

Review

## Interleukin 32: a novel player in the control of infectious diseases

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### Abstract

Interleukin 32 (IL - 32) is a proinflammatory cytokine, expressed as 9 distinct isoforms. The most active isoform is the predominantly intracellular - functioning IL - 32  $\gamma$ . Involvement of IL - 32 in infectious diseases is increasingly being appreciated. Production of IL - 32 promotes pathways that serve to control bacterial infection, especially those caused by mycobacteria. A similar role for this cytokine is observed in the cellular response to viral infections. In addition to its protective effects against microorganisms, IL - 32 is involved in immunopathogenesis of some infectious diseases. In parasitic diseases, it has been demonstrated that this cytokine is induced by *Leishmania* infection. In this review, we summarize the present data on the role of IL - 32 in infectious diseases, highlighting this cytokine as new target for control of infections.

### Citing Literature



