

## Function and Heterogeneity of Human Fc Receptors for Immunoglobulin G

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The recognition of foreign antigens by receptors on the surface of cells of the immune system is a fundamental feature of immune defenses. The receptor systems involved include the T cell receptor complex, surface Ig of B cells, class I and II histocompatibility antigens, CD4, CD8, complement receptors, and receptors for the Fc domain of IgG (Fc<sub>γ</sub>R).<sup>1</sup> It is noteworthy that, except for the complement receptors, all of these are membrane-bound glycoproteins that are members of the Ig supergene family (see Williams and Barclay [1] for review). Although the existence of Fc<sub>γ</sub>R has been appreciated since the late 1960s (2), it was only with the advent of MAb technology that the complexity of the Fc<sub>γ</sub>R family has become evident. With the cloning of the genes for several murine and human Fc<sub>γ</sub>Rs, it is apparent that the notion of a MAb defining one Fc<sub>γ</sub>R is simplistic, since several proteins with widely divergent transmembrane and cytoplasmic domains, but conserved extracellular domains, may be recognized by the same MAb reagent. This review will focus on recent progress in the elucidation of the human Fc<sub>γ</sub>R family; previous reviews cover the older literature and the murine system in more detail (3–6).

The provisional nomenclature discussed at a meeting on Fc receptors and Ig binding factors sponsored by the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology in June, 1987 is based primarily on MAb reactivity and secondarily on subclass specificity, and is summarized in Table I.

### Structure of murine Fc<sub>γ</sub>Rs

The cloning of murine Fc<sub>γ</sub>Rs has been accomplished by several groups (7–10). These studies reveal that the murine Fc<sub>γ</sub>Rs consist of a mature extracellular domain of ~ 180 amino acids, which can be subdivided into two homologous domains most closely related to the Ig constant region C2 domain set (1). Each subdomain contains two cysteine residues that form disulfide bridges (11, 12) with loops from 43 to 45 residues long, in contrast to most other members of the Ig gene superfamily, which have longer loops. Other members of the C2 set are adhesion molecules such as NCAM, myelin-associated

protein, CD2, the ε chain of CD3, and peptide receptors for PDGF, CSF-1, and IL-6 (13).

There are two genes encoding the low avidity muFc<sub>γ</sub>RII proteins, muFc<sub>γ</sub>RIIα and muFc<sub>γ</sub>RIIβ, which share 95% homology in the extracellular domains but differ in their transmembrane and cytoplasmic domains. The muFc<sub>γ</sub>RIIα gene is transcribed in macrophages, and has a transmembrane domain remarkable for a charged aspartyl residue in the bilayer leaflet and a 26-residue basic cytoplasmic domain. The protein sequence of the transmembrane domain of the muFc<sub>γ</sub>RIIα is homologous to the transmembrane domain of the IgE-binding α subunit of the high avidity basophil/mast cell Fc<sub>γ</sub>RI (14, 15), which suggests that the two receptors may have a similar mechanism of signal transduction. The muFc<sub>γ</sub>RIIβ gene has two transcripts, muFc<sub>γ</sub>RIIβ1 and muFc<sub>γ</sub>RIIβ2, that differ in a 46-amino-acid insertion in the cytoplasmic domain of the muFc<sub>γ</sub>RIIβ1 protein. The transmembrane domain of the muFc<sub>γ</sub>RIIβ gene has no charged amino acids. The structure of muFc<sub>γ</sub>RI, the high avidity receptor that binds murine IgG2a and human IgG1, has not yet been determined.

### huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI

HuFc<sub>γ</sub>RI, found predominantly on monocytes and macrophages, binds monomeric human IgG with high avidity ( $K_a = 1-3 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ) and with a subclass specificity of IgG1 > IgG3 > IgG4 ≫ IgG2 (16), in addition to binding murine IgG2a with high avidity. One epitope on murine IgG2a and human IgG1 that binds to huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI has now been localized to the NH<sub>2</sub>-terminal portion of the C<sub>H</sub>2 domain by Duncan et al. (17). The sequence of murine IgG2a and human IgG1 from residue 234 of the heavy chain is LLGGP. A single amino acid substitution, which converts the homologous sequence of murine IgG2b from LEGGP to LLGGP, increased the binding of the mutant murine IgG2b to huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI 100-fold. There may be other epitopes involved in binding of IgG to huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI and the murine counterpart, muFc<sub>γ</sub>RI, as suggested by inhibition of binding of murine IgG2a immune aggregates to macrophages by aggregated CNBr fragments from both the C<sub>H</sub>2 and C<sub>H</sub>3 domains of IgG2a (18).

