

## Differential Regulation of Integrin $\alpha 5$ and $\beta 4$ in Normal and Psoriatic Epidermal Keratinocytes

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Psoriasis is a chronic skin inflammation, characterized by impaired differentiation, hyperproliferation of keratinocytes involving pro-inflammatory factors interleukin (IL)-13/17A, tumor necrosis factor (TNF)- $\alpha$ , interferon (IFN)- $\gamma$ . Among the integrin family,  $\alpha 5$  is important for blood vessel formation, and  $\beta 4$  for proliferation, differentiation of keratinocytes. To investigate the expression and regulation of integrin  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  in psoriatic keratinocytes. Skin biopsies were obtained from 14 psoriatic patients and 12 normal volunteers. We compared the immunolocalization and regulation of  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  between the psoriatic and normal ones, before and after incubation with MEK/ERK pathway inhibitor U0126 by immunohistochemistry and western blot separately. Immunohistochemistry showed psoriatic keratinocytes had higher  $\alpha 5$  than normal ones. According to western blot, IL-17A and IL-13 increased normal keratinocytes'  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  respectively, but psoriatic keratinocytes were the exact opposite. Incubated with U0126, normal keratinocytes'  $\alpha 5$  was enhanced by the 5 cytokines; while IL-13/17A, IFN- $\gamma$  suppressed  $\beta 4$ . Psoriatic keratinocytes'  $\alpha 5$  was increased by IL-13/17A, decreased by IFN- $\gamma$ ; but  $\beta 4$  increased by IL-17A, IFN- $\gamma$ . IL-13/17A, TNF- $\alpha$ , IFN- $\gamma$  regulate  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  through ERK pathway whether normal or psoriasis. The normal and psoriatic keratinocytes respond to the

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### INTRODUCTION

Integrins, a large group of adhesion molecules distributed in many tissues, are heterodimers composing of a regulatory  $\alpha$ -subunit and a signal transducing  $\beta$ -subunit. (Takada, Ye, Simon, 2007) These specific but diverse heterodimers play critical roles in cell growth and function. (Cox, Brennan, Moran, 2010) It has been shown that integrins are involved in health and certain diseases, such as inflammation, cancer, autoimmune disorders and thrombosis. (Iannone *et al.*, 2005) Till now, 18  $\alpha$ -subunits and 10  $\beta$ -subunits have been identified, which formed at least 24 integrins. (Cox, Brennan, Moran, 2010, Papusheva, Heisenberg, 2010)  $\beta 4$  integrin plays multiple roles in

cellular polarity, proliferation, differentiation, migration, senescence, macroautophagy and survival of keratinocytes. (Nikolopoulos *et al.*, 2005, Raymond *et al.*, 2005, Wang *et al.*, 2012)  $\alpha 5$  integrin, a fibronectin-binding receptor, is important for blood vessel formation (Bhaskar *et al.*, 2007) and cellular proliferation (Deng, Wan, Yan, 2019). In normal epidermis, staining for  $\alpha 5$  is weaker and more diffuse than for the other subunits. (Rippa *et al.*, 2013)

Psoriasis, a common, chronic, inflammatory and proliferative skin disease, is characterized by impaired differentiation, hyperproliferation of epidermal keratinocytes, disturbed keratinization and aberrant activation of T lymphocytes. (Nestle, Kaplan, Barker, 2009, Schon, Boehncke, 2005) Previous studies have shown that integrin  $\alpha 5$  is highly increased (Koivisto *et al.*, 2014), while  $\beta 4$  remained basally restricted (Malakou *et al.*, 2018) in psoriasis determined by flow cytometric analysis and, immunofluorescence separately. Here, we further defined the regulation of integrin  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  in normal and psoriatic epidermal keratinocytes.

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## MATERIAL AND METHODS

### Material

#### *Human subjects*

*Volunteers enrolled were divided as normal volunteers and psoriatic patients.*

The inclusion criteria of psoriatic patients were the following: (1) patients with moderate to severe plaque psoriasis; (2) patients between 18-65 years old, diagnosed with plaque psoriasis for at least 6 months before the beginning of the study; (3) patients with PASI > 12, and skin lesion area takes up > 10% of total body surface area; (4) patients with no history of biologic agents treatment.

