The Angiogenic Chemokines Expression Profile of Myeloid Cell Lines Co-Cultured with Bone Marrow-Derived Mesenchymal Stem Cells

Maryam Mohammadi Najafabadi, M.Sc. 1, Karim Shamsasenjan, Ph.D. 1, Parvin Akbarzadehlaleh, Ph.D. 2*

1. Immunology Research Center, Tabriz University of Medical Sciences, Tabriz, Iran
2. Department of Pharmaceutical Biotechnology, Faculty of Pharmacy, Tabriz University of Medical Sciences, Tabriz, Iran

*Corresponding Address: P.O. BOX: 51335, Department of Pharmaceutical Biotechnology, Faculty of Pharmacy, Tabriz University of Medical Sciences, Tabriz, Iran
Email: akbarzadehp@tbzmed.ac.ir

Received: 1/Dec/2016, Accepted: 3/Feb/2017

Abstract

Objective: Angiogenesis, the process of formation of new blood vessels, is essential for development of solid tumors. At first, it was first assumed that angiogenesis is not implicated in the development of acute myeloid leukemia (AML) as a liquid tumor. One of the most important elements in bone marrow microenvironment is mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs). These cells possess an intrinsic tropism for sites of tumor in various types of cancers and have an impact on solid tumors growth by affecting the angiogenic process. But so far, our knowledge is limited about MSCs’ role in liquid tumors angiogenesis. By increasing our knowledge about the role of MSCs on angiogenesis, new therapeutic strategies can be used to improve the status of patients with leukemia.

Materials and Methods: In this experimental study, HL-60, K562 and U937 cells were separately co-cultured with bone marrow derived-MSCs and after 8, 16 and 24 hours, alterations in the expression of 10 chemokine genes involved in angiogenesis, were evaluated by quantitative real time-polymerase chain reaction (qRT-PCR). Mono-cultures of leukemia cell lines were used as controls.

Results: We observed that in HL-60 and K562 cells co-cultured with MSCs, the expression of CXCL10 and CXCL3 genes are increased, respectively as compared to the control cells. Also, in U937 cells co-cultured with MSCs, the expression of CXCL6 gene was upgraded. Moreover in U937 cells, CCL2 gene expression in the first 16 hours was lower than the control cells, while within 24 hours its expression augmented.

Conclusion: Our observations, for the first time, demonstrated that bone marrow (BM)-MSCs are able to alter the expression profile of chemokine genes involved in angiogenesis, in acute myeloid leukemia cell lines. MSCs cause different effects on angiogenesis in different leukemia cell lines; in some cases, MSCs promote angiogenesis, and in others, inhibit it.

Keywords: Acute Myeloid Leukemia, Angiogenesis, Chemokine, Mesenchymal Stem Cell

Citation: Mohammadi Najafabadi M, Shamsasenjan K, Akbarzadehlaleh P. The angiogenic chemokines expression profile of myeloid cell lines co-cultured with bone marrow-derived mesenchymal stem cells. Cell J. 2018; 20(1): 19-24. doi: 10.22074/cellj.2018.4924.

Introduction

Angiogenesis is the process of formation of new blood vessels from the already-existing ones (1) and is the result of a balance between pro- and anti-angiogenic factors (2). This process is essential for tumor growth and development (1). Many tumors primarily grow along blood vessels until they reach a certain size and then, due to local hypoxia, nutrient depletion and metabolic imbalance, both tumor cells and the related stromal components produce tumor angiogenic factors (TAFs) and from this time, their additional growth becomes dependent on formation of new blood vessels (1, 3). Acute myeloid leukemia (AML), a kind of tumor that primarily affects the bone marrow is caused by mutations in the hematopoietic stem or progenitor cells (HSPC), leading to increased proliferation and accumulation of immature myeloid cells in the bone marrow (4). Using the standard chemotherapy regimens, initial disease remission can be reached in 30-70% of AML patients, though in all patients, particularly in older individuals, refractory and relapsed disease remain crucial problems (5, 6). Since the bone marrow is the major place of tumor accumulation in AML, and leukemia is known as a liquid tumor that does not grow as compact tumor mass (compared to solid tumors), at first, it was thought that angiogenesis is not implicated in the pathogenesis of this disease (7). Recently, many studies have shown evidence of increased angiogenesis in AML patients (8-10), and increased angiogenesis is associated with shorter survival time, higher risk of disease relapse, earlier mortality, poorer prognosis, and increased resistance to chemotherapy (11).

