

Receptor dependency and receptor editing in T and B cells

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We have compared receptor editing and the dependence of mature cells on antigen receptor expression in T and B lymphocytes using mouse models tailored by Cre-assisted gene targeting. These experiments, to be presented at the meeting, lead us to believe that in contrast to B cell development, receptor editing does not play a major role in thymic T cell development (whereas sequential rearrangements in the TCRalpha locus do), and that the in vivo maintenance of most lymphocytes depends on antigen receptor expression, most dramatically in B and least so in CD4⁺ T cells.

References

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