Interactions of Anaerobic Bacteria with Dental Stem Cells: An In Vitro Study

Anne Biedermann¹, Katja Kriebel¹, Bernd Kreikemeyer², Hermann Lang¹*

¹ Department of Operative Dentistry and Periodontology, University of Rostock, Rostock, Germany, ² Institute of Med. Microbiology, Virology and Hygiene, University of Rostock, Rostock, Germany

Abstract

Background: In patients with periodontitis, it is highly likely that local (progenitor) cells encounter pathogenic bacteria. The purpose of this in vitro study was to elucidate how human dental follicle stem cells (hDFSC) react towards a direct challenge with anaerobic periodontal pathogens under their natural oxygen-free atmosphere. HDFSC were compared to human bone marrow mesenchymal stem cells (hBMSC) and differentiated primary human gingival fibroblasts (hGIF), as well as permanent gingival carcinoma cells (Ca9-22).

Methodology/Principal Findings: The different cell types were investigated in a co-culture system with Porphyromonas gingivalis (P. gingivalis) and Fusobacterium nucleatum (F. nucleatum). The viability of the cells and pathogens under anaerobic conditions, as well as interactions in terms of adherence and internalization, were examined. Additionally, the release of pro-inflammatory interleukin-8 (IL-8) and anti-inflammatory interleukin-10 (IL-10) was quantified via enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay. The bacteria adhered less efficiently to hDFSC compared to Ca9-22 (P. gingivalis: 0.18% adherence to hDFSC; 3.1% adherence to Ca9-22). Similar results were observed for host cell internalization (F. nucleatum: 0.002% internalization into hDFSC; 0.09% internalization into Ca9-22). Statistically significantly less IL-8 was secreted from hDFSC after stimulation with F. nucleatum and P. gingivalis in comparison with hGIF (F. nucleatum: 2080.0 pg/ml – hGIF; 19.7 pg/ml – hDFSC). The IL-10 response of the differentiated cells was found to be low in relation to their pro-inflammatory IL-8 response.

Conclusions/Significance: The results indicate that dental stem cells are less prone to interactions with pathogenic bacteria than differentiated cells in an anaerobic environment. Moreover, during bacterial challenge, the stem cell immune response seems to be more towards an anti-inflammatory reaction. For a potential future therapeutic use of hDFSC, these findings support the idea of a save application.

Introduction

To determine the biological role of dental stem cells in their natural environment and to examine the save potential therapeutic application for tissue regeneration, the understanding of cell–bacteria interactions is of great importance [1].

The periodontal tissues are composed of a variety of different cell types. Recently, stem cells have been reported to be part of this cellular environment [2,3]. Generally, stem cells have two major characteristics that distinguish them from other cells: they are capable of self-renewal, and upon division, they give rise to cells that have the potential to differentiate [4].

The dental follicle harbors human dental follicle stem cells (hDFSC), and is present in impacted teeth, which are commonly extracted and disposed of medical waste in dental practice [5]. Therefore, these cells are an easily accessible cell source for experimental and future clinical applications in periodontal tissue or bone regeneration approaches [6,5].

The periodontal pocket is predisposed towards interdependencies of local cells and putative pathogens, which have been one focus of periodontal research [7]. More than 700 different bacterial species can be found in the oral cavity [8]. The majority settles in multiple different forms of biofilm patterns. Once detached from the biofilm, some of the bacteria penetrate into deeper tissues and may disturb host cell homeostasis [7]. Direct contact between bacteria and human cells triggers the expression of a variety of immune response mediators [9,7]. Interleukin (IL)-8 is a pro-inflammatory cytokine and is predominantly secreted by epithelial cells. It has been suggested to be involved in the local host defense mechanisms leading to neutrophil migration [9]. This chemoattractant activates and attracts neutrophils to the site of infection or injury [10,11,9]. As a regulatory mechanism, the expression of the anti-inflammatory IL-10 terminates the secretion of pro-inflammatory cytokines and reduces the expression of major histocompatibility complex class II and co-stimulatory molecules [12]. The critical role of IL-10 in