As we know, microenvironment around the tumor plays an important role in tumor behavior. One of the most important elements in bone marrow microenvironment is mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs). They can differentiate into some mesodermal cell lineages containing bone, cartilage, adipose tissue,
Angiogenic Chemokines Expressed by Myeloid Cell Lines

muscle, and tendon. Some studies have shown thatMSCs possess an intrinsic tropism for sites of tumor in various types of cancers and have an impact on tumor growth by affecting angiogenic process (12). MSCs can merge into the tumor vessel walls, stimulate a pro-angiogenic process and lead to increased tumor growth (13, 14). In contrast, in other tumors, MSCs have been shown to reduce tumor growth by inducing apoptosis in endothelial cells and thereby reducing angiogenesis (15).

All the above-mentioned data were related to solid tumors, but until now, there is no information about the role of MSCs on angiogenesis in liquid tumors such as AML. Therefore, in this study, we investigated the effect of MSCs on angiogenic activity of leukemia cells. For this purpose, we selected three leukemia cell lines namely, HL-60, K562, U937, which represent promyelocytic, erythroid, and monocytic blasts, respectively. At present, most of treatments are focused on the tumor cells, and the environmental elements are considered as the second priority. Since increased angiogenesis is one of the causes of cancer relapse and lack of an appropriate response to chemotherapy, MSCs on angiogenic activity of AML cells can lead us to develop new therapeutic strategies based on the surrounding components.

Materials and Methods

Cell culture

In this experimental study, U937, K562 and HL-60 leukemia cell lines were purchased from Pasteur Institute, Tehran, Iran and were maintained in RPMI-1640 (Sigma-Aldrich, USA) with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS, Gibco, UK), 100 U/ml penicillin and 100 μg/ml streptomycin (Gibco, UK). The cells were incubated in humified incubator with 5% CO₂ at 37°C. Cells were maintained in culture medium for 2-3 days to reach a log phase growth. The cell viability was evaluated by trypan blue staining.

Bone marrow-derived MSCs were purchased from Pasteur Institute, Tehran, Iran and these cells were CD73, CD90, and CD105 positive, and CD11b, CD14, CD19, CD34, CD45, CD79a, and HLA-DR negative, as evaluated by flow cytometry. MSCs were removed by 0.04% Trypsin/0.03% EDTA and 1×10⁵ cells were seeded in a flask in Dulbecco’s Modified Eagle Medium (DMEM)-LG (Gibco, UK) plus 10% FBS and 1% penicillin-streptomycin. Next, cells were incubated at 37°C with 5% CO₂ until a 60-70% confluence was reached. All experiments were conducted with passage 3 MSCs. Then, the supernatant medium of MSCs was removed and HL-60, K562 and U937 cells (3×10⁶ cells) were separately added to 3 MSCs flasks (direct co-culture) and maintained in humified incubator at 37°C with 5% CO₂ (RPMI-1640 medium was used for cells co-culture with MSCs). After 8, 16, and 24 hours of co-culture, 1×10⁶ cells were harvested each time, transferred into a sterile falcon and centrifuged at 1500 rpm, at 24°C for 5 minutes. Then, the supernatants were removed and cells were treated with 1 ml QIAzol and stored at -80°C until future use. Mono-cultures of U937, K562 and HL-60 cell lines were used as controls and kept under conditions similar to those mentioned above.

RNA extraction and cDNA synthesis

Total RNA from co-cultured and control samples was extracted using QIAzol method (Qiagen, USA). The spectrophotometric absorbance ratio at 260/280 nm (Picodrop, UK) was calculated to assess the quality of extracted RNA. RNA was retro-transcribed by the BioRT First-Strand cDNA Synthesis kit (Bior, Japan). For cDNA synthesis, 1 μg RNA and 1 μl random hexamer primer were mixed together in a microtube separately for each sample and by adding water, nuclease-free the total volume reached 12 μl. Then, all samples were incubated for 5 minutes at 65°C in a thermal cycler (SENS QUEST, Germany). After this, according to the manufacturer’s instructions, other reagents were added to each sample. The following program was used for cDNA synthesis: 5 minutes at 25°C, 60 minutes at 42°C, 5 minutes at 70°C.

