

# **HHS Public Access**

Curr Opin Rheumatol. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2016 September 01.

#### Published in final edited form as:

Author manuscript

Curr Opin Rheumatol. 2015 September; 27(5): 511-519. doi:10.1097/BOR.00000000000207.

# Newly Recognized Mendelian Disorders with Rheumatic Manifestations

#### Adriana Almeida de Jesus<sup>\*</sup> and Raphaela Goldbach-Mansky<sup>\*</sup>

<sup>\*</sup>Translational Autoinflammatory Diseases Section, National Institute of Arthritis, Musculoskeletal and Skin diseases (NIAMS), National Institutes of Health (NIH), Bethesda, MD, USA

### Summary

A number of novel monogenic diseases that present with innate and/or acquired immune dysregulation reveal novel immune pathways that cause human inflammatory diseases and suggest novel targets for treatment.

#### Keywords

Monogenic autoinflammatory diseases; interferon-mediated diseases; IL-1-mediated autoinflammatory diseases; immune dysregulation; primary immunodeficiencies

### Introduction

Over the last 20 years the discovery of monogenic defects that cause excessive activation of innate immune responses and monogenic defects that cause adaptive/acquired immune dysregulation that leads to a break in immune tolerance have helped to not only shape our concepts of "autoinflammation" and "autoimmunity" but revealed targets for therapeutic intervention.

Many currently described monogenic "autoinflammatory conditions" that present with sterile fever, neutrophilic skin rashes and organ–specific inflammation are caused by gainof-function mutations in innate immune sensors or by loss-of-function mutations in other molecules that can lead to "intracellular stress". In both instances, an IL-1 cytokine amplification loop is triggered and many diseases can successfully be treated with IL-1 inhibiting drugs [1]\*. Recent discoveries described in this review challenge the IL-1 centered view of autoinflammation and suggest abnormal chronic production of Type I interferons as cause for a novel group of predominantly autoinflammatory diseases. Another group of diseases is caused by molecular defects that lead to abnormal cell differentiation,

Corresponding Author: Adriana A de Jesus, MD, PhD, Translational Autoinflammatory Disease Section, NIAMS, NIH, Bldg. 10, room 6D52, 10 Center Dr., Bethesda, MD 20892, USA, almeidadejesua@mail.nih.gov, Phone: +301-496-0370 or Raphaela Goldbach-Mansky, MD, MHS, Translational Autoinflammatory Disease Section, NIAMS, NIH, Bldg. 10, room 6D47B, 10 Center Dr., Bethesda, MD 20892, USA, goldbacr@mail.nih.gov, Phone: +301-435-6243.

Purpose of review

We review newly discovered monogenic immune-dysregulatory disorders that were reported in Pubmed over the last year. Conflicts of interest

Dr. Goldbach-Mansky received grant support from SOBI, Regeneron, Novartis and Lilly.

and mitochondrial and Golgi transport dysfunction as causes for complex clinical phenotypes that include systemic and organ-specific inflammation; the molecular triggers and the inflammatory mediators that lead to the inflammatory disease manifestations remain incompletely understood in the latter disorders.

Novel insights into "autoimmune diseases" have been gained from the discovery of mutated genes that lead to dysregulation of T and B cell function, with or without a loss of regulatory T cell function and ultimately a break in central or peripheral T or B cell tolerance.

The diseases described in this chapter expand the current clinical disease spectrum of monogenic autoinflammatory and autoimmune conditions, illustrate molecular mechanisms that provide explanations for the considerable overlap between clinical features of innate and adaptive immune dysregulation. We have grouped the novel diseases into those that are predominantly leading to innate immune dysregulation (autoinflammation) and those that primarily cause acquired immune dysregulation (autoimmunity).

Table 1 summarizes the newly recognized Mendelian diseases described in the past 12 months.

#### DISORDERS AFFECTING PREDOMINANTLY THE INNATE IMMUNE SYSTEM

Three immune-dysregulatory diseases described over the past 12 months are caused by gainof function mutations in cytosolic DNA or RNA innate-immune-sensors or their adaptor molecules. These newly discovered conditions link autoinflammatory phenotypes to innate immune dysregulation of predominatly Type I IFN production and suggest a potent role of Type I IFNs in coordinating innate and adaptive immune responses in these conditions.

**1. STING-associated vasculopathy with onset in infancy (SAVI)**—SAVI is an ultra-rare autoinflammatory disease caused by *de novo* gain-of-function mutations in *TMEM173*, which encodes the *STimulator of INterferon* (IFN) Genes (STING), an adaptor protein in the cytosolic DNA-sensing pathway [2]\*\*. So far disease-causing missense mutations affect three amino acids, V155, N154 V147 [2-5]. Patients present with early-onset vasculitis/vasculopathy that affects small dermal vessels in mostly acral areas leading to vasoocclusion and gangrene often requiring surgical amputation. Most patients also develop progressive interstitial lung disease (ILD) with variable severity [2-5]. Elevated autoantibody levels are seen in these patients, however the titers do not correlate with the presence or severity of the vascultis and lung disease [2]\*\*.

STING is a dimeric, endoplasmic reticulum (ER) transmembrane adaptor molecule, that coordinates viral immunity [6, 7]. Upon activation it recruits and activates TANK-binding kinase 1 (TBK1), and causes IRF3 phosphorylation/activation and *IFNB1* transcription [7]. The disease-causing STING mutations lead to constitutive transcription of *IFNB1* [2, 3]\*\*,\*\* and to the presence of a strong IFN response-gene-signature in whole-blood RNA of SAVI patients [2]\*\* thus suggesting a critical role of chronic IFN stimulation in the disease pathogenesis. The STING/IFN $\beta$  pathway can be directly activated in endothelial cells indicating that the development of vasculitis may be triggered directly by dermal endothelial cell activation [2, 3]\*\*,\*\*. Because STING coordinates signals from multiple upstream

dsDNA sensors, it may be a target for therapeutic interventions not only in SAVI, but also in a wider variety of IFN-mediated diseases [2-4].

