

Table of Contents

1 Abstract	6
1.1 Zusammenfassung	7
 2 Introduction	 10
2.1 The early B-cell development	10
2.2 Late B-cell development in the periphery	12
2.2.1 The B1-cell compartment.....	13
2.2.2 The conventional B2-cell compartment	14
2.3 B-lineage cells in experimentally induced immune response	17
2.3.1 Immunization	17
2.3.2 Factors favoring B-cell survival <i>in vitro</i>	17
2.4 Oncogene driven B-cell development	19
2.4.1 Myc	19
2.4.2 Bcl-xL	21
2.4.3 Development of “Double-Hit” B-lymphoid malignancies	23
2.4.4 Transforming genes from cDNA-libraries	24
2.5 Aims of the research project	25
 3 Materials and Methods.....	 26
3.1 Materials	26
3.1.1 Machines	26
3.1.2 Disposables	27
3.1.3 Software	28
3.1.4 Kits	29
3.1.5 Chemicals	29
3.1.6 Buffers & Solutions	30
3.1.7 Molecular- and cell-biology reagents	32
3.1.8 Primer	33
3.1.9 Enzymes	34
3.1.10 Antibodies	34
3.1.11 Microbiology	36
3.1.12 Tissue culture	36
3.1.13 Plasmids and vectors	37
3.1.14 Cell lines	38
3.1.15 Cytokine producers	39

3.1.16 Mouse Strains	40
3.2 Methods	40
3.2.1 Microbiological Methods	40
3.2.2 Molecular methods	41
3.2.3 Immunological methods	48
3.2.4 Cell culture	51
3.2.5 Animal work	58
4 Results Project 1	61
4.1 Effects of c-myc and bcl-xL overexpression on preBI-cells <i>in vitro</i>	61
4.1.1 Effects of c-myc and/or bcl-xL overexpression on entry into cell cycle and apoptosis of differentiating preBI-cells	61
4.1.2 Joint expression of c-myc and bcl-xL provides preB-cells longevity <i>in vitro</i>	62
4.1.3 Changes of surface marker expression of c-myc/bcl-xL preBI-cells within 3 weeks of <i>in vitro</i> differentiation	64
4.1.4 Gene expression of c-myc/bcl-xL immature B-cells differentiated days 18 <i>in vitro</i>	65
4.1.5 Polyclonal stimulation of <i>in vitro</i> differentiated immature B-cells	66
4.1.6 CpG-stimulation of <i>in vitro</i> differentiating, c-myc/bcl-xL over-expressing B-lineage cells	67
4.1.7 First brief summary describing the B-cell types generated <i>in vitro</i>	70
4.1.8 Rearrangement status of <i>in vitro</i> differentiating, CpG-stimulated c-myc/bcl-xL cells	70
4.1.9 CpG stimulation of c-myc/bcl-xL B-lineage-cells increases secondary IgL rearrangement <i>in vitro</i>	72
4.1.10 C-myc/bcl-xL immature B-cells that differentiated for 32 days secrete IgM and express CD40, CD80 and MHCII molecules upon stimulation <i>in vitro</i>	73
4.1.11 Second brief summary describing the B-cell types generated <i>in vitro</i>	75
4.2 C-myc/bcl-xL single cell cultures	76
4.2.1 Cloning of c-myc/bcl-xL overexpressing cells by single cell sorting into cultures containing rat thymus “filler” cells	76
4.2.2 C-myc/bcl-xL clones do not change their phenotype and can be stimulated to secrete IgM <i>in vitro</i>	77
4.2.3 Summary of the <i>in vitro</i> experiments	79
4.3 Transplantation of c-myc/bcl-xL preBI-cells	80
4.3.1 C-myc/bcl-xL preBI-cell transplantation into immunodeficient Rag1 ^{-/-} mice	80
4.3.2 <i>Ex vivo/in vitro</i> culture of <i>in vivo</i> expanded GFP+ c-myc/bcl-xL B-lineage cells from Rag ^{-/-} recipients	82

4.3.3 Re-transplantation of bone marrow-derived, <i>in vivo</i> expanding GFP+ c-myc/bcl-xL B-lineage cells into secondary hosts	84
4.3.4 NP-CGG-immunization of c-myc/bcl-xL preBI-cell-transplanted recipients	86
4.3.5 <i>In vitro</i> cultures of <i>in vivo</i> proliferating GFP+ c-myc/bcl-xL B-lineage cells from NP-CGG-immunized mice	89
4.3.6 NP-OVA-immunization of c-myc/bcl-xL preBI-cell-transplanted Rag1 ^{-/-} recipients	90
4.3.7 <i>Ex vivo/in vitro</i> cultures of GFP+ c-myc/bcl-xL B-lineage cells from NP-OVA-immunized mice	94
4.3.8 Co-transplantation of CD4+ helper T-cells into Rag1 ^{-/-} mice transplanted with c-myc/bcl-xL preBI-cells	95
4.3.9 <i>In vitro</i> cultures of proliferating c-myc/bcl-xL-overexpressing GFP+ cells from co-transplanted mice immunized with NP-OVA	99
4.3.10 <i>In vivo</i> summary	100
5 Results Project 2	101
5.1 Generation of an expression cDNA-library	101
5.1.1 Cloning of cDNA-libraries.....	101
5.1.2 Qualification of the cDNA-library	102
5.2 C-myc-transgenic preB-cells as targets for transductions with cDNA-libraries	104
5.3 Proof of principle experiments - serially diluted pim-1 expression as predictor for cooperative activities of c-myc and cDNA-library genes for full transformation	106
5.4 Transformation of c-myc-transgenic preBI-cells with cDNA expression library-derived genes <i>in vitro</i>	107
5.5 Exosc1 as a transforming gene cooperating with c-myc in B-cell transformation	108
5.5.1 Identification of a short-form of the Exosc1 gene cooperating with c-myc in B-cell transformation	108
5.5.2 C-myc/Exosc1sf immature-like B-cells expand and differentiate to mature B1-cells <i>in vivo</i>	109
5.5.3 Transforming activity of the full-length Exosc1 transcript	111
5.6 Pools of preBI-cells overexpressing c-myc together with different cDNA-library genes expand <i>in vivo</i> to different B-lineage stages	113
5.7 Identification of the cDNA-library genes that might cooperate with c-myc in B-lineage cell transformation <i>in vivo</i>	115
6 Discussion	117
6.1 Discussion Project 1: The impact of c-myc and bcl-xL in B-cell transformation	117

6.2 Discussion Project 2: Detection of transforming genes from doxycycline-inducible cDNA expression libraries in c-myc-transgenic preB-cells and their progeny	122
7 References	125
8 Figure List	140
8.1 Introduction figures	140
8.2 Material and Methods figures	140
8.3 Result figures	140
8.4 Summary figures	142
9 List of Abbreviations	143
10 Copyright and Permission	145