Real-time polymerase chain reaction

The cDNA product was used for subsequent PCR amplification and equal amounts of cDNA template were used for RT-PCR. For amplification of target genes in real-time PCR stage, forward and reverse primers (Metabion, Germany), cDNA and ddH₂O were added to 2X qPCR / RTDPCR Master Mix E4 (SYBR Green AB kit). Reactions were performed in Real-Time PCR device (Applied Biosystems, StepOne Real-time PCR) and amplification program had the following schedule: 10 minutes at 95°C (initial denaturation step), 15 seconds at 95°C, 60 seconds at 60°C, 5 minutes at 70°C. The fold expression changes was calculated using the ΔΔCt method. Each experiment was done in duplicate.

Statistical analysis

The data were presented as mean ± SD and evaluated By GraphPad Prism version 6.00 (GraphPad Software Inc., La Jolla, CA). Student’s t test was used for the presented results. P<0.01 was considered statistically significant.

Results

Real-time PCR analysis showed that in the HL-60 cells co-cultured with MSCs, there was a significant increase in CXCL10 gene expression compared to the control.
cells (P<0.01) but there was no statistically significant differences in gene expression among different times of the experiment (8, 16, and 24 hours). The genes CXCL1, CXCL3, CXCL5, CXCL6, CXCL9, CCL2, CCL11, IFNA and IFNB were not expressed in HL-60 cells (Table 1, Fig.1).

In K562 cells co-cultured with MSCs, there was a significant increase in CXCL3 gene expression (P<0.01) compared to the control cells. In addition, after 24 hours of co-culture, the expression was significantly lower than that observed after 16 hours (P<0.01). But, there was no statistically significant differences in gene expression after 8 and 24 hours. The genes CXCL1, CXCL5, CXCL6, CXCL9, CXCL10, CCL2, CCL11, IFNA and IFNB were not expressed in K562 cells (Table 1, Fig.1).

**Table 1 :** Changes in angiogenic genes expression at different times during co-culture with mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs)

| Gene     | HL-60+MSCs | K562+MSCs | U937+MSCs |
|----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
|          | 8 hours | 16 hours | 24 hours | 8 hours | 16 hours | 24 hours | 8 hours | 16 hours | 24 hours |
| Pro-angiogenic genes |          |           |           |          |           |           |          |           |           |
| CXCL-1   | -       | -         | -         | -       | -         | -         | -       | -         | -         |
| CXCL-3   | -       | -         | -         | ↑       | ↑         | ↑         | -       | -         | -         |
| CXCL-5   | -       | -         | -         | -       | -         | -         | -       | -         | -         |
| CXCL-6   | -       | -         | -         | -       | -         | ↓         | ↑       | ↑         | ↑         |
| CCL-2    | -       | -         | -         | -       | -         | -         | -       | -         | -         |
| CCL-11F  | -       | -         | -         | -       | -         | -         | -       | -         | -         |
| Anti-angiogenic genes |          |           |           |          |           |           |          |           |           |
| CXCL-9   | -       | -         | -         | -       | -         | -         | -       | -         | -         |
| CXCL-10  | ↑       | ↑         | ↑         | -       | -         | -         | ↑*      | ↑*        | ↑*        |
| IFNA     | -       | -         | -         | -       | -         | -         | -       | -         | -         |
| IFNB     | -       | -         | -         | -       | -         | -         | -       | -         | -         |

- : Not expressed, ↑ : Increased expression, ↓ : Decreased expression, and ↑* : Non-significant increased expression.

