Systemic and mucosal mobilization of granulocyte subsets during lentivirus infection

Rhianna Jones^{*1}, Cordelia Manickam^{*1}, Daniel R. Ram¹, Kyle Kroll¹, Brady Hueber¹, Griffin Woolley¹, Spandan V. Shah¹, Scott Smith¹, Valerie Varner¹, and R. Keith Reeves^{1,2}

^{*}Co- first authors

¹Center for Virology and Vaccine Research, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA; ²Ragon Institute of Massachusetts General Hospital, MIT, and Harvard, Cambridge, MA

Author emails: rjones7@bidmc.harvard.edu, cmacka@bidmc.harvard.edu, dram@bidmc.harvard.edu, kkroll1@bidmc.harvard.edu, bhueber@bidmc.harvard.edu, gwoolley@bidmc.harvard.edu, spanny7@gmail.com, scott.575.smith@gmail.com, vvarner@bidmc.harvard.edu, rreeves@bidmc.harvard.edu

Corresponding author:

R. Keith Reeves

E-mail: rreeves@bidmc.harvard.edu
keith.reeves@duke.edu

Running Title: Granulocytes in SHIV-infected macaques

Abstract: X words

Text: X words

Figures: 5

Tables: 0

Funding statement: The efforts of the authors were supported by NIH grants R01 DE026327, P01 AI120756, R21 AI145678 (all to R.K.R.), as well as the Harvard University Center for AIDS Research Advanced Laboratory Technologies Core (P30 AI060354).

Conflict of interest disclosure: All authors declare no competing interests

Abstract

Granulocytes mediate broad immunoprotection through phagocytosis, extracellular traps, release of cytotoxic granules, antibody effector functions and recruitment of other immune cells against pathogens. However, descriptions of granulocytes in HIV infection and mucosal tissues are limited. Our goal was to characterize granulocyte subsets in systemic, mucosal and lymphoid tissues during lentivirus infection using the rhesus macaque (RM) model. Mononuclear cells from jejunum, colon, cervix, vagina, lymph nodes, spleen, liver, and whole blood from naïve, and chronically SHIVsf162p3-infected RM were analyzed by microscopy and polychromatic flow cytometry. Granulocytes were identified using phenotypes designed specifically for RM: eosinophils – CD45+CD66+CD49d+; neutrophils – CD45+CD66+CD14+; and basophils – CD45+CD123+FcRε+. Nuclear visualization with DAPI staining and surface marker images by ImageStream (cytometry/microscopy) further confirmed granulocytic phenotypes. Flow cytometric data showed that all RM granulocytes expressed CD32 (FcRγII) but did not express CD16 (FcRγIII). Additionally, constitutive expression of CD64 (FcRγI) on neutrophils and FcRε on basophils, indicates the differential expression of Fc receptors on granulocyte subsets. Granulocytic subsets in naïve whole blood ranged 25.4-81.5% neutrophils, 0.59-13.3% eosinophils and 0.059-1.8% basophils. Interestingly, elevated frequencies of circulating neutrophils, colorectal neutrophils, and colorectal eosinophils were all observed in chronic lentivirus disease. Conversely, circulating basophils, jejunal eosinophils, vaginal neutrophils, and vaginal eosinophils of SHIVsf162p3-infected RM declined in frequency. Overall, our data suggest modulation of granulocytes in chronic lentivirus infection, most notably in the

1 gastrointestinal mucosae where significant inflammation and disruption occurs in
2 lentivirus-induced disease. Furthermore, granulocytes may migrate to inflamed tissues
3 during infection and could serve as targets of immunotherapeutic intervention.

4

Introduction:

Granulocytes, which include neutrophils, eosinophils, and basophils are critical innate immune cells that form one of the first lines of immune defense against pathogens. They predominantly act against bacterial (4, 11, 19, 33, 38, 39), and parasitic pathogens (19, 24, 37, 39), and although granulocytes are also active against viral pathogens (2, 5, 7, 11, 14, 16, 31, 33, 37, 38), this is less well characterized. Among the subsets, neutrophils are generally the most abundant and well-characterized (4, 14, 33, 47), capable of multiple specialized methods of immune defense. In response to pathogen-induced inflammation (4, 37, 39, 47), neutrophils release cytokines, neutrophil extracellular traps (NETs), and activate phagocytosis (2, 19, 38, 39, 47). In response to viral pathogens, such as HIV, (11, 33, 37, 38), neutrophils activate NETs in the female genital tract and other tissues, perform phagocytosis and release reactive oxygen species (2, 14, 32, 38). In some cases, overly robust neutrophil responses can also cause tissue damage and further disease pathogenesis as evidenced in persons living with HIV (PLWH) and SIV-infected nonhuman primates (NHPs) (5, 14, 32, 35, 45). Conversely, granulocyte frequencies and functions may be abrogated by HIV disease (5, 13, 31), including neutrophil dysregulation and dysfunction (31) and a decline in frequency due to HIV accelerated apoptosis and hematopoietic failure in the bone marrow (5, 13, 31). Similar accelerated neutrophil apoptosis mediated by viral infection has also been observed in rhesus macaques (RM) infected with SIV (7, 8, 16).

