

Antimicrobial Defence in Human Body Fluids

-

High Antimicrobial Peptide Expression in Postoperative Pleural Fluid and Stressed Mononuclear Cells

Doctoral Viva

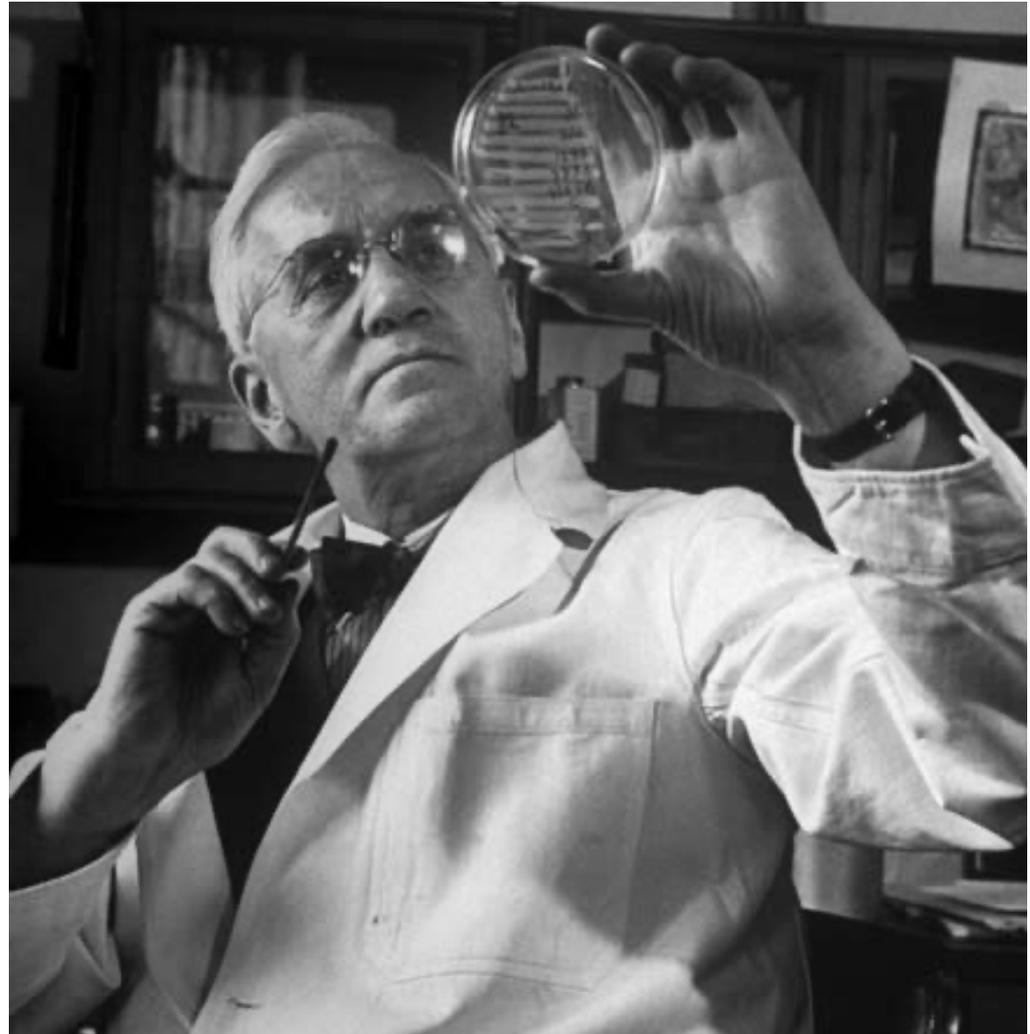
Dr. Mohammad Mahdi Kasiri

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Vienna, Juli 2020

Sir. Alexander Fleming 1881-1955

- Lysozyme in human tears in 1922
- Accidental contamination of a staphylococci culture plate by a mould named “Penicillium” in 1928
- The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, December 10, 1945



Nobel Lecture, December 11, 1945

I had since the war of 1914-1918 been interested in antiseptics and in 1924 I described what I think is probably the best experiment I ever did. This showed up in a dramatic fashion the relative activity of a chemical on bacteria and on human leucocytes.

Normal human blood has a strong bactericidal power on the ordinary cocci, e.g. staphylococci and streptococci, but this power is completely lost if the leucocytes are removed from the blood. If defibrinated blood is infected with a small number of staphylococci (say 4,000 per cc.) and incubated in a capillary space - a slide cell or a capillary tube - the cocci which survive grow out into colonies which can easily be enumerated. But only about 5 per cent grow out. If however, phenol is added to B concentration of 1 in 600 all the cocci grow out freely. Here the phenol in a concentration which does not interfere with bacterial growth has destroyed the leucocytes which constitute one of our most powerful defences against infection (see

Antimicrobial Peptides (AMPs)

- Component of the hosts defence mechanism
- Prokaryotes (bacteria) and eukaryotes (plants, insects, and animals)
- Over 2500 oligopeptides (10 - >50 amino acids)
- Broad spect. AMA against: gram-neg., gram-pos. bacteria, yeasts, fungi, viruses, and even cancer cells
- Direct antimicrobial, chemotactic, immunomodulatory, angiogenetic activity...

Antimicrobial Defence of Human Body Fluids

Major cardio-thoracic surgery → Thoracotomy

- Connection between Lung and Pleura
 - Lung: ~ 50% pathogen colonisation

- Post-op empyema < 5%

Antimicrobial Defence of Human Body Fluids

> [Ann Thorac Surg](#). 2014 Sep;98(3):1042-50. doi: 10.1016/j.athoracsur.2014.04.106.
Epub 2014 Jul 16.

