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HUMAN IMMUNE RESPONSE TO DENGUE INFECTIONS

FINAL REPORT

FRANCIS A. ENNIS



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13. Abstract (continued)

Human CD4⁺ and CD8⁺ memory T lymphocytes generated by primary dengue virus infection were serotype-crossreactive at the clonal level. Dengue virus-specific $CD4^{+7}T$ cell clones lysed dengue virus-infected autologous cells in an HLA class II-restricted fashion, and produce IFN γ . Dengue virus-specific CD8⁺ T cell clones lysed dengue virus-infected autologous cells in an HLA class I-restricted fashion. Most of these CD4⁺ and CD8⁺ T cell clones recognized NS3 protein. IFN γ produced by CD4⁺ T cells augmented infection of monocytic cell lines by dengue virusantibody complexes. This augmentation was due to upregulation of $Fc_{f}R$ expression by IFN_f. $CD4^{+}$ and $CD8^{+}$ T lymphocytes are activated in vivo during dengue virus infections, and the levels of T cell activation is greater in DHF than in DF. These results suggest that dengue virus-specific T lymphocytes contribute to recovery from dengue virus infection and also contribute to the immunopathology of DHF/DSS.



FOREWORD

For the protection of human subjects the investigator(s) have adhered to policies of applicable Federal Law 45CFR46.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

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m .									<u>Pa</u>	age
	vord . ∋ of C	contents	• •	•	•	•	•	•	•	1 2
Ι.	Intro	duction	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	11
II.	Resul	ts	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	13
	Α.	Human CD4 ⁺ T cell responses to dengue virus infection	•			•	•	•	•	13
	A-1.	Proliferative responses of PBMC from dengue-immune donors induced by dengue antigens	•	•	•	•		•		13
	A-2.	Detection of IFN γ in the culture fluids of PBMC stimulated with dengue antigens.	•	•	•	•	•	•		15
	A-3.	Characterization of the lymphocytes responding to dengue antigens	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	15
	A-4.	Establishment of $CD4^+$ T cell clones which respond to dengue 3 antigen	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	16
	A-5.	Serotype specificity of the dengue- specific T cell clones	•		•	•	•	•	•	17
	A-6.	Production of IFN $_{\gamma}$ by dengue-specific T cell clones after stimulation with dengue antigens	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	19
	A-7.	Lysis of dengue 2 virus-infected autologous lymphoblastoid cell line by dengue serotype cross-reactive T cell clones	•	•	•	•		•	•	19
	A-8.	Virus- and dengue serotype-specificit of CD4 ⁺ T cell clones	У	•	•	•	•	•	•	20
	A-9.	HLA-restriction in the lysis of targe cells by $CD4^+$ T cell clones	t	•	•	•	•	•	•	21
	A-10	. Recognition of NS3 by dengue virus- specific T cell clones	•		•		•	•	•	22
	A-11	. Localization of epitopes on NS3 determined using dengue-vaccinia recombinant viruses		•	•	•	•		•	24

A-12.	Mapping of the epitope recognized by JK34 using overlapping synthetic peptides	•	•	•	•	•	•	25
В.	Human CD8 ⁺ P cell responses to dengue virus infection	•	•	•	•	•	•	26
B-1.	Stimulation of dengue 4-immune PBMC with live or UV-inactivated dengue virus	h •	•	•	•	•	•	26
B-2.	Lysis of dengue virus-infected fibro- blasts by dengue 4-immune PBMC stimulated by live dengue virus		•	•	•	•	•	26
B-3.	Characterization of cytotoxic activity	•	•	•	•	•	•	27
B-4.	Lysis of fibroblasts infected with dengue-vaccinia recombinants	•		•	•	•	•	28
B-5.	Dengue virus-specific CD8 ⁺ CTL clones.	•	•		•	•	•	29
B-6.	HLA restriction in the lysis of target cells by dengue virus-specific CD8 ⁺ CTL clones	•	•	•	•	•	•	30
B-7.	Mapping epitope recognized by dengue virus-specific CD8 ⁺ CTL clones		•	•	•	•	•	32
с.	Activation of T lymphocytes in dengue virus infections	•	•	•	•	•	•	32
C-1.	Levels of sIL-2R, sCD4 and sCD8 in patients with DHF or DF	•	•	•	•	•	•	33
C-2.	Levels of IL-2 and IFN γ in the sera of patients with DHF or DF	•		•	•	•	•	35
C-3.	Comparison of the levels of soluble cell surface proteins and lymphokines between DHF and DF	•	•		•	•	•	36
C-4.	Levels of sIL-2R, sCD4, sCD8, IL-2 and IFN $_{\Upsilon}$ in patients with DHF before and after the day of defervescence	•	•		•	•	•	36
C-5.	Comparison of the levels of each serum factor among the WHO grades 1, 2, 3 of DHF	•	•	•	-	•	•	37
D.	Dengue virus infection of human cell lines	•		-	•	•	•	38

D-1.	Acute infection of human mononuclear cell lines with dengue-2 virus
D-2.	Establishment of cell lines persistently infected with dengue-2 virus
D-3.	Infection of human fibroblasts with dengue-2 virus
D-4.	Infection of fibroblasts with other dengue viruses, YFV and WNV 43
E.	Enhancement of dengue virus infection by antibody (antibody-dependent enhancement)
E-1.	Antibody-dependent enhancement of dengue virus infection mediated by FcyRII
E-2.	Inhibition of anti-dengue virus antibody-mediated infection by a monoclonal antibody specific for FcyRII
E-3.	Interferon gamma augments Fc R- mediated dengue virus infection of human monocytic cells 47
E-4.	Anti-IFN-γ antibody inhibits IFN-γ- induced augmentation of dengue virus infections
E-5.	Human gamma globulin blocks IFN-Y- induced augmentation of dengue virus infection
E-6.	IFN-Y does not augment dengue virus infection of U937 cells in the presence of F(ab') ₂ fraction of anti-dengue IgG antibody
E-7.	Augmentation of dengue virus infection correlates with increase in the number of Fcy receptors 51
F.	Antibody-dependent enhancement of dengue virus infection mediated by bispecific antibodies

	F-1.	Bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to $Fc_{\gamma}RI$ enhanced infection
	F-2.	Bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to Fc $_{\chi}$ RII enhanced infection 54
	F-3.	Bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to cell surface molecules other than Fcyreceptors enhanced infection 55
	G.	Production of interferon by dengue virus-infected cells
	G-1.	Production of interferon alpha by dengue virus-infected human monocytes
	G-2.	Production of interferon beta by dengue virus-infected human monocytes 59
	G-3.	Production of IL-6 and GM-CSF by dengue-2 virus-infected fibroblasts 61
	н.	Induction of interferon alpha from human lymphocytes by autologous, dengue virus-infected monocytes 61
	H-1.	IFNdinduction from PBL by autologous, dengue virus-infected monocytes 61
	H-2.	Requirement for cell contact between PBL and dengue virus-infected monocytes for IFNdinduction 63
	H-3.	Correlation between the appearance of dengue antigen in the infected monocytes and IFN-inducing ability 63
	H-4.	Characterization of IFN producing cells using monoclonal antibodies 64
	H-5.	Inhibition of dengue virus infection of monocytes by induced IFN 66
III.	Disc	ussion
IV.	Refe	rences
v.	Publ	ications supported by this contract

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v.

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VI. Tables and Headings

•

	A summary of proliferative responses of PBMC from dengue immune donors to dengue antigens	14
Table 2:	IFNy production by PBMC from dengue antibody-positive donors after stimulation with dengue antigens	15
Table 3:	Phenotypes of short term-cultured T cell lines stimulated with dengue antigens	16
Table 4:	Proliferative responses and IFNy production by a short-term cultured T cell line after stimulation with dengue antigens	16
Table 5:	Proliferation responses of the PBMC of donor A to dengue antigens in bulk cultures	17
Table 6:	Phenotypic analysis of dengue virus antigen-specific T cell clones	18
Table 7:	Proliferative responses of dengue virus antigen-specific T cell clones to dengue and yellow fever (YF) antigens	18
Table 8:	IFN production by serotype cross- reactive T cell clones after stimulation with dengue antigens	19
Table 9:	Lysis of dengue 2 virus-infected autologous LCL by serotype cross- reactive T cell clones	20
Table 10:	Virus- and dengue serotype-specificity of CD4 ⁺ CD8 ⁻ T cell clones established from donor A infected with dengue-3 virus	21
Table 11:	HLA restriction of lysis of dengue-3 Ag-cultured target cells by CD4 ⁺ T cell clones	22
Table 12:	Recognition of NS3 protein by dengue virus-specific CD4 ⁺ T cell clones	23
Table 13:	Summary of dengue virus-specific CD4 ⁺ CD8 ⁻ T cell clones	24

÷

Table	14:	Localization of epitopes recognized JK34 and JK43 on N\$3
Table	15:	Recognition of a.a. 251-265 by a dengue serotype-cross reactive CD4 ⁺ T cell clone, JK34
Table	16:	Stimulation of dengue-4 immune PBMC with live and UV-inactivated dengue virus
Table	17:	Lysis of dengue virus-infected fibroblasts by dengue 4-immune PBMC stimulated with dengue
Table	18:	Characterization of cytotoxic activity 28
Table	19:	Lysis of fibroblasts infected with dengue-vaccinia recombinants
Table	20:	Lysis of dengue-2 virus-infected autologous fibroblasts by CD8 ⁺ CTL clones
Table	21:	Different virus- and dengue serotype- specificity of two CD8 ⁺ CD4 ⁻ clones 30
Table	22:	HLA class I-restriction in the lysis of target cells by dengue virus- specific CD8 ⁺ CTL clones
Table	23:	HLA B35-restricted lysis of target cells by a clone #2.8
Table	24:	Lysis of dengue 4 Ag-cultured, HLA B35-transfected target cells by clone #2.8
Table	25:	Lysis of autologous LCL infected with dengue-vaccinia recombinant viruses by CD8 ⁺ CTL clones
Table	26:	Age and sex distribution, and serological data of the donors
Table	27:	Levels of soluble cell surface proteins and lymphokines in DHF and DF on day 3-4 after the onset of fever 36
Table	28:	Dengue virus infection of human mononuclear cell lines

Table		Infection of human skin fibroblasts with dengue, yellow fever and West Nile viruses	4
Table	30:	Augmentation of dengue virus infection of K562 cells by anti-dengue virus antibody	6
Table	31:	Anti-Fc RII monoclonal antibody inhibits antibody-mediated enhancement of dengue virus infection of K562 cells 4	17
Table	32:	Virus titers in the culture fluids of dengue-infected U937 cells pretreated with IFN-Y	19
Table	33:	IFN-Y contained in the culture fluid of PBMC is responsible for augmenting dengue virus infection of U937 cells	50
Table	34:	F(ab') ₂ prepared from anti-dengue IgG does not augment dengue virus infection of U937 cells pretreated with IFN- γ	51
Table	35:	Enhancement of dengue virus infection by bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to FcyRI	53
Table	36:	Enhancement of dengue virus infection by bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to FcyRII	54
Table	37:	Enhancement of dengue virus infection by bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to ß2-microglobulin	55
Table		Enhancement of dengue virus infection by bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to CD15, and targeting dengue virus to CD33	57
Table	39:	Production of IFNaby dengue-infected	58
Table	40:		59
Table	41:		60
Table	42:	Protection of dengue-2 virus infection of fibroblasts by IFN-B	60

	Table 43	v	Induction of IFNdfrom PBL by dengue virus-infected autologous monocytes DV-monocytes)	62
	Table 44		Abrogation of IFN production by the creatment of PBL with actinomycin D	62
	Table 45		Characterization of PBL which produce IFNgin response to DV-monocytes	65
V11.	Figures	and	l Captions	
	Figure 1	. :	Proliferative responses of dengue- immune PBMC	13
	Figure 2	2 :	from 11 Thai and 2 American antibody-	13
	Figure 3	3:	Levels of soluble IL-2 receptor in the acute sera of patients with DF or DHF	34
	Figure 4	1:	Levels of soluble CD4 in the acute sera of patients with DF or DHF	34
	Figure 5	ō:	Levels of soluble CD8 in the acute sera of patients with DF or DHF	34
	Figure 6	5 :	Levels of IL-2 in the acute sera of patients with DF or DHF	35
	Figure 7	7:	Levels of IFNY in the acute sera of patients with DF or DHF \ldots	35
	Figure 8	3:	Levels of sIL-2R, sCD4 and sCD8 in patients with DHF before and after the day of defervescence	37
	Figure 9	9:	Levels of IL-2 and IFNy in patients with DHF before and after the day of defervescence	37
	Figure :	10:	Levels of sIL-2R, sCD4 and sCD8 in grades 1, 2 and 3 of DHF	38
	Figure	11:	Levels of IL-2 and IFN γ in grades 1, 2, and 3 of DHF	38
	Figure	12:	Persistent infection of K562 cells infected with dengue-2 virus at an m.o.i. of 5 p.f.u./cell	41

•

Figure	13:	Persistent infection of HSB-2 cells infected with dengue-2 virus at an m.o.i. of 5 p.f.u./cell	41
Figure	14:	Persistent infection of Raji cells infected with dengue-2 virus at an m.o.i. of 5 p.f.u./cell	42
Figure	15:	Time course of the appearance of infectious dengue virus in the culture supernatant fluid and cytoplasmic dengue antigens in infected fibroblasts	43
Figure	16:	Effect of dilution of anti-dengue serum on dengue virus infection of U937 cells	48
Figure	17:	Dengue virus infection of U937 cells pretreated with IFNy	48
Figure	18:	Correlation between IFN γ -increased Fc $_{j}$ receptors and dengue virus infection	52
Figure	19 :	Time course cf IFN production and appearance of cytoplasmic dengue antigens in infected monocytes	58
Figure	20:	Correlation between the appearance of dengue antigen (Ag) in DV- monocytes and IFN-inducing ability	64

I. INTRODUCTION

Dengue viruses are the members of the family Flaviviridae, and there are four serotypes, dengue virus types 1, 2, 3 and 4. The virion consists of a single stranded RNA genome surrounded by a nucleocapsid, which is covered by a lipid envelope containing two proteins, envelope (E) and membrane (M) proteins. The RNA genome of dengue virus codes for three structural proteins, capsid (C), membrane (M), and envelope (E), and seven non-structural proteins, NS1, NS2a, NS2b, NS3, NS4a, NS4b, and NS5 (1).

Dengue viruses are transmitted to humans by mosquitos, mainly by Aedes Egypti mosquitos (2). The course of infection after a mosquito bite is not well understood; however, it is believed that monocytes/macrophages support dengue virus infection in vivo (3,4).

Dengue virus infections can be asymptomatic or cause two forms of illness, dengue fever (DF) and dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF)/dengue shock syndrome (DSS) (5). Dengue fever is a selflimited febrile disease which is characterized by fever, retro-Patients orbital pain, muscle aches, bone pain and petechiae. recover from infection in about a week without complications. In some situations, patients infected with dengue virus leak plasma into interstitial spaces resulting in hypovolemia and sometimes circulatory collapse. This severe and life-threatening syndrome, which is always accompanied by thrombocytopenia and sometimes by The frank hemorrhage is termed dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF). World Health Organization categorized DHF cases into 4 grades, from less serious (grade 1) to severe (grade 4). Grades 3 and 4, in which plasma leakage is so profound that shock occurs, are also referred to as dengue shock syndrome (DSS) (6). The pathogenesis of DHF/DSS is not understood.

Dengue virus infections are a serious cause of morbidity and mortality in many areas of the world; Southeast and South Asia, Central and South America, the Caribbean and Africa. Dengue virus infections can be estimated to occur in up to 100 million individuals yearly. Since DHF/DSS was recognized in the 1950s, 1.5 million cases have been hospitalized, and 33,000 infected individuals have been reported to have died because of this syndrome (4). Therefore, dengue virus infections are one of the most important human infectious diseases.

Immune responses to dengue viruses have been studied in humans, monkeys and mice infected with dengue viruses. It is thought that immune responses may have two opposite roles in dengue virus infections, (i) prevention of dengue virus infection and recovery from infection and (ii) the immunopathology of DHF/DSS.

The role of immune responses in the prevention of infection

and in recovery from dengue virus infection has been suggested by virus challenges of humans and mice. It has been reported that humans infected with one serotype of dengue virus maintain lifelong protective immunity to infection by the homologous serotype, although protective immunity to infection by heterologous serotypes is short-lived (7). Immunization of mice with one serotype of dengue virus protects mice from lethal challenge infection with the same serotype of dengue virus (8). Although the mechanisms of these protective immune responses have not been clearly understood, these observations indicate that immune responses to dengue viruses contribute to the prevention of secondary infections with dengue virus of the homologous serotype and probably contribute to recovery from infection.

The role of immune responses in the pathogenesis of DHF/DSS has been mainly suggested by epidemiological observations. In Thailand, patients who develop DHF/DSS can be divided into two groups: children over 1 year of age who have secondary immune responses, and children less than 1 year of age who have primary antibody responses (4,5). Patients who are over 1 year of age comprise approximately 90% of all the DHF/DSS cases (4). These cases are observed in secondary infections by a dengue virus of a different serotype from the dengue virus which caused the primary On the other hand, children who are less than 1 year infections. of age and develop DHF/DSS during primary infections are infants born to dengue antibody-positive mothers (4,5). These observations have suggested that the presence of dengue virus antibody and memory T cells may play important roles in the pathogenesis of DHF/DSS. Therefore, immune responses in dengue virus infection seem to be protective or immunopathological.