Eosinophils and basophils can also respond to pathogens through the release of granules and cytokines, and in some cases through extracellular traps (19, 24, 26, 38, 39). While both eosinophils and basophils are primarily associated with allergens and

1 parasitic infections, they may be effective antigen presenting cells (APCs), similar to
 2 neutrophils, and help in activating Th2 responses (21, 23, 26, 47). Additionally,
 3 eosinophils and basophils can interact with dendritic cells and B cells directly and/or
 4 indirectly through T cell activation to promote Th2 immunity, B cell proliferation and
 5 antibody production (26, 37). There has also been evidence that eosinophils play a role
 6 in limiting inflammation, tissue glucose uptake and minimizing host tissue damage (1,
 7 37). However, similar to the effect on neutrophils, HIV may cause an expansion of
 8 eosinophils associated with a decrease in CD4+ T cells and in parasitic coinfections
 9 (31).

10 NHPs have long been used as models of immunological research because of their
 11 similarities to human physiology, immunology and disease pathogenesis (3, 12, 16, 20,
 12 32). Granulocyte immune function similarities between human and NHP models include
 13 immune cell recruitment (12, 14, 24, 32), phagocytosis (16, 17, 32, 36, 39), and cytokine
 14 and chemokine release (10, 23, 32). However, phenotypic differences between human
 15 and macaque granulocytes must also be considered. In humans, CD16 is the preferred
 16 cell marker for identifying neutrophils, but NHP neutrophils do not express CD16. Thus,
 17 CD14 has previously been used to partially identify NHP neutrophils (16, 32, 47, 48).
 18 Healthy rhesus macaques can have a population of neutrophils ranging from 20-50% of
 19 all white blood cells (WBC) (12), whereas in humans this range is 40-70% neutrophils of
 20 all WBC (16, 17, 33). The frequencies of basophils (<1% of WBC) and eosinophils (0.3-
 21 10% of WBC) populations are generally similar in humans and macaques (12, 31).
 22 Regardless, consensus phenotypes for each population in NHPs, particularly in tissues,
 23 are lacking. Therefore, in this study, we performed in-depth phenotypic analysis of

neutrophils, eosinophils, and basophils in systemic and mucosal tissues of naïve and SHIV-infected RM using flow cytometry and ImageStream cytometry.

Methods

Animal samples:

Indian-origin rhesus macaques (*Macaca mulatta*) were used for all components of this study and included: experimentally naïve (n = 19), or chronically infected with SHIVsf162p3 (n = 21). Blood, biopsies and other tissues were collected where indicated and processed using standard protocols. All animals were housed at either Biomere, Inc. (Worcester, MA) or Bioqual, Inc. (Rockville, MD). All study collections were reviewed and approved by either the Biomere Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee or the Bioqual Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.

Tissue processing and preparation:

Mucosal biopsies (colorectal and vaginal) and tissues (vagina, cervix, colon, jejunum, colorectal) were enzymatically digested with collagenase (type IV for reproductive tissues, type II for digestive tissues), pushed through 70 µm nylon mesh cell filters and then were overlaid on 35% percoll (Sigma-Aldrich) followed by 60% percoll for density gradient centrifugation. Liver tissue was mechanically disrupted and pushed through cell filters and was similarly subjected to density gradient centrifugation. The interphase containing leukocytes was collected, washed with RPMI 1640 (Corning) containing 5% fetal bovine serum (FBS), counted and used for phenotyping granulocytes. Lymph nodes and spleen were mechanically pushed through 70 µm nylon mesh cell filters

followed by RBC lysis with ACK (ammonium-chloride-potassium) lysing buffer (ThermoFisher Scientific) solution. The cells were washed and resuspended in RPMI 1640 containing 10% FBS for further use in assays.

Flow cytometric staining and analysis of whole blood and tissue samples:

To identify granulocytes using polychromatic flow cytometric staining, 100µL of whole blood was stained with surface antibodies for 20 minutes at room temperature, protected from light. Antibodies against the following molecules were included: CD49d (HP2/1; Beckman Coulter), CD32 (FUN-2; BioLegend), CD95 (DX2; BD Pharmingen), CD117 (104D2; BioLegend), CD123 (6H6; BioLegend), CD20 (2H7; BioLegend), CD11b (ICRF44; BD Pharmingen), CD14 (M5E2 BD; Pharmingen), CD62L (SK11; BD Pharmingen), CD45 (D058-1283; BD Pharmingen), CD3 (SP34.2; BD Pharmingen), CD16 (3G8; BD Pharmingen), CD64 (10.1; BD Pharmingen), CD66abce (TET2; Miltenyi), CD63 (H5C6; BioLegend), HLA-DR (G46-6; BD Pharmingen), and FcRε (AER-37 (CRA-1); BioLegend). Following this, FACS lysis buffer (BD Biosciences) was used to lyse red blood cells (RBC) according to manufacturer's recommendations. Samples were then washed twice with wash buffer (1X DPBS containing 2% FBS) and fixed with 1% formaldehyde. Cells from processed tissues were first stained with LIVE/DEAD fixable aqua stain (Life Technologies) to distinguish live cells. After 20 minutes of incubation at 4 °C, cells were washed and stained for surface markers as listed above and incubated at 4 °C for 20 minutes. Finally, cells were fixed using 1% formaldehyde. Data were acquired using an LSRII flow cytometer (BD Biosciences) and analyzed using FlowJo software (version 10.6.1).