2. Aicardi-Goutières syndrome 7 (AGS7)—AGS is a rare disease caused by autosomal recessive mutations in the exonuclease TREX1; the ribonucleases RNASEH2A, RNASEH2B, and RNASEH2C; an enzyme with phosphohydrolase and nuclease activity, SAMHD1; and the double-stranded-RNA-specific adenosine deaminase ADAR1 [8]. In addition, autosomal dominant mutations in IFIH1, encoding MDA5, are responsible for another form of AGS. The majority of the patients present with varying severity of spasticity, CNS white matter disease [9]\*\* and variable immune manifestations, including rashes, thrombocytopenia and arthritis [10]. Four of 11 reported subjects had neonatal disease-onset, 5 patients developed disease between 6 and 24 months of age, and 2 mutation-positive carriers remained asymptomatic into adulthood [9]\*\*. Symptomatic patients had severe developmental delay. In vitro assays showed that disease-causing IFIH1 mutations enhance double-stranded RNA binding and baseline or ligand-induced IFN signaling [9]\*\*. Interestingly, one of the AGS7 mutations (p.R779H) was found in a patient with "early-onset juvenile systemic lupus erythematosus (JSLE)", who presented with arthritis, livedo reticularis, necrotizing cutaneous vasculitis, antiphospholipid syndrome and high-positive anti-dsDNA antibody titers, and lower limb spasticity and selective IgA deficiency [11].

**3.** Atypical Singleton-Merten Syndrome (atypical SMS)—Mutations in *DDX58* encoding RIG-I, have recently been described in 11 patients from 2 families with glaucoma and skeletal abnormalities [12]\*. The musculoskeletal manifestations include arthritis of hands and feet, joint contractures, calcific tendinitis, and, erosive changes in the terminal tufts of the distal phalanges. Four patients had aortic and valvular calcification; psoriasiform rashes were present in 8 individuals and most patients had glaucoma [12]\*. Transfection of wildtype and mutant *DDX58* into HEK293T cells showed increased basal reporter gene activity of NF- $\kappa$ B and of the *IFNB1* enhancer region PRDIII-I [12]\*. An increased expression of *IFNB1* and *ISG15* in mutant compared to WT-construct transfected cells was further enhanced by poly I:C stimulation [12]\*. Additionally, constitutive IRF3 phosphorylation and dimerization were induced by high amounts of mutant *DDX58* [12]\*.

Gain-of-function mutations in the innate immune sensor NLRC4, that assembles a caspase-1 activating inflammasome, cause a novel autoinflammatory syndrome and predispose to macrophage activation syndrome.

# 1. NLRC4-related macrophage-activation syndrome (NLRC4-MAS)/Syndrome of enterocolitis and autoinflammation associated with mutation in NLRC4

**(SCAN4)**—Activating heterozygous gain-of-function-mutations in the inflammasome component *NLRC4* cause recurrent fevers and predispose to the development of MAS [13, 14]\*\*,\*\*. Two mutations (p.V337S and p.V341A) arose *de novo* in the *NLRC4* NACHT domain in 2 different families. Three of 4 patients, all presenting with enterocolitis, developed MAS flares, two patients soon after infancy and one patient later in life indicating variable disease severity in patients with the same mutation [13, 14]\*\*,\*\*. Another *NLRC4* mutation (p.H443P) resulted in a familial cold autoinflammatory syndrome (FCAS)-like

phenotype in 13 members from a large Japanese kindred [15]\* who presented with coldinduced fever episodes, urticaria-like rashes and arthralgia starting between 2 and 3 months of age. Transfection assays demonstrated that the disease causing mutations increase NLRC4 oligomerization and cleavage of procaspase-1 that result in secretion of IL-1 $\beta$ [13-15] and IL-18 (not reported in the Japanese patients). IL-18 levels in the *NLRC4* MAS/ SCAN4 patients are several times higher than in CAPS patients with activating *NLRP3* mutations [13, 14]\*\*,\*\*. Although these patients were somewhat responsive to corticosteroid immunosuppression, IL-1 inhibition may provide substantial benefit [13, 14]

Loss-of-function mutations in intracellular enzymes or transport proteins can generate intracellular stress and lead to inflammatory disease, although the molecular mechanisms that lead to the inflammatory disease manifestations in the diseases described below remain elusive.

1. Deficiency of adenosine deaminase 2 (DADA2)—Autosomal recessive mutations in CECR1, encoding the enzyme adenosine deaminase 2 (ADA2), cause an early-onset vasculopathy resembling polyarteritis nodosa [16, 17]\*\*,\*\*. Patients described with DADA2 [16-20] present with early-onset stroke, livedo reticularis, recurrent fever, hepatosplenomegaly, arterial hypertension, ophthalmologic manifestations, and myalgia. Other cutaneous manifestations include leg ulcers, Raynaud phenomenon, subcutaneous nodules, purpura, and digital necrosis. Sixteen pathogenic mutations have been described. *Cecr1b* is essential for vascular integrity and neutrophil development in zebrafish embryos, thus suggesting that ADA2 is a cell growth and differentiation factor for endothelial cells and leukocytes [16, 17]\*\*,\*\*. DADA2 patients have a defect in small vessel endothelial integrity and impaired of M2-like macrophage differentiation, leading to a polarization of macrophage and monocyte subsets towards M1 like cells [16, 17]\*\*,\*\*. Gene-expressionstudies showed a marked upregulation of neutrophil-expressed genes, suggesting a potential pathogenic role of activated neutrophils [20]. Therapeutic interventions include anti-TNF agents, fresh-frozen plasma, recombinant ADA2, and hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) [16-20].