To understand the role of immune responses in dengue virus infections, we have analyzed human immune responses to dengue viruses, especially focusing on dengue virus-specific human T cell responses. We have found that dengue virus-specific CD4⁺ CD8⁻ T lymphocytes and CD8⁺ CD4⁻ T lymphocytes are generated after dengue virus infections. These T lymphocytes are activated <u>in vivo</u> during dengue virus infections, and activation is greater in DHF/DSS than in DF.

In addition to analysis of human T cell responses to dengue viruses, we have studied dengue virus infection of human mononuclear cells and fibroblasts. These cells can be infected with dengue virus and produce IFNØ or IFNØ, which protect other uninfected cells from dengue virus infections. Furthermore, we have studied antibody-dependent enhancement of dengue virus infection. FcrRI and FcrRII mediate antibody-dependent enhancement of dengue virus infection, and IFN7 augments FcrRImediated dengue virus infection by upregulation of FcrRI. We have analyzed various aspects of interactions between human immune systems and dengue viruses for these 5 years. I will describe our observations in the results section.

II. RESULTS

A. <u>Human CD4+ T cell responses to dengue virus infection</u>

A-1. Proliferative responses of PBMC from dengue-immune donors induced by dengue antigens

PBMC from a dengue antibody-positive donor were cultured with dengue or control antigens diluted at various concentrations, and ³II-TdR incorporation was examined. Dengue antigens induced significant proliferative responses of PBMC, and there was a good correlation between the level of the proliferative responses and the concentration of dengue antigens (Figure 1). Control antigen did not induce significant proliferative responses.

The results shown in Figure 2 illustrate the proliferative responses of PBMC obtained from eleven Thai donors and the two American donors who were known to have previously been infected with dengue virus. The PBMC from these donors showed significant proliferative responses induced by dengue antigens (8/9 with dengue 1 Ag; 10/13 with dengue 2 Ag; 5/7 with dengue 3 Ag; 5/7 with dengue 4 Ag). The PBMC from Massachusetts blood bank donors did not significantly proliferate in response to dengue antigens.



Figure 1: Proliferative responses of dengue immune PBMC. (): proliferative responses induced by dengue-3 Ag. (): proliferative responses induced by control Ag.



Figure 2: Proliferative responses of PBMC from 11 Thai and 2 American antibody-positive donors. Results were expressed as a stimulation index. D, dengue immune donors. N, nonimmune donors. Table 1 contains a summary of the positive proliferative responses induced by dengue antigens using PBMC from Thai and American donors. These results indicate that antigens of the four dengue serotypes can induce proliferative responses using PBMC from dengue antibody-positive donors. Neither dengue antigens nor control antigens induced significant proliferative responses of PBMC from non-immune donors.

		Denque-immune	**	Non-immune				
	<u><u>3</u>H-</u>	TdR incorpora	tion		TdR incorpor			
	No. of	Stimulation		No. of	Stimulation			
	donors	Index	c.p.m.	donors	Index	<u>c.p.m.</u>		
Dengue 1	8	7.4 (2.8-15.7)	9011 (1018- 19343)	6	1.0 (0.5-2.0)			
Dengue 2	10	7.5 (2.2-19.5)	4644 (1019- 10872)	9	1.1 (0.6-1.4)	1038 (93- 2897)		
Dengue 3	5	6.6 (2.1-9.9)	6005 (1706- 13762)	7	1.1 (0.7-1.9)	732 (158- 1975)		
Dengue 4	5	8.2 (2.4-21.5)	7936 (2153- 17178)	5	1.3 (0.8-1.8)	611 (185 - 1275)		
Control A	g 11	-	1046 (68- 4033)	9	-	783 (261- 2172)		
No Ag	11	-	630 (69- 1080)	9	-	529 (95- 1723)		

Table 1: A summary of proliferative responses of PBMC from dengue immune donors to dengue antigens*

*4 x 10^5 PBMC were cultured for 6 days with dengue or control Ag diluted at 1:30. Cells were pulsed with 1.25 uCi ³H-TdR for 8 hours before harvest. Results are presented as averages.

^{**}The responses of PBMC of dengue-immune donors who had a stimulation index of greater than two with each of the four dengue antigens are included. The stimulation index was calculated from mean CPM induced by dengue Ag/mean CPM induced by control Ag. Quadruplicate samples were used.

A-2. Detection of IFNy in the culture fluids of PBMC stimulated with dengue antigens

We examined the culture fluids of PBMC stimulated with dengue antigens for IFN; using ELISA with monoclonal antibodies to human IFN; and $\not{\times}$. IFN; was detected at high titer in the culture fluids of PBMC from dengue-immune donors stimulated with dengue antigens (p<0.02 compared to the amount of IFN detected in cultures of PBMC from non-immune donors), but not in the culture fluids of PBMC stimulated with control antigen or cultured alone (Table 2).

	IFN (U/ml**								
Donors	Dengue 1 Aq	Dengue 2 Aq	Dengue 3 Aq	Dengue 4 Ag	Control Aq	No Ag			
Dengue a	antibody-pos	sitive							
T1	25	120	28	70	2	2			
Т2	42	56	51	115	14	14			
Т3	33	47	14	26	1	3			
A1	32	43	61	38	3	3			
Dengue a	antibody-ne	gative							
M1	8	5	8	5	5	6			
M2	3	11	4	3	2	3			
M3	<1	2	2	2	2	2			
M4	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1			

Table 2: IFNy production by PBMC from dengue antibodypositive donors after stimulation with dengue antigens*

*4 x 10⁵ PBMC were cultured for 6 days with dengue and control Ag diluted at 1:30. Culture fluids were examined for IFN and IFN by ELISA.

**The titers of IFN induced by dengue and control antigens were compared by Student's t test between dengue antibody-positive and antibody-negative donors. IFN induced by dengue 1 Ag, p<0.001; by dengue 2 Ag, p<0.02; by dengue 3 Ag, p<0.02; by dengue 4 Ag, p<0.01; by control Ag, p>0.02 (not significant); without Ag, p>0.02 (not significant).

A-3. <u>Characterization of the lymphocytes responding to dengue</u> antigens

We cultured the proliferating lymphocytes with γ -irradiated autologous PBMC in the presence of dengue antigens and IL-2 for 7 or 14 days, after the original 7 days of bulk culture stimulation, in order to characterize the lymphocytes which responded to dengue antigen. Phenotypic analyses showed that the proliferating cells were predominantly $CD3^+$, $CD4^+$, $CD8^-$, $CD16^-$ and $CD20^-$ (Table 3). Therefore, the proliferating cells are T cells with the helper/ inducer phenotype. They produced IFN γ after stimulation with dengue antigens, but not after stimulation with control antigen (Table 4).

	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		days of		<pre>% positive cells</pre>					
Donor	Ag		<u>culture</u>	CD3	CD4	CD8	CD16	CD20		
A1	dengue	3	14	89	84	2	2	<1		
	-		21	91	83	3	ND	ND		
Т3	dengue	2	14	74	46	24	ND	ND		
Τ4	dengue		14	84	80	8	ND	ND		

Table 3: Phenotypes of short term-cultured T cell lines stimulated with dengue antigens

Table 4: Proliferative responses and IFNy production by a short-term cultured T cell line after stimulation with dengue antigens*

	³ H-TdR	inc	corporat:	ion	(cpm)		II	FN (U	J/ml)		
Culture							ue Ag	Cont	rol Aq	<u>No</u> _1	Ag
<u>days</u>	Dengue	Ag	Control	Aq	No Ac	IFNY	IFN~	IFNY	IFNX	IFNY	<u>IFN¢</u>
				-							
14	1325		250		270	40	<10	<1	<10	<1	<10
21	1290		380		432	280	<10	12	<10	10	<10

*5 x 10^4 short-term cultured T cells were cultured with 2.5 x 10^5 -irradiated autologous PBMC in 0.2 ml RPMI containing dengue 3 Ag or control Ag diluted at 1:30 for 3 days. Cells were pulsed with 1.25 uCi ³H-TdR for 8 hours before harvest. Culture fluids were examined for IFN and IFN by ELISA.

A-4. Establishment of CD4⁺ T cell clones which respond to dengue 3 antigen

The PBMC from donor A who had been infected 1 year earlier with dengue virus type 3 were cultured with dengue antigens of four serotypes, and ${}^{3}\text{H-TdR}$ incorporation was examined. PBMC from this donor responded to dengue 3 antigen, and they also responded to dengue 1, 2 and 4 antigens to lower but significant levels. PBMC from donor B who had been infected with dengue 1 virus about 4 months earlier responded best to dengue 1 antigen and also responded to dengue antigens of other serotypes to lower levels (Table 5).

	<u> </u>	corporation (c.p.m	.)
Antigens	Donor A**	Donor B	<u>Donor C</u>
Dengue 1	5128	25932	481
Dengue 2	6643	5983	516
Dengue 3	25177	6772	682
Dengue 4	2883	4329	603
Control	660	1065	460
No Ag	707	1091	450
-			

Table 5: Proliferation responses of the PBMC of donor A to dengue antigens in bulk cultures*

*2 x 10^5 PBMC were cultured with dengue and control antigens diluted at 1:30 for 6 days. Cells were pulsed with 1.25 uCi 3H-TdR for 8 hours and ³H-TdR incorporation was counted.

**Donor A was known to have been infected with dengue 3 virus. Donor B was known to have been infected with dengue 1 virus. Donor C is from Massachusetts and does not possess any antidengue antibodies.

A-5. Serotype specificity of the dengue-specific T cell clones

We tried to establish dengue-specific T cell clones by a limiting dilution method using lymphocytes from donor A and dengue 3 antigen. Twelve clones were established which respond to dengue 3 antigen, but not to control antigen. All the clones were established from wells containing 1 cell/well. The cloning efficiency was 15% with 1 cell/well, 48% with 3 cells/well, 90% with 10 cells/well and 100% with 30 cells/well. The clonality of the clones used in the experiments was greater than 96%. Phenotypic analysis of the clones using monoclonal antibodies showed that all the clones have CD3⁺, CD4⁺ and CD8⁻ phenotypes (Table 6).

These clones were examined for serotype specificity using dengue antigens of four serotypes and yellow fever antigen. A dose response study using clone JK31 indicated that each of the antigens induced maximum proliferative responses at a 1:30 dilution (data not presented). Eight clones responded to dengue 1, 2 and 4 antigens to about the same level as to dengue 3 antigen (Table 7), and therefore they are dengue serotype cross-reactive. Three of these serotype cross-reactive clones (JK27, JK32 and JK35) also responded to yellow fever virus antigens. Four other clones responded predominantly to dengue 3 antigens, although there are some minor responses to other serotypes; therefore, they are serotype-specific.

	<pre>% antigen-positive cells</pre>						
<u>Clones</u>	CD3	CD4	CD8				
JK24	97	96	1				
JK26	94	96	2				
JK27	97	95	0.4				
JK28	93	96	0.4				
JK30	98	85	0.8				
JK31	99	99	0.2				
JK32	99	96	3				
JK33	97	95	0.2				
JK34	98	92	4				
JK35	99	9 8	4				
JK36	80	94	2				
JK37	98	96	1				

Table 6: Fhenotypic analysis of dengue virus antigen-specific T cell clones*

*Clones were stained with anti-CD3 (anti-Leu4), anti-CD4 (anti-Leu3) and anti-CD8 (anti-Leu2) monoclonal antibodies. The percentage of positive cells was counted on a FACS.

Table 7: Proliferative responses of dengue virus antigen-specific T cell clones to dengue and yellow fever (YF) antigenst

		31	I-TdR inco	orporation	(c.p.	m.)	
Clones	Denque	1 Denque 2			YF	Control Ag	No Aq
Serotype cross-reactive							
JK26	1438	2078	2375	1394	642	436	708
JK27	6683	5711	11728	3839	1280	827	650
JK28	1949	2286	2600	1681	788	684	633
JK32	1416	3290	4102	2410	1925	5 133	245
JK33	4530	8152	12756	6286	3070) 1161	1949
JK34	2651	8457	9256	4253	1910	480	1076
JK35	3507	4372	6260	5025	3854	2403	1290
JK36	1732	13159	15055	7167	903	140	1225
Serotyp	e specif	fic					
JK24	2581	2205	13809	1457	355	5 348	108
JK30	821	896	3246	721	276		218
JK31	745	1269	7309	837	397		133
JK37	4478	6958	26 892	5827	2546	5 1223	1985
						_	

*1 x 10^4 cells were cultured with 2 x 10^5 γ -irradiated autologous PBMC in 0.2 ml RPMI/10% human AB serum containing dengue, yellow fever and control antigens diluted at 1:30 for 72 hours. Cells were pulsed with 1.25 uCi ³H-TdR for 8 hours before harvest.

A-6. Production of IFN₁ by dengue-specific T cell clones after stimulation with dengue antigens

The dengue-specific clones were examined for IFN production after stimulation with dengue and yellow fever antigens (Table 8). All the serotype cross-reactive clones produced IFN after stimulation with dengue 3 antigen, and all but JK27 produced IFN γ to the same or lower levels after stimulation with dengue antigens of the other serotypes. Clone JK35, which responded to yellow fever antigen, produced IFN γ after stimulation with yellow fever antigen. Serotype-specific clones produced IFN γ after stimulation with dengue 3 antigen (data not presented). These results suggest that IFN γ is produced by serotype cross-reactive T cells during secondary infections with different serotypes of dengue virus from primary infections.

Table 8: IFN r production by serotype cross-reactive T cell clones after stimulation with dengue antigens*

	IFN _Y (U/ml)								
Clones	Dengue 1	Denque	2 Dengue	3 Dengue 4	YF	Control	<u>Ag No Ag</u>		
JK26	26	74	39	19	9	6	7		
JK27	7	6	35	4	3	3	3		
JK28	13	14	13	6	2	1	<1		
JK32	12	23	18	11	6	3	3		
JK33	14	24	41	17	8	2	5		
JK34	6	22	23	10	4	2	3		
JK35	17	33	51	21	10	<1	3		
JK36	2	15	18	7	2	3	<1		

*1 x 10^4 cells were cultured with 2 x $10^5 \gamma$ -irradiated autologous PBMC in 0.2 ml RPMI/10% human AB serum containing dengue, yellow fever and control antigens diluted at 1:30 for 72 hours. Culture fluids were collected and assayed for IFN by ELISA.

A-7. Lysis of dengue 2 virus-infected autologous lymphoblastoid cell line by dengue serotype cross-reactive T cell clones

We examined other clones for their cytotoxic activities to dengue 2 virus-infected autologous LCL. All the cross-reactive clones but one (JK27) lysed dengue 2 virus-infected autologous LCL (Table 9). These clones did not lyse uninfected LCL or K562 cells. Dengue 3 serotype-specific clones did not lyse dengue 2infected LCL, uninfected LCL or K562. These results suggest that serotype cross-reactive T cells may lyse dengue-infected cells during secondary infections.

	Effector:	T Specif:	ic 51Cr release	
	target	Dengue-2 infected	Uninfected	-
<u>Clones</u>	ratio	autologous LCL	autologous LCL	<u>K562</u>
Sorotuno	e cross-reacti			
			0	0
JK26	2	71	0	0
JK27	2	0	0	0
JK28	2	85	0	0
JK32	2	42	2	0
JK33	2	16	0	1
JK34	2	43	0	0
JK35	2	35	0	1
JK36	2	59	0	0
Serotype	e specific			
JK30	3	0	0	0
JK31	3	0	0	0
JK37	4	2	2	0

Table 9: Lysis of dengue 2 virus-infected autologous LCL by serotype cross-reactive T cell clones*

*2.5 x 10^3 target cells were incubated with effector cells for 4 hours. % specific 51Cr release was calculated by the formula described in Materials and Methods.

A-8. Virus- and dengue serotype-specificity of CD4⁺ T cell clones

These clones were examined for their virus- and dengue serotype-specificities in cytotoxic activities (Table 10). JK21 and JK37 lysed target cells cultured with dengue-3 Ag, but did not lyse target cells cultured with dengue-1, -2, -4, YFV or WNV Ag. Therefore, they are dengue serotype-specific. JK36 and JK46 lysed target cells cultured with dengue-2, -3 and -4 Ag, but did not lyse target cells cultured with dengue-1, YFV or WNV Ag. JK44 lysed target cells cultured with dengue-1, -2, and -3, but did not lyse target cells cultured with dengue-4, YFV or WNV Ag. Therefore, these three clones are dengue subcomplex-specific. Four clones, JK32, JK34, JK39 and JK41, lysed target cells cultured with dengue Ag of four serotypes, but did not lyse target cells cultured with YFV or WNV Ag. Therefore, they are dengue serotype-crossreactive.

JK28 lysed target cells cultured with dengue Ag of four serotypes and WNV Ag, but did not lyse target cells cultured with YFV Ag. JK26, JK43 and JK49 lysed target cells cultured with dengue Ag of four serotypes, YFV and WNV Ag. Therefore, these clones are flavivirus-crossreactive. These results indicate that dengue virus-specific CD4⁺ T cells are heterogeneous in virus- and dengue serotype-specificity, and that there are at least six patterns of specificities.

