Editorial

Preface to the proceedings of the Workshop on Eosinophils in Allergy and Related Diseases 2016

Eosinophils are cells well known involved in various allergic immune reactions. However, their roles in the pathogenesis of allergic diseases are still incompletely understood. The 30th Workshop on Eosinophils in Allergy and Related Diseases was held on October 22, 2016 at National Center of Sciences in Tokyo. The Workshop was established by Prof. Sohei Makino, Dokkyo Medical University, in 1988, held annually and was organized by Professors Makino and Takeshi Fukuda (Dokkyo Medical University) and Prof. Makoto Nagata (Saitama Medical University).

The 2016 Workshop was supervised by Prof. Kohei Yamauchi, Iwate Medical University, and comprised 26 oral presentations, including two special lectures and one luncheon lecture. The oral presentation was programmed into 8 sessions including 1) Mast cells/Basophils, 2) Eosinophilic inflammation, 3) Virus/Fungus-Clinical, 4) Eosinophils/Asthma, 5) Airway epithelial cells, 6) Animal models/Allergens, 7) Animal models/Disease analysis, 8) Animal models/Pathophysiology analysis. Prof. Tamaoki (Tokyo Women’s Medical University) gave us an educational lecture “The role of obesity in severe asthma”. Dr. Eric Bradford (Project Physician Leader, GlaxoSmithKline) made the keynote lecture “IL-5 targeted therapy for severe asthma”. Prof. Isao Ohno gave us a special lecture “Neuropsychiatry phenotype in asthma: psychological stress-induced alterations of the neuroendocrine-immune system in allergic airway inflammation”.

We are pleased to announce that Allergology International (AI) is publishing the proceedings of the 30th Workshop on Eosinophils in Allergy and Related Diseases, containing one review article, five original articles and six letters to the editor, all of which were peer-reviewed and accepted through the review process of Allergology International. We hope that many researchers who are interested in allergic reactions and the pathophysiology of allergic diseases will find this issue stimulating.

In the review article, Prof. Ohno strengthened the concept of stress-induced asthma using murine models. It had been thought that psychological stress is an important factor in exacerbations of airway inflammation in asthma. However, since inhaled corticosteroid improves asthmatic symptoms dramatically, attention to the psychological stress in asthma had decreased due to lack of strong evidence suggesting an interaction between stress and airway inflammation. Prof. Ohno demonstrated interesting evidences suggesting interplay between neuroendocrine activity and psychological stress-induced enhancement of airway inflammation using murine asthma models.

The original articles and letters to the editor contain interesting evidence concerning both clinical and basic allergy. In the original articles, Okamura et al. described their evaluation of the biology of human synovial mast cells, Ujino et al. described the role of leukotriene in airway inflammation and airway hyperresponsiveness in a murine asthma model, Kobayashi et al. examined uric acid and adenosine triphosphate concentration in bronchoalveolar lavage fluid of eosinophilic pneumonia, and Saeki et al. evaluated the steroid-resistant bronchial hyperresponsiveness induced by Th9 cells in mice.

In the letters to the editor, Nunomura et al. evaluated the regulation of mast cell activation by disulfide-linked dimerization of the FcRy chain, Ito et al. described the role of Dectin-1 in HDM-induced PGE2 production in macrophages, Gon et al. analyzed the effects of CpG oligonucleotides on epithelial barrier function, Maruoka et al. evaluated the significance of apoptosis signal-regulating kinase-1 in house dust mite-induced murine asthma model, Arakawa et al. examined the effect of resveratrol on IgE-induced allergic reaction of human basophils, and Kato et al. discussed the epithelial—mesenchymal transition and cytokine production.

I believe this Proceeding will contribute to research in the allergic field and to understanding of the immune mechanism involved in allergic diseases.

We would like to thank Prof. Nagata for his excellent management, Dr. Soma, Dr. Nakagome, and Ms. Aoyama (Saitama Medical University) for devoted efforts in coordinating this year’s successful workshop. We are also sincerely grateful to Ms. Toshiko Takeda of the Editorial Office of Allergology International for her excellent handling of this supplemental issue.

The 2017 Workshop will be held on October 21, 2017, in Tokyo under the supervision of Prof. Hiroshi Nakajima (Department of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Graduate School of Medicine, Chiba University). We are expecting even greater numbers of presentations and attendees. Please check the website for more information at http://www.sec-information.net/eosinophils/data/announce.html.

Conflict of interest

The author has no conflict of interest to declare.

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