary T cells and monocytes derived DCs using cell-free virus preparation, viral biofilm, pseudotyped-virus or viral synapse.

Retrovirology 2014 11(Suppl 1):P99.

* Correspondence: renaud.mahieux@ens-lyon.fr

† Contributed equally

Oncog en se R etrovirale, label « Ligue Nationale Contre le Cancer », CIRI, Labex Ecofect, INSERM U1111-CNRS UMR5308, Universit  Lyon-1, Ecole Normale Sup rieure, Lyon, Cedex 07, France

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