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Educational questions.

"Cigarette smoke inhibits lung fibroblast proliferation by translational mechanisms"

1. Which of the following statements is true.

Reduced proliferation of lung fibroblasts has no effect on the integrity of the lung parenchyma. An imbalance of pro- and anti-proliferative signals in lung fibroblasts provides a novel mechanism to explain impaired parenchymal tissue repair. Cigarette smoke induces proliferation of lung fibroblasts by increasing the expression of the cell cycle regulator protein, C/EBP α .

2. Which of the following statements is true.

The up-regulation of C/EBP α in lung fibroblasts exposed to cigarette smoke contributes to an inflammatory environment in the tissue by the enhanced release of the cytokine IL-8. Elastin degradation is not involved in the development of emphysema. Exposure to cigarette smoke of lung fibroblasts has no effect on the expression of functional full-length elastin and elastin re-synthesis. Increased expression of full-length C/EBP α in fibroblast exposed to cigarette smoke is due to enhanced elastin break-down.

3. Which of the following mechanisms might not contribute to the pathogenesis of emphysema.

A reduced proliferation of lung fibroblasts by enhanced C/EBP α expression impairs parenchymal tissue repair. An enhanced release of IL-8 by lung fibroblasts exposed to cigarette smoke is able to establish an inflammatory tissue environment in the lung. CEBPA mRNA translation is initiated at different start codons and determines fibroblast proliferation. CEBPA mRNA translation in fibroblast proliferation is inhibited by both CRT and hnRNP E2.

4. Which of the following statements concerning C/EBP α gene expression is/are true:

C/EBP α expression is controlled at the level of gene transcription. C/EBP α expression is controlled at the level of gene translation. The uORF in the CEBPA mRNA is involved in the translation control. Cigarette smoke exposure does not affect C/EBP α protein translation in pulmonary fibroblasts.