

DHMEQ, a novel nuclear factor- κ B inhibitor, induces selective depletion of alloreactive or PHA-stimulated peripheral blood mononuclear cells, decreases production of Th1 cytokines, and blocks maturation of dendritic cells.

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7 DHMEQ, a novel nuclear factor- κ B inhibitor, induces selective depletion of
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10 alloreactive or PHA-stimulated peripheral blood mononuclear cells,
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13 decreases production of Th1 cytokines, and blocks maturation of dendritic
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44 *Category:* Original Article
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47 **Key Words:** DHMEQ, Th1 cytokine, NF- κ B, dendritic cell, CD40
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50 **Running title:** DHMEQ against inflammatory diseases
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14 The abbreviations are: DHMEQ, Dehydroxymethylepoxyquinomicin; PBMCs,
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17 peripheral blood mononuclear cells; MTT, 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyl
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20 tetrazolium bromide assay; GVHD, graft-versus-host disease; DCs, dendritic cells;
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23 APCs, antigen-presenting cells; IFN- γ , interferon gamma; TNF- α , tumor necrosis factor
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26 alpha; IL-2, interleukin 2; PHA, phytohemagglutinin.
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7 **Summary**
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10 Dehydroxymethylepoxyquinomicin (DHMEQ), a novel nuclear factor κ B (NF- κ B)
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12 inhibitor, has been shown to be active against variety types of solid tumors as well as
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14 hematological malignant cells. This study explored the anti-inflammatory effects of
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16 DHMEQ in vitro. DHMEQ inhibited the proliferation of PHA-stimulated or alloreactive
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18 peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) in mixed lymphocyte cultures as
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20 measured by 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyl tetrazolium bromide assay. On
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22 the other hand, DHMEQ did not affect viability of resting PBMCs. In addition,
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24 real-time PCR showed that DHMEQ decreased PHA-stimulated expression of Th-1
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26 cytokines including IL-2, IFN- γ , and TNF- α in PBMCs as well as Jurkat
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28 T-lymphoblastic leukemia cells in association with decreased levels of p65 isoforms of
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30 NF- κ B in nucleus. Furthermore, we found that DHMEQ inhibited endocytic capacity of
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32 dendritic cells in conjunction with down-regulation of expression of cell surface antigen
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34 CD40, suggesting that DHMEQ blocked maturation as well as function of dendritic
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36 cells. Taken together, DHMEQ may be useful for treatment of inflammatory diseases
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38 including graft-versus-host disease after allogenic hematopoietic stem cell
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40 transplantation.
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7 **Introduction**

