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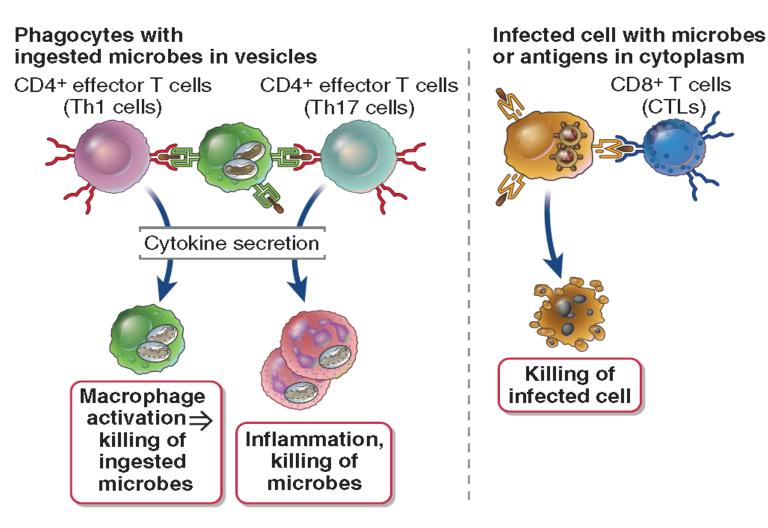
# Lecture outline

- Overview of T cell responses and T cell mediated immunity
- Discovery and definition of Th subsets
- Functions of subsets and roles in human disease –simple view
- Additional complexity: hybrid subsets, plasticity, new ways of considering Th heterogeneity--Types 1, 2, 3 immunity
- Therapeutic targeting of subset cytokines for inflammatory diseases

## **Types of T Cell–Mediated Immune Reactions**

#### CD4+ helper T cells (Th)

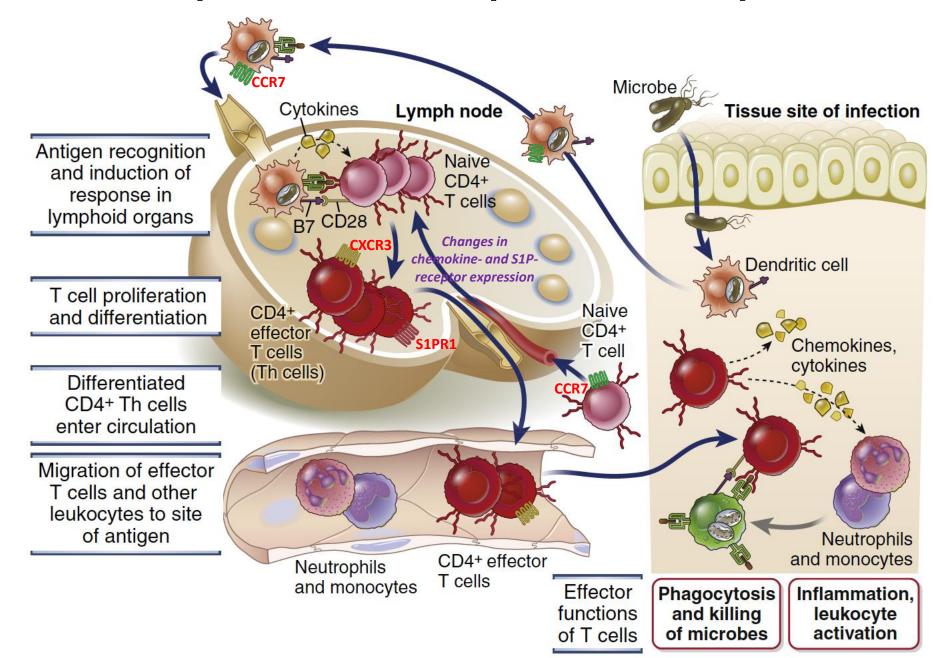
Microbes that live inside phagocytes Microbes that are readily killed by phagocytes



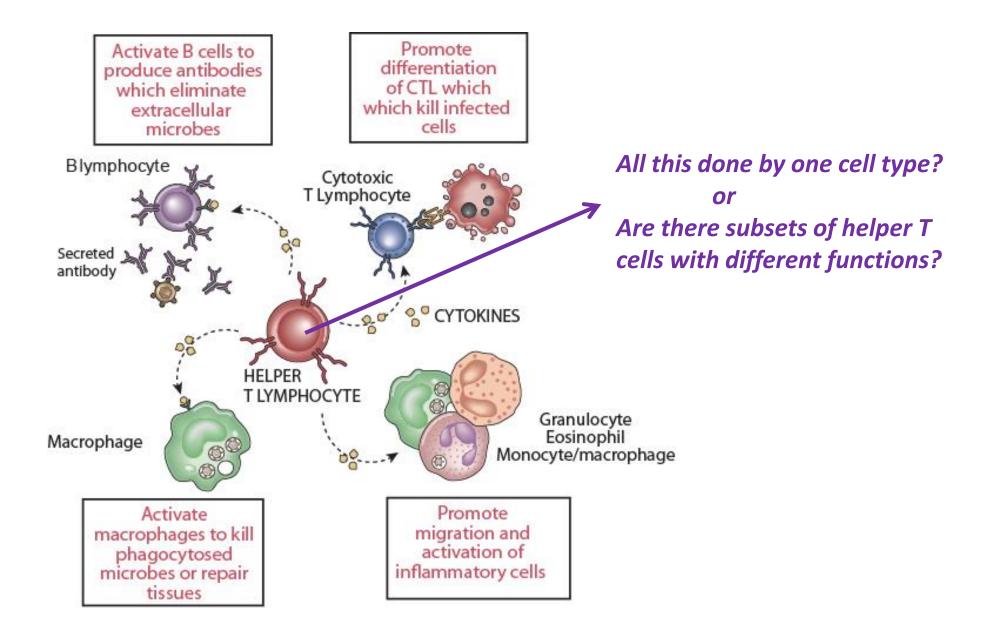
#### CD8+ Cytotoxic T lymphocytes (CTL)

