Propositions belonging to this thesis

The Toll of too much Interferon:
The systemic Interferon signature in the pathogenesis of Sjögren’s syndrome

1. The Interferon type I signature in primary Sjögren’s syndrome identifies a subgroup of patients with higher disease activity as assessed by the EULAR Sjögren’s Syndrome Disease Activity Index. (this thesis)

2. MxA is a clinically applicable biomarker for measuring systemic Interferon type I activity in primary Sjögren’s syndrome, systemic lupus erythematosus and systemic sclerosis. (this thesis)

3. Triggering of the ribonucleic acid sensing Toll-like receptor 7 results in the upregulation of the cytosolic RIG-I like receptors RIG-I and MDA5, and downregulation of Toll-like receptor 9. (this thesis)

4. Regulatory T cells are positively correlated with IDO and IFN type I activity in patients with primary Sjögren’s syndrome. (this thesis)

5. Patients with primary Sjögren’s syndrome will benefit from optimising therapies tailored to specific subgroups of the disease, according to their distinct Interferon signatures. (this thesis)


7. Together with the bacterial microbiome, the retrovirome shapes both the magnitude and the quality of the immune response. (Grasset E.K., Cerutti A., Science 2014, 346:1454-1455)


10. Brief, repeated exposures to sunlight are more efficient in boosting the body’s vitamin D supply compared to longer exposures, that additionally cause skin damage and increase the risk of skin cancer. (Mead. M.N. Environ Health Perspect 2008, 116:A160-167)

11. “If you can’t fly, then run, if you can’t run, then walk, If you can’t walk, then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward” – Martin Luther King

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