		%	specific	⁵¹ Cr relea	ase			
Clones	Dengue 1	Denque 2	Dengue 3	Dengue 4	Yellow	West	Control	No
					Fever	Nile	Ag	Aq
Dengue	serotype	-specific						
JK21	1	0	<u>20</u> 57	0	0	0	0	0
JK37	1	0	<u>57</u>	0	0	0	0	0
Dengue	subcompl	ex-specif:						
JK36	0	<u>55</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>15</u> <u>27</u> 0	0	0	0	0
JK46	1	<u>68</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>27</u>	0	0	0	0
JK44	<u>24</u>	<u>68</u> 65	<u>67</u> <u>34</u>	0	0	0	0	0
Dengue	serotype	-crossrea						
JK32	<u>52</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>55</u>	7	8	10	10
JK34	<u>28</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>52</u>	23	0	0	0	0
JK39	<u>39</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>31</u>	0	0	0	0
JK41	28 39 12	54 62 43	<u>66</u> 52 67 39	55 23 31 12	0	0	0	0
	irus-cros	sreactive						
JK28	24	<u>46</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>25</u>	0	<u>23</u>	0	0
JK26	<u>23</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>55</u>	0	0
JK43	<u>23</u> <u>22</u>	40 31 60	<u>34</u>	25 19 27 26	<u>37</u> 29	23 55 43 50	0	0
JK49	34	<u>60</u>	<u>41</u> <u>41</u> <u>34</u> <u>57</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>50</u>	0	0

Table 10: Virus- and dengue serotype-specificity of CD⁺ CD8⁻ T cell clones established from donor A infected with dengue-3 virus*

*2.5 x 10³ target cells were incubated with effector cells for 6 hours. Percent specific ⁵¹Cr release was calculated by the formula described in Materials and Methods. Effector/target ratio was 3:1 for JK21 and JK43, 4:1 for JK41, 6:1 for JK36, JK37, JK46, JK44, JK32, JK34, JK39 and JK49, 7:1 for JK26, and 12:1 for JK28. Underlines indicate significant levels of lysis.

A-9. <u>HLA-restriction in the lysis of target cells by CD4⁺ T cell</u> clones

HLA restriction of the lysis of target cells by dengue virusspecific CD4⁺ T cell clones were examined using monoclonal antibodies to HLA molecules (Table 11). Monoclonal Ab to HLA DP inhibited the lysis of target cells by a dengue-3-specific clone JK37, dengue serotype-crossreactive clones JK32, JK34, JK39 and JK41, and flavivirus-crossreactive clones JK26, JK28 and JK49. Monoclonal Ab to HLA DQ inhibited the lysis of target cells by dengue subcomplex-specific clones JK36 and JK46. Monoclonal Ab to HLA DR inhibited the lysis of target cells by a dengue-3-specific clone JK21 and a subcomplex-specific clone JK44. Interestingly, the lysis of target cells by a flavivirus-crossreactive clone JK43 was not inhibited by any of the 3 monoclonal Abs to HLA class II nor an antibody to HLA class I. However, the lysis by JK43 was inhibited by a mixture of anti-HLA DP, HLA DQ and HLA DR Abs, and by an antibody to CD3 (data not presented).

These results indicate that dengue virus-specific CD4⁺ T cell clones are HLA class II-restricted and that HLA DP, DQ and DR are used as restriction elements by the various clones.

Table 11: HLA restriction of lysis of dengue-3 Ag-cultured target cells by CD4⁺ T cell clones*

		% specifi	c ⁵¹ Cr release	2
	None	Anti-HLA DP	Anti-HLA DQ	Anti-HLA DR
Dengue serotype-s	-			
JK21	22	21	26	<u>6</u> 26
JK37	55	<u>5</u>	48	26
Dengue subcomplex	-specif:	ic		
JK36	25	26	4	20
JK46	45	47	8	41
JK44	51	46	<u>4</u> <u>8</u> 54	<u>14</u>
Dengue serotype-c	rossrea	ctive		
JK32	83		80	71
JK34	87	1	83	77
JK39	46	ī	48	45
JK41	56	7 1 1 7	47	40
Flavivirus-crossr	eactive			
JK28	91		78	77
JK26	64	<u>11</u> <u>1</u>	64	69
JK43	56	49	55	59
JK49	53	<u>1</u>	41	57
	20	-		

*2.5 x 10³ target cells were incubated with effector cells for 6 hours in the presence of monoclonal antibodies at final dilution of 1:80. B7/21.7, S3/4 and OKIal were used as anti-HLA DP, anti-HLA DQ and anti-HLA DR, respectively. Effector/target ratio was 4:1 for JK43, 5:1 for JK21, JK39 and JK46, 6:1 for JK37, JK26, JK32, JK44, and JK49, 7:1 for JK36, 11:1 for JK28, 14:1 for JK34, and 15:1 for JK41. Underlines indicate significant inhibition by each antibody.

A-10. Recognition of NS3 by dengue virus-specific T cell clones

We have previously reported that NS3 induces high levels of proliferation responses of donor A PBMC in bulk cultures (9). We next tried to determine whether CD4⁺ T cell clones recognize purified NS3 protein (Table 12). Dengue-3-specific clone JK37, subcomplex-specific clones JK36 and JK46, and serotypecrossreactive clones JK32, JK34 and JK39, lysed target cells cultured with NS3 protein purified from dengue-3 infected cells, but did not lyse target cells cultured with NS1 protein purified from dengue-3 virus-infected cells or NS3 from WNV-infected cells. A flavivirus-crossreactive clone JK43 lysed target cells cultured with NS3 obtained from dengue-3 infected cells or from WNVinfected cells, but did not lyse target cells cultured with NS1 obtained from dengue-3 virus-infected cells. Lysis of target cells cultured with the NS3 protein of dengue-3 by JK34 and JK39 was inhibited by antibody to HLA DP (data not presented). JK26, JK28, JK41, JK44 and JK49 did not lyse target cells cultured with NS1 or NS3 proteins (Table 12). These results suggest that the NS3 protein contains multiple epitopes recognized by dengue virusspecific CD4⁺ T cells of various serotype-specificities. Table 13 gives a summary of these results.

Table 12: Recognition of NS3 protein by dengue virus-specific CD4⁺ T cell clones^{*}

	% specific ⁵¹ Cr release									
	Dengue-3**			t Control		-3 West	No Ag			
	-	-	Nile	cell		Nile				
	<u>NS1</u>	NS3_	NS3	<u>protein</u>	Ag	Ag				
Dengue seroty	/pe-specific									
JK37	ibe spectric	13	2	ND	<u>56</u>	0	1			
	nplex-specif.		2	n D	<u> </u>	Ū	-			
JK36	10	<u>40</u>	ND	15	87	ND	19			
JK46	7	20	0	ND	75	ND	7			
JK44	0	1	0	ND	<u>87</u> <u>75</u> <u>47</u>	0	0			
Dengue seroty	pe-crossrea	ctive			—					
JK32	11	<u>27</u>	10	14	77	10	6			
JK34	2	14	0	0	79	0	0			
JK39	7	<u>14</u> <u>19</u> 3	0	ND	42	ND	6			
JK41	0	3	ND	4	79 42 66	ND	0			
Flavivirus-c	rossreactive									
JK28	2	7	0	1	<u>70</u>	<u>30</u>	0			
JK26	0	5	0	0	70 60 78	30 49 93 72	0			
JK43	7	<u>25</u> 5	<u>84</u>	8	<u>78</u>	<u>93</u>	0			
JK49	7	5	0	2	<u>77</u>	<u>72</u>	O			

*2.5 x 10³ target cells incubated with effector cells for 6 hours. Effector/target ratio was 4:1 for JK32, 6:1 for JK26, JK37, JK39, and JK34, and 11:1 for JK36. Underlines indicate significant levels of lysis.

**Autologous EBV-transformed cells were cultured with dengue-2 NS1, dengue-3 NS3, West Nile NS3 and control cell protein at final concentration of 20 µg/ml, and dengue-3 Ag and West Nile virus Ag at 1:80 for 24 hours prior to addition of effector T cells.

Virus- and serotype-		····	Protein re	ecognized*
specificity	Clones	HLA-restriction	NS3	NS1
Serotype-specific				
D3	JK21	DR	not	tested
	JK37	DP	+	-
Subcomplex-specific				
D2, D3, D4	JK36	DQ	+	-
. ,	JK46	DQ	+	-
D1, D2, D3	JK44	DR	-	-
Dengue serotype-cross	reactive			
D1, D2, D3, D4	JK32	DP	+	-
· · ·	JK34	DP	+	-
	JK39	DP	+	-
	JK41	DP	-	-
Flavivirus-crossreact	ive			
D1, D2, D3, D4, WNV D1, D2, D3, D4,	JK28	DP	-	-
YFV, WNV	JK26	DP	-	~
	JK4 3	undetermined	. +	
	JK49	DP	-	-

Table 13: Summary of dengue virus-specific CD4⁺ CD8⁻ T cell clones

*+ denotes recognition and - denotes no recognition.

A-11. Localization of epitopes on NS3 determined using denguevaccinia recombinant viruses

We attempted to localize epitopes recognized by these clones on NS3, using dengue-vaccinia recombinant viruses. Recombinant vaccinia virus #F which contains the entire NS3 genomes, #E which codes for amino acid (a.a.) residues 1-452 and NS3, #G which codes for a.a. residues 1-182 of NS3, and #X which codes for a.a. residues 453-618 were prepared by Dr. C.-J. Lai of NIAID, NIH. JK32 lysed autologous lymphoblastoid cell line (LCL) infected with #F and #E, but did not lyse those infected with #X. JK34 lysed LCL infected with #F and E#, but did not lyse those infected with JK43 lysed LCL infected with #F, #E and #G, but did not #G or #X. lyse LCL infected with #X (Table 14). These results indicate that the epitope recognized by JK32 is located within a.a. 1-452, the epitope recognized JK34 is located within a.a. 183-452 of NS3, and the epitope recognized by JK43 is located within a.a. 1-182 of NS3.

Table 14	: L	ocalizatio	on of	epitopes	recognized	JK34
		and	JK43	on NS3		

Target cells infected with	<pre>% speci</pre>	fic ⁵¹ Cr rel	ease*
<u>re-vaccinia virus (VV)</u>	<u>JK32</u>	<u>JK34</u>	JK43
#D = vv (control)	0	0	0
#F = vv (entire NS3 a.a. 1-618)	<u>32</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>35</u>
#E = vv (NS3 a.a. 1-452)	<u>35</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>21</u>
#G = vv (NS3 a.a. 1-182)	ND	0	<u>18</u>
#X = vv (NS3 a.a. 453-618)	7	4	1
Control Ag	8	0	1
Dengue-4 Ag	<u>57</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>47</u>
-			

*Effector:target ratio was 8:1 for JK32, 15:1 for JK34 and 6:1 for JK43. 6 hours assay.

A-12. <u>Mapping of the epitope recognized by JK34 using overlapping</u> synthetic peptides

To further map the epitopes we synthesized 22 overlapping peptides which cover a.a. 183-452 of NS3 according to the amino acid sequence of NS3 of dengue-4 virus, Caribbean strain 814669. JK34 lysed LCL pulsed with a peptide #4 (a.a. 251-265) (Table 15). This result indicates that the epitope recognized by JK34 is located within a.a. 251-265 of NS3.

Table 15: Recognition of a.a. 251-265 by a dengue serotype-cross reactive CD4+ T cell clones, JK34*

Peptide	a.a. number on NS3	% specific ⁵¹ Cr release
1	183-197	3.7
2	191-205	5.1
3	213-227	2.2
4	251-265	26.1
5	258-272	5.4
6	266-280	3.3
7	273-287	2.4
8	281-295	0.6
9	288-302	6.3
10	296-310	4.2
11	303-317	4.0
12	311-325	5.1
13	333-347	7.0
14	356-370	4.0
15	378-392	3.8
16	386-400	5.8
17	401-415	5.5
18	408-422	3.2

19	416-430	3.7
20	423-437	5.8
21	431-445	6.4
22	438-452	3.8
No peptide D4V - Aq		2.5
· J		

*Autologous LCL were cultured with peptides at 20 uM for 20 hours, and used as target cells. Effector:target ratio was 8:1. 6 hour assay.

B. <u>Human CD8+ T cell responses to dengue virus infection</u>

B-1. <u>Stimulation of dengue 4-immune PBMC with live or UV-</u> inactivated dengue virus

PBMC taken from a dengue 4-immune donor were placed in culture with either live dengue virus or virus which had been exposed to UV light and shown to have no plaque-forming capacity. After 6 days, the cells were pulsed with ³H thymidine and proliferation was assessed. The results in Table 16 show that the dengue 4-immune PBMC responded best to dengue 4. There was also a lower but significant response to dengue 2, which indicated that the response was serotype cross-reactive. Non-immune PBMC did not respond (data not shown), and UV-inactivated dengue 4 failed to generate a response.

Exp.	Stimulus	³ H cpm	Stimulation index
1	Dengue 4	26,712	5.6
-	Dengue 2	13,137	2.7
	Mock	4,789	-
2	Dengue 4	19,652	16.0
	Dengue 4 UV	627	0.5
	Mock	1,209	-
	MOCK	1,209	

Table 16: Stimulation of dengue 4-immune PBMC with live and UV-inactivated dengue virus

B-2. Lysis of dengue virus-infected fibroblasts by dengue 4-immune PBMC stimulated by live dengue virus

PBMC from a dengue 4-immune donor were tested for cytotoxic activity against dengue virus-infected autologous fibroblasts after 7-9 days of stimulation with dengue virus. Fibroblasts were chosen as target cells to detect CD8⁺ CTL because they do not constitutively express class II MHC antigens. The results in Table 17 indicate that dengue 4-immune PBMC stimulated with either dengue 2 or dengue 4 virus lysed fibroblasts infected with either serotype. Uninfected cells were also lysed, but the levels of lysis were always lower than those against virus-infected targets. These results show that the cytotoxic response is serotype crossreactive.

	PBL stimulated		r release from infected with:	fibroblasts
Exp.	with:	dengue 4	dengue 2	Mock
1	Dengue 4 Dengue 2	26 28	26	2 7
	Mock	2	5	2
2	Dengue 4	62	58	2

Table 17: Lysis of dengue virus-infected fibroblasts by dengue 4-immune PBMC stimulated with dengue*

*In exp. 1 the effector to target ratio was 40:1 in a 4 hour assay. In exp. 2 the effector to target ratio was 100:1 in a 4 hour assay.

B-3. Characterization of cytotoxic activity

Antibody blocking and antibody-C' depletion studies were carried out to determine the identity of the killer cells. Table 18 shows that inclusion in the cytotoxicity assay of an antibody against class I antigens, W6/32, inhibited the killing of dengue 2-infected fibroblasts by 48%, which indicates that much of the killing was class I antigen-restricted. An antibody to class II DR antigens, OKIa-1, inhibited the killing poorly, showing that the killing was not DR-restricted. Since fibroblasts do not express any class II antigens under these conditions, killing restricted by the other class II (DP, DQ) can also be excluded.

Treatment of the effector population with anti-CD8 and C' resulted in the death of 37% of these cells, and reduced their lytic capacity against dengue 2-infected fibroblasts by 61% (Table 18). Anti-CD4 and C' treatment similarly killed 35% of the effector population, but failed to inhibit the cytotoxic activity (Table 18). Anti-Leu 11b and C' treatment failed to induce either a significant decrease in viability (data not shown) or to reduce the cytotoxic capacity of effector cells (Table 18). Taken together, these results indicate that the effector cells in this system were virus-specific CD8⁺ HLA class I-restricted serotype cross-reactive CTL.

Fyp	Dengue-4 stimulated	<pre>% specific ⁵¹Cr release from dengue 2-infected fibroblasts</pre>	% inhibition
<u>Exp.</u>	PBMC treated with:		
1	medium	65	-
	W6/32	34	48
	OKIa-1	55	15
2	C'	46	-
	anti-CD8 + C'	18	61
	anti-CD4 + C'	50	-9
	anti-Leu 11b + C'	44	4

Table 18: Characterization of cytotoxic activity*

*The effector to target ratio was 100:1 in a 4 hour assay.

B-4. Lysis of fibroblasts infected with dengue-vaccinia recombinants

We examined the proteins which are targets for denguespecific class I-restricted CTL by infecting fibroblasts with dengue-vaccinia recombinant viruses, each of which contains a different portion of the dengue 4 genome. Recombinant A contains genes which code for dengue proteins NS1, NS2a, NS2b, NS3, NS4a, Recombinant B codes for C, pre-M, E, NS1 and and 84% of NS4b. Recombinant C includes genes coding for NS1 and NS2a, and NS2a. recombinant E codes for the E protein. Recombinant D is the parental vaccinia virus which contains the lac Z gene and has none of the dengue genome and serves as a control. Table 19 shows that CTL lysed fibroblasts infected with recombinants A, B and E, but not C and D. These results show that E is a target protein for these CTL, but NS1 and NS2a are not. The data also imply that at least one of the NS2b, NS3, NS4a, or NS4b proteins is a target for these CTL. From these studies, we cannot determine whether C, Pre-M, and NS5 contain target epitopes for CTL. Recombinant vaccinia viruses which contained the genes for the dengue 2 C, pre-M and E proteins and the genes for dengue 2 NS1, NS2a proteins were also used to infect autologous fibroblasts. Consistent with the concept that these CTL are cross-reactive, fibroblasts infected with the dengue 2 recombinant expressing C, pre-M, and E proteins were lysed by dengue 4 virus-stimulated, dengue 4-immune PBMC. However, these PBMC did not lyse fibroblasts infected with the dengue 2 recombinant expressing NS1 and NS2a (data not shown).

