Proteomic Analysis of HIV-Infected Macrophages

Loyda M. Meléndez · Krystal Colon · Linda Rivera ·
Eillen Rodriguez-Franco · Dianedis Toro-Nieves

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Abstract Mononuclear phagocytes (monocytes, macrophages, and microglia) play an important role in innate immunity against pathogens including HIV. These cells are also important viral reservoirs in the central nervous system and secrete inflammatory mediators and toxins that affect the tissue environment and function of surrounding cells. In the era of antiretroviral therapy, there are fewer of these inflammatory mediators. Proteomic approaches including surface enhancement laser desorption ionization, one- and two-dimensional difference in gel electrophoresis, and liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry have been used to uncover the proteins produced by in vitro HIV-infected monocytes, macrophages, and microglia. These approaches have advanced the understanding of novel mechanisms for HIV replication and neuronal damage. They have also been used in tissue macrophages that restrict HIV replication to understand the mechanisms of restriction for future therapies. In this review, we summarize the proteomic studies on HIV-infected mononuclear phagocytes and discuss other recent proteomic approaches that are starting to be applied to this field. As proteomic instruments and methods evolve to become more sensitive and quantitative, future studies are likely to identify more proteins that can be targeted for diagnosis or therapy and to uncover novel disease mechanisms.

Keywords Monocytes · Macrophages · HIV ·
SELDI-TOF · 2D DIGE · Tandem mass spectrometry ·
Proteomics

Abbreviations

2D DIGE Two-dimensional difference in gel electrophoresis
AIDS Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
BBB Blood–brain barrier
CI Cognitive impairment
CNS Central nervous system
CSF Cerebrospinal fluid
GEE Generalized estimating equation
HAD HIV-1 associated dementia
HAND HIV-associated neurological disorders
HBMEC Human brain microvascular endothelial cell
HIV ADA A macrophage tropic R5 virus isolated from blood of a patient with HIV dementia
HPLC High-performance liquid chromatography
ICAT Isotope coded affinity tags
IFN Interferon
IL-1β Interleukin-1β
ITRAQ Isobaric tag for relative and absolute quantitation
LC/ESI-FTICR MS Liquid chromatography coupled with electrospray ionization and a hybrid quadrupole linear ion-trap and Fourier-transform ion-cyclotron-resonance mass spectrometry

L. M. Meléndez · K. Colon · L. Rivera · E. Rodriguez-Franco
Department of Microbiology and Medical Zoology, School of Medicine, University of Puerto Rico,
Medical Sciences Campus,
San Juan 00935, Puerto Rico
e-mail: loyda.melendez@upr.edu

D. Toro-Nieves
NeuroAIDS Program, University of Puerto Rico,
Medical Sciences Campus,
San Juan, Puerto Rico

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INVITED REVIEW
Macrophages and HIV infection: early evidence

When HIV infection was first discovered in 1981, multiple studies pointed to CD4+ T cells as the only targets of infection (Madden et al. 1986). A few years later, new evidence revealed that different HIV isolates could productively infect other CD4+ cells including monocytes and macrophages (Cheng-Mayer et al. 1988; Gendelman et al. 1988; Collman et al. 1989). Macrophages are mononuclear phagocytes involved in both innate and adaptive immune responses. These cells act as sentinels of the immune system because of their phagocytic and inflammatory functions. Those HIV isolates that preferentially infect macrophages are termed macrophage tropic (M-tropic) or non-syncytia inducing, whereas those that productively infect CD4+ T cells are termed T cell tropic or syncytia-inducing based on the phenotype developed after infection. HIV uses the CCR5 (R5), and the CXCR4 (X4), as co-receptors for entry (Alkhatib et al. 1996; Deng et al. 1996). In addition, several groups have provided evidence of the dual usage of chemokine co-receptors by some viral isolates (Doranz et al. 1996). A classification system was developed wherein viral isolates were designated as R5, X4, or R5X4 viruses, depending on co-receptor usage (Berger et al. 1998). Shortly after identification of co-receptors for HIV entry, it was demonstrated that co-receptor use cannot be assumed to be a surrogate for tropism, owing to the presence of dual-tropic viral strains that are X4 but not R5 or vice versa (Goodenow and Collman 2006). CD4(+) T cells and macrophages can be infected by R5-using viruses, as they both bear R5 co-receptors (Duenas-Decamp et al. 2010; Hladik et al. 1999), but R5-using viruses vary in their capacity to infect macrophages (Duenas-Decamp et al. 2010; Tuttle et al. 2002). The presence of X4 viruses correlates with risk of disease progression (Raymond et al. 2010; Tuttle et al. 2002). But highly macrophage-tropic R5 viruses have been related to neurological complications (Peters et al. 2007). HIV-1 disease progression is also associated with an increased capacity of the virus to replicate in macrophages, indicating that M-tropism of HIV-1 is an important determinant (Gendelman et al. 1990; Li et al. 1999; Tuttle et al. 2002; as reviewed by Gorry et al. 2005). During initial viral transmission in vivo, preferential infection is via M-tropic, R5 viruses (Bieniasz and Cullen 1998; Bachis et al. 2010; Raymond et al. 2010). X4 viruses in primary infections are not usual (Raymond et al. 2010). Macrophages are to be among the first cells infected with HIV-1 following sexual transmission (Zhu et al. 1993) although cervical mucosa CD4(+) T cells can also be infected as they possess CXCR4 and CCR5 co-receptors (Hladik et al. 1999), and R5 viruses from a few patients have been shown to replicate in T cells and not in macrophages (Li et al. 2010).

Macrophages as HIV reservoirs

HIV persists in the host system despite antiretroviral treatment. There are essentially two theories of persistent infection: ongoing replication, which is a consequence of drug resistance, and latency, which involves the presence of HIV in reservoir cells such as resting memory CD4+ T cells, and in mononuclear phagocytes including peripheral blood monocytes, macrophages, microglia, and dendritic cells (Le Douce et al. 2010; Embretson et al. 1993; Finzi et al. 1997; Chiu et al. 1997; Wong et al. 1997; Bailey et al. 2006; Keele et al. 2008; Zhu 2002). Mononuclear phagocytes are important sites of viral persistence (Popovic et al. 1988; Gendelman et al. 1988; Le Douce et al. 2010). Since monocytes and tissue macrophages live for a long time, they can act as reservoirs and vehicles for viral dissemination.
(Crowe et al. 2003). Infectious virus is present not only in differentiated macrophages but also in circulating monocytes (Zhu et al. 2002; Lambotte et al. 2000) affecting cellular receptors (Melendez-Guerrero et al. 1990) and antigen presentation (Melendez-Guerrero et al. 1991). It has been shown that the CD16+ subset of monocytes is more permissive to HIV infection than CD16- cells (Ellery et al. 2007). These CD16+ monocytes are recruited to sites of infection or inflammation (Crowe et al. 2003; Alexaki and Wigdahl 2008), and represent an intermediate state of activation between monocytes and macrophages (Ancuta et al. 2009). Upon subsequent differentiation, they become resting cells and viral reservoirs in different tissues including the brain (Gartner 2000; Fischer-Smith et al. 2001).

