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Reduced association of mycobacteria with monocytes from diabetes patients with poor glucose control

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Abstract

The re-emerging importance of type 2 diabetes mellitus (DM) to tuberculosis (TB) control is of growing concern, but the basis for this relationship is poorly understood. Given the importance of mononuclear phagocytes for TB control and the reported alterations in monocytes of DM patients, we evaluated whether the initial interaction between both was affected in diabetics. *M. tuberculosis*-naïve individuals with and without DM were group matched by age and gender and the efficiency of *M. tuberculosis* association (attachment and ingestion) with their monocytes was assessed in the presence of autologous serum. The association of *M. tuberculosis* with monocytes was significantly lower in diabetics (19.2 ± 6.1) than non-diabetics (27.5 ± 7.9 ; $p=0.02$). Multivariate analysis controlling for host sociodemographics, DM characteristics and serum lipids indicated that male gender ($p=0.04$) and poorly-controlled DM (high HbA_{1c} and hyperglycemia; $p=0.01$) were significantly associated with the lower interaction of *M. tuberculosis* with monocytes. Serum heat-inactivation reduced the association of *M. tuberculosis* to similar levels in both study groups ($p=0.69$) suggesting alterations in the complement pathway of DM patients. These findings suggest an altered route of entry of the pathogen in DM patients that may influence the downstream activation of signaling pathways in the monocyte and the survival of mycobacteria.

Keywords

tuberculosis; diabetes; complement; monocyte; mycobacterium

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1. Introduction

The current pandemic of type 2 diabetes mellitus (DM) is accelerating in a world where approximately one third of the population is latently infected with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.^{1;2} Adults with DM have at least a 3-fold higher risk of developing tuberculosis (TB).^{3;4} In order to develop strategies to prevent TB among DM patients, we must understand the mechanism(s) by which DM increases the risk for TB.

The risk of TB can be stratified into 1) the risk of becoming infected with *M. tuberculosis* and 2) the risk of progression to active TB disease, but the impact of DM on the natural history of TB is unknown.⁵ The higher susceptibility of DM patients to TB may occur at both stages based on very limited data. In the present study we explored the impact of type 2 DM on the initial encounter between *M. tuberculosis* and the host innate immune system, based on indirect support from studies in humans^{6;7} and mice.^{8;9} Furthermore, studies in type 1 and 2 DM patients unrelated to TB also suggest compromised phagocyte immunity, including abnormalities in chemotaxis, phagocytosis, respiratory burst and altered expression of cytokines, adhesins and receptors (e.g. complement receptor 3, toll-like receptors).^{10–18} However, studies to date have varied in their findings, likely as a result of differences in study design and difficulty in controlling for a variety of associated factors.

M. tuberculosis is an intracellular bacterium that has adapted to the human host and evolved the ability to survive in mononuclear phagocytes. These cells can also limit intracellular *M. tuberculosis* growth under certain conditions. The ability of *M. tuberculosis* to survive inside phagocytes may depend on the strategy used by the bacterium to enter the host cell, *i.e.* receptor-ligand interactions that mediate phagocytosis.¹⁹ In the present study we focused on the initial interaction between *M. tuberculosis* and the host phagocyte to begin elucidating alterations in DM patients. We specifically evaluated the impact of DM on *M. tuberculosis* association (attachment and ingestion) with blood monocytes where entry is largely dependent on two processes. The first is the opsonization of *M. tuberculosis* by serum components, with the two most common being the C3b complement protein (and its breakdown product iC3b)^{20;21} and natural antibodies to mycobacteria.²² The second is the binding of these opsonins to complement receptors (mainly CR1 and CR3²¹) or, in the setting of immune serum, Fc γ receptors (Fc γ RI, Fc γ RII, Fc γ RIII) on the monocyte, which is followed by phagocytosis.¹⁹

Based on the current literature regarding TB patients and mice with DM, we hypothesized that the initial encounter between *M. tuberculosis* and the monocyte would be altered in DM patients with no previous exposure to the bacterium. There were two possible outcomes: the first would be that the higher susceptibility of DM patients to TB would be reflected by a higher rate of *M. tuberculosis* association with monocytes, which could lead directly to enhanced intracellular replication. The second possible outcome would be that *M. tuberculosis* association with monocytes is reduced, as has been reported in studies with other bacteria.^{10;15;23} This result would suggest that host cell recognition is altered, with the potential to induce a dysfunctional response that facilitates replication of ingested bacteria. In the present study we conducted experiments to explore which of these possibilities occurs in DM patients.