	% specific ⁵¹	Cr release:
Fibroblasts infected with:	Exp. 1	<u>Exp. 2</u>
Dengue 2	94	ND
Dengue 4	72	31
A=v[NS1, NS2a, NS2b]		
NS3, NS4a, NS4b]	39	17
B=v[C, pre-M, E]		
NS2, NS2a]	8	13
C=v[NS1, NS2a]	-2	0
D=vaccinia control	-	-
E=v[E]	13	28
Mock-infected	-4	-1

Table 19: Lysis of fibroblasts infected with dengue-vaccinia recombinants*

*Effectors were from dengue 4-immune PBMC stimulated for 8 days with dengue 4 virus. Assay length was 4 hours. E:T was 100:1 in Exp. 1 and 40:1 in Exp. 2. Lysis against targets infected with vaccinia virus (D=vaccinia control) was 12% in both experiments, which was subtracted for clarity.

B-5. Dengue virus-specific CD8+ CTL clones

To further characterize dengue virus-specific CD8⁺ CTL, we established 16 CD8⁺ CTL clones and lines from PBMC of a donor #C. These CTL clones lysed dengue-2 virus-infected autologous fibroblasts, but did not lyse uninfected fibroblasts (Table 20).

	TIDIODIG			
	Effector:	% speci	fic 51CR relea	se
Lines and		Dengue-2 infected		
clones	Ratio	fibroblasts	<u>fibroblasts</u>	<u>K562</u>
Long-term	cultured lines			_
a	3	21	1	0
b	5	10	0	0
С	10	40	0	ND
d	10	18	0	ND
е	10	51	5	ND
f	10	43	1	ND
Clones				
1.M	10	27	3	2
1.23	2	30	0	0
1.27	7	47	0	0
1.28	5	15	0	0
2.1	8	28	3	ND

Table 20: Lysis of dengue-2 virus-infected autologous fibroblasts by CD8⁺ CTL clones*

2.3	9	8	0	ND
2.6	2	27	0	ND
2.7	2	26	0	ND
2.8	5	31	0	ND
2.9	1	27	0	ND

*6 hour assay.

Two of these CTL clones were further examined for virus and dengue serotype specificity. Clone #2.8 recognized dengue-2 and dengue-4 viruses, but did not recognize dengue-1, dengue-3, West Nile virus or yellow fever virus. Clone #2.9 recognized four serotypes of dengue viruses, but did not recognize West Nile virus or yellow fever virus (Table 21). Therefore, clone #2.8 is dengue subcomplex-specific and #2.9 is dengue serotype cross-reactive.

Table 21: Different virus- and dengue serotype-specificity of two CD8⁺ CD4- clones*

			% SI	pecific 51CR	relea	ase	
							Control
Clone	Dengue-1	Denque-1	Dengue-3	Dengue-4	<u>Nile</u>	Fever	Ag
		-					
#2.8	0	32	0	<u>54</u>	0	0	1
#2.9	<u>77</u>	88	<u>96</u>	100	0	0	0

*Autologous LCL were cultured with antigens for 20 hours and used as target cells. Effector:target cells were 5:1. 6 hour assay.

B-3. <u>HLA restriction in the lysis of target cells by dengue virus</u>specific CD8+ CTL clones

HLA restriction in the lysis of target cells by these CTL clones were examined, using monoclonal antibodies to HLA class I, HLA DP, HLA DQ and HLA DR. Monoclonal antibodies to HLA class I (W6/32) inhibited the lysis of target cells by all the clones examined (Table 22). Therefore, these dengue virus-specific CD8⁺ CTL clones are HLA class I-restricted.

Table 22: HLA class I-restriction in the lysis of target cells by dengue virus-specific CD8⁺ CTL clones*

			% speci	fic 51Cr r	elease	
Target		No	Anti-HLA	Anti-HLA	Anti-HLA	Anti-HLA
_cells	Clones	Antibody	Class I	DR	DQ	DP
Dengue	2-infected	fibroblas	sts			
2	1.27	26	<u>6</u>	14	18	20
	2.8	37	<u>17</u>	31	31	28
	a	43	2	32	ND	34
	е	51	<u>13</u>	49	ND	39

Dengue 2	Ag-cultured	LCL				
	2.8	71	<u>2</u>	70	7 7	71
Dengue 4	Ag-cultured	LCL				
	2.8	93	<u>0</u>	92	89	81

*Effector:target ratio was 10:1, 6 hour assay. W6/32, B7/21.7, S3/4 and OKIal were used as anti-HLA class I, anti-HLA DP, anti-HLA DQ and anti-HLA DR, respectively.

Clone #2.8 was further examined for HLA restriction, using allogenic target cells which partially share HLA class I antigens with autologous target cells (Table 23). Clone #2.8 lysed all the dengue 4 Ag-cultured allogeneic target cells which share HLA B35. These results indicate that clone #2.8 is HLA B35 restricted.

Table 23: HLA B35-restricted lysis of target cells by a clone #2.8

	HLA class I alleles			<pre>% specific 51Cr release</pre>		
Target cells	A	B	С	Dengue 4 Ag	Control Aq	
Autologous (CA) GM3106 GM3104A	<u>2,23</u> 1,1 3,3	35, <u>44</u> 35, <u>35</u> 35, <u>35</u>	$\frac{4}{4}, \frac{4}{4}$	93 80 78	0 9 0	
JC Thai 1975b	3,24 2,33	$\frac{35}{35}, \frac{35}{35}$ $\frac{44}{44}, \frac{44}{44}$	$\frac{4}{4}, \frac{4}{3}$	78 0	1 0	
GM6816 IK 66390	$\frac{2}{2}, \frac{2}{24}, \frac{2}{24}, \frac{2}{24}$	38,38 <u>44</u> , <u>44</u> 7,62	? ? 4,7	0 0	0 0 0	
GM06825A	$\frac{3}{23}, \frac{23}{23}$	7,7	7,7	0	õ	

We then used Hmy2CIR cells transfected with HLA B35 or HLA B51 as target cells to confirm our observations in previous experiments. Hmy2CIR cells do not express HLA A and HLA B alleles (Table 24). These cells were cultured with dengue 4 antigen and used as target cells. Clone #2.8 lysed HLA B35-transfected Hmy2CIR cells cultured with dengue-4 Ag, but did not lyse B-51 transfected Hmy2CIR cells cultured with dengue-4 Ag. This result confirmed our conclusion that clone #2.8 lyse target cells in a HLA B35-restricted fashion.

Table 24: Lysis of dengue 4 Ag-cultured, HLA B35-transfected target cells by clone #2.8

Effector:Target	% 51CR	release
ratio	Hmy2CIR/B35	Hmy2CIR/B51
30	55	7
10	54	6
3	31	5
1	19	0

B-7. <u>Mapping epitope recognized by dengue virus-specific CD8+ CTL</u> <u>clones</u>

We are mapping epitopes recognized by dengue virus-specific CD8⁺ CTL clones, using recombinant vaccinia viruses. Recombinant vaccinia virus #A contains dengue-4 genome which codes for NS1, NS2a, Ns2b, NS3, NS4a and NS4b proteins. Recombinant #B codes for the dengue-4 C, Pre-M, E, NS1 and NS2a. Recombinant vaccinia viruses #D, E#, #F, and #X were described above. Clone #2.8 lysed target cells infected with #A, #F and #X, and clone #2.9 lysed target cells infected with #F and #X. These results indicate that clones #2.8 and #2.9 recognize NS3, and that the epitopes which are recognized by #2.8 and #2.9 are located within a.a. 453-618 of the NS3 protein (Table 25).

Table 25: Lysis of autologous LCL infected with dengue-vaccinia recombinant viruses by CD8⁺ CTL clones^a

	<pre>% specific 51Cr release</pre>			
Target cells	Clon	<u>e #8</u>		
infected with	<u>Exp. 1</u>	Exp. 2	<u>Clone #9</u>	
#A=VV[NS1, NS2a, NS2b,				
NS3, NS4a, NS4b]	<u>29</u>	ND	ND	
#B=VV[C, pre-M, E, NS1,				
NS2a]	0	ND	ND	
#D=vaccinia control	0	1	ND	
<pre>#F=VV[whole NS3, a.a.</pre>				
1-618]	<u>28</u>	<u>34</u>	14	
#E=VV[NS3, a.a. 1-452]	0	0	0	
EX=VV[NS3, a.a. 453-618]	ND	<u>39</u>	14	

^aEffector:target ratio was 10:1. 6 hour assay.

C. Activation of T lymphocytes in dengue virus infections

We examined levels of lymphokines (IL-2 and IFN) and soluble cell surface proteins (sIL-2, sCD4 and sCD8) released from activated T lymphocytes in unselected Thai children hospitalized with DHF. To determine whether differential cytokines or cellular immune responses were associated with hemorrhage and plasma leakage that are the pathognomonic feature of DHF, we also examined these same serum factors in patients who were infected with dengue virus but who did not have plasma leakage (Dengue fever). Children with DF were drawn from the same consecutive hospital case series as those with DHF, or they were drawn from a consecutive series of DF cases identified prospectively during a longitudinal study of illnesses leading to school absence in rural Thailand. To determine which findings in the entire set of patients with dangue virus infection were indicative of a host response to viral infection, we examined sera collected from healthy Thai children from the same cohort which yielded the dengue fever cases.

<u></u>	Sex		Average age ± S.D.	Dengue s	Dengue serology	
Donor	Number	Male	Female	(Range)	Primary	Secondary
DHF	59	28	31	8.9 ± 3.0 (4-14)	7	52
DF	41	22	19	9.8 ± 2.1	6	35
				(5-14)		
Unchar	acterize	d feb	rile di	seases		
	26	12	14	9.5 ± 1.6 (6-14)	0	0
Health	y childr	en		(0 14)		
	97	45	52	7.9 ± 1.6	0	0
				(6-13)		

Table 26: Age and sex distribution, and serological data of the donors

C-1. Levels of sIL-2R, sCD4 and sCD8 in patients with DHF or DF

The sera from patients with DHF or DF were examined for the levels of sIL-2R, sCD4 and sCD8, and the levels were compared with those in the sera of healthy Thai children.

The levels of sIL-2R were significantly higher in the sera of patients with DHF and in the sera of patients with DF than in the sera of healthy Thai children during the examined period (p<0.001 for DHF, p<0.001 for DF) (Figure 3).

The levels of sCD4 were higher in the sera of patients with DHF on days 3-8 after onset of fever (p<0.001) than in the healthy children. The levels of sCD4 in the sera of patients with DF were higher than the levels in healthy children on day 1-2 after onset of fever (p<0.05), but not on day 3-4 (Figure 4).

The levels of sCD8 were higher in the sera of patients with DHF on days 3-20 after onset of fever than in the sera of healthy children (p<0.001). The levels of sCD8 in the sera of patients with DF were not elevated during days 1-20 (Figure 5). These results suggest that $CD4^+$ T lymphocytes are activated <u>in vivo</u> during DHF and DF, and that activation of $CD8^+$ lymphocytes is evident in DHF, but not in DF.




C-2. Levels of IL-2 and IFNy in the sera of patients with DHF or DF

The sera from patients with DHF or DF were examined for IL-2 or IFNY. IL-2 levels greater than 10 U/ml were detected in 63% (26/41) of patients with DHF during days 3-8 after onset of fever, and in 69% (18/26) of patients with DF during days 1-4, while only 2 of 28 sera of healthy children contained IL-2 greater than 10 U/ml (p<0.001 for DHF, p<0.001 for DF by Chi square test) (Figure 6). The titers of IL-2 were significantly higher in the sera of patients with DHF (p<0.001 on days 3-8, 10-20) and in the sera of patients with DF (p<0.001 on days 1-2 and 10-20, and p<0.01 on days 3-4) than in the sera of healthy Thai children (Figure 6).

IFNy was detected in 97% (34/35) of the patients with DHF, and in 91% (31/34) of patients with DF, while it was detected in 13% (4/30) of the sera of healthy children (p<0.001 for DHF, p<0.001 for DF by Chi-square test) (Figure 7). The titers of IFNy in the sera of patients with DHF on day 3-8 (p<0.001 on days 3-6 and p<0.02 on days 7-8) and in the sera of patients with DF on days 1-4 (p<0.001) were significantly higher than those in the sera of healthy children (Figure 7). These results are consistent with those in Figures 1-3, and indicate that T lymphocytes are activated in vivo during DHF and DF.



35

C-3. <u>Comparison of the levels of soluble cell surface proteins and</u> <u>lymphokines between DHF and DF</u>

A comparison of sIL-2R, sCD4, sCD8, IL-2 and IFNy among patients with DHF or DF were made for sera collected on illness days 3-4, because specimens were obtained from patients with DHF during days 3-8 after onset of fever and from patients with DF during days 1-4. The sera of patients with DHF contained higher levels of sIL-2R (p<0.05), sCD4 (p<0.001), and sCD8 (p<0.001) than the sera of patients with DF, although the levels of IL-2 and IFNy were not different between DHF and DF (Table 27). These results suggest that activation of T lymphocytes is greater in DHF than in DF. The levels of sIL-2R, IL-2 and IFNy were elevated in the sera of patients with unidentified febrile diseases on days 1-2, and the levels are similar to those in the sera of patients with DF (data not presented).

Table 27: Levels of soluble cell surface proteins and lymphokines in DHF and DF on day 3-4 after the onset of fever*

	DHF	DF	······································
Markers	Titers (No. of	Titers (No. of	p value
	(U/ml) samples)	(U/ml) samples)	
SIL-2R	2232 <u>+</u> 218 (23)	1325 <u>+</u> 127 (9)	<0.05
SCD4	37.6+2.7 (17)	18.7 <u>+</u> 2.7 (9)	<0.001
SCD8	1188 + 176 (19)	344+33 (9)	<0.001
IL-2			
(Log ₁₀)	1.181+0.156 (27)	1.062 ± 0.348 (10)	NS
IFN	_ ``	_ 、 ,	
(Log ₁₀)	-0.044 <u>+</u> 0.153 (24)	-0.024 <u>+</u> 0.068 (18)	NS

*Levels of SIL-2R, SCD4, SCD8, IL-2, IFN; on day 3-4 after the onset of fever were compared between DHF and DF by Student's t test. The titers of IL-2 and IFN; were log-transformed for analysis. The numbers in the parentheses depict the number of samples. NS denotes statistically not significant.

C-4. Levels of sIL-2R, sCD4, sCD8, IL-2 and IFNy in patients with DHF before and after the day of defervescence

The timing of plasma leakage in patients with DHF is quite predetectable; circulatory collapse occurs or peaks as fever subsides. Therefore, we examined the change in the levels of soluble cell surface proteins and lymphokines in patients with DHF around the day of defervescence termed day 0 in this analysis. Mean levels of sIL-2R, sCD4 and sCD8 were similar during day -1 to day 1 (Figure 8). The titers of IL-2 and IFN γ were highest one day before defervescence (Figure 9). These results suggest that activation of T lymphocytes reaches the peak as plasma leakage begins but before circulatory collapse becomes manifest.



Figure 3. Levels of sIL-2R, sCD4, and sCD8 in patients with DHF before and after the day of defervescence.ZZ: Mean titers \pm 1.96 x SEM in the sera of healthy Thai children. Figure 9. Levels of IL-2 and IFN γ in patients with DHF before and after the day of defervescence.ZZ: Mean titer \pm 1.96 x SEM in the sera of healthy Thai children.

C-5. Comparison of the levels of each serum factor among the WHO grades 1, 2 and 3 of DHF

The levels of soluble cell surface proteins and lymphokines were compared among grades 1, 2 and 3 of DHF from day -1 to day 3. Statistically significant differences were observed only in the levels of sCD4 between grade 1 and grade 3 one day after defervescence (Figure 10) and in the levels of IL-2 between grade 2 and grade 3 one day before defervescence (Figure 11). As a whole, the levels of sIL-2R, sCD4, sCD8, IL-2 and IFNY were not different among grades 1, 2 and 3 of DHF. These results suggest that the degree of T cell activation is similar among grades 1, 2 and 3 of DHF, and that our grouping all grades of DHF for analysis was appropriate.



Figure 10. Levels of sIL-2R, sCD4 and sCD8 in grades 1, 2 and of DHF. Hatched bar, grade 1; dotted bar, grade 2; black bar, grade 3.



Figure 11. Levels of IL-2 and IFNy in grades 1, 2, and 3 of DHF. Hatched bar, grade 1; dotted bar, grade 2; black bar

D. <u>Dengue virus infection of human cell lines</u>

It is speculated that following feeding by mosquitos, the virus enter blood stream via lymphatics (10) and peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC), especially monocytes, support virus infections (2). The study of dengue virus-human cell interaction is important to understand the pathogenesis of dengue virus infections. Many human cell lines are available; therefore, we decided to examine a variety of human cell lines to determine whether they could be infected with dengue virus and be useful for future studies.

grade 3.

D-1. <u>Acute infection of human mononuclear cell lines with dengue-2</u> virus

Ten myelomonocytic cell lines, eight B cell lines and five T cell lines were used in the experiments. All the cell lines could be infected with dengue-2 virus in the absence of antibody (Table 28). Antibody to dengue-2 virus augmented dengue-2 virus infection of myelomonocytic cell lines determined by IF and virus assays. However, antibody did not augment infection of B or T cell lines. In myelomonocytic cell lines K562, HEL92-1-7, JOSK-I and JOSK-M cells contained a high percentage of antigen-positive cells, while HL-60, KG-1 and THP-1 contained fewer antigenpositive cells. In B cell lines Jiyoye, ARH-77 and IM-9 contained a high percentage of antigen-positive cells, while Ramos, Daudi and CA46 contained fewer antigen-positive cells. In T cell lines Jurkat and CEM contained a high percentage of antigen-positive cells.