2. Sideroblastic anemia, immunodeficiency, fevers, and developmental delay

**(SIFD)**—Congenital sideroblastic anemia, B cell immunodeficiency, periodic fevers, and developmental delay is a mitochondrial disease caused by autosomal recessive loss-of-function mutations in *TRNT1* [21]\*\*. Most patients described (n=12) presented in infancy with transfusion-dependent sideroblastic anemia and developed recurrent noninfectious fever episodes, B-cell lymphopenia with hypogammaglobulinemia with recurrent sinopulmonary bacterial infections and progressive developmental delay [22]. Occult multiorgan failure and/or cardiomyopathy were seen in 7 patients; early allogenic bone marrow transplant was curative in one patient [22]. *TRNT1* encodes an enzyme that adds 2 cytosine- and 1 adenosine-(CCA) residues to the 3' end mitochondrial and cytosolic tRNA molecules, which is necessary for tRNA aminoacylation [23]. The disease-causing mutations lead to a reduction in CCA enzyme activity, defective mitochondrial translation and the inabilty to detect tRNAs with backbone damage [24]. This defect is thought to result

in a "loss of quality-control-mechanisms" that recognize and prevent damaged tRNA from CCA maturation and from entering the ribosome machinery of protein synthesis, thus suggesting a role of CCA addition in intracellular stress responses [25].

#### 3. Interstitial lung disease (ILD) and arthritis caused by COPA mutations-

Twenty-one patients from five families with an autosomal dominant autoimmune syndrome characterized by high-titer autoantibodies, ILD/pulmonary hemorrhage and arthritis had autosomal-dominant missense mutations in *COPA* [26]\*\*. Of 30 *COPA* mutations carriers, 9 subjects were asympomatic, suggesting incomplete penetrance[26]\*\*. The majority of patients presented with non-erosive arthritis [26]\*\*. Renal biopsies in 4 unrelated patients demonstrated immune complex-mediated renal disease [26]\*\*. Most patients had autoantibodies to antinuclear (ANA), anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies (ANCA) and rheumatoid factor (RF). Functional assessment of patient-derived cells and *in vitro* assays showed evidence of increased ER stress and enhanced production of cytokines that promote the expansion of Th17 cells (IL-23 p19, IL-12 p40, IL-12 p35, IL-1 $\beta$  and IL-6) [26]\*\*. Similarities in lung phenotype of COPA-associated disease and SAVI patients may suggest dysregulation in Type I IFN production.

In some of the diseases described in the last year, the mechanisms leading to the inflammatory manifestations remain elusive.

**1. AP1S3-associated pustular psoriasis**—Fifteen unrelated patients with either generalized pustular psoriasis or palmar plantar pustulosis had heterozygous mutations in the *AP1S3* gene, which encodes the  $\sigma$ 1C subunit of the cytosolic transport complex AP1 [27]\*. Disease-causing mutations (p.F4C and p.R33W) were predicted to destabilize the 3D structure of the AP-1 complex [27]\*. *AP1S3* silencing resulted in disrupted endosomal translocation of TLR3 and in a marked inhibition of its canonical downstream signaling [27]\*.

#### 2. TNF-Receptor Associated Periodic Syndrome due to mutations in

**TNFRSF11A (TRAPS11)**—Recurrent, long-lasting attacks presenting with fever, abdominal pain, lymphadenopathy and macular rashes were described in 3 patients from 2 families with heterozygous mutations in *TNFRSF11A*, the gene encoding RANK (Receptor Activator of NF- $\kappa$ B) [28]. One patient had a 10Mb genomic duplication of 30 genes followed by a 9.5Mb deletion containing 29 genes that included *TNFRSF11A* [28]. The complex phenotype including congenital heart disease, cleft palate, facial dysmorphism and mental retardation [28], is likely caused by gene duplication or the deletion of other genes in the 29-gene-deletion cluster. Screening for *TNFRSF11A* mutations in 127 patients with similar inflammatory manifestations identified with a frameshift deletion in *TNFRSF11A* (p.M416Cfs\*110) in an adolescent and her mother who presented with later-onset (10 and 18 years of age) fever attacks as above, but also had erythema nodosum, anterior uveitis, headaches, elevated CRP and hypergammaglobulinemia [28].

#### 3. Monogenic systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis (SJIA) caused a mutation

**in LACC1**—A homozygous mutation in a conserved cysteine residue at position 284 (p.C284R) in *LACC1*, which encodes the enzyme laccase (multicopper oxidoreductase)

domain-containing 1, causes and inflammatory disease which clinically fulfills criteria for SJIA in 13 patients from 5 Saudi Arabian consanguineous families [29]\*. All patients presented with characteristic fever, erythematous maculopapular rashes, chronic polyarthritis, leukocytosis, thrombocytosis and elevated markers of inflammation [29]\*. None of the patients had MAS. All patients presented with moderate to severe disease, and were unresponsive to treatment with NSAIDs, systemic corticosteroids, methotrexate, and biological agents, including anti-TNF (all 13 patients) anti-IL-6 (5 patients) or rituximab (3 patients) [29]\*.

#### DISORDERS AFFECTING PREDOMINANTLY THE ACQUIRED/ADAPTIVE IMMUNE SYSTEM

Four monogenic defects described over the last year affect T and B-cell signaling/function that result in loss of central or peripheral immune tolerance.

Three novel monogenic defects that lead to constitutive T cell activation and affect T and B cell homeostasis and have impaired regulatory-T ( $T_{reg}$ ) cell function are listed below.

#### 1 STAT3 gain-of-function mediated early-onset lymphoproliferation and

**autoimmunity**—Germline dominant-negative/loss-of-function mutations in *STAT3* cause hyper-IgE syndrome with recurrent infections [30, 31]. Recently, activating (gain-offunction) *STAT3* mutations were found in an early-onset multi-organ autoimmune disease with lymphoproliferation [32]\*\*. Four mutations were identified in 5 patients, who presented with type1 diabetes mellitus, autoimmune enteropathy, autoimmune thyroiditis, ILD and features of SJIA [32]\*\*. Other manifestations were short stature, eczema and dental anomalies [32]\*\*. An additional study expanded the phenotype of the disease and other clinical manifestations were autoimmune cytopenias (hemolytic anemia, neutropenia and/or thrombocytopenia), hepatitis, atopic dermatitis, alopecia, and scleroderma [33]\*\*. Most of these patients (8 out of 13) had recurrent and/or severe infections [33]\*\*. In both studies, increased *STAT3* transcriptional activity and a diminished T<sub>reg</sub> function were observed [32, 33]\*\*,\*\*.

