

**Table 1s.** Quantitative analyses of the spontaneous intracellular

Time	IL-2		TNF $\alpha$		GM-CSF	
	(OD <sub>450</sub> $\pm$ SEM, n=3)		(OD <sub>450</sub> $\pm$ SEM, n=3)		(OD <sub>450</sub> $\pm$ SEM, n=3)	
	Ctr	RPM	Ctr	RPM	Ctr	RPM
<b>24 h</b>	0.174 $\pm$ 0.010	0.155 $\pm$ 0.008	0.006 $\pm$ 0.00001	0.004 $\pm$ 0.000001	0.0005 $\pm$ 0.000009	0.0007 $\pm$ 0.000007
<b>48 h</b>	0.170 $\pm$ 0.010	0.158 $\pm$ 0.025	0.004 $\pm$ 0.00001	0.003 $\pm$ 0.000001	0.0005 $\pm$ 0.000008	0.0006 $\pm$ 0.000008
<b>72 h</b>	0.169 $\pm$ 0.003	0.148 $\pm$ 0.004	0.005 $\pm$ 0.00001	0.004 $\pm$ 0.000001	0.0004 $\pm$ 0.000008	0.0006 $\pm$ 0.000009
<b>96 h</b>	0.542 $\pm$ 0.025	0.433 $\pm$ 0.020	0.004 $\pm$ 0.00001	0.003 $\pm$ 0.000001	0.0005 $\pm$ 0.000017	0.0003 $\pm$ 0.000023

In the table are reported the levels of interleukins expressed as the mean OD acquired at 450 nm ( $\pm$  SEM) of 3 independent experiments. The levels of the cytokines, present in the cell-conditioned growth medium, were quantified by a conventional sandwich-based enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) technique using a Multi-Analyte ELISArray kit (Qiagen, Milan, Italy) according to manufacturer's instructions. The very low OD values show a hardly detectable levels of these factors in the medium and a non-activation state of the cells.