Exclusion standards were: (1) patients with erythrodermic psoriasis or psoriatic arthritis or psoriasis pustulosa or psoriasis guttate; (2) patients with severe and uncontrollable local or systematic acute/chronic infections; (3) patients with active or potential tuberculosis or asthma; (4) patients with malignancy history; (5) patients with other severe systematic disease; (6) patients who were prescribed with drugs or biologic agent; (7) patients who received immunosuppressor within 1 month or (8) psoriasis systematic treatment or phototherapy within 1 month or (9) psoriasis topical agents within 2 weeks.

Volunteers applying for normal volunteers accepted medical examination. Only those confirmed without any acute or chronic diseases were qualified.

Skin biopsies were taken from normal volunteers (n=12, including males and females, aged 19-71, mean age 42.3±17.2) and lesional skin of psoriasis patients (n=14, including males and females, aged 21-73, mean age 40.8±13.2) with moderate to severe chronic plaques. A medication-free period of 1 month was required in psoriasis group before the procedures. Informed consents were obtained from all donors. After skin biopsy, the specimen was divided into two parts. One part was fixed overnight in 10% buffered formalin at room temperature, after which they were cleared and embedded into paraffin. The other was immersed in 0.5% dispase

(Gibco, Invitrogen, USA) immediately. This study was performed under the guidelines of Zhejiang University Institutional Review Board.

### Methods

#### *Immunohistochemical staining*

Immunohistochemical staining was performed using a standard procedure.(Man *et al.*, 2013) Sections from normal and psoriatic skin specimens were formalin-fixed and paraffin-embedded. Then cut into 4-5µm sections and placed on clean electrostatically charged glass slides. After deparaffinization and rehydration of the sections, all slides were boiled for antigen unmasking in 10mM sodium citrate buffer pH 6.0 for 20 minutes at a subboiling temperature. Then, the slides were incubated with 3% hydrogen peroxide for 10 minutes to block endogenous peroxidase activity and were immersed with 10% fetal bovine serum for 1 hour at room temperature in a humidified chamber. The sections were applied overnight with primary antibody and then secondary antibody (antibodies against β-actin, integrin α5, integrin β4 were from Santa Cruz, CA, U.S.A.; antibodies against interleukin-1β, interleukin-13, interleukin -17A, tumor necrosis factor-α, transforming growth factor-β1, endothelin-1, interferon-γ and vascular endothelial growth factor-165 were from PeproTech, London, UK) for 2 hours. DAB kit (Vector Laboratories, Burlingame, CA, U.S.A.) were used for staining, then sections were dehydrate and mounted by coverslips.

#### *Primary cell culture*

Skin specimens were immersed in 0.5% dispase (Gibco BRL, Rockville, MD, U.S.A.) overnight at 4°C, and then separated into epidermis and dermis. The epidermis was incubated in 0.25% trypsin (Gibco BRL, Rockville, MD, U.S.A.) for 10 minutes at 37°C. After digestion, fetal bovine serum (Gibco BRL, Rockville, MD, U.S.A.) were used to neutralize the enzyme activity. The cell suspension was centrifuged at 500g for 5 minutes and pour off the supernatant. We applied

defined keratinocyte serum free medium (KSFM) supplemented with keratinocyte growth factor (KGF) to plant keratinocytes in a 75 cm<sup>2</sup> flask in humidified incubator with 5% CO<sub>2</sub> at 37°C. Keratinocytes of 2-3 generation were used in our study. Protein extraction and western blot was performed following a standard procedure.(Man *et al.*, 2013) The mouse monoclonal antibody against integrin  $\alpha 5$ ,  $\beta 4$ , and  $\beta$ -actin were obtained from Santa Cruz technology (Santa Cruz, CA, USA).

#### *Inhibitor and cytokine treatment*

Keratinocytes were seeded into 6-well plates and grew until confluent, then incubated for 24 hours in serum-free, non-supplemented medium prior to treatment of 25ng/ml interleukin-1 $\beta$  (IL-1 $\beta$ ), IL-13, IL-17A, tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$  (TNF- $\alpha$ ), transforming growth factor- $\beta 1$  (TGF- $\beta 1$ ), endothelin-1 (ET-1), interferon- $\gamma$  (IFN- $\gamma$ ), or vascular endothelial growth factor-165 (VEGF<sub>165</sub>) (PeproTech, London, UK) for a further 24 hours. For the inhibitor study, the cells were pretreated with 20 $\mu$ mol/L U0126 (from Sigma-Aldrich, USA) for 2 hours, then stimulated with 25ng/ml IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-13, IL-17A, TNF- $\alpha$ , TGF- $\beta 1$ , ET-1, IFN- $\gamma$ , or VEGF<sub>165</sub> for 24 hours or not. Control cells received no inhibitors or cytokines.