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10 GVHD is the major complication after allogeneic stem cell transplantation (HST) and
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12 is a manifestation of the alloreactive response to host histocompatibility differences
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14 mediated by mature donor T cells [1-3]. GVHD is induced by a three-step process
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16 where the innate and adaptive immune systems interact. (i) The conditioning regimen
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18 with irradiation and/or chemotherapy lead to damage of host tissues throughout the
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20 body and activate the secretion of inflammatory cytokines such as tumor necrosis
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22 factor-alpha (TNF- α) and interleukin 1 (IL-1) [4]. These cytokines enhance donor T-cell
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24 recognition of host alloantigens by increasing expression of major histocompatibility
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26 complex (MHC) antigens and other molecules on host antigen-presenting cells (APCs),
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28 such as dendritic cells (DCs). (ii) Host APCs present alloantigen in the form of a peptide
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30 human leukocyte antigen (HLA) complex to the resting T cells. The interaction of APCs
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32 and donor T cells triggers costimulatory signals, which further activates these immune
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34 cells to produce cytokines, including IL-2 and IFN- γ , which primes mononuclear
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36 phagocytes to produce TNF- α and IL-1 [5]. (iii) Effector functions of mononuclear
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38 phagocytes and neutrophils are triggered through a secondary signal provided by
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40 mediators, such as lipopolysaccharide (LPS), that leaks through the damaged intestinal
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42 mucosa caused by irradiation and/or chemotherapy. Released inflammatory chemokines
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7 thus recruits effector cells into target organs, resulting in tissue destruction and, in some
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9 cases, death. Thus, inappropriate production of cytokines is intimately involved in
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11 pathogenesis of acute GVHD [6,7].
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16 NF- κ B is a generic term for a dimeric transcription factor formed by the hetero- or
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18 homodimerization of a number of the rel family members [8]. To date, five rel proteins
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20 have been identified: RelA (p65), RelB and cRel, each having transactivation domains,
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22 and p50 and p52, which are expressed as the precursor proteins p105 (NF- κ B1) and
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24 p100 (NF- κ B2), respectively. These precursors require post-translational processing and
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26 do not contain transactivation domains. The most abundant and active forms of NF- κ B
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28 are dimeric complexes of p50/RelA (p50/p65). NF- κ B is considered to play a pivotal
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30 role in immune and inflammatory responses through the regulation of genes encoding
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32 proinflammatory cytokines. These proinflammatory cytokines are supposed to be
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34 critical mediators of graft-versus-host disease (GVHD) [6-7, 9-11]. Therefore, a
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36 rationale target for either prevention or treatment of GVHD may be NF- κ B.
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50 Dehydroxymethylepoxyquinomicin (DHMEQ), a **specific inhibitor of** nuclear factor
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52 κ B (NF- κ B) **nuclear translocation**, has been shown to be active against variety types of
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54 solid tumors as well as hematological malignant cells [12-16].
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59 We have previously shown that DHMEQ blocked TNF- α -induced nuclear
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6 translocation of NF- κ B in Jurkat T-lymphoblastic leukemia cells [17]. These
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9 observations raised the possibility that DHMEQ might inhibit exaggerated cytokine
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12 production in inflammatory disease such as GVHD.
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7 **Materials and Methods.**
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10 **Reagents.** DHMEQ was synthesized in our laboratory [18]. It was dissolved in DMSO
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12 to prepare a 10 µg/ml solution and subsequently diluted in culture medium to a final
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15 DMSO concentration of <0.1%.
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19 **Cells.** The acute lymphoblastic T-cell leukemia Jurkat cells were cultured in standard
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21 RPMI 1640 medium (Sigma, St. Louis, Missouri) supplemented with 10% FBS.
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25 Peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) were isolated from healthy volunteers
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28 after obtaining informed consent.
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31 **MTT assays.** PBMCs (4×10^6 /ml) from healthy volunteers were cultured in the
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33 following conditions with or without various concentrations of DHMEQ (0.5-3 µg/ml)
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35 for 3 days in 96-well plates (Flow Laboratories, Irvine, CA). (i) Culture medium alone
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38 (control); (ii) culture medium plus phytohemagglutinin (PHA, 5 µg/ml); (iii) culture
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41 medium plus irradiated (3 Gy) allogenic PBMCs (4×10^6 /ml). After culture, cell number
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44 and viability were evaluated by measuring the mitochondrial-dependent conversion of
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47 the 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyl tetrazolium salt (MTT) (Sigma), to a
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50 colored formazan product. All experiments were done in triplicate and repeated at least
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56 three times.
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59 **Assessment of apoptosis.** PBMCs were plated at a density of 2×10^6 /ml and incubated
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6 with PHA (5 µg/ml) or various concentrations of DHMEQ (0.5-3 µg/ml) either alone or
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8 in combination in 12-well plates (Flow Laboratories, Irvine, CA). The ability of
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10 DHMEQ to induce apoptosis of PHA-stimulated PBMCs was measured by annexin
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12 V-FITC apoptosis detection kit according to the manufacturer's instruction (Pharmingen,
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19 Inc., San Diego, CA).
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22 **Generation of monocyte-derived dendritic cells.** DCs were generated by
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24 differentiation of PBMCs in the presence of 50 ng/ml GM-CSF (Sigma, Saint Louis,
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26 MO, USA) and 10 ng/ml IL-4 (Sigma). The medium was replenished with cytokines
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28 every other day. Maturation of differentiated DC was accomplished by treating with
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30 TNF-α (10 ng/ml, 48 hrs)(Sigma) for another two days. On day 5 of culture, 0.5 µg/ml
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32 DHMEQ was added to examine whether DHMEQ blocked maturation of DCs. Cells
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34 were harvested for further experiments at day 7 of culture.
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44 **Flow cytometry analysis.** To measure whether DHMEQ blocks maturation of DCs,
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46 levels of CD40 antigen on cell surface of DCs were measured by using flow cytometry
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48 (FACSCalibur, Becton Dickinson, San Jose, CA). **The phycoerythrin (PE)-cojugated**
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50 **anti-human CD40 monoclonal antibody (mAb) and PE Mouse IgG1 K Isotype Control**
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52 was purchased from eBioscience (San Diego, CA, USA). Live cells (1×10^4) were gated
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6 **Analysis of endocytic capacity.** For the analysis of endocytic activity, 1×10^5 cells were
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8 incubated with the fluorescein (FITC)-dextran (40,000 MW, molecular probes;
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10 Invitrogen, Karlsruhe, Germany) for 1 h at 37°C. **The isotype control used FITC Mouse**
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12 **IgG1 (eBioscience, San Diego, CA, USA).** The cells were washed 4 times and
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16 immediately analyzed on a FACSCalibur cytometer.
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20 **RNA isolation and reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR).**

21 RNA isolation and cDNA preparation were performed as described previously [19].

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Real-time PCR was carried out by using Power SYBR Green PCR Master Mix (Applied Biosystems, Warrington, UK) as described previously [19]. Primers for PCR are shown in Table 1. PCR conditions for all genes were as follows: a 95°C initial activation for 10 minutes followed by 45 cycles of 95°C for 15 seconds and 60°C for 30 seconds, and fluorescence determination at the melting temperature of the product for 20 seconds on an ABI PRISM 7000 (Applied Biosystems).

Western blot analysis. Western blot analysis was performed as described previously [19]. **Cells were suspended in ice-cold extraction buffer containing 20 mmol/L HEPES (pH 7.9), 20% glycerol, 10 mmol/L NaCl, 0.2 mol/L EDTA (pH 8.0), 1.5 mmol/L MgCl₂, 0.1% Triton X-100, 1 mmol/L DTT, 100 µg/mL phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride, 2 µg/mL aprotinin, 1 µg/mL pepstatin, and 10 µg/mL leupeptin. After 10 minutes of**

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6 incubation on ice, nuclei were collected by a short spin in a microcentrifuge. The
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8 supernatant was saved as a cytoplasmic fraction, and the nuclei were resuspended in
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10 ice-cold extraction buffer containing 300 mmol/L NaCl. After 30 minutes of incubation,
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12 the supernatant was collected by centrifugation at 13,500 rpm for 10 minutes at 4°C.
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18 Protein concentrations were quantitated using a Bio-Rad assay (Bio-Rad Laboratories,
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20 Hercules, CA). Proteins were resolved on a 10% SDS polyacrylamide gel, transferred to
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22 an immobilon polyvinylidene difluoride membrane (Amersham Corp., Arlington
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24 Heights, IL), and probed sequentially with antibodies. Anti-I κ B α (Imgenex, San Diego,
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26 CA), anti-phospho- I κ B α (Cell Signaling Technology, Beverly, MA), anti p65 subunit
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28 of NF- κ B (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Santa Cruz, CA), anti HistoneH1 (Santa Cruz
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30 Biotechnology) and anti α -tubulin (Santa Cruz Biotechnology) antibodies were used.
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40 **Statistical analysis.** Statistical analyses were carried out by paired *t*-test using the SPSS
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42 software (SPSS Japan, Tokyo, Japan). To assess the difference between two groups
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44 under multiple conditions, one-way ANOVA followed by Boneferroni's multiple
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46 comparison tests was performed by using PRISM statistical analysis software
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48 (GraphPad Software, Inc., San Diego, CA). The results were considered to be significant
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50 when the P-value was < 0.05, and when the P-value was < 0.01, highly significant.
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7 **Results.**

