

# **Immunization with alkyl hydroperoxide reductase subunit C reduces *Fusobacterium nucleatum* load in the intestinal tract**

Song-He Guo<sup>1#</sup>, Hai-Fang Wang<sup>1#</sup>, Zhi-Gang Nian<sup>1</sup>, Yi-Dan Wang<sup>3</sup>, Qiu-Yao Zeng<sup>2</sup>,  
Ge Zhang<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Microbial and Biochemical Pharmacy, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China

<sup>2</sup>Department of Clinical Laboratory Medicine, Sun Yat-sen University cancer center, Guangzhou, China, Guangzhou, China

<sup>3</sup>Department of School of Life Science, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China

# Song-He Guo and Hai-Fang Wang contributed equally to this work.

\* **Corresponding Author:** Zhang Ge, Department of Microbial and Biochemical Pharmacy, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Sun Yat-sen University, No.132 Waihuandong Road, University Town, Guangzhou 510006, China. Tel: 86-20-39943027; Fax: 86-20-39943021; E-mail: [zhangge@mail.sysu.edu.cn](mailto:zhangge@mail.sysu.edu.cn)

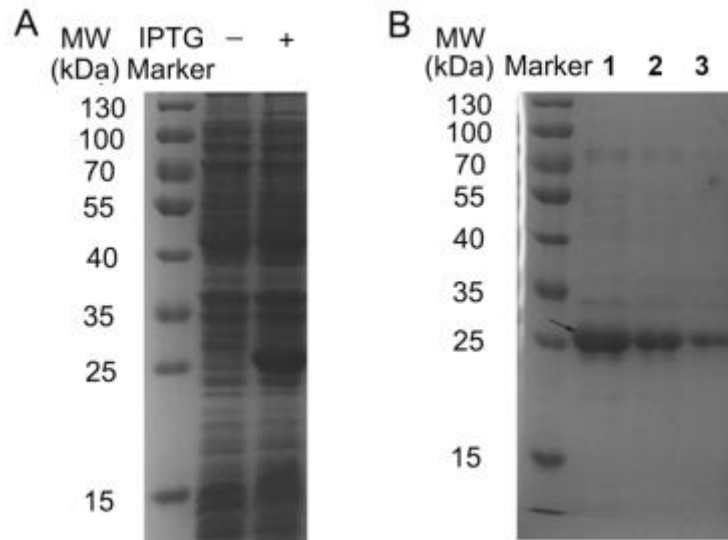
**Supplementary Table 1.** The prediction of antigenic determinants for the AhpC protein among *F. nucleatum* and other related bacteria.

n	<i>Fusobacterium nucleatum</i>	<i>Helicobacter pylori</i>	<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	<i>Streptococcus zooepidemicus</i>	<i>Bacillus anthracis</i>	<i>Burkholderia pseudomallei</i>
1	IGRKVPEFK	IAFDKRVKDFHEKGFN	PKDF	TNEDLKG	TEVKPFKA	SPIKPFKA
2	AFKKGEKDF	SIDTPVEEV	AFDKRYEEFKNRGI	TELGDLQEYETLKSLG	QVTDESLKGKWS	QVSDETLKGKWS
3	TELEDLQDNYEAFKKEGAE	KNTPVEKGGIG	WKNTPVNEGG	AWHDDSDV	TELEDLQNQ	TELGDLAERYAE
4	WADHSERIKKVT	DITKSISRDYDVLV	LTKQIAR	QYVRKHPGEVCPAKWKEGAE	GDPTRTI	AWHDTSDTIA
5	VHDNGIGRAKELLRKLQG	DKGRNAEMLR	TNEHGEVC	LTPSL	VRNNPGEVCP	HPGEVCPAKWTPGADTLTPSL
6	FVAEHGEVCPAKWQPGSETLKPSL	GWRKGDKGMKA	AGWNKGDEGMKANPKG		KWQEGSATLKPSL	
7			YLGKNEAKL			

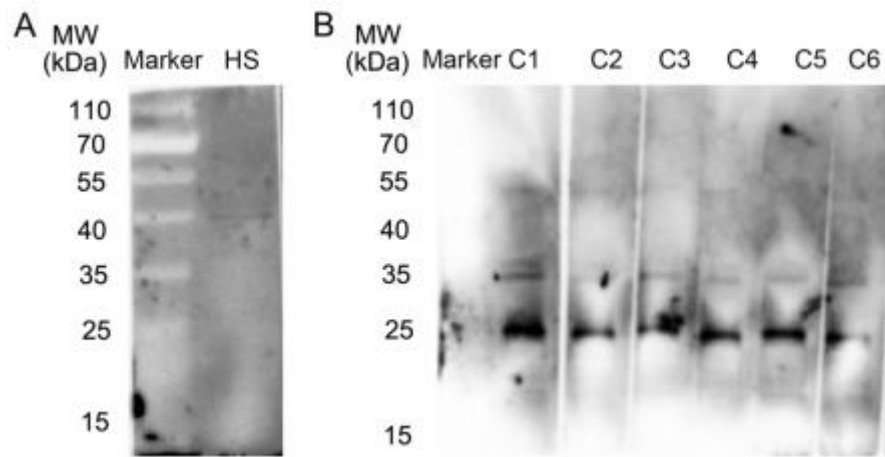
n	<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	<i>Lactobacillus brevis</i>	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	<i>Bifidobacterium longum</i>	<i>Bacteroides fragilis</i>	<i>Clostridium butyricum</i>
1	KIKPFKNQAFKNGEF	TELGDLADH	TKIKPFKNQAFKNGEF	ELTDFK	QMPEFK	INKKVSDF
2	EVTEKDTEGRW	QADTEI	EITEKDTEGRW	QNEFHEVTKDDV	QNGSFKTVSSSEVKG	YQNGEFKEVTLESIKG
3	GIGRDASDLLRRIKA	SISEDFEF	TELGDVADHYEELQKLG	TELEDAENYAKFKEIG	ELVDVAEKYEQ	ADPTGRLARDFEVMIEEGLAL
4	DPTGALTRNFDNMREDEGLADRA	EQSAEVGK	AWHSSSETIA	WHDANEKIAK	NPEGKIKIAEIQDNNIGRNA DELLRKVEA	HDLGIGRSADELLRKKVQ
5	HPGEVCPAKWKEGEA	DVLN	DPTGALTRNFDNMREDEGLA DRA	KDLDTYNEADGVAERGFIVSP EGKVV	KWKKGEATLKPSI	VAEHGDQVCPAKWQPGE
6		DPQGTVRS	HPGEVCPAKWKEGEA	SSNVGRNAEELLRRVQ		
7		GEQTLKPGTDLVG		TPGEETIEPSL		

