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Author: Ivan Maillard, M.D., Ph.D., 2009

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HEMATOPOIESIS

Ivan Maillard, MD-PhD Assistant Professor

Center for Stem Cell Biology, Life Sciences Institute Division of Hematology-Oncology, Department of Medicine Department of Cell and Developmental Biology UM Medical School



Winter, 2011

HEMATOPOIESIS

Topics of the course:

- Location of hematopoiesis during embryogenesis and in the adult
- Origins and properties of the hematopoietic stem cell
- Assessment of hematopoietic precursors
- Relationship of the stem cell to all classes of blood cells
- Development of lymphocytes
- Development of the erythroid, granulocytic, and megakaryocyte lineages
- Differences in hemoglobin during development

What is Hematopoiesis?

- Development of the cells of the blood system and of their supporting structures
 - Elements of the hematopoietic system
 - Blood cellular elements: erythrocytes, megakaryocytesplatelets, white blood cells
 - Proteins
 - Stroma that supports blood development
 - Characterized by a regulated balance of progenitor selfrenewal and commitment to differentiate
 - Organized as a hierarchy

Hematopoietic Hierarchy

Differentiated cells



Why understand the details?

- Narrow homeostasis of blood cell numbers
 - If not actively maintained, hematopoietic failure
 - For example: 2 x 10⁶ new red cells produced every second!
- Hematopoietic response essential in many clinical situations
 - Infection, wound healing
 - Hemorrhage
 - Chemotherapy, bone marrow transplantation
 - ...
- Dysregulation of the hematopoietic program in hematological maligancies
 - Leukemia, lymphoma, multiple myeloma

Origins of Hematopoiesis

Primitive Hematopoiesis

- Transient, primitive program
- Begins in early embryogenesis
- First 8 weeks: cells arise in the embryonic yolk sac

Definitive Hematopoiesis

- What we see in the adult
- Begins during fetal life in association with vascular structures (fetal aorta, placenta)
- Expands in the fetal liver and spleen
- In the late fetus the bone marrow becomes the main site of hematopoiesis

Shifting Sites of Human Hematopoiesis



Primitive and definitive hematopoiesis



Primitive Hematopoiesis



Early observations



PRELIMINARY NOTE ON THE DIFFERENTIATION OF ANGIOBLASTS AND THE METHOD BY WHICH THEY PRODUCE BLOOD-VESSELS, BLOOD-PLASMA AND RED BLOOD-CELLS AS SEEN IN THE LIVING CHICK

FLORENCE R. SABIN

Anatomical Laboratory, Johns Hopkins University

PD-EXP

Anatomical Record (1917)

PD-EXP

Florence Sabin (1871-1953)

The question of the origin of the vascular system can be solved by the method of studying the living blastoderm of the chick in hanging-drop preparations.

© PO-EXP

Morphology of the chick blastoderm



Sabin (1920)

Angioblastic cords in the chick blastoderm



Lumenization and endothelial morphology

"Blood islands"



Sabin (1920)

Sites of Hematopoiesis



Emergence of definitive hematopoietic stem cells



8 PP-INEL I. Maillard

AGM: aorta, gonad, mesonephros

Runx1 excision in endothelial cells eliminates intra-arterial clusters

Runx1^{f/+}

Runx1^{f/f}; Tg(VEC-Cre)



Yokomizo, Dzierzak and Speck, 2009 PECAM-1 c-Kit

Essential Properties of Definitive Hematopoietic Stem Cells

Hematopoietic Stem Cell:

- Extensive self-renewal
- Quiescence (in steady-state conditions)
- Multipotency

Broad differentiation capacity - maintains all different classes of blood cells and lymphocytes

- Numbers are low
 - Cannot be detected by the naked eye in the bone marrow
 - Prospective identification relies on cell surface markers
 - In humans, the stem cell has not been as clearly defined as in the mouse

Hematopoietic Stem Cell Phenotype



Weissman and collaborators Kiel and Morrison (CD150+, CD48-)

How can we study hematopoietic stem and progenitor cells?

Transplantation models

- Donor cells into mice whose blood cells have been destroyed
- Can determine the developmental potential of a given population of blood progenitors
- One single hematopoietic stem cell can repopulate all the blood cell lineages!

Cell culture techniques

- BFU –Burst forming units
 - Proliferate
 - Not able to establish all cell lineages
- CFU-Colony forming units
 - Later cell than the burst forming unit
 - Can repopulate a cell lineage but more restricted that the BFU

What directs hematopoietic stem cell differentiation to specific blood lineages?



Hematopoietic differentiation Classical Model



Hematopoietic Stem Cell Differentiation An Evolving Model



Erythropoiesis

- Development of red blood cells
- Maintains a constant mass of red blood cells
- Major component is hemoglobin
 - Three elements are required for synthesis:
 - **Globin protein chains**
 - Protoporphyrin
 - Incorporation of iron

Morphologic characterization of different stages of red blood cell development is tightly coupled to hemoglobin synthesis

ERYTHROPOIESIS



Hemoglobin Synthesis



Megakaryopoiesis

- Generation of platelets that are critical for hemostasis
 - Small anucleate cells
- Development characterized by endomitosis
 - Nucleus divides but cytoplasm does not
- Single polyploid nucleus and increased cytoplasmic volume
 - Cytoplasm becomes demarcated at the end stage of megakaryopoiesis
 - Platelets are shed from mature megakaryocyte and leave behind nucleus

MEGAKARYOPOIESIS



Platelet release by megacaryocytes



Junt et al., Science 2007

Monopoiesis and Granulopoiesis

- Derived from a common progenitor cell (GMP)
- Cells of the monocyte series differentiate into tissue macrophages
- Granulopoiesis involves the generation of cells that have prominent granules: neutrophils, eosinophils and basophils
- Can be enhanced therapeutically
 - G-CSF, GM-CSF...
- Mast cells that have basophilic granules are derived from the HSC and develop in tissues

MONOCYTE AND NEUTROPHIL DEVELOPMENT



PD-INEL

Lymphopoiesis

- Lymphocytes are derived from primitive bone marrow progenitors that activate a "lymphoid" program
 - e.g. immune receptor gene rearrangement (T and B cells)
- Sites of lymphoid development
 - T cells: thymus
 - B, NK cells: bone marrow
- Morphologically similar, but identification with antibodies directed against proteins on the cell surface and flow cytometry
- Heterogeneous populations
 - Function
 - Life span
 - Surface structures
 - Circulation in peripheral organs (spleen, lymph nodes, others)

B CELL DEVELOPMENT



T CELL DEVELOPMENT



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