**Fig.1:** Angiogenic genes expression during co-culture with mesenchymal stem cells at different times. A. CXCL3 gene expression in K562 cells, B. CXCL10 gene expression in HL-60 cells. *; P<0.01.
In U937 cells co-cultured with MSCs, there was a significant increase in CXCL6 gene expression (P<0.01) compared to the control cells. However, there was no statistically significant differences in gene expression at different times (8, 16, and 24 hours). The CXCL10 gene expression was increased compared to the control cells, but, considerably increased to higher levels than that of control cells, after 24 hours of co-culture with MSCs (P<0.01). The genes CXCL1, CXCL3, CXCL5, CXCL9, CCL11, IFNA and IFNB were not expressed in U937 cells (Table 1, Fig.2).

Discussion

According to ‘seed and soil’ hypothesis, the stromal microenvironment plays an important role in the regulation of solid tumor progression (16). Among various environmental elements, MSCs are crucially important because they can be transformed to carcinoma-associated fibroblasts (CAFs). These cells contribute to tumor development by releasing a variety of cytokines and growth factors which are involved in angiogenesis promotion (17). AML is a hematologic cancer, and bone marrow stromal cells maintain the growth and proliferation of AML cells (18-20). MSCs, one of the most important stromal components in the bone marrow, are multipotent adult stem cells (21). These cells contribute to the hematopoiesis, formation of blood vessels and angiogenesis by secreting a series of cytokines, growth factors and matrix proteins (22-24).

A number of studies has confirmed MSCs’ pro-angiogenic properties (25) and has shown that these cells could form capillary-like structures on their own and represent an endothelial-like phenotype (26). They can also increase endothelial cell mobility and chemotaxis by up-regulating a variety of chemokines and factors involved in angiogenesis such as vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), CCL2 (25), Matrix metalloproteinase 2 (MMP-2), MMP-9 and membrane type-1-MMP (MT1-MMP) (27) ultimately leading to enhanced angiogenesis (28). In this regard, our observations, for the first time, demonstrated that bone marrow (BM)-MSCs are able to alter the expression profile of chemokine genes involved in angiogenesis of HL-60, K562 and U937 leukemia cell lines. This finding is also in line with the studies that suggest a reciprocal relationship between BM-MSCs and leukemia cells mediated by both soluble factors and cell-cell interaction (29, 30). Moreover, co-culture of MSCs with primary AML cells mainly changes the expression of genes that are regulated by the NF-KB pathway in both cells. NF-KB pathway is a key modulator of chemokines’ expression and release in primary AML cells and MSCs (31, 32).

Chemokines as secretory factors involved in angiogenesis, are grouped into two major CXC and CC subgroups according to their structure. The CXC chemokines are further categorized into ELR+ and ELR− (Glu-Leu-Arg, “ELR” motif). The ELR+ CXC chemokines and numerous CC chemokines are angiogenesis inducers, whereas ELR− CXC chemokines are angiogenesis inhibitors (33). In this study, we observed that in co-culture of MSCs with HL-60 cell line, the CXCL10 gene expression is increased compared with the control cells.

Since this is an anti-angiogenic chemokine, it is possible that the presence of MSCs in the bone marrow of myeloblastic/promyelocytic leukemia patients results in decreased angiogenesis which finally reduces the development of leukemia. This finding is parallel with Keishi Otsu’s research that emphasized on the anti-angiogenic role of MSCs. MSCs attach to endothelial
cells through the gap junctions via generation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) and transferring them to endothelial cells, resulting in cell death and capillary degeneration (15). Together, these results indicate that MSCs repressed tumor growth by preventing tumor angiogenesis.

We also detected that in co-culture of MSCs with K562 cell line compared to K562 mono-culture, the CXCL3 gene expression is increased. Since it is a pro-angiogenic chemokine, MSCs may be one of the causes of aggressiveness of erythroid leukemia due to induction of angiogenesis in leukemia cells. It is noteworthy that we just considered angiogenesis deviations at the level of gene expression and definitive conclusions require further investigation on secretory proteins. In future, our present findings should be verified by a number of in vitro and in vivo angiogenesis assays such as Matrigel Angiogenesis Assay. In total, our results showed MSCs cause different effects on angiogenesis in different leukemia cell lines, which is consistent with previous studies that revealed dissimilar effects of leukemia cell lines on BM-MSCs that may contribute to alterations in clinical presentation of leukemia categories (M7-M6) (29).