Antimicrobial Peptides Are Highly Abundant and Active in Postoperative Pleural Drainage Fluids

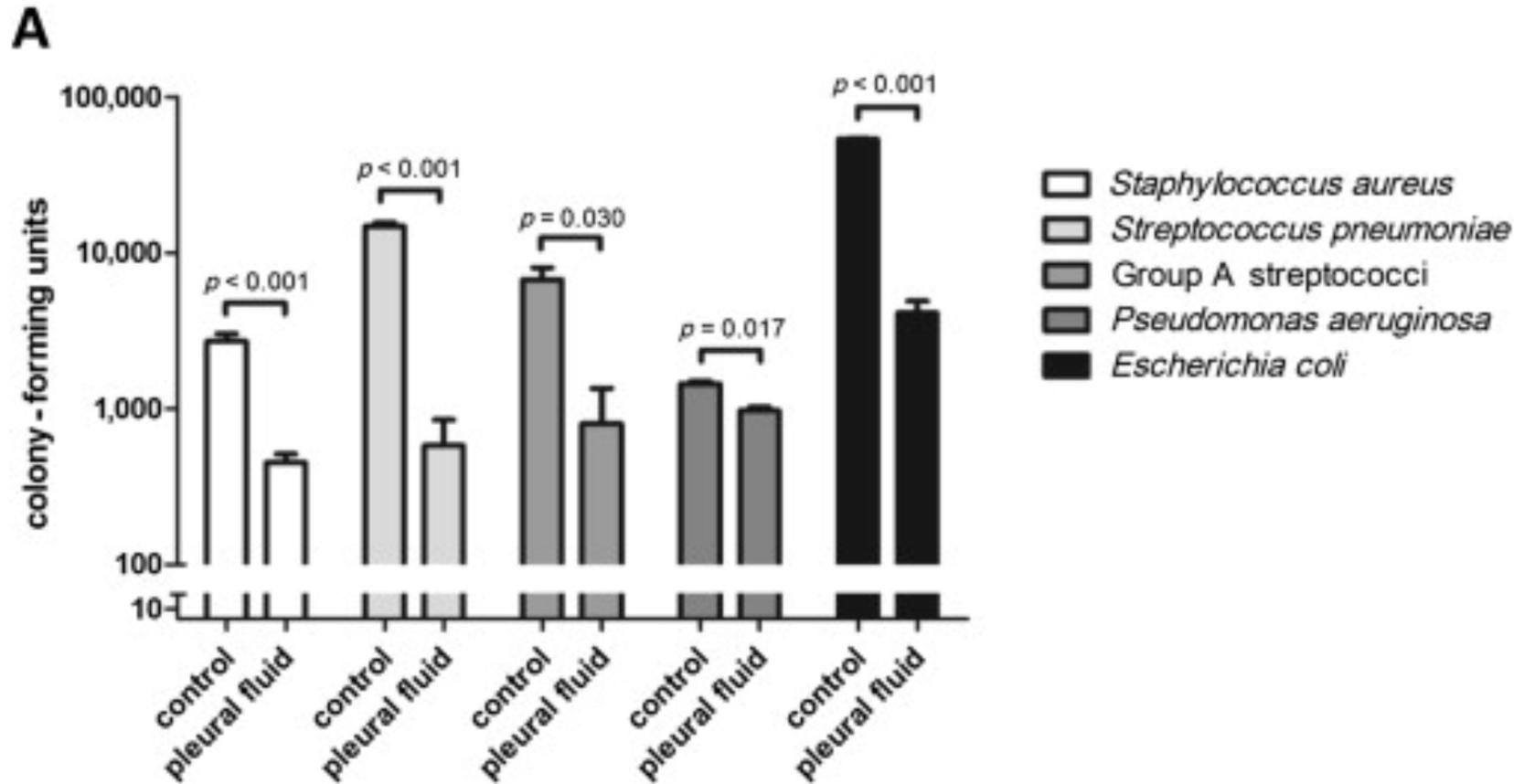
Konrad Hoetzenecker ¹, Moritz Hochdaninger ¹, Denise Traxler ², Maria Gschwandtner ³
, Mohammad Mahdi Kasiri ², Andreas Mitterbauer ², Thomas Schweiger ², Balazs Hegedus ¹
, Walter Klepetko ¹, Erwin Tschachler ³, Hendrik J Ankersmit ⁴, Michael Mildner ³

Methods

- Collection of:
 - Pleural fluid
 - parietal pleura samples
- Applied techniques:
 - Microdilution assay for antimicrobial activity
 - ELISA: AMPs
 - PCR: pleural fluid, parietal pleura
 - Immunohistochemical staining on parietal pleura
 - Flow Cytometry: cellular components of Pleura fluid