Copyright: © 2014 Biedermann et al. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.
infectious disease appears to be the modulation of inflammatory responses to microbial pathogens [13]. The pathogenic bacteria *F. nucleatum* and *P. gingivalis* can frequently be found in diseased periodontal tissues and they play important roles in the initiation and progression of periodontitis [14,15]. *P. gingivalis* is able to induce strong cytokine and chemokine expression in gingival epithelial and other host cells, which has been shown to positively correlate with the adhesive/invasive potential of the infecting strain [16]. *F. nucleatum* and *P. gingivalis* are obligate anaerobic bacteria that can only exist in areas of the oral cavity with low oxygen partial pressure (e.g., the dental pocket). However, functional interaction studies of hDFSC and oral pathogenic bacteria in their natural anaerobic atmosphere are lacking.

Thus, the focus of our study was to investigate the interactions of hDFSC with periodontal pathogens. The results were compared with cells at various stages of differentiation: human bone marrow mesenchymal stem cells (hBMSC), human gingival fibroblasts (hGiF), and the permanent gingival carcinoma cell line Ca9-22. We hypothesized that hDFSC might show a different immunological response than differentiated cells after co-culture with periodontal pathogens because of their anti-inflammatory and tissue regenerative function in the injured or inflamed tissue [17]. Stem cells have to remain operative even in sites of chronic inflammation [1], and therefore, they might also be more tolerant towards bacterial stimuli.

**Material and Methods**

**Cell Isolation and Culture**

The stem cells were obtained from donors undergoing surgical treatment at either the Department of Cardiac Surgery or the Department of Oral Surgery at the University of Rostock. This study conforms to the Declaration of Helsinki, and all cell donors gave their informed written consent. The experimental protocol and further experiments were reviewed and approved by the Ethics Committee of the University of Rostock (No. A 2011 119 and No. A 2011 91).

Ca9-22 was provided by the Japanese Collection of Research Bioresources Cell Bank Osaka, Japan. The cells were cultured in DMEM supplemented with 10% FCS in cell culture flasks (Greiner Bio-one, Frickenhausen, Germany) 5% CO2, 37°C. HGiF were cultured in DMEM supplemented with 10% FSC (10% CO2, 37°C). Isolation and culturing of hBMSC was performed as described by Gaebel et al. [18], and hDFSC as described by Haddouti et al. [19]. The authenticity of the stem cells was confirmed by plastic adherence, and flow cytometric analysis (monoclonal antibodies against CD29, CD44, CD45, CD73 and CD90 using a FACS scan flow cytometer LSRII with CellQuest-Software, Becton Dickinson). Multipotency of the cells was shown through induction into osteoblasts, chondroblasts, and adipocytes as previously described [20].

**Bacteria**

*P. gingivalis* W50 and W83 (DSMZ, Braunschweig, Germany), *F. nucleatum* ATCC 25372, and ATCC 25586 (American Type Culture Collection, Manassas, USA) were purchased from commercial providers. The bacteria were grown in PYG medium supplemented with 5 μg/ml hemin and 1% vitamin K to the stationary phase. Subsequently, bacteria were centrifuged, washed in PBS, and each bacterial suspension was diluted in DMEM 1:10. The optical density (OD) was measured at 600 nm from timepoint 0 every hour to timepoint 12 h with a final measurement after 24 h.

Cells were tested for their tolerance towards oxygen-free conditions. Cell-cultures at the 4th to 6th passage were harvested and seeded at a density of 8×10^3 cells/well in a 24-well culture plate, and maintained in 2 ml of medium. Subsequently, cells were grown in an anaerobic workstation (miniMACS, DWS Meintrupp, Lahden-Holte, Germany) at 37°C for 24, 48, and 72 h, and numbers of viable cells were counted in a Neubauer hemacytometer after trypan blue staining.