#### *Western blot*

Protein extraction and preparation were performed following a standard procedure.(Man *et al.*, 2013) The protein samples were separated by sodium dodecyl sulfate–polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) on 7.5% polyacrylamide gels and transferred to a nitrocellulose membrane. The blots were incubated

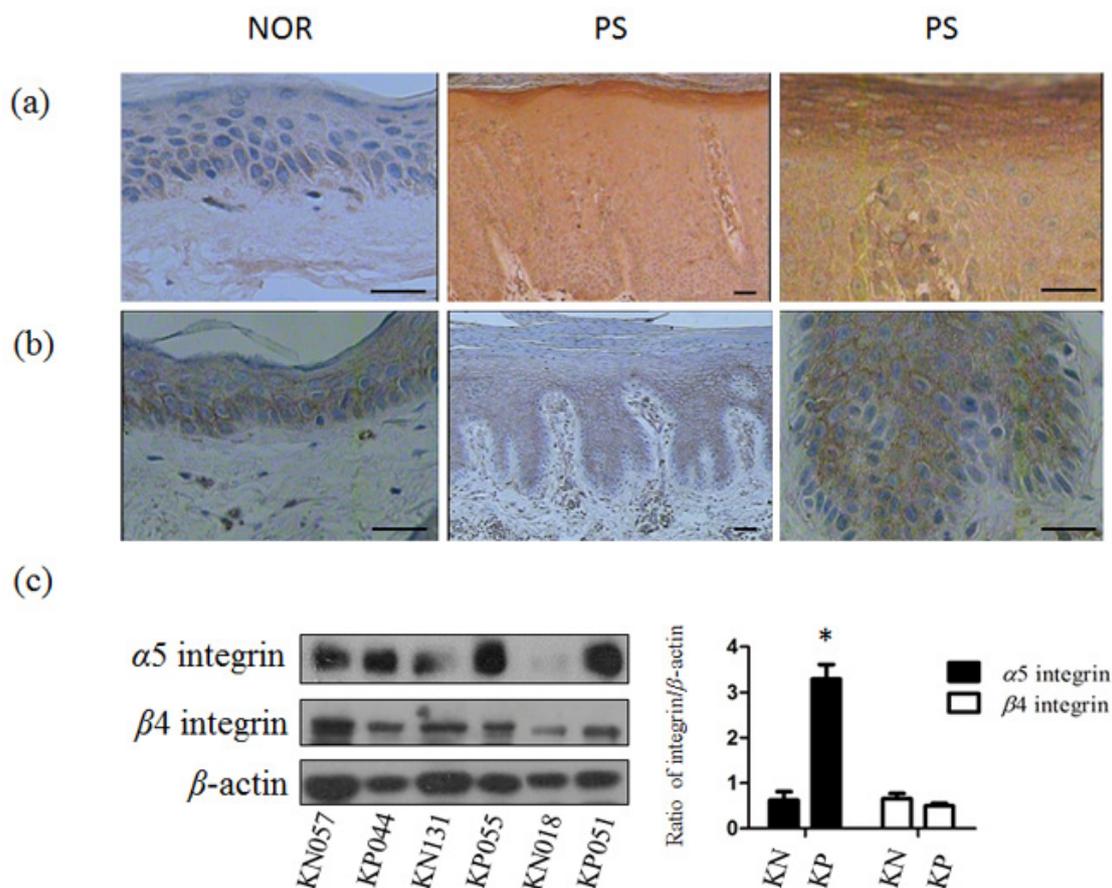
overnight at 4°C with mouse monoclonal antibody against integrin  $\alpha 5$ ,  $\beta 4$  and  $\beta$ -actin (Santa Cruz technology, Santa Cruz, CA, USA). Proper HRP-conjugated secondary antibodies (West Grove, PA, USA) were applied to the blots for 2 hours at room temperature and signals were detected by enhanced chemiluminescence (Millipore, Billerica, U.S.A) on X-ray films.

