

Name : Dr. Madhuri Thakar
Designation : Scientist 'F'
Date of Birth : 14/07/1963
Department : Immunology and Serology
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Educational Qualification :

Degree	Year	Institution / University
Ph.D. (Microbiology)	1995	Pune University, Pune, India
M. Sc. (Medical Microbiology) (Stood first in Merit)	1986	Shivaji University, Kolhapur, India
B. Sc. (Microbiology)	1983	Shivaji University, Kolhapur, India

Research Area of Interest

Immune response in HIV infection:

- Studies on immunological correlates of protection and absence of HIV disease progression. The cellular and antibody response is being studied in HIV infected patients with absence of disease progression, patients with progressive HIV infection and patients on treatment.
- The mucosal immune response, both innate and HIV-specific, is being estimated to understand the mechanisms of HIV acquisition and resistance.
- The innate effector cells such as natural killer cells and natural killer T cells are being assessed for their role in HIV disease progression.

Quality Control in HIV laboratories

- Working as In Charge of apex Laboratory developed to support National AIDS Control Programme. Monitoring the external quality assurance (proficiency) in HIV serology and CD4 count estimation in all laboratories under the national programme.
- Spearheaded the activities to obtain the accreditation for the proficiency provider unit of NARI from NABL

Awards and Honors

Excellence Research Output award from Indian Council of Medical research for the years 2006 - 2009.

Positions and Employment

Post Held	Employer	Duration
Junior research Fellow	National Institute of Virology, Pune	May 1987 to Oct 1990
Research Assistant	National Institute of Virology, Pune	Nov 1990 to Jan 1993
Research Assistant	National AIDS Research Institute, Pune	Feb 1993 to July 2002
Senior research Officer	National AIDS Research Institute, Pune	Aug 2002 to Aug 2007
Scientist D (Asst. Director)	National AIDS Research Institute, Pune	Aug 2007 to Sept. 2010
Scientist E	National AIDS Research Institute, Pune	Sept. 2010 to July 2015.
Scientist F	National AIDS Research Institute, Pune	Aug.2015 to till date

Professional Experience

1989 - 1995: Ph. D. (Microbiology): Studies on Immunological parameters in HIV seropositives. 1995 - until now:

- o Immunology of HIV infection: currently undertaking 4 research studies
- o Quality control in HIV serology
- o Quality control in CD4 count estimation

Training: Human subjects research

- o Good Clinical and Laboratory practices
- o Clinical HIV vaccine trials

Fellowships:

- o Oct 2000-March 2001: Pasteur Institute and INSERM Hospitals: The studies of immunoregulatory mechanisms in vertical transmission of HIV.
- o Dec 2008: Dartmouth Medical School, Lebanon: Mucosal immunology of HIV

Abstract submitted to the conferences/meetings: 4 Invited talks and 10 abstracts submitted to various conference

Academics

Ph. D. students: 5

M. Sc. students: 1

Grant Support & Projects

Ongoing projects

1. Antibody Dependant Cell Cytotoxicity (ADCC): A new frontier in HIV rsearch. Role: Principal Investigator
2. Characteristics of cellular effector mechanisms against HIV at cervicovaginal level in Indian women. Role: Principal Investigator
3. Development of cohort of Long Term Non Progressors (Funding: Intramural). Role: Investigator
4. External quality assurance (EQA) programme for CD4 count estimation(Funding : NACO) Role: Principal Investigator

Completed projects

1. Indo-South African Initiative: HIV Vaccine Immunogen Design: Identification of T-cell epitopes associated with control of viral replication in Indian and South African HIV-1 infected individuals (Funding : DST): Role: Investigator
2. Indo-US project: Diagnosis of active TB in HIV infected and uninfected young children in India (Funding : ICMR) Role: Investigator
3. Determination of reference ranges for CD4+ T cell counts and percentages for adult Indian population.(Funding: NACO): Role: Principal Investigator
4. Assessment of innate and HIV-specific immune responses at systemic and genital level in HIV-1 infected Indian women.(Funding: intramural): Role: Principal Investigator
5. A Phase I Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Randomized Trial to Evaluate the Safety and Immunogenicity of TBC-M4, a multigenic MVA HIV Vaccine vs ADVAX, a multigenic DNA HIV Vaccine followed by TBC-M4, a multigenic MVA HIV Vaccine(Funding: IAVI), Role: Investigator

No. of Publications: 64

List of Publications:

