

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.
7. Research on genetic polymorphisms triggers polymorphic emotions.
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. *(Rabbiner 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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