**Supplementary Table 2.** Relationship between the OD value of IgG/IgA antibodies against Fn-AhpC and the clinicopathological variables in 258 patients with CRC.

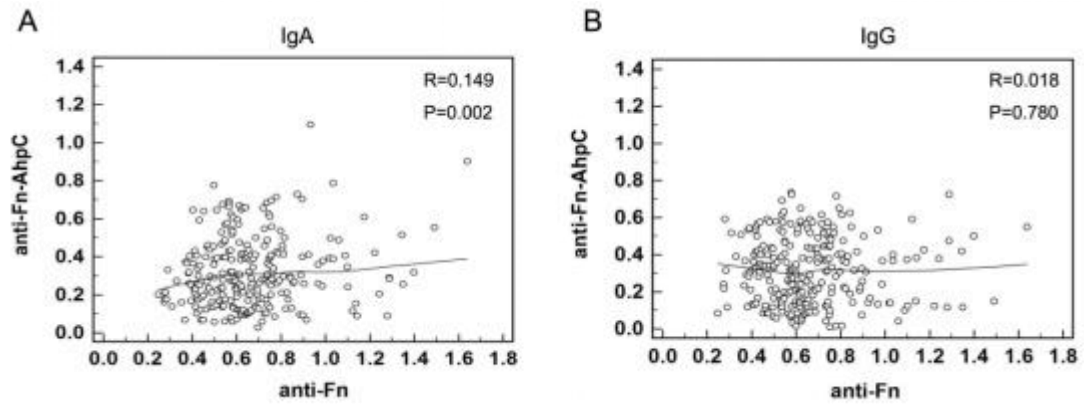
Characteristics	n	IgG (Means±SD)	P	IgA (Means±SD)	P
Gender			0.643		0.471
Male	144	0.313±0.298		0.307±0.195	
Female	114	0.285±0.298		0.324±0.186	
Age (y)			0.288		0.068
<60	153	0.323±0.295		0.297±0.186	
≥60	105	0.255±0.241		0.341±0.196	
Tumour volume (cm <sup>3</sup> )			0.163		0.324
≥8.0	83	0.247±0.230		0.338±0.205	
<8.0	175	0.339±0.304		0.311±0.189	
Histological differentiation			0.587		0.424
Well	25	0.338±0.314		0.322±0.187	
Moderate or poor	233	0.258±0.355		0.350±0.181	
pT classification			0.315		0.556
T1+T2	65	0.234±0.269		0.299±0.199	
T3+T4	193	0.309±0.272		0.316±0.186	
pN classification			0.130		0.285
No	152	0.326±0.310		0.299±0.168	
Yes	106	0.235±0.190		0.324±0.193	
pM classification			0.108		0.147
No	205	0.323±0.285		0.308±0.186	
Yes	53	0.205±0.229		0.368±0.199	
Stage			0.125		0.026
I + II	55	0.335±0.303		0.282±0.153	
III +IV	203	0.245±0.219		0.328±0.196	
CEA (µg/ml)			0.750		0.352
< 5	146	0.310±0.291		0.295±0.201	
≥ 5	112	0.290±0.267		0.318±0.175	
CA19-9 (U/ml)			0.761		0.068
< 35	206	0.297±0.279		0.293±0.188	
≥ 35	52	0.319±0.281		0.350±0.197	



**Supplementary Figure 1.** Complete figures showing the expression of recombinant Fn-AhpC after IPTG induction are provided in Fig. 1A and Fig. 1B. (A) Recombinant AhpC expression in the absence (-) or presence (+) of 0.5 mM IPTG was detected using 12% SDS-PAGE and Coomassie brilliant blue staining. (B) The purification of recombinant AhpC. The recombinant AhpC with a His tag was purified using a Ni-NTA column after IPTG induction. Supplementary Fig. 1A was included in Fig. 1A of this manuscript; lane 2 in Supplementary Fig. 1B was included in Fig. 1B of this manuscript.



**Supplementary Figure 2.** Complete figures of the antigens reactive with anti-AhpC-IgA in Fig. 1D are shown. (A) The membrane strips were incubated with pooled serum from 6 Fn-negative healthy individuals. (B) The membrane strips were incubated with separated serum from 6 Fn-positive CRC patients (lane C1-C6). Notably, the gels in Supplementary Fig. 2 were run under the same conditions, and Western blotting was performed using the same set of materials. Supplementary Fig. 2 was included in Fig. 1D of this manuscript.



**Supplementary Figure 3.** The correlation between the levels of antibodies to *F. nucleatum* bacteria and AhpC antigen in serum of CRC patients were analysed using Pearson's correlation coefficient and linear regression.