Exploring S. Typhi-Specific HLA-E Restricted Immune Responses in Pediatric and Adult Ty21a Recipients

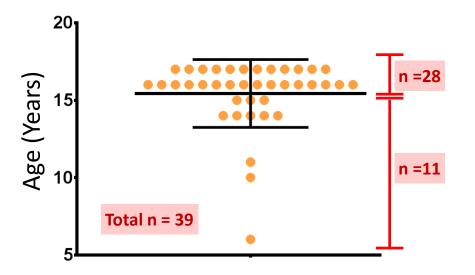
Mark Rudolph

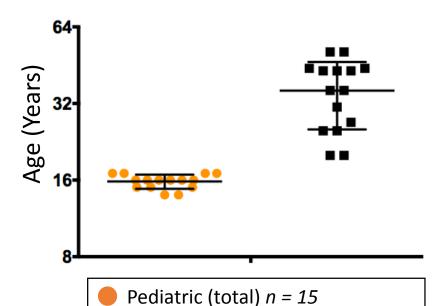
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Volunteer Information

Pediatric Volunteers

Age of Volunteers Tested





Adult (total) n = 15 (9 individuals)

Pediatric volunteers receive Ty21a vaccine for medically indicated reasons (travel to endemic regions). Recruitment is ongoing.

Pediatric Immune Responses

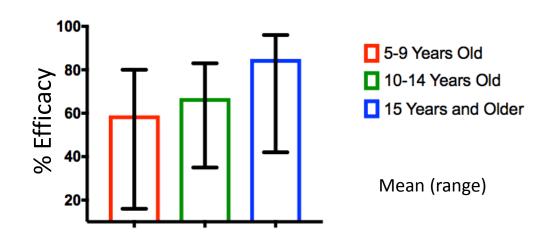
- Thresholds of antigen exposure for inducing immunity also shift through increasing age
 Watson, B., J. Infect Disease. Suppl 2: S143-6, 2008
- Our lab has shown that children may have less multifunctional responses than adults in response to stimulation with superantigen

 Booth et al., Front Immunol. 5: 249, 2014
- We don't know how these differences may impact the pediatric response to Ty21a vaccination, or how could this affect Ty21a protection against the development of typhoid disease in different age groups

Ty21a Efficacy in Children - Field Studies

Age Group	Placebo	Vaccine	
5-9 yr			
# of children	7193	7034	
# of cases	25	10	
Efficacy	-	59% (16-80%)	
10-14 yr			
# of children	9710	9992	
# of cases	32	11	
Efficacy	-	67% (35-83%)	
≥ 15 yr			
# of children	5001	5142	
# of cases	13	2	
Efficacy	-	85% (42-96%)	

