

## Dipartimento di Biotecnologie e Bioscienze – UNIMIB

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# Roles of the NFAT family of transcription factors in the regulation of Dendritic Cells functions

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**Abstract:** Dendritic cells (DCs) commonly found across mammalian species, are the guardian leukocytes that continuously sense the tissues to detect the presence of danger or pathogenic signals in order to coordinate innate and adaptive immune responses. Particularly relevant for the regulation of immune response are the DC recognition, uptake and processing of antigens that are released during infection. DCs can sense the presence of microbes or microbial products through pattern recognition receptors (PRRs) and can activate specific transcription factors that regulate their inflammatory functions. We recently discovered that in DCs, the receptor CD14 activates the NFAT family of transcription factors, which induce cell differentiation and promotes the production of inflammatory mediators. During this seminar, I will discuss how NFATs regulate key inflammatory functions of DCs and I will explain NFAT roles that go beyond the orchestration of inflammatory responses.

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