CD80+ and CD86+ B cells as biomarkers and possible therapeutic targets in HTLV-1 associated myelopathy/tropical spastic paraparesis and multiple sclerosis.

Soraya Menezes, Daniele Decanine, David Brassat, Ricardo Khouri, Saul Schnitman, Ramon Kruschewsky, Giovanni López, Carolina Alvarez, Michael Talledo, Eduardo Gotuzzo, et al.

To cite this version:
Soraya Menezes, Daniele Decanine, David Brassat, Ricardo Khouri, Saul Schnitman, et al.. CD80+ and CD86+ B cells as biomarkers and possible therapeutic targets in HTLV-1 associated myelopathy/tropical spastic paraparesis and multiple sclerosis.. Journal of Neuroinflammation, BioMed Central, 2014, 11 (1), pp.18. 10.1186/1742-2094-11-18. inserm-00945686

HAL Id: inserm-00945686
https://www.hal.inserm.fr/inserm-00945686
Submitted on 12 Feb 2014
CD80<sup>+</sup> and CD86<sup>+</sup> B cells as biomarkers and possible therapeutic targets in HTLV-1 associated myelopathy/tropical spastic paraparesis and multiple sclerosis

Soraya Maria Menezes<sup>1</sup>, Daniele Decanine<sup>2</sup>, David Brassat<sup>3</sup>, Ricardo Khouri<sup>1,2</sup>, Saul V Schnitman<sup>2</sup>, Ramon Kruschewsky<sup>4</sup>, Giovanni Lópeze, Carolina Alvarez<sup>1,3</sup>, Michael Talledo<sup>5</sup>, Eduardo Gotuzzo<sup>5,6</sup>, Anne-Mieke Vandamme<sup>1,7</sup>, Bernardo Galvão-Castro<sup>4,8</sup>, Roland Liblau<sup>3</sup> and Johan Van Weyenbergh<sup>1,2,9</sup>*

Abstract

**Background:** Human T-cell lymphotropic virus (HTLV-1) is the causative agent of the incapacitating, neuroinflammatory disease HTLV-1-associated myelopathy/tropical spastic paraparesis (HAM/TSP). Currently, there are no disease-modifying therapies with long-term clinical benefits or validated biomarkers for clinical follow-up in HAM/TSP. Although CD80 and CD86 costimulatory molecules play prominent roles in immune regulation and reflect disease status in multiple sclerosis (MS), data in HAM/TSP are lacking.

**Methods:** Using flow cytometry, we quantified *ex vivo* and *in vitro* expression of CD80 and CD86 in PBMCs of healthy controls, HTLV-1-infected individuals with and without HAM/TSP, and MS patients. We hypothesized *ex vivo* CD80 and CD86 expressions and their *in vitro* regulation by interferon (IFN)-α/β mirror similarities between HAM/TSP and MS and hence might reveal clinically useful biomarkers in HAM/TSP.

**Results:** *Ex vivo* expression of CD80 and CD86 in T and B cells increased in all HTLV-1 infected individuals, but with a selective defect for B cell CD86 upregulation in HAM/TSP. Despite decreased total B cells with increasing disease duration (*p* = 0.0003, *r* = −0.72), CD80<sup>+</sup> B cells positively correlated with disease severity (*p* = 0.0017, *r* = 0.69) in HAM/TSP. B cell CD80 expression was higher in women with HAM/TSP, underscoring that immune markers can reflect the female predominance observed in most autoimmune diseases. In contrast to MS patients, CD80<sup>+</sup> (*p* = 0.0001) and CD86<sup>+</sup> (*p* = 0.0054) lymphocytes expanded upon *in vitro* culture in HAM/TSP patients. The expansion of CD80<sup>+</sup> and CD86<sup>+</sup> T cells but not B cells was associated with increased proliferation in HTLV-1 infection. *In vitro* treatment with IFN-β but not IFN-α resulted in a pronounced increase of B cell CD86 expression in healthy controls, as well as in patients with neuroinflammatory disease (HAM/TSP and MS), similar to *in vivo* treatment in MS.

**Conclusions:** We propose two novel biomarkers, *ex vivo* CD80<sup>+</sup> B cells positively correlating to disease severity and CD86<sup>+</sup> B cells preferentially induced by IFN-β, which restores defective upregulation in HAM/TSP. This study suggests a role for B cells in HAM/TSP pathogenesis and opens avenues to B cell targeting (with proven clinical benefit in MS) in HAM/TSP but also CD80-directed immunotherapy, unprecedented in both HAM/TSP and MS.

**Keywords:** Neuroinflammatory disease, HTLV-1, Multiple sclerosis, Interferon-alpha/beta, B cell, Costimulatory CD80, CD86, Human, Ex vivo, Disease severity, Gender

* Correspondence: johan@bahia.fiocruz.br

<sup>1</sup>Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Rega Institute for Medical Research, KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

<sup>2</sup>LIML, Gongalo Moniz Research Center (CPqGM), Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (FIOCRUZ), Rua Waldemar Falcão 121, 40296-710 Salvador-Bahia, Brazil

Full list of author information is available at the end of the article

© 2014 Menezes et al; licensee BioMed Central Ltd. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.
Background

Human T-cell lymphotropic virus 1 (HTLV-1) was the first human retrovirus to be isolated [1]. In contrast to HIV, the provirus preferentially replicates through oligo-clonal proliferation of infected cells rather than by new virion production [2]. Although estimates suggest that about 10–20 million people worldwide are HTLV-1 seropositive [3], a recent review by Hlela et al. suggests that this number could be underestimated [4]. While most of the HTLV-1 seropositive individuals remain asymptomatic lifelong, a minority of HTLV-1-infected individuals progress to severe, often fatal disease [5]. The more predominant complications are adult T-cell leukemia/lymphoma (ATL) and HTLV-1-associated myelopathy/tropical spastic paraparesis (HAM/TSP) [5]. This disparity in disease outcome is still not well understood, but is probably determined by the interaction between viral, immune and host genetic factors [6].

HAM/TSP is a chronic progressive inflammatory disorder causing degenerative myelopathy. It evolves progressively from inception, with spastic paraparesis or paraplegia being the principal clinical condition, accompanied by bladder dysfunction and sensory deficit in the lower extremities [5]. The impact of disease severity is presented by two commonly used scales: Kurtzke’s Expanded Disability Status Score (EDSS) [7] and the Osame Motor Disability Score (OMDS) [8]. Given that the host’s immune system is generally considered responsible for inflicting inflammatory damage to the spinal cord [9], various therapeutic approaches, mostly immunomodulators and antivirals, have been adopted in HAM/TSP. Corticosteroids such as prednisolone and hydrocortisone as well as the immunomodulatory cytokine interferon (IFN)-α have shown some clinical benefit [10]. However, effective or disease-modifying therapy is still unavailable [11], as are bona fide biomarkers for disease progression and/or therapeutic failure. Proviral load is currently the most widely used biomarker in HAM/TSP research, although it did not reflect therapeutic response in recent clinical trials using antiretrovirals, valproic acid, or IFN-α or IFN-β [12-15].

An increased T-cell activation, uncontrolled lymphocyte proliferation [16] and proinflammatory cytokine production in HTLV-1-infected subjects have been associated with the development of disease [17]. Ex vivo findings include high proviral load in peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) [18] and proinflammatory cytokines such as tumor necrosis factor (TNF)-α, interleukin (IL)-6 and IFN-γ in the serum and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) [19-21]. Neuropathological analysis revealed T cell (CD4+ and CD8+γ) dominant, mononuclear cell infiltration [9]. In addition to preferential infection of T cells, the virus is also known to infect antigen-presenting cells (APCs), namely dendritic cells, B cells and macrophages, which regulate T cell fate in vivo [22,23]. An inflammatory process depends on T cell activation, which requires engagement of the T cell receptor (TCR) with the MHC-peptide complex presented on the cell surface of APCs. In addition to this antigen-specific stimulation, a second interaction involving a costimulatory molecule, CD28, on T cells and its ligands, CD80 (B7.1) and CD86 (B7.2), on APCs is required for optimal T cell activation [24]. Further, these two signals do not need to be delivered concomitantly for optimum T cell activation [25]. In HAM/TSP patients, costimulatory molecules on APCs induced by viral tax provide constant antigen presentation and costimulation to T cells, leading to intense T cell proliferation and inflammatory responses [26]. Interestingly, expression of CD80 and CD86 is not restricted to APCs, but may be expressed in T cells of HTLV-1-infected individuals [27]. The use of anti-CD80 and anti-CD86 antibodies inhibited spontaneous proliferation of lymphocytes. In addition, simultaneous addition of anti-CD80 and anti-CD86 antibodies inhibited production of IFN-γ, TNF-α and IL-4, with no effect on IL-10 production for both, allo- and autologous T cell proliferation. Taken together, these results suggest that HTLV-infected CD80+/CD86+ T cells could also serve as APCs, enabling a sustained proliferation of T cells [26].

In EAE, a mouse model for MS, the blocking of the costimulatory molecules CD80 and CD86 in peripheral blood cells and the use of CD80/CD86 knockout mice provide evidence of their pathogenic role [28-30]. Interestingly, even reactive astrocytes may potentially share the functions of APCs given their expression of CD80 and CD86 [31]. While data are lacking on the expression of CD80 and CD86 in HTLV-1 infection and pathogenesis, IFN-α enhanced CD80 expression in vitro in myeloid leukemia [32], while IFN-β has been shown to regulate CD80 and CD86 in vivo and in vitro in MS [33,34]. IFN-β treatment also reduced CD80-induced IL-2 producing cells in vitro [35]. Taken as a whole, modulation of CD80 and CD86 costimulatory molecules occurs in different cell types and is postulated to participate in MS pathogenesis.

