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学位論文題名
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The *SKINT1*-like Gene Is Inactivated in Hominoids But Not in All Primate Species: Implications for the
Origin of Dendritic Epidermal T Cells
(ヒト及び類人猿で不活化している *SKINT1* 様遺伝子の旧世界ザルでの機能残存と樹
状表皮 T 細胞の由来に関する検討)

Background: The $\gamma\delta^+$ dendritic epidermal T-cells (DETCs) are the residential T-cells in mouse epidermis expressing the invariant V γ 5V δ 1 TCR and have a critical role for skin immunosurveillance and homeostasis. DETCs are generated by positive selection in the fetal thymus during the narrow period from embryonic day 14.5 to 18.5, after which they migrate to the skin. *Skint1* gene is composed of 7 coding exons expressing an immunoglobulin protein exclusively in thymic epithelial cells and keratinocytes at embryonic day 15 and continue to adulthood. *Skint1* duplicated in mice to form *Skint* family which is in turn considered as a member of butyrophilin (*BTN*) family. Skint-1 protein is suggested as the first and indispensable component for selection of the invariant DETC. Rat and cow have Skint1 orthologs with protein topology and structure similar to that of mouse, in addition, they have high population of DETC-like cells expressing $\gamma\delta$ TCR with limited variability. In contrast, Skint1 has multiple in-frame premature termination codons in both human and chimpanzee, moreover, humans don't possess neither high population nor monomorphic epidermal $\gamma\delta$ T cells. It is noteworthy that the presence of Skint1 is correlated with presence of a restricted cutaneous T cell population. It will be of particular interest to determine when Skint1 rendered inactive in the mammalian phylogeny and concomitantly DETCs are lost.

Methods: To detect at which stage in primate evolution *Skint1* inactivation took place, we analyzed the predicted SKINT1L sequences in primate species. We called here *Skint1* of all mammalian species other than mice as *SKINT1L*. Cloning and sequencing were done to characterize the *SKINT1L* of cynomolgus

macaque as a representative of Old World Monkeys (OWM). Using RT-PCR and immunohistochemical staining, we also examined the epidermal $\gamma\delta$ T cell population in cynomolgus macaque investigating the functionality of SKINT1L. To better understand the evolution of the *Skint1/SKINT1L* gene family, and more generally the entire *SKINT* gene family, we extended our bioinformatics to mammals other than primates.

Results: We found that all hominoids *SKINT1L* has a common inactivating mutation, but that Old World monkeys have apparently functional *SKINT1L* sequences and the epidermal resident $\gamma\delta$ T cells in cynomolgus macaques contains a population of dendritic-shaped $\gamma\delta$ T cells expressing an invariant V γ 10V δ 1 T-cell receptors. We demonstrated also that *SKINT1L* emerged in an ancestor of placental mammals, but was inactivated or lost multiple times in mammalian evolution.

Discussion and conclusions: *SKINTL* family and in turn *SKINT1L* are highly evolved through the mammalian evolution, They have been emerged in an ancestor of eutheria and lost or inactivated multiple times in the mammalian phylogeny which suggest a concomitant loss of the skin-resident $\gamma\delta$ T cells in the orders lacking in consequence to *SKINT1L* deficiency.