Current efforts and future prospects in the development of live mycobacteria as vaccines

Resumen

The development of more effective vaccines against Mycobacterium tuberculosis (Mtb) remains a major goal in the effort to reduce the enormous global burden of disease caused by this pathogen. Whole-cell vaccines based on live mycobacteria with attenuated virulence represent an appealing approach, providing broad antigen exposure and intrinsic adjuvant properties to prime durable immune responses. However, designing vaccine strains with an optimal balance between attenuation and immunogenicity has proven to be extremely challenging. Recent basic and clinical research efforts have broadened our understanding of Mtb pathogenesis and created numerous new vaccine candidates that have been designed to overcome different aspects of immune evasion by Mtb. In this review, we provide an overview of the current efforts to create improved vaccines against tuberculosis based on modifications of live attenuated mycobacteria. In addition, we discuss the use of such vaccine strains as vectors for stimulating protective immunity against other infectious diseases and cancers.

Palabras clave

Palabras clave de autor: attenuation; autophagy; auxotroph; immune evasion; live vaccine; mycobacterial antigens; Mycobacterium tuberculosis; phagosome; pro-apoptotic

KeyWords Plus: BACILLUS-CALMETTE-GUERIN; INVASIVE BLADDER-CANCER; LONG-TERM PROTECTION; GUINEA-PIG MODEL; T-CELL RESPONSES; BOVIS-BCG; PHAGOSOME MATURATION; ANTIGEN-85 COMPLEX; IMMUNE-RESPONSES; PANTOTHENATE AUXOTROPH

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Financiación

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entidad financiadora</th>
<th>Número de concesión</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US Department of Health and Human Services-National Institutes of Health</td>
<td>P01AI063537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Department of Health and Human Services-National Institutes of Health-National</td>
<td>R01AI093649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of General Medical Sciences</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pew Charitable Trusts</td>
<td>UO1GM111849</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ver texto de financiación

Editorial

TAYLOR & FRANCIS LTD, 4 PARK SQUARE, MILTON PARK, ABINGDON OX14 4RN, OXON, ENGLAND

Categorías / Clasificación

Áreas de investigación: Immunology
Categorías de Web of Science: Immunology

Información del documento

Tipo de documento: Review
Idioma: English
Número de acceso: WOS:000369916500010
ID de PubMed: 26366616
ISSN: 1476-0584
eISSN: 1744-8395

Información de la revista

- Impact Factor: Journal Citation Reports®

Otra información

Número IDS: DD4TV
Referencias citadas en la Colección principal de Web of Science: 136
Veces citado en la Colección principal de Web of Science: 0