For co-culture, hDFSC, hBMSC, hGiF, and Ca9-22 were seeded at a density of 8×10^3–1×10^4 cells/well in a 24-well culture plate, and maintained in 1 ml medium. For each experiment, the final concentration of the bacterial suspension was determined by measurement of the optical density at 600 nm (OD_{600}) to obtain 1×10^3 cells/ml, and dilutions were made to achieve the desired MOI. The bacterial inoculum was confirmed by counting of the colony-forming units (CFU). After reaching confluence, the cells were infected with live bacteria with a multiplicity of infection (MOI) of 1:100 and incubated at 37°C in an anaerobic atmosphere.

For fluorescence microscopy (BX60 microscope, Olympus, Hamburg, Germany) the samples were stained with BacLight Live/Dead (Molecular Probes, Eugene, USA). The staining was documented with an attached digital camera (Leica, Solms, Germany).

**Adherence and Internalization**

The eukaryotic cells (8×10^3 cells/ml) were cultured in DMEM and grown to a monolayer. The bacteria were grown in PYG medium at 37°C under an anaerobic atmosphere. The bacterial density was adjusted to MOI 1:100 in DMEM and added to the cell monolayer. After 2 h, the cells were washed and subsequently detached by adding 200 μl 0.25% trypsin/0.5 mM EDTA for 5 min. To quantify bound bacteria, the cells were lysed with distilled water and the number of bacteria in the lysate was assessed by viable counts. For quantification of internalized bacteria, the monolayers were washed with PBS. Medium containing gentamicin (300 mg/ml) and metronidazole (200 mg/ml) was added after 2 h and incubated for another 2 h. After 4 h, the same procedure was performed to quantify the internalized bacteria. The number of viable bacteria was confirmed by counting CFUs on agar plates incubated under an anaerobic atmosphere at 37°C.

For scanning electron microscopy (SEM), coverslips with hDFSC co-cultures were fixed in a 2.5% glutaraldehyde solution. They were subsequently washed with 0.1 M sodium acetate buffer (pH 7.3) and dehydrated in a graded series of ethanol. Finally, coverslips were subjected to critical-point drying with CO2 (Critical Point Dryer, Emitech, Ashford, UK), sputter-coated with gold, and examined with an electron microscope (Zeiss DSM 960A, Jena, Germany).

**Cytokine Secretion**

IL-8 and IL-10 concentrations were measured in the supernatant of the bacteria–cell co-culture after 1, 2, 4, and 24 h of incubation by enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), using a commercially available kit (BD OptEIA, BD Biosciences, San Diego, USA) according to the manufacturer’s instructions.
Statistical Analysis

All results are presented as means ± standard deviation (SD). Statistical analyses were carried out by T-test (Prism 6 for Windows, Version 6.01, GraphPad Software, Inc., San Diego, CA, USA). Differences were considered statistically significant at *p<0.05, **p<0.01. All experiments were performed with at least four biological replicates (n = 4).

Results

Anaerobic Co-Culture

The establishment of the anaerobic co-culture system as described by Kriebel et al. [21] included the verification of the cell survival under an anaerobic atmosphere prior to a bacterial challenge. Survival of the cells was evaluated after 12, 24 and 72 h (Fig. 1). Compared to aerobic conditions, 81.7% of the hDFSC, 83.2% of the hBMSC, 54.0% of the Ca9-22 cells, and 58.9% of the hGiF remained viable 24 h of an oxygen-free incubation. After 2 days, the hDFSC still showed higher survival rates than the Ca9-22: only 33.8% of Ca9-22 cells survived the 48-h incubation, whereas 50.9% of hDFSC cells were alive. The cell numbers decreased significantly for all cells after 72 h: hDFSC showed a survival of 40.2%, hBMSC 35.0%, hGiF 16.1%, and Ca9-22 13.5% (Fig. 1).

The bacterial growth was determined in cell culture medium under anaerobic conditions. All four tested species showed normal bacterial growth (Fig. 2). From these results, we concluded that co-culture with anaerobic bacteria and hDFSC (and hBMSC, hGiF, or Ca9-22) was possible. Live/dead staining and fluorescence microscopy confirmed the survival of bacteria and hDFSC in the co-culture system (data not shown).

