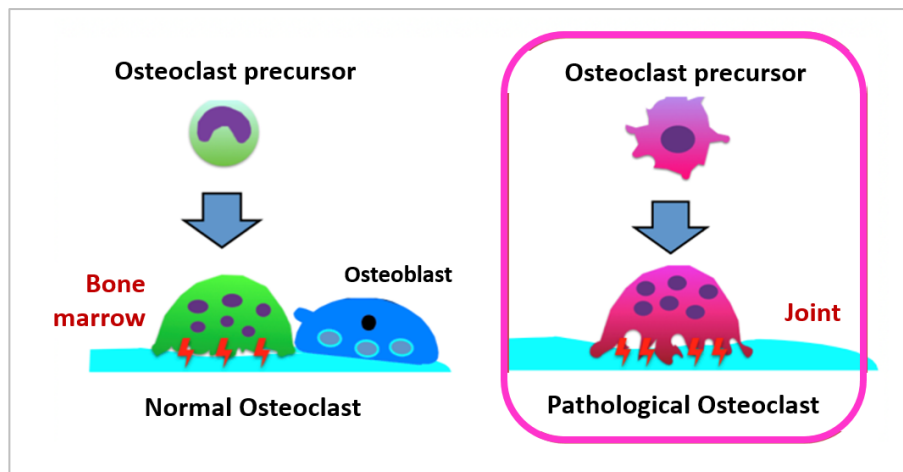


Identification of a novel arthritis-associated osteoclast precursor macrophage regulated by FoxM1

Keywords: rheumatoid arthritis, osteoclasts

Masaru Ishii (Immunology and Cell Biology, IFRc/Graduate School of Medicine, Osaka University) show osteoclasts in pannus originate exclusively from circulating bone marrow-derived cells and not from locally resident macrophages. They identify murine CX3CR1^{hi}Ly6C^{int}F4/80⁺I-A⁺/I-E⁺ macrophages (termed here "arthritis-associated osteoclastogenic macrophages [AtoMs]") as the osteoclast precursor (OP)-containing population in the inflamed synovium, comprising a subset distinct from conventional OPs in homeostatic bone remodelling. Tamoxifen-inducible Foxm1 deletion suppressed the capacity of AtoMs to differentiate into osteoclasts *in vitro* and *in vivo*. Furthermore, synovial samples from human rheumatoid arthritis (RA) patients contained CX3CR1⁺HLA-DR^{hi}CD11c⁺CD80⁻CD86⁺ cells that corresponded to mouse AtoMs, and human osteoclastogenesis was inhibited by the FoxM1 inhibitor, thiostrepton, constituting a potential target for RA treatment.



Journal: *Nature Immunology* (November 19, 2019 online)

Title: "Identification of a novel arthritis-associated osteoclast precursor macrophage regulated by FoxM1"

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