2. Materials and methods

2.1 Participant enrollment and characterization

Healthy volunteers from South Texas (Hidalgo and Cameron counties) between the ages of 25 and 61 years (range 27–61 in DM and 25–56 in no DM) were identified in the community or at the Joslin Diabetes Center affiliated with Doctors Hospital at Renaissance.

Those with no history of TB or knowledge of a positive tuberculin skin test (TST) were invited to participate according to a protocol approved by Committee for the Protection of Human subjects of UTHealth. Individuals were interviewed to assess risk factors for TB, history of DM and other factors that could affect their immune response. History of previous BCG vaccination was recorded. Blood was drawn at enrollment to measure glucose, glycated hemoglobin (HbA_{1c}), triglycerides and total and HDL cholesterol. Individuals with a history of TB or positive for the TSpot-TB test once enrolled (Oxford Immunotec, Oxford, UK) were excluded to focus on innate immune function in naïve hosts. Participants taking metformin, corticosteroids, aspirin or TNF blockers were also excluded due to possible alterations in immune function. Height and weight were recorded to calculate body mass index [(weight in pounds * 703)/(height in inches)²].

2.2 Diabetes classification

Hyperglycemia was defined as fasting glucose ≥ 126 mg/dl or random glucose ≥ 200 mg/dl, impaired fasting glucose as levels between 110 and 125 mg/dl under fasting conditions, and normoglycemia as glucose below 110 mg/dl for fasting or 200 mg/dl for random. Chronic hyperglycemia was based on an HbA_{1c} $>6.5\%$. Individuals with hyperglycemia, self-reported DM or chronic hyperglycemia were classified with DM following the American Diabetes Association 2010 guidelines²⁴. DM patients were further classified into those with DM- well controlled (DMwc; normal HbA_{1c} and normoglycemia), DM-borderline (DMb; high HbA_{1c} or hyperglycemia but not both), or DM-poor control (DMp; high HbA_{1c} and hyperglycemia or impaired fasting glucose).

2.3 Monocytes and serum

PBMCs were isolated from heparinized blood on a Ficoll-sodium cushion (GE Health, Piscataway, NJ) and cultured in teflon wells (Savillex Corp., Minnesota, MN) overnight in 20% unheated AB serum ($1.5\text{--}2.0 \times 10^6$ cells/ml)²⁵. The PBMCs (2×10^6 cells/well) were then washed and incubated with RPMI, 2% HEPES and 20% autologous serum in 24-well flat-bottom plates containing glass coverslips. After incubation for 2h at 37°C in 5% CO₂ the non-adherent cells were removed. More than 90% of the remaining adherent cells on glass coverslips were monocytes based on Wright staining. Serum with intact complement was obtained from the blood of the participants as described previously, and heat-inactivation in some aliquots was performed by incubation at 56°C for 30 min.²⁶

2.4 *M. tuberculosis* preparation

The reference *M. tuberculosis* H₃₇R_v strain expressing Green Fluorescence Protein (*M. tuberculosis*-GFP) was used in all experiments. For each experiment, an aliquot of a frozen stock was grown in Difco™ Middlebrook 7H9 broth with glycerol (BD Diagnostic Systems, Sparks, MD) to an OD₆₀₀ of 0.5. Single cell suspensions were prepared using a modified version of a previously reported protocol.^{21;27} Liquid cultures were vortexed intermittently for 2 min in the presence of glass beads and sonicated for 30 s at power 9 (Ultrasonic Dismembrator, Fisher Scientific) to reduce mycobacterial clumps and submitted to a brief 1000 × g force centrifugation to remove bacterial clumps. The upper bacterial suspension was used for quantification with a Petroff-Hausser chamber which also verified single cell suspensions.

2.5 Monocyte-*M. tuberculosis* association assays

M. tuberculosis was added to the monocyte monolayer on coverslips in tissue culture wells or slides at a 10:1 multiplicity of infection (MOI) and incubated in RPMI-HEPES media containing various concentrations of autologous serum (0, 5, 10 or 20%) for 2h at 37°C. The first 30 min were conducted under mild shaking at 37°C to optimize uniform dispersion of

bacilli, and then the trays were transferred to 5% CO₂ at 37°C standing for 90 min. Non-adhered bacteria were washed and the remaining monocytes with associated mycobacteria were fixed with 10% formalin. Monocyte nuclei were stained with DAPI. The percentage of monocytes with at least one associated (attached or ingested) *M. tuberculosis* was calculated by counting at least 200 monocytes using fluorescence microscopy.