Macrophages and HIV-associated neurological disorders

HIV-associated neurological disorders (HAND) is a repertoire of several central nervous system (CNS) disease manifestations caused by HIV infection in advanced stages of the disease that range from mild forgetfulness to frank dementia. CNS disease results as a consequence of the neuronal death caused by the secretion of soluble viral and cellular neurotoxins from activated and/or infected perivascular macrophages and microglia (Gonzalez-Scarano and Martin-Garcia 2005; Kaul et al. 2001). These neurotoxins include the cytokines [tumor necrosis factor-α (TNF-α) or interleukin-1β (IL-1β)] (Fischer-Smith and Rappaport 2005), excitatory amino acids (Dreyer and Lipton 1995; Yeh et al. 2000), chemokines that induce cellular inflammatory cascades, and viral proteins (Gonzalez-Scarano and Baltuch 1999; Kaul et al. 2001). The secretion of these factors, together with a severe dysregulation of the normal functions of macrophages, can lead to neuronal dysfunction and apoptosis (Adle-Biassette et al. 1995; Shi et al. 1998), resulting in the development of severe dementia commonly called HIV-1 associated dementia (HAD; Gonzalez-Scarano and Martin-Garcia 2005; Kaul et al. 2001).

Two theories of viral entry into the CNS currently prevail: cell-free entrance and the Trojan horse model. HIV can enter the brain as cell-free virus at an early stage of the disease (Banks et al. 2001). Once in the brain, HIV establishes productive infection mostly in the mononuclear phagocytes of the CNS. These include perivascular macrophages derived from blood monocytes, meningeal macrophages, macrophages of the choroid plexus, and the microglia. The perivascular macrophages and the microglia are the major HIV-producing cells in the CNS (Fischer-Smith et al. 2001; Williams and Hickey 2002; Kim et al. 2003, 2005, 2006). Mononuclear phagocytes are less susceptible to the cytopathic effects of HIV infection compared to lymphocytes (Collman et al. 1989). In contrast to lymphocytes, viral replication is more persistent in mononuclear phagocytes, which leads to a continuous low-level virus production for the lifespan of the cells.

The Trojan horse model establishes that HIV-infected blood monocytes traffic from the periphery to the brain and hence are the primary source of virus in the brain (Narayan et al. 1982; Peluso et al. 1985; Meltzer et al. 1990; Davis et al. 1992; Fischer-Smith et al. 2001; Williams and Blakemore 1990; Kim et al. 2003, 2005, 2006). Monocyte trafficking to the CNS is part of the normal turnover and is augmented with inflammation and viral infection (Hickey and Kimura 1988). HIV-infected monocytes have been shown to cross the blood–brain barrier (BBB) more efficiently than non-infected monocytes (Persidsky et al. 1999). More importantly, at late stages of the disease, when the immune system is highly compromised and the BBB is deteriorated, there is an increased accumulation of monocyte-derived macrophages (MDM) from the circulation in the brain. Most of macrophages accumulating in the perivascular space appear to be an activated CD14+/CD16+ blood monocyte subpopulation (Fischer-Smith et al. 2001; Williams et al. 2001), which is more permissive to HIV infection (Ellery et al. 2007; Jaworski et al. 2007) and is increased in patients with HAD (Pulliam et al. 1997). The activated CD14+/CD16+ population is elevated in the blood of Hispanic women taking antiretroviral therapy (unpublished) as well as in their cerebrospinal fluid (CSF; Agasalda et al. 2010). Altogether, current data support the influence of the peripheral compartment in the development HIV-induced CNS disease, as reviewed by Fischer-Smith et al. (2008).

HIV alterations of cellular functions of macrophages: evidence before the proteomics era

Perivascular macrophages and resident microglia are the principal targets for HIV in the CNS. As described above, these cells play an important role in HIV pathogenesis and persistence in the CNS due to the secretion of toxic factors that affect neuronal function and survival (Giulian et al. 1990). Understanding how HIV infection modulates the normal physiology of these cells and contributes to neuronal injury has been of great interest. A key question is how specific proteins are modulated during HIV infection and how such modulation affects neuronal survival. The initial evidence of modulation of host cellular proteins was gathered via the study of individual proteins as small components of the whole cellular system. The most widely used methods were one dimensional (1D) gel electrophoresis, high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), Western blot, peptide sequencing by mass spectrometry, enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), flow cytometry, and
electron microscopy. For example, in an early study Jiang et al. (2001) using several time-consuming and complex methods, which included supernatant fractionation, HPLC, and immunostaining, showed that glutamate is a mediator of neurotoxicity. The role of secreted arachidonic acid in neuronal injury was demonstrated by using HPLC, ELISA, and Southern blot (Genis et al. 1992). The group of Talley (1995) demonstrated the expression and activity of TNF- α, after fractionation, HPLC, and immunostaining, that this protein promotes loss of viability in neurons treated with HIV-infected MDM conditioned media. Although valuable information was found by the methods available before the 1990s, investigations had to rely on known proteins and pathways and thus were limited in a way that proteomic analysis is not.

Monocytes, macrophages, and microglia in the proteomics era

Before the proteomics era fully developed, researchers accumulated vast databases from genome sequences, but it became clear that sequences were not enough to elucidate the cell’s proteome or biological functions as their information is restricted to DNA and RNA. An organism’s genome is quite stable, whereas its proteome is highly dynamic. Proteins are very difficult to predict from genomic data. The existence of an open-reading frame does not necessarily indicate the presence of a functional protein; one gene can give rise to more than one functional protein. Also, protein post-translational modifications (PTMs) are not marked on the genome, and more importantly mRNA concentration does not necessarily correlate with protein concentration (Pandey and Mann 2000). Protein modifications such as PTMs, alternative RNA splicing, RNA editing, and proteolytic processing give rise to a very diverse proteome (Link and LaBaer 2009). Generally, most diseases are the consequence of the absence or dysfunction of a protein. Proteomics is a rapidly evolving field that gives a comprehensive view of the characteristics and activity of all cellular proteins expressed at a given time under specific conditions. By studying the cell proteome and secretome, we can examine PTMs, interactions, localization, conformation, stability, and trace of their functions in the cell (Morrison et al. 2002). These proteomic-based techniques have replaced in part traditional identification methods that failed to provide answers to important questions in research.