In addition, in MS, IFN-β, one of the current first-line therapies [36], has been effective in numerous therapeutic trials and has been widely used in the last 2 decades [37,38]. In HAM/TSP, both IFNs have been tested in only a few therapeutic trials [10,14,15,39,40], while their mechanism of action remains enigmatic. We hypothesized that ex vivo expression of CD80 and CD86 as well as the in vitro effects of IFN-α and IFN-β on their expression could reveal biomarkers for possible clinical use in HAM/TSP.

Patients and methods

Sampling

This study was approved by the Ethics Committee of the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (FIOCRUZ), Salvador-Bahia,
Brazil, Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, Lima, Peru, and Hôpital La Pitié-Salpêtrière, Paris, France. A total of 55 individuals, including 23 healthy controls (HCs), 6 HTLV-1-infected individuals without HAM/TSP (asymptomatic carriers, ACs) and 26 HAM/TSP patients (9 men and 17 women) were recruited from two endemic regions (Salvador-Bahia, NorthEast Brazil, and Lima, Peru) following written informed consent. HAM/TSP was diagnosed by the Osame criteria (based on WHO guidelines) [41]. Antibodies to HTLV-I/II were investigated by diagnostic enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA, Cambridge Biotech, Worcester, MA, USA) and confirmed by Western blot capable of discriminating between HTLV-I and HTLV-II (HTLV Blot 2.4, Genelab, Singapore; Abbott Diagnostics, USA; Murex Diagnostics, UK, or Biokit, Spain). Proviral load (which is the viral DNA integrated in the host cellular genome) in HAM/TSP patients and ACs was quantified according to Grassi et al. in Brazil [42] and Aduai et al. in Peru [43]. In the MS cohort, 20 patients with relapsing/remitting MS, 5 of whom had stable disease, analyzed at baseline and 1 month after in vivo treatment with IFN-β1a (30 μg administered intramuscularly, once weekly), were recruited at Hôpital La Pitié-Salpêtrière, Paris, France, following provision of written informed consent.

**Cell culture**

PBMCs were obtained from 5-10 ml of heparinized venous blood by passage over a Ficoll Hypaque gradient (Sigma-Aldrich). PBMCs were washed twice with PBS and resuspended at a concentration of $4 \times 10^6$ cells/ml in RPMI1640 medium supplemented with 2 mM L-glutamine, gentamycin (50 μg/ml) and 10% heat-inactivated fetal calf serum (all from Life Technologies, NY). Cells were plated in 24-well tissue culture plates (Costar, Corning Incorporated, NY) at a concentration of $4 \times 10^6$ cells/ml and incubated at 37°C and 5% CO₂.

**In vitro stimulation** was performed by addition of IFN-α2a (1,000 U/ml) or IFN-β1b (1,000 U/ml), or anti-CD3 as a positive control. Cells were collected at 48 h and stained for flow cytometry.

**Flow cytometry**

For phenotypic analyses, PBMCs were resuspended at a density of 200,000 cells in 50 μl of 1% BSA plus 0.1% sodium azide in PBS and incubated for 30 min on ice with mAbs specific for CD3, CD4, CD8, CD19, CD80, CD86 and the corresponding isotype controls (BD Biosciences). A minimum of 10,000 events per sample was acquired with FACSort and FACS CantoII flow cytometers (BD Biosciences) and analyzed using CellQuest and Diva software, respectively. Figure 1 shows dot plots of a representative HAM/TSP patient to indicate the gating strategy for CD80 and CD86 quantification in B and T cells. For proliferation analysis, after 48 h of in vitro culture, PBMCs were stained with the antibody cocktail (listed above) and Hoechst 33342 and incubated for 15 min in the dark at room temperature before acquisition. Proliferating (tetraploid, 4n) lymphocytes were quantified in specific (CD80⁺ and CD86⁺ T and B cell) gates based on MFI of Hoechst 33342, which is twice that of the diploid (2n) gate, representing lymphocytes with normal DNA content. Doublets (gated using width vs. area dot plots) and sub-diploid/apoptotic cells (gated using DNA content vs. side scatter) were excluded.

**Statistical analysis**

The use of parametric versus non-parametric tests was decided based upon the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test for normality. These included paired and unpaired $t$ test,
repeated measures ANOVA with Bonferroni’s multiple comparison test or Kruskal-Wallis test with Dunn’s post test, Spearman’s correlation analysis and receiver-operator characteristic (ROC) curve analysis. All tests were two-tailed, and differences were considered significant at $p$ values <0.05.

**Results**

**Clinical and demographic data**

All HTLV-1 infected individuals were serologically positive for HTLV-1 and negative for HTLV-2. The median proviral load was 2,782 copies/10^5 PBMCs (range: 6.3–3,805 copies/10^8 PBMCs).

The mean age of HAM/TSP patients was 49.5 ± 2.1 years (range: 27–64 years) and mean duration of disease was 7.0 ± 1 years (range: 0.8–20 years). EDSS ranged from 3–7 (mean 4.8 ± 0.3). For a subgroup of Brazilian patients, the Osame Motor Disability Scale was also available. We observed a significant positive correlation between Kurtzke’s EDSS score and the Osame score ($p = 0.001$, $r = 0.81$, $n = 12$), similar to the findings of Olindo et al. in a group of 100 patients from the French WestIndies [44]. The mean age of HCs was 33.9 ± 3.8 years (range 23.6–43.8 years), while that of ACs was 40 ± 7.8 years (range 9–64 years).

**Increased ex vivo frequency of CD80⁺ and CD86⁺ lymphocytes in HTLV-1-infected individuals and selective loss of B cell CD86 upregulation in HAM/TSP patients**

We quantified the surface expression of CD80 and CD86 in T and B lymphocytes in HCs ($n = 15$), ACs ($n = 6$) and HAM/TSP patients ($n = 21$) by flow cytometry. As shown in Figure 2, we observed a significant increase in the percentage of ex vivo CD80⁺ T cells (CD3⁺CD19⁻) as well as CD86⁺ T cells between infected and uninfected subjects. Furthermore, CD80⁺ B cells (CD3⁺CD19⁺) were significantly enhanced in HTLV-1-infected individuals when compared to HCs. Interestingly, there was a significant increase in CD86⁺ B cells only in ACs but not in HAM/TSP patients when compared to HCs, indicating a selective loss in HTLV-1 upregulation of B cell CD86 upon disease progresssion to HAM/TSP. However, expression of CD80 and CD86 on a per-cell basis, as mean fluorescence intensity (MFI), did not differ significantly among HCs, ACs and patients in either cell type (data not shown).

In addition, in HAM/TSP patients, we observed a positive correlation between the ex vivo expression of CD80 and CD86 in T cells ($p = 0.039$, $r = 0.50$, $n = 18$) but not in B cells ($p > 0.05, n = 17$) (data not shown). This implies that CD80 and CD86 expression may be differentially regulated in HAM/TSP only, since there was no significant correlation in ex vivo expression of CD80 and CD86 in any cell type in HCs and ACs (data not shown).

**CD80⁺ B cell expression is positively correlated to disease severity and is gender biased in HAM/TSP patients**

To explore the possible clinical relevance of increased CD80 and CD86 on B and T cells, we correlated flow cytometry results to clinical and demographic patient data. We observed that the percentage (but not MFI) of CD80-expressing B cells but not CD80-expressing T cells or total lymphocytes positively correlated with disease severity as measured by Kurtzke’s EDSS ($r = 0.73$, $n = 18$) (Figure 3A). Expression of CD86 (either as % or as MFI) in B or T cells as well as total lymphocytes did not correlate to disease severity (data not shown). Interestingly, the ratio of CD86:CD80 expression in B cells but not in T cells correlated negatively to disease severity in HAM/TSP patients ($r = -0.50$, $n = 18$) (Additional file 1: Figure S1), implying a possible antagonism between the

---

**Figure 2** Increased ex vivo expression of CD80 and CD86 in T and B cells of HAM/TSP patients and HTLV-1 asymptomatic carriers (ACs). CD80 and CD86 expression in (A) T (CD3⁺) cells and (B) B (CD19⁺) cells of HCs ($n = 15$), ACs ($n = 6$) and HAM/TSP patients ($n = 21$) were quantified using flow cytometry. (*$p < 0.05$, **$p < 0.01$, ***$p < 0.001$; Kruskal-Wallis test with Dunn’s multiple comparison post test).
two costimulatory molecules, as previously suggested by Genç et al. in MS patients [33]. Further, the percentage of total CD19+ B cells negatively correlated to disease duration (r = −0.72) (Figure 3B) but not to age or EDSS. Notably, proviral load, disease duration and age did not correlate to disease severity (data not shown). Therefore, the increase in CD80 expression in B cells in HAM/TSP patients, which occurs despite a decrease in total B cell levels, likely reflects disease progression rather than prolonged infection or disease duration. Our findings in HAM/TSP patients are highly similar to those in MS patients. We observed a significant increase in CD80 expression in B cells of MS patients with both active and non-active disease as compared to HCs (Figure 4), in agreement with Genç et al. [33]. Given the decrease in total B cell levels in HAM/TSP patients (Figure 3B), we used relative CD80 B cell expression (CD80+:CD19+ ratio) in HAM/TSP and absolute values of CD80-expressing B cells (CD19+:CD80+) in MS. Using receiver-operating characteristic (ROC) curves, we found that the CD80+:CD19+ ratio and CD19+:CD80+ levels could discriminate between patients with impaired mobility in HAM/TSP (p = 0.0010, AUC = 0.96) and patients with active MS (p = 0.0077, AUC = 0.88), respectively. The best performing cutoffs were 0.23 for the CD80+:CD19+ ratio and 8.4% for CD19+:CD80+, respectively (Additional file 2: Figure S2 A, B).