Table 28	: Dengue	virus	infection	of	human	menonuel	lear
	-		ll lines*				

	<u> </u>	lengue-2 a	antigen-pos	itive cells	Virus titer
<u>Cell line</u>	Antibody ²	24 hrs	<u>48 hrs</u>	72 hrs	(p.f.u./ml) at <u>48 hrs.</u>
Myelomonoc	ytic cell li	ines			
K562	+	90.8	95.9	99.0	5.0 x 10 ⁶
	~	57.8	76.5	99.0	4.5 x 10 ⁶
HEL92-1-7	+	35.8 22.8	35.4 26.5	41.8 37.2	2.3 x 10 ⁵ 1.5 x 10 ⁵
JOSK-I	+	37.5 7.7	34.3 4.1	18.5 1.7	5.0 x 10 ⁵ 5.7 x 10 ⁴
JOSK-M	+	28.6	23.0	8.4	2.3 x 10 ⁵
	-	16.0	11.0	3.5	2.3 x 10 ⁵
JOSK-S	+	16.1	9.5	6.4	1.6 x 10 ⁵
	-	6.3	3.8	3.4	1.5 x 10 ⁵
JOSK-K	+	15.1	14.1	3.9	4.0 x 10 ⁵
	-	3.6	3.7	3.3	1.6 x 10 ⁵
U937	-+	15.7	17.4	4.1	3.8 x 10^4
	-	0.6	1.`	0.9	4.2 x 10^3
THP-1	+	7.5	6.8	9.8	1.1×10^5
	-	0.4	0.5	0.5	2.0 x 10 ⁴

KG-1	+	2.4 1.4	1.7 1.3	0.9 0.5	1.3×10^4 3.0 x 10 ³
HL-60	+	1.7	2.9	1.6	1.4×10^{3}
	-	0.2	0.4	0.3	3.5×10^{2}
B cell lines					
Jiyoye	+	82.6	81.4	81.7	4.0×10^4
	-	82.4	86.4	85.0	5.0 x 10 ⁴
ARH-77	+	28.4	45.7	30.8	5.4 x 10 ⁵
	-	25.0	30.9	31.4	3.9 x 10 ⁵
I M- 9	+	22.6	22.7	17.2	3.5 x 10 ⁵
	-	30.3	25.3	13.1	3.1 x 10 ⁵
Raji	+	10.2	6.6	11.7	8.5 x 10^3
	-	7.8	9.6	13.7	9.5 x 10^3
HS-Sultan	+	8.8	6.9	8.3	4.0×10^{3}
	-	4.8	5.6	7.5	3.0×10^{3}
CA46	+	1.5	1.5	1.3	4.0×10^{3}
	-	2.5	2.2	1.0	2.0 x 10 ³
Daudi	+	1.1	1.1	0.8	1.0×10^2
	-	0.5	1.8	0.8	1.0×10^2
Ramos	+	0.8 0.5	0.5 0.5	0.4 0.3	8.0 x 10 ⁰ 5.0 x 10 ⁰
T cell lines					
Jurkat	+	50.0	39.2	39.7	6.6 x 10 ⁴
	-	48.7	44.5	34.5	6.1 x 10 ⁴
CEM	+	36.3	27.0	21.3	1.3 x 10 ⁵
	-	34.0	23.4	18.5	1.5 x 10 ⁵
HSB-2	+	13.8	24.4	81.7	1.0 x 10 ⁵
	-	19.5	28.5	84.0	3.0 x 10 ⁵
Molt 4	+	8.2	16.8	41.7	1.1 x 10 ⁵
	-	7.6	15.3	44.4	1.7 x 10 ⁵
Molt 3	+	4.0	12.9	14.0	7.5×10^3
	-	8.1	12.0	21.3	1.3×10^4

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^aCelis were infected with dengue-2 virus at a m.o.i. of 5 p.f.u./ cell in the presence or absence of antibody as described in Materials and Methods. ^bAnti-dengue-2 antibody was used at final dilution of 1:10,000. + represents presence of antibody and - represents absence of antibody.

D-2. Establishment of cell lines persistently infected with dengue-2 virus

We determined the ability of certain cells to become persistently infected with dengue-2 virus. K562, Raji and HSB-2 cell lines were infected with dengue-2 virus at a m.o.i. of 5 p.f.u./cell in the absence of antibody to dengue-2 virus, and were cultured for 25 weeks. Cells were resuspended at a concentration of 2 x 10^5 /ml twice a week. The percent of dengue-2 virus antigen-positive cells was almost 100% one week after infection of K562 (Figure 12) and HSB-2 cells (Figure 13), and three weeks after infection of Raji cells (Figure 14). A high percentage (more than 70%) of dengue-2 virus antigen-positive cells was observed for 25 weeks. These results demonstrate that persistent dengue-2 virus infections were readily established in myelomonocytic, B and T cell lines.

We measured dengue-2 virus titers in culture supernatant fluids 22 weeks after the infection. Infectious dengue-2 virus at the titer of 2.6 x 10^2 p.f.u./ml, 1.8 x 10^2 p.f.u./ml and 1.0 x 10^2 p.f.u./ml were detected in the supernatant fluids of persistently infected K562, HSB-2 and Raji, respectively. Intracellular dengue virus was then detected after three freezethaw cycles of 1 x 10^6 infected cells. Intracellular virus titers were 2.2 x 10^2 p.f.u./ml and 4.0 x 10^1 p.f.u./ml in K562 and HSB-2 cells, respectively. Intracellular virus was not detected (<10 p.f.u./ml) in persistently infected Raji cells.



41

Figure 13. Persistent infection of HSB-2 cells infected with dengue-2 virus at an m.o.i. of 5 p.f.u./cell. Percentage of dengue-2 virus antigenpositive cells was determined using IF.



Figure 14. Persistent infection of Raji cells infected with dengue-2 virus at an m.o.i. of 5 p.f.u./cell. Percentage of dengue-2 virus antigenpositive cell was determined using IF.



D-3. Infection of human fibroblasts with dengue-2 virus

Human skin fibroblasts were infected with dengue-2 virus, and the percentage of dengue virus antigen-positive cells and the infectious virus titers in the culture supernatant fluids were examined. Dengue virus antigen-positive cells were detected as early as 4 hours after infection and the percentage of dengue virus antigen-positive cells reached maximum levels by 24 hours after infection (Figure 15). High titers of infectious dengue virus were detected at 24 and 44 hours after infection. These results indicate that fibroblasts can be infected with dengue virus.

Figure 15. Time course of the appearance of infectious dengue virus in the culture supernatant fluid and cytoplasmic dengue virus antigens in infected fibroblasts. O: Titers of infectious dengue virus culture fluids. A: The percentage of dengue virus antigen-positive cells.



D-4. Infection of fibroblasts with other dengue viruses, YFV and WNV

To determine whether infection of human skin fibroblasts is a common feature of flaviviruses, we used 7 strains of other mosquito-borne flaviviruses, including dengue-1, dengue-3, dengue-4, YFV and WNV in addition to dengue-2 virus, New Guinea C strain (Table 29). Fibroblasts were infected with viruses at an m.o.i. of 10 p.f.u./ml, and the percentage of antigen-positive cells were examined by IF staining using a flavivirus-crossreactive monoclonal antibody 4G2. All 7 viruses examined infected fibroblasts, although the percentage of antigen-positive cells varied depending on the virus strains. These results suggest that most, if not all, strains of mosquito-borne flaviviruses can infect human skin fibroblasts.

Viruses	Strain	<pre>% antigen-positive cells</pre>
Dengue-1	Hawaii	40
Dengue-2	New Guinea C	78
Dengue-3	CH53489	53
Dengue-3	904	32
Dengue-4	814669	17
Dengue-4	Thai 286	55
Yellow fever virus	17D	17
West Nile virus	E101	59

Table 29: Infection of human skin fibroblasts with dengue, yellow fever and West Nile viruses*

*Human skin fibroblasts were infected with each virus at an m.o.i. of 10 p.f.u./cell. The percentage of antigen-positive cells was examined 24 hours after infection by immunofluorescence staining using a flavivirus-crossreactive monoclonal antibody 4G2.

E. <u>Enhancement of dengue virus infection by antibody (antibody-dependent enhancement)</u>

Enhancement of dengue virus infection by antibodies was first reported by Halstead et al in 1977 (11,12). They reported that human sera from dengue virus-infected patients, monkey sera from dengue virus-immune monkeys, hyperimmune mouse and rabbit sera to dengue virus enhanced dengue virus infection of peripheral blood mononuclear cells from non-immune humans and monkeys when the cells were infected with dengue virus in the presence of these anti-dengue virus sera. These sera enhanced infection at a dilution where they lost neutralizing activity. It is understood today that dengue virions and IgG antibody to dengue virus forms virus-antibody complex, and that binding of dengue virus-antibody complexes to Fc_{γ} receptors via the Fc portion of IgG results in augmentation of dengue virus infection. Antibody-dependent enhancement, therefore, results from interaction of three components; dengue virus, antibody and Fc_{γ} receptor.

IgG-Fc receptors play a key role in antibody-dependent enhancement. Three types of human Fc_YR have been identified (13-15). Fc_YRI is a 72-Kda molecule designated CD64 which is detected exclusively on monocytes/macrophages and IFNY-treated granulocytes. Fc_YRI binds human monomeric IgG with high avidity $(Ka=10^8-10^9 M^{-1})$, and with an isotype specificity of IgG1=IgG3>IgG4>>IgG2. Fc_YRII is a 40-Kda molecule designated CDw32 which is detected on monocytes, neutrophils, eosinophiles, platelets and B cells. Fc_YRII is a low avidity receptor and binding of monomeric IgG could not be measured. However, the presence of Fc_YRII has been demonstrated by the binding of immune complexes, and $Fc\gamma RII$ binds human IgG with a subclass specificity of IgG1=IgG3>>IgG2, IgG4.

E-1. <u>Antibody-dependent enhancement of dengue virus infection</u> mediated by Fc₁/RII

K562 cells were examined for the expression of Fc_3RI , Fc_7RII and Fc_7RIII by quantitative flow cytometry using specific monoclonal antibodies (mAb) 32.2, IV.3 and anti-Leulla, respectively. K562 cells expressed high levels of Fc_7RII , but did not express Fc_7RI or Fc_7RIII . U937 cells expressed Fc_7RI and Fc_7RII , but did not express Fc_7RIII . The K562 cell line was selected for defining the role of Fc_7RII in dengue virus infections because it expresses only Fc_7RII .

K562 cells were infected with dengue virus in the presence or absence of anti-dengue-2 mouse sera at a final dilution of 1:10⁴, and the percentage of dengue virus antigen-positive cells were examined 24 and 48 hours after infection. A dose response study showed that anti-dengue-2 serum enhanced infection best when used at a final dilution of 1:10⁴ (data not presented). K562 cells which were infected with dengue virus in the presence of the diluted polyclonal preparation of anti-dengue virus antibody contained a significantly higher percentage of antigen-positive cells than those infected in the absence of antibody (Table 30). Normal mouse serum, which does not contain anti-dengue virus antibodies, did not enhance infection at any dilutions ranging from 1:10 to 1:10⁷. These results suggest that anti-dengue virus antibodies enhance dengue virus infection by binding to Fc RII after the formation of virus-antibody complexes.

We examined whether infection of K562 cells with virusantibody complex results in viral production. K562 cells were treated with trypsin to inhibit infection by dengue virus which did not make virus-antibody complex as previously reported (17,18), and infected with dengue virus with or without antibody at 4°C as described in the Materials and Methods. K562 cells infected with dengue virus in the presence of antibody produced higher tiers of virus than K562 cells infected with virus alone (4.5 x 10⁴ p.f.u./ml with antibody and 1.2 x 10⁴ p.f.u./ml without antibody in exp. 1, and 1 x 10⁴ p.f.u./ml with antibody and 3 x 10^3 p.f.u./ml without antibody in exp. 2). These results suggest that infection with virus-antibody complex results in viral production.

	I	ncubation	<pre>% of dengue antibody-</pre>	<u>positive cells</u> **
	m.o.i.	time	With anti-dengue	No
Exp.	(p.f.u./cell)	(hours)	antibody	antibody
1	0.125	24	26.3 ^a	18.0
2	0.125	24	18.4 ^b	12.7
3	0.03	48	12.8 ^C	5.6
4	0.125	48	20.8 ^d	11.0
5	1.0	72	57.0 ^e	36.6

Table 30: Augmentation of dengue virus infection of K562 cells by anti-dengue virus antibody*

*K562 cells were infected with dengue virus in the presence or absence of anti-dengue-2 mouse sera at a final dilution of 1:10⁴. The percentage of dengue virus antigen-positive cells were determined by immunofluorescence staining.

- **The percentage of antigen-positive cells was compared between the cells infected in the presence of anti-dengue antibody and those infected in the absence of antibody by Chi square test.
- ^ap<0.05, ^bp<0.05, ^cp<0.02, ^dp<0.01, ^ep<0.001
- E-2. Inhibition of anti-dengue virus antibody-mediated infection by a monoclonal antibody specific for FcyRII

MAb IV.3, which is specific for $Fc_{\gamma}RII$ and is known to inhibit the binding of antigen-antibody complexes to $Fc_{\gamma}RII$ (16,17) was used to prove that enhancement of dengue virus infection by anti-dengue virus antibody is $Fc_{\gamma}RII$ -mediated.

K562 cells were incubated with mAb IV.3 and were then infected with dengue virus in the presence or absence of antidengue antibody. MAb IV.3 inhibited infection when cells were infected in the presence of anti-dengue antibody, but not when cells were infected in the absence of antibody. MAb 32.2, which is specific for $Fc\gamma RI$, did not inhibit infection in the presence or absence of anti-dengue virus antibody (Table 31, Exp. 1).

The Fab fragment of MAb IV.3 was then used to pretreat K562 cells prior to infection with dengue virus. The Fab of IV.3 also inhibited infection by virus-antibody complex, but did not inhibit infection by dengue virus alone (Table 31, Exp. 2); whereas, the $F(ab')_2$ of 32.2 did not affect infection. These results indicate that enhancement of infection by anti-dengue virus antibody is Fc_YRII -mediated.

	Anti-Fc R	% dengue antigen-positive cells		
	antibodies	With anti-dengue antibody	No antibody	
Exp 1	None	40.6 ^d	31.5 ^d	
L.	IV.3	21.2 ^b	31.3 ^C	
	32.2	40.9 ^C	32.3 ^C	
Exp 2	None	28.6 ^e	21.8 ^e	
-	IV.3 (Fab)	28.6 ^e 16.7 ^b	17.7 ^C	
	$32.2 (F(ab')_2)$	25.5 ^C	21.7 ^C	

antibody-mediated enhancement of dengue virus infection of K562 cells^a

Anti-Fc RII monoclonal antibody inhibits

^aK562 cells were incubated with monoclonal Ab IV.3 or 32.2 at a concentration of 100 ug/ml at 4°C for 1 hour. Cells were washed once and infected with dengue virus or dengue virus-antibody complex at an m.o.i. of 0.125 p.f.u./cell. The percentage of dengue virus antigen-positive cells was examined using immuno-fluorescence staining 24 hours after infection.

- ^bp<0.001 compared with the cells not pretreated with anti-Fc R antibodies by Chi square test.
- ^Cp>0.2 (not significant) compared with the cells not pre-treated with anti-Fc R antibodies by Chi square test.

^dThe percentage of dengue virus antigen-positive cells was compared by Chi square test between the cells infected in the presence of anti-dengue virus antibody and those infected in the absence of anti-dengue virus antibody. p<0.01.

eSame as d. p<0.05.

Table 31:

E-3. Interferon gamma augments Fc_yR-mediated dengue virus infection of human monocytic cells

U937 cells were incubated with 100 U/ml of recombinant IFN- γ (rIFN- τ) for 24 hours, and then were infected with dengue virus at a m.o.i. of 5 p.f.u./cell in the presence of anti-dengue mouse serum. The percentage of dengue antigen-positive cells was determined by indirect immunofluorescence staining 24 hours after infection. Anti-dengue serum at final dilutions of 1:10³, 10⁴, and 10⁵ augmented infection of nontreated U937 cells, and further augmented dengue virus infection, when U937 cells were pretreated with rIFN- γ (Figure 16). Normal mouse serum which did not contain detectable levels of anti-dengue antibody did not augment dengue virus infection of the nontreated or the IFN- γ -treated U937 cells (data not presented). Based on these results, we decided to use anti-dengue serum at a final dilution of 1:10⁴ in the following experiments.

U937 cells were incubated with variable amounts of rIFN- γ for 24 hours, and infected with dengue virus at a m.o.i. of 5 p.f.u./ cell in the presence of the anti-dengue mouse serum at a final dilution of 1:10⁴. Pretreatment of U937 cells with rIRN- γ at concentrations from 1 to 10,000 U/ml increased the percentage of dengue antigen-positive cells. The percentage of antigen-positive cells reached a maximum level by pretreatment with IFN- γ at 100 U/ml (Figure 17). When U937 cells were infected with dengue virus in the absence of anti-dengue antibody, pretreatment with rIFN- γ did not increase the percentage of antigen-positive cells (1-3% without rIFN γ -treatment and 1-4% with rIFN γ -treatment).

