Allergy-immunology glossary

Zeinab A. El-Sayed
Professor of Pediatrics, Ain Shams University

Towards a clear designation of some of the terms used in allergology and immunology.

| Monocyte | A type of bone marrow derived circulating blood cell that is the precursor of tissue macrophages. They are actively recruited into inflammatory sites where they differentiate into macrophages\(^1\). |
| Monocyte chemotactant protein-1 (MCP-1) | The monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 (MCP-1/CCL2) is structurally related to the CXC subfamily of cytokines. \(^3\) CCL2 is the first discovered human CC chemokine. Located on chromosome 17 (chr.17, q11.2), human MCP-1 is composed of 76 amino acids and is 13 kDa in size. Members of this subfamily are characterized by two cysteines separated by a single amino acid. \(^4\) MCP-1 displays chemotactic activity for monocytes and basophils but not for neutrophils or eosinophils. \(^3\) CCL2 is produced by a variety of cell types, either constitutively or after induction by oxidative stress, cytokines, or growth factors. However, monocyte/macrophages are found to be the major source of CCL2. MCP-1 has been implicated in the pathogenesis of diseases characterized by monocytic infiltrates, like psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis and atherosclerosis. \(^5\) CCL2 binds to chemokine receptors CCR2 and CCR4. \(^3\) |

REFERENCES