Also, based on our results, in U937 cell line co-cultured with MSCs, CXCL6 gene expression was upgraded. It is a pro-angiogenic chemokine. Moreover, CCL2 gene expression in the first 16 hours was lower than the control and it is also a pro-angiogenic chemokine. In this cell line, only based on the alterations in gene expression profiles, we cannot draw definitive conclusions about the impact of this co-culture; thus, it is necessary to investigate the cell performance after the co-culture. The key point is that the cells possess lots of receptors on their surface and typically respond to a variety of chemokines released by both AML and adjacent stromal cells, resulting in the final reaction of the cells (32, 34). On the other hand, in U937 cells, CCL2 gene expression in the first 16 hours, was lower than the control cells, while within 24 hours its expression augmented.

We speculate that these alterations is related to the system of regulation of CCL2 gene transcription. Transcription of CCL2 is controlled by two regions of the promoter namely, proximal regulatory region (PRR) and the distal regulatory region (DRR), and NF-KB plays a vital role in this process (35-37). During the co-culture, the cytokine profile of U937 cell line was changed. B-cell/CLL lymphoma 6 (BCL6) controls cytokine production in numerous cell types, especially monocytes (38). Moreover, BCL6 represses CCL2 gene expression via occupation of NF-KB binding site on the CCL2 gene promoter (39, 40). So, it is possible that BCL6 production is the cause of reduced gene expression during the first 16 hours. After 24 hours, MSCs direct U937 cells toward differentiation (41), and the transcription factor ZXDC1 stimulates the differentiation of U937 leukemia cell line. In addition, ZXDC1 activates CCL2 expression through removal of BCL6 (42). Thereby, the amplified expression of CCL2 can be seen.

Conclusion

Our observations, for the first time, have demonstrated that BM-MSCs are able to alter the expression profile of chemokine genes involved in angiogenesis, in acute myeloid leukemia cell lines. MSCs cause different effects on angiogenesis in different leukemia cell lines; in some cases, MSCs promote angiogenesis, and in others, inhibit it. Such differences may contribute to alterations in the clinical presentations and therapeutic responses among leukemia categories. Of course, further investigations are required in this area.

Acknowledgments

We highly appreciate the help of East Azerbaijan Province Blood Transfusion Headquarter in providing laboratory facility for this research. We express our appreciation to Tabriz University of Medical Sciences, Tabriz, Iran for financial support of this research. There is no conflicts of interest in this study.

Author’s Contributions

P.A.; Designed study, supervised, analyzed data. K.Sh., M.M.N.; Done experiments. The manuscript was written by M.M.N. and edited by P.A. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

References

1. Falcon BL, Chintharlapalli S, Uhlk MT, Pytowski B. Antagonist antibodies to vascular endothelial growth factor receptor 2 (VEGFR-2) as anti-angiogenic agents. Pharmacol Ther. 2016; 164: 204-225.
2. Schmidt T, Carmeleit P. Angiogenesis: a target in solid tumors, also in leukemia? Hematology Am Soc Hematol Educ Program. 2011; 2011(1): 1-8.
3. Donnem T, Hu J, Ferguson M, Adighibe O, Snell C, Harris AL, et al. Vessel co-option in primary human tumors and metastases: an obstacle to effective anti-angiogenic treatment? Cancer Med. 2013; 2(4): 427-436.
4. Jabbour EJ, Estey E, Kantarjian HM. Adult acute myeloid leukemia. Mayo Clin Proc. 2006; 81(2): 247-260.
5. Lowenberg B, Downing JR, Burnett A. Acute myeloid leukemia. N Engl J Med. 1999; 341(14): 1051-1062.
6. Appelbaum FR, Gundacker H, Head DR, Slovak ML, Willman CL, Godwin JE, et al. Age and acute myeloid leukemia. Blood. 2006 ; 107(9): 3481-3485.
7. Ribatti D. Is angiogenesis essential for the progression of hematological malignancies or is it an epiphenomenon? Leukemia. 2009; 23(3): 433-434.
8. Cogle CR, Goldman DC, Madlambayan GJ, Leon RP, Al Masri A, Clark HA, et al. Functional integration of acute myeloid leukemia into the vascular niche. Leukemia. 2014; 28(10): 1978-1987.
9. Cogle CR, Bosse RC, Brewer T, Migdady Y, Shirzad R, Kampen KR, et al. Acute myeloid leukemia in the vascular niche. Cancer Lett. 2016 ; 380(2): 552-560.
10. Weidenaar AC, ter Elst A, Koopmans-Klein G, Rosati S, den Dunnen WF, Meeuwsen-de Boer T, et al. High acute myeloid leukemia derived VEGFA levels are associated with a specific vascular morphol-
Angiogenic Chemokines Expressed by Myeloid Cell Lines

