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Immunological manifestations of increasing age, ART duration and time since diagnosis within the ageing HIV-1⁺ cohort

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The Ageing Cohort (n=6106)



^{*}Jan 2009-May 2010

- Median age in 1996-2000 = 33 years
- Increase of 8 years during 14 year follow-up period
- Median age in 2010 = 41 years

(see abstract #P118, S Mandalia et al.)

Objectives

 Delineating the compounded effects of age and HIV-1 on the immune profile and disease prognosis is relevant for future therapeutics including potential immune reconstitution.

• Aim to assess **impact of patient age** on T-cell subset distribution, phenotype and functional memory responses to HIV-1, CMV and tetanus toxoid (TTox).

Methods

- Cross sectional analysis of 58 patients all receiving cART
- To assess relationship of **patient age** with
 - T-cell Function:
 - IL-2, IFN-γ, Perforin, proliferation in response to
 - HIV-1 Gag peptides, CMV and TTox
 - T-cell Phenotype:
 - differentiation (CD27/CD28; early, intermediate and late)
 - activation (HLA-DR/CD38)
 - co-stimulation/inhibition (CD28/CTLA-4)
 - senescence/exhaustion (CD57/PD-1)

Methods

- Multivariable model to identify significant independent predictors
- of T-cell phenotype and function incorporating:
 - Patient age
 - Time since HIV-1⁺ diagnosis
 - ART Duration
 - Nadir CD4 count
 - Current CD4 count
 - Current CD8 count

Study Cohort (n=58)

	Age, years	Year of HIV-1⁺ diagnosis	Time since HIV-1 ⁺ diagnosis, years	ART duration, years	Nadir CD4+ T-cell count, cells/µl blood	CD4 ⁺ T-cell count, cells/µl blood	CD8 ⁺ T-cell count, cells/µl blood	Viral load, HIV-1 RNA copies/ml plasma
Median	47.7	1996	13.7	10.5	137	488	801	49
Range	29.1 to 70.9	1984 to 2010	0.6 to 26.3	0.4 to 21.2	4 to 677	195 to 1426	271 to 1697	49
IQR	42.0 to 52.0	1990 to 2002	7.8 to 19.9	3.5 to 17.9	50 to 228	386 to 664	605 to 950	49



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Patient Age

T-cell Function



Patient age corrected for

- Time since HIV-1⁺ diag.
- ART Duration
- Current CD4 count
- Nadir CD4 count
- Current CD8 count

T-cell Phenotype



ART Duration





ART Duration corrected for

- Patient Age
- Time since HIV-1⁺ diag.
- Current CD4 count
- Nadir CD4 count
- Current CD8 count



Time Since HIV-1⁺ Diagnosis and Nadir

T-cell Phenotype



Time HIV-1⁺ corrected for

- Patient Age
- ART duration
- Nadir CD4 count
- Current CD4 count
- Current CD8 count

Current CD4 and CD8 Counts





Summary

As patient Age increases it can be predicted that

↑ *IFN-γ* production to $Gag_{MHCI,}$ intermediate CD4

↓ IL-2 production to CMV, early CD8

Longer HIV-1 infection (Time Since HIV-1⁺ Diagnosis) predicts an

↑ Activated CD4

Increased ART Duration is associated with

↑ Intermediate CD4

↓ Activated CD4, early CD4

Summary

Further support for early initiation of ART is demonstrated by

Nadir CD4

- **↑** Intermediate CD4
- ↓ Activated CD4

Current CD4

- ↑ Early CD4, early CD8
- ↓ Activated CD4

Current CD8

↑ Activated CD4

Conclusion

Although age is an important explanatory factor in immunological prognosis, T-cell function and phenotype, these data support <u>early</u> <u>initiation and extended duration of cART</u> (at a stage when CD4 counts are high, CD8 counts low, and time since HIV-1 diagnosis short) <u>regardless of patient age</u>.

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