Cover Picture

Gaëlle-Anne Cremer, Nicole Bureaud, Véronique Piller, Horst Kunz, Friedrich Piller, and Agnès F. Delmas*

The cover picture shows human MCF7 mammary adenocarcinoma cells, a cell line which has been used extensively to characterize tumor-associated MUC1 glycoprotein. Cells were analysed by fluorescence-activated cell sorting after being labelled with antibodies induced in mice by a synthetic glycopeptide construct (structure shown) in association with a mild adjuvant suitable for human therapy. This construct, composed of a universal T-helper and three diversely glycosylated tumor-related epitopes, was assembled using a convergent strategy based on two successive oxime ligations. It is the most immunogenic synthetic construct reported to date and is able to elicit antibodies that recognize tumor-related MUC1 on MCF7 cells. (Thanks to T. Cantalupo for the image.) For more details, see the Communication by A. F. Delmas et al. on p. 965 ff.