On Mesenchymal Stem Cells and Regulatory T Cells in Organ Transplantation

PROPOSITIONS

1. Donor MSC and graft acceptor Treg do not impair each other's function. *(this thesis)*

2. MSC induce functional *de novo* Treg. *(this thesis)*

3. The anti-proliferative effect of MSC on CD28⁻CD8⁺ T cells emphasises the potential of a MSC-belatacept combination therapy to prevent alloreactivity. *(this thesis)*

4. MSC mediate the establishment of an immunosuppressive environment without inflicting the known side effects of drug-based immunotherapy.

5. Personalised immunosuppression demands further refinement.

6. Drug weaning and withdrawal studies require reliable biomarkers to detect early alloreactivity.


8. Fluorescence compensations in flow cytometry: boon and bane of an otherwise very elegant analytical method.

9. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. *(Benjamin Franklin)*

10. Zu viel Nachdenken schadet zuweilen, zu wenig Nachdenken schadet immer. *(Rabbinner Grünberg, Tatort 27.11.2011)*

11. “With age comes wisdom, but sometimes age comes alone”; as applies to the 76-year old ‘Nederlandse Spoorwegen’ who is still surprised by falling leaves in autumn and snowflakes in winter. *(based on Oscar Wilde and more than 4 years of commuting experience)*

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