



OPEN ACCESS

EDITED BY

Amy Rosenberg,
EpiVax, United States

REVIEWED BY

Colin C. Anderson,
University of Alberta, Canada
David Cameron Wraith,
University of Birmingham,
United Kingdom
Remi J. Creusot,
Columbia University, United States
Aaron Michels,
University of Colorado, United States

*CORRESPONDENCE

Gerald T. Nepom
nepom@benaroyaresearch.org

SPECIALTY SECTION

This article was submitted to
Immunological Tolerance
and Regulation,
a section of the journal
Frontiers in Immunology

RECEIVED 06 June 2022

ACCEPTED 17 August 2022

PUBLISHED 02 September 2022

CITATION

Nepom GT (2022) Synergistic targeting
of immunologic pathways to empower
durable tolerance therapies.
Front. Immunol. 13:962177.
doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2022.962177

COPYRIGHT

© 2022 Nepom. This is an open-access
article distributed under the terms of
the [Creative Commons Attribution
License \(CC BY\)](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). The use, distribution
or reproduction in other forums is
permitted, provided the original
author(s) and the copyright owner(s)
are credited and that the original
publication in this journal is cited, in
accordance with accepted academic
practice. No use, distribution or
reproduction is permitted which does
not comply with these terms.

Synergistic targeting of immunologic pathways to empower durable tolerance therapies

Gerald T. Nepom*

Immune Tolerance Network and Benaroya Research Institute, Seattle, WA, United States

KEYWORDS

immune tolerance, autoimmunity, regulation, clinical trials, immunotherapy

Introduction

Therapeutic intervention to reverse immune-mediated disease faces several biological barriers, which correspond to stages of disease initiation and progression. Underlying disease susceptibility, whether due to genetic, maternal-fetal, or environmental causes, establishes highly variable platforms that differ among individuals and can underlie differential disease course and responses to particular therapies. The type of disease triggering event, whether infectious, allergen, or autoantigen, is also highly variable and establishes a pathogenic program at the tissue-immune interface that enlists multiple arms of immune response. If not self-limited, serious immune-mediated disease occurs when the evolution of these initiating factors develop into a progressive immunological disease involving a host of inflammatory and effector pathways. Opportunities to intervene therapeutically differ at each of these stages, and restoring homeostasis becomes progressively more difficult as an individual patient moves through these stages due to recruitment of additional arms of immune response, determinant spreading (expansion of the antigen/autoantigenic targets), and tissue response to injury, in which inflammation hinders regulation.

