## Piastrine: genoma e trascrittoma

#### Paolo Gresele

Department of Medicine Section of Internal and Cardiovascular Medicine University of Perugia



"Workshop post-ISTH: novità dal meeting di Toronto 2015" Bergamo, 29-30 gennaio 2016



## **Topics**

#### **1. Genetic regulation of platelet function in health and disease**

• Genetic regulation of megakaryocytes and platelets

Andy Weyrich (State of the art)

 Dicer, the key enzyme of RNA interference, is regulated by thrombin stimulation in human platelets

Manni G et al. (Oral comunication, Young Investigator Award)

 Diphosphorylated lipid A triggers tissue factor mRNA splicing in human platelets

Krauel K et al. (Oral comunication)

#### 2. Platelet mRNAs and miRNAs in the interaction with other cells

• The role of circulating platelet transcripts

Jane Freedman (State of the art)

• RNA signatures in platelets from cancer patients

Thomas Wurdinger (SSC Platelet Physiology, lecture)

• Platelets release extracellular vescicles in an agonist dependent manner but release a consistent profile of microRNA

Ambrose AR et al. (Oral comunication, Young Investigator Award)

#### Genetic regulation of megakaryocytes and platelets Andrew S. Weyrich State of the art lecture



The transfer of genetic information in the form of coding mRNAs and regulatory miRNAs affects protein expression

paolo.gresele@unipg.it

## Genetic regulation of megakaryocytes and platelets



## Platelets synthesize new proteins Activation-dependent pre mRNA-splicing starts protein synthesis



Weyrich A et al., J Thromb Haemost 2009, 7:241

## Megakaryocytes differentially sort mRNA for MMPs/TIMPs into platelets



Cecchetti L et al., Blood 2011, 118:1903

# Platelets as effectors of thrombotic and inflammatory injury



Variations in race, genetic mutations, or acute disease are associated with changes in the genetic code (i.e. mRNA and miRNA expression patterns) in megakaryocytes. Changes in the megakaryocyte genetic code are then transferred into developing platelets that are released into the circulation. Alterations in the platelet transcriptome and corresponding proteins influence functional responses.

#### Platelet transcriptome is different between STEMI or CAD patients



Healy AM et al., Circulation 2006, 113:2278

# Platelet trascriptome is different between LES patients and healthy controls

Gene symbol	Gene title	Fold change
IFI27	interferon, alpha-inducible protein 27	23.12
CD58*	CD58 antigen, (lymphocyte function-associated antigen 3)	13.04
PRKRA*	protein kinase, interferon-inducible double stranded RNA dependent activator	6.34
G1P3	interferon, alpha-inducible protein (clone IFI-6-16)	6.27
CD69*	CD69 antigen (p60, early T-cell activation antigen)	5.25
IFITM1*	interferon induced transmembrane protein 1 (9-27)	3.42
OAS1	2′,5′-oligoadenylate synthetase 1, 40/46kDa	2.87
STAT1	signal transducer and activator of transcription 1, 91kDa	2.58
LY6E	lymphocyte antigen 6 complex, locus E	2.43
IFNGR1	interferon gamma receptor 1	2.18
IFRD1	interferon-related developmental regulator 1	2.10
IFI44L	interferon-induced protein 44-like	2.04
OAS3	2′-5′-oligoadenylate synthetase 3, 100kDa	1.98
G1P2	interferon, alpha-inducible protein (clone IFI-15K)	1.98
PLSCR1	phospholipid scramblase 1	1.97
OAS2	2′-5′-oligoadenylate synthetase 2, 69/71kDa	1.92
IRF2BP2	interferon regulatory factor 2 binding protein 2	1.92
GBP1	guanylate binding protein 1, interferon-inducible, 67kDa	1.87
IFI16	interferon, gamma-inducible protein 16	1.83
IFITM3	interferon induced transmembrane protein 3 (1-8U)	1.80
IRF2	interferon regulatory factor 2	1.70



### Platelets and miRNA

- Platelets contains miRNAs and the RNAi machinery
- miRNAs regulates gene expression in platelets
- miRNAs have a role in platelet activation



Drosha

DGCR8

Dicer TRBP2

Ago2

Mega- Platelets

β-Actin

#### Platelet miRNAs as biomarkers of platelet reactivity



#### Platelet miRNA-mRNA profiles by race, age and gender

miR-484

JARID2

miR-548a-5p

miR-425

YWHAG miR 548a 3p



- PAR4 response is higher in blacks
- mRNAs positively correlate with PAR4 response
- miRNAs negatively associate with PAR4 reactivity

microRNA 🔶

mRNA

ZNE664

DDX17

BCOR

CCDC92



Edelstein LC et al Nat Med. 2013;19(12):1609-16.

paolo.gresele@unipg.it

### Platelet miRNOme in disease



Platelets from patients with sickle cell disease (SCD) exhibit an altered miRNA expression profile.			
Up-regulated miRNAs	Down-regulated miRNAs		
miR-638	miR-376a		
miR-940	miR-381		
miR-636	miR-409-3p		
miR-1238	miR-377		
miR-1225-3p	miR-376c		
miR-1207-5n	miR-495		
mm(=1207-5p	miR-376b		
miR-33b	miR-181c		
miR-630	miR-487b		
miR-191	miR-337-5p		

# Dicer, the key enzyme of RNA interference, is regulated by thrombin stimulation in human platelets

Giorgia Manni\*, Loredana Bury, Alessandro Marturano, Elisa Piselli and Paolo Gresele





