

Guillermo Oliver

Abstract

Essential for homeostasis, the lymphatic vasculature regulates tissue fluid levels, immune function, and the absorption of lipids from the intestinal tract. This vascular network also provides immune defense, protecting the body from bacteria or viruses. In the last few years the lymphatic network has been shown to also be involved in the development and progression of diseases such as obesity, hypertension, glaucoma, cardiovascular diseases and neurological disorders. Defects in the lymphatic vasculature contributes to several chronic inflammatory conditions, including rheumatoid arthritis, inflammatory bowel disease, asthma, chronic airway inflammation, atopic dermatitis, and psoriasis. I will summarize some of these recent findings and present new results aiming to identify biomarkers of lymphatic malfunction.