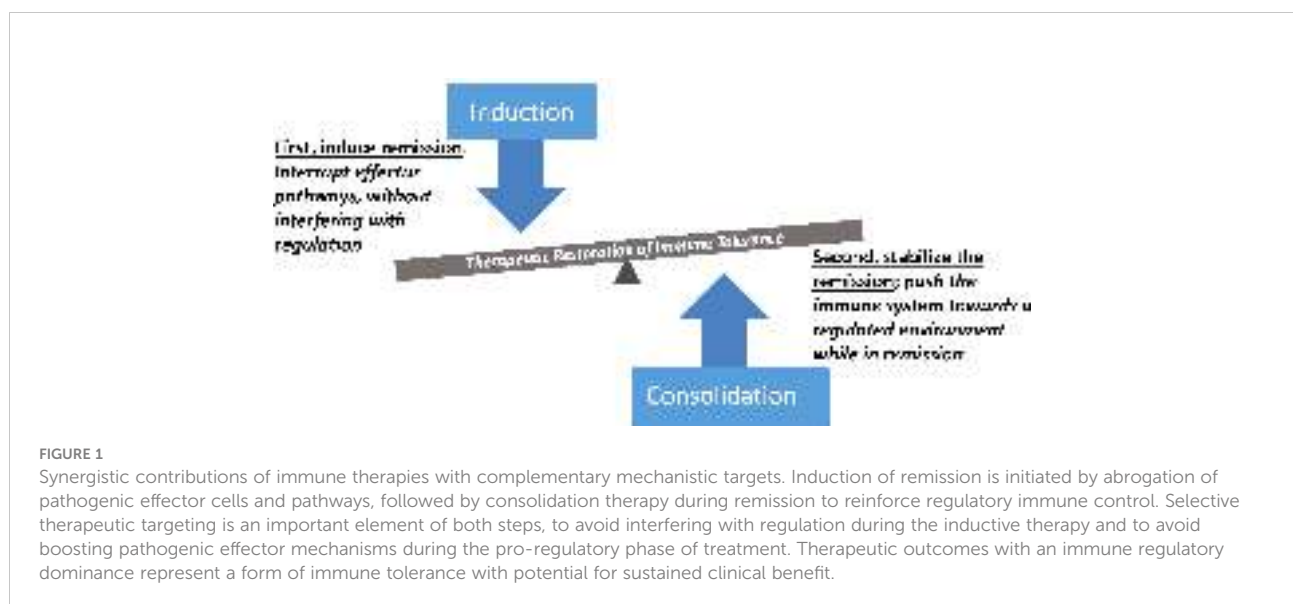
Over the last three decades, a diverse repertoire of immune therapeutics have been deployed, many capable of targeting selective elements within the immune system. At the same time, methods for monitoring components of the immune response have been introduced, and when used in the context of clinical trials they provide an opportunity to dissect pathways and types of responses to therapy that clarify the challenges posed when attempting to reestablish immune tolerance. The road to durable therapies, while still obscure overall, is being mapped through experience indicating that interrupting immune effector components with targeted intervention is often achievable but insufficient. Disease relapse mediated by persistent or recurrent effector mechanisms needs to be restrained, by combining remission-inducing therapy with therapy that supports regulatory immune mechanisms. Important implications that derive from this

concept include selection of induction agents that will not impair desirable regulatory elements, and timing of regulatory therapies to take advantage of windows of remission when the tissue environment is conducive to reprogramming (Figure 1). This combination of modifying the autoreactive effector pathways while restoring homeostatic regulatory components is a mechanistically-oriented definition of immune tolerance. A more practical, clinically-oriented definition of tolerance useful for medical management is to achieve a state in which disease progression is stopped without requiring the use of general immunosuppression. In the examples which follow, clinical trials used this clinically-oriented definition as a measure of success, and parallel laboratory studies evaluated whether the mechanistically-oriented definition actually reflected the same outcomes.

What does tolerance look like?

T lymphocytes drive many arms of the immune response, and are therefore often targets for depletion therapies in autoimmune and immune-mediated disease. Comparison of three drugs studied in very similar clinical trials of type 1 diabetes, the START, AbATE, and T1DAL trials, identifies key features that inform therapeutic mechanisms. In START [the Study of Thymoglobulin to Arrest Newly Diagnosed Type 1 Diabetes (1)], subjects received anti-thymocyte globulin to deplete cellular immune effector compartments as an attempt to arrest immune-mediated damage to target tissue and reestablish a naïve host immune environment. T cell depletion in this study was highly effective, with various peripheral effector cell populations showing diminished cell numbers after drug infusion. However, clinical and metabolic outcomes showed no