60

Figure 16. Effect of dilution of anti-dengue serum on dengue virus infection of U937 cells. U937 cells were incubated with or without 100 of IFN γ per ml for 24 hours and infected with dengue virus at an m.o.i. of 5 p.f.u./cell in the presence of variable dilution of anti-dengue mouse serum. \bigcirc : U937 cells treated with IFN γ . \bigcirc : Nontreated IFN .



Figure 17. Dengue virus infection of U937 cells pretreated with IFNY. U937 cells were incubated with variable concentrations of IFNY for 24 hours and then infected with dengue virusantibody complex at an m.o.i. of 5 p.f.u./cell. Pretreatment of U937 cells with 100 U/ml of rIFN- γ also increased dengue virus titers detected in the culture fluids when cells were infected with virus in the presence of antibody, but not when cells were infected in the absence of antibody (Table 32).

Table 32: Virus titers in the culture fluids of dengue-infected U937 cells pretreated with IFN-)*

	Virus titer	(p.f.u./ml)
	Infection in the presence	Infection in the
<u>IFN-; (U/ml)</u>	of anti-dengue antibody	absence of antibody
	2	
0	5.0 x 10^{3}	3.5×10^2
	4.5×10^{4}	4.0×10^{2}
10	6.0×10^4	6.5×10^2
100	9.0 x 10^4	7.0×10^2
1000	1.0 x 10 ⁵	6.0×10^2

*U937 cells were incubated with variable concentrations of rIFN- γ for 24 hours and infected with dengue virus at a m.o.i. of 5 p.f.u./cell in the presence of anti-dengue mouse serum at final dilution of 10^{-4} , or in the absence of antiserum. Cells were cultured at 2 x 10^{5} /ml in RPMI containing 10% FCS for 24 hours. Dengue virus contained in the culture fluids was titrated using a plaque titration assay.

E-4. <u>Anti-IFN-γ</u> antibody inhibits IFN-γ-induced augmentation of dengue virus infections

To confirm that IFN-Y contained in the culture fluid is responsible for the augmented dengue virus infection shown in Table 2, the culture fluid which contained 10 U/ml of IFN-Y was incubated with a monoclonal anti-IFN-1 antibody, and then was used to treat U937 cells. The culture fluid pretreated with an antiantibody did not augment dengue virus infection but the IFNculture fluid pretreated an anti-IFN-Y antibody did augment (Table 33). We also tried to block the effect or rIFN- γ using a monoclonal anti-IFN-y antibody to confirm that rIFN-y-induced augmentation of infection was due to IFN-Y, and was not due to other substances derived from the production of this recombinant IFN-1 in E. coli. U937 cells were pretreated with 10 U/ml of rIFN- which had been incubated with a monoclonal IFN- antibody or a polyclonal anti-IFN antibody. An anti-IFN-Y antibody inhibited the augmenting effect of rIFN-Y, but anti-IFN-d antibody had no effect (data not presented). These results confirm that IFN- τ is responsible for augmentation of dengue virus infection shown in Table 32 and Figure 16 and 17.

Antibodies ^C	Percentage of dengue antigen-positive cells ^d
None	66.0
Anti-IFN-)	20.5
Anti-IFN-*	59.6
None	20.9
None	15.0
Anti-IFN-)	16.4
Anti-IFN-d	12.1
	None Anti-IFN-) Anti-IFN- None None Anti-IFN-)

Table 33: IFN-Y contained in the culture fluid of PBMC is responsible for augmenting dengue virus infection of U937 cells

^aDengue culture fluid was obtained as described in the footnote of Table 2, and was diluted to contain 10 U/ml of IFN-?.

^bPBMC of the same donor were cultured with a control antigen for 7 days, and a culture fluid was collected. This culture fluid, which contained no detectable IFN-y or IFN-x, was diluted similarly.

^CDengue culture fluid which contains IFN- γ was diluted to 10 U/ml and was then incubated with 1000 U/ml of monoclonal anti-IFN- γ and 2000 U/ml of anti-IFN- σ at 4°C for 2 hours.

^dU937 cells were incubated with culture fluids for 24 hours, and infected with dengue virus-antibody complexes at a m.o.i. of 5 p.f.u./cell. The percentage of dengue antigen-positive cells was determined by indirect immunofluorescent staining 24 hours after infection.

E-5. <u>Human gamma globulin blocks IFN-J-induced augmentation of</u> <u>dengue virus infection</u>

It has been reported that IFN- γ increases Fc γ receptors on U937 cells (18,19). We tried to determine whether the IFN- γ induced augmentation of dengue virus infection was Fc γ receptor mediated. U937 cells which had been treated with rIFN- γ at 1000 U/ml for 24 hours were incubated with γ -globulin at 4°C for 20 minutes. Cells were then infected with dengue virus-antibody complexes. γ -globulin inhibited infection by dengue virus antibody complexes of U937 cells which were pretreated with IFN- γ , whereas bovine serum albumin at the same concentration had no effect. These results suggest that the IFN- γ induced augmentation of dengue virus infection is mediated by Fc γ receptors.

E-6. <u>IFN-</u> does not augment dengue virus infection of U937 cells in the presence of F(ab')₂ fraction of anti-dengue IgG antibody

We then used the $F(ab')_2$ fraction of anti-dengue IgG, to confirm that $IFN-\gamma$ - induced augmentation of dengue virus infection is Fc receptor-mediated. Pretreatrant of U937 cells with $IFN-\gamma$ did not augment infection when cells were infected with dengue virus in the presence of $F(ab')_2$ prepared from anti-dengue IgG, but $IFN-\gamma$ -pretreatment augmented infection when cells were infected with virus in the presence of purified anti-dengue IgG at 0.1 to 10 ug/ml (Table 34). This result confirms that the $IFN-\gamma$ induced augmentation of dengue virus infection is mediated by Fc γ receptors on U937 cells.

Table 34: F(ab')₂ prepared from a ti-dengue IgG does not augment dengue virus infection of U937 cells pretreated with IFN-Y*

Final concentration	Percenta	qe of denque	antigen-posi	tive cells
of IgG and F(ab') ₂		etreatment		atment
(ug/ml)	IqG	(Fab')2	IgG	(Fab') ₂
		~		
None	1.0	1.0	1.4	1.4
0.001	1.3	1.3	1.0	0.5
0.01	6.2	0.9	3.5	1.5
0.1	36.5 ^a	2.1	9.8 ^a	1.2
1	73.7 ^a	0.4	34.2 ^a	1.2
10	36.5 ^a	<0.3	16.8 ^a	<0.3
100	11.6 ^b	0.4	7.0 ^b	<0.3

*U937 cells were incubated with or without 100 U/ml of rIFN-Y for 24 hours, and infected with dengue virus at m.o.i. of 5 p.f.u./ ml in the presence of various concentrations of purified antidengue IgG or $F(ab')_2$ prepared from IgG. The percentage of dengue antigen-positive cells was determined 24 hours after infection. The percentage of antigen positive cells was compared between IFN-Y-pretreated cells and nontreated cells at same concentrations of IgG and $F(ab')_2$.

ap<0.001; bp>0.005; p>0.05 (not significant) at other concentrations of IgG and all the concentrations of F(ab')2.

E-7. Augmentation of dengue virus infection correlates with increase in the number of Fcy receptors

We tried to determine whether there is a correlation between the number of Fc_{γ} receptors and the percentage of dengue antigenpositive cells. U937 cells were incubated with variable concentrations of IFN- γ for 24 hours, and examined for Fc_{γ} receptor expression by quantitative FACS-analysis after exposure to MAb 32 which is specific for the human Fc γ RI. The percentage of antigen positive cells was determined 24 hours after infection. The results shown in Figure 18 demonstrate that there is a good correlation between the percentage of dengue antigen-positive cells and the number of Fc γ receptors. This result is consistent with those shown in Table 34, and indicates that augmentation of dengue virus infection induced by IFN- γ is mediated by Fc γ receptors.



F. <u>Antibody-dependent enhancement of dengue virus infection</u> mediated by bispecific antibodies

In this study, we examine the mechanisms of ADE by using bispecific antibodies. We prepare bispecific antibodies by chemically cross-linking anti-dengue virus antibodies to antibodies specific for cell surface molecules, including $Fc_{\gamma}RI$, $Fc_{\gamma}RII$, B2-microglobulin, CD15 and CD33, and examine whether these bispecific antibodies enhance dengue virus infection. Antibody dependent enhancement is mediated by bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to $Fc_{\gamma}RI$ and $Fc_{\gamma}RII$. Furthermore, bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to the other cell surface molecules including B2-microglobulin, CD15 and CD33, also enhance dengue virus infection.

F-1. <u>Bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to Fc;RI enhance</u> infection

Previously, $Fc\gamma RI$ was shown to mediate ADE in the presence of conventional anti-dengue virus antibodies. Therefore, as an initial test of bispecific antibody-mediated ADE, we investigated whether targeting dengue virus to $Fc\gamma RI$ by bispecific antibodies would enhance infection. U937 cells were incubated with $IFN\gamma$ for 24 hours to up-regulate $Fc\gamma R$ expression and infected with dengue virus-bispecific antibody complexes. The percent of dengue virus antigen-positive cells was examined by indirect immunofluorescence 24 hours after infection. The bispecific antibodies 32 x 4G2 and 32 x 2H2 both enhanced dengue virus infection (Table 35, Exp. 1-3). Viral titers from the culture supernatant fluids of U937 cells infected with dengue-bispecific antibody complex (32 x 4G2) were higher than those from the culture fluids of U937 cells infected with dengue virus alone (Table 35, Exp. 2). In the next series of experiments we used A12.13 without IFNy-pretreatment. A12.13 cells are subclones of U937 cells which have a high expression of FcyRI (20). A12.13 without IFNy treatment had enhanced infection with bispecific antibody complex 32 x 4G2 (Table 35, Exp. 4).

A bispecific antibody which is specific for Fc RI and <u>Toxoplasma gondii</u> (32 x anti-TG) did not enhance infection (Table 35, Exp. 5). Thus, enhanced infection with 32 x 4G2 and 32 x 2H2 was not due to a nonspecific effect of a bispecific antibody binding to FcyRI. Bispecific antibody 32 x 2H2 did not enhance infection of cells that do not express Fr RI including K562, Molt-3 and Raji cells (data not presented).

		Cells	Antibody	Dilution	% Dengue Antigen Positive Cells ^b	Viral Titer (p.f.u./ml)
Exp.	1	U937	None 4G2 32x4G2	1:4x10 ² 1:2x10 ²	9.7 79.4* 47.4*	
Exp.	2	U937	None 32x4G2	1:2x10 ²	18.4 52.2*	8.0x10 ⁵ 2.8x10 ⁶
Exp.	3	U937	None 2H2 32x2H2	1:4x10 ² 1:2x10 ³	5.7 76.6* 19.4*	
Exp.	4	A12.13	None 4G2 32x4G2	1:4x10 ² 1:2x10 ²	8.2 81.3* 24.7*	
Exp.	5	A12.13	None 2H2 32xTg	1:4x10 ² 1:2x10 ¹ 1:2x10 ² 1:2x10 ³	6.8 33.5* 4.4NS 6.0NS 5.9NS	

Table 35: Enhancement of dengue virus infection by bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to Fc_YRI^a

^aU937 cells were pre-treated with IFNY (100 u/ml) for 24 hours and then infected with dengue virus or dengue virus antibody complex. A12.13 cells were not pre-treated with IFN before infection. ^bChi square analysis was used to compare the cells infected in the presence of anti-dengue virus antibody to those cells infected in the absence of antibody. *p<0.001 NS not significant

F-2. <u>Bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to FcrRII</u> enhance infection

Conventional antibodies to dengue virus can also mediate ADE through FcyRII. U937 and K562 cells infected with dengue virus complexed to a bispecific antibody directed against FcyRII (IV.3 x 2H2) demonstrated enhancement of dengue virus infection (Table 36, Exp. 1-3). IFN γ which does not modulate the expression of FcyRII on these cells, had no significant effect on the infection of K562 cells with dengue virus-specific antibody complex (IV.3 x 2H2) (Table 36, Exp. 2). Viral titers from the culture supernatant fluids of K562 cells infected with dengue virus-bispecific antibody complex (IV.3 x 2H2) were higher than those from the culture fluids of cells infected with dengue virus alone (Table 36, Exp. 2).

A bispecific antibody linking $Fc_{\gamma}RII$ to <u>Toxoplasma gondii</u> (IV.3 x anti-Tg) did not mediate enhancement of dengue virus infection in K562 cells (Table 36, Exp. 3). Furthermore, the bispecific antibody IV.3 x 2H2 did not enhance infection of Molt-3 cells, which do not express Fc RII (data not presented).

Exp.	1	<u>Cells</u> U937 ^a	Antibody None 2H2 IV.3x2H2	Dilution 1:4x10 ² 1:2x10 ¹ 1:2x10 ² 1:2x10 ³	<pre>% Dengue Antigen Positive Cells^b 5.7 76.6* 9.1* 37.9* 6.2 NS</pre>	Viral Titer (p.f.u./ml)
Exp.	2	K562 K562 ^a	None IV.3x2H2 None IV.3x2H2	1:2x10 ² 1:2x10 ²	4.9 15.1* 3.3 18.1*	9.0x104 3.0x105 1.6x104 3.0x105
Exp.	3	K562	None IV.3x2H2 IV.3xTg	1:2x10 ² 1:2x10 ¹ 1:2x10 ² 1:2x10 ³	11.8 50.4* 9.0 NS 11.4 NS 11.8 NS	

Table 36: Enhancement of dengue virus infection by bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to FcyRII

 a_{U937} or K562 cells were pre-treated with IFNy (100 u/ml) for 24 hours and then infected with dengue virus or dengue virus antibody complex.

^bChi square analysis was used to compare the cells infected in the presence of anti-dengue virus antibody to those cells infected in the absence of antibody. $*p \le 0.001$, NS not significant

F-3. <u>Bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to cell surface</u> molecules other than Fc₁ receptors enhance infection

The above experiments demonstrated that bispecific antibodies which link dengue virus to $Fc_{\gamma}RI$ or $Fc_{\gamma}RII$ mimic conventional antibodies in enhancing infection. The advantage of using bispecific antibodies is that they permit targeting to any antigen on the cell surface. Therefore, in order to investigate if the $Fc_{\gamma}R$ has a unique function in ADE, infections were performed in the presence of bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to non-Fc R molecules.

We examined ADE mediated by a bispecific antibody targeting dengue virus to the β_2 -microglobulin of class I major histocompatibility complex (MHC) molecule on U937 cells and the FcyR negative T cell line Molt-3. IFNy has been shown to upregulate MHC class I (21) and therefore, both U937 and Molt-3 cells were incubated with IFN before infection. In these cells, targeting dengue virus to β_2 -microglobulin with the bispecific antibody BBM1 x 2H2 enhanced infection (Table 37, Exp. 1-5). Viral titers from the culture fluids of Molt-3 cells infected with dengue virus-bispecific antibody complex (BBM1 x 2H2) were higher than those in the culture fluids of cells infected with dengue virus alone (Table 37, Exp. 4). Consistent with the observation that Molt-3 cells do not express Fc receptors, the parent IgG2a mAb, 2H2, did not mediate ADE of these cells (Table 37, Exp. 2).

The control bispecific antibody, BBM1 x anti-Tg, did not mediate enhanced dengue virus infection of Molt-3 cells (Table 37, Exp. 5). Daudi cells, which do not express β_2 -microglobulin, did not show enhanced infection in the presence of BBM1 x 2H2 (data not presented). Furthermore, the enhancement of Molt-3 infection mediated by bispecific antibody BBM1 x 2H2 was significantly inhibited by preincubation of these cells with the mAb BBM1.

		-		
	Cells	Antibody	Dilution	<pre>% Dengue Antigen Viral Titer Positive Cells^b (p.f.u./ml)</pre>
Exp. 1	U937 ^a	None 2H2 BBM1x2H2	1:4x10 ² 1:2x10 ¹ 1:2x10 ² 1:2x10 ³	5.7 76.6* 13.7* 22.6* 6.3 NS

Table 37: Enhancement of dengue virus infection by bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to B2-microglobulin

Exp.	2	Molt3 ^a	None 2H2 BBM1x2H2	1:4x10 ² 1:2x10 ¹ 1:2x10 ² 1:2x10 ³	7.4 2.2* 5.5 NS 20.0* 10.7 NS	
Exp.	3	Molt3 Molt3 ^a	None BBM1x2H2 None BBM1x2H2	 1:2x10 ² 1:2x10 ²	3.7 9.7** 3.8 20.2*	
Exp.	4	Molt3 ^a	None BBM1x2H2	1:2x10 ²	0.8 7.8*	2.0x10 ² 1.1x10 ³
Exp.	5	Molt3 ^a	None BBM1x2H2 BBM1xTg	1:2x10 ² 1:2x10 ¹ 1:2x10 ² 1:2x10 ³	5.0 11.2* 5.0 NS 4.3 NS 6.2 NS	

^aU937 or Molt-3 cells were pre-treated with IFN γ (100 u/ml) for 48 hours and then infected with dengue virus or dengue virus antibody complex. The m.o.i. used in Exp. 4 was 14 p.f.u./cell.

^bChi square analysis was used to compare the cells infected in the presence of anti-dengue virus antibody to those cells infected in the absence of antibody. $*p\leq0.001$, $**p\leq0.05$, NS not significant.