Proteomic analyses vary according to the goal of the experiment and may include methods to enhance solubilization or reduce the complexity of the protein sample before protein separation. Classical methods of protein separation prior to identification include the 1D and two-dimensional (2D) gel electrophoresis analyses (Table 1). The disadvantages of 1D gel electrophoresis are its poor sensitivity and specificity for comparison of bands between experimental and control samples and the alteration in protein chemistry after denaturation prior to electrophoresis analysis. 2D gel electrophoresis is an effective starting point for protein purification because it gives an overview of the sample proteome. This method separates proteins on the basis of molecular weight and isoelectric focusing (O’Farrell 1975). In the past, 2D gel electrophoresis provided considerable variability between control and experimental samples due to technical difficulties with the different gels for comparison. The 2D difference in gel electrophoresis (2D DIGE) has recently evolved into a quantitative method because the sample is labeled with fluorescent dyes, thus enabling separation of up to three different samples within the same 2D gel, with an automated analysis program included for statistical analysis of differential expression (Decyder, GE). It is less time-consuming than the classical 2D electrophoresis, as fewer gels are used, and the internal standard consisting of a pool from all samples, reduces variability (Table 1).

The surface-enhanced laser desorption/ionization time-of-flight (SELDI-TOF) is a mass spectrometry method that requires a minimal sample amount for analysis and involves the use of special chips with different types of surfaces for discovery and characterization of hydrophobic, cationic, or anionic proteins from biological samples (Table 1). It has been used to uncover signature profiles for possible biomarkers of HIV associated dementia in MDM and monocytes from HIV seropositive patients (Table 2), and from in vitro infected MDM and other tissue macrophages (Table 3). Of great importance in the HIV field, SELDI-TOF was used in the identification of the antiviral activity of CD8 T cell-derived anti-HIV factor (Zhang et al. 2002; Table 3).

Matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization/time of flight (MALDI-TOF) functions similarly to SELDI-TOF as both are mass spectrometry based and are used for analysis of complex peptide mixtures (Table 1). The obtained peptide mass fingerprint is subsequently compared to virtual fingerprints of protein sequences in databases, and the top-scoring proteins are retrieved as possible candidate proteins (Gevaert and Vandekerckhove 2000). Using MALDI-TOF and liquid chromatography/mass spectrometry/mass spectrometry (LC/MS/MS), Chertova et al. (2006) characterized proteins in HIV-1 virions produced from MDM infected with HIV clone NLAD8, an R5 virus (Table 3). Their findings revealed proteins related to cell signaling, intracellular trafficking, cytoskeleton, and activation of immune response systems that contributed to understanding the viral assembly process in macrophages (Chertova et al. 2006). Other studies integrating MALDI-TOF and 2D electropho-
Table 1  Proteomics approaches applied to studies of HIV-infected macrophages

| Technique                                      | Uses, advantages, and disadvantages | References |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| One-dimensional SDS polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (1DE) | Standard mean for molecular weight determination of entire proteins. All bands are cut for protein identification by LC/MS/MS. Difficult to correlate protein expression with identification data. | Ciborowski et al. 2007; Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008; Garcia et al. 2009 |
| Surface-enhanced laser desorption/ionization (SELDI) | Detect protein profiles and enzymatic activities. Increased sample throughput. Does not provide protein identification. | Luo et al. 2003; Sun et al. 2004; Wojna et al. 2004; Carlson et al. 2004; Kadiu et al. 2007; Toro-Nieves et al. 2009; Wiederin et al. 2009 |
| Matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization time of flight (MALDI-TOF) mass spectrometry | Vaporization and ionization of both small and larger molecules, high accuracy, and sub-picomole sensitivity. | Chertova et al. 2006 |
| Electrospray ionization liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry (ESI LC/MS/MS) | Ionize samples to obtain peptide sequences, used with LC. Allows protein identification. | Ciborowski et al. 2007; Kraft-Terry et al. 2010; Wiederin et al. 2009; Ciborowski et al. 2007 |
| Two-dimensional differential in-gel electrophoresis (2D DIGE) | Enables separating up to three samples with the same 2D gel according to isoelectric point and weight. Accurate analysis of differences in protein concentration between samples. Includes an internal standard. Difficult to detect membrane proteins and low molecular weight proteins. | Kraft-Terry et al. 2010; Dukelow et al. 2007; Kadiu et al. 2009 |

resis have shown macrophage dysfunction related to inflammatory and infectious diseases (Dupont et al. 2004). These studies showed the first two-dimensional maps of the human macrophage and secretome with a tremendous utility for understanding the biological functions of this immune cell.

LC/MS/MS or tandem mass spectrometry is the most sensitive technique used to identify proteins present in a biological sample (Table 1). This method works by ionizing molecules and sorting and identifying them according to their mass-to-charge (m/z) ratios (Jemal and Xia 2006). The importance of protein identification lies in the fact that each protein has a unique cell function that may be altered when, for example, an obligate parasite such as HIV-1 interacts with the cell causing a proteome unbalance that may correlate with disease pathogenesis.

Current in vitro and ex vivo studies of HIV-infected macrophages were done mostly with non-quantitative or semi-quantitative proteomic methods (Tables 2 and 3). One limitation of the proteomics approaches described in studies of patient MDM has been the amount of protein required by gel-based studies (Luo et al. 2003; Wojna et al. 2004; Table 2). Another limitation has been the challenge in verification of proteins in finding antibodies that recognize the same epitopes detected by MS/MS (Kraft-Terry et al. 2010; Table 2).

Recent advances in chromatography, MS, and bioinformatics demonstrate that proteomics studies are becoming quantitative and more functional as in the case of protein PTMs assessment. Some of the techniques currently of great interest are stable isotope labeling of cells in culture (SILAC), isobaric tag for relative and absolute quantitation (ITRAQ), isotope coded affinity tags (ICAT), and protein arrays (Table 4). Gel-free quantitative proteomics have been developed and offer the advantage of increased sensitivity for identification of low abundant, hydrophobic, and low molecular weight proteins. In general, these methods require advanced MS/MS and rely on highly sophisticated computational analyses programs. They include stable isotope labeling methods: SILAC, ITRAQ, and ICAT. They offer the advantages of high throughput proteomics analyses (Table 4).