benefit from drug administration, and a *post-hoc* analysis of immune biomarkers documented drastic loss of regulatory T cells as a bystander casualty of the potent T cell depleting therapy. In AbATE [Autoimmunity-Blocking Antibody for Tolerance (2)], a similar set of subjects received teplizumab, an anti-CD3 monoclonal antibody, as a more selective T cell modulating therapy. In contrast to START, in AbATE there was an overall average clinical and metabolic benefit in the treatment arm of the trial, although only 15% of those subjects showed durable benefit longer than 2 years. Analysis of the immune biomarkers in AbATE documented a novel mechanism, in which CD8 T cells characteristically showed upregulation of molecular and transcriptional indicators of cell exhaustion including PD1/TIGIT/KLRG1 and EOMES (3). In other words, instead of a depletion mechanism, teplizumab induced an agonist response that drove a developmental program towards a terminal nonpathogenic phenotype in most subjects in the trial. Notably, when these participants in the AbATE trial were re-treated with teplizumab one year after initial therapy, only the subjects with clinically beneficial responses showed a recurrent agonist exhaustion profile. This pathway was subsequently further elucidated in T1DAL [Inducing Remission in Type 1 Diabetes with Alefacept (4)], in which a comparable group of T1D subjects received alefacept, a LFA3-Ig fusion protein targeting CD2. In T1DAL, 30% of treated subjects achieved a durable benefit lasting 2 years, and mechanistic studies identified a dual mode of action that correlated with response. Alefacept treatment led to a moderate loss of CD2-positive lymphocytes from the T and NK compartments, depleting cells expressing high levels of surface CD2. However, T cells with low levels of CD2 showed an agonist response to drug, in which CD4 T cells acquired PD1 markers and were hyporesponsive to activation, while



subsequent maturing CD8 T cells acquired two states characterized by exhaustion and regulatory markers, one set with TIGIT/PD1/EOMES and one set with CD57/KIR induction (5). Following discontinuation of alefacept therapy, both of these acquired CD8 properties correlated with beneficial clinical outcome. Notably, although teplizumab and alefacept drugs were initially developed because of presumed depletion activity directed against effector T cells, it is now apparent that peripheral depletion was incomplete, and the degree of depletion did not correlate with clinical outcome; instead, it was the partial agonist activity associated with exhaustion that correlated with response. Interestingly, in the alefacept trial, lymphocytes with high CD2 expression were indeed deleted, but the agonist activity on cells with lower CD2 expression appeared to be key; in addition, depletion of tissue-resident and tissue-associated effector T cells in these trials is unknown, but was likely not achieved. Two conclusions from these comparisons between related trials seem evident: First, T cell depletion therapy is not desirable if it does not allow regulatory cells to persist, and second, that modulation of effector cells accompanied by induction and persistence of a nonpathogenic regulated phenotype, rather than simply targeting for depletion, had the best outcome; in this respect, levels of surface expression of the target molecule (e.g., CD2) may be an important determinant of cell fate.

Remission induction from immune deletion is not sufficiently durable

Several ITN trials in other autoimmune diseases reinforce the notion that immune therapies that solely interfere with pathogenic effector pathways are insufficient for durable benefit. In the successful trial of rituximab (anti-CD20) in ANCA-associated Vasculitis [the RAVE study (6)] that led to a new standard-of-care for this disease, many clinical relapses eventually manifest over time, suggesting incomplete effector deletion or inadequate regulation. Two subsequent trials in lupus nephritis were then designed, one combining induction using rituximab and cyclophosphamide with belimumab [anti-BAFF (7)] and another combining abatacept (CTLA4-Ig, targeting CD80/86) and cyclophosphamide [ACCESS (8)], to test alternative pathways to suppress recurrence of autoreactive B cells after depletion induction therapy. However, neither trial met their endpoints for clinical benefit, in spite of profound peripheral B cell depletion and, when belimumab was used, long-term persistence of B cell lymphopenia. In addition to raising doubts about heavily targeting the B cell compartment, biomarker studies in ACCESS implicated abatacept in a potentially undesirable outcome, namely a decrease in regulatory T cells. Specifically, in addition to reducing numbers of circulating activated follicular T helper cells (a desirable and expected outcome), costimulatory blockade with

abatacept also substantially depleted the pool of peripheral CD4 regulatory T cells, particularly those with memory cell characteristics. This apparent interference with regulatory T cell pathways was recapitulated in the ACCLAIM trial [A Cooperative Clinical Study of Abatacept in Multiple Sclerosis (9)], in which abatacept therapy failed to demonstrate clinical efficacy while at the same time reducing numbers of both circulating follicular T cell helper and regulatory cells.