2008; 99(4): 622-631.

14. Suzuki K, Sun R, Oriuchi M, Kanehira M, Takahata T, Itoh J, et al. Mesenchymal stromal cells promote tumor growth through the enhancement of neovascularization. Mol Med. 2011;17(7-8): 579-587.

15. Otsu K, Das S, Houser SD, Quadri SK, Bhattacharya S, Bhattacharya J. Concentration-dependent inhibition of angiogenesis by mesenchymal stem cells. Blood. 2009; 113(18): 4197-4205.

16. Korkaya H, Liu S, Wicha MS. Breast cancer stem cells, cytokine networks, and the tumor microenvironment. J Clin Invest. 2011; 121(10): 3804-3809.

17. Quante M, Tu SP, Tomita H, Gonda T, Wang SS, Takashi S, et al. Bone marrow-derived myofibroblasts contribute to the mesenchymal stem cell niche and promote tumor growth. Cancer Cell. 2011;19(2): 257-272.

18. Bruderer O, Ryningen A, Wergeland L, Gjerten NT, Gyertsen BT. Osteoblasts increase proliferation and release of pro-angiogenic interleukin 8 by native human acute myelogenous leukemia blasts. Haematologica. 2004; 89(4): 391-402.

19. Haffield K, Ryningen A, Corbascio M, Bruderer O. Microvascular endothelial cells increase proliferation and inhibit apoptosis of native human acute myelogenous leukemia blasts. Int J Cancer. 2006; 119(10): 2313-2321.

20. Reikvam H, Nepstad I, Bruderer O, Haffield KJ. Pharmacological targeting of the PI3K/mTOR pathway alters the release of angiogenic and inflammatory mediators by both primary human acute myeloid leukemia cells and their neighboring stromal cells. Oncotarget. 2013; 4(6): 830-843.

21. Tan Q, Lui PP, Rui YF, Wong YM. Comparison of potentials of stem cells isolated from tendon and bone marrow for musculoskeletal tissue engineering. Tissue Eng Part A. 2012; 18(7-8): 840-851.

22. Bronckaers A, Hilken P, Martens W, Gervois P, Ratajczak J, Struys T, et al. Mesenchymal stem/stromal cells as a pharmacological and therapeutic approach to accelerate angiogenesis. Pharmacol Ther. 2014;143(2): 181-196.

23. Liew A, O'Brien T. Therapeutic potential for mesenchymal stem cell transplantation in critical limb ischemia. Stem Cell Res Ther. 2012; 3(4): 28.

24. Yan J, Tie G, Xu YC, Cecchini K, Messina LM. Mesenchymal stem cells as a treatment for peripheral arterial disease: current status and potential impact of type II diabetes on their therapeutic efficacy. Stem Cell Rev. 2013; 9(3): 360-372.

25. Boomsma RA, Geenen DL. Mesenchymal stem cells secrete multiple cytokines that promote angiogenesis and have contrasting effects on chemotaxis and apoptosis. PLoS One. 2012; 7(4): e35685.

26. Annabi B, Lee YT, Turcotte S, Naud E, Desrosiers RR, Champagne M, et al. Hypoxia promotes murine bone-marrow-derived stromal cell migration and tube formation. Stem Cells. 2003; 21(3): 337-347.