Adherence and Internalization

The human cells were separately challenged with live P. gingivalis W50, W83, F. nucleatum ATCC 23726, or ATCC 25586, employing a MOI of 1:100. Attachment to and invasion of hDFSC by oral pathogenic bacteria was measured, and was compared with the results obtained with hBMSC, hGiF, and Ca9-22. All bacterial species were able to adhere to and invade the hDFSC. Notably, in all co-cultures, Ca9-22 cells showed the highest susceptibility to bacterial adhesion, which was statistically significant for F. nucleatum ATCC 2326 and P. gingivalis W50. Roughly the same number of bacteria adhered to the fibroblasts compared to the hDFSC. In contrast, in all co-cultures, the hBMSC were statistically significantly less prone to bacterial adhesion. SEM confirmed bacterial attachment to the hDFSC (Fig. S1 and S2).

The efficiency of the periodontal pathogens to internalize into the hDFSC was very weak. In hGiF and Ca9-22 co-cultures with F. nucleatum ATCC 23726 and F. nucleatum ATCC 25586, statistically significantly higher bacterial invasion rates were found compared with hDFSC. Both P. gingivalis strains appeared to be hardly invasive in all four cell lines (Fig. 3 and Table S1).

IL-8 and IL-10 Secretion

After co-culture with either live F. nucleatum or P. gingivalis (MOI 1:100) for 1, 2, 4, and 24 h, IL-8 and IL-10 was detected in the supernatant of all four cell lines by ELISA (Fig. 4 and Tables S2 and S3). Unchallenged cells were used as a negative control.

Figure 1. Cell survival under anaerobic conditions. Survival of hDFSC, hBMSC, hGiF and Ca9-22 cells under anaerobic compared with aerobic conditions. Anaerobic atmosphere: (10% CO2, 10% H2, 80% N2) and 37°C. Viable cells were counted at timepoints of 24, 48 and 72 h in a Neubauer hemacytometer by exclusion of trypan blue. Values are expressed as means ± SD (standard deviation), *p<0.05 (T-test), n = 4. Asterisks indicate statistically significant differences between hDFSC and hBMSC, hGiF, and Ca9-22.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0110616.g001
Of note, there were statistically significantly lower IL-8 secretion levels in hDFSC and hBMSC supernatants compared with hGiF and Ca9-22. At all timepoints, hGiF consistently showed the highest IL-8 response (with the exception of at 1 h with \( F.\ nucleatum \) ATCC 25586 infection). Overall, \( F.\ nucleatum \) was the most efficient stimulatory bacterium for the secondary cytokine response. The strongest IL-8 response was noted after 24 h for

Figure 2. Bacterial growth in cell culture medium. Growth rates of bacteria in DMEM cell culture medium under anaerobic conditions (10% CO\(_2\), 10% H\(_2\), 80% N\(_2\)), 37°C. Bacteria were grown in PYG medium supplemented with 5 μg/ml hemin and 1% vitamin K to the stationary phase. Subsequently, they were centrifuged, washed in PBS, and each bacterial suspension was diluted in DMEM 1:10. The OD\(_{600}\) was measured at 600 nm from timepoint 0 every hour to timepoint 12 h with a final measurement after 24 h. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0110616.g002

Figure 3. Adherence and internalization. The attachment levels are expressed as the percentage of live bacteria retrieved following cell lysis relative to the total number of bacteria at each timepoint. The assays were carried out as described in the text. Attachment levels of hDFSC were compared to hBMSC, hGiF, and Ca9-22. Values represent the means ± SD, *p<0.05, **p=0.01 (T-test), n=4. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0110616.g003
hGiF co-cultured with F.nucleatum ATCC 23726, reaching 1964 pg/ml.

The initial IL-10 response (1 h) was higher than the initial IL-8 response measured for all cells. After 4 h of co-culture, the IL-8 response from hGiF and Ca9-22 increased significantly, whereas the hDFSC and hBMSC remained at almost the same level of IL-10 secretion, but showed only a small increase in IL-8 response.

