

The transcriptome of type i murine astrocytes under interferon-gamma exposure and remyelination stimulus

Kudriaeva A., Galatenko V., Maltseva D., Khaustova N., Kuzina E., Tonevitsky A., Gabibov A., Belogurov A.

Kazan Federal University, 420008, Kremlevskaya 18, Kazan, Russia

Abstract

© 2017 by the authors. Astrocytes are considered to be an important contributor to central nervous system (CNS) disorders, particularly multiple sclerosis. The transcriptome of these cells is greatly affected by cytokines released by lymphocytes, penetrating the blood-brain barrier - in particular, the classical pro-inflammatory cytokine interferon-gamma (IFN γ). We report here the transcriptomal profiling of astrocytes treated using IFN γ and benztropine, a putative remyelination agent. Our findings indicate that the expression of genes involved in antigen processing and presentation in astrocytes are significantly upregulated upon IFN γ exposure, emphasizing the critical role of this cytokine in the redirection of immune response towards self-antigens. Data reported herein support previous observations that the IFN γ -induced JAK-STAT signaling pathway may be regarded as a valuable target for pharmaceutical interventions.

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Keywords

Affymetrix, Antigen presentation, Astrocytes, Benztropine, Immunoproteasome, Interferon-gamma, Major histocompatibility complex, MicroRNA, PA28/11S/REG, Transcriptome

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