ImageStream flow cytometric staining and analysis:

Whole blood and tissue mononuclear cells were stained for ImageStream cytometry similar to above with the same antibodies. Two panels were used to characterize neutrophils, eosinophils, and basophils. Markers used for the eosinophil/neutrophil panel were: CD49d, CD45, CD14, CD66abce, and HLA-DR and markers used for basophil panel were CD45, CD66abce CD123, HLA-DR, and FcRε. After 30 minutes of incubation with surface antibodies, cells were washed and stained with DAPI (Thermofisher) to visualize nuclear morphology after permeabilization with Invitrogen Fix and Perm medium kit (Thermofisher) for whole blood staining. In case of tissue immune cells, DAPI was used for live and dead cell discrimination without permeabilization. After fixation with 1% formaldehyde, samples were recorded using an ImageStreamX Mk II (EMD Millipore) and analyzed using IDEAS Application v6. The general analysis, colocalization and internalization modules in the IDEAS software were utilized in analyzing these samples.

Statistical Analyses:

Comparisons between naïve and SHIV-infected animals were analyzed by Mann-Whitney *U* tests using Prism v.8 software. Differences between test groups were considered significant when $p < 0.05$.

Results:

Myeloid cell phenotypes in whole blood identified using flow cytometry.

Initial identification of granulocyte populations (and monocytes for comparison) was determined among medium to high side scatter (granularity) CD45+ leukocytes. Subsequently cells were divided into those that express the CD66 family of receptors (eosinophils, neutrophils) and those that do not (basophils). Next, based on previous reports (16, 32, 47, 48), CD14 was used as a general marker to distinguish neutrophil populations from other subsets and each granulocyte population was defined as follows: CD45+HLA-DR-CD14+CD49d-CD66+ neutrophils, CD45+HLA-DR-CD14-CD49d+CD66+ eosinophils, and CD45+HLA-DR-CD123+CD66- basophils (Fig. 1a). Monocytes were defined as HLA-DR+CD14+CD16+/- to provide discrimination of all myeloid cell phenotypes in whole blood of RM (Fig. 1 and 1b). To further confirm phenotypic identity in RM, Fc receptor expression was compared among all populations. As expected, all subsets had high frequencies of CD32 (FcRγII; Fig.1b). CD64 (FcRγI) was expressed at variable levels on all populations except basophils, but as expected, basophils were the only cells to demonstrate high constitutive expression of FcRε. In strong agreement with previous studies for RM (18), CD16 (FcRγ III) was not expressed on granulocytes but only on a subset of monocytes. Cell frequencies in whole blood of experimentally naïve RM were analyzed to evaluate baseline frequencies (Fig. 1c), and as expected, neutrophils had the highest frequency out of the three subsets (median 51.1, range 25.4-81.5%), followed by eosinophils (median 3.16, range 0.59-13.3%) and basophils (median 0.048, range 0.059-1.8%).

Granulocyte morphology and surface phenotypes by ImageStream cytometry.

To further confirm the identity of RM granulocyte subpopulations, we next evaluated bulk and individual cells phenotypically and morphologically by ImageStream cytometry. Whole blood samples were stained for DAPI to identify nuclear morphology and surface markers to confirm surface expression of markers used in the standard flow cytometry panels. Using the general analysis wizard of the IDEAs Application v6, DAPI+ cells were selected and representative analyses are shown in Figure 2. As in Figure 1, neutrophils were confirmed by surface co-expression of CD14 and CD66, eosinophils by co-expression of CD49d and CD66, and basophils by co-expression of FcR ϵ and CD123 (Fig. 3). Further analysis of internalization in the IDEAs software confirmed the nuclear morphology of the granulocyte populations. Analysis of DAPI+ cells showed multilobed nuclei of CD14+CD49d-CD66+ neutrophil populations, bilobed nuclei of CD14-CD49d+CD66+ eosinophils and granular cytoplasm of basophils as expected (Fig. 3).

Modulation of peripheral and tissue granulocytic subsets in infected animals.

In a cross-sectional evaluation of naïve RM and chronically SHIV-infected RM, we first quantified granulocytes in whole blood. Circulating neutrophils were increased over 50% in SHIV-infected animals compared to naïve RM (medians, 79.6% versus 51.1%). While circulating eosinophils were largely unaltered, basophils were modestly, but significantly ($p = 0.003$) reduced in infected animals (Fig 4).

Next we applied our analyses of granulocytes in whole blood to tissues collected by mucosal biopsy or at necropsy from both naïve and chronically SHIV-infected animals and observed neutrophils and eosinophils in vaginal biopsies of naïve animals (medians, 0.65% and 0.38% respectively) (Fig. 5a). Interestingly, in SHIV-infected RM,

both cell types were significantly reduced. Neutrophils and eosinophils were both found at low frequencies in colorectal biopsies of naive animals (medians, 0.083% and 0.021% respectively), but were significantly increased during infection (both 3-fold increases).

Quantification of granulocytes in a very small subset of the animals in spleen, liver, colon, jejunum, and axillary lymph nodes from necropsy tissues revealed detectable populations in most animals (Fig. 5b). Following infection we were unable to detect significant changes, most likely due to the low number of animal samples. In particular, basophil frequencies were near the threshold of detection in tissues, and aside from one animal these frequencies were also unchanged during infection. Notably, both eosinophils and neutrophils seem to increase in liver tissue, but larger studies will be needed to validate this finding. We also noted an interestingly high frequency of eosinophils in jejunum of naive animals (median, 47%) which could also be of interest in future studies.