Microbes that live inside tissue cells

### **Steps in a CD4+ Helper T Cell Response**



#### **Cytokine-Mediated Functions of CD4+ Helper T Cells**



### **CD4+ Helper T cell subsets: Definitions and Properties**

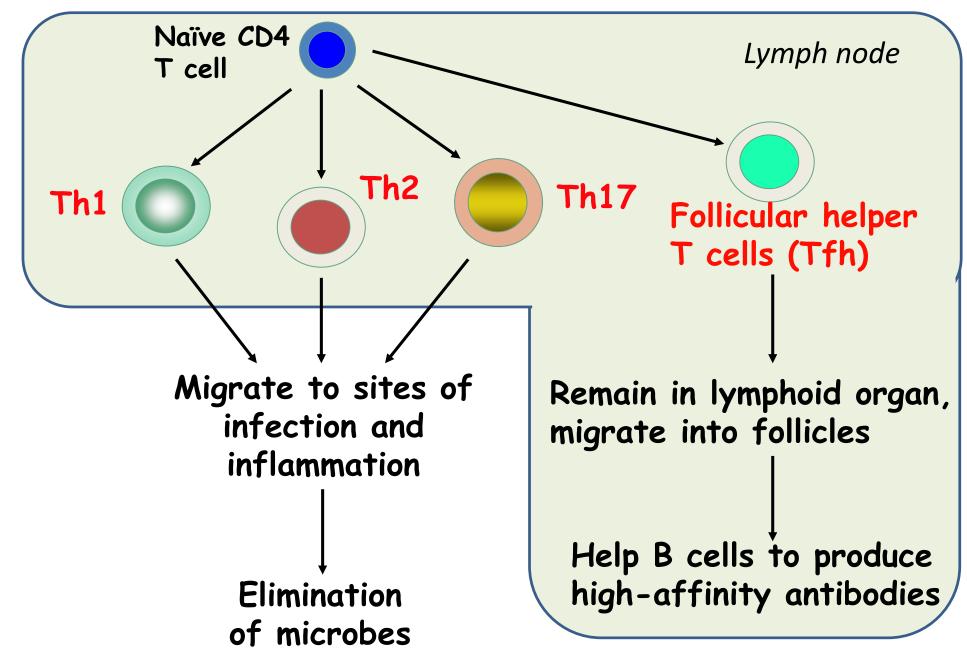
- Populations of CD4+ T cells that are distinguished by producing a restricted and non-overlapping set of cytokines
  - Early after activation, T cells can produce a broad array of cytokines
  - Progressive activation leads to "polarization"; production of selected cytokines
- Distinct functions, migration properties, roles in disease
- Can be identified by gene or protein expression of:
  - $\circ$  Cytokines
  - Trafficking molecules (chemokine receptors)
  - o "Master" transcriptional regulators