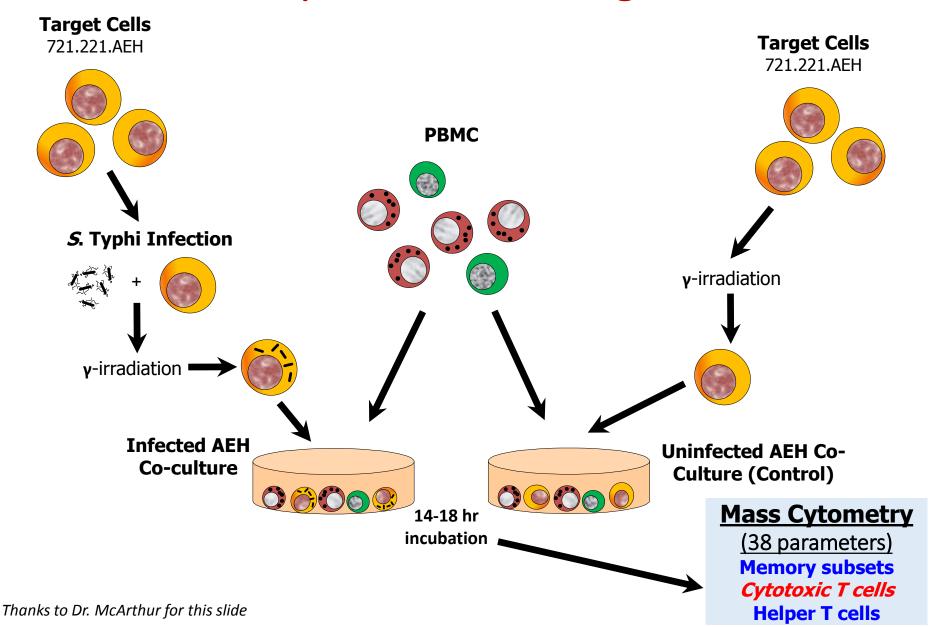
Ty21a Vaccine Recipients



Adapted from: Levine et al., The Lancet 329: 1049-1052, 1987

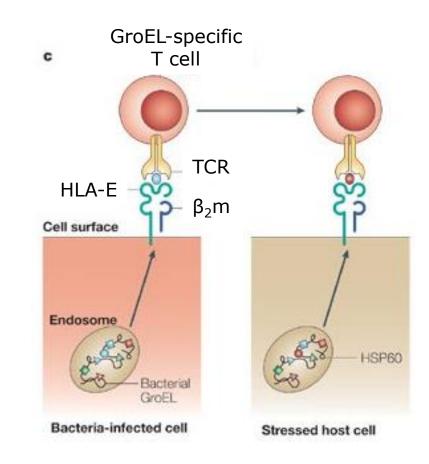
Ty21a efficacy was previously observed to be lower at a younger age; however, (1) these data showed large overlapping confidence intervals, and (2) responsiveness does not necessarily correlate with efficacy

Experimental Design



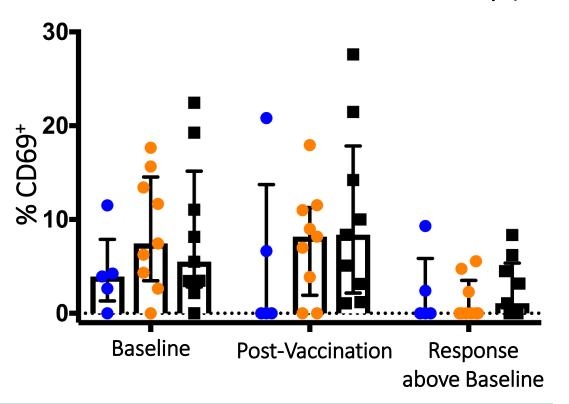
HLA-E Restricted Antigen Presentation

- Non-classical MHC class Ib
- Present a more conserved set of peptides:
 - HLA-A2 leader peptide (inhibitory)
 - Bacterial chaperonins (stimulatory)
 - Heat-shock proteins (stimulatory)
- We have shown in adult volunteers HLA-E restricted CD8+ T cell responses for up to
 2 years following Ty21a vaccination

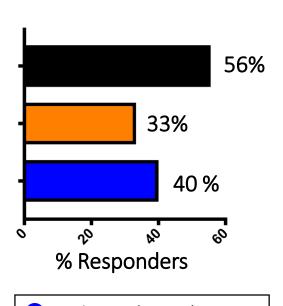


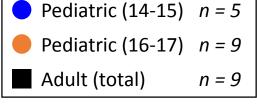
CD8 Activation (CD69+) HLA-E restricted *S.* Typhi responses

Gated on CD8⁺ T effector memory (CD62L⁻/CD45RA⁻) Cells



Expression of the activation marker CD69 on CD8 $^+$ T_{EM} cells provides preliminary data that HLA-E-restricted *S*. Typhi responses are observed in a higher proportion of adults than children

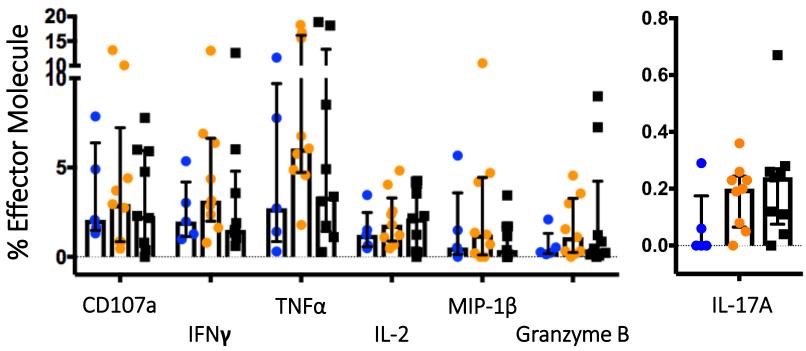




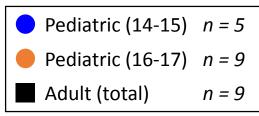
Unpaired t-test Median (interquartile range)