In the SILAC method, experimental and control cells are labeled in cultures containing different types of media, one with a “heavy” arginine and lysine containing carbon (¹³C) isotope and nitrogen isotope (¹⁵N) and “light” and media containing l-lysine and l-arginine. Subsequently, cell extracts are combined and analyzed with a high-resolution MS/MS or a linear ion trap Fourier transform instrument (LTQ-FT) or LTQ-Orbitrap, recently developed by Thermo-Fisher (Table 4). Originally, the SILAC approach was recommended for dividing cells that can easily incorporate these amino acids in culture while undergoing several cell divisions (Mann 2006). However, recent studies have demonstrated that even primary can incorporate these.
isotopes in culture (Spellman et al. 2008). Therefore, this method could potentially be applied to obtain quantitative protein analysis of HIV-infected MDM in vitro and ex vivo.

Other stable isotope labeling methods that can be performed after protein digestion include ICAT, $^{18}$O, and ITRAQ (Table 4). ICAT is used to compare proteins that are labeled with light and heavy tags carrying a biotin moiety. After cation exchange chromatography, the mixed peptides are purified using immobilized avidin. Peaks corresponding to the same peptide are identified as doublets in the mass spectra due to mass differences in the light and heavy isotopes. The peaks’ intensities correlate with the relative abundance of the proteins in experimental and control samples. The limitation of this method is missed identification of proteins with few or no cysteine residues, loss of information for post-translational modifications, and complicated interpretation of spectra due to the biotin group (Wu et al. 2006).

In the $^{18}$O method, the protease catalyzes the incorporation of two $^{18}$O atoms at the carboxy terminal end of peptides and increases their mass by 4 Da. The labeled sample is combined with the non-labeled one, and both are processed and analyzed by MS as doublets (Jorge et al. 2009). Sensitive statistical methods have been developed to analyze $^{18}$O peptides with medium and high resolution mass spectrometers (Jorge et al. 2007). Large data sets have been generated by applying the $^{18}$O method from plasma exposed to lipopolysaccharides (LPS) and from burn patients (Qian et al. 2005, 2010).

ITRAQ is the most sensitive quantitative proteomics method currently available (Table 4). A comparison of ITRAQ with ICAT, 2-D DIGE, and ITRAQ revealed a larger number of proteins identified by ITRAQ (Wu et al. 2006). This technology employs a 4- and 8-plex set of amine reactive isobaric tags to label lysine side chains at the N-terminus in a digested mixture. The Q-TOF mass spectrometer and the LTQ Orbitrap that can perform higher energy collision-induced dissociation are necessary for ITRAQ analysis. The Q-TOF quantitative proteomics requires the MASCOT analysis program; Orbitrap uses Proteome Discoverer for analyses (Casado-Vela et al. 2010). Recent studies applied iTRAQ to determine the role of T regulatory (Treg) cells in the proteome of HIV-infected MDM (Huang et al. 2010). ITRAQ using the LTQ Orbitrap has also been recently applied to studies of plasma from the simian immunodeficiency (SIV) monkey model of HIV encephalitis in search of biomarkers for HAND (Pendyala et al. 2010).

Protein PTMs (hydroxylations, methylations, nitrosylations, thiolations, $\gamma$-carboxylations, glycosylations, and phosphorylations) can alter a protein’s function, structure, location, and life span. In the past, irreversible protein modifications were assessed using 2D gel electrophoresis, and spots of interest were identified using immunological procedures, specifically, with antibodies against PTMs.
| Model                                          | Sample                      | Approach          | Proteome comparison                                         | Differences in protein profiles | Differentially identified proteins | Related function                                                                 | Reference               |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Proteome of HIV-1 ADA-infected MDM            | Cell lysate SELDI LC/MS/MS  | HIV-1 ADA-infected MDM vs. control | Up-regulation 2 peaks in HIV-1-infected MDM                | 58                              | Structural, regulatory, enzymes, HIV proteins | Carlson et al. 2004                                                            |
| HIV-1 NLAD8-infected MDM                      | Supernatant MALDI LC/MS/MS  | HIV-1 NLAD8 virions produced by infected MDM | 253 unique proteins                                         | >280                            | Cytoskeleton, adhesion, signaling, intracellular trafficking, metabolism, immune response | Chertova et al. 2006                                 |
| Cytoskeletal transformation of HIV-1 ADA-infected MDM | Supernatant SELDI LC/MS/MS | HIV-1 ADA-infected MDM vs. control | 21 peaks up- or downregulated                               | 15                              | Structural/cytoskeletal             | Kadiu et al. 2007                                                              |
| HIV-1 ADA-infected MDM in HBMEC proteins      | Cell lysate 2D DIGE LC/MS/MS | HBMEC co-cultured with control MDM vs. with HIV-1 ADA infected MDM | 161 spots upregulated; 47 spots downregulated               | 78                              | Structural/cytoskeletal, regulatory, redox, enzymes, HIV proteins | Ricardo-Dukelow et al. 2007                                          |
| HIV-1 ADA-infected MDM secretome              | Supernatant 1D electrophoresis LC/MS/MS | HIV-1 ADA-infected MDM secretome | 9 differentially expressed proteins                         | 110                             | Cytoskeletal, enzymes, redox, immunoregulation | Ciborowski et al. 2007                                                          |
| Microglia astrocyte crosstalk                 | Cell lysate DIGE LC/MS/MS   | HIV-1 ADA-infected microglia/absence of astrocytes | 39 spots upregulated; 24 spots downregulated               | 14                              | Structural, regulatory, enzymes     | Wang et al. 2008                                                               |
| Effects of HIV-1 ADA in monocyte plasma membrane proteome | Cell lysate 2D DIGE LC/MS/MS | HIV-1-infected monocytes vs. control | 67 spots upregulated; 172 spots downregulated               | 986                             | Structural/cytoskeletal, regulatory, enzymes, oxidative stress | Kadiu et al. 2009                                                            |
| MDM: uninfected vs infected with HIV-1 SF162 and primary isolates from patients with NC or CI | Cell lysate SELDI LC/MS/MS | Control vs. NC; Control vs. CI; Control vs. SF162; NC vs. CI; SF162 vs. NC | 2 downregulated; 1 downregulated; 1 upregulated; 1 upregulated; 1 upregulated; 3 downregulated | NC: 6; CI: 20; SF-162: 7; Common to SF162 and CI: 3; Common to SF162, NC, and CI: 3; Common to SF162 and CI: 3 | Structural, replication, metabolism, signaling, replication, chemotaxis, protein trafficking, apoptosis, redox, Metabolism, replication, viral assembly, structural, Structural, signaling, Metabolism, viral proteins, Metabolism | Toro-Nieves et al. 2009 |
| Rat microglia and astrocytes infected with VSV recombinant HIV-ADA | Cell lysate 2D DIGE LC/MS/MS | HIV-1-infected microglia in presence of astrocytes | 149 upregulated; 360 downregulated                        | 68                              | Structural, regulatory, enzymes     | Wang et al. 2008                                                               |
| Monocyte cell line (THP-1) infected with HIV-1 HTLVIII | Cell lysate SILAC MS/MS | Protein profile of HIV-1-infected undifferentiated monocytic THP-1 cells | 26 HIV vs. uninfected; 9 downregulated and 17 up-regulated in HIV-infected THP-1 cells | 651                             | Structural, regulatory, inflammation, signaling, antibiotic | Pathak et al. 2009                                                          |
such as nitrotyrosine (Dalle-Donne et al. 2006). Now PTMs can be analyzed using proteomic approaches, mostly MS/MS, but other techniques are also used (Table 4). Cysteine oxidation and thiolation can be directly and easily detected by MS approaches (Dalle-Donne et al. 2006). Numerous protein activities depend on phosphorylation or dephosphorylation, that can occur in serine, threonine, tyrosine, and histidine residues. Using databases, investigators can predict possible phosphosites, but not all phosphosites are physically available to be phosphorylated or they simply are not used. Some useful databases for prediction of phosphosites are PHOSIDA, a PTM database that can predict phosphorylations, acetylations, and N-glycosylations, and Phospho.ELM, a database designed exclusively for phosphosite prediction in eukaryotes. Ibarrola et al. (2003) used SILAC to quantitate the extent of phosphosites as well as to identify and quantitate novel phosphorylation sites. Other techniques such as immobilized metal affinity chromatography, which uses Ga$^{3+}$ to enrich phosphopeptides from cell lysates and phosphoprotein isotope-coded solid-phase tag, which labels and enriches phosphopeptides from complex mixtures, have also been used for the proteomic analysis of phosphopeptides (Kota et al. 2009). More recently MS/MS/MS or MS$^3$ methodologies have been applied to phosphopeptide PTMs (Ulintz et al. 2009).