Results

Antimicrobial activity of post-Op pleural fluids



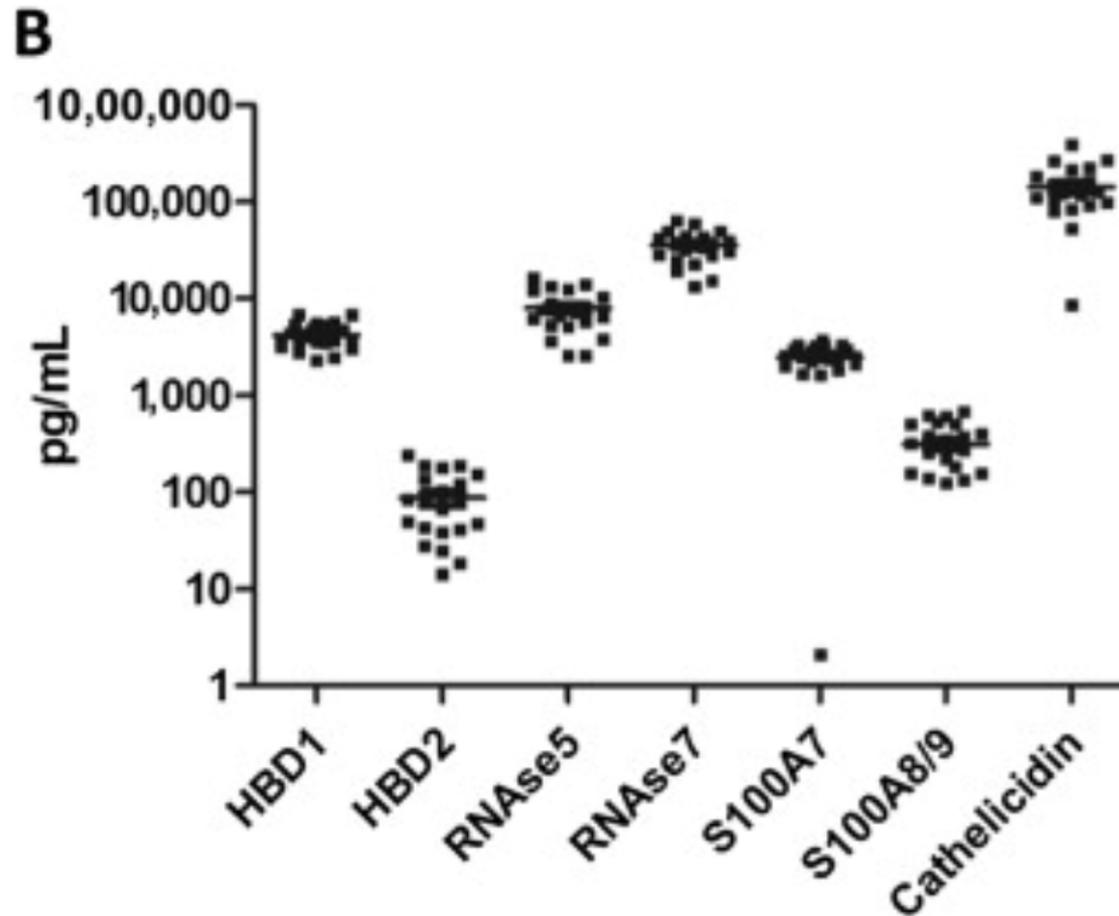
Results

AMP concentration in post-Op pleural fluid

Organism	Antibiotic Coverage	No Antibiotic Coverage	<i>p</i> Value
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	86.6±1.3%	53.5±3.8%	<0.001
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	97.4±1.3%	67.0±3.8%	<0.001
Group A streptococci	95.5±4.3%	0.0±0.0%	<0.001
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	30.5±4.0%	23.4±7.2%	0.628
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	86.8±3.7%	62.4±2.2%	0.081

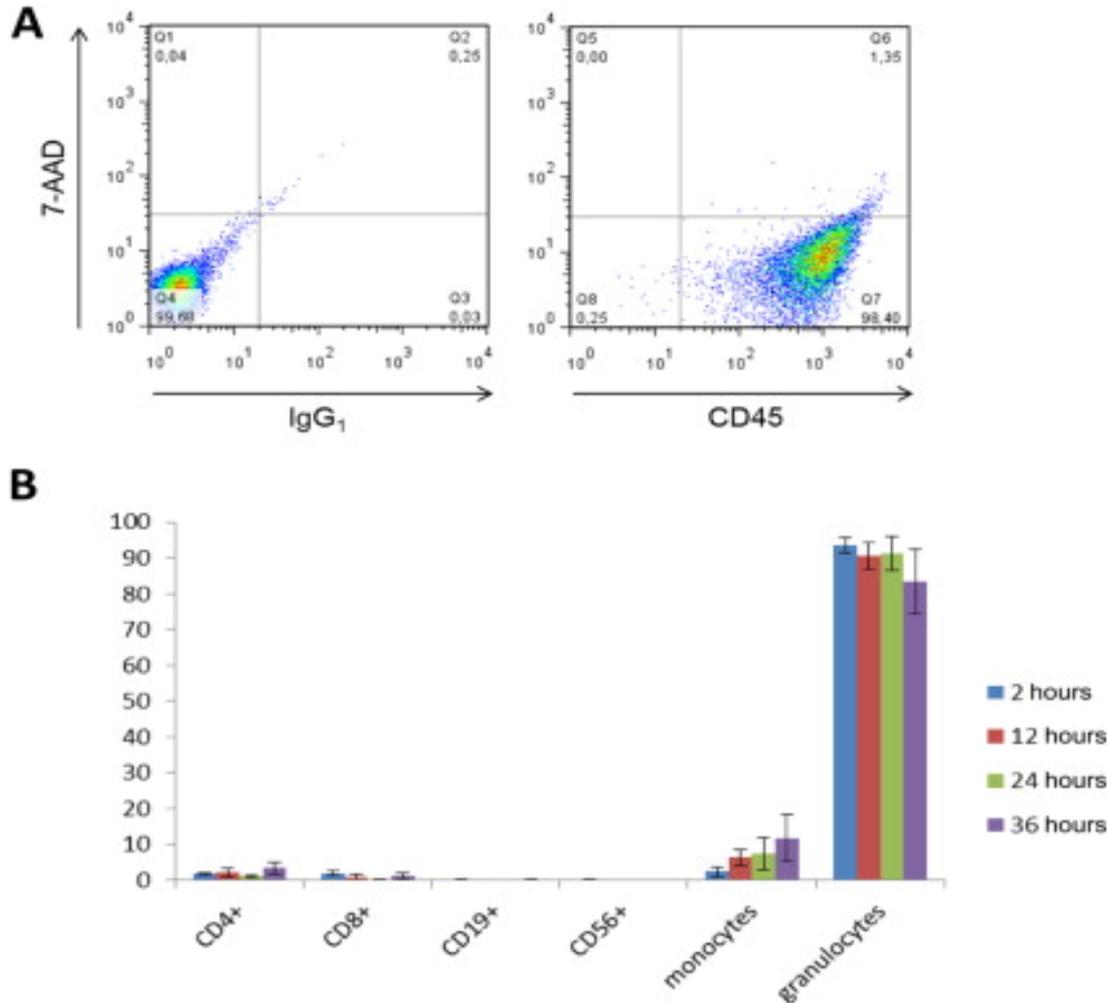
Results

AMP concentration in post-Op pleural fluid



Results

Search for the AMP source: Flow Cytometry



Summery

For the first time:

post-Op pleural fluid

1. Potent antimicrobial activity
2. Gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria
3. AMPs

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> [Blood](#). 2000 Nov 1;96(9):3086-93.