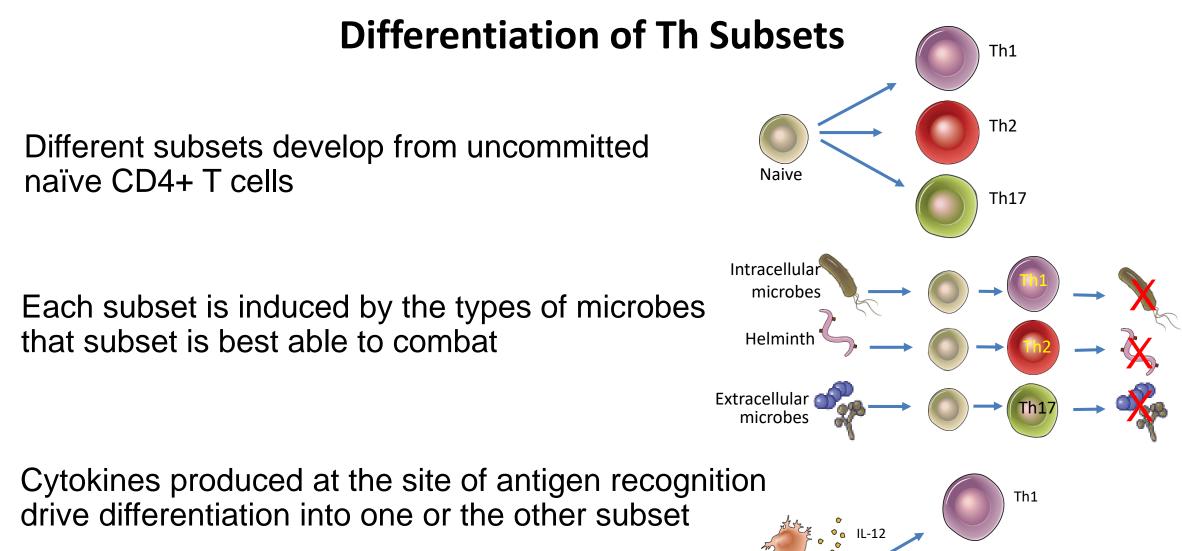
## Subsets of CD4+ Th Cells

Effector T cells	Defining cytokines	Principal target cells	Major immune reactions	Host defense	Role in disease
Th1 >O	IFN-γ	Macrophages	Macrophage activation	Intracellular pathogens	Autoimmunity; chronic inflammation
Th2 >	IL-4 IL-5 IL-13	Eosinophils	Eosinophil and mast cell activation; alternative macrophage activation	Helminths	Allergy
Th17	IL-17 IL-22	Neutrophils	Neutrophil recruitment and activation	Extracellular bacteria and fungi	Autoimmunity; inflammation
Tfh	IL-21 (and IFN-γ or IL-4)	B cells	Antibody production	Extracellular pathogens	Autoimmunity (autoantibodies)

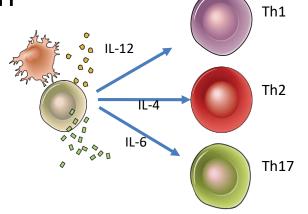
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## **CD4 Effector T Cell Subsets**





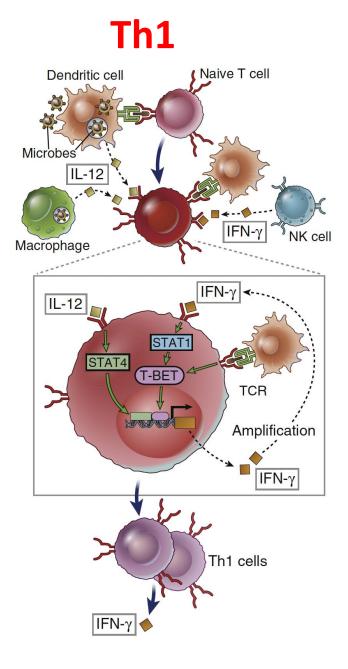
Major sources of cytokines that drive differentiation: APCs, responding T cells themselves, other host cells

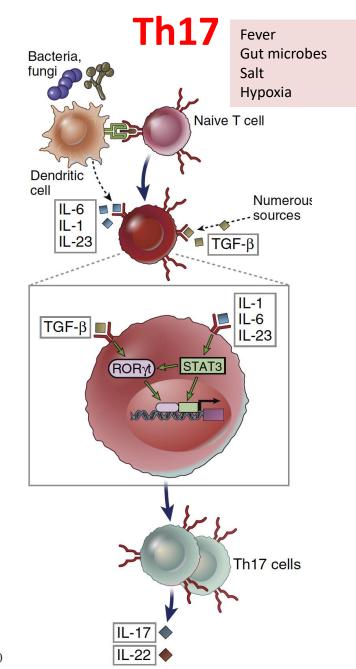


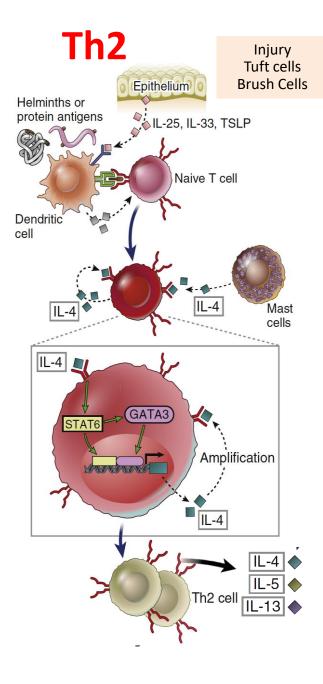
## **Differentiation of Th Subsets**

- Signaling induced by:
  - Antigen via TCR
  - Costimulation via Costim receptor
  - Cytokines via cytokine receptors
- Activation of transcription factors
  - STATs
  - Master regulators
- Epigenetic changes at loci encoding master regulators and cytokine