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10 **DHMEQ inhibits proliferation of PHA-stimulated or alloreactive PBMCs.** To
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12 examine whether DHMEQ affects proliferation or survival of PBMCs, MTT assays
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14 were performed on resting, PHA-stimulated, or alloreactive PBMCs (Figs 1A,B).
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16 Exposure of PBMCs to PHA (5 µg/ml, 3 days) increased their proliferation by
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19 approximately 2.7-fold (Fig 1A). DHMEQ (0.5-3 µg/ml, 3 days) inhibited
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22 PHA-stimulated proliferation of PBMCs in a dose-dependent manner (Fig 1A).
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25 Similarly, DHMEQ (0.5-3 µg/ml, 3 days) significantly decreased alloreactive
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28 proliferation of PBMCs in a dose-dependent manner, although, inhibition was less
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31 potent compared to that induced in PHA-stimulated PBMCs (Fig 1B). Of note,
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34 DHMEQ did not affect the viability of resting PBMCs under the identical culture
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37 condition (Figs 1 A,B).
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42 **DHMEQ induces apoptosis of PHA-stimulated PBMCs.** To investigate the
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45 mechanism by which DHMEQ inhibits the proliferation of activated PBMCs, we
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48 utilized annexin V staining. **Approximately 9 % of cells became annexin V positive after**
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51 **incubation with DHMEQ (3 µg/ml, 24 hrs) (Fig 2). When cells were exposed to PHA (5**
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54 **µg/ml, 24 hrs) in combination with DHMEQ (3 µg/ml, 24 hrs), annexin V positive**
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57 **population increased by 30 % (Fig 2), suggesting that DHMEQ induced apoptosis of**
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7 PHA-stimulated PBMCs.
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9 **Effect of DHMEQ on PHA-stimulated expression of cytokine genes.** Increased

10 levels of cytokines, including IFN- γ , IL-2 and TNF- α , are associated with pathogenesis
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12 of acute GVHD [6-7, 9-11]. In order to analyze the effect of DHMEQ on
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16 PHA-stimulated cytokine production, PBMCs (4×10^6 /ml) from healthy donors were
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18 cultured with or without DHMEQ (1 μ g/ml) for 3 hrs and then exposed to PHA (5 μ g/ml,
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20 3 hrs) or not. Exposure of PBMCs to PHA profoundly stimulated expression of IFN- γ ,
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22 IL-2 and TNF- α (Fig 3A). Pre-incubation of these cells with DHMEQ (1 μ g/ml, 3 hrs)
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24 prominently blocked PHA-stimulated expression of these cytokine genes (Fig 3A).
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33 **Exposure of only DHMEQ did not change expression levels of IFN- γ , IL-2 and TNF- α**
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35 **compared with control (Fig 3A).** Similarly, PHA increased expression of IL-2 and IFN- γ
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37 in Jurkat cells and pre-incubation of these cells with DHMEQ (1 μ g/ml) decreased these
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39 levels by approximately half (Fig 3B).
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46 **Effect of DHMEQ on PHA-stimulated NF- κ B activity in Jurkat cells.** Expression of

47 cytokine genes is regulated by NF- κ B. Activation of NF- κ B involves two important
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49 steps: (i) phosphorylation and subsequent degradation of I κ B α caused by I κ B α kinase
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51 resulting in release of NF- κ B, and (ii) the nuclear translocation of the activated NF- κ B.
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58 To elucidate the effect of DHMEQ on these steps, we measured the levels of NF- κ B
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7 proteins in nucleus and the levels of I κ B α proteins in cytoplasm in Jurkat cells after
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10 exposure to PHA alone or in combination with DHMEQ. Jurkat cells (5×10^6 /ml) were
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13 cultured with either DHMEQ (1 μ g/ml) or control diluent. After 3 hrs, cells were
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16 washed twice with PBS and exposed to PHA (5 μ g/ml) for 3 or 24 hrs. Exposure of
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19 Jurkat cells to PHA increased levels of NF- κ B in nucleus. When PHA was combined
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22 with DHMEQ PHA-stimulated up-regulation of NF- κ B was blocked. Concurrently,
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25 DHMEQ inhibited PHA-stimulated phosphorylation of I κ B α and down-regulation of
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28 I κ B α in cytoplasm (Fig 4), suggesting that DHMEQ blocked PHA-induced nuclear
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31 translocation of NF- κ B in Jurkat cells via inhibition of degradation of I κ B α . These
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34 observations are reminiscent of our previous studies showing that DHMEQ blocked
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37 TNF- α -induced nuclear translocation of NF- κ B in Jurkat cells [17].