The Human Antimicrobial and Chemotactic Peptides LL-37 and Alpha-Defensins Are Expressed by Specific Lymphocyte and Monocyte Populations

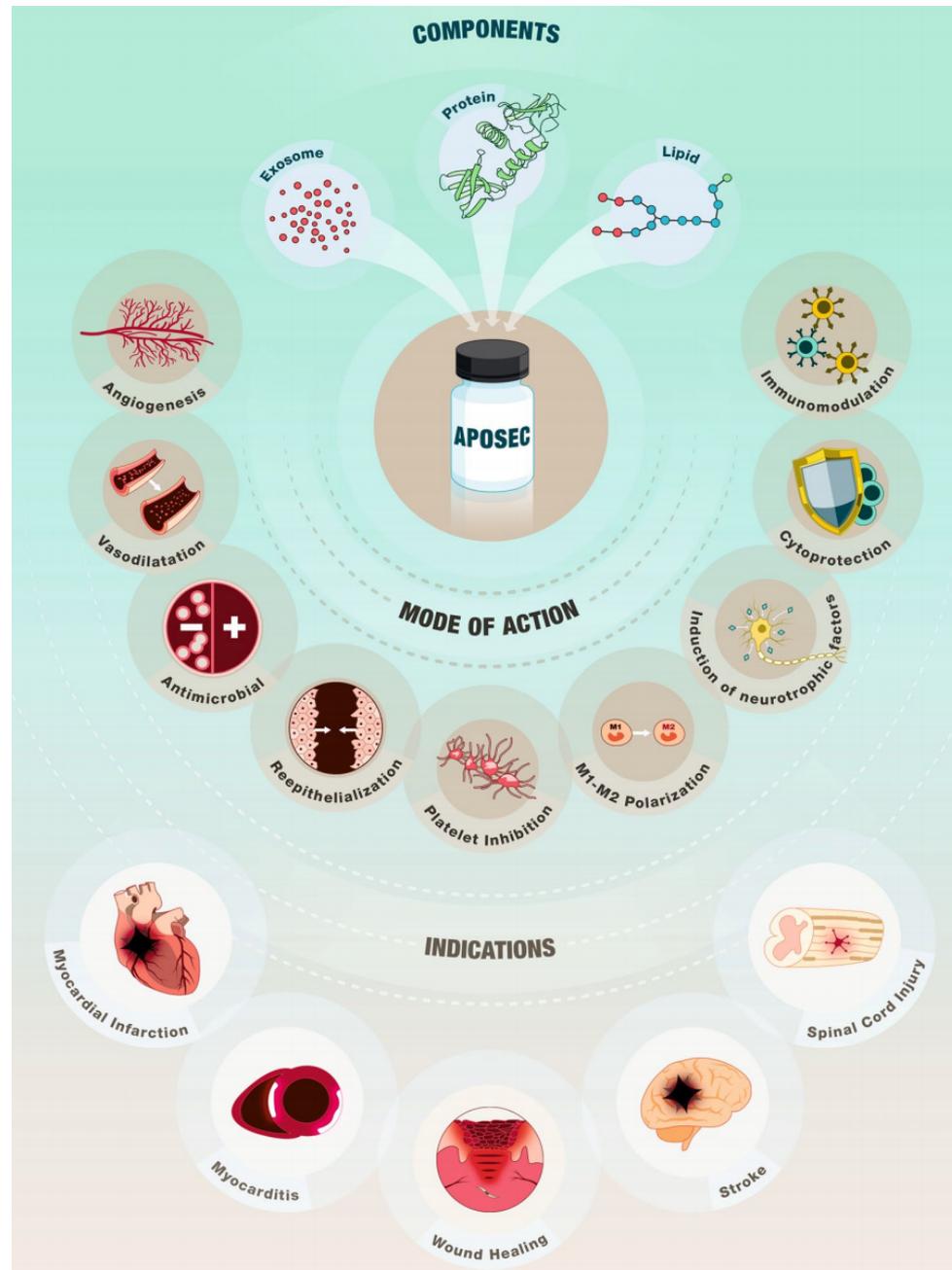
[B Agerberth](#) ¹, [J Charo](#), [J Werr](#), [B Olsson](#), [F Idali](#), [L Lindbom](#), [R Kiessling](#), [H Jörnvall](#), [H Wigzell](#), [G H Gudmundsson](#)

Stimulation of T and NK cells with IL-6, IFN-g enhances secretion of LL-37
in vitro

APOSEC

“Apoptotoc Secretome”

- Secretome of irradiated Blood Mononuclear Cells
 - lymphocytes (B cells (~15 %), T cells (~70 %)), natural killer cells (NK cells) (~10 %), monocytes (~5 %)
- Secreted from stressed MNCs striving to survive
 - Comprising: proteins: cytokines and growth factors, pro-angiogenic substances, lipids, free nucleic acids and extracellular vesicles: such as exosomes, microparticles



> [Eur J Clin Invest.](#) 2016 Oct;46(10):853-63. doi: 10.1111/eci.12667. Epub 2016 Sep 26.

Dying Blood Mononuclear Cell Secretome Exerts Antimicrobial Activity

Mohammad Mahdi Kasiri ¹, Lucian Beer ^{1 2}, Lucas Nemeč ³, Florian Gruber ^{4 5}, Sabine Pietkiewicz ⁶, Thomas Haider ¹, Elisabeth Maria Simader ¹, Denise Traxler ¹, Thomas Schweiger ³, Stefan Janik ¹, Shahrokh Taghavi ³, Christian Gabriel ⁷, Michael Mildner ⁸, Hendrik Jan Ankersmit ^{9 10 11}

Methods

Prep. MNC sec.