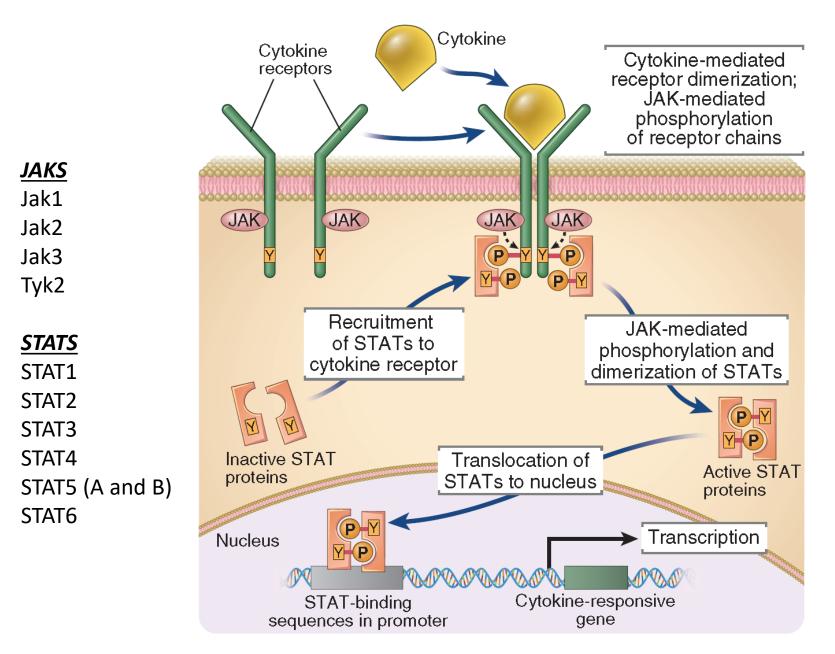
## **Differentiation of Th Subsets**



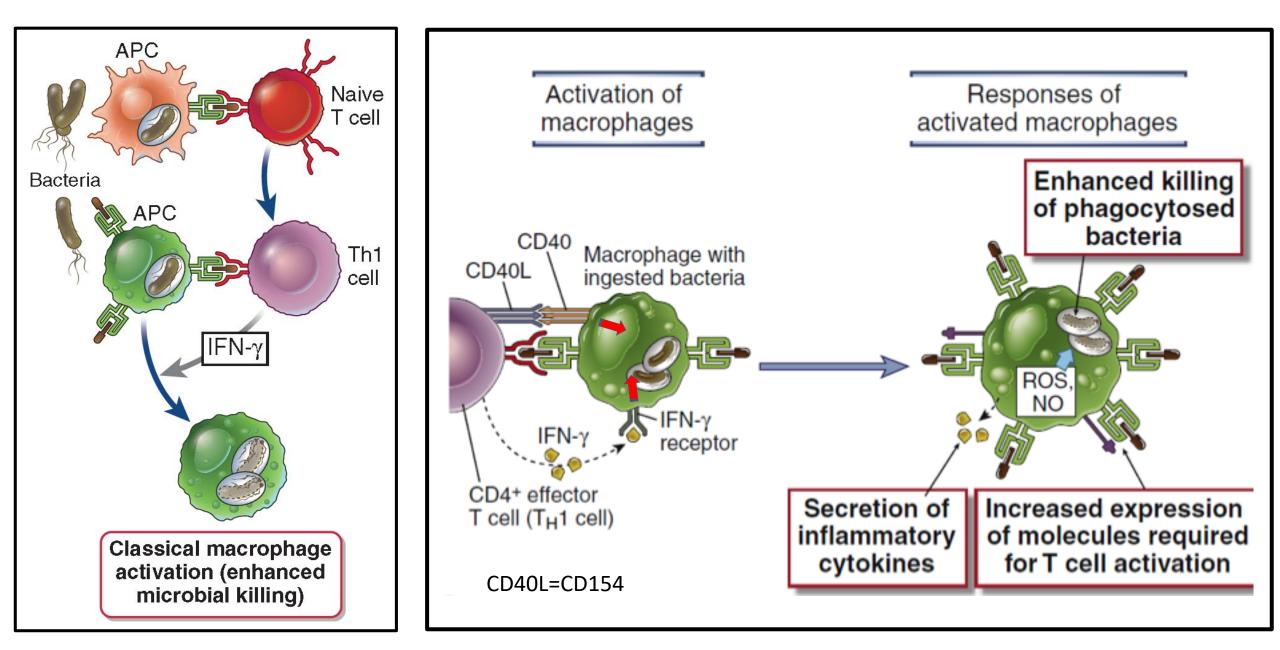




## **JAK-STAT Cytokine Signaling**

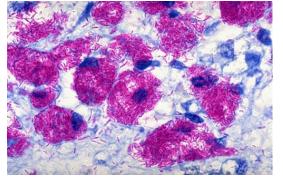


## The Functions of Th1 Cells: Macrophage Activation

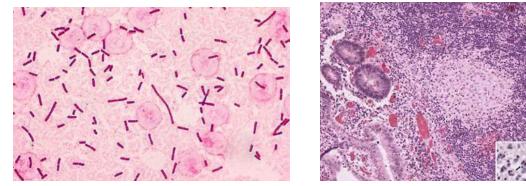


Human T<sub>H</sub>1 cells: defense against intracellular microbes

- Mendelian susceptibility to mycobacterial disease (MSMD): inborn errors of IFN-γ mediated immunity
  - Mutations in genes encoding IL-12 receptor, IL-12, IFN- $\gamma$  receptor, IFN- $\gamma$  signaling molecules
- Most common infections are with microbes that can live inside phagocytes: *Mycobacteria, Salmonella*
- IL-12 and IFN-γ required for Th1 differentiation; IFN-γ required for Th1 function (macrophage activation)

