

Abnormal germinal center reactions in systemic lupus erythematosus demonstrated by blockade of CD154-CD40 interactions

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Corrigendum

Autoimmunity

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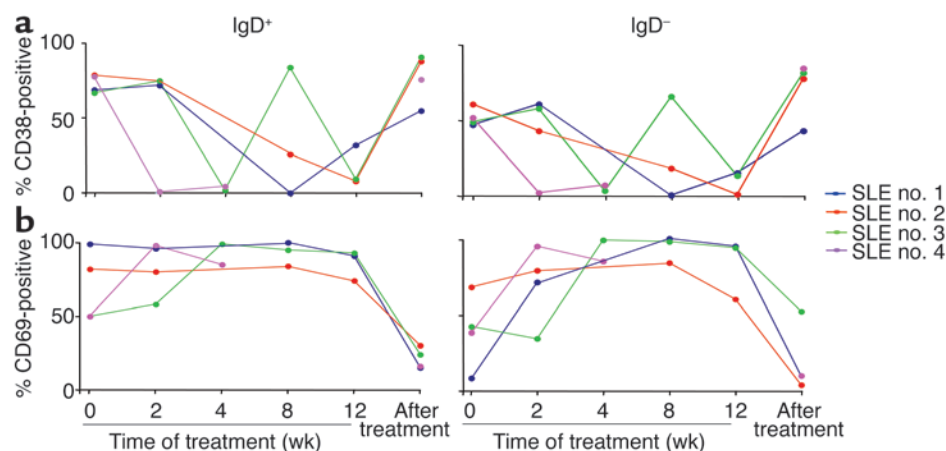
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Expression of differentiation and activation antigens during and after treatment of active-SLE patients with humanized anti-CD154 mAb (BG9588, 5c8). CD38^{positive} B cells in the circulation of the active-SLE patients disappeared from the peripheral blood during the treatment regimen with humanized anti-CD154 mAb (Figures 2b, 2c, and 3a). Specifically, before the treatment regimen, 63.8% ± 4.1% of the B cells were CD38^{positive}. At 4–8 weeks after initiation of treatment, the percentage of CD38^{positive} B cells in the circulation had dropped to 22.7% ± 15.0% ($P = 0.024$ compared with before treatment). Withdrawal of treatment led to a reappearance of CD38^{positive} B cells in the circulation (79.3% ± 8.6%) at the earliest time point tested, 2 months after treatment, at a percentage that was not different from the pretreatment percentage ($P > 0.05$). Of note, this trend was significant for both the pre-switch IgD⁺ ($P = 0.018$) and the post-switch IgD⁻ ($P = 0.022$) B cell subsets.