## RESULTS

### **Immunolocalization and expression of integrin $\alpha 5$ and $\beta 4$ in normal and psoriatic skin**

The immunohistochemical analysis revealed immunolocalization and expression of integrin  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  protein in normal and psoriatic skin (Figure 1). Integrin  $\alpha 5$  was shown to be localized in the whole skin, except for squamous layer in both normal and psoriatic epidermis. In normal epidermis, the expression of  $\alpha 5$  was very weak, but showed a relative concentration at the basal layer. In psoriasis, the distribution of  $\alpha 5$  was almost homogenous in basal and prickle keratinocytes, and the immunoreaction was much stronger than that in normal epidermis (Figure 1a). Integrin  $\beta 4$  was detected in the membrane of normal epidermal keratinocytes from basal to granular layers, while  $\beta 4$  being absent in the basal and parakeratosis layer of psoriatic epidermis (Figure 1b).

To further confirm the expression of integrin  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$ , normal and psoriatic keratinocytes were cultured *in vitro* and western blot was performed, which showed bands corresponding to integrin  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  respectively (Figure 1c). Furthermore, expression of  $\alpha 5$  in normal keratinocytes was less than that in psoriatic keratinocytes significantly ( $P < 0.01$ ), while no significant difference of  $\beta 4$  being observed (\*,  $p < 0.05$ , Figure 1c).

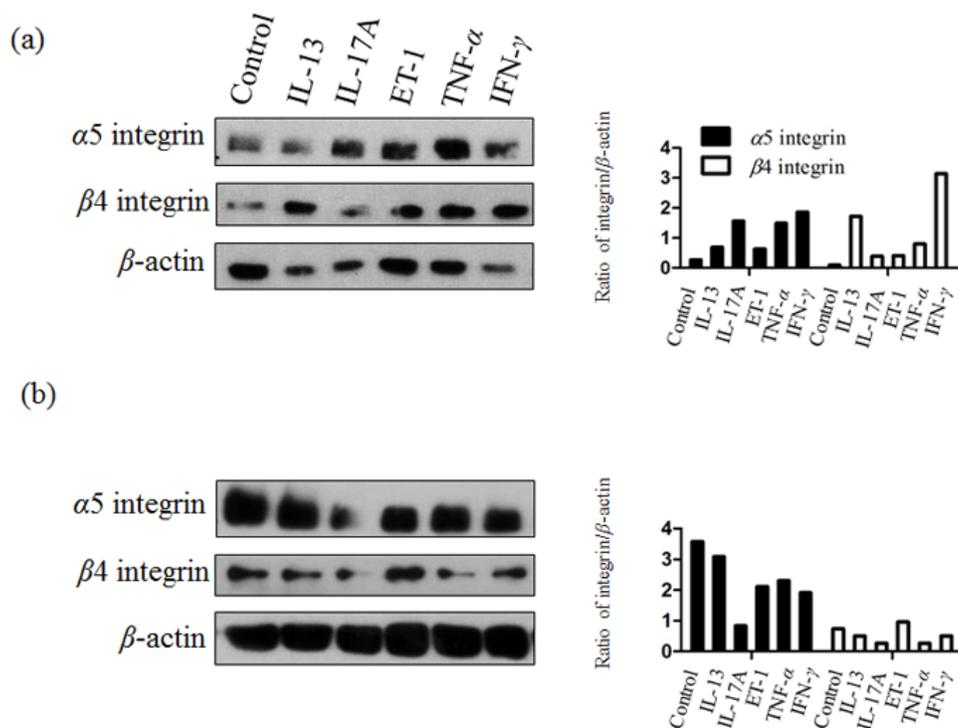


**FIGURE 1** - Immunolocalization and expression of integrin  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  protein in normal and psoriatic skin. (a) Localization of integrin  $\alpha 5$  in normal and psoriatic skin. (b) Localization of integrin  $\beta 4$  in normal and psoriatic skin; Scale bar, 100  $\mu\text{m}$ . (c) Western blot showing expression of integrin  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  protein in cultured normal and psoriatic keratinocytes. Columns under corresponding bands show relative quantitation of optical intensity of integrin  $\alpha 5$  or  $\beta 4$  to  $\beta$ -actin. \*,  $P < 0.05$ . KN: normal keratinocytes. KP: psoriatic keratinocytes. The number of experiments: 2.

