

ALLERGY, GENETICS

TCR-HLA-B*4405(EENLLDFVRF)

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There are [not two cells in the human body](#) that have an identical DNA sequence as [de-tailed here earlier](#). But not only ageing, already basic B and T cell recombination introduces variation. And there might be more: HLA micropolymorphism! A [new JEM paper](#) describes

Maintenance of HLA polymorphism reflects natural selection for enhanced protective immunity against the pathogens encountered by humans. The MHC molecules can differ from each other by either >30 amino acids or only a few amino acids (micropolymorphism). This MHC-I polymorphism is generally concentrated in the antigen-binding cleft, controlling the size and diversity of the peptide repertoire presented by each HLA molecule.

Fortunately TCR degeneracy allows even non EENLLDFVRF cells to recognize EBV, yea, yea.