**Discussion**

The purpose of the present study was to comparatively characterize interactions between dental stem cell and periodontal pathogens *in vitro*, since in bacterially infected periodontal tissues, a mutual influence of local (progenitor) cells and anaerobic bacteria is highly likely [7]. This is the best of our knowledge, has not yet been explored in a direct co-culture of hDFSC and periodontal pathogens. A typical challenge described for *in vitro* co-culture experiments with cells and anaerobic bacteria is the limited lifespan of these microorganisms under an aerobic atmosphere [22]. Hence, a co-culture system in which both the cells and anaerobic periodontal pathogenic bacteria were able to survive for a certain time-period was applied and selected cell-bacterial interactions were analyzed.

Host cell invasion is regarded as an important tool of pathogenic bacteria to afford protection from the host immune system, and this invasion contributes to tissue damage [23]. In fact, invasive bacteria have evolved a variety of mechanisms for host cell entry. Initially, the bacteria attach to the host cell membrane, followed by the induction of a series of structural and biochemical changes that facilitate bacterial penetration. Lamont *et al.* [23] demonstrated the invasion of *P. gingivalis* into gingival epithelial cells. It is known that *P. gingivalis* can recognize different host cell types and is capable of targeting different specific and distinct eukaryotic signaling pathways to induce uptake into the cell [24]. Additionally, the study of Han *et al.* [7] showed that *F. nucleatum* is able to adhere to and invade gingival epithelial cells.

In this study, we reveal the differential susceptibility of dental stem cells compared with hBMSC, hGiF, and Ca9-22 towards the very important bacterial pathogenicity traits of host cell adherence and internalization. A significantly lower bacterial adherence and internalization capacity was observed in dental stem cells compared with hGiF and the epithelial cell line Ca9-22.

**Figure 4. IL-8 and IL-10 secretion.** The assays were carried out as described in the text. IL-8 and IL-10 levels were assayed by ELISA. Absorbance was read at 450 nm. Values represent the means ± SD, *p*<0.05, **p**=0.01 (T-test), n=4. Asterisks indicate statistically significant differences between hDFSC and hBMSC, hGiF, and Ca9-22. Cytokine secretion by hDFSC was compared with secretion by hBMSC, hGiF, and Ca9-22 cells at the same timepoint. A) IL-8 measured in the supernatant of the *F.nucleatum* ATCC 23727 and 25586 co-culture after 1, 2, 4, and 24 h. B) IL-8 measured in the supernatant of the *P. gingivalis* W50 and W83 co-culture after 1, 2, 4, and 24 h. C) IL-10 measured in the supernatant of the *F.nucleatum* ATCC 23727 and 25586 co-culture after 1, 2, 4, and 24 h. D) IL-10 measured in the supernatant of the *P. gingivalis* W50 and W83 co-culture after 1, 2, 4, and 24 h. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0110616.g004
Variations in the cell-surface structure, as well as differences in the process of invasion, depending on the cell line and its level of differentiation might explain the decreased bacterial attachment and internalization found in hDFSC and hBMSC compared with hGiF or Ca9-22 co-cultures. Furthermore, the expression of varying amounts of specific cell-surface receptors that allow the attachment of pathogens may contribute to the different results for the adherence. Huang-Delcourt et al. [25] showed, via FACS-analysis, a different expression of receptors for P. gingivalis attachment for the two tested cell lines in that study (KB and gingival epithelial cells). It is not clear what kind of receptors were responsible, but these authors were able to show a saturation plateau for each cell line when all bacteria were bound. Whether PRRs (pathogen recognition receptors) play a role in this context still needs to be determined.

Moreover, a novel stem cell property has been described, which possibly contributes to a reduced bacterial adherence and internalization. BMSCs have recently been shown to impede in vitro pathogen growth [1]. Krasnodembskaya et al. [26] and Meisel et al. [27] described the production of the antibacterial peptide LL-37 by stem cells. If hDFSC also secrete LL-37 remains unclear.

To define differences in the immunological reactions of the cells after co-culture with F. nucleatum and P. gingivalis, the cytokine release was assessed. IL-8, an important signaling molecule in periodontitis [11], was chosen as being representative for the pro-inflammatory cytokine response. In vitro, IL-8 secretion is triggered by invading bacteria, particularly F. nucleatum; similar observations for P. gingivalis have been made, with different cell lines [28,7]. Sandros et al. [16] showed that bacterial binding to the surface of epithelial cells leads to an increased expression of IL-8.