The PAUSE trial [Efficacy of Ustekinumab followed by Abatacept for the Treatment of Psoriasis Vulgaris (10)] was another attempt to sustain clinical remission by targeting costimulation pathways. In this study, psoriatic patients with initial successful induction therapy using ustekinumab (anti-IL12/23 p40) were then randomized to receive either abatacept or another course of ustekinumab. Abatacept again failed to prolong remission, and transcriptional signatures of epidermal inflammatory pathways were not suppressed by abatacept, correlating with clinical relapse. In other words, not only did abatacept interfere with regulatory T cell potential, but key target cell inflammation cascades were not disrupted.

Lessons learned from these 'negative' clinical trials reinforce the concept that immunosuppression that interferes with regulation has undesirable consequences for immune tolerance, even in the context of purposeful effector cell targeting. Together with the favorable function of teplizumab and alefacept as agonists reprogramming T cells towards hyporesponsive states and sparing regulatory cells, these studies point us towards needing strategies that will enhance regulatory pathways and sustain inhibition of effector pathways for more durable outcomes.

Selectively boosting regulation following induction of remission

Compared to the number of potential therapies that target effector cell pathways, the development of pro-regulatory therapeutics is quite limited, but is an area primed for rapid expansion. One attractive drug target is the high affinity IL2 receptor expressed on regulatory T cells. Several IL2 agonist formulations are in clinical development that are designed for preferential targeting of this pathway, with various design strategies to avoid activation of effector T and NK cells that are potentially pathogenic (11). The need for this type of selective targeting was emphasized by the results of an initial clinical trial using IL2 as a therapeutic modulator in recently-diagnosed T1D (12). In this trial, expansion of regulatory T cells was observed in all treated subjects over a 30 day course of IL2 therapy combined with rapamycin, and sustained phosphorylation of STAT5, part of the signaling cascade induced by IL2, was documented in the regulatory T cells in peripheral blood samples. However, the trial was terminated early due to unexpected rapid loss of c-peptide during the 30 day

treatment period, an adverse outcome that implied potential acceleration of disease. Biomarker studies of these subjects documented increases in NK effector populations during this same treatment interval, an outcome most likely corresponding to expansion of CD25 (IL2R) –positive NK cells, rather than an effect of the rapamycin, therefore presumed to indicate a likely IL2 stimulatory effect, negating the intended targeting of the IL2 receptor on regulatory cells.

This study indicated that the balance between supporting regulatory cell function while at the same time not enhancing inflammatory effector cell activation is a precarious challenge, with important implications for clinical therapy. While creative drug design should be helpful in improving selectivity for boosting regulatory responses, a direct approach of combining regulatory therapy with complementary anti-effector therapy is a practicable strategy, particularly for disease indications in which remitting therapies already exist or are under development. In this context, envisioning IL2 as a pro-regulatory drug illustrates the important requirement for selectivity of mechanisms of action, with a need to monitor and avoid expansion or activation of pathogenic pathways.

There are also a number of alternative strategies to achieve a therapeutic consolidation effect, directed at expanding regulatory cells or using tactical exposure to antigens for regulatory enrichment. For example, adoptive cell therapies using Tregs that are expanded using *ex vivo* antigen stimulation may be feasible for diseases where immunodominant antigens are known, and creative molecular engineering of these cells to encourage function and stability is conceptually feasible (13, 14). Similarly, transfer of antigen-specific TCR into committed Tregs, or design of chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) Tregs, perhaps engineered with both antigen specificity and a regulatory phenotype, may be tools to increase durability of remission (15, 16). Distinct from these cell therapies, use of autoantigen delivery systems that elicit regulatory responses are currently being explored, with some early clinical trials underway. Various non-immunogenic delivery systems and potential tolerogenic adjuvants, including tissue-targeting fusion proteins, nanoparticles (17) and red cell carriers of antigen (18), are under active exploration and development for clinical use (19).

