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**Pathogenesis and targeted treatment of skin injury in systemic lupus erythematosus**

Skin is the second most common manifestation in patients with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) yet the etiology and the mechanisms which are involved in the expression of injury remain unclear. We discuss the role of ultraviolet light (UV), immune cells, cytokines and the deposition of immunoglobulin in the development of inflammation and damage. UV represents the most typical environmental factor which triggers the expression of skin lesions in areas where immunoglobulin has been deposited and various components of the immune system have been amassed. Understanding of the interplay of environmental and immune factors has led to the identification of key molecules which can be targeted therapeutically. These include IgG/Fc receptor, tumor necrosis factor (TNF)/TNF receptor and interferon (IFN)/IFN receptor-initiated cell signaling. A number of intracellular kinases (spleen tyrosine and calcium/calmodulin 4) and transcription factors have also been demonstrated to be involved in the expression of skin lesions in lupus-prone mice. The possibility to apply small drugs locally with limited side-effects, calls for further studies to eliminate the burden of skin inflammation in SLE patients.

Biography

Guo-Min Deng has obtained his MD in China and PhD in Gothenburg University, Sweden in 2001. He has worked as Research Fellow in NIH, USA during 2002-2006 and also worked as Instructor and Assistant Professor in Harvard University during 2006-2014. He is a distinguished Professor and the Director of key lab of antibody techniques of Ministry of Health in Nanjing Medical University. He has published more than 25 papers in reputed journals including *Nature Medicine*, *Nature Reviews Rheumatology* and has been serving as an Editorial Board Member of repute.

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