Discussion:

Granulocytes play major roles as innate immune cells against bacterial, viral and parasitic pathogens which have been described in multiple studies (11, 19, 24, 33, 38, 39). Their protective role against HIV as well as their pathogenic role causing tissue damage in HIV infected patients, particularly by neutrophils, have been reported in multiple studies (12, 16, 17, 31, 33, 47, 48). However, NHP granulocytes in mucosal tissues of chronic SHIV infections have been underexplored. Here, we describe granulocyte subset modulations in systemic and mucosal tissues of SHIV infected RM.

Using flow cytometry, we first identified the phenotype of granulocytes as CD14+CD49d-CD66+ neutrophils, CD14-CD49d+CD66+ eosinophils, and CD123+CD66- basophils. A major difference in phenotype between human and NHP neutrophils is the expression of CD14 by NHP neutrophils rather than CD16 as seen in human neutrophils. Indeed, a subset of monocytes were the only myeloid cells to express CD16 in NHP. Due to the limited availability of cross-reactive antibodies to further characterize granulocytic subsets, we confirmed the granulocyte phenotype by examination of their nuclear morphology and surface marker expression. ImageStream, a tool that combines microscopy and flow cytometry, allowed us to visualize the polymorphonuclear neutrophils, bilobed eosinophil nuclei and granular basophils (Fig. 2 and 3), thus confirming the granulocyte phenotypes we have identified for rhesus macaques.

Persistent immune activation is commonly associated with chronic HIV infection. Studies examining neutrophils in both acute and chronic SIV infection (13, 32) showed altered functional and phenotypic differences in CD11b+ neutrophils, however a reduction of these cells were seen in acute infection. Similarly, in people living with HIV, neutropenia (22, 29, 30, 41, 46), and impaired phagocytic activity and cytokine production (10, 27, 30, 36) have been frequently observed. Interestingly, we observed significantly increased neutrophils and decreased basophils compared to naïve animals in the blood of SHIV-infected animals. While basophils are predominantly located in the blood, our observed decline in basophils may be due to their infiltration of inflamed tissues as seen in the gastric mucosa of *Helicobacter pylori* infected patients (6) and in the skin of the cutaneous allergic reactions (40).

Progressive HIV infection can cause immune dysfunction in mucosal tissues of the gut and also the reproductive tract (14, 15, 43, 44, 50). In this study we found elevated frequencies of neutrophils and eosinophils in colorectal biopsies and higher eosinophil frequency in jejunum samples of chronic SHIV infected animals compared to naïve animals (Fig. 5) indicating granulocytic infiltration of gut tissues. Similar observations of increased neutrophil infiltration and epithelial barrier dysfunction have been reported in the gut tissues of SIV infected animals and treated and untreated chronic HIV infected patients (9, 45). Further, Hensley-McBain et al have showed that HIV induced microbial translocation and dysbiosis characterized by reduced *Lactobacillus: Prevotella* ratio as the reason for the increased neutrophil recruitment and increased neutrophil lifespan in the colorectal mucosa of HIV infected individuals (15). Neutrophil infiltration in the colonic mucosa is also correlated with disease severity in inflammatory bowel disease, thus further suggesting that elevated neutrophils in the gut are potentially inflammatory and induce additional mucosal damage.

Interestingly, chronic SHIV infected vaginal biopsies had significantly lower frequencies of neutrophils and eosinophils than naïve animals in our study. This is in accordance with studies that have shown increased neutrophil apoptosis in whole blood and tissues, and eosinophil apoptosis in whole blood during lentivirus infection in humans (7, 8, 16, 45, 49). Similarly in PLWH vaginal inflammation was associated with increased neutrophils (33). *In vitro* data suggests that neutrophils are capable of entrapping and inactivating HIV through NETS within minutes of viral exposure (2). Based on this, our data suggests differential modulation of granulocyte trafficking, expansion and functions of resident granulocyte subsets in different mucosal tissues by chronic SHIV infection.

However, more research exploring granulocyte functions in mucosal tissues, particularly in chronic SIV/SHIV infection is warranted.

In summary, our study provides comprehensive data on granulocyte phenotypes in blood and tissues of RM , which was consistent with other reports (16, 25, 32). Visualization of granulocytes by ImageStream proved to be an excellent tool to confirm immune cell phenotypes. Further, our data showed that mucosal tissues which are the sites of viral infection show modulated frequencies of granulocyte subsets and thereby could differ in their functional outcomes of either immunoprotection or tissue damage. While we analyzed other systemic and lymphoid tissues including spleen, liver and axillary LN, we did not see any changes. The limitations of our study include a small sample size and availability of only cross-sectional data for chronic SHIV infection. Longitudinal time points in chronic SHIV infected animals would provide a better understanding of the granulocyte subset modulations. Overall, our data provides evidence of immune modulation of granulocytes in gut and vaginal tissue and warrants more research into identifying their roles in protection/ pathology in lentivirus infection.

Acknowledgements:

The efforts of the authors were supported by NIH grants R01 DE026327, P01 AI120756, R21 AI145678 (all to R.K.R.), as well as the Harvard University Center for AIDS Research Advanced Laboratory Technologies Core (P30 AI060354). The authors also wish to thank Dr. Dan Barouch for providing some animal samples and Michelle Lifton for assistance with flow cytometry.