HuFc<sub>γ</sub>RI was purified by affinity chromatography from monocytes and the U937 monocytic cell line (19). Several MAbs (32.2, FR51, 10.1) (20–22) have been described that immunoprecipitate huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI, but are apparently directed against epitope(s) not directly associated with the binding site of the receptor since they do not efficiently inhibit binding of IgG. Adsorption of huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI from cell lysates containing huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI on microtiter wells coated with MAb 32.2 conferred high affinity IgG binding on the wells, confirming the anti-Fc<sub>γ</sub>RI specificity of MAb 32.2 (23). The protein has an  $M_r$  of 72,000 on SDS-PAGE, and is heavily glycosylated. After removal of N-linked carbohydrate of *N*-glycosidase-F a core protein with an  $M_r$  of 40,000 was found (21).

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Received for publication 10 October 1988.

1. *Abbreviations used in this paper:* ADCC, antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity; Fc<sub>γ</sub>R, receptor for the Fc domain of IgG; PIG, phosphatidylinositol glycan; PIPLC, phosphatidyl inositol-specific phospholipase C; PNH, paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria.

J. Clin. Invest.

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0021-9738/89/02/0355/07 \$2.00

Volume 83, February 1989, 355–361

Table I. *Fc<sub>γ</sub>R Nomenclature*

Proposed nomenclature	Previous nomenclature	Cell types bearing receptor	Anti-Fc <sub>γ</sub> R MAbs
huFc <sub>γ</sub> RI	Fc <sub>γ</sub> R <sub>hi</sub> , Fc <sub>γ</sub> R <sub>p72</sub>	Monocyte/macrophage, IFN-γ-stimulated neutrophil	32.2, FR51, 10.1 (20–22)
huFc <sub>γ</sub> RII	Fc <sub>γ</sub> R <sub>p40</sub>	Monocyte/macrophage neutrophil, eosinophil, platelet, B cell	IV.3 (35)
huFc <sub>γ</sub> RIII	Fc <sub>γ</sub> R <sub>lo</sub> , Fc <sub>γ</sub> R <sub>p50–70</sub>	NK cells, neutrophils, eosinophils, macrophages, not on monocytes	3G8, B73.1, leu 11a, b, c (34, 53, 59)

The huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI is thought to play a role in antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC) reactions. Graziano and Fanger (24) have demonstrated killing by monocytes of myelomas bearing both anti-huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI and anti-huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII MAb. IFN-γ, which in many systems acts to potentiate ADCC reactions and to enhance the oxidative burst (25), increases the expression of huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI 8–10-fold (26). IFN-γ treatment of U937 cells potentiates ADCC mediated by murine IgG2a (27), the subclass of mouse IgG that binds most avidly to huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI. In addition, IFN-γ induces expression of huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI on neutrophils, which usually do not express this receptor (28–30). The IFN-γ-treated neutrophils have increased ADCC potential and mediate ADCC via the induced huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI (29). Other agents, such as glucocorticoids and retinoic acid (30, 31), and the C5a split product of complement (32), have also been reported to induce huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI expression.

Of interest is a report by Ceuppens et al. (33) of a Dutch family, four members of which have monocytes that lack huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI binding sites. Although the monocytes from these individuals do not bind IgG with high avidity, they show no increased susceptibility to infection. This suggests that the Fc<sub>γ</sub>R/complement receptor systems have enough degeneracy in terms of function that absence of the huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI molecule from the monocyte/macrophage lineage does not seriously compromise immune defenses.

#### huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII

HuFc<sub>γ</sub>RII, CDw32 (34), is distributed on a wide variety of cells, including monocytes, platelets, neutrophils, B cells, and the K562 cell line. The protein was first isolated by affinity chromatography on IgG Sepharose (19), and subsequently an MAb, IV.3, was isolated that immunoprecipitates a protein of *M*<sub>r</sub> 40,000 (35). MAb IV.3 blocks IgG-mediated aggregation of platelets, which bear only huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII. HuFc<sub>γ</sub>RII is a low avidity receptor first identified on U937 cells by the binding of aggregated murine IgG2b at low ionic strength (36). The receptor binds human IgG1 with  $K_a = \sim 2 \times 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1}$ . The order of binding activity to recombinant huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII expressed in COS cells is IgG1 > IgG2 = IgG4 ≫ IgG3 (37).

HuFc<sub>γ</sub>RII apparently plays only a minor role in the binding of IgG-sensitized erythrocytes to neutrophils, monocytes, or macrophages since MAb IV.3, which inhibits huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII, has only a slight effect on binding of immune aggregates (38, 39). HuFc<sub>γ</sub>RII will direct ADCC by monocytes and the cytotoxic potential of this receptor is increased in neutrophils by treatment with IFN-γ, although the density of huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII is not elevated by IFN-γ (24). HuFc<sub>γ</sub>RII may play a vital role in triggering the oxidative burst, since this response to aggregated IgG is blocked by MAb IV.3 or its F(ab')<sub>2</sub> fragment (20). Willis et al. (40) also demonstrate, with a different anti-huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII MAb, that triggering of the oxidative burst and release of lyso-

somal enzymes from neutrophils is dependent on crosslinking of the receptors. Neutrophils that have only huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII on their membrane can be isolated from patients with paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH). Yet these neutrophils can mediate a normal oxidative burst in response to stimulation with IgG-coated latex (41), confirming the role of huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII in triggering oxidative metabolism by neutrophils. Similar results are obtained with neutrophils that have been digested with elastase, which removes most of huFc<sub>γ</sub>RIII but leaves the huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII molecule intact. Elastase-treated neutrophils release superoxide in response to aggregated IgG, and the superoxide release is inhibited by preincubation with MAb IV.3 (42).

The monocyte-dependent T cell response to IgG1 anti-CD3 MAbs is blocked by anti-huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII MAb IV.3 (43) which demonstrates the role of huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII in crosslinking the anti-CD3 MAb on the T cell plasma membrane. Furthermore, cloned huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII expressed in mouse L cells will mediate an anti-CD3 dependent T cell response (44). There is allotypic variation in huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII, which has two alleles identified by an isoelectric point polymorphism (45). The polymorphism is reflected in different accessory cell-dependent mitogenic responses of T cells to murine IgG1 anti-CD3 MAbs. However, the T cells of ~ 30% of normal individuals do not proliferate in the presence of monocytes and murine IgG1 anti-CD3 antibody, due to the failure to crosslink the T cell CD3 via the monocyte huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII. The IgG1 anti-CD3 MAbs can trigger T cell mitogenesis in nonresponding individuals when the MAb is coupled to Sepharose (46–48). The percentage of individuals nonresponsive to IgG1 anti-CD3 MAbs correlates well with the isoelectric polymorphism of huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII (45). The individuals who fail to respond to IgG1 anti-CD3 MAbs apparently fail to do so because the homozygous nonresponder allele of huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII does not bind murine IgG1 (49). There are also reproducible differences in the amount of huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII detected on platelets from different individuals. Platelets with higher levels of huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII are more sensitive to aggregation by IgG complexes (50).

The huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII cDNA has been cloned (37, 51, 52). The leader sequence of huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII shares homology with the muFc<sub>γ</sub>RIIα transcript, but the transmembrane domain of huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII bears homology to muFc<sub>γ</sub>RIIβ. The cytoplasmic domain, which is 76 amino acids long, is composed of neutral and hydrophobic residues and bears no homology to either murine Fc<sub>γ</sub>R. Two mRNA transcripts, of 1.6 and 2.5 kb, are present in lines that express huFc<sub>γ</sub>RIII. The different transcripts may reflect use of different polyadenylation signals.