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40 **Effect of DHMEQ on maturation of DCs.** NF- κ B regulates the differentiation and
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43 activation of DCs [20,21], which plays a pivotal role in initiation of GVHD. We
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46 therefore explored whether DHMEQ affected maturation of DCs. For this purpose, we
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49 measured levels of CD40 antigen on cell surface of DCs. Increased expression of CD40
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52 associates with maturation of DCs [20,21]. As we expected, DHMEQ decreased levels
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55 of TNF- α -stimulated expression of CD40 in monocyte-derived DCs (Fig 5A).
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59 **Effect of DHMEQ on endocytic capacity of DCs.** Furthermore, we explored whether
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6 DHMEQ affected function of DCs. we monitored DC capacity to internalize
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9 FITC-labeled dextran as an assay of DC endocytic capacity (Fig 5B). To this end, we
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12 decided to use immature DCs because these normally show pronounced internalization
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15 capacity as compared with mature DCs [20,21]. Exposure of DCs to DHMEQ (0.5 or 1
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18 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) reduced their endocytic ability (Fig 5B), suggesting that DHMEQ may affect DC
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21 function by impeding antigen uptake for further processing and presentation.
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6 **Discussion.**
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10 This study found that DHMEQ, a novel NF- κ B inhibitor, inhibited proliferation of
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12 both PHA-stimulated and alloreactive PBMCs (Fig 1). In addition, DHMEQ inhibited
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14 expression of Th1 cytokines in these cells (Fig 3). Furthermore, DHMEQ blocked
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16 maturation and endocytic capacity of DCs (Figs 5A,B). Mature dendritic cells express
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18 high levels of CD40 and act as APCs [20,21]. Antigen recognition by T cells induces the
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20 expression of CD40 ligand (CD40L). CD40L engages CD40 on APCs and stimulates
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22 the secretion of cytokines which further activate T cells [22,23]. The interaction of
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24 CD40L on T cells with CD40 on DCs thus initiates uncontrolled immunoreaction
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26 involved in GVHD. Hence, blockade of maturation of DCs by DHMEQ is probably
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28 useful to prevent and/or treat GVHD.
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41 Previously, we showed that DHMEQ down-regulated LPS-stimulated expression of
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43 inflammatory cytokines including IL-6, IL-12, IL-1 β , and TNF- α in association with
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45 blockade of nuclear translocation of NF- κ B in murine macrophage RAW264.7 cells
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47 [24]. The study also showed that DHMEQ blunted the function of RAW264.7 cells;
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53 DHMEQ inhibited phagocytosis of Escherichia coli in these cells [24]. In addition, we
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56 have demonstrated that DHMEQ decreased severity of collagen-induced arthritis in
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59 murine model [25]. More recently, we have shown that DHMEQ prevented allograft
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6 rejection and prolonged allograft survival in association with inhibition of mixed
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8 lymphocyte reaction and decreased in production of IFN- γ in murine cardiac
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10 transplantation model [26]. These observations augment the evidence that DHMEQ
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12 possesses anti-inflammatory activity.
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19 Recent in vitro studies performed by other investigators demonstrated that
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21 bortezomib (PS-341; Velcade, Millenium Pharmaceuticals, Cambridge, MA), the
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23 proteasome inhibitor, possessed anti-inflammatory activity; bortezomib inhibited the
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25 proliferation of alloreactive T lymphocytes and decreased the production of Th1
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27 cytokines [27]. The other group found that bortezomib inhibited the cytokine production
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29 and endocytic capacity of DCs [28]. Moreover, bortezomib protected murine from lethal
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31 GVHD in association with reduced serum levels of pro-inflammatory cytokines [29,30].
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33 Of note, bortezomib did not compromise donor engraftment [29,30]. Bortezomib is a
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35 well known NF- κ B inhibitor and induce apoptosis of variety types of cancers in which
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37 NF- κ B is activated [31]. More selective NF- κ B inhibitor PS1145, an inhibitor of IKK,
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39 also succeeded to manage GVHD in murine model [29]. Together with our observations,
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41 NF- κ B may be a critical mediator of GVHD and this nuclear transcription factor can be
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43 a promising molecular target to prevent or treat GVHD.
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59 Taken together, DHMEQ, a novel NF- κ B inhibitor may be useful for prevention or
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treatment of GVHD. Further studies are warranted to clarify the mode of action of this agent in inflammatory diseases.

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7 **Figure legends.**
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10 **Fig.1 DHMEQ induces proliferation of alloreactive (A) or PHA-stimulated in**
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12 **PBMCs. MTT assay. (A)**, PBMCs from healthy volunteers (n=4) were cultured with
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14 PHA (5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) or various concentrations of DHMEQ (0.5-3 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) either alone or in
15

16 combination. Their viability was assed by MTT assay on day 3 of culture. **(B)**, PBMCs
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18 were obtained from healthy volunteers (n=5) and were cultured with irradiated (3 Gy)
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20 allogeneic PBMCs. These cells were exposed to various concentrations of DHMEQ
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22 (0.5-3 $\mu\text{g/ml}$). Their viability was assed by MTT assay on day 3 of culture. Results
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24 represent the mean \pm SD of 4 **(A)** or 5 **(B)** experiments performed in triplicate plates.
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26 The statistical significance was assessed by paired *t*-test.
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29 **Fig 2. DHMEQ induces apoptosis of PHA-stimulated PBMCs. Annexin V staining.**
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31 PBMCs from healthy volunteers were cultured with PHA (5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) or various
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33 concentrations of DHMEQ (0.5-3 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) either alone or in combination. After 24hrs,
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35 cells were stained with annexin-V/ propidium iodide, and analyzed by flow cytometry.
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37 The result represents one of the three experiments performed independently.
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40 **Fig 3. Effect of DHMEQ on PHA-stimulated expression of inflammatory cytokine**
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42 **genes in PBMCs.** PBMCs form healthy volunteers **(A)** (n=3)or Jurkat cells **(B)** were
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44 pre-treated with either DHMEQ (1 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) or control diluent for 3 hrs and then exposed
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6 to PHA (5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) or without for 3 hrs. Cells were harvested and RNA was extracted.