Venous Blood Withdrawal



Cell Separation



Irradiation



Incubation for 24h



Centrifugation



Lyophilization



Lyophilized MNC-secretomes



Virus Elimination (GMP)

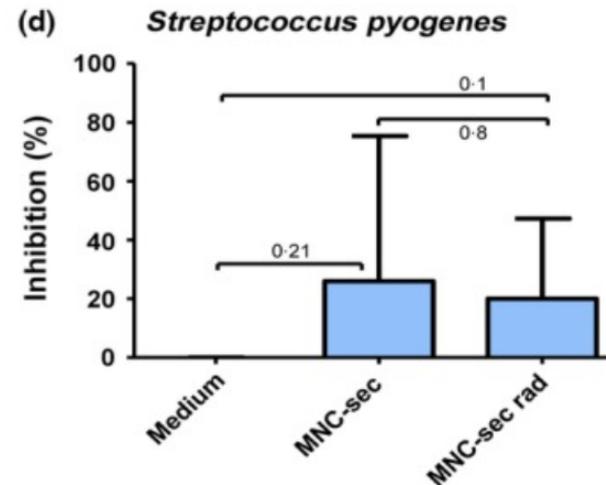
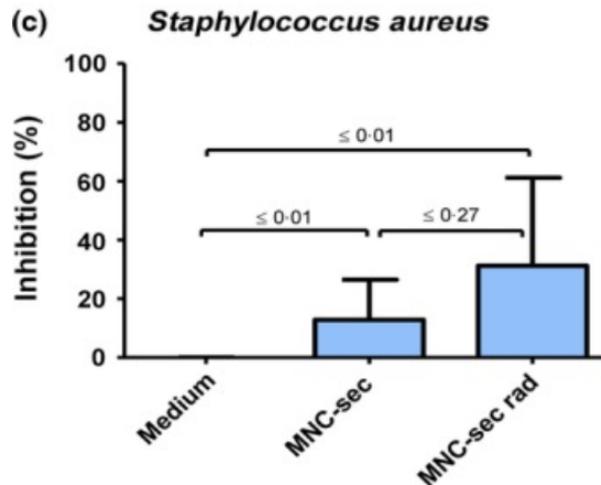
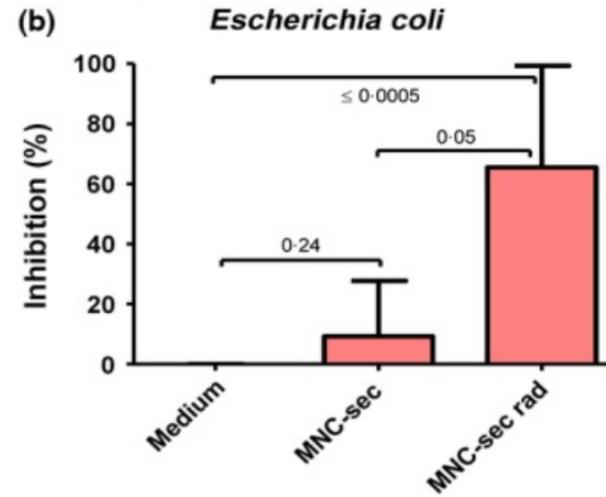
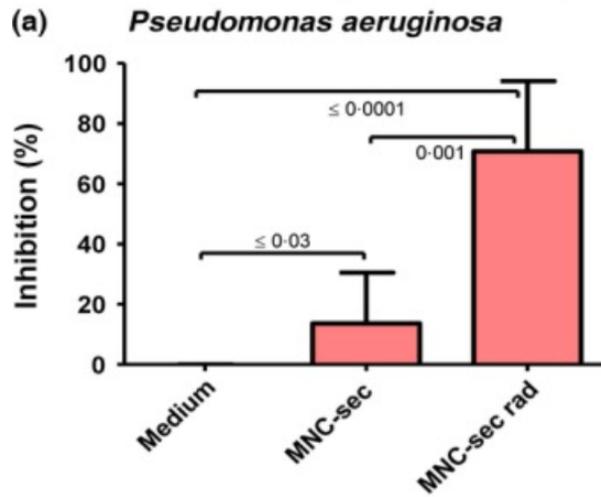


Methods

- Applied techniques:
 - Microdilution assay for antimicrobial activity
 - ELISA: AMPs
 - PCR: MNCs
 - In-vivo animal experiment with Sprague–Dawley rats
 - Flow Cytometry using Imaging Flow Cytometer for invest. of cell death