1. [Negi N](#), [Vajpayee M](#), [Singh R](#), [Sharma A](#), [Murugavel KG](#), [Ranga U](#), [Thakar M](#), [Sreenivas V](#), [Das BK](#). Cross-Reactive Potential of HIV-1 Subtype C-Infected Indian Individuals Against Multiple HIV- Potential T Cell Epitope Gag Variants. [Viral Immunol](#). 2016 Nov 22. [Epub ahead of print]
2. [Dhamanage A](#), [Thakar M](#), [Paranjape R](#). Human Immunodeficiency Virus- 1 Impairs IFN-Alpha Production Induced by TLR-7 Agonist in Plasmacytoid Dendritic Cells. [Viral Immunol](#). 2016 Nov 3. [Epub ahead of print]
3. [Pandey SS](#), [Cherian S](#), [Thakar M](#), [Paranjape RS](#). Short Communication: phylogenetic and Molecular Characterization of Six Full-Length HIV-1 Genomes from India Reveals a Monophyletic Lineage of Indian Sub-Subtype A1. [AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses](#). 2016 May;32(5):489-502. doi: 10.1089/AID.2015.0207. Epub 2016 Feb 11.
4. Adrienne F.A. Meyers, Michèle Bergeron, Madhuri Thakar ,Tao Ding , Alexandre Martel, Paul Sandstrom, Bharati Mahajan, Philip Abraham, Sandhya Kabra, Namita Singh, Trevor Peter ,T. Blake Ball. QASI: A Collaboration for Implementation of an Independent Quality Assessment Program in India. *African Journal of Laboratory Medicine*; Vol 5, No 2 (2016), 7
5. Ashwini Shete, Poonam Suryawanshi, Sheela Godbole, Jyoti Pawar, Ramesh Paranjape and Madhuri Thakar. HIV infected CD4+ T cells use T-bet dependent pathway for production of IL-10 upon antigen recognition. *Scandinavian Journal of Immunology*. 2016:83(4):288-96
6. Ashwini Shete, Dharmesh P Singh, Bharati Mahajan, Amol Kokare, Ramesh Paranjape and Madhuri Thakar. Duplicate analysis method: a cheaper alternative to commercial IQC materials in limited resource settings for monitoring CD4 testing. *AIDS Res Ther* (2015) 12:25

7. Megha Antwal, Rohan Gurjar, Shweta Chidrawar, Jyoti Pawar, Sunil Gaikwad, Narayan Panchal, Varsha Kale, Madhuri Thakar, Arun Risbud & Srikanth Tripathy Clinical profile of HIV infected patients attending a HIV referral clinic in Pune, India. *Indian J Med Res* 140, August 2014, pp 271-277.
8. Ashwini Shete, Madhuri Thakar, S.M. Mehendale and R.S. Paranjape. Is prime boost strategy a promising approach in HIV vaccine development? *J AIDS Clin Res* 2014;5:293
9. Kulkarni AG, Paranjape RS, Thakar MR. Higher Expression of Activating Receptors on Cytotoxic NK Cells is Associated with Early Control on HIV-1C Multiplication. *Front Immunol.* 2014 May 16;5:222. doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2014.00222. e Collection 2014.
10. Thakar M, Patil R, Shukre S, Bichare S, Kadam P, Khopkar P, Ghate M, Paranjape R. Genital tumor growth factor- β 1 levels in HIV-infected Indian women are associated with reduced levels of innate antimicrobial products and increased HIV shedding. *AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses.* 2014 Jul;30(7):648-53. doi: 10.1089/AID.2013.0030.
11. [Sanjay K. Jain](#), [Alvaro Ordonez](#), [Aarti Kinikar](#), [Nikhil Gupte](#), [Madhuri Thakar](#), [Vidya Mave](#), [Jennifer Jubulis](#), [Sujata Dharmshale](#), [Shailaja Desai](#), [Swarupa Hatolkar](#), [Anju Kagal](#), [Ajit Lalvani](#), [Amita Gupta](#), and [Renu Bharadwaj](#). Pediatric Tuberculosis in Young Children in India: A Prospective Study. *BioMed Research International*, vol. 2013, Article ID 783698, 2013. doi:10.1155/2013/783698.
12. Ghate M, Tripathy S, Gangakhedkar R, Thakar M, Bhattacharya J, Choudhury I, Risbud A, Bembalkar S, Kadam D, Rewari BB, Paranjape R. Use of first line antiretroviral therapy from a free ART programme clinic in Pune, India - A preliminary report *Indian J Med Res* 2013;137:942-9.
13. Thakar M, Mahajan B, Joshi T, Sane S, Paranjape R. CD4 estimating reagents in dry format are compatible with conventional flow cytometer; FACSCalibur for estimation of absolute CD4 count & percentages. *Indian J Med Res.* 2013 Feb; 137 (2):346-55.
14. Patil Rahul, Shukre Subodh, Paranjape Ramesh and Thakar Madhuri. Heparin and EDTA anticoagulants differentially affect the plasma cytokine levels in humans. *The Scandinavian Journal of Clinical & Laboratory Investigation.* 2013; Early Online: 1-4
15. Sanjay Mehendale, Madhuri Thakar, Seema Sahay, Makesh Kumar, Ashwini Shete, Pattabiraman Sathyamurthi, Amita Verma, Swarali Kurle, Aparna Shrotri, Sonali Kochhar, Jill Gilmour, Rajat Goyal, Len Dally, Eddy Sayeed, Devika Zachariah, James Ackland, Sonali Kochhar, Josephine H Cox, Jean-Louis Excler, Vasanthapuram Kumaraswami, Ramesh Paranjape, Vadakkupattu Devasenapathi Ramanathan. Safety and immunogenicity of DNA and MVA HIV-1 subtype C vaccine prime-boost regimens: A Phase I trial in HIV-uninfected Indian volunteers. Accepted in *PlosOne*.
16. Shete, A., P. Jayawant, M. Thakar, S. Kurle, D.P. Singh, and R.S. Paranjape., Differential modulation of phenotypic composition of HIV infected and uninfected PBMCs during cryopreservation *Journal of Immunoassay and Immunochemistry.*, Accepted.
17. Mane, A., S. Kulkarni, M. Ghate, A. Risbud, and M. Thakar, HIV-1 RNA shedding in the female genital tract is associated with reduced quantity of Lactobacilli in clinically asymptomatic HIV-positive women. *Diagn Microbiol Infect Dis*, 2013.

