IMPAIRED NATURAL KILLER CELL FUNCTION IN DOCK8 DEFICIENCY

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1MC Mizokos, 1PP Banerjee, 1L Monaco-Shawver, 1EM Mace, 2W Bernal, 3J Sawalle-Belohradsky, 4B Belohradsky, 5V Heinz, 5AF Freeman, 6KE Sullivan, 5SM Holland, 5TR Torgerson, 7W Al-Herz, 7J Chou, 7IC Hanson, 8MH Albert, 8RS Geha, 4ED Renner, 1,7US Orange, 1Baylor College of Medicine, 2Texas Children’s Hospital, Houston, TX, 3Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute, Philadelphia, PA, USA; 4University Children’s Hospital, Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich, Germany; 5National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, USA; 6University of Washington and Seattle Children’s Hospital, Seattle, WA, USA; 7Kuwait University and Allergy and Clinical Immunology Unit, Kuwait City, Kuwait; 8Boston Children’s Hospital, Boston, MA, USA

Introduction  DOCK8 mutations are responsible for a rare autosomal recessive immunodeficiency syndrome associated with severe cutaneous viral infections, elevated IgE levels, environmental allergies, autoimmunity, and malignancy. DOCK8 activates CDC42, which is important for cell signalling and actin reorganisation. Natural killer cells play a vital role in tumour surveillance and defence against virally infected cells. NK cell function relies on the accumulation of actin at the NK cell immunologic synapse formed with target cells. Although abnormalities in T and B cell function have been described in DOCK8-deficient patients, the role of NK cells in this disease is poorly understood.
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