

Recent publications

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The clinical value of neutrophil extracellular traps

LOEGTERS T¹, MARGRAF S¹, ALTRICHTER J¹, CINATL J², MITZNER S³, WINDOLF J¹, SCHOLZ M¹

¹Department of Traumatology and Hand Surgery, Heinrich-Heine University, Duesseldorf, Germany

³Institute for Medical Virology, Johann Wolfgang Goethe University, Frankfurt/M, Germany

²Division of Nephrology, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Rostock, Germany

Neutrophil extracellular traps (NETs) have recently been discovered as a central part of antimicrobial innate immunity. In the meanwhile, evidence accumulated that NETs are also generated upon non-infectious stimuli in various clinical settings. In acute or chronic inflammatory disorders aberrantly enhanced NET formation and/or decreased NET degradation seems to correlate with disease outcome. This review summarizes current knowledge about the relation of NETs in a broad spectrum of clinical settings. Specifically, we focus on the importance of NETs as a predictive marker in severely ill patients and further, we speculate about the potential pathophysiology of NETs.