

FEATURED: Pure Transplant Solutions Announces Collaboration with Innobiochips to Develop Personalized Diagnostics for Post-Transplant Monitoring and Early Detection of Transplant Rejection [READ MORE](#)



March was a month full of significant events, not only for Pure Protein and HLA Protein, but also at a national level. Vaccines were made more available and have been given to tens of millions in the US alone, numbers of new COVID-19 infections and hospitalizations dropped, many schools and businesses re-opened and the CDC announced that fully vaccinated people can now meet indoors without masks. What a difference a year can make!

March was also Women's History Month where women's contributions to history, society and culture were recognized. This took on extra significance in 2021 since many of the centennial celebrations in 2020 were curtailed or canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We feel honored to have some trailblazing female researchers on our team and as collaborators who are making scientific contributions that are and will continue to improve patient outcomes around the world. See below to meet two of them.

FEATURED COLLABORATOR

Dr. Anat R Tambur, Northwestern University

Dr. Tambur runs the Tambur Lab at the Comprehensive Transplant Center, Northwestern University, Chicago. Her lab is focusing on understanding the immunogenicity of HLA-DQ antigens and its role in antibody-mediated rejection in solid organ transplantation. Increasing evidence has demonstrated that DQ mismatches between transplant recipient and donor are the most common to induce de novo donor-specific antibodies (DSA). HLA-DQ antibodies are likely also the most detrimental to graft survival. Understanding the unique structural and molecular properties that make the HLA-DQ molecule so pathogenic may eventually help better predict which mismatches will induce harmful antibody formation, and which are more permissible. This work requires availability of purified HLA-DQ and other HLA class II molecules, maintaining high physiologic accuracy of the three-dimensional structure. Their collaboration with Pure Protein allows them to develop unique approaches to study the unique involvement of HLA-DQ in transplant immunology.



Anat R Tambur, DMD, PhD, D[ABHI]

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COLLABORATORS

Drs. Frances Lund and John Killian
University of Alabama at Birmingham



Dr. Frances Lund Dr. John Killian

Dr. Frances Lund, Charles H. McCauley Professor and Chair, Department of Microbiology, and John Killian, Jr., M.D., resident in the Department of Surgery, are seeking to improve the success of organ transplants. One problem is that following pregnancy or transplant, patients form antibodies against non-self HLA molecules. These antibodies comprise a major barrier to transplantation, and they exacerbate gender and racial disparities for thousands of people who await a life-saving transplant. Thus, Drs. Lund and Killian are working to understand the breadth and specificity of HLA-reactive memory B cells in sensitized women. Their research focuses on using Pure Transplant Solutions newly created Class I and Class II biotinylated soluble HLA (sHLA) proteins to understand the breadth and specificity of HLA-reactive B cells in sensitized individuals. These proprietary HLA molecules can be utilized in standard flow cytometry workflows for easy processing and analysis that the parties hope will provide a new tool for clinicians and researchers to use when caring for transplant patients.

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Featured Assays



General ImmunoAssays

Soluble HLAs are extremely well suited as antigens in solid phase immunoassays for the detection and characterization of HLA-specific antibodies. Because of their antigenic integrity, they provide increased accuracy and specificity.



Bead-based ImmunoAssays

Biotin-labeled sHLA molecules are easily immobilized on any streptavidin-coated bead in immunoassays to measure antibody analytes. Fluorescent imaging is used to measure the amount of captured antibody.



Cell-Based ImmunoAssays

Biotin-labeled sHLA proteins coupled with a fluorescently labeled streptavidin conjugate are very sensitive detectors in ELISpot assays to profile the antibody specificities of i.e. HLA-specific B cells.



Flow Cytometry/Cell Sorting

Immune cells stained with a biotin-labeled sHLA molecule in combination with a fluorescently labeled streptavidin conjugate of choice can be analyzed by flow cytometry or sorted according to their antigenic type.

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HLA PROTEIN UPDATES

EFI 2021
FROM RESEARCH TO CLINICAL REALITY
34th European Immunogenetics and Histocompatibility Conference, together with BSHI
ONLINE | 21-23 APRIL 2021



HLA Protein will be exhibiting at the 34th European Immunogenetics and Histocompatibility Virtual Conference and Pure Protein, LLC Chief Scientist, Dr. William Hildebrand, will be presenting "HLA Presentation of Viral & Tumor Neoantigens" at 2:00 PM on April 23.

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