



The Faculty of Biotechnology and Food Engineering

Seminar

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3 Infectious Stories: How Immune Cells Shape Testicular Function

Abstract

The testis has two archetypical functions: spermatogenesis and steroidogenesis. The testicular immune system, consisting predominantly of macrophages, is intricately involved in both processes. This is most evident by the creation of a special local immune environment, termed immune privilege, where neoantigens on meiotic and post-meiotic germ cells are tolerated although they appear long after the establishment of self-tolerance in puberty. On the other hand, there is a need for a delicate balance between a sufficiently strong reaction to counteract invading pathogens, and simultaneously the prevention of excessive pro-inflammatory cytokine levels with the potential to disturb or destroy spermatogenesis. How the testicular immune system balances systemic and local tolerance, immune privilege and maintains a responsiveness towards microbial invasion on the cellular and molecular level is reflected in the seminar.

Wednesday, 19/2/20, 14:00 – 15:00, Room 300

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