In addition, the percentage of CD80+ B cells but not CD80+ T cells or CD80+ total lymphocytes was significantly higher (2.3 fold) in female (n = 14) versus male (n = 7) patients (Figure 5A), whereas CD86 expression was not significantly different between female and male patients in any lymphocyte population (Figure 5A and data not shown). There is a predominance of HAM/TSP in women [45], who were also found to have more severe
disease and to progress faster [46]. However, the association of CD80⁺ B cells with both female gender and disease severity was not interdependent. As shown in Figure 5B, CD80⁺ B cell levels corrected for EDSS were still significantly higher in female vs. male HAM/TSP patients (**p = 0.0054, unpaired t test). It would be interesting to confirm these findings in HAM/TSP patients of other endemic regions as well as in large MS cohorts.

**CD80⁺ and CD86⁺ lymphocytes expand upon in vitro culture in HAM/TSP but not MS patients**

The decrease in *ex vivo* total CD19⁺ B cells in HAM/TSP patients over time (Figure 3B) somehow contrasts with the observed *ex vivo* increase in CD80⁺ B cells. Hence, increased CD80 levels in B cells could be due to proliferation of a specific B cell subset in HAM/TSP. Low but detectable proliferation of total B cells has been demonstrated *in vitro* for HAM/TSP patients [47,48], albeit significantly lower than that of CD8, CD4 or NK cells [47]. Therefore, we examined the effect of *in vitro* culture upon CD80 and CD86 expression as compared to *ex vivo* levels.

As shown in Figure 6A and B, in HAM/TSP patients, at 48 h of *in vitro* culture, we observed a significant (2.2-fold) increase in CD80⁺ lymphocytes and a significant (3.2-fold) increase in CD86⁺ lymphocytes versus *ex vivo* levels. In contrast, only CD80, but not CD86, expression in HCs (and neither CD80 nor CD86 expression in ACs) was increased upon *in vitro* culture. However, the ratio of CD86:CD80 in HCs, ACs and HAM/TSP patients did not alter significantly upon *in vitro* culture (data not shown). In both HCs and HAM/TSP patients, B cells were the main *in vitro* reservoir of CD80⁺ and CD86⁺ lymphocytes (data not shown), in agreement with previous results observed by Genç et al. in MS patients and...
HCs [33]. Since we observed an *in vitro* expansion in CD80$^+$ and CD86$^+$ lymphocytes in HAM/TSP, we investigated whether a similar phenomenon occurred in MS. However, there was no significant expansion in either the percentage or MFI of CD80 or CD86 in either B cells or total lymphocytes in *in vitro* culture of PBMCs of MS patients (Figure 6A and B). As such, *in vitro* expansion of these subpopulations is not common to neuroinflammatory diseases but rather a HAM/TSP-specific phenomenon. Regarding the role of the virus, the *in vitro* increase in CD80$^+$ T cells (but not CD86$^+$ T or CD80$^+$/CD86$^+$ B cells) was significantly correlated to the proviral load in both HTLV-1 infected individuals ($p = 0.013$, Spearman’s $r = 0.66$, $n = 13$) and HAM/TSP patients ($p = 0.0046$, Spearman’s $r = 0.91$, $n = 8$). In contrast, spontaneous lymphoproliferation in HAM/TSP patients, as measured by $[^3H]$-thymidine incorporation, was positively correlated to all four lymphocyte subsets, i.e., CD80$^+$ and CD86$^+$ T and B lymphocytes (data not shown). Therefore, we analyzed specific T and B cell subsets for short-term (48-h) spontaneous proliferation using a sensitive flow cytometric assay. This short-term assay allowed simultaneous, single-cell analysis of CD80, CD86 and proliferation in both B and T cells (Figure 7A) and also eliminated the possible bias of selective B or T cell apoptosis during long-term (5-day) *in vitro* culture using $[^3H]$-thymidine incorporation. As shown in Figure 7B, proliferation of the CD80$^+$ T cell subset in HAM/TSP patients, but not in ACs, was significantly higher than in HCs. On the other hand,

![Figure 7](http://www.jneuroinflammation.com/content/11/1/18)

**Figure 7** Increased proliferation of CD80$^+$ and CD86$^+$ T cell subsets but not B cell subsets between HCs, ACs and HAM/TSP patients. (A) PBMCs were cultivated *in vitro* for 48 h, and anti-CD3, anti-CD19, anti-CD80, anti-CD86 mAbs and Hoechst 33342 (DNA dye) staining was quantified using flow cytometry. Tetraploid (4n, proliferating) cells were gated on CD80$^+$ or CD86$^+$ expressing subsets of T (CD3$^+$CD19$^-$) cells or B (CD3$^-$CD19$^+$) cells. (B,C) Proliferating CD80$^+$ T cells were significantly increased in HAM/TSP vs. HCs only (B), whereas there was no significant difference in proliferation in any B cell subset (C). ($n = 3$ for HCs and $n = 5$ for ACs and HAM/TSP patients, Kruskal-Wallis with Dunn’s multiple comparison post test, $*p < 0.05$).
proliferation of the CD86+ T cell subset in ACs, but not in patients, was significantly higher than in HCs. This once more suggests a differential, i.e., deleterious vs. protective, regulation of both costimulatory molecules. We found no significant difference in proliferation of CD80+ or CD86+ B cell subsets between HCs, ACs and HAM/TSP patients (Figure 7C). Taken together, these results imply that increased ex vivo T cell CD80 and CD86 expression (Figure 2A) reflects increased proliferation of CD80+/CD86+ T cell subsets, whereas increased ex vivo B cell CD80 expression in both HTLV-1 infected individuals and HAM/TSP patients (Figure 2B) is probably not mediated by increased proliferation of the CD80+ B cell subset.

**IFN-β preferentially stimulates B cell CD86 expression in HCs and HAM/TSP patients**

In both HCs and HAM/TSP patients, percentages of CD80+ or CD86+ total lymphocytes as well as T and B cells did not increase significantly on treatment with IFN-α or IFN-β (data not shown), whereas the increase in MFI was more pronounced. As shown in Figure 8A and B, stimulation with IFN-α or IFN-β was unable to significantly modulate CD80+ B lymphocyte expression (MFI) in HCs as well as in HAM/TSP patients. On the other hand, IFN-β but not IFN-α significantly enhanced CD86 B lymphocyte expression (MFI) in both HCs and HAM/TSP patients. Upon IFN-β stimulation, the induction of CD86 expression (MFI) was comparable in both groups, namely HCs (1.9 fold) and HAM/TSP patients (2.2 fold). Similarly, in both groups the HCs and HAM/TSP patients, there was a significant increase in the ratio of CD86:CD80 in B lymphocytes with IFN-β (p = 0.011 and p = 0.019, respectively) with a similar fold increase (1.6 fold and 1.7 fold, respectively). No significant increase was observed in the ratio for IFN-α in either HCs or HAM/TSP patients (p > 0.20 for both, data not shown).

To investigate the in vivo relevance of our in vitro data, we compared the in vivo and in vitro effect of IFN-β in MS patients. In keeping with Genc et al. [33,49], after 1 month of in vivo treatment with IFN-β, we observed a 1.72-fold decrease in the percentage of CD80+ B lymphocytes (p = 0.089) and a 1.5-fold increase in the percentage of CD86+ B lymphocytes (p < 0.0001) but not in total lymphocytes. In addition, upon in vitro treatment with IFN-β, the percentage of CD80+ T lymphocytes was downregulated in five of six MS patients (p < 0.0001), while the CD86+ B lymphocyte level was highly variable (data not shown), similar to the observations of Ramgolam et al. [50]. Thus, both in vivo and in vitro IFN-β treatment can decrease CD19+CD80+ and increase CD19+CD86+ B cells in MS patients, but with a strikingly high inter-patient variability consistent with previous studies [33,50]. Given this strong inter-patient variability, we recalculated IFN stimulation as % of control baseline values (MFI IFN-stimulated:MFI un-stimulated cells) to enable a direct comparison between patient groups. We observed a highly similar in vitro response (mean % increase ± SEM) to IFN-β for CD80, CD86 and another IFN-regulated (Rep et al., 1999; Van Weyenbergh et al., 2001) surface molecule (Fas/CD95, data not shown) in both HAM/TSP and MS patients. This reveals that, despite immune dysregulation in patients with neuroinflammatory disease, the immunomodulatory potential of IFN-β is unaltered.

**Discussion**

Until now, there have been no validated biomarkers for clinical monitoring of HAM/TSP patients for either disease progression or therapeutic response to any of the drugs currently used. The biomarkers proposed thus far...
in HAM/TSP either have conflicting results (as observed in proviral load and viral tax mRNA) or remain to be validated in other cohorts, namely viral HBZ mRNA [51] and host CD4+CD25+CCR4+Foxp3 IFN-γ+ T cells [52]. We hypothesized that ex vivo expression of CD80 and CD86 as well as the in vitro effects of IFN-α and IFN-β on their expression could reveal biomarkers for possible clinical use in HAM/TSP. In this study, which is the first to recruit HAM/TSP patients from two endemic countries (Brazil and Peru), we reveal CD80+ B cells as a novel host biomarker for disease severity (Figure 3A), while highlighting a possible protective role for CD86+ B cells, which are preferentially upregulated by IFN-β in HAM/TSP, both uncorrelated to proviral load.