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9 cDNAs were synthesized and subjected to real-time PCR using SYBRGreen nucleic

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11
12 acid gel staining solution to measure the levels of IFN- γ , IL-2 and TNF- α in these cells.

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15 Results represent the mean \pm SD of three experiments with triplicate dishes per

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18 experimental point. The statistical significance was determined by one-way ANOVA

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21 followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparison tests.

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24 **Fig 4. Effect of DHMEQ on NF- κ B. Western blot analysis.** Jurkat cells were

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27 pretreated with either DHMEQ (1 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) or control diluent for 3 hrs and then exposed

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30 to PHA (5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) for the indicated time periods. The cytoplasmic and nuclear extracts

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33 of these cells were prepared and subjected to Western blot analysis to measure the level

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36 of I κ B α , p-I κ B α and p65 of NF- κ B, respectively. α -tubulin or HistoneH1 expression

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39 was used as a loading control.

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42 **Fig 5. (A), Cell surface expression of CD40 on monocyte-derived DCs.**

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45 Monocyte-derived DCs were generated from PBMCs from healthy volunteers (n=2) by

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48 culture in the presence of GM-CSF (50 ng/ml) and IL -4 (10 ng/ml) for 5 days. These

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51 cells were then exposed to TNF- α (10 ng/ml) either alone or in combination with

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54 DHMEQ (0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$). After 2 days, DCs were harvested, stained with anti-CD40

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57 antibody and analyzed by flow cytometry. The figure represents one of the three

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6 experiments performed independently. **(B), Exposure of DCs to DHMEQ blunts**
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9 **endocytic capacity.** Monocyte-derived DCs were generated from PBMCs by culture in
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12 the presence of GM-CSF and IL-4 for 5 days. These cells were then exposed to
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15 DHMEQ (0.5 or 1 µg/ml). After 2 days, cells were cultured with FITC-dextran for 1h at
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18 37°C, washed 4 times, and analyzed by flow cytometry. The figure represents one of the
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21 three experiments performed independently.
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Table 1. PCR primers.

Protein	Direction	Primer
IL-2	Forward	5'-TGCAACTCCTGTCTTGCATT-3'
	Reverse	5'-TCCAGCAGTAAATGCTCCAG-3'
IFN- γ	Forward	5'-TCATCCAAGTGATGGCTGAA-3'
	Reverse	5'-CTTCGACCTCGAAACAGCAT-3'
TNF- α	Forward	5'-CCTCCTCTCTGCCATCAAGA-3'
	Reverse	5'-GGAAGACCCCTCCCAGATAG-3'
18S	Forward	5'-AAACGGCTACCACATCCAAG-3'
	Reverse	5'-CCTCCAATGGATCCTCGTTA-3'