2.6 Statistics

Univariate analysis was conducted with two sample *t* tests to compare continuous variables and chi-squared or Fisher's exact for categorical variables. Pearson correlations coefficients were established between continuous variables. The variables with *p* values > 0.1 by univariate analysis were selected for multivariate analysis. When DM was the independent variable of interest, HbA_{1c} and glucose levels were also excluded from multivariate analysis. *P* values < 0.05 were considered significant.

3. Results

3.1 Lower association of *M. tuberculosis* with monocytes from DM patients

To determine if there is a difference in opsonin-dependent association of *M. tuberculosis* with monocytes from DM versus non-DM participants, we assayed for *M. tuberculosis* association with monocytes under low serum concentrations (5%) where classical complement activation is more prominent, versus high serum concentrations (20%) where the alternative pathway predominates²⁸. We evaluated the monocytes and autologous serum from eight participants without DM and nine with DM (four DMb and five DMp). For this, *M. tuberculosis* was incubated with the monocytes from each participant in 5% or 20% autologous serum and after 2h the percentage of monocytes containing at least one associated (attached or phagocytosed) *M. tuberculosis* was calculated (Fig 1A). The monocytes from DM patients tended to have a lower association of *M. tuberculosis* at both serum concentrations, but the difference was more marked with 20% versus 5% serum (Fig. 1B). To expand on the apparent difference between study groups with 20% serum, additional participants were evaluated under these conditions. The results confirmed that *M. tuberculosis* association was higher for monocytes from healthy controls (28%) when compared to those with DM (19%; *p*=0.019; Table 1). Stratification of the DM patients suggested that the monocytes from DMb (*n*=4) had an intermediate level of *M. tuberculosis* association (23%) when compared to those with DMp (*n*=7; 18%; data not shown).

During the course of study each experiment was conducted with no more than four participants where DM patients were generally matched to non-DM controls by gender and similar age. However, the final analysis with the combined data from all participants (Table 1) could be affected by host factors other than DM. To assess this we compared the socio demographics, history of BCG vaccination, characteristics that define DM, and dyslipidemia in the 21 participants evaluated for *M. tuberculosis* association in 20% serum (Table 2). First, we explored if there were differences between the participants with or without DM, and found that the only significant variations were the higher HbA_{1c} and glucose levels in DM, which was expected. Second, we evaluated if there was a relationship between host characteristics and degree of *M. tuberculosis* association with monocytes by univariate analysis. DM was significantly associated with lower *M. tuberculosis* association with monocytes (*p*=0.03), and a similar but non-significant trend was observed for male gender (*p*=0.07) and higher BMI (*p*=0.09). To expand on this we conducted a multivariate analysis and found that DM remained significantly associated with lower *M. tuberculosis* association, along with male gender. Together, these findings confirmed that DM status has a significant and independent effect on the lower association of *M. tuberculosis* with monocytes.

3.2 Contribution of serum to *M. tuberculosis* association with monocytes from DM patients

Efficient association of *M. tuberculosis* with monocytes is largely dependent on bacterial opsonization with either serum C3 breakdown products like C3b and iC3b, or natural anti-mycobacterial antibodies that can enhance complement opsonization^{19:29}. These complexes are recognized by monocyte complement and occasionally Fc γ receptors, respectively. We evaluated whether a defect in the serum components of DM participants explained their reduced *M. tuberculosis* association with monocytes. Even though our study participants had no evidence of latent TB infection, most individuals in any population will have low titers of natural antibodies that cross-react with mycobacteria²². To assess the relative contribution of the heat-labile serum components (largely complement proteins) versus heat stable components (including natural anti-mycobacterial antibodies), the association of *M. tuberculosis* with monocytes was assessed in the presence of 20% serum that was either intact or heat-inactivated. The inactivation of serum reduced the association of *M. tuberculosis* with monocytes by 74% in healthy controls when compared to 38% in DM patients (p=0.06; Table 3). Despite the small sample size for statistical analysis, there was a trend for reduction in *M. tuberculosis* association as DM control deteriorated (74% in no DM, 60% in DMb and 38% in DMp). In contrast, the residual *M. tuberculosis*:monocyte association attributed to heat stable components in serum was not significantly different between the study groups (range 7.4 to 10.1%). These findings suggested that *M. tuberculosis* association with monocytes in 20% serum was mainly dependent (74% of total binding) on heat-labile components (presumably complement), and that this factor(s) was defective in DM patients. In contrast, *M. tuberculosis* association via heat-stable opsonins (such as natural antibodies) was apparently intact in DM patients.