B cell-expressed CD80/CD86 has been shown to drive pathogenesis in autoimmunity [53-55]. Despite their largely overlapping functions in T cell activation and immune upregulation in autoimmunity [28], CD80 and CD86 on APCs also play additionally distinct roles, which cannot be substituted for by the other [56,57]. In murine models of graft arterial disease [58] and sepsis [59], CD80 is associated with proinflammatory cytokine stimulation, while CD86 plays a protective role mediated through IL-4 [58] or IL-10 [60] production. Further, CD80 and CD86 are differentially regulated in different tissue compartments [54,61] as well as cell types ([33], this study). Given the increase in CD80+ B cells in the CSF of MS patients [62,63], migration of CD80+ B cells from peripheral blood into the CNS is an intriguing possibility in HAM/TSP. In MS patients, increased B cell CD80 expression corresponds to exacerbations [33], and pronounced expression of CD80 i has been demonstrated in early active plaques [64]. In addition, a recent genome-wide association study implicated CD80, but more strongly CD86, in MS susceptibility [65]. CD80 is thought to play a key role in persistent infections or chronic inflammatory conditions [66], while CD86 plays a dominant role in initiating immune reactions [67]. Although not demonstrated in HTLV-1 infected patients, a positive correlation between spontaneous lymphoproliferation and CD80 expression was observed in HTLV-2-infected patients [26], indicating a possible mechanism for simultaneous upregulation of both deleterious candidate biomarkers, IFN-γ [52] and CD80 [this study], in HAM/TSP pathogenesis. Among other cytokines, proinflammatory IFN-γ transcripts are upregulated in HAM/TSP patients and seropositive carriers when compared to HCs [68]. In vitro studies in PBMCs of HAM/TSP patients and HTLV-1 carriers have indicated that drugs targeting TNF-α resulted in concomitant lowering of IFN-γ [69], implying that a common mechanism, at least in part, regulates the two cytokines. As discussed by Moens et al., miR-155 could serve as a candidate molecule to modulate IFN-γ production in HAM/TSP patients in parallel to its pathogenic role in MS and EAE [70]. In MS, endogenous IFN-γ significantly correlates to disability [71], and exogenous IFN-γ causes disease exacerbation [72]. Blocking B7-mediated activation causes long-term inhibition in EAE [73]. More specifically, blocking of CD80 inhibits EAE, while blocking of CD86 may even aggravate disease [29,55]. Finally, only CD80 interacts with PD-L1, which is required for the maintenance of peripheral T cell tolerance [74] and participates in EAE pathogenesis [75]. Taken together, in both autoimmune and infectious diseases a substantial amount of data is available on the differential regulation of CD80 vs. CD86, supporting our hypothesis of deleterious and protective roles for CD80+ and CD86+ B cells, respectively, in HAM/TSP pathogenesis.

Two possible mechanisms might be responsible for the observed differential expression of CD80/CD86 in B cells, either de novo synthesis induced by host transcription factors and/or viral transactivator tax and HBZ or a selective proliferation of CD80+ vs. CD86+ B cells. Some of the principal players among host transcriptional factors are interferon regulatory factor (IRF)-1, nuclear factor (NF)-κB, and signal transducer and activator of transcription (STAT)-1. IRF-1 [32] as well as NF-κB [76] exert transcriptional control in upregulating CD80. Increased proinflammatory IFN-γ is capable of inducing IRF-1 directly or via STAT-1 [77]. Further, IFN-γ is capable of a five-fold induction of STAT-1 and IRF-1 in B cells [78], while stimuli such as TNF activating the NF-κB pathway [79,80] could account for CD80 upregulation. On the other hand, the CD86 gene promoter contains two STAT-1 binding sites, which might explain its upregulation by IFNs [81]. We therefore hypothesize a relationship between the two host cell biomarkers associated with HAM/TSP disease severity: CD4+CD25+CCR4+Foxp3 IFN-γ+ [52] and CD19+CD80+ cells (this study). It is plausible that CD4+CD25+CCR4+Foxp3 IFN-γ+ cells could influence the upregulation of CD80 in B cells through IFN-γ stimulation. In MS, it has been shown that endogenous IFN-γ significantly correlates to disability [71] and exogenous IFN-γ causes disease exacerbation [82].

As shown in Figure 9, we propose a scheme integrating the proposed viral and host biomarkers for HAM/TSP disease severity that might help explain differential CD80 and CD86 expression. The regulation and interplay between these host factors could be driven by viral tax or HBZ. Although data on the role of HBZ in HAM/TSP have been scarce, Saito et al. recently demonstrated a positive correlation between HBZ mRNA and disease severity [51]. This increase in the HBZ mRNA level could likely entail an increase in HBZ protein, either of which may be involved in HAM/TSP pathogenesis based upon their differential role in ATL [83]. On the other
hand, tax is thought to be responsible for NF-κB activation [84]. Tax contributes greatly to inflammatory reactions related to the CNS because of the overexpression of TNF-α and IFN-γ [85-87]. The increase in CD80+ B cells could thus be driven by tax in an IFN-γ/IRF-1- or TNF-α/NF-κB-dependent manner. Therefore, it would be interesting to determine whether CD4+CD25+CCR4+Foxp3+ IFN-γ+ cells could be (a subset of) the T cells expressing CD80 or CD86, given their role in EAE [88]. We found that in vitro proliferation of HAM/TSP PBMCs positively correlates to both CD80+CD3+ and CD86+CD3+ cells (Van Weyenbergh et al., unpublished data). However, since neither CD80+ nor CD86+ T cells correlated to disease severity, the CD4+CD25+CCR4+Foxp3+ IFN-γ+ cells are probably a distinct T cell population. Given that B cells proliferate to a lesser extent than T and NK cells [47], the observed increase in CD80/CD86 expression in B cells might be due to de novo expression rather than B cell proliferation, as suggested by Figure 7C. Several mechanisms might account for the observed increase in ex vivo and/or in vitro expression of CD80/CD86. For instance, (1) induction of anti-inflammatory type I IFN, which upregulates CD80/CD86 [32,33,89], (2) elevation of proinflammatory IFN-γ levels [17,90] or (3) a delicate cytokine balance regulated by the two types of IFNs driving the expansion of CD80+/CD86+ lymphocytes. HTLV-1 virions infecting pDCs produce endogenous IFN-α [91], which might upregulate B cell CD86 expression in vivo. The continuous arrows and inhibition lines indicate published data, while the discontinuous lines indicate hypothetical links drawn from this study. The proinflammatory molecules/cells are in shades of brown/red, while anti-inflammatory molecules/cells are in shades of green. Proposed biomarkers for HAM/TSP are enclosed in boxes.
for a direct, quantitative and qualitative comparison between both cytokines (IFN-α and IFN-β), which has not been previously carried out in HAM/TSP. In vivo treatment with IFN-α has shown clinical benefits in HAM/TSP patients [10,14,15,39,40]. IFN-α studies have mainly focused on T cell subsets and cytokines, indicating a decrease in the ratio of CD4+CD8 cells, particularly the CD4+CD25+ and CD4+CD45RO+ T subsets [93]. Few studies have addressed the biological and immunoregulatory properties of IFN-β in the context of HTLV-1 infection. Nonetheless, the pleiotropic effects of IFN-β are thought to play a protective role in host mononuclear cells upon in vitro infection [94,95]. In vivo, in HAM/TSP, the only IFN-β1a trial thus far resulted in amelioration of motor functions with a corresponding decrease in spontaneous lymphoproliferation, tax mRNA as well as HTLV-1-specific CD8+ cells [15]. However, to date, no studies have investigated the effect of IFN-α or IFN-β on B cells in HAM/TSP patients. In contrast, data on the mechanisms of action of IFN-β in vivo are abundant in MS [96-98], with IFN-β therapy effectively upregulating CD86 in monocytes and B cells [33,34,89,99] while downregulating CD80 in vivo [49] but not in vitro [33]. This discrepancy might be due to an IFN-γ-mediated mechanism, since IFN-γ aggravated disease [72], while IFN-β resulted in clinical benefit [37], and reduced serum IFN-γ levels [100]. In vitro, IFN-β not only downregulates IFN-γ [100,101], but also antagonizes the effect of IFN-γ upon CD64 [102] and MHC class II expression [29].

Despite IFN-α and IFN-β engaging the same receptors, differential outcomes of stimulation can be attributed to their different affinities and rate constants of interaction with IFN type I receptor subunits, IFN-α receptor (IFNAR) 1 and IFNAR2 [107,108], and the differential use of the beta subunit of IFNAR1 [109]. Recently, de Weerd et al. provided structural evidence of the specific binding of IFN-β to IFNAR1 in an IFNAR2-independent manner [110]. Further, IFN-α and IFN-β lead to differential downregulation and routing of IFNAR2 [107]. The tyrosine kinases required for IFNα/β-mediated STAT-1 activation, tyrosine kinase (Tyk) 2 and Janus kinase (Jak) 1, are associated with their substrate type I interferon receptor chains, IFNAR1 and IFNAR2, respectively [111]. Genetic deletion of Jak1 results in the inability to respond to IFN-α or IFN-β [112]. In contrast, deletion of Tyk2 causes a complete lack of IFNα responsiveness [113], whereas IFN-β can still elicit a limited signaling response in the absence of Tyk2 [114]. Interestingly, Tyk2 is also an MS susceptibility gene [115]. Selective IFN-β-induced activation of Jak1 and higher STAT-1 phosphorylation upon IFN-β vs. IFN-α treatment were observed [116] in both human myocardial fibroblasts and vascular endothelial cells [117], and a superior antiproliferative effect of IFN-β over IFN-α was shown in Ewing’s sarcoma cells in vitro [118]. Preferential induction of CD86 over CD80 in vivo has been demonstrated in a mouse model for influenza infection, in which type I IFN-mediated signals were responsible for upregulation of CD86 in B cells [119]. In addition, CD86 upregulation in human immunodeficiency virus as well as simian immunodeficiency virus co-infection of dendritic cells in vitro was IFN-β but not IFN-α-dependent [120]. IFN-β-deficient or interferon type I receptor-deficient (IFNAR-/-) mice developed more severe EAE, reinforcing a protective role for type I IFN [121,122].