18. Thakar, M., B. Mahajan, N. Shaikh, S. Bagwan, S. Sane, S. Kabra, B. Rewari, M. Shaukat, N. Singh, P. Trevor, and R. Paranjape, Utility of the point of care CD4 analyzer, PIMA, to enumerate CD4 counts in the field settings in India. *AIDS Res Ther*, 2012. 9(1): p. 26.
19. Kurle, S., M. Thakar, A. Shete, and R. Paranjape, In vitro sensitization of T cells with DC-associated/delivered HIV constructs can induce a polyfunctional CTL response, memory T-cell response, and virus suppression. *Viral Immunol*, 2012. 25(1): p. 45-54.
20. Shete, A., M. Thakar, D.P. Singh, R. Gangakhedkar, A. Gaikwad, J. Pawar, and R. Paranjape, Short communication: HIV antigen-specific reactivation of HIV infection from cellular reservoirs: implications in the settings of therapeutic vaccinations. *AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses*, 2012. 28(8): p. 835-43.
21. Kulkarni, A., R. Paranjape, and M. Thakar, Expansion of defective NK cells in early HIV type 1C infection: a consequence of reduced CD161 expression. *AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses*, 2012. 28(1): p. 100-5.
22. Ghate, M., S. Deshpande, S. Tripathy, S. Godbole, M. Nene, M. Thakar, A. Risbud, R. Bollinger, and S. Mehendale, Mortality in HIV infected individuals in Pune, India. *Indian J Med Res*, 2011. 133: p. 414-20.
23. Thakar, M.R., P.R. Abraham, S. Arora, P. Balakrishnan, B. Bandyopadhyay, A.A. Joshi, K.R. Devi, R. Vasanthapuram, M. Vajpayee, A. Desai, J. Mohanakrishnan, K. Narain, K. Ray, S.S. Patil, R. Singh, A. Singla, and R.S. Paranjape, Establishment of reference CD4+ T cell values for adult Indian population. *AIDS Res Ther*, 2011. 8: p. 35.
24. Shete, A.V., M.R. Thakar, S.P. Tripathy, C. Raut, S. Chakrabarti, and R.S. Paranjape, T-cell Epitopes Identified by BALB/c Mice Immunized with Vaccinia Expressing HIV-1 Gag lie within immunodominant Regions Recognized by HIV-infected Indian Patients. *J Glob Infect Dis*, 2011. 3(3): p. 246-53.
25. Ringe, R., D. Sharma, S. Zolla-Pazner, S. Phogat, A. Risbud, M. Thakar, R. Paranjape, and J. Bhattacharya, A single amino acid substitution in the C4 region in gp120 confers enhanced neutralization of HIV-1 by modulating CD4 binding sites and V3 loop. *Virology*, 2011. 418(2): p. 123-32.
26. Gupta, A., R. Bhosale, A. Kinikar, N. Gupte, R. Bharadwaj, A. Kagal, S. Joshi, M. Khandekar, A. Karmarkar, V. Kulkarni, J. Sastry, V. Mave, N. Suryavanshi, M. Thakar, S. Kulkarni, S. Tripathy, P. Sambarey, S. Patil, R. Paranjape, R.C. Bollinger, and A. Jamkar, Maternal tuberculosis: a risk factor for mother-to-child transmission of human immunodeficiency virus. *J Infect Dis*, 2011. 203(3): p. 358-63.
27. Cohen, M.S., Y.Q. Chen, M. McCauley, T. Gamble, M.C. Hosseinipour, N. Kumarasamy, J.G. Hakim, J. Kumwenda, B. Grinsztejn, J.H. Pilotto, S.V. Godbole, S. Mehendale, S. Chariyalertsak, B.R. Santos, K.H. Mayer, I.F. Hoffman, S.H. Eshleman, E. Piwowar-Manning, L. Wang, J. Makhema, L.A. Mills, G. de Bruyn, I. Sanne, J. Eron, J. Gallant, D. Havlir, S. Swindells, H. Ribaud, V. Elharrar, D. Burns, T.E. Taha, K. Nielsen-Saines, D. Celentano, M. Essex, and T.R. Fleming, Prevention of HIV-1 infection with early antiretroviral therapy. *N Engl J Med*, 2011. 365(6): p. 493-505.
28. Tripathy, S., A. Anand, V. Inamdar, M.M. Manoj, K.M. Khillare, A.S. Datye, R. Iyer, D.M. Kanoj, M. Thakar, V. Kale, M. Pereira, and A.R. Risbud, Clinical response of newly diagnosed HIV seropositive & seronegative pulmonary tuberculosis patients with the RNTCP Short Course regimen in Pune, India. *Indian J Med Res*, 2011. 133: p. 521-8.