4. Discussion

We conducted the first *in vitro* studies aimed at identifying alterations in the initial interaction between human monocytes from DM patients and *M. tuberculosis*. Our findings provide evidence for reduced association of *M. tuberculosis* with monocytes from DM patients. This observation was strongest under higher serum concentrations (20% versus 5%), and appeared to involve heat-labile serum components, most likely complement. Together, these findings suggest a difference in the mechanism by which *M. tuberculosis* binds to and enters monocytes from DM patients, which may lead to alterations in the intracellular fate of the bacterium resulting in increased susceptibility of DM patients to TB.

The relationship between reduced association of *M. tuberculosis* with monocytes from DM patients and heat-labile serum components suggests defects in complement factors required for *M. tuberculosis* opsonization, or the complement receptors on monocytes. Differences in the mechanism of entry between DM and non-DM individuals may affect downstream cell activation and intracellular fate of the bacterium. Data from healthy (non-DM) hosts provide evidence that particle phagocytosis mediated by CR3 can reduce IL-12 secretion.^{30:31} A recent study showed that monocytes from DM patients express reduced IL-12 and IFN- γ secretion following *M. tuberculosis* infection *in vitro*, but the relationship of this finding with altered host-bacterial interactions was not evaluated.¹² These independent studies provide the foundation for further research aimed at understanding how differential ligand-receptor usage ultimately affects the downstream activation of host cells and the fate of intracellular mycobacteria in the setting of DM.

Despite evidence for immune dysfunction in type 1 and type 2 DM, studying immunity in DM is complex and sometimes yields conflicting results. This is likely due to the marked heterogeneity of diabetics where altered immunity can be attributed to: 1) DM characteristics such as hyperglycemia, chronic hyperglycemia (HbA_{1c}) and years with DM, 2) the older age and higher obesity of type 2 diabetics, and 3) the frequent co-morbidities

with administration of multiple medications.²⁴ We took these considerations into account and found that self-reported years with diabetes, current use of insulin, BMI or dyslipidemia based on cholesterol and triglyceride levels were not associated with *M. tuberculosis* association (Table 2 and data not shown). In contrast, DMp (the combination of diabetes with high HbA_{1c} and hyperglycemia) was a predictor of *M. tuberculosis* association. This suggests that glucose control is linked to immune dysfunction in DM, but hyperglycemia or chronic hyperglycemia alone are not precise markers of this defect. HbA_{1c} may not always predict monocyte or C3 function because it reflects glucose control in past three months, while the half-life of monocytes in circulation is 3–5 days and that of C3 is about 9 days³². This may explain why HbA_{1c} and immune dysfunction are associated in many, but not all studies. The fructosamine assay which indicates glucose control in the past two weeks may be a more precise predictor of monocyte and complement function in DM.^{24;33}

We recognize potential study limitations. First, our sample was relatively small. However, significant differences were detected between study groups, which are likely due to our group matching by age and gender, and the fact that most DM patients had poor glucose control. We anticipate that a larger sample size would provide power to detect significant differences between the subset of DM patients with DMp versus DMb. Second, we excluded DM patients taking metformin due to its reported effect on immunity.^{34–36} The impact of insulin or other medications taken by the DM participants could not be ruled out even though self-reported use of insulin was not associated with *M. tuberculosis*-monocyte interaction (data not shown).

Our findings using *M. tuberculosis* are consistent with previous studies showing lower phagocytosis to other pathogens in type 1 and type 2 DM. Several studies have shown reduced phagocytosis of neutrophils to extracellular pathogens, including *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Escherichia coli*, *S. epidermidis* and *Candida spp.*^{17;37–39} In contrast, there are few studies with monocytes, but all show reduction in phagocytosis to different pathogens (opsonized *Escherichia coli*, *Candida albicans* and *Listeria monocytogenes*)^{10;15;23} Whether the underlying defect for phagocytosis is in type 1 or type 2 DM, or in PMN versus monocytes is unclear, with alterations attributed to serum factors, the phagocyte, or both, depending on the study. Our findings suggest that reduced *M. tuberculosis* association may be related to altered complement in serum or complement receptors in monocytes. There are data supporting alterations in complement receptors or complement function in DM or hyperglycemia. In diabetics there appears to be a lower percentage of CR3-positive monocytes, and in a separate study anti-PspA antibodies to *S. pneumoniae* displayed reduced capacity for C3 deposition that was proportional to glucose control^{16;17} Hyperglycemia has been associated with induction of structural changes on C3 that inhibit C3-mediated effector functions to *S. aureus*.⁴⁰ We are beginning to assess if there are defects in the complement components in serum and monocytes that explain the reduced association of *M. tuberculosis*, but we cannot exclude abnormalities in other heat-labile components of the immune system, such as cytokines.

