

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

α	Alpha
β	Beta
γ	Gamma
$^{\circ}\text{C}$	Degree Celsius
μg	micro-gram
μl	micro-liter
μM	micro-Molar
Ab	Antibody
AIRE	Autoimmune regulator
ANA	Anti-Nuclear Antibody
ANOVA	Analysis of Variance
Anti-dsDNA	Anti-double stranded DNA
APC	Antigen Presenting Cells/ Allophycocyanin
ASO	Anti-Streptolysin O
BCR	B-cell receptor
bp	Base pairs
BSA	Bovine Serum Albumin
BT	Before Therapy
CA	Candida Antigen
CD	Cluster of Differentiation
CI	Confidence Interval
CMV	Cytomegalovirus
ConA	Concanavalin A
CO_2	Carbon dioxide
CRP	C-Reactive Protein
CTLA	Cytotoxic T lymphocyte antigen
D	Diversity gene
DCP	Dexamethasone Cyclophosphamide Pulse
DDE	Dichloro Diphenyl Ethane
DDT	Dichloro-Diphenyl-Trichloroethane
DMSO	Dimethyl Sulphoxide

DNA	Deoxyribose Nucleic Acid
dNTPs	Deoxyribose Nucleoside Triphosphates
DP	Dexamethasone Pulse
DPT	Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus
Dsg	Desmoglein
DTH	Delayed Type Hypersensitivity
EDTA	Ethylene Diamine Tetra Acetic acid
ELISA	Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay
EtBr	Ethidium Bromide
FACS	Fluorescent Activated Cell Sorting
FBS	Fetal Bovine Serum
FITC	Fluorescein Isothiocyanate
FoxP3	Forkhead box P3
GC	Gas chromatography
HBSS	Hank's Balanced Salt Solution
HCH	Hexachlorocyclohexane
HCl	Hydrochloric acid
HCS	Healthy Controls
HPLC	High-performance liquid chromatography
hr	Hour
HRP	Horse Raddish Peroxidase
HWE	Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium
IFN	Interferon
Ig	Immunoglobulin
IL	Interleukin
IU	International Units
J	Joining gene
Lf	Flocculation units
mAbs	Monoclonal antibodies
mg	milli-grams
MgCl ₂	Magnesium Chloride
MHC	Major Histocompatibility Complex

ml	milli-liters
mM	milli-Molar
n	Number
NaN ₃	Sodium Azide
NaOH	Sodium Hydroxide
ng	nano-grams
NK	Natural killer cells
nM	nano-Molar
OCPs	Organochlorine Pesticides
ORs	odds ratios
PBMCs	Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells
PBS	Phosphate Buffered Saline
PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
PE	Phycoerythrin
PerCP	Peridin Chlorophyll
PF	Pemphigus foliaceus
pg	Pico-gram
PHA-M	Phytohemagglutinin-M
pmoles	pico-moles
PPD	Purified Protein Derivative
PT	Post Therapy
PV	Pemphigus vulgaris
PWM	Pokeweed Mitogen
RA	Rheumatoid Arthritis
rAgs	Recall antigens
RF	Rheumatoid factor
RNA	Ribose Nucleic Acid
rpm	Rotations Per Minute
RPMI	Roswell Park Memorial Institute medium
rs	refSNP cluster ID numbers
RT	Room temperature
sAgs	Superantigens

SD	Standard Deviation
SE	Standard error
SEB	Staphylococcal enterotoxin B
SLE	Systemic Lupus Erythematosus
SMP-5	Streptococcal M Protein - 5
SNP	Single Nucleotide Polymorphism
SPEA	Streptococcal pyrogenic exotoxin A
SSc	Systemic sclerosis
Taq	<i>Thermus aquaticus</i>
TBE	Tris Borate EDTA
Tc	T-cell cytotoxic
TCR	T-cell Receptor
TE	Tris-EDTA
TGF	Transforming Growth Factor
Th	T-cell helper
TLR	Toll-like receptor
TNF	Tumor Necrosis Factor
Treg	T-regulatory cells
Tris	Tris-hydroxymethyl aminomethane
Ts	T-cell supressor
TT	Tetanus Toxoid
TU	Tuberculin Units
UV	Ultra Violet
V	Variable gene