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Microenvironmental Impact on Initial Division Behavior and Functional Properties

of Human Cord Blood Stem Cells

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To investigate the influence of adhesive interactions on the divisional behavior of human

hematopoietic progenitors, we developed a novel single cell system that combined

microscopic observation of the divisional history by dye resolution tracking with subsequent functional analysis. The data presented in this study demonstrated that depending on culture

conditions, a small subfraction of cells remained quiescent and non-responsive to late-acting

and proliferation inducing cytokines, which could not be influenced by fibronectin.

Asymmetric cell division was not influenced by fibronectin as well. However, when cells

were cultured in contact with AFT024 stromal feeders almost all cells proliferated extensively

and more cells divided asymmetrically compared to fibronectin and BSA. Functional

assessment revealed that more cells with subsequent clonogeneic capacity divided

asymmetrically and more clonogeneic progenitors could be detected after contact with

AFT024 stromal feeders. This demonstrates that the microenvironment of AFT024 changes

proliferation and asymmetric division of hematopoietic stem cell which could be related to its

complex stem cell supporting interactions.

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