In summary, as epidemiological studies are highlighting the re-emerging contribution of DM to TB, there is a growing interest in understanding the nature of the association between both diseases. DM patients provide a new opportunity for TB researchers to expand knowledge on the complex interaction between *M. tuberculosis* and phagocytes. Our findings warrant future studies aimed at elucidating the biological basis for reduced *M. tuberculosis* association with monocytes, and how these initial interactions may influence the intracellular fate of the bacteria and ultimate progression to TB.

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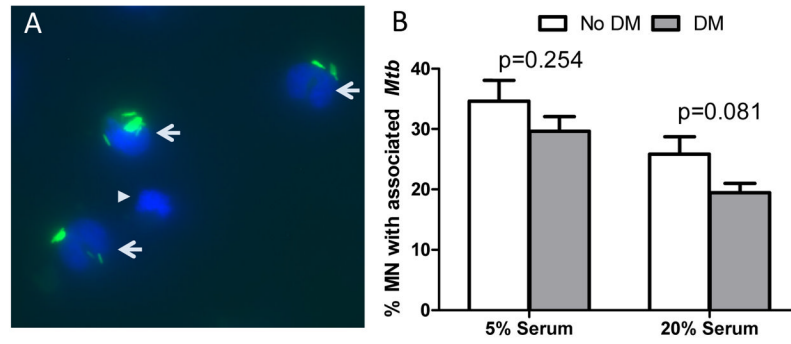


Figure 1. *M. tuberculosis* association with monocytes from participants with or without DM
M. tuberculosis-GFP was incubated with the monocytes from eight participants without DM and nine with DM, either borderline (n=4) or poorly-controlled DM (n=5). After 2h the monocytes with associated mycobacteria were fixed and monocyte nuclei stained with DAPI. The percentage of monocytes with at least one associated *M. tuberculosis* (green) was calculated by counting at least 200 cells (blue) using fluorescence microscopy. A. Representative high power field (63 \times) showing three monocytes with associated *M. tuberculosis* (arrows) and one with no *M. tuberculosis* (arrowhead) B. The mean and standard deviation (error bars) are shown for *M. tuberculosis* association with monocytes from no DM (open bar) and DM (gray bar) under culture conditions with 5% or 20% autologous serum. Differences between no DM and DM were assessed by the student's t-test.

Table 1

M. tuberculosis association with monocytes in 20% autologous serum from participants by diabetes status

Diabetes classification	Participant ID	HbA _{1c} (%) ^a	Blood glu interpretation ^b	Monocytes with 1 associated <i>M. tuberculosis</i> (%)	Mean (SD)	P value
No diabetes	5-105	4.9	Normoglycemia	21.5	27.5 (7.9)	Reference
	5-107	5.4	Normoglycemia	36.4		
	5-120	6.0	Normoglycemia	19.7		
	5-133	5.2	Normoglycemia	31.2		
	5-135	5.1	Normoglycemia	21.0		
	5-141	5.1	Normoglycemia	32.0		
	5-147	5.7	Normoglycemia	29.0		
	5-149	5.7	Normoglycemia	39.5		
	5-153	5.3	Normoglycemia	17.5		
Diabetes-DMwc	5-119	6.2	Normoglycemia	16.2	19.2 (6.1)	0.019
Diabetes-DMb	5-134	12.9	Normoglycemia	24.9		
	5-137	7.4	Normoglycemia	31.0		
	5-143	6.9	Normoglycemia	23.5		
	5-150	8.2	Normoglycemia	12.0		
Diabetes- DMp	5-101	11.5	Hyperglycemia	12.6		
	5-114	6.6	Impaired fasting glucose	10.4		
	5-139	11.5	Hyperglycemia	19.0		
	5-140	9.1	Hyperglycemia	20.0		
	5-142	11.4	Impaired fasting glucose	23.5		
	5-146	11.2	Hyperglycemia	22.0		
	5-154	6.6	Impaired fasting glucose	15.3		

^aHbA_{1c} > 6.5% = chronic hyperglycemia (bold font).