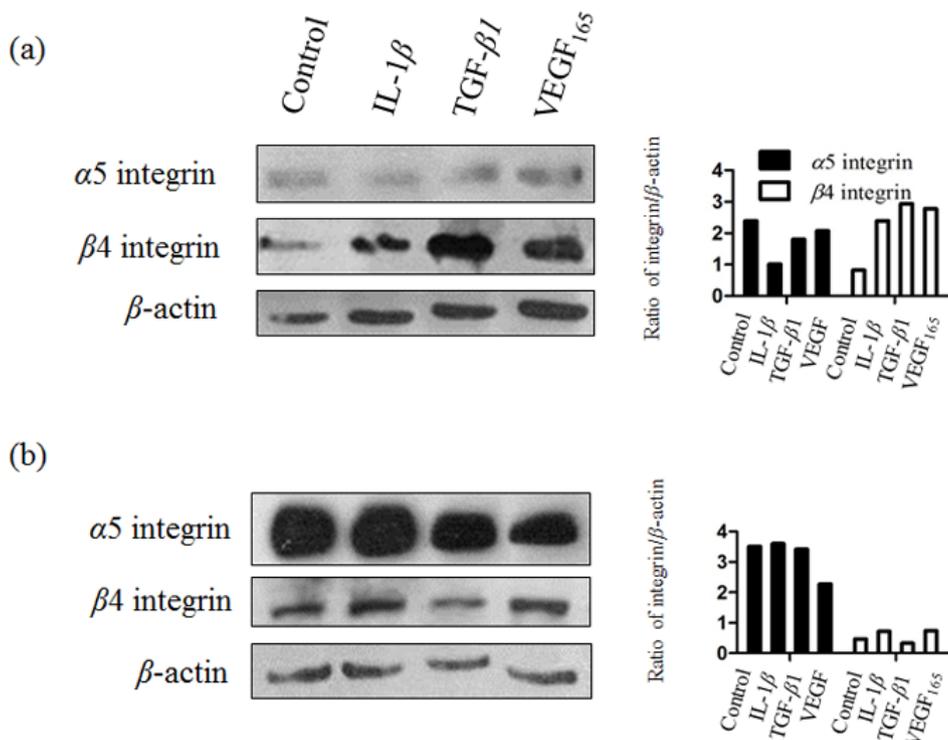
### Regulation of integrin $\alpha 5$ and $\beta 4$ in normal and psoriatic keratinocytes by IL-13, IL-17A, ET-1, TNF- $\alpha$ , IFN- $\gamma$ , IL-1 $\beta$ , TGF- $\beta 1$ and VEGF165

Western blot was conducted to compare how IL-13, IL-17A, ET-1, TNF- $\alpha$ , IFN- $\gamma$ , (Figure 2) IL-1 $\beta$ , TGF- $\beta 1$  and VEGF<sub>165</sub> (Figure 3) regulated integrins  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  in normal and psoriatic keratinocytes. In normal keratinocytes,  $\alpha 5$  was upregulated by IL-13, ET-1, especially by IL-17A, TNF- $\alpha$  and IFN- $\gamma$  (Figure 2a), not

altered by TGF- $\beta 1$  and VEGF<sub>165</sub>, but decreased by IL-1 $\beta$  (Figure 3a).  $\beta 4$  was increased by IL-17A, ET-1, TNF- $\alpha$ , particularly by IL-13, IFN- $\gamma$ , IL-1 $\beta$ , TGF- $\beta 1$  and VEGF<sub>165</sub> in normal keratinocytes (Figure 2a & 3a). However, in psoriatic keratinocytes,  $\alpha 5$  was decreased by IL-13, ET-1, TNF- $\alpha$ , IFN- $\gamma$ , VEGF<sub>165</sub>, especially IL-17A, not being altered by IL-1 $\beta$  and TGF- $\beta 1$  (Figure 2b & 3b).  $\beta 4$  was decreased by IL-17A and TNF- $\alpha$ , not being altered by IL-13, ET-1, IFN- $\gamma$ , IL-1 $\beta$ , TGF- $\beta 1$  and VEGF<sub>165</sub> (Figure 2b & 3b).



**FIGURE 2** - Western blot determining regulation of integrin  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  by 25ng/ml IL-13, IL-17A, ET-1, TNF- $\alpha$  and IFN- $\gamma$  in normal and psoriatic keratinocytes. (a) regulation in normal keratinocytes. (b) regulation in psoriatic keratinocytes. Columns under corresponding bands show relative quantitation of optical intensity of integrin  $\alpha 5$  or  $\beta 4$  to  $\beta$ -actin. The number of experiments: 2.