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Fig.1

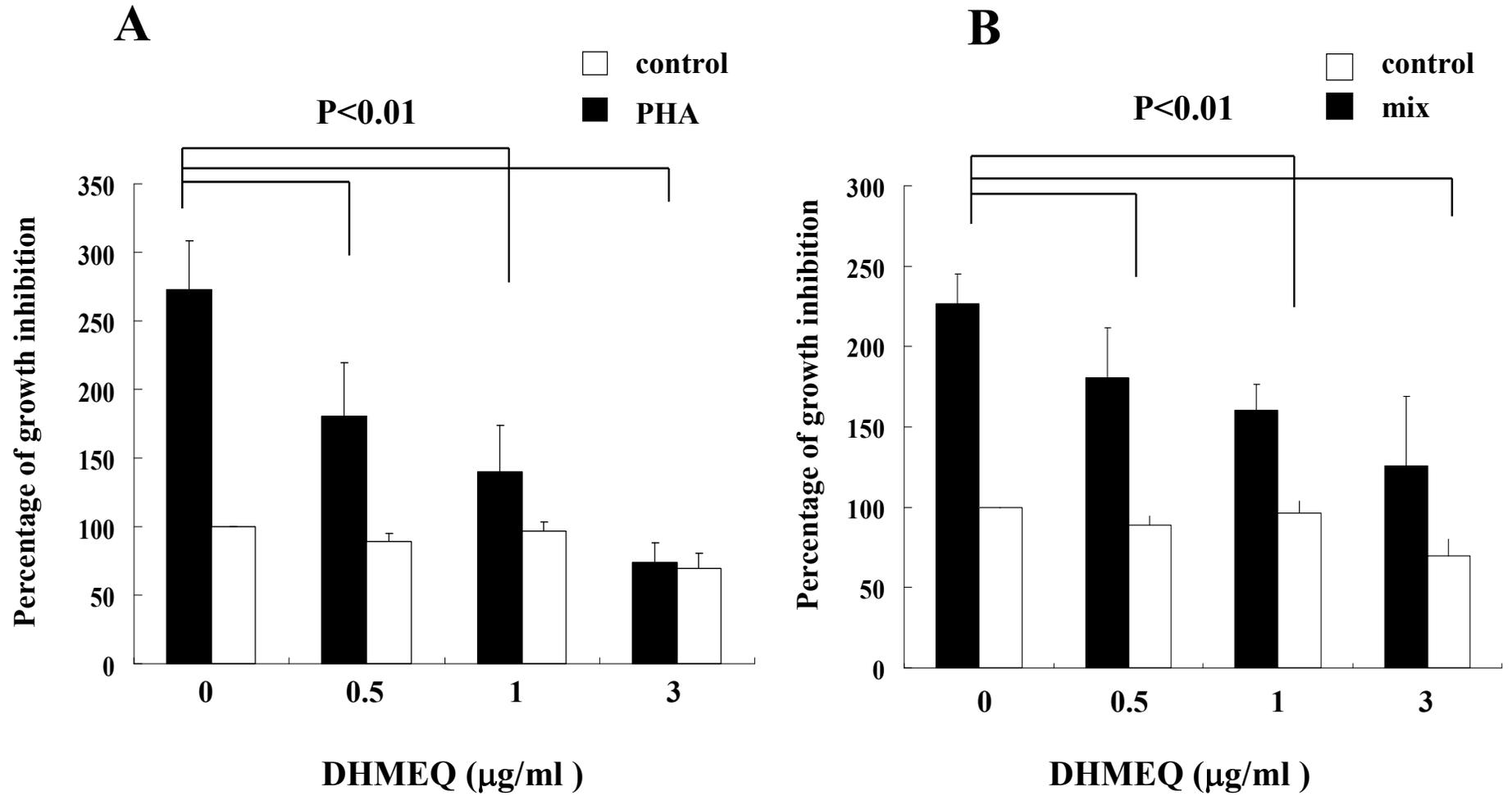
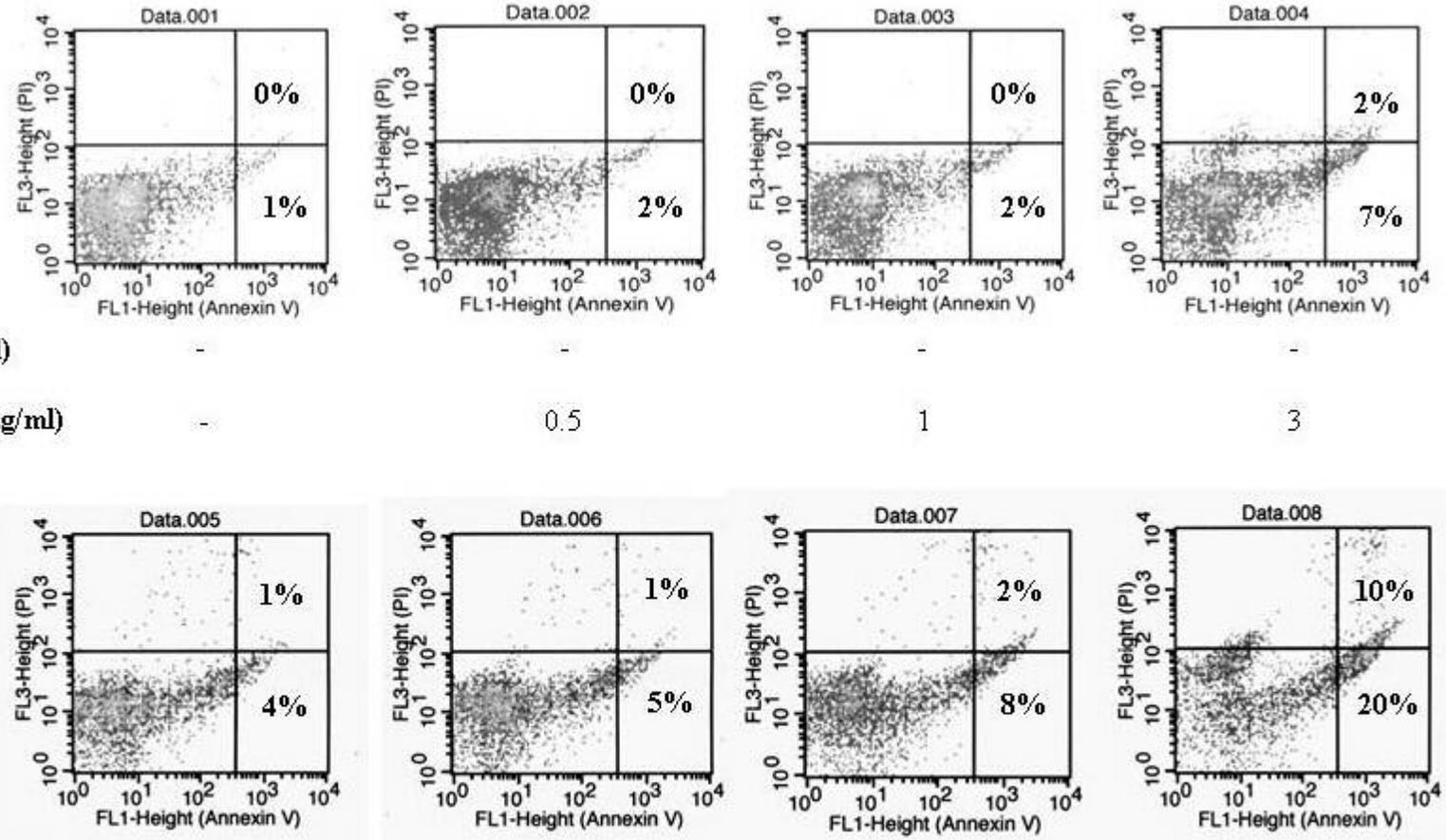


Fig.2



PHA 5 (μg/ml)

DHMEQ 1 (μg/ml)

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- 0.5 1 3

PHA 5 (μg/ml)

DHMEQ 1 (μg/ml)