Our results show that after the co-culture of P. gingivalis and F. nucleatum with hDFSC, the IL-8 secretion was significantly less stimulated compared with hGiF and Ca9-22 cells. All four cell lines under investigation showed the highest IL-8 production after co-culture with F. nucleatum ATCC 23726. The decrease in IL-8 levels after 24 h in the P. gingivalis W50 co-culture is most likely due to the activity of cytokine degrading enzymes of this species [29]. An anti-inflammatory reaction was analyzed via measurement of the cellular IL-10 response. Initially, all cell types showed a higher IL-10 than IL-8 response. Of note, after 4 h of co-culture, the differentiated cells yielded a significantly higher IL-8 than IL-10 response, whereas the stem cells kept almost the same level of IL-10 secretion, but showed only a small increase in the IL-8 response. This means that hDFSC and hBMSC had higher IL-10 than IL-8 secretion at all measured timepoints.

The differences in the cytokine response between the cells might be rooted in the specificity of the innate immune system that is based on a broad spectrum of PRRs that recognize highly conserved pathogen-associated molecular patterns (PAMPs) [30], including Toll-like receptors (TLRs), the nucleotide-binding oligomerization domain proteins (Nod), and the G-protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs) [28]. By stimulating these receptors, the mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAPK) signaling pathway is activated leading to NF-kB nuclear translocation and resulting in cytokine expression [31]. TLR4 is activated by the LPS of Gram-negative species such as F. nucleatum, while P. gingivalis LPS signals via TLR2 [28]. Moreover, the fimbriae of P. gingivalis and gingipains also activate TLR4 [32–34]. The combined effect of the aforementioned activations and interactions could be responsible, at least in part, for the differences in cell response to various oral bacteria [28].

However, recent reports suggest that human dental mesenchymal stem cells, as well as hBMSC, possess immuno-regulating and anti-inflammatory properties [35,36]. The in vitro findings of this work underline the potential immuno-modulating character of local dental progenitor cells in the context of bacterially induced inflammatory processes.

Conclusion

We demonstrate that hDFSC (and hBMSC) show less interaction with periodontal pathogens concerning adherence and internalization. Moreover, in this experimental setup, the cytokine secretion of these cells favored an anti-inflammatory reaction. In vitro, we compared hDFSC, hBMSC, differentiated primary gingival fibroblasts, and the permanent tumor cell line Ca9-22 in an anaerobic environment. The results of this study indicate that there are differences between cell lines at various stages of differentiation concerning the tolerance towards bacterial infections. For future potential dental stem cell therapies, the findings presented here might be of clinical relevance.

However, better anaerobic survival of the stem cells could lead to a better chance of tissue regeneration after infection and damage, which seems to be reasonable from an evolutionary perspective. With respect to dental tissues, it can be concluded that hDFSC show a similar behavior to hBMSC in this study.

Supporting Information

Figure S1 Scanning electron microscope images of F. nucleatum ATCC 23727 attachment to hDFSC. (TIF)

Figure S2 Scanning electron microscope images of F. nucleatum ATCC 23727 attachment to hDFSC. (TIF)

Table S1 Adherence and internalization. The attachment and invasion levels are expressed as the percentage of live bacteria retrieved following cell lysis relative to the total number of bacteria at each timepoint. The assays were carried out as described in the text. Attachment and invasion levels of hDFSC and hBMSC were compared with Ca9-22 cells. Values represent the means ± SD, *p<0.05, **p = 0.01 (T-test), n = 4. (XLSX)

Table S2 IL-8 secretion. IL-8 levels were assayed by ELISA. Absorbance was read at 450 nm. Values represent the means ± SD, *p<0.05, **p = 0.01 (T-test), n = 4. (XLSX)

Table S3 IL-10 secretion. IL-8 levels were assayed by ELISA. Absorbance was read at 430 nm. Values represent the means ± SD, *p<0.05, **p = 0.01 (T-test), n = 4. (XLSX)

Acknowledgments

The authors would like to thank M. Frank, Sc.D., Center for Electron Microscopy (EMZ), University of Rostock, for granting access to his core facility.