There may be other huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII genes yet to be characterized. Daudi, an EBV-transformed B cell line, expresses a low affinity Fc<sub>γ</sub>R of 40,000 *M*<sub>r</sub>, and synthesizes transcripts that hybridize with huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII probes. However, the anti-huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII MAb IV.3 does not bind to Daudi, although it does immunopre-

cipitate the two different allotypes of huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>II</sub>. Furthermore, Stuart et al. (51) isolated MAbs directed against peptides immediately COOH-terminal to the first cysteine in each disulfide pair in the Ig-like domains of the predicted huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>II</sub> sequence. Although these sera did bind to U937 and huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>II</sub> transfectants, they did not react with Daudi. Thus it would appear that Daudi has a huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>II</sub> that differs from that cloned so far.

#### *huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub>*

HuFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub>, CD16, is expressed on neutrophils, NK cells, a minor population of T cells, eosinophils, and on tissue macrophages but not on monocytes (38, 53–55). In the granulocyte lineage, huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> is expressed at the metamyelocyte stage. The HL-60 promyelocytic cell line, which does not express huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub>, can be induced to do so by DMSO or retinoic acid, which induces a more mature granulocytic morphology. The recent cloning and expression of huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> in COS cells has facilitated a study of receptor specificity. HuFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> binds human IgG1 and IgG3 with a  $K_a \sim 5 \times 10^5 M^{-1}$  and does not bind human IgG2 and IgG4 (56). These results agree with previous results obtained by Spiegelberg et al. (57) and Gergely et al. (58).

Several lines of evidence suggest that there may be a family of huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> molecules that have highly conserved extracellular domains but may differ in other domains. There are immunological differences between neutrophil and NK cell antigens that can be demonstrated with anti-Fc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> MAbs, and the NA1/NA2 alloantigen system of huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> is apparently restricted to neutrophils (59). Analysis of SDS-PAGE of huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> immunoprecipitated from macrophages, neutrophils, and NK cells before and after deglycosylation also illustrates differences between these receptors. Isolation of huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> from monocytes cultured in vitro for 14 d revealed a protein of  $M_r$  55,000, which was not altered by digestion with *N*-glycanase (39). The neutrophil receptor, by contrast, exhibited a broad band on SDS-PAGE from 50,000–70,000  $M_r$ , which is reduced to a doublet of 28,000–29,000  $M_r$  after deglycosylation. The huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> molecule on NK cells is also different from the neutrophil receptor, since deglycosylation leads to a complex pattern with peptides of 36,000, 40,000, and 44,000  $M_r$  (60).

The neutrophil huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> molecule has now been identified as a membrane protein that has a phosphatidylinositol glycan (PIG) membrane anchor (61, 62). The neutrophil huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> is released from the cells upon treatment with phosphatidyl inositol-specific phospholipase C (PIPLC). Furthermore, neutrophils from patients with PNH, an acquired clonal stem cell disorder characterized by a defect in the biosynthesis of the PIG anchor, show a marked deficiency in huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> expression. Decay accelerating factor and acetylcholinesterase, two other PIG-anchored proteins, are also deficient in the membranes of patients with PNH. Both the NA1 and NA2 alloantigens of huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> are released by PIPLC. Results of expression in COS cells on a cDNA encoding huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> confirm the presence of a PIG anchor (56).

The functional significance of the PIG anchor on neutrophils remains to be determined. Huizinga et al. (62) report that huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> is released upon stimulation of PMN by FMLP, a chemotactic peptide. This is consistent with a previous report (63) demonstrating a loss of Fc<sub>γ</sub>R expression on neutrophils

after stimulation with phorbol esters because both FMLP and immune complexes activate protein kinase C.

There is, however, some question as to whether the huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> molecule on all cell types has a PIG membrane anchor. Thus far, all the members of the Fc receptor family that have been cloned have had two Ig-like extracellular domains, each of  $\sim 85$  amino acids. The size of the deglycosylated huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> molecules isolated from NK cells (60) and macrophages (39) is greater than the 26,000–29,000  $M_r$  deglycosylated Fc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> molecule reported for neutrophils. Furthermore, while PNH patients have dramatically reduced amounts of huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> on the neutrophil plasma membrane, the amount of HuFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> on cultured monocytes is normal (62). Thus, it is likely that there are other members of the CD16/huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> family with different transmembrane and/or cytoplasmic domains.