29. Shete, A., M. Thakar, P.R. Abraham, and R. Paranjape, A review on peripheral blood CD4+ T lymphocyte counts in healthy adult Indians. *Indian J Med Res*, 2010. 132: p. 667-75.
30. Ringe, R., M. Thakar, and J. Bhattacharya, Variations in autologous neutralization and CD4 dependence of b12 resistant HIV-1 clade C env clones obtained at different time points from antiretroviral naive Indian patients with recent infection. *Retrovirology*, 2010. 7: p. 76.
31. Mehendale, S., S. Sahay, M. Thakar, S. Sahasrabudde, M. Kakade, A. Shete, A. Shrotri, A. Spentzou, T. Tarragona, G. Stevens, S. Kochhar, J.L. Excler, P. Fast, and R. Paranjape, Safety & immunogenicity of tgAAC09, a recombinant adeno-associated virus type 2 HIV-1 subtype C vaccine in India. *Indian J Med Res*, 2010. 132: p. 168-75.
32. Meera, S., T. Madhuri, G. Manisha, and P. Ramesh, Irreversible loss of pDCs by apoptosis during early HIV infection may be a critical determinant of immune dysfunction. *Viral Immunol*, 2010. 23(3): p. 241-9.
33. Moorthy, A., A. Gupta, R. Bhosale, S. Tripathy, J. Sastry, S. Kulkarni, M. Thakar, R. Bharadwaj, A. Kagal, A.V. Bhore, S. Patil, V. Kulkarni, V. Venkataramani, U. Balasubramaniam, N. Suryavanshi, C. Ziemniak, N. Gupte, R. Bollinger, and D. Persaud, Nevirapine resistance and breast-milk HIV transmission: effects of single and extended-dose nevirapine prophylaxis in subtype C HIV-infected infants. *PLoS One*, 2009. 4(1): p. e4096.
34. Boaz, M.J., P. Hayes, T. Tarragona, L. Seamons, A. Cooper, J. Birungi, P. Kitandwe, A. Semaganda, P. Kaleebu, G. Stevens, O. Anzala, B. Farah, S. Ogola, J. Indangasi, P. Mhlanga, M. Van Eeden, M. Thakar, A. Pujari, S. Mishra, N. Goonetilleke, S. Moore, A. Mahmoud, P. Sathyamoorthy, J. Mahalingam, P.R. Narayanan, V.D. Ramanathan, J.H. Cox, L. Dally, D.K. Gill, and J. Gilmour, Concordant proficiency in measurement of T-cell immunity in human immunodeficiency virus vaccine clinical trials by peripheral blood mononuclear cell and enzyme-linked immunospot assays in laboratories from three continents. *Clin Vaccine Immunol*, 2009. 16(2): p. 147-55.
35. Ghate, M., S. Deshpande, S. Tripathy, M. Nene, P. Gedam, S. Godbole, M. Thakar, A. Risbud, R. Bollinger, and S. Mehendale, Incidence of common opportunistic infections in HIV-infected individuals in Pune, India: analysis by stages of immunosuppression represented by CD4 counts. *Int J Infect Dis*, 2009. 13(1): p. e1-8.
36. Kulkarni, S.V., R. Kairon, S.S. Sane, P.S. Padmawar, V.A. Kale, M.R. Thakar, S.M. Mehendale, and A.R. Risbud, Opportunistic parasitic infections in HIV/AIDS patients presenting with diarrhoea by the level of immunosuppression. *Indian J Med Res*, 2009. 130(1): p. 63-6.
37. Lakhashe, S., M. Thakar, S. Godbole, S. Tripathy, and R. Paranjape, HIV infection in India: epidemiology, molecular epidemiology and pathogenesis. *J Biosci*, 2008. 33(4): p. 515-25.
38. Joshi, S.N., S. Das, M. Thakar, V. Sahasrabudde, B.K. Kumar, M. Callahan, and C. Mauck, Colposcopically observed vascular changes in the cervix in relation to the hormonal levels and menstrual cycle. *J Low Genit Tract Dis*, 2008. 12(4): p. 293-9.
39. Mehendale, S., J. van Lunzen, N. Clumeck, J. Rockstroh, E. Vets, P.R. Johnson, P. Anklesaria, B. Barin, M. Boaz, S. Kochhar, J. Lehrman, C. Schmidt, M. Peeters, C. Schwarze-Zander, K. Kabamba, T. Glaunsinger, S. Sahay, M. Thakar, R. Paranjape, J. Gilmour, J.L. Excler, P. Fast, and A.E. Heald, A phase 1 study to evaluate the safety and immunogenicity of a recombinant HIV type 1 subtype C adeno-associated virus vaccine. *AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses*, 2008. 24(6): p. 873-80.