Similar to our results, a recently identified CD11b+CD11c+B220+CD21 B cell population was predominant in female aged and autoimmune disease-prone mice in response to TLR-7 signaling [123]. Interestingly, regulatory B cells secreting IL-10 have been shown to play a protective role in EAE [124] and MS [125], but the possible relationship between regulatory B cells and CD80 vs. CD86 B cell expression is still undefined.

Finally, our results encourage future clinical trials with IFN-β in HAM/TSP and open up avenues to B cell- or CD80-directed therapies in HAM/TSP. Low numbers of circulating B cells and a corresponding increase in the T: B ratio have been previously reported in HAM/TSP patients [126]. Furukawa et al. observed an ex vivo increase in phosphatidylserine exposure in B cells of HAM/TSP patients, which was reversible upon in vitro culture [48]. To date, these have been the only investigations with regard to B cells in HAM/TSP. However, B cell depletion has provided clinical benefit in rheumatoid arthritis as well as MS [111-115]. Anti-CD20 therapy depleted activated B cells in PBMCs and CSF, downregulated proinflammatory cytokine responses of CD4+ and CD8+ cells [127,128], reduced inflammatory brain lesions [129,130], and lowered CSF T and B cell levels. In addition to anti-CD20 antibodies, anti-CD80 antibodies might represent a novel therapeutic option in both HAM/TSP and MS. Anti-CD80 clinical trials have demonstrated clinical benefit with no severe adverse effects in both psoriasis [131] and CD80+ B cell lymphoma [132], providing proof of concept for in vivo targeting of CD80 in human disorders.

**Conclusion**

We propose two novel biomarkers for future clinical use in HAM/TSP: CD80+ B cells positively correlating to disease severity and CD86+ B cells preferentially induced by IFN-β. Our results reveal B cell immunotherapy (with proven clinical benefit in MS) to be a plausible therapeutic alternative in HAM/TSP and also suggest CD80-directed immunotherapy, unprecedented in both HAM/TSP and MS.
Additional files

**Additional file 1: Figure S1.** Correlation between CD86:CD80 ratio in B cells and disease severity. Ratio of the ex vivo levels of CD86 and CD80 in B cells negatively correlated to Kurtzke’s EDSS. (r = 0.50, both the ratio CD86:80 and EDSS are normally distributed, n = 18).

**Additional file 2: Figure S2.** CD80 levels discriminate patients with impaired mobility in HAM/TSP and MS. (A) Ex vivo CD80:CD19 ratio greater than 0.23 (green filled circle, A) (ROC curve, 0.0010, AUC = 0.96) differentiate HAM/TSP patients with EDSS greater >4 (n = 10) from those with EDSS ≤4 (n = 8). (B) Ex vivo levels of CD19:CD80* cells greater than 8.4% (green filled circle, B) (ROC curve, 0.0023, AUC = 0.85) differentiate patients with active MS (n = 6) from patients with non-active MS (n = 10).

Competing interest

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Authors’ contributions

SMM carried out most experiments, analyzed data and wrote the manuscript. DD carried out initial HAM/TSP in vitro experiments. DB provided MS patient samples. RRh carried out flow cytometry experiments. SVS carried out initial ex vivo experiments and collected HAM/TSP clinical data. RRh diagnosed and followed Brazilian HAM/TSP patients. LG quantified the proviral load and assisted with in vitro experiments. CA provided Peruvian HAM/TSP patient samples. MT coordinated experimental work in Peru. EG coordinated the Peruvian patient cohort. AMV participated in the study design and helped to draft the manuscript. BGC coordinated the Brazilian patient cohort. RL diagnosed and critically reading the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

Acknowledgements

This research was supported by Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPq), Brazil, Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek – Flanders (FWO) grant G.0778.10N, VLIR-UOS project ZEIN2010PR376 and the ‘Leerstoel voor Wetenschappelijk onderzoek over infectiesken in ontwikkelingslanden’ from KU Leuven, Belgium. The authors thank Prof. Dr. Charles Bangham, Imperial College London, for critically reading the manuscript.

Author details

1 Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Rega Institute for Medical Research, KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium. 
2 IMPP, Gonzalo Moniz Research Center (CPGQM), Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (IOC/CRUZ), Rua Waldemar Falcão 121, 40296-710 Salvador-Bahia, Brazil. 
3 INSERM UMR1043 and Pôle des Neurosciences, Hôpital Purpan, Université de Toulouse, Toulouse, France. 
4 Bahiana School of Medicine and Public Health, Salvador-Bahia, Brazil. 
5 Instituto de Medicina Tropical Alexander von Humboldt, Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, Lima, Peru. 
6 Departamento de Medicina, Facultad de Medicina Alberto Hurtado, Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, Lima, Peru. 
7 Instituto de Higiene e Medicina Tropical, Centro de Malária e outras Doenças Tropicais e Unidade de Microbiologia, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal. 
8 LASP, CPQGM-FIOCRRUZ, Salvador-Bahia, Brazil. 
9 Institute for Immunological Investigation (II-INCI), São Paulo, Brazil.

Received: 15 July 2013 Accepted: 13 January 2014 Published: 29 January 2014

References

1. Poiesz BJ, Russett FW, Gazdar AF, Bunn PA, Minna JD, Gallo RC. Detection and isolation of type C retrovirus particles from fresh and cultured lymphocytes of a patient with cutaneous T-cell lymphoma. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A 1980; 77:7415–7419.
2. Wattel E, Vartanian JP, Pannetier C, Wain-Hobson S. Clonal expansion of human T-cell leukemia virus type I-infected cells in asymptomatic and symptomatic carriers without malignancy. J Virol 1995; 69:2863–2868.
3. de The G, Bombord R. An HTLV-I vaccine: why, how, for whom? AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses 1993; 9:381–388.
4. Hlela C, Shepperd S, Khumalo NP, Taylor GP. The prevalence of human T-cell lymphotropic virus type 1 in the general population is unknown. AIDS Rev 2009; 11:205–214.
5. Verdonck K, Gonzalez E, Van Dooren S, Vandamme AM, Vanham G, Gotuzzo E: Human T-lymphotropic virus 1: recent knowledge about an ancient infection. Lancet Infect Dis 2007; 7:265–274.
6. Bangham CR. The immune control and cell-to-cell spread of human T-lymphotropic virus type 1. J Gen Virol 2003; 84:3177–3189.
7. Kurtke JF. Rating neurologic impairment in multiple sclerosis: an expanded disability status scale (EDSS). Neurology 1983; 33:1444–1452.
8. Osame M, Igata A, Matsumoto M, et al. HTLV-I-associated myelopathy (HAM): treatment trials, retrospective survey, and clinical and laboratory findings. Hematol 1993; 3:271–294.
9. Umehara F, Izumo S, Nakagawa M, Ronquillo AT, Takahashi K, Matsumuro K, Sato E, Osame M. Immunocytochemical analysis of the cellular infiltrate in the spinal cord lesions in HTLV-I-associated myelopathy. J Neuropathol Exp Neurol 1993; 52:424–430.
10. Nakagawa M, Nakahara K, Maruyama Y, Kawabata M, Higuchi I, Kubota H, Izumo S, Aritura K, Osame M. Therapeutic trials in 200 patients with HTLV-I-associated myelopathy/tropical spastic paraparesis. J Neurol 1996; 243:345–355.
11. Oh U, Jacobson S. Rating neurologic impairment in HTLV-I-associated myelopathy/tropical spastic paraparesis: toward rational targeted therapy. J Neurol Clin 2008; 26:781–797. ix.
12. Lezin A, Gillot N, Olindo S, Signere A, Grandvaux N, Virellet O, Belrose G, De Canavale BM, Hiscott J, Arquilt B, et al. Histone deacetylase-mediated transcriptional activation reduces proviral loads in HTLV-I-associated myelopathy/tropical spastic paraparesis patients. Blood 2007; 110:3722–3728.
13. Taylor GP, Goon P, Furukawa Y, Green H, Barfied A, Mosley A, Nose H, Babbiker A, Rudge P, Usuku K, et al. Zidovudine plus lamivudine in human T-lymphotropic virus type-I-associated myelopathy: a randomised trial. Retrovirology 2006; 3:65.
14. Rafatpanah H, Rezaee A, Etemadi MM, Hosseini RF, Afshar L, Taylor G, Mohbker N, Mahmoudi M, Abbaszadehan MR, et al. The impact of interferon-alfa treatment on clinical and immunovirological aspects of HTLV-I-associated myelopathy in northeast of Iran. J Neuromed 2012, 25087–93.
15. Oh U, Yamano Y, Mora CA, Ohayon J, Bagnato F, Butman JA, Dambrosia J, Leist TP, McFarland H, Jacobson S. Interferon-beta1a therapy in human T-lymphotropic virus type-I-associated neurologic disease. Ann Neurol 2005; 57:526–534.
16. Furukawa Y, Fujiwasa J, Osame M, Toita M, Sonoda S, Kubota R, Ijichi S, Yoshida M. Frequent clonal proliferation of human T-cell leukemia virus type 1 (HTLV-I)-infected T cells in HTLV-I-associated myelopathy (HAM-TSP). Blood 1992; 80:1012–1016.
17. Tierdier CL, Greenberg GB, Burton JD, Danielou D, Kim SJ, Blattner WA, Manns A, Waldmann TA. Cytokine induction in HTLV-I associated myelopathy and adult T-cell leukemia: alternate molecular mechanisms underlying retroviral pathogenesis. J Cell Biochem 1991; 46:302–311.
18. Nagai M, Usuku K, Matsumoto W, Kodama D, Takenouchi N, Moriyato T, Hashiguchi S, Kinose M, Bangham CR, Izumo S, Osame M. Analysis of HTLV-I proviral load in 202 HAM/TSP patients and 243 asymptomatic HTLV-I carriers: high proviral load strongly predisposes to HAM/TSP. J Neurol 1998; 248:596–593.
19. Kuroda Y, Matsui M. Cerebrospinal fluid interferon-gamma is increased in HTLV-I-associated myelopathy. J Neuromed 1993; 42:223–226.
20. Nakamura S, Nagano I, Yoshikawa M, Shimaoka S, Nodera J, Kogure K. Detection of tumor necrosis factor-alpha-positive cells in cerebrospinal fluid of patients with HTLV-I-associated myelopathy. J Neuromed 1993; 42:127–130.
21. Nishimoto N, Yoshizaki K, Iraiki N, Machigashka K, Tagoh H, Ogata A, Kuritani T, Osame M, Kishimoto T. Elevated levels of interleukin-6 in serum and cerebrospinal fluid of HTLV-I-associated myelopathy/tropical spastic paraparesis. J Neurol Sci 1990; 97:183–193.
22. Jones KS, Petrov-Sadowski C, Huang YK, Bertolino DC, Russett FW. Cell-free HTLV-I infects dendritic cells leading to transmission and transformation of CD4(+) T cells. Nat Med 2008; 14:429–436.
23. Koyanagi Y, Itoyama Y, Nakamura N, Takamatsu K, Kira J, Iwamasa T, Goto I, Yamamoto N. In vivo infection of human T-cell leukemia virus type I in non-T cells. Virology 1993; 196:25–33.
25. Pardigon N, Camborius C, Bercovici N, Lemaître F, Liblau R, Koutilisky P. Delayed and separate cotimation in vitro supports the evidence of a transient “excited” state of CD8+ T cells during activation. J Immunol 2000, 164:4493–4499.