1 **Abbreviations:**

2 RM: Rhesus macaques

3 HIV: Human Immunodeficiency Virus

4 SIV: Simian Immunodeficiency Virus

5 SHIV: Simian-Human Immunodeficiency Virus

6

7

References:

1. Abdala-Valencia, Hiam, Mackenzie E. Coden, Sergio E. Chiarella, Elizabeth A. Jacobsen, Bruce S. Bochner, James J. Lee, and Sergejs Berdnikovs. "Shaping Eosinophil Identity in the Tissue Contexts of Development, Homeostasis, and Disease." *Journal of Leukocyte Biology* 104, no. 1 (July 2018): 95–108. <https://doi.org/10.1002/JLB.1MR1117-442RR>.
2. Barr, Fiona D., Christina Ochsenbauer, Charles R. Wira, and Marta Rodriguez-Garcia. "Neutrophil Extracellular Traps Prevent HIV Infection in the Female Genital Tract." *Mucosal Immunology* 11, no. 5 (2018): 1420–28. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41385-018-0045-0>.
3. Bontrop, Ronald E., and David I. Watkins. "MHC Polymorphism: AIDS Susceptibility in Non-Human Primates." *Trends in Immunology* 26, no. 4 (April 2005): 227–33. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.it.2005.02.003>.
4. Castanheira, Fernanda V. S., and Paul Kubes. "Neutrophils and NETs in Modulating Acute and Chronic Inflammation." *Blood* 133, no. 20 (16 2019): 2178–85. <https://doi.org/10.1182/blood-2018-11-844530>.
5. Casulli, Sarah, and Carole Elbim. "Interactions between Human Immunodeficiency Virus Type 1 and Polymorphonuclear Neutrophils." *Journal of Innate Immunity* 6, no. 1 (2014): 13–20. <https://doi.org/10.1159/000353588>.
6. de Paulis, Amato, Nella Prevete, Isabella Fiorentino, Andrew F. Walls, Monica Curto, Angelica Petraroli, Vincenza Castaldo, Paola Ceppa, Roberto Fiocca, and Gianni Marone. "Basophils Infiltrate Human Gastric Mucosa at Sites of Helicobacter Pylori Infection, and Exhibit Chemotaxis in Response to H. Pylori- Derived Peptide Hp(2–20)." *The Journal of Immunology* 172, no. 12 (June 15, 2004): 7734–43. <https://doi.org/10.4049/jimmunol.172.12.7734>.
7. Elbim, Carole, Valérie Monceaux, Stéphanie François, Bruno Hurtrel, Marie-Anne Gougerot-Pocidalo, and Jérôme Estaquier. "Increased Neutrophil Apoptosis in Chronically SIV-Infected Macaques." *Retrovirology* 6 (March 24, 2009): 29. <https://doi.org/10.1186/1742-4690-6-29>.

8. Elbim, Carole, Valerie Monceaux, Yvonne M. Mueller, Mark G. Lewis, Stephanie François, Ousmane Diop, Khadija Akarid, et al. "Early Divergence in Neutrophil Apoptosis between Pathogenic and Nonpathogenic Simian Immunodeficiency Virus Infections of Nonhuman Primates." *Journal of Immunology (Baltimore, Md.: 1950)* 181, no. 12 (December 15, 2008): 8613–23. <https://doi.org/10.4049/jimmunol.181.12.8613>.
9. Eppe, H-J, T Schneider, H Troeger, D Kunkel, K Allers, V Moos, M Amasheh, et al. "Impairment of the Intestinal Barrier Is Evident in Untreated but Absent in Suppressively Treated HIV-Infected Patients." *Gut* 58, no. 2 (February 1, 2009): 220–27. <https://doi.org/10.1136/gut.2008.150425>.
10. Gasperini, S., R. Zambello, C. Agostini, L. Trentin, C. Tassinari, P. Cadrobbi, G. Semenzato, and M. A. Cassatella. "Impaired Cytokine Production by Neutrophils Isolated from Patients with AIDS." *AIDS (London, England)* 12, no. 4 (March 5, 1998): 373–79. <https://doi.org/10.1097/00002030-199804000-00005>.
11. Giraldo, Diana M., Juan C. Hernandez, and Silvio Urcuqui-Inchima. "HIV-1-Derived Single-Stranded RNA Acts as Activator of Human Neutrophils." *Immunologic Research* 64, no. 5–6 (2016): 1185–94. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12026-016-8876-9>.
12. He, Ziyuan, Carolina Allers, Chie Sugimoto, Nursarat Ahmed, Hideki Fujioka, Woong-Ki Kim, Elizabeth S. Didier, and Marcelo J. Kuroda. "Rapid Turnover and High Production Rate of Myeloid Cells in Adult Rhesus Macaques with Compensations during Aging." *Journal of Immunology (Baltimore, Md.: 1950)* 200, no. 12 (15 2018): 4059–67. <https://doi.org/10.4049/jimmunol.1800207>.
13. Hensley-McBain, Tiffany, Alicia R. Berard, Jennifer A. Manuzak, Charlene J. Miller, Alexander S. Zevin, Patricia Polacino, Jillian Gile, et al. "Intestinal Damage Precedes Mucosal Immune Dysfunction in SIV Infection." *Mucosal Immunology* 11, no. 5 (September 2018): 1429–40. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41385-018-0032-5>.