We then examined bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to two other molecules, CD15 and CD33, for their ability to enhance infection. HL60 cells infected in the presence of a bispecific antibody which targeted the virus to CD15 (PM81 x 4G2) also displayed enhanced infection demonstrated by an increase in the percentage of dengue Ag-positive cells and by the viral titers (Table 38, Exp. 1 and 2). This enhancement was blocked by preincubation with mAb PM81 but not by mAb Leu 11b.

The bispecific antibody 251 x 4G2 which targets dengue virus to CD33 also showed enhancement of infection of U937 cells demonstrated by the percentage of dengue Ag-positive cells and by the viral titers (Table 38, Exp. 3 and 4). This enhancement was blocked by preincubation of U937 cells with mAb 251, but not mAb 32. Taken together, these results indicate that bispecific antibody-mediated ADE can occur through cell surface molecules other than $Fc\gamma R$.

_	_				% Dengue Antigen	
		Cells	<u>Antibody</u>	<u>Dilution</u>	<u>Positive Cells^a</u>	<u>(p.f.u./ml)</u>
Exp.	1	HL60	None PM81x4G2	1:2x10 ¹ 1:2x10 ² 1:2x10 ³	0.6 4.6* 6.6* 14.7*	
Exp.	2	HL60	None PM81x4G2	 1:2x10 ⁴	0.4 13.5*	1.0x10 ¹ 2.6x10 ³
Exp.	3	U937	None 251x4G2	1:2x10 ¹ 1:2x10 ² 1:2x10 ³	5.7 4.9 NS 19.2* 16.1*	
Exp.	4	U937	None 251x4G2	1:2x10 ²	4.0 22.5*	1.1×10^{3} 1.8×10^{4}

Table 38: Enhancement of dengue virus infection by bispecific antibodies targeting dengue virus to CD15, and targeting dengue virus to CD33

^aChi square analysis was used to compare the cells infected in the presence of anti-dengue virus antibody to those cells infected in the absence of antibody. $*p \le 0.001$, NS not significant.

NS not significant

- G. <u>Production of interferon by dengue virus-infected cells</u>
- G-1. <u>Production of interferon alpha by dengue virus-infected human</u> <u>monocytes</u>

PBMC of non-immune donors were infected with dengue virus, and culture fluids were examined for IFN activity. IFN activity at titers of 40 to 150 U/ml was detected in the culture fluids of dengue virus-infected PBMC, but no IFN activity was detected in samples from uninfected PBMC. Experiments were carried out to determine whether IFN-producing cells were contained in the adherent cell fraction, considered to be monocytes, or in nonadherent fractions. High titers of IFN were detected in the culture fluids of dengue virus-infected monocytes, but not in culture fluids of infected non-adherent cells. Dengue antigenpositive cells were detected only in the dengue virus-infected adherent fractions. Non-adherent cells which were exposed to dengue virus in the same way did not contain dengue antigenpositive cells (data not presented). When monocytes of seven donors were infected and cultured, IFN activity at titers of 100 to 600 U/ml was detected in the culture fluids of dengue-infected monocytes from all donors. No IFN activity was detected in the culture fluid of uninfected monocytes (Table 39).

	<u>Dengue-inf</u>	ected monocytes*	Uninfect	<u>ed monocytes</u> *
		% Dengue Ag-		% Dengue Ag-
Donor	IFN(U/ml)	positive cells	IFN(U/ml)	positive cells
A	400	52	<6	0
С	100	22	<6	0
D	400	50	<6	0
Е	100	30	<6	0
F	150	42	<6	0
G	600	84	<6	0
Н	200	32	<6	0

Table 39: Production of IFN by dengue-infected monocytes

*Monocytes were infected with dengue virus at m.o.i. of 10 and cultured at a concentration of 1 x 10⁶/ml for 48 hours. Culture fluids were collected and examined for IFN activity in bioassays. The percentage of dengue Ag-positive cells was determined by indirect immunofluorescence.

The time course of IFN production and the appearance of dengue antigens in the cytoplasm of infected monocytes was studied. IFN activity was first detected at 12 hours after infection and reached a maximum level by 48 hours. Cytoplasmic dengue antigens were first detected at 6 hours and the percentage of antigen-positive cells reached a maximum level by 24 hours after infection (Figure 19). These results demonstrate a rising titer of IFN production shortly after the appearance of cytoplasmic dengue antigens.



The IFN produced was characterized as $IFN_{\mathcal{A}}$, because antiserum to $HuIFN_{\mathcal{A}}$, but not to $HuIFN_{\mathcal{B}}$ or $HuIFN_{\mathcal{A}}$, neutralized all the IFN activity detected. This result was confirmed by RIA using monoclonal antibodies to $HuIFN_{\mathcal{A}}$ and $HuIFN_{\mathcal{A}}$.

To determine whether the IFN& produced by dengue virusinfected monocytes could inhibit dengue virus infection of other human monocytes, monocytes were incubated for 20 hours in culture fluid obtained from dengue virus-infected monocyte cultures which contained 400 U/ml of IFN , and then they were infected with dengue virus. None of the monocytes treated with culture fluids of dengue-infected monocytes contained dengue viral antigens 24 hours after infection; however, 50% of untreated monocytes and monocytes treated with culture fluids from uninfected monocytes contained dengue viral antigens (Table 40). This result indicates that IFN produced by dengue virus-infected monocytes inhibit infection of monocytes by dengue virus.

Treatment of monocytes*	IFN titer (U/ml) contained in the culture fluids	% Dengue Ag- positive cells
None (RPMI/10% FCS)	<6	51
Culture fluid of dengue- infected monocytes	400	0
Culture fluid of uninfected monocytes	<6	50

Table 40: Inhibition of dengue virus infection of monocytes by induced IFN a

*Supernatant fluids from dengue-infected or uninfected monocyte cultures at a concentration of 1×10^6 /ml were removed and examined for IFN activity in bioassays. They were then added to other monocyte cultures at a concentration of 1×10^6 /ml for 20 hrs, prior to infection with dengue virus at an m.o.i. of 10. The percentage of monocytes infected with dengue virus was determined 24 hours after infection by indirect immunofluorescence.

G-2. <u>Production of interferon beta by dengue virus-infected human</u> skin fibroblasts

The supernatant fluids of dengue virus-infected fibroblasts were examined for interferon (IFN) activity. High levels of IFN activity were detected at 24-48 hours after infection (Table 41). IFN was characterized as IFN- β , because specific antibody to IFN- β neutralized the activity, but antibodies to IFN- ϕ or IFN- γ did not. We examined whether IFN-ß produced by dengue virus-infected fibroblasts protects other fibroblasts from dengue virus infection. Supernatant fluids of dengue virus-infected fibroblasts were exposed to ultra violet light at 4°C for 20 minutes to inactivate dengue virus. Pretreatment of fibroblasts with culture supernatants of dengue virus-infected fibroblasts prevented dengue virus infections (Table 42). Addition of anti-IFN-ß antibody abrogated the ability of culture fluids to protect other fibroblasts from infection. These results confirm that IFNß included in the culture fluids is responsible for the prevention of dengue virus infection in other fibroblasts.

	Time after infection (hr)	IFN (U/ml)	<pre>% dengue Ag- positive cells</pre>
Exp. 1	0	<25	0
	4	<25	15
	24	800	93
	44	1200	91
Exp. 2	0	<25	0
•	24	200	55
	48	2400	50

Table 41: IFN production by dengue-2 virus-infected fibroblasts*

*Fibroblasts were infected with dengue-2 virus at an m.o.i. of 10 p.f.u./cell in experiment 1 and 5 p.f.u./cell in experiment 2, and were cultured at 2 x 10⁵/ml. IFN activity in the culture fluids and the percentage of dengue antigen-positive cells were assessed at various times after infection.

Table 42: Protection of dengue-2 virus infection of fibroblasts by IFN-B*

Treatment of fibroblasts	Anti-IFN-B antibody	% dengue Ag- positive cells
Culture supernatant of		
dengue-2 virus-infected	-	1
fibroblasts	+	53
IFN-B (100 U/ml)	-	1
	+	46
None (medium)	-	47
,	+	49

*Fibroblasts were incubated with UV-treated supernatant fluids of dengue-2 virus-infected fibroblasts, which contained 100 U/ml of IFN activity, for 24 hours in the presence (+) or absence (-) of anti-IFN-B antibody. Fibroblasts were then infected with dengue-2 virus at an m.o.i. of 5 p.f.u./cell and the percentage of dengue antigen-positive cells was assessed using indirect immunofluorescence.

G-3. <u>Production of IL-6 and GM-CSF by dengue-2 virus-infected</u> <u>fibroblasts</u>

We examined whether dengue virus infection induces IL-6, GM-CSF, IL-14, IL-18, TNFA and IFN-4. High levels of IL-6 and GM-CSF were detected in the supernatant fluids of dengue virus-infected fibroblasts, and IL-6 and GM-CSF were detected at very low levels in the culture fluids of uninfected fibroblasts. Similar levels of IL-14 were detected in the culture fluids of infected and uninfected fibroblasts. IL-18, TNFA or IFN7 were not detected in the culture fluids of infected or uninfected fibroblasts. These results indicate that dengue virus-infected fibroblasts produce IL-6 and GM-CSF.

The effects of IL-6 and GM-CSF on dengue virus infection of fibroblasts were examined. Fibroblasts were incubated with recombinant human IL-6 at 1 to 10,000 U/ml, recombinant human GM-CSF at 1 to 2,500 U/ml or mixtures of IL-6 and GM-CSF for 48 hours, and infected with dengue-2 virus. The percentage of dengue virus antigen-positive cells were similar between untreated fibroblasts and those pretreated with IL-6, GM-CSF or mixtures of IL-6 and GM-CSF (data not presented). These results indicate that IL-6 and GM-CSF do not have antiviral or augmenting effects on dengue virus infection of human skin fibroblasts.

H. <u>Induction of interferon alpha from human lymphocytes by</u> <u>autologous, dengue virus-infected monocytes</u>

H-1. IFN induction from PBL by autologous, dengue virus-infected monocytes

To dissect the interaction between PBL and dengue virusinfected monocytes, we cultured PBL and infected monocytes together or separately for 20 hours, and examined the culture fluids for IFN activity. Culture fluids of PBL and those of dengue virus-infected monocytes contained only low titers of IFN activity. When PBL and dengue-infected monocytes were cultured together IFN activities at titers of 200 to 1200 U/ml were detected. Only very low titers of IFN were detected when PBM were cultured with uninfected monocytes (Table 43). Time course study showed that IFN activity was detected as early as 4 hours after the beginning of incubation, and the IFN titers reached a maximum level at 16 hours. To confirm that the IFN detected was produced by PBL, the PBL were treated with a 0.64 ug/ml of actinomycin D and then cultured with dengue virus-infected monocytes. Pretreatment of PBL with actinomycin D decreased the titer of IFN detected from 800 U/ml to 50 U/ml without changing the viability of PBL (Table 44). This result confirmed that the IFN detected in the cultures containing both PBL and dengue virus-infected monocytes was produced by PBL.

The IFNs produced were characterized by a radioimmunoassay using monoclonal antibodies to $IFN \sim and IFN\gamma$ as detector reagents. The predominant IFN induced from PBL by dengue virus-infected monocytes was $IFN\gamma$; in addition, low titers of $IFN\gamma$ were also detected in some experiments.

Table 43: Induction of IFN from PBL by dengue virus-infected autologous monocytes (DV-monocytes)*

		IFN (U/ml)					
Culture	Donor	A	В	С	D	E	F
PBL + DV-monocytes	5**	800	400	200	300	1200	400
PBL + uninfected n		38	50	6	9	<6	<6
PBL	······	18	50	6	<6	9	<6
DV-monocytes		18	6	18	<6	75	12
Uninfected monocy	tes	<6	<6	<6	<6	<6	<6

*5 x 10^5 of PBL were cultured with 1 x 10^4 of autologous, dengue virus-infected monocytes for 20 hours. Culture fluids were examined for IFN activity by bioassay.

**The percentages of dengue antigen-positive cells were as follows: donor A, 63%; donor B, 57%; donor C, 40%; donor D, 45%; donor E, 58%; donor F, 49%.

Table 44: Abrogation of IFN production by the treatment of PBM with actinomycin D*

PBL		Inducer Cells	IFN (U/ml)
Untreated	-treated	DV-Monocytes**	800
Actinomycin D		DV-Monocytes	50
Untreated		Uninfected Monocytes	6
Actinomycin D		Uninfected Monocytes	12
Untreated		None	12
Actinomycin D		None	6

*5 x 10^5 of PBL were cultured with 1 x 10^4 of inducer cells for 20 hours. PBM were treated with actinomycin D at 0.64 ug/ml as stated in Materials and Methods.

**Percentage of dengue antigen-positive cells was 58%.

H-2. <u>Requirement for cell contact between PBL and dengue virus-</u> <u>infected monocytes for IFN induction</u>

Culture fluids from dengue virus-infected monocytes were examined for the ability to induce IFN from PBL. When PBM were incubated in the culture fluids of dengue virus-infected monocytes for 20 hours, no IFN activity was induced from PBL. These dengue virus-infected monocytes used in the experiment, however, induced 200 U/ml of IFN from PBL when they were cultured with PBL.

Experiments were also performed using a microporous membrane with 0.4 um pores (Costar, Cambridge, MA) to separate the PBL and dengue infected monocytes. When PBL and dengue virus-infected cells were mixed and cultured, high titers of IFN were detected. However, when PBL and dengue virus-infected monocytes were cultured in the same well but separated by the membrane, only a low titer of IFN was detected. These results indicate that cell contact between PBL and dengue virus-infected monocytes were required for IFN induction.

To determine whether IFN induction is restricted by MHC, we analyzed IFN induction using the PBL of two donors who have completely different MHC Class I and Class II antigens. The dengue virus-infected monocytes of each donor induced similar titers of IFN from the PBL of either donor. These results indicate that MHC compatibility is not required for IFN-induction from PBL by dengue virus-infected monocytes.

We then examined the ability of paraformaldehyde-treated, dengue virus-infected monocytes to induce IFN. These cells retained the ability to induce IFN from PBL. Glutaraldehydetreated, dengue virus-infected monocytes also induced IFN from PBL (data not presented). Dengue virus-infected monocytes treated with paraformaldehyde or glutaraldehyde did not produce IFN or infectious dengue virus. These results indicate that production of IFN is due to stimulation of PBL by dengue virus-infected cells and does not directly require infectious dengue virus.

H-3. <u>Correlation between the appearance of dengue antigen in the</u> infected monocytes and IFN-inducing ability

We then analyzed dengue virus-infected monocytes at various times after infection to determine whether there is a correlation between the ability of infected cells to induce IFN and the dengue antigen-expression. At various hours after infection, dengueinfacted cells were fixed with paraformaldehyde and used as inducer cells. The infected monocytes were able to induce IFN 8 hours after infection when dengue antigens became detectable. The IFN-inducing ability reached a maximum level 24 hours after infection when the percentage of antigen-positive cells also reached a maximum level (Figure 20). These results indicate that there is a strong correlation between the antigen-expression and



IFN-inducing activity of dengue-infected cells.

H-4. <u>Characterization of IFN producing cells using monoclonal</u> antibodies

PBL which produce IFN in response to autologous dengue virusinfected monocytes were characterized using 6 monoclonal anti-HLA-DR, OKT3, anti-Leull, anti-B1, anti-Leul2, antibodies: and OKM1 antibodies, and one polyclonal anti-human immunoglobulin (IgA + LgG + IgM) antibody. PBL were positively enriched by FACS after reaction with these antibodies and then were cultured with dengue virus-infected monocytes. HLA-DR⁺ and T3⁻ cells produced high titers of IFN, while HLA-DR⁻ and T3⁺ cells produced very low or undetectable levels of IFN. B cells, characterized as sIg B1⁺, and Leu12⁺ produced some IFN, while sIg⁻, B1⁻, and Leu12⁻ cells also produced IFN. Natural killer (NK) cells characterized $M1^+$ as Leull⁺ produced similar titer of IFN as Leull-cells. cells, which also include NK cells, produced a higher titer of IFN than M1⁻ cells (Table 45). These results indicate that IFN producer cells are heterogeneous, but the predominant IFN-producer cells are HLA-DR⁺ and T3⁻ cells, and that B and NK cell fractions also include some IFN-producer cells.

	IFN (U/ml)						
5	Lymphocytic		Uninfected	No inducer			
Donor	fractions	DV-monocytes	monocytes	cells			
A	DR+	388	<6	<6			
	DR-	38	<6	<6			
В	DR+	382	<6	<6			
	DR-	7	<6	<6			
A	 T3+	5	<3	<3			
	T3-	100	<3	<3			
В	<u>T</u> 3+	<6	<6	<6			
	T3-	275	<6	<6			
В	sIg+	14	<3	<3			
	sIg-	200	<3	<3			
С	B1+	25	<6	<6			
	B1-	175	<6	<6			
А	Leul2+	124	<9	<9			
	Leul2-	75	<9	<9			
В	Leu12+	150	<6	<6			
	Leu12-	100	<6	<6			
A	Leu11+	100	<6	<6			
	Leul1-	100	<6	<6			
В	Leull+	100	6	<6			
	Leull-	150	<6	<6			
A	M1+	262	<6	<6			
	111-	37	<6	<6			
В	M1+	200	<6	<6			
	M1-	75	<6	<6			

Table 45: Characterization of PBL which produce IFN in response to DV-monocytes*

*PBL were sorted by FACS after reaction with monoclonal antibodies. 3×10^5 of sorted PBL were cultured with 1×10^4 of inducer cells. Purity of FACS-sorted cells was more than 96%. The titers of IFN produced in the dengue virus-infected monocyte cultures without PBL were subtracted from the titers produced in culture which contained PBL exposed to infected monocytes.