26. Lal RB, Rudolph DL, Dezzutti CS, Lindsey PS, Prince HE. Costimulatory effects of T cell proliferation during infection with human T lymphotropic virus types I and II are mediated through CD80 and CD86 ligands. J Immunol 1996, 157:1288–1296.

27. Takamoto T, Makino M, Azuma M, Kanazaki T, Baba M, Sonoda S: HTLV-I-infected T cells activate autologous CD4+ T cells susceptible to HTLV-I infection in a costimulatory molecule-dependent fashion. Eur J Immunol 1997, 27:1427–1432.

28. Chang TT, Jabs C, Sobel RA, Kuchroo VK, Sharpe AH. Studies in B7-deficient mice reveal a critical role for B7 costimulation in both induction and effector phases of experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis. J Exp Med 1999, 190:733–740.

29. Racke MK, Scott DE, Quigley L, GS, Abe R, June CH, Perrin PJ: Distinct roles for B7-1 (CD-80) and B7-2 (CD-86) in the initiation of experimental allergic encephalomyelitis. J Clin Invest 1995, 96:2195–2200.

30. Miller SD, Vandervelgt CL, Lenschow D, Pope IG, Karandikar NJ, Dal Canto MC, Bluestone JA: Blockade of CD28/B7-1 interaction prevents epitope spreading and clinical relapses of murine EAE. Immunity 1995, 3:79–74.

31. Zeinstra E, Wilczak N, De Keyser J: Costimulatory effects for B7-1 (CD-80) and B7-2 (CD-86) in the initiation of experimental allergic encephalomyelitis. Eur J Immunol 2000, 30:1716–1718.

32. Raviv O, Noy R, Tang R, Biddle C, Kolb JP. Types I and II learners upregulate the costimulatory CD80 molecule in monocytes via interferon regulatory factor-1. Biochem Pharmacol 2009, 78:514–522.

33. Genc K, Dona DL, Reder AT: Increased CD80+ B cells in active multiple sclerosis and reversal by interferon beta-1b therapy. J Clin Invest 1997, 99:2664–2671.

34. Wiesemann E, Deb M, Trebst C, Hemmer B, Stangel M, Windhagen A: HTLV-I-infected T cells activate autologous CD4+ T cells susceptible to HTLV-I infection in a costimulatory molecule-dependent fashion. Eur J Immunol 1997, 27:1427–1432.

35. Chang TT, Jabs C, Sobel RA, Kuchroo VK, Sharpe AH. Studies in B7-deficient mice reveal a critical role for B7 costimulation in both induction and effector phases of experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis. J Exp Med 1999, 190:733–740.

36. Rudick RA, Goelz SE: Interferon beta-1b is effective in relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis. I. J Neurol Sci 1995, 135:166–171.

37. Rouvics V, Nguyen R, Tang R, Biddle C, Kolb JP. Types I and II learners upregulate the costimulatory CD80 molecule in monocytes via interferon regulatory factor-1. Biochem Pharmacol 2009, 78:514–522.

38. Genc K, Dona DL, Reder AT: Increased CD80+ B cells in active multiple sclerosis and reversal by interferon beta-1b therapy. J Clin Invest 1997, 99:2664–2671.

39. Izumo S, Goto I, Itoyama Y, Okajima T, Watanabe S, Kuroda Y, Araki S, Mori mononuclear cells quantified in 100 HAM/TSP patients: a marker of disease progression. J Neurol Sci 2005, 237:53–59.

40. Gotuzzo E, Cabrera J, Deza L, Verdonck K, Vandamme AM, Cairamprona R, Vazcarra D, Cabada M, Narvarte G, De las Casas C: Clinical characteristics of patients in Peru with human T cell lymphotropic virus type I-associated tropical spastic paraparesis. Clin Infect Dis 2004, 39:939–944.

41. Lima MA, Bica RB, Araujo AO: Gender influence on the progression of HTLV-I associated myelopathy/tropical spastic paraparesis. J Neuroimmun Psychi 2005, 76:284–296.

42. Norris PJ, Hirschorn DF, DeVita DA, Lee TH, Murphy EL: Human T cell leukemia virus type 1 infection drives spontaneous proliferation of natural killer cells. Virolution 2010, 19:1–9.

43. Furukawa Y, Bangham CR, Taylor GP, Weiner JN, Osborne M: Frequent reversible membrane damage in peripheral blood B cells in human T cell lymphotropic virus type I (HTLV-I)-associated myelopathy/tropical spastic paraparesis (HAM/TSP). J Neuromed Neuroimmuno 2001, 112:153–161.

44. Ramgolam VS, Sha Y, Marcus KS, Choudhary N, Troiani L, Choppa M, Markovic-Plese S: B cells as a therapeutic target for IFN-beta in relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis. J Neuromed Neuroimmuno 2001, 112:153–161.

45. Gotuzzo E, Cabrera J, Deza L, Verdonck K, Vandamme AM, Cairamprona R, Vazcarra D, Cabada M, Narvarte G, De las Casas C: Clinical characteristics of patients in Peru with human T cell lymphotropic virus type I-associated tropical spastic paraparesis. Clin Infect Dis 2004, 39:939–944.

46. Liu Z, Pelfrey CM, Cotler A, Lee JC, Rudick RA: Immunomodulatory effects of interferon beta-1a in multiple sclerosis. J Neuromed Neuroimmuno 2001, 112:153–161.

47. O'Neill SK, Oo Y, Hamel KM, Doodes PD, Hutas G, Finnegian A: Expression of CD80/86 on B cells is essential for autoreactive T cell activation and the development of arthritis. J Immunol 2007, 179:5109–5116.

48. Morbach H, Wiegerring V, Richl P, Schwarz T, Sufna E, Eichhorn EM, Eyrich M, Girschik JH: Activated memory B cells may function as antigen-presenting cells in the joints of children with juvenile idiopathic arthritis. Arthritis Rheum 2011, 63:3458–3466.

49. Kuchroo VK, Dax MP, Brown JA, Ranger AM, Zarni W, Sobel RA, Weiner HL, Nabavi N, Gilmer HC, B7-1 and B7-2 costimulatory molecules activate differentially the Th1/Th2 developmental pathways: application to autoimmune disease therapy. Cell 1995, 80:707–718.

50. Brown JA, Greenwald RJ, Scott S, Kaczetizer AN, Chung C, Senf G, Szepez V, Szepez A, Shapir A: HTLV-I infection in patients with multiple sclerosis. J Exp Med 1995, 18:3465–3461.

51. Mbow ML, Dekeye GR, King TD: Leishmania major induces differential expression of costimulatory molecules on mouse epidural cells. Eur J Immunol 2001, 31:1400–1409.