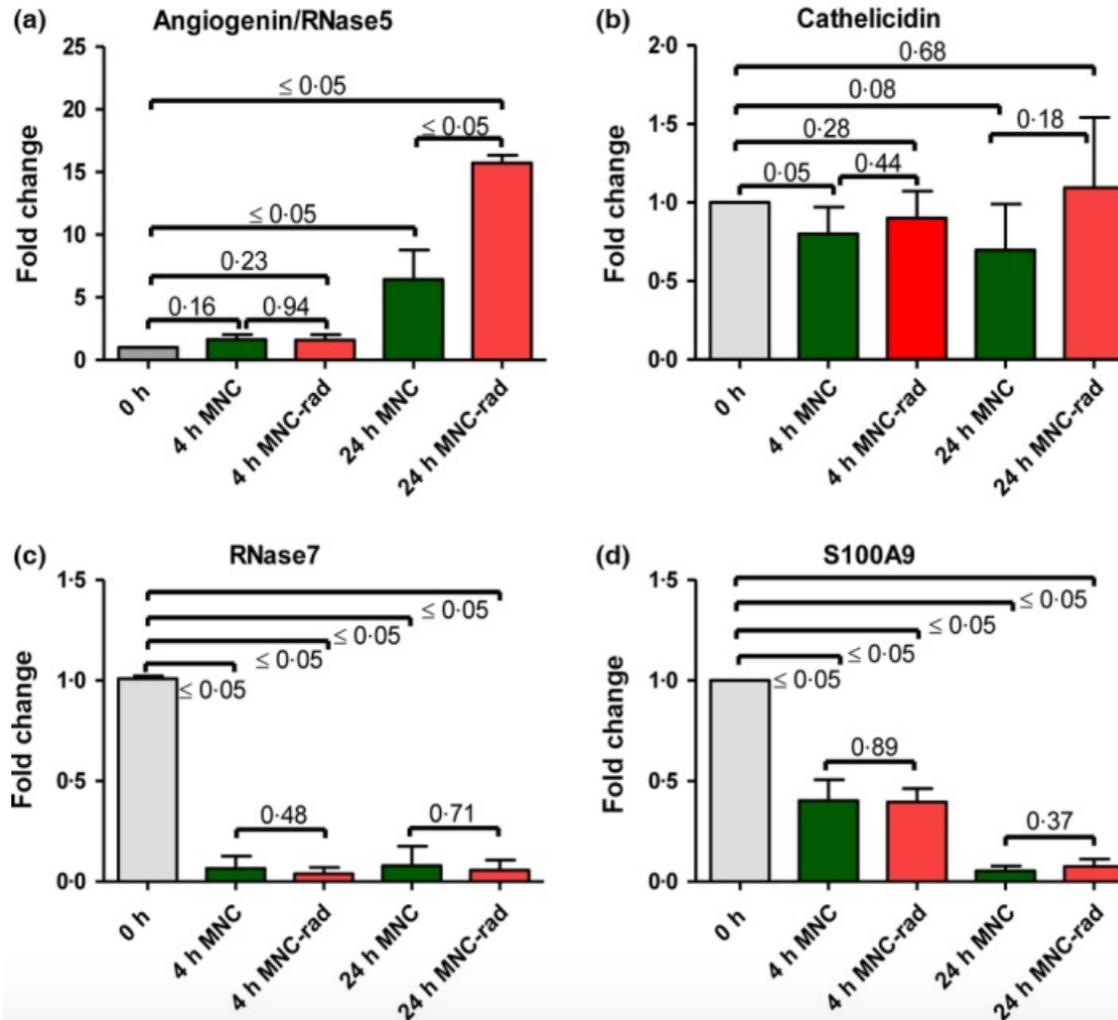
Results

Antimicrobial activity of MNC sec against G-&G+ bacteria



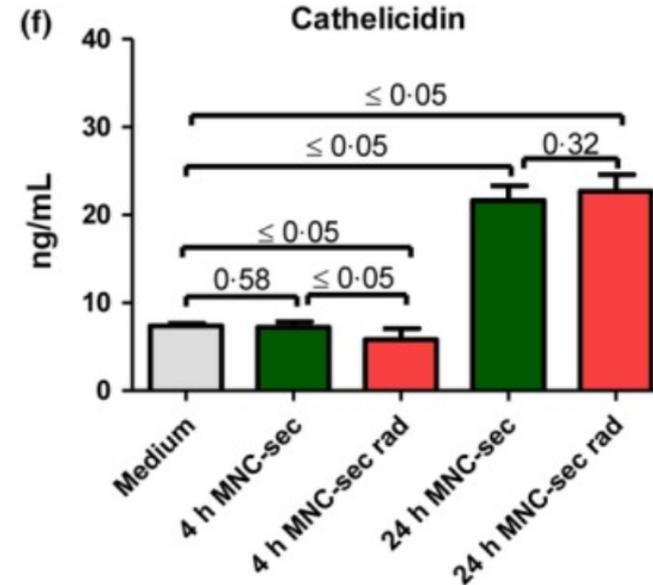
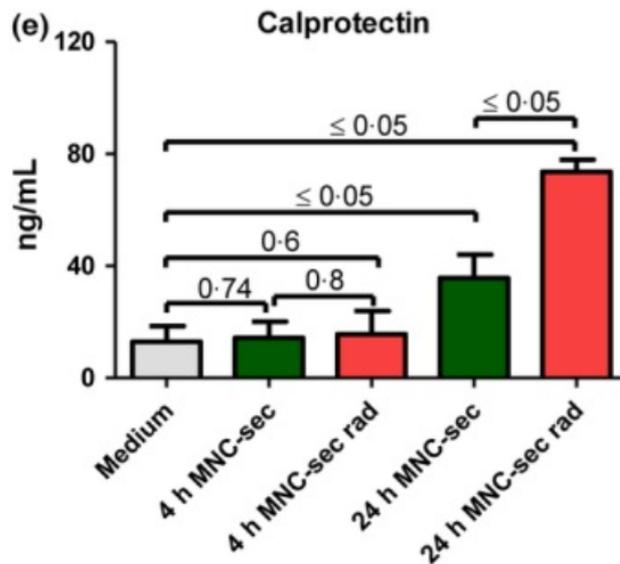
Results