The activation of NK huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> results in the expression of IL-2 receptor, the transferrin receptor, and the hormones IFN- $\gamma$  and TNF (64). IL-2 and huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> ligands act synergistically to activate NK cells. Thus the synthesis of TNF, barely stimulated by 100 U/ml of IL-2, and only stimulated eightfold by Sepharose B73.1 (an anti-huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> MAb), is stimulated 50-fold by a combination of combined IL-2 and Sepharose B73.1. Egawa et al. (65) report that anti-huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> MAB treatment enhances NK cell activity, and similar results are reported by van de Griend et al. (66). These results have important implications for the mechanism of NK cytotoxicity.

HuFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> is present in high concentration on Kupffer cells in the liver and on macrophages in the red pulp of the spleen, both loci involved in clearance of immune complexes. Blockade of the mononuclear phagocyte system of chimpanzees with either the anti-Fc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> MAB 3G8 or its Fab fragment resulted in a dramatic blockade of in vivo clearance of autologous erythrocytes coated with antibody directed against a minor blood group antigen (67). These results suggest that, at least for this type of large immune complex, huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> on macrophages may be the major receptor involved in clearance. Blockade of huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> by MAB 3G8 was tested as a therapeutic treatment of chronic immune thrombocytopenic purpura, a disease characterized by anti-platelet antibody (68). Infusion of 3G8 in one reported case had a dramatic short-term effect on platelet levels which rose to normal levels and subsided after 2 wk. Reinfusion of the MAB resulted in a blunted response, possibly due to production of antibodies against the murine IgG.

The huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> cloned by Simmons and Seed (56) using a eukaryotic expression shuttle vector from a cDNA library constructed from human placenta reveals greatest homology with the muFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> $\alpha$  gene. The predicted protein has a short transmembrane domain followed by only four residues, only one of which is basically charged. The recombinant huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> expressed in COS cells is immunoreactive with a panel of anti-huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> MAbs, has an  $M_r$  of 50,000–70,000, is reduced in size to 26,000  $M_r$  after *N*-glycanase digestion, and is released from the membrane of transfected cells by digestion with PIPLC, all characteristics of the neutrophil huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub>. There is a conflict, however, between the results of Simmons and Seed (56), who state that the receptor they have isolated is that of NK cells, and Lanier et al. (60) since the latter group reports the NK huFc<sub>γ</sub>R<sub>III</sub> has a deglycosylated size of 36–44 kD,

clearly different from the 26–29 kD deglycosylated neutrophil huFc<sub>γ</sub>RIII (39, 60).

#### *Mechanism of signal transduction*

As discussed previously, the neutrophil receptor responsible for triggering the oxidative burst is huFc<sub>γ</sub>RII. This receptor may be linked to protein kinase C via inhibitory G proteins, since Feister et al. (69) found that pertussis toxin inhibited the oxidative burst of neutrophils triggered by both the chemotactic peptide FMLP and by cross-linking huFc<sub>γ</sub>RIII via MAb KuFc79. Degranulation triggered by the MAb cross-linking was only partially inhibited by pertussis toxin, in contrast to the total inhibition of degranulation observed under the same conditions for FMLP stimulation. Gresham et al. (70) also find that the phagocytic response of neutrophils mediated by Fc<sub>γ</sub>R is partially linked through G protein. Phagocytosis of EIgG by neutrophils can be stimulated by amphotericin B, by a cytokine from lymphocytes co-cultured with monocytes ingesting EIgG (71), or by phorbol dibutyrate. The stimulation by amphotericin B or cytokine is abrogated by cholera toxin or pertussis toxin, but phorbol dibutyrate stimulation is unaffected by these agents, presumably because the phorbol ester bypasses the steps involving the G proteins.

The respiratory burst of macrophages is activated by phagocytosis of EIgG, but not by EIgMC. Taking advantage of this, Brozna et al. (72) looked for differential phosphorylation of macrophage proteins from cells ingesting EIgG compared with EIgMC, and found a series of proteins more intensely labeled after EIgG stimulation. Some of these proteins also are phosphorylated after phorbol myristate acetate (PMA) stimulation. The activity of protein kinase C in particulate fractions also was dramatically increased within minutes of stimulation by EIgG, consistent with protein kinase C activation.