# 2. CTLA-4 haploinsufficiency with autoimmune infiltration (CHAI)—In two

patient cohorts, heterozygous loss-of-function mutations in the inhibitory receptor, *CTLA4* that is expressed on activated T- and  $T_{reg}$  cells cause a complex immune dysregulatory phenotype [34, 35]\*\*,\*\*. Ten *CTLA4* mutations were found in 21 patients from 10 families presenting with diarrhea/enteropathy, granulomatous lymphocytic interstitial lung disease, hepatosplenomegaly, and lymphadenopathy [34, 35]\*\*,\*\*. Autoimmune cytopenias (thrombocytopenia, autoimmune hemolytic anemia), thyroiditis and arthritis and positive serum autoantibodies, including ANA (n=3) and anti-histone (n=2), anti-mitochondrial (AMA), anti-thyroid peroxidase (TPO) and anti-proteinase 3 (PR3) antibodies were observed in one patient each [34, 35]\*\*,\*\*. Constitutively activated CD4+T and reduced numbers of  $T_{reg}$  cells were found in peripheral blood [34, 35]\*\*,\*\*. Extensive CD4+T cell infiltrates were also found in intestines, lungs, bone marrow, CNS, kidneys and liver [34, 35]\*\*,\*\*. Progressive loss of circulating B cells, and an increase in predominantly autoreactive CD21(lo) B cells in peripheral blood accompanied the accumulation of B cells in non-lymphoid organs, thus suggesting a critical role for CTLA-4 in T and B lymphocyte

#### 3. Immunodeficiency with lymphoproliferation caused by a dominant

activating mutation in *PIK3R1*—Gain-of-function mutations in *PIK3CD*, encoding the p1108 catalytic subunit of phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase (PI3K) were described to cause an immune dysregulatory disease with autoimmune manifestations and immunodeficiency named PASLI [36] or APDS [37]. More recently, four patients from three families with a similar phenotype had a splice site mutation in another gene in the same pathway, *PIK3R1*, encoding the regulatory protein of PI3K pathway, p85a [38]\*. Patients present with recurrent sinopulmonary infections and diffuse lymphadenopathy. Three of four patients had splenomegaly (2 had a splenectomy), and two developed bronchiectasis. Other manifestations included inflammatory bowel disease, autoimmune thrombocytopenia and arthritis and severe juvenile idiopathic arthritis-like disease [38]\*. Three out of the four patients had evidence of systemic inflammation with increased inflammatory markers (ESR and CRP) [38]\*. Four additional patients with a similar splice site variant presented with recurrent upper and lower respiratory tract infections without any evidence of autoimmunity, splenomegaly or lymphadenopathy [39]\*. Disease causing mutations caused skipping of exon 11 of *PIK3R1* and hyperactivity of the PI3K/AKT signaling pathway in both studies [38, 39]\*,\*.

A central immune tolerance defect similar to autoimmune polyendocrinopathy-candidiasisectodermal dystrophy (APECED) syndrome is observed in the disease below.

**4. Immune dysregulatory disease caused by** *PRKDC* **mutations**—Variable disease expression is seen in patients with mutations in *PRKDC*, encoding a catalytic subunit of DNA-dependent protein kinase (DNA-PK), a double-stranded DNA break repair enzyme [40, 41]. Enzymatic activity can vary in patients with the same mutation (p.L3062R). Patients with complete absence of DNA-PK enzymatic activity present with T<sup>-</sup>B<sup>-</sup>NK<sup>+</sup> SCID [40, 41]. Patients with residual enzymatic activity present with autoimmune features, positive ANA, granulomas in skin and spleen, arthritis and recurrent lung infections with bronchiectasis [42]\*. Two reported patients had increased numbers of inflammatory CD4+CD16+monocytes, and severely reduced CD4+T, CD8+T and T<sub>reg</sub> cells [42]\*. Mutant DNA-PK impairs AIRE's ability to regulate ectopic expression of tissue specific antigens (TSAs) in medullary thymic epithelial cells [42]\*, thus suggesting a critical role of PRKDC in impaired negative selection of autoreactive T cells [43].

## Conclusion

The recently discovered monogenic immune-dysregulatory diseases have substantially widened our understanding of pathogenic pathways that cause predominantly innate or adaptive immune response dysregulation.

The discovery of mutations in viral innate immune sensor pathways coupled to chronically increased IFN production introduces Type I IFNs as key cytokines in causing a novel group of autoinflammatory diseases; as potent activators of innate and adaptive immune responses

[44]. Future studies on the release of Type I IFNs will assist in dissecting the contribution of innate and adaptive immune dysregulation in these conditions. Novel disorders caused by mutations in molecules associated with cell differentiation, mitochondrial and Golgi transport provide opportunities to study pathways that cause various forms of cellular stress and their link to proinflammatory pathways. Genetic defects that lead to novel monogenic autoimmune diseases provide insights into pathways that lead to a break in T and B cell tolerance.

Taken together, the study of early-onset immune dysregulatory conditions continues to provide an opportunity to discover and understand the novel molecular pathways that lead to tissue-specific inflammation and provide novel targets to explore for treatment for patients with rare syndomes that present wth excessive inflammation but also for patients with more common inflamamtory disorders.

#### Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank the support given by the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin diseases (NIAMS), National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Financial support and sponsorship

This work was funded by the NIAMS Intramural Research program (IRP) NIH, the Clinical Center, and NIAMS.

