A Novel Interferon-Gamma-Inducible Secretoglobin

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Technology description

Summary

Interferons (IFNs) are a family of cytokines that are paramount in protecting the host from viral infections. The effects of the IFNs are mediated through interactions with specific cellular receptors, activation of second messenger systems effecting the expression of several antiviral and immunomodulatory proteins.
This invention describes a novel gene that is induced by IFN-gamma treatment of lymphoblast cells. This gene, termed IIS (IFN-gamma-inducible Secretoglobin) is a member of the Secretoglobin (SCG) superfamily in which uteroglobin (UG) is the founding member. IIS shares 30% amino acid identity with UG. Data shows that IIS is expressed in virtually all tissues with highest levels found in lymph nodes, tonsils, lymphoblasts and ovary. IIS levels are also highly elevated in CD8+ and CD19+ cells. In further experiments, treatment of immune cells with antisense-s-oligonucleotides to IIS are shown to prevent chemotactic migration and invasion. Taken together, these data give insight into the immunological function of this novel IIS gene.

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