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Balancing Selection of HLA Class II Among Indonesians

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Abstract

Polymorphisms of HLA-DRB1* and HLA-DQB1* in rheumatoid arthritis (RA) is model of multiple exposure of HLA class II towards abundant exogenous antigen. This can be the evidence of balancing selection in molecular evolution, particularly for HLA class II. The objectives of this study was to determine the frequencies of homozygosity of HLADRBI* and HLA-DQB1* in patients with RA, in order to estimate balancing selection. Genomic DNA of 89 RA cases (ACR Criteria 1987) from 6 hospitals in Java and Bali, and 93 healthy controls were analyzed for HLA-DRB1* through PCR-SSO. Descriptive statistics were used. The results of this study showed lower frequencies of HLA-DRB1*, lower HLA-DRB1* homozygosities (e.g. 2.2%), HLA-DRB1*04 in RA cases, 0% in controls. It can be concluded that lower frequencies of HLA-DRB1* homozygous reveals that balancing selection may exist in Indonesian population.

Keyword : HLA-, class, II, homozygosity, balancing, selection,

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