Another important feature of proteins is glycosylation. Proteins can be N- and/or O-glycosylated. N-glycosylation attaches to the nitrogen of asparagines or arginines; O-glycosylation attaches to the oxygen of serine, threonine,
and tyrosine. Glycans can undergo changes from being very homogenous and simple to highly complex and heterogeneous structures. Because glycosylations are immunogenic, making a glycosylation profile is potentially useful for HIV vaccine development. Glycosylation of HIV proteins influences tropism, neutralization, viral infectivity, and viral processing (Graham et al. 2008). Go et al. (2009) used a combination of MALDI-MS and LC/ESI-FTICR MS, in addition to reverse-phase HPLC, to separate glycopeptides and to determine the glycosylation profile of two clade C recombinant HIV envelopes. Graham et al. (2008) assessed the glycosylation in all HIV and SIV proteins using 2D DIGE and either ESI-MS/MS or LTQ-ion trap-MS/MS.

There are three different types of protein microarrays: analytical, functional, and reverse phase. Analytical microarrays are mostly used to detect affinity and expression (Table 4). Usually antibodies are attached to a microscope slide to detect the protein or probe (Bertone and Snyder 2005). Functional microarrays, which contain full-length functional proteins or domains, are used to study activity or interactions: protein–protein, protein–RNA, protein–phospholipid, or protein–ligand (Bertone and Snyder 2005). The reverse phase microarray uses denatured protein lysates fixed to the slide and then probed, whereas conventional microarrays immobilize the antibodies or probes. The reverse-phase technique has been used to detect either quantitative protein changes in healthy and diseased tissue (Charboneau et al. 2002) or PTMs (Speer et al. 2005).

Proteomics of monocytes, macrophages in HIV replication

HIV-1 infection alters the proteome and secretome of macrophages (Tables 2 and 3). How HIV-1 affects the intracellular and secreted proteins is incompletely understood. Several studies have shown that shortly after the viral protein gp120 interacts with the CD4 and the seven transmembrane G protein-coupled receptors, CCR5- or CXCR4-specific signaling pathways such as the intracellular calcium mobilization, PI-3K activation, phosphorylation of mitogen-activated protein kinases (MAPKs), ERK1/2, JNK/SAPK, and p38 are engaged (Lee et al. 2005; Cicala et al. 2002). This HIV-1 activation of MAPKs leads to up- and downregulation of several genes and consequently influences the transcriptional and post-transcriptional events related to the formation of important cellular and viral proteins (Wahl et al. 2006). Consequently, the gp120-mediated activation of these protein kinases leads to the formation of pro-inflammatory cytokines and chemokines such as TNF-α and MCP-1, respectively, which can influence HIV-1 replication and cell functions (Del Corno et al. 2001; Lee et al. 2003). In monocytes, one of the functional consequences of viral exposure is the facilitation of protein transformation from the cytosol to the plasma membrane (Kadiu et al. 2009). The dysregulation of macrophage function is mediated by HIV envelope gp120 protein with cellular co-receptor activation that results in the inflammatory responses observed in HAD pathogenesis (Gendelman et al. 2006). Some reports have shown the involvement of CXCR4 in the gp120 macrophage/microglia activation with the induction of pro-inflammatory cellular pathways that may contribute to AIDS dementia (Bezzi et al. 2001).

Microarray studies or MDM transcriptome have provided larger data sets for pathway analysis than proteomics (Brown et al. 2008; Giri et al. 2009; Tsang et al. 2009; Ancuta et al. 2009; Van den Bergh et al. 2010). A macrophage pro-inflammatory M1 phenotype after HIV infection was demonstrated with increased mRNAs for calcium upregulation, cell cycle, apoptosis, MAPK, and cytokines/chemokines (Brown et al. 2008). Since many of the over-expressed mRNAs may not represent the final protein product owing to delays in translation, the authors were able to validate ~18% of these proteins including calcium related and pro-apoptotic proteins (caspase 7). They concluded that HIV primes macrophages to a pro-inflammatory M1 phenotype that is independent of toll-like receptor activation (Brown et al. 2008). However, subsequent studies on the HIV-infected MDM transcriptome had the opposite result, an anti-inflammatory phenotype (Giri et al. 2009; Tsang et al. 2009). Agreement with some aspects of these studies related to the mechanisms of evasion of innate immunity by HIV interaction with MDM has been confirmed by proteomics studies, with the activation of oxidative stress associated proteins, inflammation, and signaling cascades (Ciborowski et al. 2007; Luciano-Montalvo and Meléndez 2009; Toro-Nieves et al. 2009). Moreover, some inflammatory proteins identified from a large data set generated by quantitative proteomics from plasma exposed to LPS and from burn patients (Qian et al. 2005, 2010) are also present in monocytes from HIV-infected women (Velazquez et al. 2009; Kraft-Terry et al. 2010).