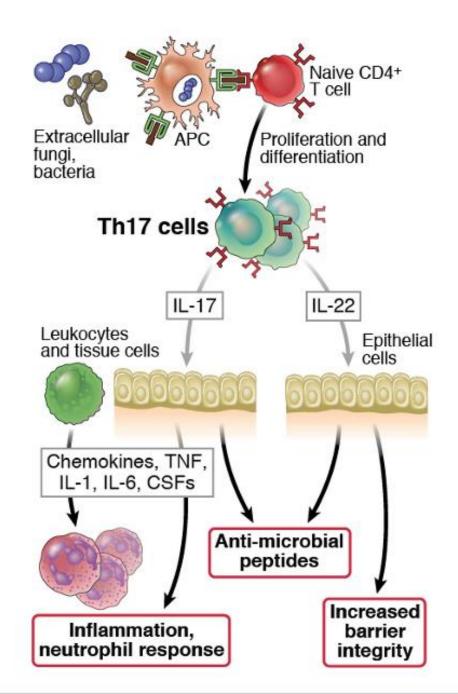


Mycobacteria

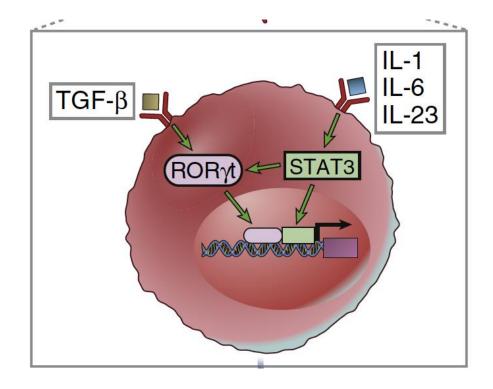


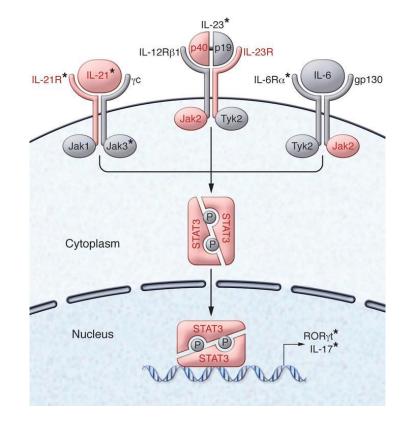
Salmonella

## Functions of T<sub>H</sub>17 cells



#### STAT3-dependent cytokines in Th17 differentiation

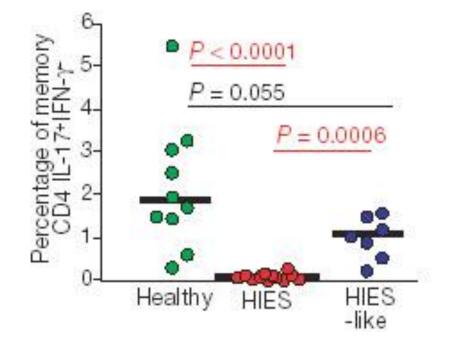




Burkett PR, Meyer zu Horste G, Kuchroo VK. J Clin Invest. 2015;125:2211-9

## Human T<sub>H</sub>17 cells: defense against extracellular microbes

- Human Stat3 mutations result in HIES<sup>\*</sup>, characterized by infections, as well as many other clinical manifestations
  - Recurrent staphylococcal abscesses or mucocutaneous candidiasis
- HIES patients have impaired T<sub>H</sub>17 responses
- Supports role for T<sub>H</sub>17 cells in resistance to extracellular bacterial and fungal infections



Milner JD et al Nature 452, 773-776. 2008

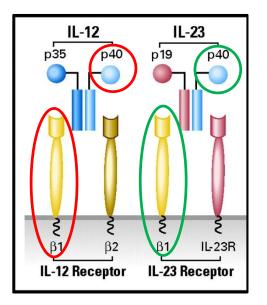
## What are the functions of human Th1 vs. Th17 cells?

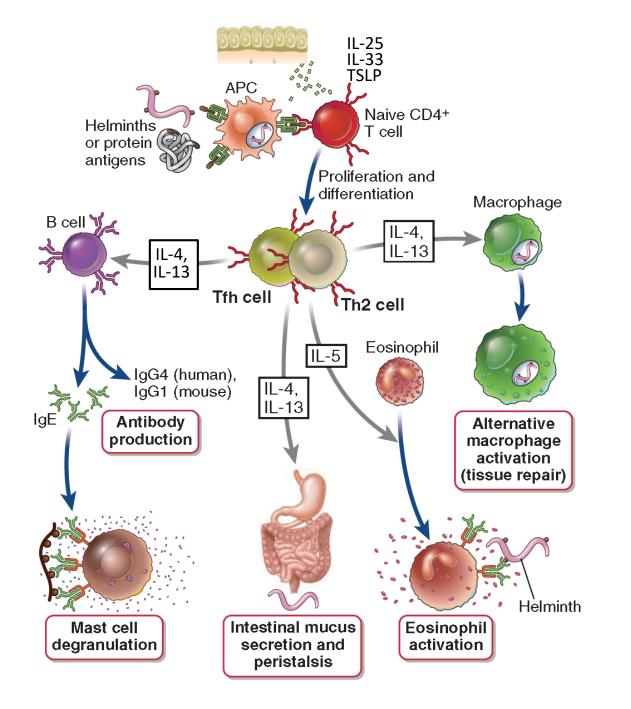
- Mendelian susceptibility to mycobacterial disease (MSMD): inborn errors of IFN-γ immunity.
- Some genes involved: IL-12R $\beta$ 1, IFN- $\gamma$ R1, IL-12p40, IFN- $\gamma$ R2, STAT-1, IRF8,
- Most common infections with deficiencies in IFN-γR and STAT1: BCG, environmental mycobacteria, M. tuberculosis, Salmonella
- Most common infections with deficiencies of IL-12p40, IL-12Rβ1: <u>Mycobacteria, Salmonella</u>, Candida

