

MS10-5 **HMGB1 as therapeutic molecular target and drug development**

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HMGB1 (high mobility group box-1) is a ubiquitous nuclear DNA binding protein involved in maintenance of nucleosome structure and regulation of gene transcription. Since the discovery of HMGB1 as late mediator of lethal endotoxemia, many researches revealed that HMGB1 causes the systemic inflammatory responses. HMGB1 appears to be released from necrotic cells and activates macrophage, and functions as proinflammatory cytokine-like factor. Thus, the strategies that target HMGB1 with specific antibodies or antagonists have potential for treating various inflammatory diseases characterized by excess HMGB1 release. In this symposium, we will discuss the pathophysiological roles of HMGB1 and its significance as drug target.