Proteomics of patient cells has spearheaded research toward the diagnosis and treatment of HIV-related disease (Luo et al. 2003; Wojna et al. 2004; Kraft-Terry et al. 2010). These studies include the discovery of proteins as candidates for biomarkers for HIV associated cognitive dysfunction at different stages (Velazquez et al. 2009) as well as other HIV-associated cellular changes and pathologies (Rasheed et al. 2009). The validation of the protein candidates as biomarkers in different populations and the discovery of novel biomarkers and possible targets for therapies by more sensitive and quantitative proteomics approach remains to be studied.
Proteomics of placental macrophages and MDM: a model of HIV persistence

The HIV-1 persistence in the monocyte-macrophage lineage has been explained by two theories: the lack of proviral gene expression (latency) and continuous viral expression without cytopathic effects (ongoing replication; Le Douce et al. 2010). Several traits of monocyte-macrophage lineage make it an important source of viral persistence: the HIV-1 infection is generally non-lytic for these cells; they can harbor viruses longer than CD4+ T cells; and cells from monocyte-macrophage are more resistant to cytopathic effects. For example, microglial cells in the brain can produce viruses during their total lifespan (Williams et al. 2001). However, not all of the mononuclear phagocyte populations equally support viral growth. The placental macrophages (PM) are a target for HIV-1 infection inside the placenta, but these cells are also barriers to primary infection by HIV-1. They can be productively infected by laboratory strains and clinical isolates (Fear et al. 1998; Kesson et al. 1993, 1994; McGann et al. 1994; Meléndez-Guerrero et al. 1994; Meléndez et al. 2001; Plaud-Valentin et al. 1999), but they are less susceptible to HIV-1 than are MDM. Although PM express lower levels of HIV-1 receptor CD4 and co-receptors CCR5 and CXCR4 than do MDM, the receptor expression is not the sole determinants of HIV replication in these macrophages (Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008; Torres et al. 2001; Melendez et al. 2001). In contrast to the consistent levels of replication exhibited by MDM, HIV replication in PM reaches a peak of viral replication around 3–7 days after infection and then decreases (Kesson et al. 1994). Furthermore, levels of replication in PM measured by production of HIV-1 viral capsid protein (p24) are ten times lower than in MDM (Plaud-Valentin et al. 1999), a finding that cannot be explained solely by co-receptor expression. The HIV-1 persistence in MDM and the low permissiveness exhibited by PM make them good candidates for the study of cellular factors involved in restriction of viral replication.

Proteomics platforms including SELDI-TOF, 1D SDS PAGE, and LC/MS/MS have been used as initial steps to identify protein candidates associated with HIV-1 restriction in PM and persistence in MDM. Twenty-seven protein peaks differentially expressed between uninfected and infected PM and MDM cell lysates were identified by SELDI-TOF, and 12 were correlated with proteins identified by LC/MS/MS (Table 5; Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008). Proteins indentified included: profilin, protein S-100 A9 (calgranulin B), SH3 glutamic acid rich-like protein 1, SOD, and cystatin B (Table 5). Profilin and protein S-100 A9 (calgranulin B) have been reported to be associated with HIV-1 infection in both macrophages and T cells (Chertova et al. 2006; Kadiu et al. 2007; Ryckman et al. 2002). Differences between PM and MDM cystatin B levels detected by Western blots and LC/MS/MS, correlated well and showed the most significant difference with SELDI-TOF protein peaks in uninfected and HIV-1-infected PM, as compared with MDM (Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008). Cystatin B is a cysteine protease inhibitor identified as an important protein related to HIV-1 replication in macrophages. A low level of cystatin B has been associated with restriction of HIV in PM (Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008) and most recently in microglia (Rodriguez-Franco et al. 2010), whereas a high level of cystatin B in MDM is associated with HIV persistence (Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008). Cystatin B was found upregulated at 12 days post infection in MDM and PM (Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008). Cystatin B was found over-expressed in the secretome of HIV-1-infected MDM (Ciborowski et al. 2007; Garcia et al. 2009), suggesting that this protein is linked to virus infection. This link was further demonstrated by showing decreased HIV replication in MDM treated with siRNA against cystatin B (Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008). The signaling mechanisms for cystatin B in HIV replication are related to its interaction with signal transducer and activator of transcription-1 (STAT-1) as confirmed by co-immunoprecipitation assays (Luciano-Montalvo and Meléndez 2009). It is known that STAT-1 activates HIV-1 replication, but the high levels of tyrosine phosphorylation (PY) have been associated with HIV-1 inhibitory activity (Chang et al. 2002). Recent studies at our laboratories show a greater expression of STAT-1 PY in PM than in MDM (Luciano-Montalvo and Meléndez 2009). However, there are conflicting reports regarding STAT-1 phosphorylation and HIV infection. It has been reported that HIV infection in MDM induces an increase in STAT-1PY that starts after 6 days of infection (Magnani et al. 2003). However, recent data of our laboratory using monoclonal antibodies to increase specificity showed very low levels of STAT-1PY in MDM until 12 days after infection and higher levels in HIV-infected PM than in HIV-infected MDM (Luciano-Montalvo and Meléndez 2009). The low levels of cystatin B associated with high levels of STAT-1PY in placental macrophages suggest a mechanism for restriction of HIV replication with an activation of a tyrosine kinase that promotes STAT-1PY. Since STAT-1PY701 induces interferon regulatory factor, this results in decreased replication of HIV-1 by interfering with its long terminal repeat-driven replication (Luciano-Montalvo and Meléndez 2009). Modulation of IFN response was also observed in microarray studies of 2- and 7-day infected MDM with a shift from elevated to decreased IFN α/β responses in HIV-infected MDMs (Brown et al. 2008). Recent immunoprecipitation studies in HIV-infected macrophages followed by LC/MS/MS studies and luciferase assays has revealed possible mechanisms of cystatin B interacting proteins in the inhibition of IFN responses (Rivera et al. 2010). Indeed, other IFN response
inhibitors have also been reported in studies from SIV-infected macaques (Akhtar et al. 2010). However, upregulation of an interferon-stimulated gene 15, an ubiquitin-like protein involved in interferon-mediated antiviral immunity was recently found in Treg-MDM co-cultures with novel proteomic approaches (ITRAQ) indicating a modulation of IFN responses in MDM by T-regs (Huang et al. 2010). Taken together, these proteomics studies have deepened our current understanding of pathways in HIV-infected MDM, and thus could provide better targets for elimination of HIV reservoirs in the future.

