Institute for Regenerative Medicine (IREM) in collaboration with Wyss Translational Center Zurich (Wyss Zurich), Regenerative Medicine Technologies Platform

Interdisciplinary Colloquium
Regenerative Medicine I

Tuesday, 28\textsuperscript{nd} Feb 2017 at 12:30 – 1:30 pm,
Kleiner Hörsaal OST,
University Hospital Zurich

Prof. Burkhard Becher
Division of Neuroimmunology, Inst. Experimental Immunology,
UZH

Chronic inflammatory disease: Autoimmunity or miscommunication

Many chronic inflammatory diseases are thought to be driven by autoimmune T cells. This is mostly due to the fact that many of these diseases have the MHC locus as a risk allele and that animals can be immunized with a T cell epitope for an auto-antigen to develop disease. However, deregulated cytokines are also a hallmark of chronic inflammation and in some diseases (e.g. psoriasis) it is becoming increasingly clear that cytokine deregulation is the cause of tissue inflammation. I propose that deregulated cytokine expression is the culprit behind many of the chronic inflammatory diseases and that T cells are only the instigators rather than executers of immunopathology. T cells can activate myeloid cells, which represent the primary infiltrate in chronic inflammatory diseases. I will discuss how T cells instruct myeloid cells to do their bidding.