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New approaches for immune modulation in Myasthenia Gravis

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- 1 Short-term mycophenolic acid treatment completely blocks the production of anti-acetylcholine receptor antibodies in Experimental Autoimmune Myasthenia Gravis. (*This thesis*)
- 2 The acetylcholine receptor-derived peptide PTR262 induces a shift from a T-helper1 type response to a T-helper2 type response. PTR262 could act as an immune modulator with the capacity to alter the antigen-specific autoreactive immune response. (*This thesis*)
- 3 The adult neuromuscular junction rapidly produces postsynaptic folds to compensate for acetylcholine receptor and rapsyn loss. (*This thesis*)
- 4 Disease-blocking IgG4 antibodies could provide a basis for antibody-mediated autoimmune diseases. (*This thesis*)
- 5 Hopefully, increasing knowledge of the immunobiology of myasthenia gravis will form a foundation for designing new and specific therapeutic approaches aimed at curbing the rogue autoimmune response and establishing immunological tolerance without interfering with the other immune functions. (Bianca Cont-Fine et al, in *The Journal of Clinical Investigation*, 2009)
- 6 Recent findings that B-cells have critical positive and negative roles in autoimmune diseases might lead to particularly effective therapeutic strategies that specifically target anti-acetylcholine receptor antibody-producing B-cells. (Matthew Meriggioli and Donald Sanders in the *Lancet Neurology*, 2009)
- 7 Myasthenia gravis is an excellent model for organ-specific autoimmune diseases. Increasing our knowledge about the pathology of myasthenia gravis will probably lead to a better understanding of the pathogenesis and treatment of other autoimmune diseases.
- 8 Transformation of stem cells through loss of Apc is an extremely efficient route towards initiating intestinal adenomas. (Nick Barber et al, in *Nature*, 2009)
- 9 Whoever wants to flood the Zeeland polders to “compensate for the loss of nature” around the Scheldt delta wrongly assumes that a landscape designed by humans is not natural.
- 10 A good animal experiment can only be performed by an animal lover.