14. Hensley-McBain, Tiffany, and Nichole R. Klatt. "The Dual Role of Neutrophils in HIV Infection." *Current HIV/AIDS Reports* 15, no. 1 (February 2018): 1–10. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11904-018-0370-7>.
15. Hensley-McBain, Tiffany, Michael C. Wu, Jennifer A. Manuzak, Ryan K. Cheu, Andrew Gustin, Connor B. Driscoll, Alexander S. Zevin, et al. "Increased Mucosal Neutrophil Survival Is Associated with Altered Microbiota in HIV Infection." Edited by Daniel C. Douek. *PLOS Pathogens* 15, no. 4 (April 11, 2019): e1007672. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.ppat.1007672>.
16. Huot, Nicolas, Philippe Rascle, Thalia Garcia-Tellez, Beatrice Jacquelin, and Michaela Müller-Trutwin. "Innate Immune Cell Responses in Non Pathogenic versus Pathogenic SIV Infections." *Current Opinion in Virology* 19 (2016): 37–44. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.coviro.2016.06.011>.
17. Karsten, Christina B., Nickita Mehta, Sally A. Shin, Thomas J. Diefenbach, Matthew D. Slein, Wiktor Karpinski, Edward B. Irvine, Thomas Broge, Todd J. Suscovich, and Galit Alter. "A Versatile High-Throughput Assay to Characterize Antibody-Mediated Neutrophil Phagocytosis." *Journal of Immunological Methods* 471 (2019): 46–56. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jim.2019.05.006>.
18. Kim, Woong-Ki, Yue Sun, Hien Do, Patrick Autissier, Elkan F. Halpern, Michael Piatak, Jeffrey D. Lifson, Tricia H. Burdo, Michael S. McGrath, and Kenneth Williams. "Monocyte Heterogeneity Underlying Phenotypic Changes in Monocytes According to SIV Disease Stage." *Journal of Leukocyte Biology* 87, no. 4 (April 2010): 557–67. <https://doi.org/10.1189/jlb.0209082>.
19. Kolaczowska, Elzbieta, and Paul Kubes. "Neutrophil Recruitment and Function in Health and Inflammation." *Nature Reviews Immunology* 13, no. 3 (March 2013): 159–75. <https://doi.org/10.1038/nri3399>.

- 1 20. Lafont, B. A., L. Gloeckler, J. L. D'Hautcourt, J. P. Gut, and A. M. Aubertin. "One-Round
2 Determination of Seven Leukocyte Subsets in Rhesus Macaque Blood by Flow Cytometry."
3 *Cytometry* 41, no. 3 (November 1, 2000): 193–202. [https://doi.org/10.1002/1097-
4 0320\(20001101\)41:3<193::aid-cyto6>3.0.co;2-g](https://doi.org/10.1002/1097-0320(20001101)41:3<193::aid-cyto6>3.0.co;2-g).
- 5 21. Leliefeld, Pieter H. C., Leo Koenderman, and Janesh Pillay. "How Neutrophils Shape
6 Adaptive Immune Responses." *Frontiers in Immunology* 6 (2015): 471.
7 <https://doi.org/10.3389/fimmu.2015.00471>.
- 8 22. Levine, Alexandra M., Roksana Karim, Wendy Mack, D. Jay Gravink, Katherine Anastos,
9 Mary Young, Mardge Cohen, et al. "Neutropenia in Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection:
10 Data from the Women's Interagency HIV Study." *Archives of Internal
11 Medicine* <https://doi.org/10.1001/archinte.166.4.405>.
- 12 23. Lin, Ang, and Karin Loré. "Granulocytes: New Members of the Antigen-Presenting Cell
13 Family." *Frontiers in Immunology* 8 (2017): 1781. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fimmu.2017.01781>.
- 14 24. Loktionov, Alexandre. "Eosinophils in the Gastrointestinal Tract and Their Role in the
15 Pathogenesis of Major Colorectal Disorders." *World Journal of Gastroenterology* 25, no. 27
16 (July 21, 2019): 3503–26. <https://doi.org/10.3748/wjg.v25.i27.3503>.
- 17 25. Mercado, Noe B., Roland Zahn, Frank Wegmann, Carolin Loos, Abishek Chandrashekar,
18 Jingyou Yu, Jinyan Liu, et al. "Single-Shot Ad26 Vaccine Protects against SARS-CoV-2 in
19 Rhesus Macaques." *Nature* 586, no. 7830 (October 22, 2020): 583–88.
20 <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-020-2607-z>.
- 21 26. Merluzzi, Sonia, Elena Betto, Alice Amaranta Ceccaroni, Raffaella Magris, Marina Giunta,
22 and Francesca Mion. "Mast Cells, Basophils and B Cell Connection Network." *Molecular
23 Immunology* 63, no. 1 (January 2015): 94–103. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.molimm.2014.02.016>.
- 24 27. Michailidis, C, G Giannopoulos, V Vigklis, K Armenis, A Tsakris, and P Gargalianos.
25 "Impaired Phagocytosis among Patients Infected by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus:
26 Implication for a Role of Highly Active Anti-Retroviral Therapy." *Clinical and Experimental*