#### Why both intracellular and extracellular infections in IL-12p40 and IL-12R $\beta$ 1 deficiencies?

- p40 shared by IL-12 and IL-23
- IL-12R $\beta$ 1 shared by both IL-12R and IL-23R
- IL-12 needed for Th1 differentiation
- IL-23 needed for Th17 differentiation

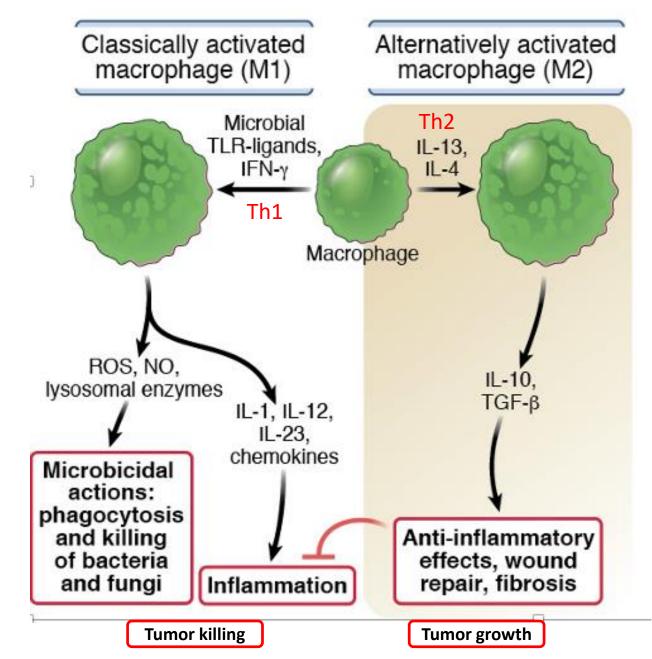
Implications for mAb drug therapies





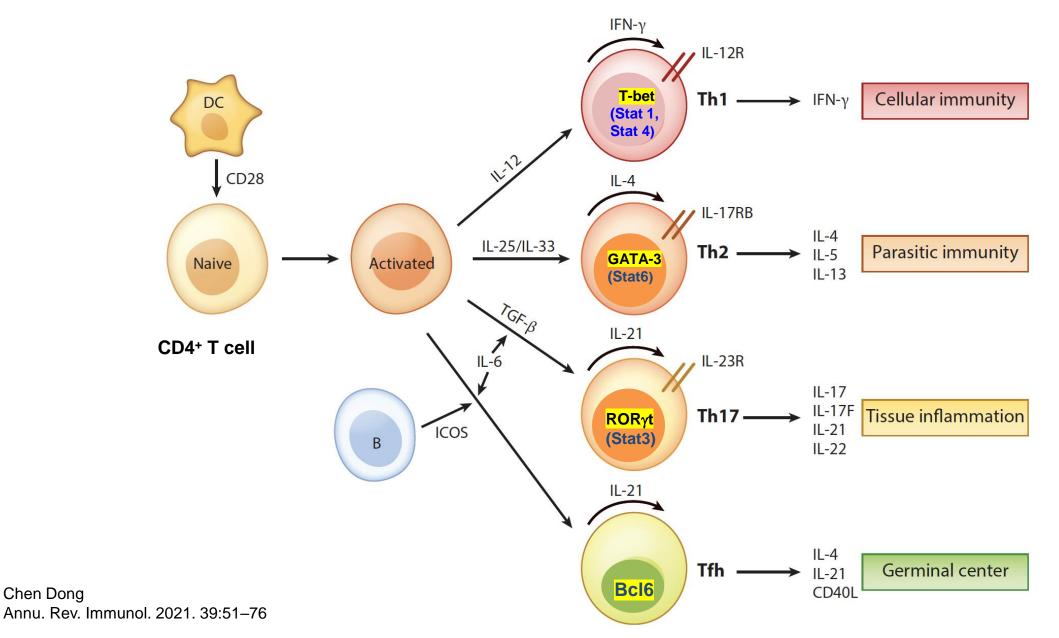
## Functions of T<sub>H</sub>2 Cells

## **Macrophage Activation: Classical & Alternative**



### Th differentiation:

Summary of Cytokines and Transcription Factors Involved



Chen Dong

#### The real story about Th subsets is more complicated!

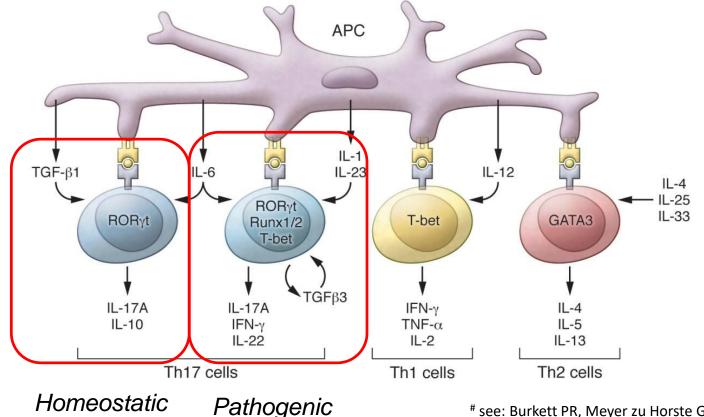
- Additional subsets related to classic subsets
- Other sources of the same helper cytokines besides CD4+ Th cells
- CD4+ Th cells that blur Th 1, 2, 17 distinctions
- Plasticity of Th subsets

# Th cells that make both IL-17 and IFN- $\gamma$ are important in defense and disease

- Bi-allelic loss-of-function mutations in RORC (encodes RORγT) result in candidiasis and mycobacteriosis<sup>#</sup>
- Patients lack IL-17A/F-producing T cells (expected)...explains candidiasis
- Patients also have impaired IFN- $\gamma$  response to mycobacterium (unexpected).
- IFN-γ production is impaired in Th1\* (a.k.a "nonclassic Th17) subset: αβ TCR, CD4+ T bet+ RORγT+ IFN-γ+, IL-17A+ CCR6+,CXCR3+