52. Furukawa Y, Mandelbrodt LA, Libby P, Sharpe AH, Mitchell RN: Association of B7-1 co-stimulation with the development of graft arteriosclerosis: studies using mice lacking B7-1, B7-2, or both. J Exp Med 2000, 192:1715–1717.

53. Newton S, Ding Y, Chung CS, Chen Y, Lomas-Neira JL, Ayala A: Sepsis-induced changes in macrophage co-stimulatory molecule expression: CD86 as a regulator of anti-inflammatory IL-10 response. Surg Infect (Larchmt) 2004, 5:375–383.

54. Nolan A, Kobayashi H, Naveed B, Kelly A, Hoshino Y, Hoshino S, Karulf MR, Nolan A, Kobayashi H, Naveed B, Kelly A, Hoshino Y, Hoshino S, Karulf MR, Rom WN, Weiden MD, Gold JA: Differential role for CD80 and CD86 in the regulation of the innate immune response in murine polymicrobial sepsis. PLoS One 2009, 4:e6600.

55. Nolan A, Weiden M, Kelly A, Hoshino Y, Hoshino S, Mehta N, Gold JA: CD40 and CD80/86 act synergistically to regulate inflammation and mortality in polymicrobial sepsis. Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2008, 177:301–308.

56. Sellebjerg F, Jensen J, Ryder LP: Costimulatory CD80 (B7-1) and CD86 (B7-2) on cerebrospinal fluid cells in multiple sclerosis. J Neuromed Neuroimmuno 1998, 84:179–187.

57. Svenningson A, Dotevall L, Stenman A, Andersen O: Expression of B7-1 and B7-2 on cerebrospinal fluid cells in patients with multiple sclerosis and infectious central nervous system disease. J Neuromed Neuroimmuno 1997, 75:59–68.
64. Windhagen A, Newcombe J, Dangond F, Strand C, Woodroofe MN, Czumer ML, Hafer DA. Expression of costimulatory molecules B7-1 (CD80), B7-2 (CD86), and interleukin 12 cytokine in multiple sclerosis lesions. J Exp Med 1995, 182:1985–1996.

65. Sawcer S, Hellenthal G, Prinien M, Spencer CC, Patapolos NA, Moutsianas L, Dylshire A, Su Z, Freeman C, Hunt SE, et al: Genetic risk and a primary role for cell-mediated immune mechanisms in multiple sclerosis. Nature 2011, 476:214–219.

66. Keir ME, Butte MI, Freeman GJ, Sharpe AH. PD-1 and its ligands in tolerance and immunity. Annu Rev Immunol 2008, 26:677–704.

67. Sharpe AH, Freeman GJ. The B7-CD28 superfamily. Nat Rev Immunol 2002, 2:116–126.

68. Montanheiro PA, de Oliveira ACM, Smid J, Fukumori LM, O탈 I, da S Duarte AJ, Caisb J. The elevated interferon gamma production is an important immunological marker in Ham/TSP pathogenesis. Scand J Immunol 2009, 70:403–407.

69. Luna T, Santos SB, Nascimento M, Porto MA, Muniz AL, Carvalho EM, Jesus CR. Human T-cell lymphotropic virus type-I leukemogenicity. J Neuroimmunol 2011, 238:126–129.

70. Molodkina EV, Rudick RA, Cottereau AC, Born SE, Lee JC, Stangel M, Windhagen A. PD-L1 and its ligands in the nervous system: function and survival during autoimmune encephalomyelitis. J Immunol 2006, 177:2948–2958.

71. Markmann S, Wiesemann E, Hilske R, Trebst C, Stangel M, Windhagen A. Interferon-beta up-regulates the expression of co-stimulatory molecules CD80, CD86 and CD40 on monocytes: significance for treatment of multiple sclerosis. Clin Exp Immunol 2004, 138:499–506.

72. Santos SB, Porto AF, Muniz AL, de Jesus AR, Magaçães E, Melo A, Dutra WM, Gollob KJ, Carvalho EM. Exacerbated inflammatory cellular immune response with large proportion of HTLV-I asymptomatic carriers. BMC Infect Dis 2004, 4:article 7.

73. Colisson R, Barblu L, Gras C, Raynaud F, Hadi-Simane R, Rique C, Hermine O, Lepelletier Y, Bertheau JP. Free HTLV-I induces TLR7-dependent innate immune response and TRAIL relocalization in killer plasmacytoid dendritic cells. Blood 2010, 115:2177–2185.

74. Tattermusch S, Skinner JA, Chauassel D, Banchereau J, Berry MP, McNab FW, O’Garra A, Taylor GP, Bangham CR. Systems biology approach reveals a specific interferon-inducible signature in HTLV-I associated myelopathy. PLoS Pathog 2012, 8:e1002480.

75. Feng J, Misu T, Fujihara K, Sato H, Takahashi T, Kohnosu T, Shiga Y, Takeya A, Sato S, Takase S, Itoyama Y. Interferon-alpha significantly reduces cerebrospinal fluid CD4 cell subsets in Ham/TSP. J Neuroimmunol 2003, 141:110–173.

76. Macchi B, Faraci I, Mastino A, D’Onofrio C, Romeo G, Bonmassar E. Protective effect of interferon beta on human T cell leukaemia virus type I infection of CD4+ T cells isolated from human cord blood. Cancer Immunol Immunother 1993, 37:97–104.

77. D’Onofrio C, Perrou CF, Mazzetti P, Grasani G, Calio R, Bonmassar E. Depression of early phase of HTLV-I infection in vitro mediated by human beta interferon. Br J Cancer 1988, 57:481–488.

78. Arras BF. Long-term experience with interferon beta-1b (Betaferon) in multiple sclerosis. J Neurol 2005, 252(S1):S28–S33.

79. Weinstock-Guttman B, Ramanathan M, Zivadinov R. Interferon-beta treatment for relapsing multiple sclerosis. Expert Opin Biol Ther 2008, 8:1435–1447.

80. Michae K. Interferon-beta-1b: in newly emerging multiple sclerosis. CNS Drugs 2008, 22:787–932.

81. Mirowska D, Skierski J, Paz A, Koronkiewicz M, Zaborski J, Kruszewska J, Mirowska D, Skierski J, Paz A, Koronkiewicz M, Zaborski J, Kruszewska J. Making sense out of antisense transcription in human T-cell lymphotropic viruses (HTLVs). Retrovirology 2006, 456:1–456.

82. McKeage K. Interferon-beta-1b: in newly emerging multiple sclerosis. J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry 1993, 56:145–153.

83. Van Weyenbergh J, Lipinski P, Abadie A, Chabas D, Blank U, Liblau R. − Public: comparative potency of INF alpha2 and INF beta on interferon gamma: inhibition of signal transduction and death-1 ligand. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A 2006, 103:720–725.

84. Azran I, Schavorgova-Khrenzyewa Y, Aboud M: Role of tax protein in human T-cell leukemia virus type-I leukemogenesis. Retrovirology 2004, 1:220.

85. Szymońska R, Akazawa H, Brisco C, Beurtret-Marduel P, Chalon A, Bernard A, Didier-Bazes M, Belin MF, Giraudon P. Astrocyte alterations induced by HTLV type 1-infected T lymphocytes: a role for tax-1 and tumor necrosis factor alpha. AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses 2003, 16:1723–1729.

86. Szymońska R, Akazawa H, Durtur M, Malcus C, Didier-Bazes M, Belin MF, Giraudon P. Human T-cell lymphotropic virus type 1-infected T lymphocytes impair catabolism and uptake of glutamate by astrocytes via tax-1 and tumor necrosis factor alpha. J Virol 2000, 74:6433–6441.

87. Brown DA, Nelson FB, Reinerz EL, Diamond DJ. The human interferon-gamma gene contains an inducible promoter that can be transactivated by tax and IL-1. Eur J Immunol 1991, 21:1879–1885.

88. Podjil J, Rahim AF, Miller SD. CD4+ T cell expressed CD80 regulates central nervous system effector function and survival during autoimmune encephalomyelitis. J Immunol 2005, 177:2948–2958.

89. van de Nes L, Cuzner M, Menezes et al. Journal of Neuroinflammation 69.

90. Luna T, Santos SB, Nascimento M, Porto MA, Muniz AL, Carvalho EM, Jesus CJ. Effect of TNF-alpha production inhibitors on the production of pro-inflammatory cytokines by peripheral blood mononuclear cells from HTLV-I-infected individuals. Braz J Med Biol Res 2011, 44:1134–1140.

91. Moens B, Decannin D, Menezes SM, Khouri R, Silva-Santos G, Lopez G, Alvarez C, Talledo M, Gotuzzo E, et al: Acർcobic acid has superior ex vivo antiproliferative, cell death-inducing and immunomodulatory effects on INF-alpha in HTLV-I-associated myelopathy. PLoS Negl Trop Dis 2012, 6:e1729.

92. Waddell SJ, Popper SJ, Rubins KH, Griffiths MJ, Brown PO, Levin ML, Relman DA: HTLV-1-infected individuals. Scand J Immunol 2003, 58:863–896.

93. Chen G, Goeddel DV. TNF-R1 signaling: a beautiful pathway. J Exp Med 1995, 182:1888–1897.

94. Zhao J, Freeman GJ, Gray GS, Nadler LM, Glimcher LH: A cell-type specific enhancer in the human B7.1 gene regulated by NF-kappaB. J Exp Med 1996, 183:777–788.

95. Paun A, Pitta PM. The IRF family, revisited. Biochimie 2007, 89:744–753.

96. Waddell SJ, Popper SJ, Rubins KH, Griffiths MJ, Brown PO, Levin ML, Relman DA: Dissecting interferon-induced transcriptional programs in human peripheral blood cells. PLoS One 2010, 5:e93753.

