

Special Issue

T-cell Immunity Assays in the Management of Cytomegalovirus (CMV) Infection

Message from the Guest Editor

Cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection is one of the most common opportunistic infections following organ or hematopoietic cell transplantation, and in patients with hematologic malignancies, especially those receiving alemtuzumab. CMV can also affect patients on high-dose steroids, the elderly, and other “immunomodulated”, or even, rarely, immunocompetent individuals. Treatment for CMV, although effective, is associated with significant costs and toxicities. CMV-specific T-cell immunity (TCI) has been associated with protection against the virus, and reduced rates of CMV infection. In research studies, assays measuring CMV-specific TCI have been shown to be clinically useful in a variety of clinical scenarios, guiding initiation or discontinuation of anti-CMV prophylaxis or treatment. Nevertheless, there are still many unanswered questions regarding their potential utility in everyday clinical practice, or clinical-translational studies of CMV prevention (vaccines) or treatment, including adoptive T-cell immunotherapy.

Guest Editor

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