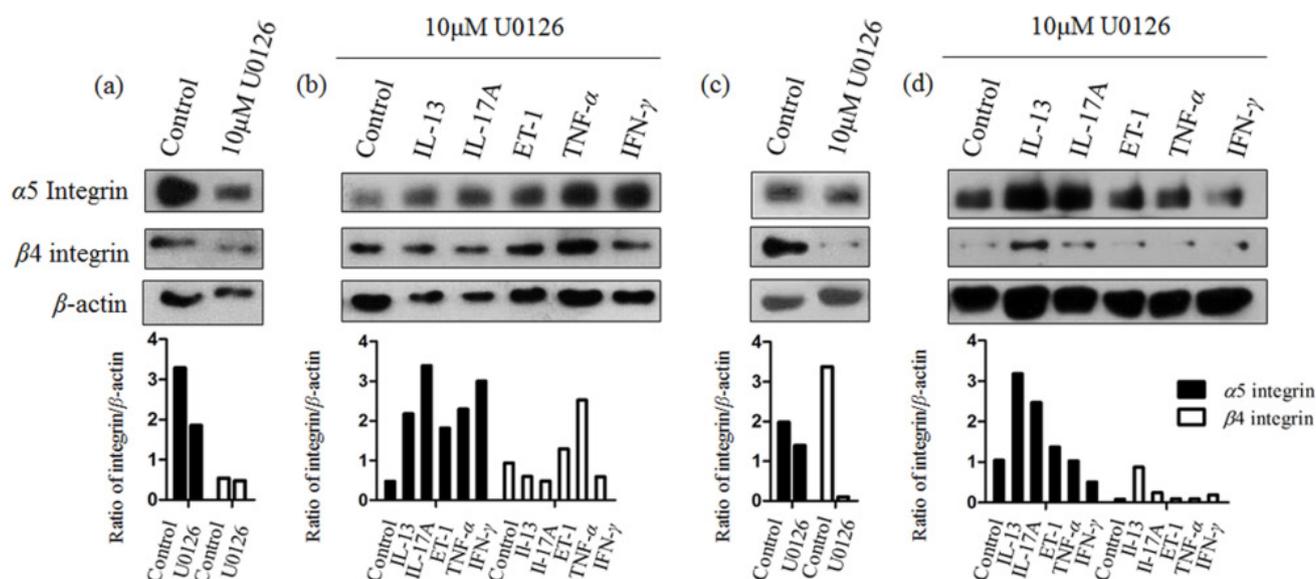
**FIGURE 3** - Western blot determining regulation of integrin  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  by 25ng/ml IL-1 $\beta$ , VEGF<sub>165</sub> and TGF- $\beta 1$  in normal and psoriatic keratinocytes. (a) regulation in normal keratinocytes. (b) regulation in psoriatic keratinocytes. Columns under corresponding bands show relative quantitation of optical intensity of integrin  $\alpha 5$  or  $\beta 4$  to  $\beta$ -actin. The number of experiments: 2.

### IL-13, IL-17A, ET-1, TNF- $\alpha$ and IFN- $\gamma$ regulate $\alpha 5$ and $\beta 4$ expression through ERK pathway in normal and psoriatic keratinocytes

In order to study the role of extracellular signal-related kinases (ERK) pathway in the regulation of expression of integrin  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  in normal and psoriatic keratinocytes, U0126 was included (Figure 4). In normal keratinocytes, 10  $\mu$ M U0126 prominently decreased  $\alpha 5$ , but not alter the expression of  $\beta 4$  (Figure 4a). On the contrary, in psoriatic keratinocytes, integrin  $\alpha 5$  was

nearly not altered, but  $\beta 4$  was decreased very obviously, by 10  $\mu$ M U0126 (Figure 4c).

In normal keratinocytes, in the presence of U0126,  $\alpha 5$  was increased by IL-13, ET-1 and especially, IL-17A, TNF- $\alpha$  and IFN- $\gamma$  (Figure 4b).  $\beta 4$  was decreased by IL-13, IL-17A, and IFN- $\gamma$ , but being increased by ET-1 and TNF- $\alpha$  (Figure 4b). In psoriatic keratinocytes, with addition of U0126,  $\alpha 5$  was strongly increased by IL-13 and IL-17A, not being altered by ET-1 and TNF- $\alpha$ , but being decreased by IFN- $\gamma$ .  $\beta 4$  was increased by IL-13 and IL-17A, not being altered by ET-1, TNF- $\alpha$  and IFN- $\gamma$  (Figure 4d).