H-5. Inhibition of dengue virus-infection of monocytes by induced IFNA

The effect of the induced IFN on dengue virus-infection of monocytes was examined. PBL were cultured with dengue virusinfected monocytes or with uninfected monocytes for 20 hours, and culture fluids were collected and used in the following Syngeneic monocytes were incubated in the collected experiments. culture fluids for 20 hours and the infected with dengue virus. None (0/200) of the monocytes treated with culture fluids from PBL exposed to dengue-infected monocytes, which contained IFN activity at 800 U/ml, contained dengue viral antigens; however, 67% (136/204) of the monocytes treated with culture fluids of PBL which had been exposed to uninfected monocytes contained dengue antigens and a similar percentage (142/212) of monocytes with dengue antigens were observed without addition of supernatant fluids. A reconstitution experiment was performed in which 400 U/ml of Sendai virus-induced IFN& (Interferon Sciences, Inc., New Brunswick, NJ) was added to monocyte culture 20 hrs prior to dengue virus infection. The percentage of dengue virus-infected cells decreased from 48% to 0.8%. These results indicate that IFN produced by PBL after exposure to dengue-infected monocytes inhibits infection of monocytes by dengue virus.

III. DISCUSSION

The role of T lymphocytes in recovery from dengue virus infections and in the pathogenesis of severe complications has not been elucidated. We demonstrated dengue-specific T lymphocyte proliferative responses with PBMC of dengue-antibody positive We used fixed, sonicated dengue virus-infected Vero cells humans. as antigens, as previously were reported with measles virus (22), because cell-free preparations of live dengue virus did not stimulated PBMC of dengue-immune donors (data not presented). Proliferative responses induced by these antigens are denguespecific, because PBMC of dengue antibody-positive donors respond to dengue antigens but not to control antigen, and PBMC of antibody-negative donors do not respond to dengue or control antigens. Antigens of the four dengue serotypes induced generally similar levels of proliferative responses of PBMC from the Thai adult donors. The dengue infection histories of these adult Thai donors are not known, but they all have high levels of antibodies to the four dengue serotypes, presumably as a result of prior natural infections. The PBMC of an American donor, who had been immunized with yellow fever vaccine and later became infected with dengue 3 virus, responded best to dengue 3 antigen but also responded to dengue 1, 2 and 4 antigens to some degree (data not These results suggest that human T cell responses to presented). primary dengue infections include both type-specific and serotype cross-reactive responses.

The dengue specific proliferating lymphocytes are T cells with CD4 phenotype. These results were obtained using bulk culture stimulated PBMC and dengue-specific T cell lines. It has been reported that CD4+ T cells can be divided into two subsets; helper T cells for antibody production (23) and the inducer of the CD8+ suppressor cells (24). It has also been reported that virusspecific, HLA class II-restricted cytotoxic T cell clones have the CD4 phenotype (25-27). Our results which demonstrate that CD4+ T cells respond to dengue-Vero antigen do not rule out a contribution for CD8+ T cells during dengue virus infections in vivo. It has been reported that the phenotypes and functions of T cells generated in vitro after stimulation with viral antigens may vary, depending on the form of the viral antigens used to stimulate, in the case of human cytomegalovirus (28) and varicella Those reports state that cell-free virus zoster virus (29). preferentially induces the proliferation of CD4+ T cells, and that virus-infected autologous fibroblasts stimulated cytotoxic T lymphocytes (CTL) with a CD8+ phenotype (28,29).

We then reported the establishment of dengue antigen-specific human T cell clones and describe the serotype specificity, IFNY production and cytotoxic activity of these T cell clones. Dengue antigen-specific T cell clones were established from the PBL of a donor who had been infected with dengue 3 virus. All of the clones have a CD3⁺, CD4⁺, CD8⁻ phenotype. Eight out of twelve clones responded to dengue antigens in a serotype cross-reactive fashion. Four of the clones which we called serotype-specific type responded predominantly to dengue 3 antigen. Proliferative responses in bulk cultures of the PBMC of this donor were primarily dengue 3 serotype-specific, but also contained serotype cross-reactive responses to lower levels. Ther fore, the serotype cross-reactive responses observed in bulk culture experiments appear to reflect the cross-reactive responses detected at the clonal level.

Cytotoxic functions of these T cell clones were examined using dengue 2 virus-infected autologous LCL because epidemiological studies in Thailand have shown that secondary infections with dengue 2 virus induced higher rates of DHF/DSS than did secondary infections with the other serotypes of dengue virus (4). All but one serotype cross-reactive clones lysed dengue 2-infected autologous LCL. These clones did not lyse uninfected LCL or K562 cells. The lysis of dengue-infected cells by the clones examined was inhibited by anti-HLA DP and anti-DQ antibodies; therefore, these serotype cross-reactive cytotoxic T It is known that cell clones are HLA class II-restricted. monocytes are the cells which best support dengue virus infection (3), and monocytic cells with dengue antigens have been observed in DHF/DSS patients (30,31). It has been hypothesized that lysis of dengue-infected monocytes may lead to DHF/DSS (5). Therefore, it is important to learn whether these serotype cross-reactive CTL clones can lyse dengue 2 virus-infected autologous monocytes. Two of the serotype cross-reactive clones we have examined to date lysed dengue type 2 virus-infected autologous monocytes, but they did not lyse uninfected monocytes (data not presented).

In this paper we have reported that: (i) Dengue virusspecific, human CD4⁺8⁻ T cell clones are heterogeneous with at least six patterns of virus- and serotype-specificities; (ii) HLArestriction of cytotoxicity by dengue virus-specific CD4⁺ T cell clones is also heterogeneous with HLA DP, DQ and DR each being used as restriction elements by individual CTL clones. (iii) Seven of the twelve examined clones recognize epitopes on the NS3 protein.

We have reported that most of these T cell clones produce IFN $\boldsymbol{\chi}$ after stimulation with dengue Ag, and that IFN χ , which upregulates Fc,R, augments dengue virus infection of Fc_YR-positive monocytic cells in the presence of dengue antibodies. Based on these observations we hypothesize that CD4⁺ T cells may contribute to the pathogenesis of DHF/DSS by producing IFN and by lysing dengue virus-infected monocytes. Epidemiological studies have shown that DHF/DSS are much more commonly observed during a secondary infection with a different serotype from that of the primary infection (5,32). Although the specificities of the clones may not accurately reflect the specificities of the in vivo, uncloned, dengue virus-specific CTL, the identification of serotypecrossreactive and flavivirus-crossreactive CD4⁺ T cells supports the possibility that such T cells are activated during secondary infection with a dengue virus of a heterologous serotype and that these T cells may contribute to the pathogenesis of DHF/DSS.

Seven of 13 clones were found to recognize the NS3 protein. This result is consistent with our previous observation that purified NS3 induced a high level of proliferation of PBMC from donor A in bulk cultures. The clones which recognize NS3 are containing truncated dengue virus NS3 genome and with synthetic peptides. It is clear that NS3 is not the only protein which contains CD4⁺ T cell epitopes, since some of the CTL clones do not recognize either NS3 or NS1. Therefore, identification of other protein(s) which contain epitopes recognized by these T cell clones also remains to be done.

We have observed that the viral proteins recognized by dengue virus-specific murine CTL vary with the mouse strains. Therefore, it is likely that dengue virus-specific T cells from other donors who possess different HLA alleles from those of donor A will recognize different epitopes of dengue virus proteins. To gain a complete understanding of the T cell response to dengue viruses in humans, it will be necessary to define the epitopes recognized by dengue virus-specific T cells from individuals with different MHC antigens as well as from individuals infected with various dengue viruses.

In the second half of our studies on T lymphocytes, we describe serotype cross-reactive CD8⁺ CD4⁻ class I-restricted dengue-specific CTL obtained after stimulation with live virus of PBMC from a dengue-immune individual. The evidence that lysis was mediated by class I-restricted CD8⁺ CTL is the following: 1) antibody and C' treatment of the effectors using anti-CD8 or anti-CD3 but not anti-CD16 or anti-CD4 depleted the killing; 2) antibody to class I but not class II antigens decreased the level of lysis; 3) virus-infected fibroblasts, which do not express MHC class II antigens (33), were specifically lysed. In other viral systems (34,35), the use of live virus or virus-infected fibroblasts has also been necessary to induce class I-restricted CD8⁺ CTL. This may be due to the requirement for intracellular antigen synthesis sometimes required for optimal presentation of antigen in the context of class I molecules (36,37). Stimulation of PBMC with soluble dengue antigens generated CD4⁺ class IIrestricted CTL. We failed to induce CD8⁺ CTL with soluble dengue antigens despite inducing good levels of proliferation.

A rather large amount of dengue virus was necessary for optimal CTL induction (10^7-10^8 pfu) . During secondary dengue infections, the increased amount of virus present due to antibodymediated enhancement of infection in Fc-receptor positive cells and the presence of memory CTL may result in a more vigorous CTL response than is usually present during primary infections. This CTL response may contribute to both the enhanced destruction of virus-infected cells and to immunopathology.

In order to postulate that CTL play a role in viral clearance and DHF/DSS during secondary dengue infections, they must be serotype cross-reactive with regard to specificity for induction and lysis. Stimulation by dengue 2 virus of PBMC from a dengue 4immune individual induced proliferation and CTL capable of lysing dengue 2-infected targets. Stimulation of these PBMC with dengue 4 virus resulted in CTL capable of lysing target cells expressing all 4 serotypes of dengue virus, thus demonstrating the crossreactive nature of these CTL.

We also described the establishment of dengue virus-specific, serotype cross-reactive, human CD8+ CD4- CTL lines and clones. We utilized these CTL to characterize serotype cross-reactive cytotoxicity, allele specificity, and the epitopes recognized during class I restricted human T cell response to dengue virus infection. All human CTL lines and clones were established from the PBMC of a dengue 4 virus-immune donor obtained two years post-Live dengue 4 virus at high titers in the presence of infection. autologous PBMC was necessary for establishment and maintenance of class I restricted CTL. Several clones and lines were maintained for greater than 1 year in continuous culture using this method. However, the majority of clones grew slowly and were relatively short-lived (<2 months in continuous culture) leaving only a limited number of lines/clones available for advanced

characterization. Class I restricted activity was initially screened for using ⁵¹Cr-release cytotoxicity assays with autologous, dengue 2 virus infected fibroblasts as targets. Fibroblasts lack constitutive HLA class II expression in the absence of IFN, and no class II expression was detected by FA analysis using FITC-conjugated anti-class II antibody. The class I restricted nature of 2 lines and 2 clones was further demonstrated by inhibition of lysis of autologous D2V-infected target cells by an anti-class I specific antibody (W6/32), but not by anti-class II specific antibodies directed against DR, DQ, or DP antigens.

Our results indicate that NS3 provides immunodominant epitope(s) for the dengue-virus specific, serotype cross-reactive, class I restricted CTL response in this donor and that multiple epitopes are contained in amino acids 493-618 of NS3. Dengue virus immune responses in more donors need to be characterized to determine the relative contribution of NS3 in generating CTL response to dengue virus infection. The importance of NS3 is supported by other recent work from our laboratory. CTl clones recognizing NS3 epitopes also dominate the dengue virus specific, serotype cross-reactive, class II restricted T cell memory of a dengue 3 virus-immune donor. It is not known why NS3 appears to provide dominant epitopes for memory CTL response to dengue virus infection. Our results suggest that NS3 may contain dominant T cell epitopes for both CD8⁺ and CD4⁺ T cell responses. Therefore, NS3 or peptides of NS3 may provide plausible candidates for design of effective dengue virus subunit vaccines.

We found evidence of marked T cell activation in patients with DHF. T cell activation in patients with DF was similar to that seen in other acute febrile diseases, and was not as profound as in patients with DHF.

Among patients with DHF, levels of sIL-2R, sCD4, sCD8, IL-2 and IFN; were higher than those in the sera of healthy Thai children. it is known from in vitro studies that activated T lymphocytes produce IL-2 (38-40) and IFNY (38,40), and release sIL-2R (41). Activated CD8⁺ T lymphocyte release sCD8 (42,43), while activated CD4⁺ T lymphocytes release sCD4. The high levels of sIL-2R, sCD4, sCD8, IL-2 and IFN γ suggest that CD4⁺ CD8⁻ and CD4⁻ CD8⁺ T cells observed in vitro are activated in vivo in the acute phase of DHF. Mean levels of sIL-2R, sCD4, sCD8, IL-2 and IFN, were similarly high among WHO grades 1, 2 and 3 of DHF, and differences in the severity of DHF were not reflected in the apparent degree of T cell activation. However, the absence of difference in the levels of serum factors among WHO grades 1, 2 and 3 of DHF may be partially due to small sample numbers. T cell activation may be different between patients with primary and secondary dengue virus infections manifesting DHF. However, in this study there were only 7 patients with primary DHF, and differences were not detected. Dengue virus serotype might also

influence the degree of T cell activation. However, dengue virus were isolated from only 9 out of 59 patients with DHF; dengue-1 virus from 2 patients, dengue-2 virus from 3 patients and dengue-3 virus from 4 patients. These numbers were too small to determine whether there is any difference in T cell activation among the dengue virus serotypes.

Among patients with DF, the acute sera contained higher levels of sIL-2R, sCD4, IL-2 and IFN γ than the sera of healthy children. SCD8 levels were not elevated in most cases; however, high levels of sCD8 were detected in the small number of hospitalized patients with DF on days 5-8 after onset of fever when sera were available (data not presented). Sera of patients with DHF contained higher levels of sIL-2R, sCD4 and sCD8 than the sera of patients with DF. These results indicate that the levels of activation of CD4⁺ and CD8⁺ T lymphocytes are higher in DHF than in DF, and suggest that high levels of T cell activation may be associated with the pathogenesis of DHF. However, the possibility that the higher levels of soluble factors in DHF reflect a high level of inflammatory responsiveness rather than actually causing hemorrhage and plasma leakage cannot be ruled out.

Elevated levels of sIL-2R have been reported in measles (44), HTLV-1 (45) and HIV infections (44-48). Elevated levels of sCD8 have been reported in measles (44) and Epstein-Barr virus infections (43). Elevated levels of IFNY have been reported in measles (49). We also observed elevated levels of sIL-2R, IL-2 and IFNY in the sera of Thai children with uncharacterized febrile diseases other than DF, DHF and Japanese encephalitis (data not presented). These results suggest that T lymphocytes are activated during systemic virus infections, and that elevation of serum levels of sIL-2R, sCD4, sCD8, IL-2 and IFNY is not unique to dengue virus infections.

The role of lymphokines in the pathogenesis of DHF is an interesting subject to be studied. IL-2 induces plasma leakage in humans when administered at doses greater than 10^5 U/kg (50,51). Although the mechanism of the IL-2 induced plasma leakage is not clearly understood, IL-2 is known to induce lymphokine-activated killer (LAK) cells (52) and thromboxane A_2 (53), and activate endothelial cells (54), any of which may conceivably alter endothelial permeability to cause plasma leakage. Activation of the complement system, which is observed in DHF (5), has been observed in patients administered high doses of IL-2 , and the levels of plasma C3a correlated with signs of vascular leak syndrome (55). These observations suggest that the high levels of IL-2 detected in the sera of patients with DHF may be one factor which contribute to plasma leakage and shock in DSS. However, we detected similar levels of IL-2 in the sera of patients with DF, therefore, it is unlikely that IL-2 alone induces DHF.

We have hypothesized that IFNy produced by dengue specific T cells may contribute to the pathogenesis of DHF (56). It is known that IFN increases the number of Fc RI on monocytic cells We have reported that IFNy augments dengue virus (18, 29). infection of human monocytic cells in the presence of antibody to dengue viruses. IFN γ also upregulates expression of HLA class I and class II antigens (57). These effects of IFNy may increase the number of dengue virus-infected monocytes and facilitate recognition of dengue virus antigen by dengue virus-specific T The lysis of dengue virus-infected monocytes by these CTL cells. may release vasoactive mediators which contribute to DHF. The elevated levels of IFN γ in the sera of most of the dengue patients suggest that these mechanisms may occur in vivo. However, we detected similar levels of IFN; in DHF and DF; therefore, IFN; alone is probably not responsible for the pathogenesis of DHF. It is possible that cytokines released from monocytes may contribute to the pathogenesis of DHF. We did not detect TNFA in the sera of 18 patients with DHF between days 1-11 (data not presented). However, it is interesting to examine serum levels of other monokines in patients with DHF or DF.

We observed significant correlations between the severity of illness (DHF versus DF) and elevated levels of sIL-2R, sCD4 and sCD8, but not with elevated levels of lymphokines. Plasma leakage during dengue virus infections may not be the result of any single lymphokine. Marked activation of T cells does however appear to Therefore, future examination of the be a feature of such cases. interaction of immune effector cells and infected target cells will be important to elucidate the pathogenesis of plasma leakage. Despite our failure to detect a correlation between serum levels of lymprokines and plasma leakage, we want to emphasize that the patient - we investigated were admitted to the hospital when symptoms were already severe or rapidly worsening. It is possible that many of the host immune responses had been already activated and some of the secreted lymphokines had been eliminated or degradfd before sera were obtained. It would be desirable to serial y evaluate a cohort of patients beginning earlier in the course of dengue virus infection to determine whether elevated serum levels of specific lymphokines predict the appearance of plasma leakage.

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80