- 1 Immunology 167, no. 3 (March 2012): 499–504. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365->
- 2 2249.2011.04526.x.
- 3 28. Mitsumoto-Kaseida, Fujiko, Masayuki Murata, Kazuya Ura, Koji Takayama, Satoshi Hiramine,
- 4 Motohiro Shimizu, Kazuhiro Toyoda, Eiichi Ogawa, and Norihiro Furusyo. “The Expression
- 5 Level of Neutrophil CD64 Is a Useful Marker of Systemic Inflammation Associated with HIV
- 6 Infection.” *AIDS Research and Human Retroviruses* 33, no. 2 (2017): 147–56.
- 7 <https://doi.org/10.1089/AID.2016.0107>.
- 8 29. Moore, D. A., T. Benepal, S. Portsmouth, J. Gill, and B. G. Gazzard. “Etiology and Natural
- 9 History of Neutropenia in Human Immunodeficiency Virus Disease: A Prospective Study.”
- 10 *Clinical Infectious Diseases: An Official Publication of the Infectious Diseases Society of*
- 11 *America* 32, no. 3 (February 1, 2001): 469–75. <https://doi.org/10.1086/318495>.
- 12 30. Moore, D. A., A. Sullivan, P. Hilstead, and B. G. Gazzard. “A Retrospective Study of
- 13 Neutropenia in HIV Disease.” *International Journal of STD &*
- 14 *AIDS*<https://doi.org/10.1258/0956462001914832>.
- 15 31. Ms, Espíndola, Soares Ls, Galvão-Lima Lj, Zambuzi Fa, Cacemiro Mc, Brauer Vs, and Frantz
- 16 Fg. “HIV Infection: Focus on the Innate Immune Cells.” *Immunologic research. Immunol Res*,
- 17 December 2016. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12026-016-8862-2>.
- 18 32. Musich, Thomas, Mohammad Arif Rahman, Venkatramanan Mohanram, Leia Miller-Novak,
- 19 Thorsten Demberg, David J. Venzon, Barbara K. Felber, Genoveffa Franchini, George N.
- 20 Pavlakis, and Marjorie Robert-Guroff. “Neutrophil Vaccination Dynamics and Their Capacity
- 21 to Mediate B-Cell Help in Rhesus Macaques.” *Journal of Immunology (Baltimore, Md. □:*
- 22 *1950)* 201, no. 8 (October 15, 2018): 2287–2302. <https://doi.org/10.4049/jimmunol.1800677>.
- 23 33. Naumenko, Victor, Madison Turk, Craig N. Jenne, and Seok-Joo Kim. “Neutrophils in Viral
- 24 Infection.” *Cell and Tissue Research* 371, no. 3 (March 2018): 505–16.
- 25 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00441-017-2763-0>.

34. Nkwanyana, Nonhlanhla N, Pamela P Gumbi, Lindi Roberts, Lynette Denny, Willem Hanekom, Andreia Soares, Bruce Allan, et al. "Impact of Human Immunodeficiency Virus 1 Infection and Inflammation on the Composition and Yield of Cervical Mononuclear Cells in the Female Genital Tract." *Immunology* 128, no. 1 Pt 2 (September 2009): e746–57. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2567.2009.03077.x>.
35. Passmore, Jo-Ann S., Heather B. Jaspan, and Lindi Masson. "Genital Inflammation, Immune Activation and Risk of Sexual HIV Acquisition." *Current Opinion in HIV and AIDS* 11, no. 2 (March 2016): 156–62. <https://doi.org/10.1097/COH.0000000000000232>.
36. Pugliese, Agostino, Valerio Vidotto, Tiziana Beltramo, and Donato Torre. "Phagocytic Activity in Human Immunodeficiency Virus Type 1 Infection." *Clinical and Diagnostic Laboratory Immunology* 12, no. 8 (August 2005): 889–95. <https://doi.org/10.1128/CDLI.12.8.889-895.2005>.
37. Ravin, Karen A., and Michael Loy. "The Eosinophil in Infection." *Clinical Reviews in Allergy & Immunology* 50, no. 2 (April 2016): 214–27. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12016-015-8525-4>.
38. Saitoh, Tatsuya, Jun Komano, Yasunori Saitoh, Takuma Misawa, Michihiro Takahama, Tatsuya Kozaki, Takuya Uehata, et al. "Neutrophil Extracellular Traps Mediate a Host Defense Response to Human Immunodeficiency Virus-1." *Cell Host & Microbe* 12, no. 1 (July 2012): 109–16. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chom.2012.05.015>.
39. Scapini, Patrizia, and Marco A. Cassatella. "Social Networking of Human Neutrophils within the Immune System." *Blood* 124, no. 5 (July 31, 2014): 710–19. <https://doi.org/10.1182/blood-2014-03-453217>.
40. Schroeder, John T. "Basophils: Emerging Roles in the Pathogenesis of Allergic Disease." *Immunological Reviews* 242, no. 1 (2011): 144–60. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1600-065X.2011.01023.x>.
41. Sharma, Prashant, Santhanam A. V. Raghavan, Rashmi Saini, and Madhu Dikshit. "Ascorbate-Mediated Enhancement of Reactive Oxygen Species Generation from

