AB001. Innate immunity, aging and angiogenesis

Rajendra S. Apte

Departments of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, Developmental Biology and Medicine, Washington University School of Medicine, St Louis, MO, USA

Abstract: Disorders of lipid metabolism and macrophage function have been implicated in tissue aging and in diseases such as age-related macular degeneration (AMD). Genetic studies and expression profiling have identified widespread abnormalities in cholesterol metabolism in the aging macrophage. In addition, the molecular pathways that regulate the transition from aging to disease have not been elucidated. The current status regarding the mechanisms that regulate macrophage aging and the molecular mechanisms of transition to disease in the context of AMD will be presented with a special focus on factors that influence pathologic angiogenesis and neurodegeneration.

Keywords: Age-related macular degeneration (AMD); macrophage aging; angiogenesis