#### Dicer protein and mRNA are present in resting platelets Thrombin induces Dicer synthesis





#### Dicer synthesis is associated with mir-223 maturation and target mRNA down-regulation



Diphosphorylated lipid A triggers Tissue factor mRNA splicing in human platelets Krauel K\*, Thorack U, Schumacher A, and Schwertz H



- LPS is an agonist for platelet mRNA splicing of TF.
- LPS components are lipid A di- and mono-phosphate and 3-deoxy-Dmanno-2-octulosonic acid (KDO).
- LPS and lipid A diphosphate, but not monophosphate or KDO, trigger mRNA splicing.
- TF mRNA required LPS activation for maturation, while IL-1β mRNA was already mature at baseline
- Lipid A diphosphorylated is required to trigger TF mRNA-splicing in human platelets

#### The role of circulating platelet transcripts Jane E. Freedman State of the art lecture



## Platelet RNA transfer mechanisms



Platelet RNA transfer may affect vascular cell expression and homeostasis by:

- direct interaction of platelets with white blood and/or endothelial cells
- microparticles formation and subsequent interaction of microparticles with white blood and/or endothelial cells

#### Platelet RNA transfer mechanisms

Activated platelets transfer miRNA to endothelial cells in vitro



Gidlof O et al., Blood 2013;121:3908

#### Platelet mRNA transfer occurs in vivo



#### Platelets release extracellular vesicles in an agonist dependent manner but release a consistent profile of microRNA

Amrose AR, Pringle JH and Goodall AH



- Platelets contain abundant microRNAs which can be packaged into extracellular vesicles (EV) and released into the circulation.
- EVs contained between 57 and 79 different miRNAs depending on the stimulus.
- miR-223 was expressed in all samples

These data suggest that the EVs released from platelets and their miRNA content are agonist-dependent

### Dengue virus pirates human platelets



#### Simon AY et al., Blood 2015;126:378

#### RNA signatures in platelets from cancer patients Thomas Wurdinger SSC Platelet Physiology Lecture



«...splice events in response to external signals and the capacity of platelets to ingest spliced circulating mRNAs can provide tumor educated platelets with a highly dynamic mRNA repertoire...»

## **RNA-Seq of Tumor-Educated Platelets (TEPs)**



- 5003 different protein-coding and non-coding RNAs were detected in platelets of healthy donors and cancer patients
- 1453 mRNAs were increased and 793 decreased in TEPs
- Differentially-detected mRNAs distinguished two groups with minor overlap

Best MG et al., Cancer Cell 2015, 28:666

### **RNA-Seq of Tumor-Educated Platelets (TEPs)**



In addition to the pancancer diagnosis, the TEP mRNA profiles also distinguished healthy donors and patients with specific of types cancer, as demonstrated by the hierarchical clustering of differential platelet mRNA levels of healthy donors and all Six individual tumor types.

NSCLC: non small cell lung CRC: colorectal GBM: glyoblastoma PAAD: pancreatic BrCa: breast HBC: hepatobiliary

Best MG et al., Cancer Cell 2015, 28:666

#### **RNA-Seq of Tumor-Educated Platelets**



Best MG et al., Cancer Cell 2015, 28:666

## Blood platelets represent an advancement in bloodbased "liquid biopsies"



- Tumor educated platelets (TEPs) provide a RNA biosource for pan-cancer, multiclass, and companion diagnostics
- Blood platelets are a potential all-in-one platform for blood-based cancer diagnostics, using the equivalent of one drop of blood.

## CONCLUSIONS

- The crucial role of platelets in hemostasis, inflammation, host defence has led to the evolutionary development of finely tuned mechanisms regulating platelet phenotype
- Alterations of platelet and megakaryocyte transcriptome/miRNome play a role in their participation in disease
- The expanding knowledge of these mechanisms may in perspective lead to the identification of novel therapeutic targets and/or to the use of platelets as therapeutic carriers



#### Jane E. Freedman The role of circulating platelet transcripts State of the art

Platelet Transcriptome: Does it have a direct effect?



#### Andrew S. Weyrich Genetic regulation of megakaryocytes and platelet State of the art

#### The genetic code of Megakaryocytes and Platelets Tells a Rich Story

Feature identified by RNA-seq	Molecular function
5´ cap and poly-A tail	Regulation of translation and RNA stability
Unspliced pre-mRNA and intron retention	Regulation of translation
Extended and alternate 5' and 3'	Alternative regulatory motifs: uORFs, RNA binding proteins, and miRNA binding sites
Known and novel alternative splice variants	Regulation of translation, alternate functional protein isoforms, truncated proteins (i.e. secreted vs. membrane bound)
Non-coding RNA and antisense transcripts	Regulation of transcription and translation
Insertions, deletions, single nucleotide mutations	Altered functional proteins, altered proteins

1. Insights into platelet function and phenotype



2. Biomarkers and regulators of disease



3. Insights into megakaryocyte development and function



#### RNA signatures in platelets from cancer patients Thomas Wurdinger (SSC Platelet Physiology)

Tumors "educated" platelets (TEPs) by altering the platelet RNA profile



## **Protein synthesis by platelets**



 Platelets do not contain DNA

 Platelets contain mRNA derived from

megakaryocytes

 They are able of protein synthesis, constitutively or after stimuli

Weyrich AS et al. J Thromb Haemost 2009