- Polymorphonuclear Leukocytes: Modulatory Effect of Nitric Oxide.” *Journal of Leukocyte Biology* 75, no. 6 (June 2004): 1070–78. <https://doi.org/10.1189/jlb.0903415>.
42. Shi, Xin, Matthew D Sims, Michel M Hanna, Ming Xie, Peter G Gulick, Yong-Hui Zheng, Marc D Basson, and Ping Zhang. “Neutropenia during HIV Infection: Adverse Consequences and Remedies.” *International Reviews of Immunology* 33, no. 6 (2014): 511–36. <https://doi.org/10.3109/08830185.2014.893301>.
43. Singh, Gurdeep, Andrew Brass, Christopher G. Knight, and Sheena M. Cruickshank. “Gut Eosinophils and Their Impact on the Mucus-Resident Microbiota.” *Immunology* 158, no. 3 (2019): 194–205. <https://doi.org/10.1111/imm.13110>.
44. Sivanandham, Ranjit, Egidio Brocca-Cofano, Noah Krampe, Elizabeth Falwell, Sindhuja Murali Kilapandal Venkatraman, Ruy M. Ribeiro, Cristian Apetrei, and Ivona Pandrea. “Neutrophil Extracellular Trap Production Contributes to Pathogenesis in SIV-Infected Nonhuman Primates.” *The Journal of Clinical Investigation* 128, no. 11 (01 2018): 5178–83. <https://doi.org/10.1172/JCI99420>.
45. Somsouk, Ma, Jacob D. Estes, Claire Deleage, Richard M. Dunham, Rebecca Albright, John M. Inadomi, Jeffrey N. Martin, Steven G. Deeks, Joseph M. McCune, and Peter W. Hunt. “Gut Epithelial Barrier and Systemic Inflammation during Chronic HIV Infection.” *AIDS* (London, England) 29, no. 1 (January 2, 2015): 43–51. <https://doi.org/10.1097/QAD.0000000000000511>.
46. Toure, Siaka, Delphine Gabillard, André Inwoley, Catherine Seyler, Gwenola Gourvellec, and Xavier Anglaret. “Incidence of Neutropenia in HIV-Infected African Adults Receiving Co-Trimoxazole Prophylaxis: A 6-Year Cohort Study in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire.” *Transactions of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene* 100, no. 8 (August 2006): 785–90. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trstmh.2005.11.008>.
47. Vono, Maria, Ang Lin, Anna Norrby-Teglund, Richard A. Koup, Frank Liang, and Karin Loré. “Neutrophils Acquire the Capacity for Antigen Presentation to Memory CD4+ T Cells in Vitro

and Ex Vivo.” *Blood* 129, no. 14 (06 2017): 1991–2001. <https://doi.org/10.1182/blood-2016-10-744441>.

48. Weisgrau, Kim L., Logan J. Vosler, Nicholas L. Pomplun, Jennifer M. Hayes, Heather A. Simmons, Kristen R. Friedrichs, and Eva G. Rakasz. “Neutrophil Progenitor Populations of Rhesus Macaques.” *Journal of Leukocyte Biology* 105, no. 1 (2019): 113–21. <https://doi.org/10.1002/JLB.1TA1117-431RR>.

49. Weller, P F, W L Marshall, D R Lucey, T H Rand, A M Dvorak, and R W Finberg. “Infection, Apoptosis, and Killing of Mature Human Eosinophils by Human Immunodeficiency Virus-1.” *American Journal of Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology* 13, no. 5 (November 1995): 610–20. <https://doi.org/10.1165/ajrcmb.13.5.7576698>.

50. Zevin, Alexander S., Lyle McKinnon, Adam Burgener, and Nichole R. Klatt. “Microbial Translocation and Microbiome Dysbiosis in HIV-Associated Immune Activation. [Miscellaneous Article].” *Current Opinion in HIV & AIDS* 11, no. 2 (March 2016): 182–90. <https://doi.org/10.1097/COH.0000000000000234>.

1 **FIGURE LEGENDS:**

2 **FIG1: Flow cytometric analysis of whole blood granulocyte surface markers.** Flow
3 cytometric panel determining granulocyte subpopulations (A) shown using whole blood
4 samples. Frequencies of CD64, CD32, CD16, and FcRε receptors on neutrophils
5 (green), eosinophils (blue), basophils (yellow), and monocytes (red), in naïve rhesus
6 whole blood samples (B). Baseline frequencies of granulocyte subsets in rhesus whole
7 blood samples (C): neutrophils (red), eosinophils (blue), and basophils (green)
8 determined by flow cytometry.

9 **FIG 2: Granulocyte phenotypes analyzed by ImageStream.** ImageStream flow
10 cytometry gating strategy (A) used to determine populations of neutrophils, eosinophils,
11 and basophils in whole blood. Image representation of (B) neutrophils (top), eosinophils
12 (middle), and basophils (bottom) isolated from rhesus whole blood.

13 **FIG 3: Nuclear morphology of granulocyte subsets analyzed by ImageStream.**
14 ImageStream flow cytometry images generated from whole blood samples and two
15 representative evaluations are shown (A and B). Internalized DAPI for visualizing
16 nuclear morphology is overlaid with surface markers indicating neutrophils (top),
17 eosinophils (middle), and basophils (bottom).

18 **FIG 4: Granulocyte subsets in whole blood of naïve and lentivirus-infected rhesus**
19 **macaques.** Granulocyte subset frequencies determined in peripheral blood by flow
20 cytometry. Chronic SHIV infection whole blood samples (red) are compared to naïve
21 (blue). ** $P < 0.01$, **** $P < 0.0001$, Mann-Whitney test.

22 **FIG 5: Granulocyte subsets in mucosal and lymphoid tissues of naïve and**
23 **lentivirus infected macaques.** Frequencies (A) of neutrophils (top), eosinophils

1 (middle), and basophils (bottom) found in naïve (blue) and chronic SHIV (red) infected
2 rhesus macaque tissues. Frequencies (B) of neutrophils (left) and eosinophils (right)
3 found in vaginal (top) and colorectal (bottom) biopsies from naïve (blue) and chronic
4 SHIV (red) infected rhesus macaques analyzed using flow cytometry. * $P < 0.05$, ** $P <$
5 0.01 , *** $P < 0.001$, Mann-Whitney test.

6

7

8

- 1
- 2

1

2

1

2

1

2