97. Pahl HL: Activators and target genes of Rel/NF-kappaB transcription factors. Oncogene 1993, 1999, 18:863–896.

98. Li J, Coloval A, Cortesini R, Suciu-Foca N: Cloning and functional characterization of the 3-regulatory region of the human CD86 gene. Hum Immunol 2000, 61:495–498.

99. Panitch HS: Systemic alpha-interferon in multiple sclerosis: long-term patient follow-up. Arch Neurol 1987, 44:61–63.

100. Satou Y, Yasunaga Y, Yoshida M, Matsuoka M. HTLV-I basic leucine zipper factor gene mRNA supports proliferation of adult T cell leukemia cells. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A 2006, 103:720–725.

101. Azran I, Schavorgova-Khrnzyewa Y, Aboud M: Role of tax protein in human T-cell leukemia virus type-I leukemogenesis. Retrovirology 2004, 1:220.

102. Szymońska R, Akazawa H, Brisco C, Beurtret-Marduel P, Chalon A, Bernard A, Didier-Bazes M, Belin MF, Giraudon P. Astrocyte alterations induced by HTLV type 1-infected T lymphocytes: a role for tax-1 and tumor necrosis factor alpha. AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses 2003, 16:1723–1729.

103. Szymońska R, Akazawa H, Durtur M, Malcus C, Didier-Bazes M, Belin MF, Giraudon P. Human T-cell lymphotropic virus type 1-infected T lymphocytes impair catabolism and uptake of glutamate by astrocytes via tax-1 and tumor necrosis factor alpha. J Virol 2000, 74:6433–6441.
activation but differential down-regulation of IFNAR2. Biochem J 2007, 407:141–151.

108. Roisman LC, Jaitin DA, Baker DP, Schreiber G: Mutational analysis of the IFNAR1 binding site on IFNalpha2 reveals the architecture of a weak ligand-receptor-binding site. J Mol Biol 2005, 352:271–281.

109. Domanski P, Nadeau OW, Platianis LC, Fish E, Kellum M, Pitka P, Calamonic OR: Differential use of the beta, subunit of the type I interferon (IFN) receptor determines signaling specificity for IFNalpha2 and IFNbeta. J Biol Chem 1998, 273:3144–3147.

110. de Weerd NA, Vivian JP, Nguyen TK, Mangan NE, Gould JA, Braniff SJ, Zaker-Tabrizi L, Fung KY, Forster SC, Beddouce T, et al: Structural basis of a unique interferon-beta-signaling axis mediated via the receptor IFNAR1. Nat Immunol 2013, 14:901–907.

111. Stark GR, Kerr IM, Williams BR, Silverman RH, Schreiber RD: Unique interferons that act through a common receptor. J Interferon Cytokine Res 2000, 19:797–801.

112. Velazquez L, Fellous M, Stark GR, Pellegrini S: A protein tyrosine kinase in the interferon alpha/beta signaling pathway. Cell 1992, 70:313–322.

113. Pellegrini S, John J, Shearer M, Kerr IM, Stark GR: IFNAR1 binding site on IFNalpha2 reveals the architecture of a weak ligand-receptor binding-site. J Mol Biol 2005, 352:271–281.

114. Coutourier N, Buccarello F, Nurtudin RN, Debourboue M, Lebrun-Frenay C, Harpur AG, Barbieri G, Witthuhn BA, Schindler C, et al: Type I interferon (IFN) receptor signals directly to the interferon alpha/beta signaling pathway. J Biol Chem 2005, 280:4231–4237.

115. da Silva AJ, Brickelmaier M, Majeau GR, Lukashin AV, Peyman J, Whitty A, Coro ES, Chang WL, Baumgarth N: IFNAR1 binding site on IFNalpha2 reveals the architecture of a weak ligand-receptor binding-site. J Mol Biol 2005, 352:271–281.

116. Velazquez L, Fellous M, Stark GR, Pellegrini S: A protein tyrosine kinase in the interferon alpha/beta signaling pathway. Cell 1992, 70:313–322.

117. Pellegrini S, John J, Shearer M, Kerr IM, Stark GR: Use of a selectable marker regulated by alpha interferon to obtain mutations in the signaling pathway. Mol Cell Biol 1989, 9:4605–4612.

118. Coutourier N, Buccarello F, Nurtudin RN, Deboureboe M, Lebrun-Frenay C, Defer G, Moreau T, Courteveille C, Vukusic S, Coumu-Rebeix J, et al: Tyrosine kinase 2 variant influences T lymphocyte polarization and multiple sclerosis susceptibility. Brain 2011, 134:593–603.

119. Guo B, Chang EY, Cheng G: Differential use of the betaL subunit of the type I interferon (IFN) receptor in innate immunity. J Immunol 2004, 173:5139–5147.

120. Manel N, Hogstad B, Wang Y, Levy DE, Unutmaz D, Littman DR: Toll-like receptor 7 (TLR7)-driven accumulation of a novel CD11c B-cell population is important for the development of human umbilical vein endothelial cells with IFN-alpha 2b vs. IFN-beta 1b: understanding the functional relationship between distinct type I interferons that act through a common receptor. J Interferon Cytokine Res 2002, 22:173–188.

121. Teige I, Treschow A, Holmdahl R, Issazadeh-Navikas S: Establishment of a novel CD11c B-cell subset as a sensor for HIV-1 activates antiviral innate immunity in dendritic cells. J Clin Invest 2008, 118:1690–1699.

122. Teige I, Treschow A, Teige AM, Mattsson R, Navikas V, Leanderson T, Holmdahl R, Issazadeh-Navikas S: IFN-beta gene deletion leads to augmented and chronic demyelinating experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis. J Immunol 2003, 170:4776–4784.

123. Rubtsov AV, Rubtsova K, Fischer A, Meehan RT, Gills JZ, Kappler JW, Marrack P: Toll-like receptor 7 (TLR7)-driven accumulation of a novel CD11c+ B-cell population is important for the development of autoimmunity. Blood 2011, 118:1305–1315.

124. Calderón-Gómez E, Lampopoulos V, Shen P, Nieves P, Roch T, Stenvio U, Rutz S, Kuhl AA, Heppner FL, Loddenkemper C, et al: Reprogrammed quiescent B cells provide an effective cellular therapy against chronic autoimmune encephalomyelitis. Eur J Immunol 2011, 41:1706–1708.

125. Knippenberg S, Poonen E, Smolders J, Thewissen M, Menheere P, Cohen Tervaert JW, Hupperts R, Damoiseaux J: Reduction in IL-10 producing B cells (Breg) in multiple sclerosis is accompanied by a reduced naive/memory Breg ratio during a relapse but not in remission. J Neuroimmunol 2011, 239:80–86.

126. Brito-Melo GE, Souza JG, Barbosa-Stancioli EF, Carneiro-Proietti AB, Catalan Soares B, Ribas JG, Thorum GW, Rocha JD, Martins-Filho OA: Establishing

phenotypic features associated with morbidity in human T-cell lymphoproliferative virus type 1 infection. Clin Diagn Lab Immunol 2004, 11:105–1110.

127. Cross AH, Stark JL, Lauber J, Ramsbottom MJ, Lyons JA: Rituximab reduces B cells and T cells in cerebrospinal fluid of multiple sclerosis patients. J Neuroimmunol 2005, 180:63–70.

128. Monson NL, Cravens PD, Frohman EM, Hawker K, Radek M: Effect of rituximab on the peripheral blood and cerebrospinal fluid B cells in patients with primary progressive multiple sclerosis. Arch Neurol 2005, 62:258–264.

129. Hauser SL, Waubant E, Arnold DL, Vollmer T, Antel J, Fox RJ, Bar-Or A, Panzara M, Sarkar N, Agarwal S, et al: B-cell depletion with rituximab in relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis. N Engl J Med 2008, 358:676–688.

130. Kappos L, Li D, Calabresi PA, O’Connor P, Bar-Or A, Barkhof F, Yin M, Leppert D, Blanpain R, Tinbergren J, Hauser SL: Ocrelizumab in relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis: a phase 2, randomised, placebo-controlled, multicentre trial. Lancet 2011, 378:1779–1787.

131. Gottlieb AB, Kang S, Linden KG, Lebwohl M, Menter A, Abdulghani AA, Goldfarb M, Cheiffo N, Toretzky MS: Evaluation of safety and clinical activity of multiple doses of the anti-CD80 monoclonal antibody, galiximab, in patients with moderate to severe plaque psoriasis. Clin Immunol 2004, 111:28–37.

132. Czuczman MS, Thall A, Witzig TE, Vose JM, Yones A, Emmanouilides C, Miller TP, Moore JO, Leonard JP, Gordon Li, et al: Phase I/II study of galiximab, an anti-CD80 antibody, for relapsed or refractory follicular lymphoma. J Clin Oncol 2005, 23:4390–4398.

doi:10.1186/1742-2094-11-18

Cite this article as: Menezes et al: CD80* and CD86* B cells as biomarkers and possible therapeutic targets in HTLV-1 associated myelopathy/tropical spastic paraparesis and multiple sclerosis. Journal of Neuroinflammation 2014 11:18.

Submit your next manuscript to BioMed Central and take full advantage of:

• Convenient online submission
• Thorough peer review
• No space constraints or color figure charges
• Immediate publication on acceptance
• Inclusion in PubMed, CAS, Scopus and Google Scholar
• Research which is freely available for redistribution

Submit your manuscript at www.biomedcentral.com/submit