It will be important to learn whether these ways of delivering antigen are capable of directing a regulatory response in patients with active autoimmune disease, and whether they will be generally safe and efficacious used as a consolidation strategy following initial induction of remission when the tissue environment is more receptive to regulatory modulation. In preclinical studies, mechanisms attributed to antigen-delivery therapies include deletional effects on effector populations, trafficking modification of pathogenic tissue entry, induction of T cell exhaustion or anergy, modulation of antigen presentation, and enhancement of regulatory T cell numbers (18, 20–23). Clinical trials with autoantigen delivery have

generally demonstrated safety and some immunomodulatory effects (recently reviewed elsewhere, e.g. (24, 25).), but emergence of homeostatic regulatory mechanisms responding to tissue-specific and disease-relevant antigens will be critical for durable efficacy. A recent clinical example, albeit in a small number of subjects, was the combination of rituximab (anti-CD20) with autologous regulatory T cells, which showed partial preservation of c-peptide in a study in adolescents with type 1 diabetes (26). Strategies that first induce clinical remission should foster a tissue environment more conducive to regulatory responses, positioning antigen-delivery therapeutics as a potential partner in a therapeutic combination with synergistic mechanisms, for example when used in combination with an induction agent that removes pathogenic effector cells or that provides active immunomodulatory signals that support tolerogenic antigen recognition.

Discussion

As outlined in a recent review of multiple studies from the Immune Tolerance Network (27), using a mechanistic approach to classify therapeutic intervention in immune-mediated diseases into (i) interrupting effector mechanisms, (ii) restraining innate activation, or (iii) boosting regulation, presents an opportunity to address challenges posed by persistent immunologic memory and deficient immunologic regulation in diverse clinical contexts. It is now timely to translate these mechanism-focused observations into practicable therapeutic strategy. Achieving durable immunological perturbation induced by targeted therapy and aligning these changes with clinical remission in the absence of general immunosuppression is informing and defining a future for successful immune tolerance. By analogy with two-step therapies that are commonly used in oncology indications, it is timely to envision initiating therapy in autoimmunity by using agents that induce remission, followed by consolidation therapies that extend the durability of this remission. Initial remitting drugs may target pathogenic effector pathways *via* depletion, deviation, anergy or exhaustion mechanisms, but as illustrated in studies cited above, these inductive therapies need to avoid interfering with immune regulatory elements to enable tolerance outcomes. The subsequent consolidation strategy, designed to stabilize the initial remission, must be complementary to this strategy and be supportive of regulatory components while avoiding activation of pathogenic pathways. Treating patients while in disease remission with novel pro-regulatory therapies will require a new way of clinical thinking for most immune-mediated diseases, contrasting with current medical practice patterns of waiting for relapse before additional treatment. Nevertheless, a relatively quiescent tissue environment may be necessary in order to favor development of robust regulatory immune states capable of

suppressing disease recurrence. While conceptually the induction and consolidation steps in this therapeutic model mechanistically are sequential, it is also possible that combination therapy with agents addressing both of these steps could be used simultaneously. This scenario is consistent with the mechanistic studies in the teplizumab and alefacept studies that showed potential for single therapeutic agents to inhibit effector pathways while also acting as agonists for regulatory elements of the immune response. Clinical trials combined with mechanistic studies that explore enhancing durability of remission through synergy with selective regulatory therapy offer the potential for restoration of immune homeostasis, a challenging but achievable goal.

Author contributions

The author confirms being the sole contributor of this work and has approved it for publication.

Funding

The Immune Tolerance Network studies described in this article were supported by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases of the National Institutes of Health under Award Number UM1AI109565. The content is solely the responsibility of the author and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health.