#### Abbreviations

Novel immune dysregulatory diseases described:

SAVI	STING associated vasculopathy with onset in infancy
AGS7	Aicardi-Goutières Syndrome 7
DADA2	Deficiency of adenosine deaminase 2
AP1S3	associated pustular psoriasis
SIFD	Congenital sideroblastic anemia with immunodeficiency, fevers and developmental delay
TRAPS11	TNF-Receptor Associated Periodic Syndrome due mutations in TNFRSF11A
Other Abbr	reviations used in the review
ANA	antinuclear antibody
ANCA	anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibody

- AP1 activator protein 1
- APDS activated PI3K-δ syndrome

CAPS	cryopyrin associated periodic syndrome
CNS	central nervous system
CRP	C-reactive protein
ER	endoplasmic reticulum
ESR	erythrocyte sedimentation rate
FCAS	familial cold autoinflammatory syndrome
HSCT	hematopoietic stem cell transplantation
IFN	interferon
IRF	interferon regulatory factor
MAS	macrophage activation syndrome
MDA5	melanoma differentiation-associated protein 5
NACHT-domain	acronym standing for NAIP (neuronal apoptosis inhibitor protein), C2TA (MHC class 2 transcription activator), HET-E (incompatibility locus protein from Podospora anserina) and TP1 (telomerase- associated protein)
NF-ĸB	nuclear factor of kappa light chain gene enhancer in B cells
NSAIDs	nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs
PASLI	<u><i>p</i></u> 110δ <u><i>a</i></u> ctivating mutations causing <u>s</u> enescent T cells, <u><i>l</i>ymphadenopathy, and <u><i>i</i>mmunodeficiency</u></u>
PRD-III-I	positive regulatory domain III-I element
RANK	Receptor Activator of NF-KB
RF	rheumatoid factor
RIG-I	retinoic acid-inducible gene 1
SCID	severe combined immunodeficiency
SJIA	systemic-onset juvenile idiopathic arthritis
TLR3	Toll-like receptor 3
TREX1	Three prime repair exonuclease 1

## **References and Recommended Reading**

Papers of particular interest, published within the annual period of review, have been highlighted as:

- \* of special interest
- \*\* of outstanding interest

- de Jesus AA, et al. Molecular mechanisms in genetically defined autoinflammatory diseases: disorders of amplified danger signaling. Annu Rev Immunol. 2015; 33:823–74. [PubMed: 25706096] [This is a comprehensive review on the pathomechanisms of the autoinflammatory diseases described to date.]
- 2\*\*. Liu Y, et al. Activated STING in a vascular and pulmonary syndrome. N Engl J Med. 2014; 371(6):507–18. [PubMed: 25029335] [This study reports for the first time 6 patients with a severe vasculopathy who were found to have germline heterozygous mutations in TMEM173, gene encoding STING (stimulator of interferon genes). STING is an important adaptor molecule in the DNA sensing pathway and patients with STING associated vasculopathy with onset in infancy (SAVI) present with a constitutive IFN-b production and high expression of interferon stimulated genes (ISGs)]
- 3\*\*. Jeremiah N, et al. Inherited STING-activating mutation underlies a familial inflammatory syndrome with lupus-like manifestations. J Clin Invest. 2014; 124(12):5516–20. [PubMed: 25401470] [Four patients from the same family with SAVI clinical phenotype and a mutation in TMEM173 are reported. Interestingly, this study shows a variable disease penetrance.]
- 4. Omoyinmi E, et al. Stimulator of interferon genes-associated vasculitis of infancy. Arthritis Rheumatol. 2015; 67(3):808. [PubMed: 25510345]
- 5. Munoz J, et al. Stimulator of Interferon Genes-Associated Vasculopathy With Onset in Infancy : A Mimic of Childhood Granulomatosis With Polyangiitis. JAMA Dermatol. 2015
- 6\*. Ahn J, et al. STING manifests self DNA-dependent inflammatory disease. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2012; 109(47):19386–91. [PubMed: 23132945] [This study links STING to the inflammation initiated by self-DNA as in mice, DNase II-dependent lethality is rescued by loss of STING function.]
- 7\*\*. Wu J, et al. Cyclic GMP-AMP is an endogenous second messenger in innate immune signaling by cytosolic DNA. Science. 2013; 339(6121):826–30. [PubMed: 23258412] [This study represents a cutting-edge on the DNA sensing pathway. It describes the discovery of cGAMP as a second messenger which activates STING and the subsequent transcription of type I IFNs.]
- Rice GI, et al. Assessment of interferon-related biomarkers in Aicardi-Goutieres syndrome associated with mutations in TREX1, RNASEH2A, RNASEH2B, RNASEH2C, SAMHD1, and ADAR: a case-control study. Lancet Neurol. 2013; 12(12):1159–69. [PubMed: 24183309]
- 9\*\*. Rice GI, et al. Gain-of-function mutations in IFIH1 cause a spectrum of human disease phenotypes associated with upregulated type I interferon signaling. Nat Genet. 2014; 46(5):503–9. [PubMed: 24686847] [Germline heterozygous mutations in IFIH1, gene encoding the double-stranded-RNA sensor MDA5, were described in patients with an Aicardi-Goutières syndrome phenotype. This study showed that patients with gain-of-function IFIH1 mutations have a high expression of ISGs and that the disease penetrance is variable.]
- Oda H, et al. Aicardi-Goutieres syndrome is caused by IFIH1 mutations. Am J Hum Genet. 2014; 95(1):121–5. [PubMed: 24995871]
- Van Eyck L, et al. IFIH1 mutation causes systemic lupus erythematosus with selective IgAdeficiency. Arthritis Rheumatol. 2015
- 12\*. Jang MA, et al. Mutations in DDX58, which encodes RIG-I, cause atypical Singleton-Merten syndrome. Am J Hum Genet. 2015; 96(2):266–74. [PubMed: 25620203] [Gain-of-function mutations in DDX8, gene encoding the RNA sensor RIG-I have for the first time been associated with human disease.]
- 13\*\*. Canna SW, et al. An activating NLRC4 inflammasome mutation causes autoinflammation with recurrent macrophage activation syndrome. Nat Genet. 2014; 46(10):1140–6. [PubMed: 25217959] [The discovery of a gain-of-function mutation affecting the IL-1b and IL-18 activating NLRC4 inflammasome is described in a patient with an autoinflammatory disease phenotype. The disease spectrum of the inflammasomopathies was also expanded as the patient presented with macrophage activation syndrome (MAS) episodes.]
- 14\*\*. Romberg N, et al. Mutation of NLRC4 causes a syndrome of enterocolitis and autoinflammation. Nat Genet. 2014; 46(10):1135–9. [PubMed: 25217960] [An activating mutation in NLRC4 was detected in 3 members of a family who presented with severe earlyonset enterocolitis and recurrent MAS. A constitutive activation of NLRC4 inflammasome was observed and the clinical descriptions also expanded the spectrum of the inflammasomopathies.]