AMP expression in MNC-rad vs. MNC-non-rad



Results

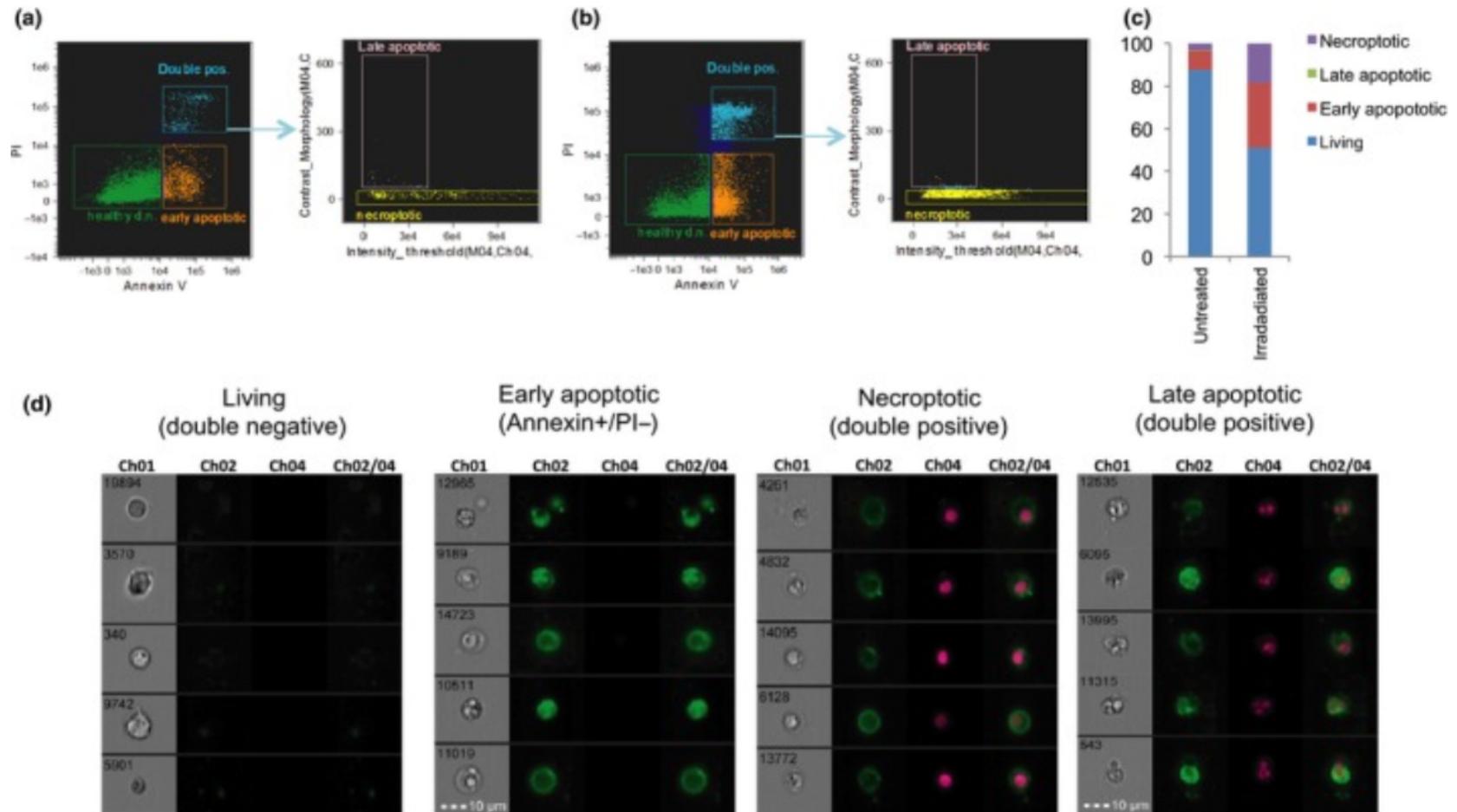
AMP concentration in MNC-rad vs. MNC-non-rad



AMPs	GMP MNC-sec ng/ml
Cathelicidin	24.75 ± 5
Calprotectin	82.25 ± 4
RNase 3	19.75 ± 3
DEFB 124	2.75 ± 1