References

- Gitelman SE, Gottlieb PA, Felner EI, Willi SM, Fisher LK, Moran A, et al. Antithymocyte globulin therapy for patients with recent-onset type 1 diabetes: 2 year results of a randomised trial. *Diabetologia* (2016) 59(6):1153–61. doi: 10.1007/s00125-016-3917-4
- Herold KC, Gitelman SE, Ehlers MR, Gottlieb PA, Greenbaum CJ, Hagopian W, et al. Teplizumab (Anti-CD3 mAb) treatment preserves c-peptide responses in patients with new-onset type 1 diabetes in a randomized controlled trial: Metabolic and immunologic features at baseline identify a subgroup of responders. *Diabetes* (2013) 62(11):3766–74. doi: 10.2337/db13-0345
- Long SA, Thorpe J, DeBerg HA, Gersuk V, Eddy J, Harris KM, et al. Partial exhaustion of CD8 T cells and clinical response to teplizumab in new-onset type 1 diabetes. *Sci Immunol* (2016) 1(5):eaai7793. doi: 10.1126/sciimmunol.aai7793
- Rigby MR, Harris KM, Pinckney A, DiMeglio LA, Rendell MS, Felner EI, et al. Alefacept provides sustained clinical and immunological effects in new-onset type 1 diabetes patients. *J Clin Invest* (2015) 125(8):3285–96. doi: 10.1172/JCI81722
- Diggins KE, Serti E, Muir V, Rosasco M, Lu T, Balmas E, et al. Exhausted-like CD8+ T cell phenotypes linked to c-peptide preservation in alefacept-treated T1D subjects. *JCI Insight* (2021) 6(3):e142680. doi: 10.1172/jci.insight.142680
- Geetha D, Specks U, Stone JH, Merkel PA, Seo P, Spiera R, et al. Rituximab for ANCA-associated vasculitis immune tolerance network research group. Rituximab versus cyclophosphamide for ANCA-associated vasculitis with renal involvement. *J Am Soc Nephrol* (2015) 26(4):976–85. doi: 10.1681/ASN.2014010046
- Atisha-Fregoso Y, Malkiel S, Harris KM, Byron M, Ding L, Kanaparthi S, et al. Phase II randomized trial of rituximab plus cyclophosphamide followed by belimumab for the treatment of lupus nephritis. *Arthritis Rheumatol* (2021) 73(1):121–31. doi: 10.1002/art.41466
- The ACCESS Trial group. Treatment of lupus nephritis with abatacept. the abatacept and cyclophosphamide combination efficacy and safety study. *Arthritis Rheumatol* (2014) 66(11):3096–104. doi: 10.1002/art.38790
- Glatigny S, Hollbacher B, Motley SJ, Tan C, Hundhausen C, Buckner JH, et al. Abatacept targets T follicular helper and regulatory T cells, disrupting molecular pathways that regulate their proliferation and maintenance. *J Immunol* (2019) 202(5):1373–82. doi: 10.4049/jimmunol.1801425
- Harris KM, Smilek DE, Byron M, Lim N, Barry WT, McNamara J, et al. Effect of costimulatory blockade with abatacept after ustekinumab withdrawal in patients with moderate to severe plaque psoriasis: The PAUSE randomized clinical trial. *JAMA Dermatol* (2021) 157(11):1306–15. doi: 10.1001/jamadermatol.2021.3492
- Hernandez R, Pöder J, LaPorte KM, Malek TR. Engineering IL-2 for immunotherapy of autoimmunity and cancer. *Nat Rev Immunol* (2022) 35217787. doi: 10.1038/s41577-022-00680-w
- Long SA, Rieck M, Sanda S, Bollyky JB, Samuels PL, Golland R, et al. Rapamycin/IL-2 combination therapy in patients with type 1 diabetes augments tregs yet transiently impairs β -cell function. *Diabetes* (2012) 61(9):2340–8. doi: 10.2337/db12-0049
- Raffin C, Vo LT, Bluestone JA. T_{reg} cell-based therapies: Challenges and perspectives. *Nat Rev Immunol* (2020) 20(3):158–72. doi: 10.1038/s41577-019-0232-6
- Selck C, Dominguez-Villar M. Antigen-specific regulatory T cell therapy in autoimmune diseases and transplantation. *Front Immunol* (2021) 12:661875. doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2021.661875
- De Paula Pohl A, Schmidt A, Zhang AH, Maldonado T, Königs C, Scott DW. Engineered regulatory T cells expressing myelin-specific chimeric antigen

Acknowledgments

Many colleagues at Benaroya Research Institute and in the Immune Tolerance Network (ITN) have contributed data and ideas that have been critically important in the evolution of the concepts discussed in this article. Additional descriptions can be found at <https://www.immunetolerance.org/researchers/strategic-plans>, which presents a summary of therapeutic strategies developed as a collaborative effort by the Network Steering Committee of the ITN.

