ICGEB International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology | Developing Knowledge

ICGEB International SEMINAR PROGRAMME 2017

Wednesday, 22 February 2017 | 3:00 pm | ICGEB Seminar Room, W building | Padriciano, 99, Trieste, ITALY

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The hepatitis C virus (HCV) glycoprotein E2 is the major target of neutralizing antibodies and therefore highly relevant for vaccine design. Its structure features a central immunoglobulin (Ig)-like β-sandwich that contributes to the binding site for the cellular receptor CD81. This presentation will focus on our recent studies that demonstrate that the Ig-like domain is present in two different conformations on infectious cell-culture derived HCV particles (HCVcc) and surrogate retrovirus-based pseudoparticles (HCVpp). This conformational flexibility in one of the major neutralization epitopes characterized to date may contribute to the immune-evasion of hepatitis C virus and - in this respect - shifts the current paradigm of antigenic sites targeted during chronic viral infections such as HCV. Moreover, such conformational plasticity of the HCV E2 receptor binding site has important implications for immunogen design.

"Conformational flexibility in the receptor-binding site of the Hepatitis C Virus Glycoprotein E2"

Host: A. Marcello

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