# Dual IFNγ/IL-17 producing Th cells (Th1\*) may be the major pathogenic effectors in many diseases<sup>#</sup>

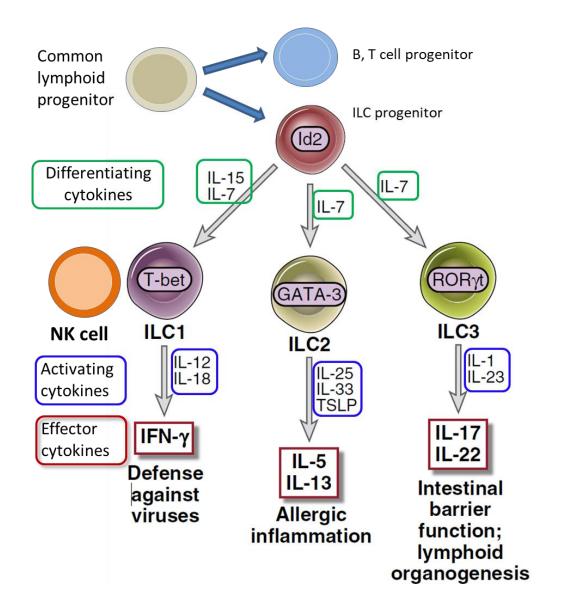
- Can be derived from already differentiated classic Th17 cells in response to **IL-23**
- More abundant than Th1 or Th17 at sites of inflammation in mouse model diseases (EAE) and human diseases (Crohn's, atherosclerosis)



<sup>#</sup> see: Burkett PR, Meyer zu Horste G, Kuchroo VK. J Clin Invest. 2015;125:2211-9

## **Innate Lymphoid Cells**

- No T cell or B cell antigen receptors
- Activated by cytokines
- Effector functions mediated by cytokines
- Subsets analogous to helper T cell subsets
- Present in tissues before infection-contribute to early cytokine responses in host defense and inflammatory diseases

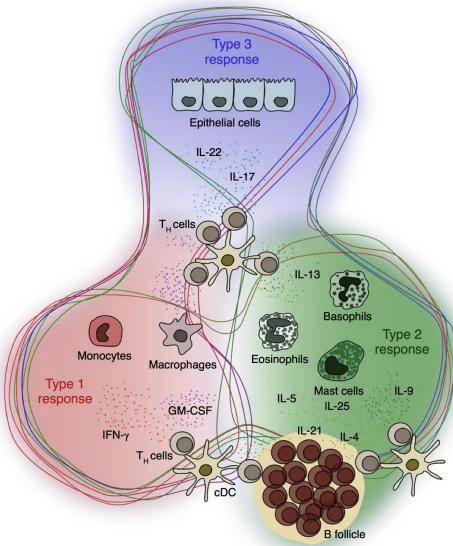


#### **Non-Th17 Sources of IL-17 in Inflammatory Diseases**

- $\gamma\delta$  T cells: Psoriasis
- CD8+ T cells: Psoriasis
- Neutrophils: Arthritis, Dermatitis
- iNKT cells: Various
- ILCs: Inflammatory bowel disease

Anti-IL-17 therapy would theoretically apply to of all of these

## Types 1,2 and 3 Immunity Model based on Target cells



Orbital model based on TH cell targets

Tuzlak, S. et al. Repositioning TH cell polarization from single cytokines to complex help. Nat. Immunol. (2021).