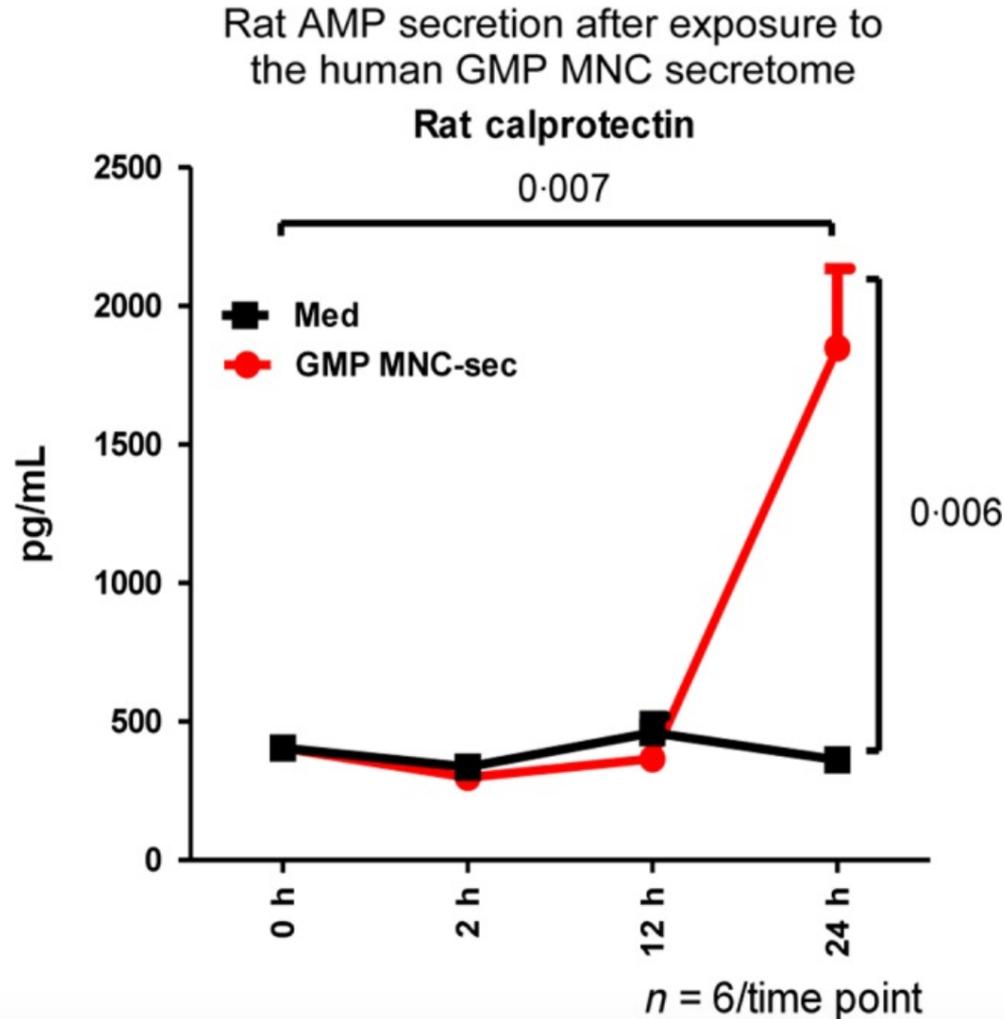
Results

Mechanism of cell death – sec. phenotype



Results

APOSEC stimulates endogenous AMP production in rats



APOSEC

- Irradiation → increased AMP production in MNCs
- Direct and indirect positive effects on immune system include
 1. Direct antibacterial activity
 2. Augmentation of the endogenous AMP production
- The advantages of APOSEC include
 1. easy access to the source cells
 2. acellular content of the product, preventing the risk of an unwanted cell dependent immune reaction
 3. Simple production

Diabetic Foot Ulcer (DFU)

- Chronic wound condition
- Reduced quality of life
- Physical, psychological, and economical burden
- Infection in 50% cases
- Limb amp. in 25% cases

Characteristics:

1. Impaired wound healing capacity
2. PNP
3. Vascular insufficiencies
4. Inflammation, infection



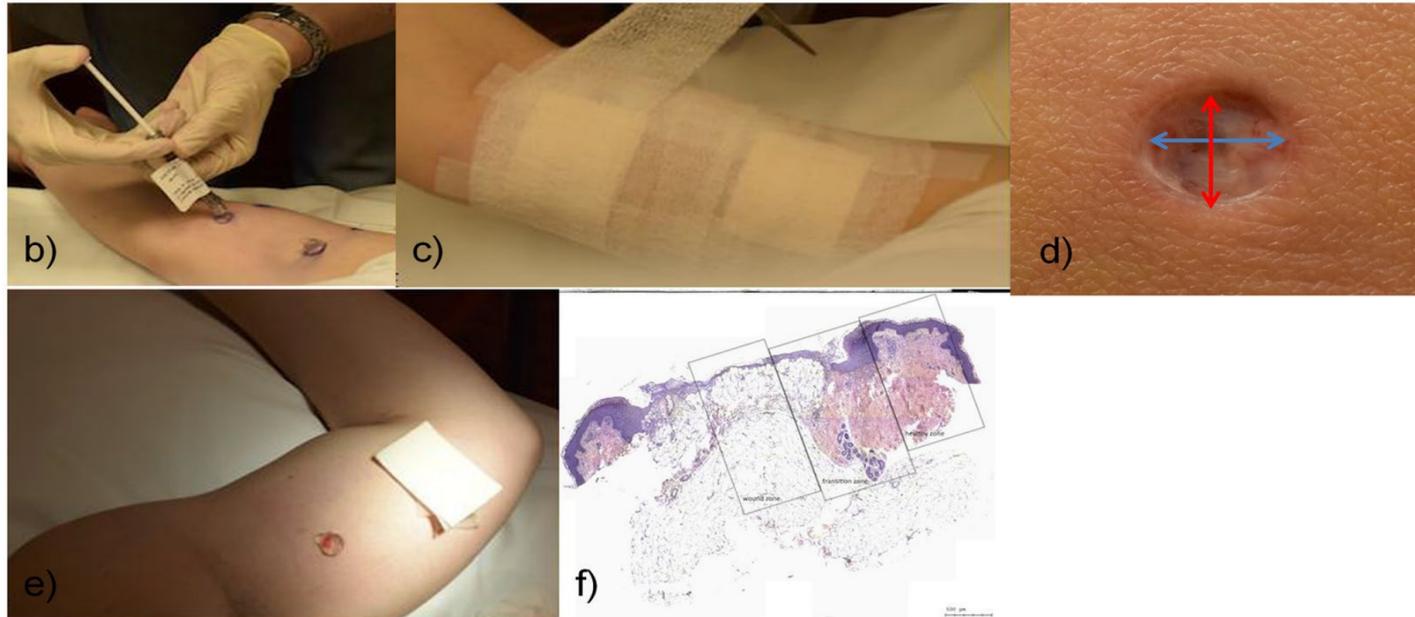
APOSEC

1. Inhibition of microvascular obstruction,
2. Vasodilation,
3. Angiogenesis,
4. Enhanced migration of human primary keratinocytes,
5. Neuroregeneration,
6. Improvement and acceleration of wound healing,
7. Antimicrobial and anti-inflammatory capacity,
8. Increasing expression of endogenous AMPs

Marsyas I

Clinical Trial > [Sci Rep. 2017 Jul 24;7\(1\):6216. doi: 10.1038/s41598-017-06223-x.](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-017-06223-x)

Safety and Tolerability of Topically Administered Autologous, Apoptotic PBMC Secretome (APOSEC) in Dermal Wounds: A Randomized Phase 1 Trial (MARSYAS I)



Marsyas II

Trial record **1 of 1** for: marsyas

[Previous Study](#) | [Return to List](#) | [Next Study](#)

A Study to Evaluate Safety and Efficacy of APO-2 at Three Different Doses in Patients With Diabetic Foot Ulcer

The safety and scientific validity of this study is the responsibility of the study sponsor and investigators. Listing a study does not mean it has been evaluated by  the U.S. Federal Government. [Know the risks and potential benefits](#) of clinical studies and talk to your health care provider before participating. Read our [disclaimer](#) for details.

ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT04277598

[Recruitment Status](#) ⓘ : Not yet recruiting
[First Posted](#) ⓘ : February 20, 2020
[Last Update Posted](#) ⓘ : February 24, 2020
See [Contacts and Locations](#)

Sponsor:

Aposcience AG

Collaborator:

FGK Clinical Research GmbH

Information provided by (Responsible Party):

Aposcience AG



DFU Named-Pat. Use

- Day 1 →



- Day 45 →