Author Contributions

Conceived and designed the experiments: HL BK. Performed the experiments: AB KK. Analyzed the data: AB KK. Wrote the paper: AB KK BK HL.
References

1. Auletta J, Deans R, Bartholomew A (2012) Emerging roles for multipotent, bone marrow-derived stromal cells in host defense. Blood 119 (8): 1801–1809.

2. Seo B, Mura M, Grountos S, Bartold P, Batseli S, et al. (2004) Investigation of multipotent postnatal stem cells from human periodontal ligament. Lancet 364 (9429): 149–155.

3. Morsczek C, Götz W, Schierholz J, Ziehlhofer F, Kuhn U, et al. (2005) Isolation of precursor cells (PCs) from human dental follicle of wisdom teeth. Matrix Biol 24 (2): 155–165.

4. Bianco P, Rospay P, Simmons P (2008) Mesenchymal Stem Cells: Revisiting History, Concepts, and Assays. Cell Stem Cell 2 (4): 313–319.

5. Honda M, Inaiizumi M, Tsuchoya S, Morsczek C (2010) Dental follicle stem cells and tissue engineering. J Oral Sci 52 (4): 541–552.

6. Morsczek C, Schmalz G, Reichert T, Vollner F, Galler K, et al. (2008) Somatic stem cells for regenerative dentistry. Clin Oral Investig 12 (2): 115–118.

7. Han Y, Shi W, Huang G, Kinder Haake S, Park N, et al. (2000) Interactions between periodontal bacteria and human oral epithelial cells: Fusobacterium nucleatum adheres to and invades epithelial cells. Infect Immun 68 (6): 3140–3146.

8. Aas J, Paster B, Stokes L, Olsen I, Dewhirst F (2005) Defining the normal bacterial flora of the oral cavity. J Clin Microbiol 43 (11): 5721–5732.

9. Okada H, Murakami S (1998) Cytokine expression in periodontal health and disease. Crit Rev Oral Biol Med 9 (3): 246–266.

10. Takashiba S, Takigawa M, Takahashi K, Miyake F, Nishimura F, et al. (1992) Interleukin-8 is a major neutrophil chemotactic factor derived from cultured human gingival fibroblasts stimulated with interleukin-1 beta or tumor necrosis factor alpha. Infect Immun 60 (12): 5233–5239.

11. Bickel M, others (1993) The role of interleukin-8 in inflammation and mechanisms of regulation. J Periodontol 64 (5 Suppl): 1–46.

12. Reichert S, Machulla H, Klapproth J, Zimmermann U, Reichert Y, et al. (2008) The interleukin-10 promoter haplotype ATA is a putative risk factor for aggressive periodontitis. J Periodontal Res 43 (1): 40–47.

13. Moore K, de Waal Malefyt R, Coffman R, O’Garra A (2001) Interleukin-10 and the interleukin-10 receptor. Annu Rev Immunol 19 (1): 683–765.

14. Dzink J, Tanner A, Halffaker A, Socraonsky S (1965) Gram negative species associated with active destructive periodontal lesions. J Clin Periodontol 12 (8): 648–659.

15. Paster B, Boches S, Galvin J, Ericson R, Lau C, et al. (2001) Bacterial diversity in human subgingival plaque. J Bacteriol 183 (12): 3770–3783.

16. Sandros J, Karlsson G, Lappin D, Madianos P, Kinane D, et al. (2000) Cytokine responses of oral epithelial cells to Porphyromonas gingivalis infection. Journal Dent Res 79 (10): 1808–1814.

17. Wada N, Menacanin D, Shi S, Bartold P, Grountos S (2009) Immunomodulatory properties of human periodontal ligament stem cells. J Cell Physiol 219 (3): 667–676.

18. Gaebrl R, Ma N, Liu J, Guan J, Koch L, et al. (2011) Patternning human stem cells and endothelial cells with laser printing for cardiac regeneration. Biomaterials 32 (35): 9218–9230.