Conflict of interest

The author declares that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

Publisher's note

All claims expressed in this article are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of their affiliated organizations, or those of the publisher, the editors and the reviewers. Any product that may be evaluated in this article, or claim that may be made by its manufacturer, is not guaranteed or endorsed by the publisher.

receptors suppress EAE progression. *Cell Immunol* (2020) 358:104222. doi: 10.1016/j.cellimm.2020.104222

16. Boardman DA, Levings MK. Emerging strategies for treating autoimmune disorders with genetically modified treg cells. *J Allergy Clin Immunol* (2022) 149(1):1–11. doi: 10.1016/j.jaci.2021.11.007

17. Serra P, Santamaria P. Peptide-MHC-Based nanomedicines for the treatment of autoimmunity: Engineering, mechanisms, and diseases. *Front Immunol* (2021) 11:621774. doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2020.621774

18. Raposo CJ, Cserny JD, Serena G, Chow JN, Cho P, Liu H, et al. Engineered RBCs encapsulating antigen induce multi-modal antigen-specific tolerance and protect against type 1 diabetes. *Front Immunol* (2022) 13:869669. doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2022.869669

19. Yang Y, Santamaria P. Antigen-specific nanomedicines for the treatment of autoimmune disease: Target cell types, mechanisms and outcomes. *Curr Opin Biotechnol* (2022) 74:285–92. doi: 10.1016/j.copbio.2021.12.012

20. Watkins EA, Antane JT, Roberts JL, Lorentz KM, Zuerndorfer S, Dunaif AC, et al. Persistent antigen exposure via the eryptotic pathway drives terminal T cell dysfunction. *Sci Immunol* (2021) 6(56):eabe1801. doi: 10.1126/sciimmunol.abe1801

21. Neef T, Ifergan I, Beddow S, Penaloza-MacMaster P, Haskins K, Shea LD, et al. Tolerance induced by antigen-loaded PLG nanoparticles affects the phenotype

and trafficking of transgenic CD4⁺ and CD8⁺ T cells. *Cells* (2021) 10(12):3445. doi: 10.3390/cells10123445

22. Benne N, Ter Braake D, Stoppelenburg AJ, Broere F. Nanoparticles for inducing antigen-specific T cell tolerance in autoimmune diseases. *Front Immunol* (2022) 13:864403. doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2022.864403

23. Wraith DC. Adaptive T cell tuning in immune regulation and immunotherapy of autoimmune diseases^{*}. *Immunol Lett* (2022) 244:12–8. doi: 10.1016/j.imlet.2022.02.007

24. Kreiner FF, von Scholten BJ, Coppieters K, von Herrath M. Current state of antigen-specific immunotherapy for type 1 diabetes. *Curr Opin Endocrinol Diabetes Obes* (2021) 28(4):411–8. doi: 10.1097/MED.0000000000000647

25. Derdelinckx J, Cras P, Berneman ZN, Cools N. Antigen-specific treatment modalities in MS: The past, the present, and the future. *Front Immunol* (2021) 12:624685. doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2021.624685

26. Zielinski M, Żalińska M, Iwaszkiewicz-Grześ D, Gliwiński M, Hennig M, Jaźwińska-Curyło A, et al. Combined therapy with CD4⁺ CD25^{high}CD127⁻ T regulatory cells and anti-CD20 antibody in recent-onset type 1 diabetes is superior to monotherapy: Randomized phase I/II trial. *Diabetes Obes Metab* (2022) 24(8):1534–43. doi: 10.1111/dom.14723

27. Huffaker MF, Sanda S, Chandran S, Chung SA, St Clair EW, Nepom GT, et al. Approaches to establishing tolerance in immune mediated diseases. *Front Immunol* (2021) 12:744804. doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2021.744804