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B Lymphocytes in Auto-Inflammatory Diseases

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Ever since their discovery, B lymphocytes have gained wide attraction because of their importance in immune defense against a large number of threats. Studies of the phenotype of mice lacking B cells revealed that this cell subset is involved in 1) lymphoid organogenesis through expression of lymphotoxin-a1b2, 2) generation of follicular dendritic networks, 3) formation of follicle-associated epithelium in Peyer's patches, 4) differentiation of CD+ T cells and of a non-canonical subset of NK T cells, and 4) even tissue repair in the liver. In human, B cell depletion reduces inflammatory Th17 cells. Given the multifaceted functions of B cells in mammals, they are involved in the pathogenesis of several inflammatory disorders. A more profound understanding of the biology and functions of B cell subsets and their interplay with a variety of other cell types will be important for designing novel immuno-intervention strategies for a variety of auto-inflammatory diseases.

For further reading, please visit the **Special Issue website**.

Dr. Moncef M. Zouali
Guest Editor

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Message from the Editorial Board

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