27. Ghajer CM, Blevins KS, Hughes CC, George SC, Putnam AJ. Mesenchymal stem cells enhance angiogenesis in mechanically viable prevascularized tissues via early matrix metalloproteinase upregulation. Tissue Eng. 2006; 12(10): 2875-2888.

28. Arutyunyan I, Fatkhudinov T, Kananykhina E, Usman N, Elchaninov A, Makarov A, et al. Role of VEGF-A in angiogenesis promoted by umbilical cord-derived mesenchymal stromal/stem cells: in vitro study. Stem Cell Res Ther. 2016; 7: 46.

29. Cividini S, Jin P, Ren J, Sabatino M, Castiello L, Jin J, et al. Leukemia cells induce changes in human bone marrow stromal cells. J Transl Med. 2013; 11: 298.

30. Reikvam H, Brenner AK, Hagen KM, Liseth K, Skrede S, Hatfield KJ, et al. The cytokine-mediated crosstalk between primary human acute myeloid cells and mesenchymal stem cells alters the local cytokine network and the global gene expression profile of the mesenchymal cells. Stem Cell Res. 2015; 15(3): 530-541.

31. Abdulkhaliek S, Guo M, Amith SR, Jayanth P, Szewczuk MR. G-protein coupled receptor agonists mediate Neu1 sialidase and matrix metalloproteinase-9 cross-talk to induce transactivation of Toll-like receptors and cellular signaling. Cell Signal. 2012; 24(11): 2035-2042.

32. Bruderer O, Ryningen A, Olsnes AM, Stordrange L, Oyan AM, Karlund KH, et al. Subclassification of patients with acute myelogenous leukemia based on chemokine responsiveness and constitutive chemokine release by their leukemic cells. Haematologica. 2007; 92(3): 332-334.

33. Santoni M, Bracarda S, Nassi M, Massari F, Conti A, Bria E, et al. CXCL and CC chemokines as angiogenic modulators in nonhaematological tumors. Biomed Res Int. 2014; 2014: 768758.

34. Brenner AK, Reikvam H, Bruderer O. A Subset of patients with acute myeloid leukemia has leukemia cells characterized by chemokine responsiveness and altered expression of transcriptional as well as angiogenic regulators. Front Immunol. 2016; 7: 205.

35. Deng D, Jones PL, Boss JM. TNF regulates the in vivo occupancy of both distal and proximal regulatory regions of the MCP-1/JE gene. Immunity. 1996; 4(5): 455-469.

36. Deng D, Boekhoudt GH, Rogers EM, Boss JM. Nuclear factor-kappa B p65 mediates the assembly and activation of the TNF-responsive element of the murine monocYTE chemoattractant-1 gene. J Immunol. 1999; 162(2): 727-734.

37. Ueda A, Okuda K, Ohno S, Shirai A, Igarashi T, Matsunaga K, et al. NF-kappa B and Sp1 regulate transcription of the human monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 gene. J Immunol. 1994; 153(5): 2052-2063.

38. Toney LM, Cattoretti G, Graf JA, Merghouth P, Pandolfi PP, Dallafavera R, et al. BCL-6 regulates chemokine gene transcription in macrophages. Nat Immunol. 2000; 1(3): 214-220.

39. Barish GD, Yu RT, Karunasiri M, Ocampo CB, Dixon J, Benner C, et al. Bcl-6 and NF-kappaB cistromes mediate opposing regulation of the innate immune response. Genes Dev. 2010; 24(24): 2760-2765.

40. Dent AL, Shaffer AL, Yu X, Allman D, Staudt LM. Control of inflammation, cytokine expression, and germinal center formation by BCL-6. Science. 1997; 276(5312): 589-592.

41. Molaeipour Z, Shamsasanjan K, Movassaghpour AA, Akbarzadehaleh P, Sabaghi F, Saleh M. The effect of bone marrow mesenchymal stem cells on vitamin D3 induced monocytic differentiation of U937 cells. Adv Pharm Bull. 2016; 6(1): 23-29.

42. Ramsey JE, Fontes JD. The zinc finger transcription factor ZXDC activates CCL2 gene expression by opposing BCL6-mediated repression. Mol Immunol. 2013; 56(4): 764-780.