Proteomics platforms were also used to identify secreted factors that might be associated with HIV restriction in PM and HIV persistence in MDM. The screening of the secretome using SELDI-TOF followed by LC/MS/MS confirmed that PM and MDM were secreting different proteins (Garcia et al. 2009). After sequencing and identification, several proteins were validated for differential expression in PM and MDM by Western blot analysis. This study reported that peroxiredoxin 5 is significantly more abundant in PM than in MDM supernatants. This protein is important in the cellular antioxidant mechanisms, and other members of its family have shown antiviral activity. Furthermore, peroxiredoxin 5 has been found to negatively regulate TNF-α signaling, and so it could also suppress NF-κB activity and HIV-1 replication in PM (Garcia et al. 2009). Cystatin B was also found to be significantly more abundant in MDM than in PM supernatants (Garcia et al. 2009). These data confirmed the higher levels of cystatin B in MDM cell lysates reported by Luciano-Montalvo et al. (2008). We suggested that high expression of peroxiredoxin 5 could be one of the mechanisms by which HIV-1 replicates inefficiently in placental macrophages, whereas low expression of cystatin B could impair their capacity to replicate HIV-1, but the mechanisms remain under investigation (Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008; Luciano-Montalvo and Meléndez 2009; Garcia et al. 2009). Interestingly, peroxiredoxin 5 was one of the proteins identified as downregulated in recent proteomics studies of monocytes derived from women with HAND, a finding that suggests chronically activated monocytes act as a Trojan horse that carries HIV to the brain (Kraft-Terry et al. 2010).

Taken together, proteomics approaches have been used to elucidate the proteome and secretome of tissue macrophages in order to determine how these new players interact with proteins related to HIV-1 replication.

### Table 5

| Protein name                                      | Total peptides detected in sequencing | Peak intensity in SELDI-TOF compared with MDM | Reference                        |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| From whole cells lysates:                         |                                      |                                               |                                  |
| Cytoskeletal 14-like protein                      | ND                                   | ↓↓                                            | Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008     |
| SH3 glutamic acid rich like protein 3             | 2                                    | ↓                                             | Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008     |
| Protein S-100 A8 (calgranulin A)                  | ND                                   | ↓↓                                            | Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008     |
| 10 kDa heat shock protein                         | 2                                    | ↓↓                                            | Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008     |
| Cystatin B                                        | 4                                    | ↓↓                                            | Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008     |
| Cytochrome C                                      | 4                                    | ↓↓                                            | Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008     |
| SH3 glutamic acid rich like protein 1              | 4                                    | ↑↑                                            | Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008     |
| Myotrophin                                        | ND                                   | ↑↑                                            | Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008     |
| Protein S-100 A8 (calgranulin B)                  | ND                                   | ↑↑                                            | Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008     |
| Galectin-1                                        | ND                                   | ↑↑                                            | Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008     |
| Profilin                                          | 5                                    | ↑↑                                            | Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008     |
| Superoxide dismutase CuZn                         | 5                                    | ↑↑                                            | Luciano-Montalvo et al. 2008     |
| From macrophage secretome:                        |                                      |                                               |                                  |
| Fatty acid-binding protein 3                       | 2                                    | ↑↑                                            | Garcia et al. 2009               |
| FKBP12                                            | ND                                   | ↑↑                                            | Garcia et al. 2009               |
| Thioredoxin                                       | ND                                   | ↑↑                                            | Garcia et al. 2009               |
| Peroxiredoxin 5                                   | ND                                   | ↑↑                                            | Garcia et al. 2009               |

PM placental macrophages, ND not determined, NE not examined

Proteomics of monocytes, macrophages, and microglia in HIV dementia

After HIV-1 enters the CNS, either as a cell-free virus or in infected macrophages, several signaling pathways are
activated with the release of inflammatory products, chemokines, and neurotoxins (cellular and viral) that attract other cells to the site of infection, resulting in an increase of intra neuronal calcium and subsequently producing neuronal death (Gendelman et al. 1997; Li et al. 2005; Persidsky et al. 1997). This damage results in psychomotor slowing, memory impairment, and brain atrophy (Anderson et al. 2002). In fact, apoptosis of neurons and astrocytes has been detected in brain tissue autopsies from AIDS patients with HAD (Adle-Biassette et al. 1995).

The communication between the nervous and the peripheral immune systems is an important pathway for activation of macrophages during HAD (Ballabh et al. 2004). The response of the CNS to systemic immune challenge results in brain inflammation caused by infected monocytes/macrophages trafficking into the brain from the periphery, producing disruption of the BBB by oxidative stress, which contribute to HAD (Table 3). These data supported the hypothesis of the emergence of a monocyte subset in patients at the onset of dementia. Afterwards, our collaborators examined the proteome of HIV-infected MDM (Carlson et al. 2004). They used SELDI-TOF to detect 58 differentially expressed proteins in MDM after in vitro infection with HIV-1 ADA, a macrophage tropic R5 virus (Gendelman et al. 1988) (Table 3). Microsequencing of these proteins by LC/MS/MS permitted identification of important cellular proteins such as β-actin, annexin A5, vimentin, L-plastin, and desmoyokin, in addition to viral proteins such as gp120 and vif (Table 3). The fact that many of these proteins are related to changes in cellular structure and functions supports the hypothesis of alterations in the cell after HIV infection (Carlson et al. 2004). Sun et al. (2004) used the same approach to compare profiles of secreted MDM proteins from HIV-seropositive individuals with normal cognition, HAD, and HIV-negative controls. This group found a decrease in secretion of lysozyme in MDM supernatants from individuals with HAD, thus demonstrating alterations in cell function as a consequence of HAD (Table 2).