**FIGURE 4** - Results of western blot elaborating interaction of U0126 in the regulation of integrin  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  by IL-13, IL-17A, ET-1, TNF- $\alpha$ , IFN- $\gamma$ . Regulation of integrin  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  in normal (a) and psoriatic keratinocytes (b) at the presence of 20 $\mu$ mol/L U0126. Regulation of integrin  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  in normal (c) and psoriatic keratinocytes (d) by cytokines with U0126. Columns under corresponding bands show relative quantitation of optical intensity of integrin  $\alpha 5$  or  $\beta 4$  to  $\beta$ -actin. The number of experiments: 2.

### DISCUSSION

Previous studies have shown that integrin  $\alpha 5$  is weakly or not expressed by epidermal keratinocytes under homeostatic conditions.(Rippa *et al.*, 2013) However, in psoriasis, its expression was highly upregulated and showed a focal cytoplasmic positivity in the spinous layer.(Filoni *et al.*, 2018) Our immunohistochemical data confirmed that  $\alpha 5$  was weakly expressed in normal epidermis but strongly in psoriatic epidermis. This was

further confirmed by Western blot, which is consistent with the immunohistochemical results. The increased expression of  $\alpha 5$  may contribute to the hyperproliferative state,(Koria, Andreadis, 2007) which was confirmed in the transgenic mice expressing  $\alpha 5\beta 1$ , there were keratinocyte hyperproliferation and abnormal terminal differentiation and an immune response in the skin, all of which are features of psoriasis.(Li *et al.*, 2017)

Being a composition of the hemidesmosome and intermediary filaments, integrin  $\beta 4$  may play a

functional role in keratinocyte attachment. There are also controversial results of integrin  $\beta 4$  in normal and psoriatic epidermis. In normal adult human epidermis,  $\beta 4$  showed a linear staining pattern polarizing to the basal surface juxtaposed to the dermal-epidermal basement membrane. In contrast, in fetal skin, the staining patterns demonstrated the presence of  $\beta 4$  surrounding the entire cell surface of both basal and suprabasal keratinocytes. (Levy *et al.*, 2000) In psoriatic epidermis,  $\beta 4$  subunit was distributed on the basal and lateral surface of basal keratinocytes, and around contiguous suprabasal keratinocytes. (Roberson, Bowcock, 2010) However, in our study,  $\beta 4$  was not localized to dermal-epidermal basement membrane, but distributed in the membrane of normal epidermal keratinocytes from basal to granular layers. Furthermore, in psoriatic epidermis,  $\beta 4$  was only detected in prickle keratinocytes, not in the basal and parakeratosis layers. This difference might be due to recognition variance between epitopes and antibodies. As the exact location of  $\beta 4$  in psoriatic skin and the underlying significance of its absence in psoriatic basal layer remains unclear, further investigation is expected.

There are dozens of cytokines mediated in onset and development of psoriasis. Among the complicated cytokine networks, the importance of IL-23/Th17 axis is well ahead. (Boehncke, Schon, 2015) TNF- $\alpha$ , IFN- $\gamma$  are elevated in psoriatic skin. TNF- $\alpha$  promotes infiltration of T cells, and also acts as a regulator of the IL-23/Th17 axis. (Deng, Chang, Lu, 2016) IFN- $\gamma$  activates antigen-presenting cells early in the psoriatic cascade, regulates polarization of regulatory T cells by a combination with TGF- $\beta$  and IL-4. IFN- $\gamma$  also promotes the release of IL-1 $\beta$ , chemokines, and adhesion molecules from dendritic cells (DCs). (Deng, Chang, Lu, 2016) IL-17A stimulates the production of chemokines and antimicrobial peptides by keratinocytes. Keratinocytes in turn promote Th17 cell recruitment and produce more IL-17, resulting in a positive feedback loop that perpetuates the inflammatory response of psoriasis. (Deng, Chang, Lu, 2016) ET-1 is produced by psoriatic keratinocytes and suppresses apoptosis. (Borska *et al.*, 2017) Plasma levels of ET-1 are elevated in psoriasis. ET-1 polarizes the DCs response toward Th17 differentiation and may augment the persistent course of psoriasis. (Nakahara *et al.*, 2018)

VEGF<sub>165</sub> is a potent endothelial cell mitogen playing a key role in angiogenesis in psoriasis, and it has been shown that VEGF expression is increased in lesion psoriatic skin. (Theoharides *et al.*, 2010) IL-13 has been found to be a risk allele for psoriasis. It is also upregulated in psoriatic lesions. (Tsai, Tsai, 2017)

