



scRNA-Seq of Aortic Macrophages in Atherosclerosis (p 1661)

Dr Clément Cochain completed his PhD in 2011 at the Paris Cardiovascular Research Center (INSERM U970, Paris, France) under the supervision of Dr Jean-Sébastien Silvestre, where his work focused on how inflammatory processes affect ischemic tissue repair. He received his BS and MS from Paris-Diderot University in Cell Biology and Physiology. In 2012, he moved to Alma Zernecké's lab in Würzburg, Germany, to work on the immune pathogenesis of atherosclerosis. At the end of 2016, he found, by chance, that a fellow French citizen working three doors down the hall, Emmanuel Saliba, was developing single-cell RNA-seq analysis for his own projects. Working together with Alma Zernecké, Emmanuel Saliba, a talented bioinformatics PhD student, Ehsan Vafadarnejad, and aided by the precious help of other coauthors and lab technicians, Dr Cochain began the project to employ single-cell RNA-seq to address the question of aortic macrophage heterogeneity in atherosclerosis. In January 2018, he became a junior group leader at the Comprehensive Heart Failure Center in Würzburg. One of his major interests is understanding how immune cell phenotypic heterogeneity may impact cardiovascular disease, particularly in the contexts of atherosclerosis and ischemic tissue repair. In his free time, Clément enjoys sampling local beers and wines, and going rock climbing in the nearby Frankenjura.



Leukocyte Heterogeneity in Atherosclerosis (p 1675)

Dr Holger Winkels earned his MS from RWTH Aachen University, Germany, and his PhD from the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Germany, under the mentorship of Drs Norbert Gerdes, Esther Lutgens, and Christian Weber. He joined the La Jolla Institute for Allergy and Immunology, USA, in 2016 as a postdoctoral fellow, working with Dr Klaus Ley. During his early training, he became fascinated with the adaptive immune system, leading him to study T-cell biology and the role of costimulatory molecules on immune cell activation and modulation in atherosclerosis. He is now focusing on atherosclerosis-specific T-cell response and their contribution to atheroprogession, and testing whether immunomodulatory therapies, including a vaccination, can skew the T-cell response to reduce atherosclerosis. He recently received a grant to study the immune network in atherosclerosis using high-perplexity methodology including single-cell RNA sequencing and mass cytometry. Outside of the lab, he loves spending time with his friends, discovering local bars and restaurants, and traveling the world. Although his pursuit of science was the main reason to move to La Jolla, he also moved for the Californian beaches! Holger enjoys surfing (more precisely, he is still in the progress of learning) and diving, as well as hiking through the numerous national parks.



Leukocyte Heterogeneity in Atherosclerosis (p 1675)

Erik Ehinger is a Research Technician in Dr Klaus Ley's laboratory at the La Jolla Institute for Allergy and Immunology. He earned his BS in Biology from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, and will be pursuing a PhD in Biomedical Sciences at University of California, San Diego, starting next fall. Erik's main research interest is in understanding the complex leukocyte interplay in atheroprogession and identifying key cellular regulators of atherosclerosis. His long-term research goal is to develop an effective immune cell-based therapy for atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease to resolve inflammation and reduce plaque burden. Erik is currently investigating the transcriptomic machinery of circulating monocytes underlying the persistent systemic inflammatory state of people living with virally-suppressed HIV that contributes to their advanced cardiovascular risk and faster plaque development. Outside of the lab, he enjoys spending time with his friends, girlfriend, and dog. His hobbies include photography, playing soccer and ice hockey, and working out.