+ + + +

- 0.5 1 3

Fig.3A

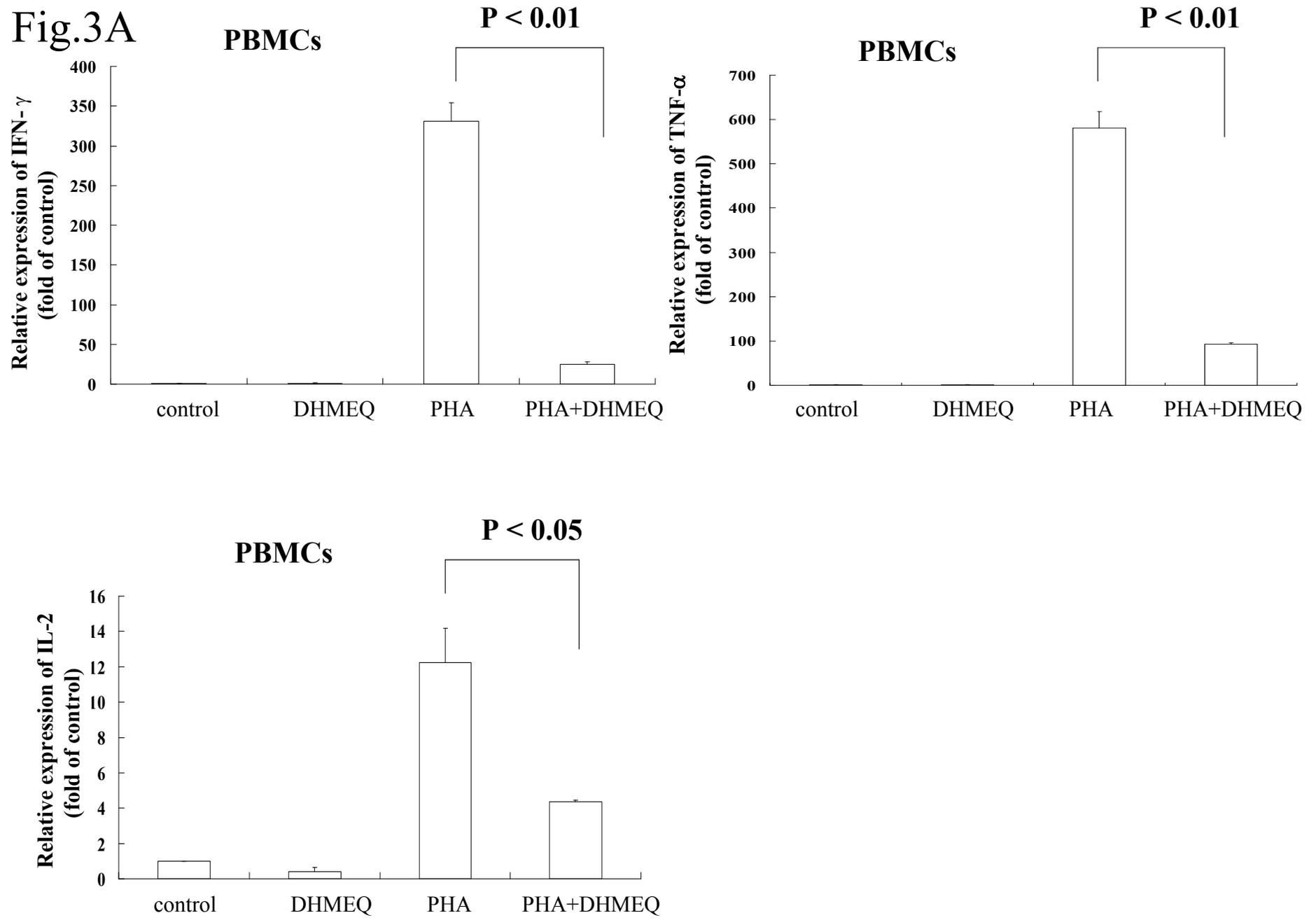
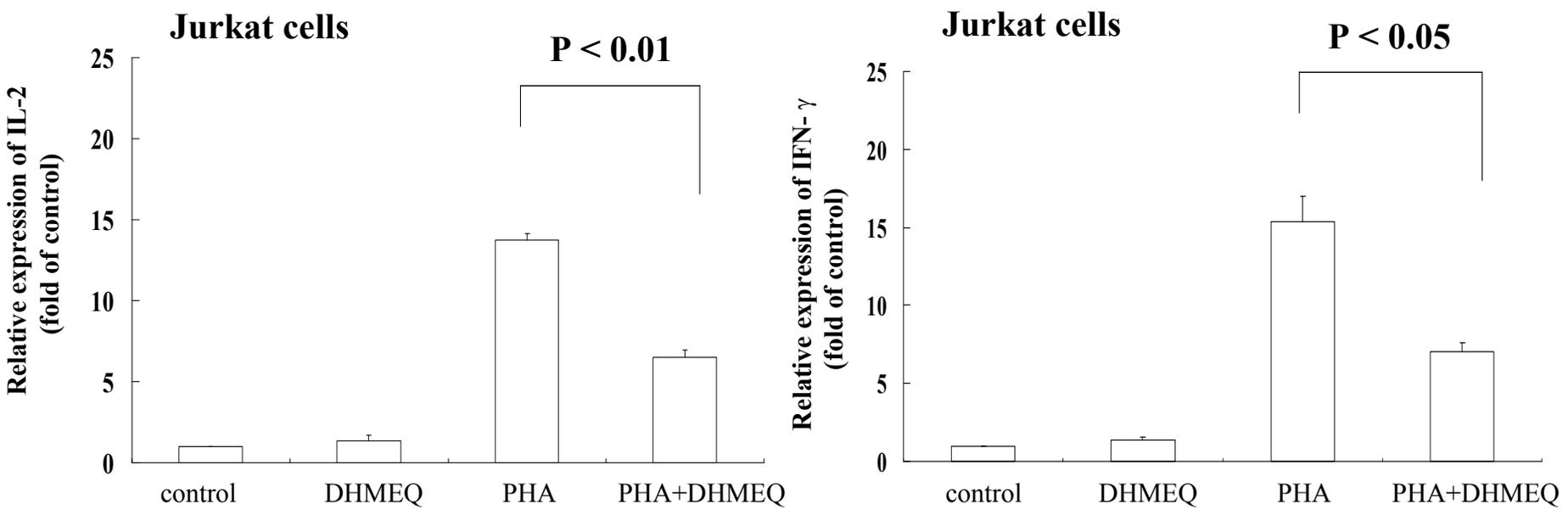
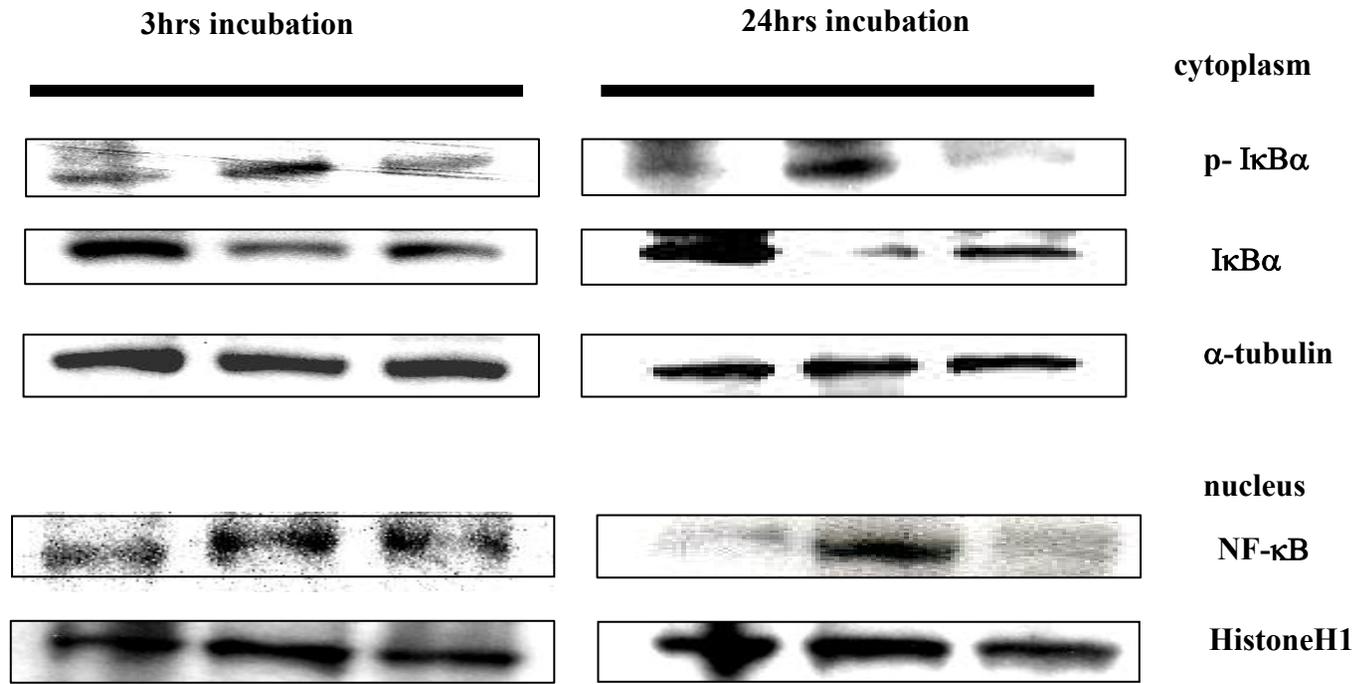