^bCutoff for glucose levels are described in Methods, with abnormal values (impaired fasting glucose and hyperglycemia) shown in bold; Diabetes patients comprise DMwc, well-controlled diabetes (n=1); DMb, borderline control of diabetes (n=4); DMp, poor control of diabetes (n=7; see Methods for definitions).

Table 2
Participant socio demographics and their association with *M. tuberculosis*-monocyte interaction

Host characteristics	Characteristics by DM status			Association or correlation between host characteristics and percent of monocytes with associated <i>M. tuberculosis</i>			
	Total ^a (n=21)	DM ^a (N=12)	no DM ^a (n=9)	P value	Kappa or mean(SD)	P value	Adjusted P (DM) ^b
Age in years (mean,SD)	43 (12)	46 (12)	40 (11)	0.230	-0.220	0.34	
Gender							
Male	5 (24)	3 (25)	2 (22)	1.000	17%(4)	0.013	0.039
Female	16 (76)	9 (75)	7 (78)	25%(8)			
BCG vaccination							
No or don't know	11 (52)	7 (58)	4 (44)	0.669	21%(7)	0.32	
Yes	10 (48)	5 (42)	5 (56)	25%(9)			
Diabetes classification							
No diabetes	9 (43)	0 (100)	9 (100)	NA	20%(6)	0.025	0.010
Diabetes	12 (57)	12 (100)	0 (100)	28% (8)			
HbA _{1c} (mean,SD)	7.5 (2.6)	9.1 (2.4)	5.4 (0.4)	<0.001	-0.304	0.180	
Glucose levels (mean,SD)	123 (57)	153 (59)	83 (18)	0.003	-0.347	0.123	
BMI (mean,SD)	34 (15)	35 (8)	33 (21)	0.860	-0.539	0.014	0.118
Total cholesterol (mean,SD)	182 (41)	178 (49)	187 (30)	0.618	0.051	0.825	
HDL cholesterol (mean,SD)	55 (14)	52 (14)	58 (14)	0.331	0.327	0.147	
Triglycerides (mean,SD)	131 (64)	140 (56)	120 (76)	0.536	-0.355	0.114	

^aData expressed as n(column %) for discrete or mean(standard deviation, SD) for continuous variables;

^bP values adjusted after controlling for gender, diabetes and BMI (variables with p < 0.1, excluding HbA_{1c} and glucose which define diabetes);

NA, not applicable; BMI, body-mass index; HDL, High-density cholesterol;

Diabetes (independent variable of interest) and the other host characteristics with p values < 0.1 by univariate analysis were selected for multivariate analysis (DM, BMI and gender), HbA_{1c} and glucose levels were excluded since these are the defining characteristics of diabetes.

Table 3
Effect of serum heat-inactivation on *M. tuberculosis* association with monocytes from participants with and without diabetes

Diabetes classification	PID	<i>M. tuberculosis</i> association (% monocytes infected)		Fraction of association attributed to heat-labile factor ^d	P values	
		Fresh serum	Heat-inactivated serum		Fresh serum	Heated serum
No DM	5-133	31.2	6.9	78%		
No DM	5-135	21.0	3.0	86%		
No DM	5-141	32.0	19.5	39%		
No DM	5-147	29.0	0.0	100%	REF	REF
No DM	5-149	39.5	8.9	77%		
No DM	5-153	17.5	6.0	66%		
Mean (SD)		28.4(8)	7.4(6.7)	74.3%(20.6)		
DMb	5-134	24.9	6.0	76%		
DMb	5-137	31.0	9.0	71%		
DMb	5-143	23.5	9.0	62%		
DMb	5-150	12.0	6.0	50%		
DMp	5-101	11.9	9.2	23%		
DMp	5-114	10.4	7.1	32%	0.04	0.69
DMp	5-139	19.0	17.0	11%		
DMp	5-140	20.0	12.5	38%		
DMp	5-142	23.5	5.5	77%		
DMp	5-146	22.0	4.0	82%		
Mean (SD)		17.8(5.4)	10.1(5)	37.6%(33)		

Mycobacteria was added at a 10:1 MOI in 20% fresh or heated autologous serum for 2h (see Methods);

^dFraction of association=1-(%monocyte association in Heat-inactivated serum)/(% monocyte association in fresh serum);

DMb, diabetes with borderline glucose control; DMp, diabetes with poor glucose control; PID, participant identification; *M. tuberculosis*, *M. tuberculosis*.