- 15\*. Kitamura A, et al. An inherited mutation in NLRC4 causes autoinflammation in human and mice. J Exp Med. 2014; 211(12):2385–96. [PubMed: 25385754] [A mutation in NLRC4 was also described in a Japanese family with 13 individuals presenting with familial cold autoinflammatory syndrome (FCAS)-like phenotype.]
- 16\*\*. Zhou Q, et al. Early-onset stroke and vasculopathy associated with mutations in ADA2. N Engl J Med. 2014; 370(10):911–20. [PubMed: 24552284] [A new Mendelian disease is described in patients with loss-of-funtion bi-allelic mutations in CECR1, gene encoding ADA2. The clinical manifestations of the disease, named deficiency of ADA2 (DADA2), include recurrent fevers, CNS and skin vasculopathy, resembling systemic polyarteritis nodosa features.]
- 17\*\*. Navon Elkan P, et al. Mutant adenosine deaminase 2 in a polyarteritis nodosa vasculopathy. N Engl J Med. 2014; 370(10):921–31. [PubMed: 24552285] [This study also described for the first time patients with a clinical phenotype of polyarteritis nodosa who presented with deficiency of ADA2 caused by bi-allelic CECR1 mutations. In the 6 families described an early-onset of cutaneous or systemic polyarteritis nodosa clinical manifestations was observed.]
- Garg N, et al. Novel adenosine deaminase 2 mutations in a child with a fatal vasculopathy. Eur J Pediatr. 2014; 173(6):827–30. [PubMed: 24737293]
- Van Eyck L Jr. et al. Hematopoietic stem cell transplantation rescues the immunologic phenotype and prevents vasculopathy in patients with adenosine deaminase 2 deficiency. J Allergy Clin Immunol. 2015; 135(1):283–7. e5. [PubMed: 25457153]
- 20. Belot A, et al. Mutations in CECR1 associated with a neutrophil signature in peripheral blood. Pediatr Rheumatol Online J. 2014; 12:44. [PubMed: 25278816]
- 21\*\*. Chakraborty PK, et al. Mutations in TRNT1 cause congenital sideroblastic anemia with immunodeficiency, fevers, and developmental delay (SIFD). Blood. 2014; 124(18):2867–71. [PubMed: 25193871] [The genetic ethiology of the severe syndrome SIFD was disclosed. The clinical phenotype was described in 2013 and patients with SIFD present with severe sideroblastic anemia and developmental delay associated with recurrent episodes of non-infectious fever. Autosomal recessive mutations in the tRNA transferase TRNT1 cause SIFD.]
- 22\*. Wiseman DH, et al. A novel syndrome of congenital sideroblastic anemia, B-cell immunodeficiency, periodic fevers, and developmental delay (SIFD). Blood. 2013; 122(1):112–23. [PubMed: 23553769] [The clinical manifestations of SIFD were first reported by this study that included the same patients who had genetic diagnosis performed in the later study (Chakraborty PK et al).]
- 23. Igarashi T, et al. Pyrophosphorolysis of CCA addition: implication for fidelity. J Mol Biol. 2011; 414(1):28–43. [PubMed: 22001019]
- Sasarman F, et al. The 3' addition of CCA to mitochondrial tRNASer(AGY) is specifically impaired in patients with mutations in the tRNA nucleotidyl transferase TRNT1. Hum Mol Genet. 2015; 24(10):2841–7. [PubMed: 25652405]
- Hou YM. CCA addition to tRNA: implications for tRNA quality control. IUBMB Life. 2010; 62(4):251–60. [PubMed: 20101632]
- 26\*\*. Watkin LB, et al. COPA mutations impair ER-Golgi transport and cause hereditary autoimmune-mediated lung disease and arthritis. Nat Genet. 2015 [The sudy reports a novel autosomal dominant disease characterized by interstitial lung disease or pulmonary hemorrhage, which can be associated with arthritis and glomerulonephritis. The disease was also shown to have variable penetrance.]
- 27\*. Setta-Kaffetzi N, et al. AP1S3 mutations are associated with pustular psoriasis and impaired Tolllike receptor 3 trafficking. Am J Hum Genet. 2014; 94(5):790–7. [PubMed: 24791904] [A new genetic cause for pustular psoriasis was described in 15 patients who had autosomal dominant mutations in *AP1S3*.]
- Jeru I, et al. Brief Report: Involvement of TNFRSF11A molecular defects in autoinflammatory disorders. Arthritis Rheumatol. 2014; 66(9):2621–7. [PubMed: 24891336]
- 29\*. Wakil SM, et al. Association of a mutation in LACC1 with a monogenic form of systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis. Arthritis Rheumatol. 2015; 67(1):288–95. [PubMed: 25220867] [For the first time, a subset of patients with systemic-onset JIA were identified as having a monogenic disease. Autossomal recessive mutations in LACC1 were observed in 13 patients from 5 consanguineous families.]