• Type 1 cells that primarily activate and attract mononuclear phagocytes such as monocytes, macrophages and DCs (Th1, ILC1, NK, CTL)

• Type 2 cells targeting B cells, mast cells, basophils, and eosinophils (Th2, TH9, ILC2,)

• Type 3 cells acting on non-hematopoietic cells at barrier tissue sites, including epithelial cells and stromal cells (Th17, ILC3, Th22, CD8 T cells)

# Targeting Type Type 1, 2 and 3 Diseases

- IFN-γ: Primary HLH (Emapalumab)
- IL-12 p40: Crohn's (Ustekinumab)

## Type 3

Type 1

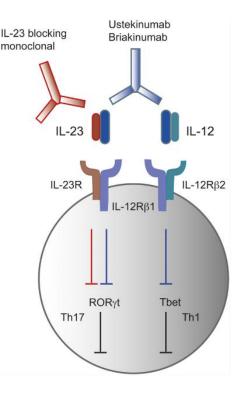
- IL-17A: Psoriasis, RA, Ankylosing spondylitis (Secukinumab,)
- IL-17RA: Psoriasis, Psoriatic arthritis (Brodalumab)
- IL-23 p19 Psoriasis (Guselkumab, Tildrakizumab, Risankizumab)

## Type 1 and 3

IL-23 and IL12 p40: Psoriasis, Psoriatic arthritis (Ustekinumab)

## Type 2

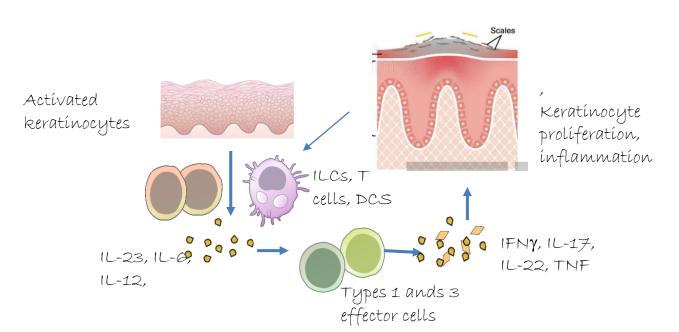
- IL-5: Asthma (Mepolizumab)
- IL-4Rα Receptor: Atopic dermatitis (Dupilumab)
- TSLP: Asthma (Tezepelumab)

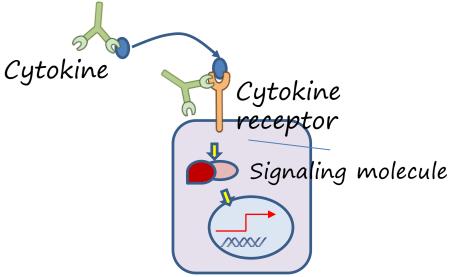


#### Blocking the production or action of cytokines

Remarkable advances in treatment of many inflammatory diseases using mAbs that block cytokines or cytokine receptors

- Plaque psoriasis (PS)is a good example of one of those diseases.
- In PS Type 3 responses, dependent on IL-23 and characterized by IL-17, TNF and IL-22 mediated inflammation are dominant.
- Type 1 responses with interferon gamma production also contribute
- mAbs targeting IL-23, IL23R, and IL-17 are now in wide use to treat PS



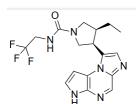


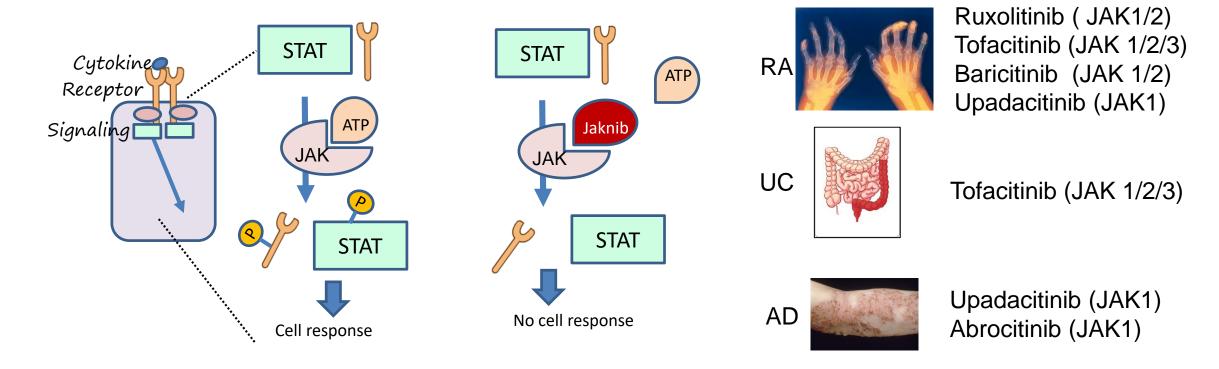
## JAK inhibitors (JAKinibs)

Jakinibs are small molecule inhibitors of JAKs that block ATP binding to the enzymes' active sites

Each Jakinib developed has a different range of specificities for the different JAKs

Specificities of Jakinibs in clinical use: pan JAK, JAK1/JAK2, JAK1





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