第77回　免疫学セミナーのお知らせ

Tsukuba Immunology Seminar

筑波大学医学セミナー

LIGHT-LTβR Signaling Controls Airway Smooth Muscle Deregulation and Asthmatic Lung Dysfunction

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令和5年1月30日(月）16:00ー18:00

健康医科学イノベーション棟105室

Abstract

Airway hyperresponsiveness and airway remodeling are important therapeutic targets in persistent asthma. Airway smooth muscle cell (ASM) dysregulation is thought to be a major cause of asthma severity. However, it remains largely unclear what cytokines contribute to ASM activity. TNFSF14 (LIGHT) is an inflammatory cytokine mainly produced by activated T cells in the asthmatic lung. Increased LIGHT expression in sputum of asthmatic patients has been reported to correlate with asthma severity. Database analysis revealed that the LTβR, receptor for LIGHT, is highly expressed in human ASM, suggesting that regulation of ASM activity by LIGHT may be involved in asthma pathogenesis. Here, we used smooth muscle-specific LTβR-deficient mice and elucidated the mechanism of ASM regulation by LIGHT and its involvement in airway hyperresponsiveness and remodeling in severe asthma.

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