- Minegishi Y, et al. Dominant-negative mutations in the DNA-binding domain of STAT3 cause hyper-IgE syndrome. Nature. 2007; 448(7157):1058–62. [PubMed: 17676033]
- 31. Holland SM, et al. STAT3 mutations in the hyper-IgE syndrome. N Engl J Med. 2007; 357(16): 1608–19. [PubMed: 17881745]
- 32\*\*. Flanagan SE, et al. Activating germline mutations in STAT3 cause early-onset multi-organ autoimmune disease. Nat Genet. 2014; 46(8):812–4. [PubMed: 25038750] [For the first time, gain-of-function mutations in STAT3 were associated with human disease . The clinical phenotype was described as being different from the patients with inactivating mutations in STAT3 reported by Holland SM et al. and Minegishi Y et al. in 2007.]
- 33\*\*. Milner JD, et al. Early-onset lymphoproliferation and autoimmunity caused by germline STAT3 gain-of-function mutations. Blood. 2015; 125(4):591–9. [PubMed: 25359994] [The description of these 13 patients expanded the phenotype of the 5 patients initially described by Flanagan SE et al. In contrast to the first description, in this study most of the patients presented with recurrent or severe bacterial infections.]
- 34\*\*. Schubert D, et al. Autosomal dominant immune dysregulation syndrome in humans with CTLA4 mutations. Nat Med. 2014; 20(12):1410–6. [PubMed: 25329329] [A novel disease characterized by T cell lymphoproliferation was described. The patients reported presented with T cell infiltration in several tissues, CVID and autoimmune manifestations.]
- 35\*\*. Kuehn HS, et al. Immune dysregulation in human subjects with heterozygous germline mutations in CTLA4. Science. 2014; 345(6204):1623–7. [PubMed: 25213377] [This study concomitantly demonstrated that heterozygous mutations in CTLA4 cause an autoimmune lymphoproliferative syndrome with autoimmune cytopenias and circulating autoantibodies.]
- Lucas CL, et al. Dominant-activating germline mutations in the gene encoding the PI(3)K catalytic subunit p110delta result in T cell senescence and human immunodeficiency. Nat Immunol. 2014; 15(1):88–97. [PubMed: 24165795]
- 37. Angulo I, et al. Phosphoinositide 3-kinase delta gene mutation predisposes to respiratory infection and airway damage. Science. 2013; 342(6160):866–71. [PubMed: 24136356]
- 38\*. Lucas CL, et al. Heterozygous splice mutation in PIK3R1 causes human immunodeficiency with lymphoproliferation due to dominant activation of PI3K. J Exp Med. 2014; 211(13):2537–47. [PubMed: 25488983] [A lymphoproliferative syndrome with autoimmune manifestations was attributed to a mutation in *PIK3R1*.]
- 39\*. Deau MC, et al. A human immunodeficiency caused by mutations in the PIK3R1 gene. J Clin Invest. 2014; 124(9):3923–8. [PubMed: 25133428] [A different clinical phenotype from the described by Lucas CL et al. was reported.]
- Woodbine L, et al. PRKDC mutations in a SCID patient with profound neurological abnormalities. J Clin Invest. 2013; 123(7):2969–80. [PubMed: 23722905]
- van der Burg M, et al. A DNA-PKcs mutation in a radiosensitive T-B-SCID patient inhibits Artemis activation and nonhomologous end-joining. J Clin Invest. 2009; 119(1):91–8. [PubMed: 19075392]
- 42\*. Mathieu AL, et al. PRKDC mutations associated with immunodeficiency, granuloma, and autoimmune regulator-dependent autoimmunity. J Allergy Clin Immunol. 2015 [Although autosomal recessive mutations in PRKDC have previously been associated with a SCID phenotype, this study described 2 patients who had organ-specific autoimmunity.]
- Anderson MS, Su MA. Aire and T cell development. Curr Opin Immunol. 2011; 23(2):198–206. [PubMed: 21163636]
- 44. Uematsu S, Akira S. Toll-like receptors and Type I interferons. J Biol Chem. 2007; 282(21): 15319–23. [PubMed: 17395581]

#### **Recent findings**

Ten novel monogenic immune-dysregulatory disorders that present with innate and acquired/adaptive immune dysregulation and inflammatory clinical phenotypes were identified. These include autosomal dominant gain-of function-mutations in viral innate immune sensors or their adaptors, TMEM173/STING IFIH1/MDA5 and DDX58/RIG-I cause complex clinical syndromes distinct from IL-1 mediated diseases and present with a chronic type I interferon (IFN Type I) signature in peripheral blood. Gain-of-function mutations in NLRC4 add a novel inflammasome disorder associated with predisposition to macrophage-activation syndrome and highly elevated IL-18 levels. Mutations in ADA2, TRNT1 and COPA, AP1S3 and TNFRSF11A cause complex syndromes; loss of function mutations in enzymes and molecules are linked to the generation of "cellular stress" and the release of inflammatory mediators that likely cause the inflammatory disease manifestations. A monogenic form of systemic-onset juvenile idiopathic arthritis is caused by homozygous mutations in LACC1. Lastly, mutations in PRKDC (recessive), STAT3, CTLA4 and PIK3R1 (all dominant) lead to impaired central and peripheral T cell tolerance and present with variable disease manifestations of immunodeficiency and immune dysregulation/autoimmunity.

#### Key points

- **1.** The monogenic immune-dysregulatory diseases can be caused by defects in molecules involved in either the innate or the adaptive immune reponses.
- 2. In general, innate immune system dysregulation leads to "autoinflammatory" diseases phenotypes and adaptive immune system dysregulation leads to primary immunodeficiencies with lymphoproliferation with or without autoimmunity.
- **3.** An overlap of clinical and immunological phenotypes is increasingly observed in both groups of immune-dysregulatory diseases.
- **4.** The study of Mendelian immune-dysregulatory disease mechanisms can provide insights into novel inflammatory disease pathways and lead to the discovery of novel therapeutic targets.