40. Lakhashe, S.K., M.R. Thakar, K.E. Bharucha, and R.S. Paranjape, Quantitation of HLA proteins incorporated by human immunodeficiency virus type 1 and assessment of neutralizing activity of anti-HLA antibodies. *J Virol*, 2008. 82(1): p. 428-34.
41. Gupta, A., N. Gupte, R. Bhosale, A. Kakrani, V. Kulkarni, U. Nayak, M. Thakar, J. Sastry, and R.C. Bollinger, Low sensitivity of total lymphocyte count as a surrogate marker to identify antepartum and postpartum Indian women who require antiretroviral therapy. *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr*, 2007. 46(3): p. 338-42.
42. Lakhashe, S.K., S.S. Kulkarni, M.R. Thakar, M.V. Ghate, and R.S. Paranjape, Extensive cross-reactive neutralizing antibody response in Indian patients with limited genetic diversity of HIV-1. *Virology*, 2007. 359(2): p. 295-301.
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53. Manocha, M., K.T. Chitralkha, M. Thakar, D. Shashikiran, R.S. Paranjape, and D.N. Rao, Comparing modified and plain peptide linked enzyme immunosorbent assay (ELISA) for detection of human immunodeficiency virus type-1 (HIV-1) and type-2 (HIV-2) antibodies. *Immunol Lett*, 2003. 85(3): p. 275-8.
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56. Ghate, M.V., A.D. Divekar, A.R. Risbud, M.R. Thakar, R.G. Brahme, and S.M. Mehendale, Changing trends in clinical presentations in referred human immunodeficiency virus infected persons in Pune, India. *J Assoc Physicians India*, 2002. 50(5): p. 671-3.
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61. Thakar, M., J. Rodrigues, N. Athalye, and K. Banerjee, Serum beta 2 microglobulin levels in HIV seropositive persons. *Indian J Med Res*, 1992. 95: p. 168-70.
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