

Article

3D Cocultures of Osteoblasts and *Staphylococcus aureus* on Biomimetic Bone Scaffolds as a Tool to Investigate the Host–Pathogen Interface in Osteomyelitis

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Supplementary Materials and Methods

Sequences of the primers used in the RT-PCR experiments are listed in Table S1 (for the MC3T3-E1 murine cells) and Table S2 (for the Newmann strain of *Staphylococcus aureus* used in the study).

Table S1. RT-PCR murine primers.

| Targeted Gene (mouse) | Primer Sequences (5'-3') |
|-----------------------|--|
| <i>18S</i> | F: CTCAACACGGGAAACCTCAC R: CGCTCCAATAAGAAGG |
| <i>Ptx3</i> | F: CGAAATAGACAATGGACTCCATCC R: CAGGCGCACGGCGT |
| <i>Spp1</i> | F: GAAGGCTCATGGTTGGATGT R: GTAGCCCAAGGGTATTTTCAG |
| <i>Col1a1</i> | F: CTCCTGGTATTGCTGGTGCT R: TTCACCAGGAGAACCTTTGG |
| <i>NRf2</i> | F: CATGATGGACTTGGAGTTGC R: CCTCCAAAGGATGTCAATCAA |
| <i>Ho-1</i> | F: AGGCTAAGACCGCCTTCCT R: TGTGTTCTCTGTCAGCATCA |
| <i>Alp</i> | F: AAGGCTTCTTCTTGCTGGTG R: GGTGTATCCACCGAATGTGA |
| <i>Tgf-β</i> | F: GTCAGCAGCAGCCGGTTACCA R: TGGAGCAACATGTGGAATC |
| <i>Opq</i> | F: GTTCCCGAGGACCACAAT R: CCATTCAATGATGTCCAGGAG |
| <i>Tnf-α</i> | F: GACGTGGAAGTGGCAGAAGAG R: TTGGTGGTTTGTGAGTGTGAG |
| <i>Bmp2</i> | F: CGGACTGCGGTCTCCTAA R: GGGAAGCAGCAACACTAGA |
| <i>Zo-1</i> | F: ATGCAGACCCAGCAAAGGT R: TGACCAAGAGCTGGTTGTTTT |

Table S2. RT-PCR *Staphylococcus aureus* primers.

| Targeted Gene (<i>Staphylococcus Aureus</i>) | Primer Sequences (5'-3') |
|---|---|
| 16S | F: GCCACACTGGAAGTGAAGACA R: AGTTAGCCGTGGCTTTCTGA |
| Spa | F: AAGAAGACGGCAGGAGTA R: TTAGCATCTGCATGGTTTGC |
| Psm | F: TGTCATACCCAGCAGAGTG R: TAATGGCGCTTGGCTTTATT |
| ClfA | F: CAACTGCTAAAGTGCCACCA R: GTCAATATAAGCGGGCATGG |
| agrRNAIII | F: AAAGTTGCAGCGATGGATT R: AAATGCGCAATGAGTCTGTG |
| FnbpA | F: CCAGGTGGTGGTCAGGTTAC R: GTGCTTGACCATGCTCTTCA |

Supplementary Figures

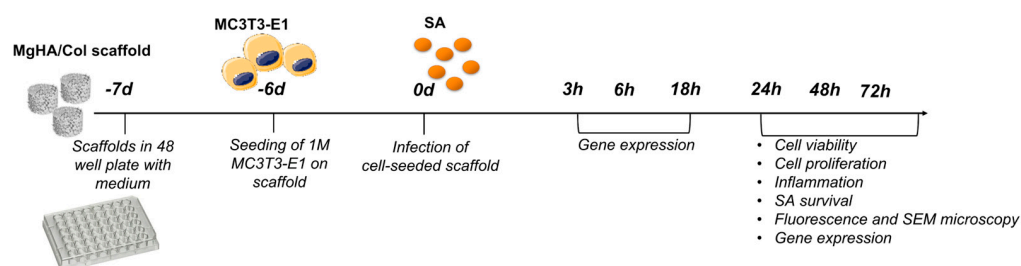
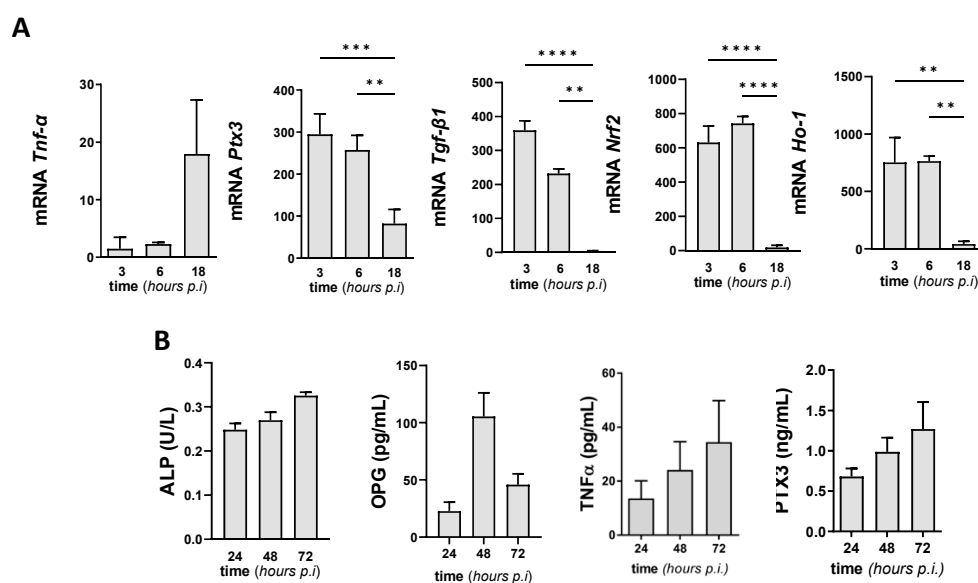
**Figure S1.** Experimental design and outcomes of the *in vitro* model of OM developed in the study (MC3T3-E1/SA co-cultures on MgHA/Col bone biomimetic scaffolds).

Figure S2. Gene and protein expression of SA-infected MC3T3-E1 cells in 2D co-cultures. MC3T3-E1 cells were seeded on MgHA/Col 3D scaffolds, and cultured for 6 days. Live SA was then inoculated (MOI of 160:1), and co-cultured with MC3T3-E1 cells up to 72 hours. **(A)** Cells were harvested at the reported time points, total RNA was extracted, and mRNA levels of the indicated genes were measured by qRT-PCR. Data were normalized based on the levels of 18S rRNA, and expressed as mean \pm SEM ($n = 4$ – 6 from 2 to 3 independent experiments performed in duplicate). **(B)** Activity of ALP and concentration of OPG, TNF- α , and PTX3 in the conditioned medium of MC3T3-E1/SA co-cultures were determined using commercial enzymatic and ELISA kits. Data are from 3–4 independent experiments performed in duplicate or triplicate ($n = 7$, mean \pm SEM). In all panels, **** $p < 0.001$, *** $p < 0.005$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$, one-way ANOVA test with Dunn's multiple comparisons test.