

Thrombin inhibitor and salivary anti-complement protein transmitted by tick spit and the insertion mechanics of the feeding apparatus of Ixodes ricinus ticks

Thrombin-Inhibitor und Speichel Antikomplement Protein im Zecken Speichel und der Stechapparat der Zecken

„Das Ixodes scapularis Speichelprotein (Salp15) ist ein Antigen, das zumindest teilweise eine immunmodulatorische Wirkung von Zeckenspeichel auf erworbene Immunreaktionen des Wirtes vermittelt [<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/12121666>].

Die durch Salp15 vermittelte Unterdrückung resultiert aus der Unterdrückung von Calciumströmen, die durch T-Zell-Antigenrezeptor (TCR)-Ligation getriggert werden und von einer anschließenden Verringerung der Interleukin (IL) -2 Produktion. Salp15 bindet an den extrazellulären Domänen (D1-D2) des T-Zell Co-Rezeptors CD4 in Maus- und in menschlichen Zellen [<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17082567>], in einer Region, die sich mit den Bindungsresten von gp120 überlappen könnten“.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2238774/>

“Ixodes scapularis salivary protein (Salp15) is an antigen that mediates at least partially the immunomodulatory action of tick saliva on host-acquired immune responses

[<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/12121666>].

Inhibition mediated by Salp15 results from the repression of calcium fluxes triggered by T cell antigen receptor (TCR) ligation and a subsequent reduction in interleukin (IL)-2 production. Salp15 binds to the most extracellular domains (D1-D2) of the T cell co-receptor CD4 in both mouse and human cells [<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17082567>] in a region that may overlap with the binding residues of gp120”.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2238774/>

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„We have studied the growth of *Borrelia burgdorferi* in nymphal ticks (*Ixodes scapularis*) feeding on mice using confocal fluorescence microscopy to follow the distribution of spirochetes. In starved nymphs, the bacteria were only detected in the midgut and each nymph had a mean of 496 spirochetes. Upon attachment of nymphs to the host, the bacteria grew with a doubling time close to 4 hr and reached a mean of 7,848 spirochetes per nymph 15 hr after attachment. During this initial period (36 hr) of rapid growth, the bacteria appeared to be restricted to the gut, but after 48 hr, the spirochetes had disseminated to the salivary glands in the majority of nymphs examined. Thus, a critical event that allows the spirochetes to disseminate and infect the salivary glands takes place 36-48 hr after attachment. A maximum number of 166,575 spirochetes per nymph was noted 72 hr after attachment. Soon after completion of feeding and detachment from the host (96 hr), the mean number of spirochetes decreased to 95,410 per nymph and the spirochetes appeared to be cleared from organs other than the midgut. Thus, dissemination of spirochetes within the vector appears to be a transient phenomenon. These results provide strong evidence in favor of a salivary route of disease transmission while also demonstrating the utility of confocal microscopy to study vector-pathogen interactions in general.“

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„I then turn attention to the salivary glands of female ixodid ticks, which serve the on-host osmoregulatory function in this family of ticks, (iv) and I discuss the pharmacological control of salivary

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