19. Haddouti E, Skroch M, Zippel N, Müller C, Birova B, et al. (2009) Human dental follicle precursor cells of wisdom teeth: isolation and differentiation towards osteoblasts for implants with and without scaffolds. Mat.-wiss. u. Werkstofftech 40 (10): 732–737.

20. Pittenger M, Mackay A, Beck S, Jaiswal R, Douglas R, et al. (1999) Multilineage potential of adult human mesenchymal stem cells. Science 284 (5411): 143–147.

21. Kriebel K, Biermermann A, Kretshmeyer B, Lang H (2013) Anaerobic Co-Culture of Mesenchymal Stem Cells and Anaerobic Pathogens-A New In Vitro Model System. PLoS One 8 (11): e76226.

22. Belton C, Inzuti K, Goodwin P, Park Y, Lamont R (2001) Fluorescence image analysis of the association between Porphyromonas gingivalis and gingival epithelial cells. Cellular Microbiology 3 (1): 213–223.

23. Lamont R, Chan A, Belton C, Inzuti K, Vasel D, et al. (1995) Porphyromonas gingivalis invasion of gingival epithelial cells. Infect Immun 63 (10): 3878–3885.

24. Andrian E, Gneirer D, Rouabiah M (2006) Porphyromonas gingivalis-epithelial cell interactions in periodontitis. J Dent Res 85 (5): 392.

25. Huard-Delcourt A, De L, Pellen-Mussi P, Tricot-Doleux S, Bonnaure-Mallet M (1998) Adherence of Porphyromonas gingivalis to epithelial cells, analysis by flow cytometry. Eur J Oral Sci 106 (5): 938–944.

26. Krasnodembskaya A, Song Y, Fang X, Gupta N, Serikov V, et al. (2010) Antibacterial effect of human mesenchymal stem Cells is mediated in part from secretion of the antimicrobial peptide LL-37. Stem Cells 28 (12): 2229–2239.

27. Meisel R, Broekers S, Hesler K, Degiudici O, Bulle H, et al. (2011) Human but not murine multipotent mesenchymal stromal cells exhibit broad-spectrum antimicrobial effector function mediated by indoleamine 2,3-dioxygenase. Leukemia 25 (4): 648–654.

28. Stathopoulos P, Benakanakre M, Galicia J, Kinane D (2010) Epithelial cell pro-inflammatory cytokine response differs across dental plaque bacterial species. Journal of J Clin Periodontol 37 (1): 24–29.

29. Zhang J, Dong H, Kashi S, Duncan M (1999) IL-8 degradation by Porphyromonas gingivalis proteases. Microb Pathog 26 (5): 275–280.

30. Medzhitov R, Janeway J (2000) Innate immune recognition: mechanisms and significance. Immunol Rev 173 (1): 89–97.

31. Dong C, Davis R, Flavell R (2002) MAP kinases in the immune response. Annu Rev Immunol 20 (1): 55–72.

32. Hajishengallis G, Sojar H, Genco R, DeNardin E (2004) Intracellular signaling and cytokine induction upon interactions of Porphyromonas gingivalis fimbiae with pattern-recognition receptors. Immunol Invest 33 (2): 157–172.

33. Chung W, Dale B (2004) Innate immune response of oral and foreskin keratinocytes: utilization of different signaling pathways by various bacterial species. Infect Immun 72 (1): 352–358.

34. Lourbakos A, Potempa J, Travis J, D’Andrea M, Andrade-Gordon P, et al. (2010) Antibacterial effect of human mesenchymal stem cells and tissue engineering. J Oral Sci 52 (4): 541–552.

35. Wada N, Menacanin D, Shi S, Bartold P, Grountos S (2009) Immunomodulatory properties of human periodontal ligament stem cells. J Cell Physiol 219 (3): 667–676.

36. Tomic S, Djokic J, Vasilijic S, Vucevic D, Todorovic V, et al. (2011) Culture of Mesenchymal Stem Cells and Anaerobic Pathogens-A New In Vitro Model System. PLoS One 8 (11): e76226.