The role of Ca<sup>2+</sup> in Fc<sub>γ</sub>R signalling may differ for different cells and systems. Crosslinking of Fc<sub>γ</sub>R of macrophages (73) and neutrophils (74) has been reported to trigger Ca<sup>2+</sup> mobilization. This may, however, be a secondary phenomenon, since phagocytosis of EIgG is not inhibited after the free Ca<sup>2+</sup> is buffered to 1–10 nM by EGTA or Quin2 (75).

Phillips and Parker (76, 77) have shown that ternary cross-linking of membrane Ig and Fc<sub>γ</sub>R of murine B lymphocytes inhibits stimulation otherwise found with anti-μ or anti-δ F(ab')<sub>2</sub>. Murine B cells stimulated by anti-μ Ig or anti-δ F(ab')<sub>2</sub> show a transient Ca<sup>2+</sup> response and generation of inositol triphosphate, and are stimulated to enlarge and express surface Ia. These responses are largely abrogated by intact rabbit anti-μ or anti-δ, but if the Fc<sub>γ</sub>R is blocked by anti-Fc<sub>γ</sub>R MAb 2.4G2, the responses are restored (78). Goroff and Finkelman (79) report that the stimulatory effect on B cell Ia expression of an IgG2b anti-δ MAb was not inhibited by the anti-Fc<sub>γ</sub>R MAb 2.4G2, but the stimulation by the univalent Fab/Fc anti-δ MAb was blocked. Ca<sup>2+</sup> flux may play a role in activation of NK cells mediated by cross-linking of CD2 and huFc<sub>γ</sub>RIII (80).

It seems only reasonable that proteins other than the Fc<sub>γ</sub>R itself are involved in such complicated cellular behaviors as phagocytosis and ADCC. Monocytes sorted to enrich the Leu M3<sup>+</sup> population phagocytose EIgG avidly and lyse EIgG only poorly; the reverse is true of the Leu M3<sup>-</sup> population (81). Similar results were observed with different sublines of the U937 cell line after stimulation with PMA. Sublines that ex-

press Leu M3 after PMA treatment phagocytose well but lyse EIgG poorly, and vice versa. In each case the receptors (huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI and Fc<sub>γ</sub>RII) are presumably the same, yet the final cellular response is different.

#### *Clinical potential of anti-Fc<sub>γ</sub>R MAb*

A potentially exciting use for anti-Fc<sub>γ</sub>R MAb is to direct the cytotoxic potential of Fc<sub>γ</sub>R-bearing cells to immunologically defined targets. Two potential problems in the use of anti-tumor antibodies to target ADCC are interference by the high concentrations of IgG found in serum and the capping of antigens triggered by bivalent antibodies. Both difficulties might be bypassed by covalent heteroconjugates between anti-huFc<sub>γ</sub>R MAb and anti-tumor antibodies. The feasibility of such an approach is shown by experiments in which heteroconjugates were formed between the anti-Fc<sub>γ</sub>RI MAb 32.2 and anti-chicken erythrocyte antibody. These conjugates would direct both monocyte ADCC (82) and ADCC by neutrophils after stimulation with IFN-γ (30), which induces huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI. The observed ADCC was not inhibited by mg/ml concentration of huIgG, in contrast to monocyte ADCC mediated by anti-target antibody, because MAb 32.2 is not directed against an epitope close to the binding of huFc<sub>γ</sub>RI.

A similar approach was used to target NK/K cell ADCC (83). The Fab fragment of the anti-huFc<sub>γ</sub>RIII MAb, 3G8, was coupled to the Fab fragment of an MAb directed against tumor antigens or DNP groups. The conjugates would direct NK/K cell ADCC against cells bearing the appropriate antigen in vitro. The heteroconjugate-directed ADCC was not readily inhibited by cross-linked antibody, and in vivo would neutralize tumor cells in a Winn assay. Activation of the effector cells by IL-2 increased the efficiency of the antineoplastic activity.

#### **Acknowledgments**

I would like to thank Dr. Victoria Freedman and Dr. Eileen Scigliano for editorial assistance.

This work was supported by National Institutes of Health grants AI-24322 and AI-24671.

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