

Vitiligo Antigen in Melanoma Cells

To the Editor:

It has come to our attention that there is an inadvertent error in Fig 1 of our paper entitled "Expression of Vitiligo Antigen on a Revertant Line of Hamster Melanoma Cells" which was published in *J Invest Dermatol* 83:317, 1984. Improper gels were used for lanes 4 and 5 to illustrate the antigens on hamster FF melanoma cells immunoprecipitated by human vitiligo sera. This error has been rectified in the accompanying figure. The pattern of immunoprecipitated antigens in the corrected gels is identical to that in the original figure, and there is no change in any of our observations or conclusions.

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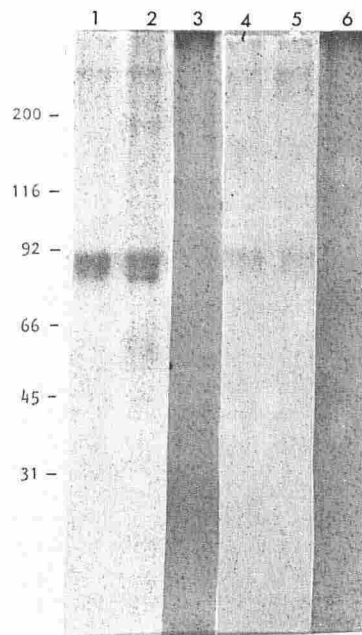


Figure 1. Radioautograph of SDS-PAGE profile of detergent-soluble, radioiodinated surface macromolecules of normal human melanocytes (lanes 1, 2, 3) and FF cells (lanes 4, 5, 6) immunoprecipitated by sera of patients with vitiligo (lanes 1, 2, 4, 5) and normal individuals (lanes 3, 6).

Enrichment of Murine Langerhans Cells by Panning with Pan-Leukocyte Monoclonal Antibodies

To the Editor:

Referring to the paper of G.S. Wood et al in the January 1985 issue [1] we would like to raise a word of caution concerning the applicability of this technique in the murine system. We have shown that in the murine epidermis pan-leukocyte/T 200 antigens occur not only on Langerhans cells (LC) but also on the Thy-1-positive dendritic epidermal cells (Thy-1+ DEC) [2,3]. On epidermal sheet preparations and in epidermal cell suspensions, the Thy-1+ DEC stain even brighter with anti-T 200 monoclonal antibodies than LC [2]. Therefore, a panning technique using anti-T 200 monoclonals will certainly coenrich for both LC and Thy-1+ DEC. The authors have circumvented this problem by using newborn BALB/c mice. This strain, in particular [4], and newborn mice, in general [5], have very low numbers of Thy-1+ DEC as compared to other strains and adult mice, respectively. We agree with the authors in recommending this technique for the enrichment of human LC since there seems to be no human in situ equivalent to the murine Thy-1+ DEC [6]. In view of the recent findings [2,3], however, panning of murine epidermal cell suspensions with pan-leukocyte/T 200 monoclonal antibodies cannot be considered as a widely applicable method for the en-

richment of LC but rather as a method to enrich for epidermal leukocytes (LC, Thy-1+ DEC) in general.

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