The SELDI-TOF approach was used initially to profile the defining characteristics of disease progression (Luo et al. 2003; Wojna et al. 2004). However, the spectra developed with this approach were not comparable among institutions and did not allow us to identify the proteins that were differentially expressed. Therefore, identification of the proteome was the next approach to be used, first by 1D gel electrophoresis and sequencing by LC/MS/MS. Using this approach, studies aimed at deciphering the effect of HIV variants from patients with cognitive impairment on the macrophage proteome, our group identified 20 proteins related to apoptosis, chemotaxis, inflammation, and redox metabolism (Toro-Nieves et al. 2009; Table 3). Some of the identified proteins in HIV-infected MDM, including ferritin, ubiquitin, and apoptosis-related proteins, have been identified in macrophage-induced inflammation (Xue et al. 2008). These studies showed that the macrophage’s proteome can change depending on the infecting viral strain by stimulating an inflammatory and pro-apoptotic phenotype. The mechanisms by which these viruses affect the macrophage proteome are currently being investigated.

After HIV-1 infects macrophages, several signals are activated causing morphological and functional changes to the cell (Chertova et al. 2006; Ciborowski et al. 2007; Kadiu et al. 2007; Lee et al. 2003). By using SELDI-TOF, LC/MS/MS, and Western blots, culture fluids derived from in vitro HIV-1-infected MDM identified 15 differentially expressed proteins, including cytoskeletal proteins (Kadiu et al. 2007; Table 3). Their findings demonstrated HIV-1 can drive the cell to a permissive state for viral replication or can enhance phagocytosis and intracellular microbial killing. This group subsequently demonstrated how HIV-1 transforms the monocyte plasma membrane proteome by their use of cell surface labeling with fluorescent dyes followed by 2D DIGE and LC/MS/MS analysis (Kadiu et al. 2009). They found that 53% of HIV-1-induced proteins were associated with the plasma membrane, cellular activation, and oxidative stress, which are processes related to HAD neuropathogenesis (Table 3). Using a similar proteomics platform, Ricardo-Dukelow et al. (2007) established how HIV-1-infected MDM induced upregulation of 161 human brain microvascular endothelial cell proteins that are related to important cellular processes such as metabolism, transport, structural changes, and regulation. Their findings support the role of HIV-1-infected MDM in BBB dysfunction, which contribute to HAD (Table 3).

Despite all the confirmed information about the interactions between HIV-1 and macrophages, the exact pathways of macrophage activation after HIV-1 infection remain incompletely understood. Using proteomics, other studies have shown that the macrophage secretome is affected by HIV-1 infection (Ciborowski et al. 2007) where cystatins B and C, L-plastin, superoxide dismutase, and α-enolase were identified preferentially from HIV-infected cells (Table 3). Taken together, proteomics studies clearly demonstrate the effects of HIV-1 on the macrophage activation, structure, and function. These results are not distant from microarray studies where an inflammatory M1 HIV macrophage predominates following HIV infection with
activation of apoptotic signaling that is modulated after time in culture (Brown et al. 2008).

For studies of CD14+ monocytes from HIV infected Hispanic women with HAND, our laboratory applied a SELDI-TOF, 2D DIGE, and LC/MS/MS proteomics. Initial SELDI-TOF studies, compared protein profiles from CD14+ monocytes isolated from 35 individuals—eight normal cognition (N), 11 asymptomatic (A) as defined by substandard neuropsychological results and early symptoms of CI, three minor cognitive motor disorder (MCMD), and 13 HAD. Interestingly, three peaks—5,656, 5,976, and 6,705 m/z—were shown to be significant (adjusted p value ≤0.1) in terms of the intensity differences in all four group comparisons (Fig. 1). Additional protein peaks (n=41) were found differentially expressed between individual groups (data not shown). These results demonstrated that CD14+ monocytes from the HAND group, starting at the early stage, expressed predominantly decreased proteins than did those from patients with normal cognition. Subsequently, to ascertain that there were proteins differentially expressed in women with HAND, we performed 2-DIGE analyses followed by LC/MS/MS and flow cytometry validation of the proteins found between the two extreme groups: normal cognition and HAD (Kraft-Terry et al. 2010). Our findings showed SOD, thioxiredoxin, and peroxiredoxin antioxidant proteins as downregulated in monocytes from patients with HAD (Kraft-Terry et al. 2010; Table 2).

Wang et al. (2008) established a proteomic modeling for crosstalk between HIV-1-infected microglia and astrocytes. Using 2D DIGE, Western blot, and LC/MS/MS they detected changes in the microglial cytoskeleton and alterations in the microglial–astrocyte communication. These observations provided unique insights into glial crosstalk and how it is related to HAD.

In the neuroAIDS field, proteomics approaches have also been used for studying the CSF (Yuan and Desiderio 2005; Laspuri et al. 2007; Rozek et al. 2007). Currently, some of the proteins uncovered in HAND that are common to CSF and HIV-infected MDM are subject to functional studies including cystatins, cathepsins, and SOD (Kadiu et al. 2009; Luciano-Montalvo and Meléndez 2009; Rodriguez-Franco et al. 2010; Rivera et al. 2010). These proteomics studies have helped to elucidate important mechanisms in HIV infection, MDM activation, and disease.

Conclusion and future directions

This review provides an overview of the knowledge about the function of HIV-infected monocytes/macrophages that has been obtained by using various proteomics approaches. It includes studies from the pre-proteomics and post-proteomics eras with a detailed description of the proteomics approaches used (Table 1). These methods have helped to identify the differences in proteins that are resolved in a gel electrophoresis approach and, if coupled to fluorescence tagged markers as in 2D DIGE, have helped to quantify their relative abundance in experimental and control samples.

Proteomic studies applied to the discovery of potential biomarkers from ex vivo studies of macrophage proteins derived from patients with HIV-associated neurocognitive dysfunction have been cumbersome and provide few protein candidates because of the limited number of MDM available for gel-based studies. However, these studies have yielded promising candidates and spearheaded the discovery of new disease mechanisms (Table 2).

Proteomic studies applied to in vitro studies of HIV-infected macrophages have been facilitated by an abundance of macrophages from leukopheresis and elutriation provided by Dr. Gendelman’s laboratory (Table 3). These studies have revealed the presence of proteins related to inflammation, oxidative stress, apoptosis, cytoskeleton, and signaling pathways. Many of these proteins are being tested in functional studies and could be potential avenues for increasing our understanding of the biology of HIV to eventually eradicate cellular reservoirs and add new targets for therapies and vaccines.
Novel system biology and proteomics approaches for quantitative proteomics have been reviewed (Table 4). These methods will likely lead to more complex proteomes of HIV-infected MDM to facilitate the discovery of increased number of biomarkers for diagnosis and therapies against HAND and other infectious and neuroinflammatory diseases, which will further the understanding of the role of macrophages in different diseases.

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