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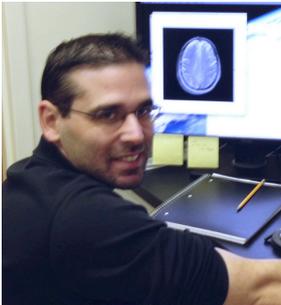
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Dominant Treg Effects in Females (p 1689)

Dr Rasa Tamosiuniene is currently a Research Scientist in Dr Mark Nicolls's laboratory in the Department of Medicine at Stanford University. She earned her MD and PhD from the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences in Lithuania (mentor, Dr E. Vaicekavicius). Her training in clinical cardiology resulted in a passion for conducting basic science research in cardiology. Upon completing her PhD in 1998, Rasa was awarded a Vascular Thrombosis Centre Fellowship at the Mayo Clinic, in Rochester, from The World Heart Federation for her project studying the effect of thrombolytic therapy in acute myocardial infarction, where she worked with Dr J.A. Heit. Shortly after, she pursued postdoctoral training in Dr Desmond Fitzgerald's laboratory at The Royal College of Surgeons in Dublin, Ireland. Since then, Rasa's love for challenging questions has allowed her to transition from studying acute coronary syndromes to pulmonary hypertension. Given her enthusiasm for translational research, she moved to the US and joined Dr Nicolls's laboratory, where she has acquired expertise in immunology-related preclinical pulmonary hypertension studies. Her research now focuses on exploring the inflammatory and vasoprotective immunity mechanisms underlying the development of pulmonary hypertension. Rasa is particularly interested in regulatory T-cell function and activity in this devastating disease. Rasa enjoys traveling to new destinations, and she is a fan of Lithuanian basketball.



Plasma Predictors in Human CCM Disease (p 1716)

Dr Romuald Girard developed a deep interest in understanding disease mechanisms, at the intersection of biology and engineering, at a young age. This germinated during his undergraduate and graduate studies, culminating with a PhD in Neuroscience from the University Claude Bernard Lyon 1, Lyon (France), in 2013 (mentor, Dr Jean-Claude Dreher). During the past 4 years, he has pursued this passion in a large translational Neurovascular Research laboratory at The University of Chicago, under Professor Issam Awad's tutelage. He enjoys interactions with bench scientists, imaging engineers, statisticians, and clinical researchers. His research is focused on studying biomarkers of vascular permeability and haemorrhage, in cerebral cavernous malformations, a common hemorrhagic neurovascular disorder where a small subgroup of patients develop disabling stroke and seizures related to lesional bleeding and growth. Based on firm mechanistic links, he has examined biomarkers of inflammation and angiogenesis in peripheral blood plasma, and uncovered robust links to clinical lesion behavior. His fellowship has allowed him to develop a firm understanding of how basic science research can be integrated with clinical research and how this wealth of new knowledge can be translated into patient care. Conducting this type of integrational research is always a great challenge, but "Every mountain top is within reach if you just keep climbing" (Barry Finlay). Romuald has been practicing Karate for 22 years and is also a cinema enthusiast.

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Plasma Predictors in Human CCM Disease (p 1716)

Dr Hussein A. Zeineddine earned his BS in Biology with a minor in Biomedical Engineering (2011) followed by an MD (2015) from the American University of Beirut. He then moved to the United States and took a research position as a postdoctoral scholar at the University of Chicago under the supervision of Dr Issam Awad. His research interest focuses on cerebrovascular diseases. During his time there, he worked on research projects involving cerebral cavernous malformations (CCMs) and intracranial hemorrhages. This included examining different biomarkers of vascular permeability, inflammation, and hemorrhage, and correlating them with the activity of the CCM disease. His fellowship with Dr Awad also involved further analyzing and interpreting the results of two major multi-center clinical trials that are focused on blood evacuation after intraventricular hemorrhage (CLEAR trial) and intracranial hemorrhage (MISTIE). His time there allowed him to experience the life of a clinician-scientist and the joy associated with it, which encouraged him to continue in this path. After 2 years of research, Hussein pursued a career in neurosurgery and is currently a first-year neurosurgery resident at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston. In his spare time, Hussein enjoys kickboxing, soccer, painting, and spending time with his family and friends.

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