Our results revealed that normal and psoriatic keratinocytes had different responses to the same cytokines in producing integrin  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$ . IL-13, IL-17A, ET-1, TNF- $\alpha$  and IFN- $\gamma$  upregulated  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  expression in normal keratinocytes; but decreased  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  in psoriatic keratinocytes, except for ET-1. In addition, IL-1 $\beta$ , TGF- $\beta 1$  and VEGF<sub>165</sub> did not show obvious effects on  $\alpha 5$  but strongly increased  $\beta 4$  in normal keratinocytes. However, in psoriatic keratinocytes, VEGF<sub>165</sub> decreased  $\alpha 5$ , and  $\beta 4$  was not altered by IL-1 $\beta$ , TGF- $\beta 1$  and VEGF<sub>165</sub>. Identical cells' reactions to the same cytokine may vary depending on physiological or pathological conditions. In other words, the dysfunctional cells and normal cells may respond differently, sometimes even reversely, to the same regulator.

We further investigated how ERK1/2 interacts with these cytokines. The MAPK/ERK pathway regulates various cellular activities, including proliferation, differentiation, survival, and apoptosis. (Kim, Choi, 2010) The activity of the ERK1/2 MAPKs was demonstrated increased in lesional psoriatic skin compared with non-lesional skin. (Rodrigues *et al.*, 2019) 10 $\mu$ M of U0126 (1,4-diamino-2,3-dicyano-1,4-bis (2-aminophenylthio) butadiene) selectively inhibits MEK1/2, blocking signal transduction from MEK1/2 to ERK1/2. (Ahnstedt *et al.*, 2015) We found the blockade of ERK1/2 reversed the effects of several cytokines and also sustained others'. In normal keratinocytes, U0126 greatly decreased  $\alpha 5$  but didn't change the increasing effect of IL-13, IL-17A, ET-1, TNF- $\alpha$ , IFN- $\gamma$  on  $\alpha 5$ . In psoriatic keratinocytes, with the addition of U0126, IL-13, IL-17A increased  $\alpha 5$ , while the downregulation of  $\alpha 5$  by ET-1 and TNF- $\alpha$  was eliminated. IFN- $\gamma$  decreased  $\alpha 5$  whether ERK1/2 was inhibited. Adding U0126 solely, psoriatic keratinocytes' expression of  $\alpha 5$  wasn't altered. Consequently, in normal keratinocytes, ERK1/2 pathway, IL-13, IL-17A, ET-1, TNF- $\alpha$ , IFN- $\gamma$  can activate  $\alpha 5$  expression, but the 5 cytokines exert their effects independently from ERK1/2

pathway. In psoriatic keratinocytes, ERK1/2 inhibited IL-13, IL-17A, ET-1 and TNF- $\alpha$  from raising  $\alpha 5$ . IFN- $\gamma$  depleted  $\alpha 5$  without ERK1/2 involved. For  $\beta 4$ , U0126 didn't impact upon its level in normal keratinocytes but largely suppressed it in psoriatic ones. In normal keratinocytes, with U0126, IL-13, IL-17A, IFN- $\gamma$  lowered  $\beta 4$  level, opposite to non-U0126 groups. Elevating effect of ET-1 and TNF- $\alpha$  maintained. In psoriatic keratinocytes, IL-13 and IL-17A enhanced  $\beta 4$  level in the background of ERK1/2 inhibitor. ET-1, TNF- $\alpha$  and IFN- $\gamma$  showed no effect. Comparing the results of U0126 groups and non-U0126 groups, we inferred that ERK1/2 pathway participated in IL-13, IL-17A, IFN- $\gamma$ 's increasing normal keratinocytes' expression of  $\beta 4$ , not in ET-1 or TNF- $\alpha$ 's. ERK1/2 may play an inhibitory role in IL-13-, IL-17A- and TNF- $\alpha$ -mediated production of  $\beta 4$  in psoriatic keratinocytes.

In summary, integrin  $\alpha 5$  and  $\beta 4$  are both expressed in normal and psoriatic keratinocytes, and  $\alpha 5$  being upregulated in psoriatic keratinocytes. Keratinocytes may respond differently, sometimes even reversely, to the same cytokines under physiological or pathological circumstances. Signals, such as ERK1/2, may also have a different role under pathological state.

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