	OMIM No	Inheritance	Gene (chromosome region)	Protein (UniProtKB)	Number of patients reported	Functional Data	predominant immune cells found in tissues
DISORDERS AFFECTING PREDOMINANTLY T	INANIMOU	LY THE INNAT	HE INNATE IMMUNE SYSTEM				
Type I Interferonopathies							
SAVI	615934	ΩV	<i>TMEM173</i> (5q31.2)	STING	12	Increased expression of ISGs; constitutive <i>IFNB1</i> transcription in patients' cells and transfected cell lines, increased serum levels of CONSILUO, constitutive STAT1 phosphorylation	Interstitial lymphoid aggregates and macrophage alveolar infiltration in the lung: predominant neutrophil infiltrate in skin tissue
AGS7	615846	dA	IFIH1 (2q24.2)	IFIH1/MDA5	15	Increased expression of ISGs; increased baseline and ligand-induced <i>IFNB1</i> transcription	NR
Singleton-Merten Syndrome 2	616298	AD	(9p21.1)	DDX58/RIG-I	11	Constitutive activation of PRDIII-1 and NF- kB; constitutive IRF3 phosphorylation and dimerization	Psoriasiform skin lesions were observed (biopsy in 1 patient).
Macrophage Activation Syndrome							
NLRC4-associated disease	616050 616115	AD	NLRC4 (2p22.3)	NLRC4	17	Increased serum levels of IL-18; increased NLRC4 oligomerization; increased cleavage of procaspase-1; increased secretion of IL-1β	Intra-epithelial lymphocytes in duodenal tissue: macrophage activation in bone marrow; numerous CD163+ macrophages in CNS tissues
Intracellular stress leading to inflammatory manifestations	ammatory man	ifestations					
DADA2	615688	AR	CECR1 (22q11.1)	CECR1/ADA2	38	Increased expression of ISGs and neutrophil-	Mixed inflammatory infiltrate on skin: MPO+ neutrophils and CD68+

Curr Opin Rheumatol. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2016 September 01.

Table 1

Newly recognized monogenic disorders of innate and adaptive/acquired immune systems

⊵
uth
q
S
n
ISC
ript

Author Manuscript

Author Manuscript

de Je	sus and Go	ldbach-Ma	ansky									Pa
predominant immune cells found in tissues	related genes; implimmentonfukfesninchrohlagenstifiendeffDation related genes; implimyentpifokyftesninctophagedisfferalentiation related genes; impairment of M2 macrophage differentiation related genes; impairment of M2 macrophage differentiation	Skin biopsy revealed a perivascular lymphohistiocytic infiltrate within papillary dermis in one patient.	Interstitial infiltrates and germinal center formation with CD20+ B cells (predominant). CD4+ and CD8+ T cells in the lung tissue: immune complex deposition in glomeruli and interstital chronic inflammation in kidney tissue		Intra-epidermal spongiform pustules filled with neutrophils	NR	NR			Lymphocytic interstitial pneumonia	Extensive CD4+ T cell infiltration in intestines, lung, bone marrow, brain, liver, kidneys; follicular hyperplasia in lymph nodes and CD20+ cells in duodenum	NR
Functional Data	related genes; imp related genes; impa related genes; impa related genes; imp	Deficient CCA- adding to tRNAs	Increased ER stress, enhanced levels of IL-23 p19, IL-12 p40, IL-12 p35, IL-1β and IL-6		Disrupted endosomal translocation of TLR3	Reduced spontaneous activation of NF- KB	NR			Increased STAT3 transcriptional activity and decreased Treg compartment	Defect in the CTLA4-dependent Treg cell suppression	Constitutive hyperactivation of PI3K and AKT
Number of patients reported		16	21		15	Э	13			18	21	8
Protein (UniProtKB)		TRNTI	COPA		APIS3	TNRII	LACC1	SYSTEM		STAT3	CTLA4	P85A/PIK3R1
Gene (chromosome region)		TRNTI (3p26.2)	<i>COPA</i> (1q23.2)	elucidated	APIS3 (2q36.1)	TNFRSF11A (18q21.33)	LACCI (13q14.11)	CQUIRED/ADAPTIVE IMMUNE SYSTEM		<i>STAT</i> 3 (17q21.2)	CTLA4 (2q33.2)	<i>PIK3RI</i> (5q13.1)
Inheritance		AR	AD	ons not yet eluc	AD	AD	AR	Y THE ACQU		AD	AD	AD
OMIM No		616084	NA	ory manifestati	616106	NA	NA	DOMINANTI	defect	615952	616100	616005
		SIFD	COPA-associated disease	Mechanisms leading to inflammatory manifestations not yet	APIS3 associated pustular psoriasis	TRAPS11	Monogenic SJIA caused by LACC1 mutations	DISORDERS AFFECTING PREDOMINANTLY THE A	Predominant peripheral tolerance defect	STAT3 gain-of-function associated disease	CHAI/ALPS5	Immunodeficiency with lymphoproliferation caused by a dominant activating mutation in <i>PIK3R1</i>

Author Manuscript

	OMIM No	Inheritance	OMIM No Inheritance Gene (chromosome region) Protein (UniProtKB) Number of patients	Protein (UniProtKB)	Number of patients reported	Functional Data	predominant immune cells found in tissues
Predominant central immune tolerance defect	rance defect						
Immune dysregulatory disease caused by PRKDC mutations	NA	AR	PRKDC (8q11.21)	PRKDC	2	Increased expression of ISGs; increased BAFF, TNF-a and IFN-y mRNA expression; impaired AIRE function	Non-caseating granulomas in skin and caseating granulomas in spleen
SAVI, STING-associated vasculopathy with onset in infancy; AGS7, Aicardi-Goutieres Syndrome 7; DADA2, deficiency of adenosine deaminase 2; SIFD, congenital sideroblastic anemia with	hy with onset ir	1 infancy; AGS7	, Aicardi-Goutieres Syndrome 7;	; DADA2, deficiency of ac	denosine dean	ninase 2; SIFD, congeni	tal sideroblastic anemia with

autoimmune infiltration; ALPS5, autoimmune lymphoproliferative syndrome 5; ISGs, interferon stimulated genes; ER, endoplasmic reticulum; TLR3, Toll-like receptor 3; CCA, cytosine/cytosine/adenine; immunodeficiency, fevers, and developmental delay; TRAPS11, TNF receptor associated periodic syndrome 11; SJIA, systemic-onset juvenile idiopathic arthritis; CHAI, CTLA-4 haploinsufficiency with IRF3, interferon regulatory factor 3; PRDIII-I, positive regulatory domains III-I; Treg, regulatory T cells; AKT, RAC-alpha serine/threonine-protein kinase/protein kinase B; PI3K, phosphoinositide 3kinase; CNS, central nervous system; MPO, myeloperoxidase; AD, autosomal dominant; AR, autosomal recessive; NA, not available; NR, not reported.