

Equipe 2

Université Paris Descartes

Faculté de Médecine

Paris Descartes (site Necker)

Unité de Pathogénie
des Infections Systémiques
UMR 1002

Directeur: Prof Xavier Nassif
156, rue de Vaugirard
75730 Paris Cedex 15
FRANCE

Equipe 2: Coordonnateur Alain Charbit

Génomique fonctionnelle des échanges intra-cellulaire des bactéries pathogènes

Notre objectif général est de comprendre les bases moléculaires du parasitisme intracellulaire et la diffusion des bactéries pathogènes intracellulaires humains. Jusqu'à présent nous avons utilisé la bactérie *Listeria monocytogenes*, une bactérie pathogène responsable de méningo-encéphalite et des infections mortelles chez l'homme, comme un organisme modèle unique. Nous avons récemment entrepris l'étude d'un agent pathogène humain seconde intracellulaire, *Francisella tularensis*, responsable de la tularémie maladies zoonotiques. La virulence extrême de *F. tularensis*, sa capacité à infecter sous la forme d'aérosols et de persister dans l'environnement, en font une classe potentielle Un agent de bioterrorisme.

L. monocytogenes a développé des stratégies bien caractérisées pour rapidement s'échapper de la vacuole des cellules infectées, de multiplier activement dans le cytosol et de répandre par le passage direct de cellule à cellule. Notre travail sur *Listeria monocytogenes*, qui se concentre exclusivement sur les mécanismes de captation du fer, est réalisée en étroite collaboration avec le laboratoire de Phillip Klebba (Université d'Oklahoma).

F. tularensis, qui reproduit *in vivo* principalement à l'intérieur des macrophages, inhibe la fusion phagolysosomale et s'échappe rapidement de phagosomes acidifiés à se multiplier activement dans le cytosol de la cellule hôte. La bactérie diffuse finalement à des cellules adjacentes en détruisant sa cellule hôte par apoptose et pyroptosis. Les mécanismes moléculaires sous-jacents de son cycle de vie intra-cellulaires sont à présent largement inconnus.

Notre équipe développe deux axes de recherche principaux:

i) la réponse de stress *F. tularensis*. Nous spécifiquement le rôle des protéines Hfq liant l'ARN et des petits ARN dans la régulation de l'expression génique.

ii) *F. tularensis* contraintes nutritionnelles. Nous souhaitons comprendre les mécanismes de l'acquisition intra-cellulaire des nutriments et leur relation à la virulence.

L. monocytogenes se multiplier dans le cytosol des macrophages infectés (microscopie confocale).

F. tularensis dans un phagosome (Thin microscopie électronique section)

Alain Charbit (DR1, CNRS)

Monique Barel (DR2, Inserm)
Jennifer Dieppedal (doctorant, Université Paris Descartes)
Iharilalao Dubail (TR, Université Paris Descartes)
Marion Dupuis (TR, Inserm)
Gaël Gesbert (M2, Université Paris Descartes)
Karin Meibom (CR1, Inserm)
Guillaume Postic (doctorant, Université Paris Descartes)
Aurélie Ramond (Doctorant, Université Paris Descartes)

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