Fig.3B



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Fig.4

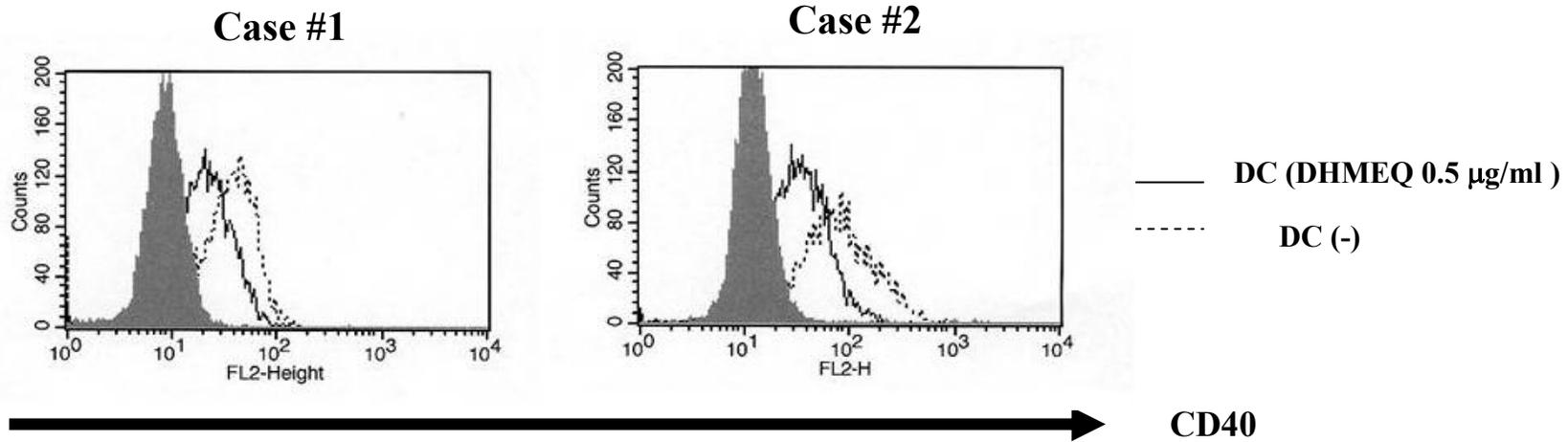


	3hrs incubation			24hrs incubation		
PHA 5 (μg/ml)	-	+	+	-	+	+
DHMEQ 1 (μg/ml)	-	-	+	-	-	+

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Fig.5A

Monocyte-derived DCs of healthy donors



B

