Special Issue

100 Years of BCG Immunization: Past, Present and Future

Message from the Guest Editors

In the century of BCG immunization, it has become clear that the administration of live attenuated BCG can have other effects in addition to inducing specific immunity against *M. tuberculosis*. BCG is also considered the gold standard for primary therapy of carcinoma in situ of the bladder, most likely for its capacity to activate the host innate/inflammatory response against the tumor. Despite its limitations, to date, BCG has not been surpassed by any other treatment. Along the same line, several other interesting findings suggest that BCG can have beneficial non-specific effects (NSE), from controlling hyperglycemia in type 1 diabetes to decreasing childhood mortality. The BCG NSE have received a lot of interest recently in the attempt to find effective treatments for COVID-19. The possibility is currently being investigated that BCG could prime the innate immune system of vaccinees and generate an innate immune memory able to afford a better, pathogen-agnostic antimicrobial resistance.

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Vaccines (ISSN 2076-393X) has had a 6-year history of publishing peer-reviewed state of the art research that advances the knowledge of immunology in human disease protection. Immunotherapeutics, prophylactic vaccines, immunomodulators, adjuvants and the global differences in regulatory affairs are some of the highlights of the research published that have shaped global health. Our open access policy allows all researchers and interested parties to immediately scrutinize the rigorous evidence our publications have to offer. We are proud to present the work and perspectives of many to contribute to future decisions concerning human health.

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