Baseline HLA-E restricted S. Typhi-responses

Gated on CD8⁺ T effector memory (CD62L⁻/CD45RA⁻) Cells



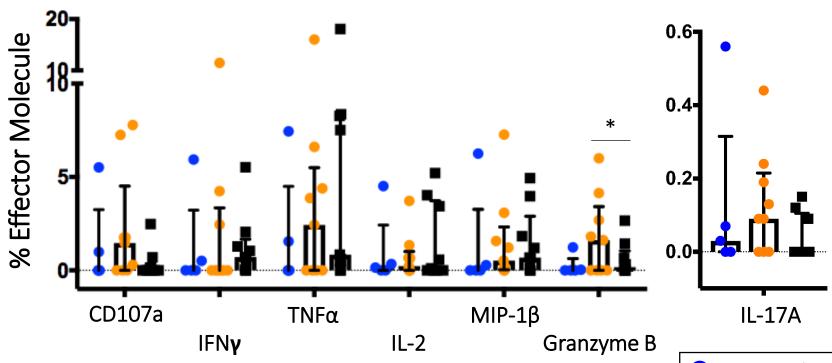
Both children and adults exhibited baseline HLA-E-restricted *S.* Typhi CD8⁺ effector memory responses



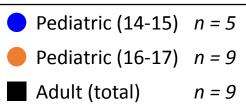
Unpaired t-test Median (interquartile range)

Ty21a vaccination elicits increases in HLA-E restricted *S.* Typhi responses

Gated on CD8⁺ T effector memory (CD62L⁻/CD45RA⁻) Cells



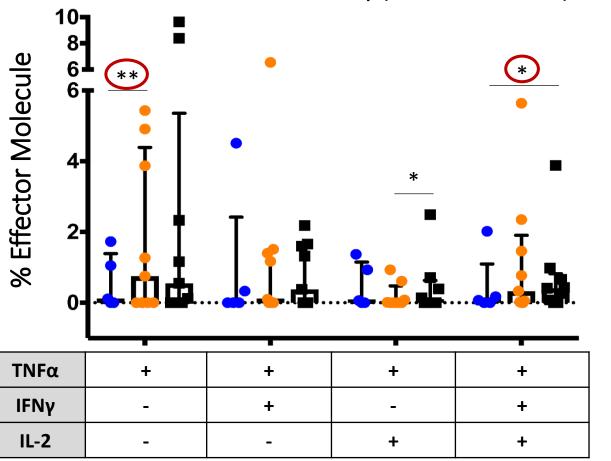
No differences in increases above baseline HLA-E-restricted *S*. Typhi-responsive CD8⁺ T_{em} effectors were observed between children and adults



Unpaired t-test
Median (interquartile range)
* p = 0.05

Ty21a vaccination elicits increases in HLA-E restricted multifunctional *S.* Typhi-responses

Gated on CD8⁺ T effector memory (CD62L⁻/CD45RA⁻) Cells



Pediatric (14-15)	n = 5
Pediatric (16-17)	n = 9
Adult (total)	n = 9

Unpaired t-test

Median (interquartile range)

* p = 0.05** p = 0.01

Preliminary analyses showed some differences in increases above baseline HLA-E-restricted S. Typhi-responsive MF CD8⁺ $T_{\rm em}$ effectors between children and adults

Conclusions

- Expression of the activation marker CD69 on CD8+ $T_{\rm EM}$ cells provides preliminary data that HLA-E-restricted *S.* Typhi responses are observed in a higher proportion of adults than children
- Children exhibited baseline HLA-E-restricted CD8⁺ effector memory responses to *S*. Typhi antigens, suggesting previous exposure to HLA-E-restricted antigens
- It appears that for some functions the proportion of responders following vaccination in adults are higher than in children (analyses ongoing)
- Preliminary analyses showed some differences in increases above baseline HLA-E-restricted S. Typhi-responsive MF CD8+ T_{EM} effectors between children and adults. These differences, however, appear to be less than those observed following SEB stimulation.

Future Directions

- Expand our HLA-E restriction experiments to include our youngest volunteers (6-14 years, n=8)
- Continue our analysis of soluble antigen (GroEL, OmpC, FliC) responses in pediatric and adult helper T cells
- Use Epstein-Barr Virus transformed autologous B-lymphoblastoid cell lines (already generated) to measure responses to classical HLA-restricted (HLA-A,B,C) S. Typhi antigen presentation in pediatric and adult T cells
- Assess Ty21a vaccination induced correlations between S. Typhi immune responsiveness and functional characteristics of the gut microbiota (in cooperation with the Institute for Genome Sciences)

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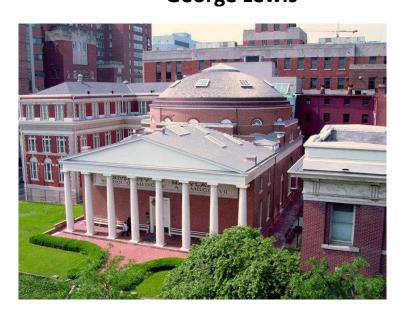
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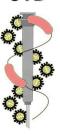
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