THE PUZZLE OF AGING

Back to the puzzling topic of aging!

A primary cell culture *in vitro* has a lifespan limit (Hayflick limit). The process towards senescence has been paralleled with aging in vivo.

There are now several exceptions to Hayflick's rule. Soerens et al. (Nature) report yet another. In an immunization, T-cells respond with a burst of cell division. They then become quiescent and represent cellular immunity. After a burst of cell divisions following immunization of mice, the authors transferred the cells into new mice, which then became immunized. They reiterated this experiment 51 times over a period of 10 years. Each time the T-cells responded efficiently. They calculated that in this way the cells were expanding from the starting population by 10^{40} times (😳). Lots to think about in cancer and aging!

1- https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-022-05626-9

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