

Content

EIDESSTÄTTLICHE ERKLÄRUNG	I
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	II
CONTENT	IV
LIST OF FIGURES.....	IX
LIST OF SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES.....	XII
LIST OF TABLES	XIII
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	XV
SEMANTIC.....	XIX
ABSTRACT.....	1
ZUSAMMENFASSUNG	2
1 INTRODUCTION	3
1.1 The hematopoietic system.....	3
1.1.1 Hematopoietic stem and progenitor cells.....	3
1.1.2 Regulation of hematopoiesis.....	4
1.2 Chronic myeloid leukemia – a stem cell driven disease	5
1.2.1 CML – phases of the disease	6
1.2.2 BCR-ABL1 fusion gene and the translocation partners.....	7
1.2.3 Pathogenic mechanisms of oncogenic tyrosine kinase BCR-ABL1	10
1.2.4 Treatment of CML	12
1.2.5 CML – leukemic stem cells driving the disease	13
1.3 CML mouse models.....	13
1.3.1 Retroviral CML transplantation mouse model.....	14
1.3.2 Transgenic SCLtTA/BCR-ABL1 mouse model	14
1.4 FCGR2B – part of the Fc receptor superfamily.....	15
1.4.1 The ITIM containing FCGR2B.....	16
1.4.2 FCGR2B is involved in the adaptive and innate immunity.....	16
1.4.3 The inhibitory signaling of FCGR2B	17
1.4.4 FCGR2B involvement in cancer.....	18
1.5 Aim of the thesis.....	19
2 MATERIAL AND METHODS	21
2.1 Material.....	21
2.1.1 Used devices.....	21
2.1.2 Used molecular biology reagents and chemicals	22
2.1.3 Enzymes and polymerases.....	24
2.1.4 Loading dye, DNA and protein ladders.....	24
2.1.5 Kit systems.....	24
2.1.6 Consumable material	25
2.1.7 Buffer and media.....	26
2.1.8 Cell culture media, additives and related reagents.....	28
2.1.9 Recombinant cytokines.....	28

2.1.10	Oligonucleotides	29
2.1.11	Taq-Man and Sybr Green qRT-PCR reagents	30
2.1.12	Microorganism.....	31
2.1.13	Vectors	31
2.1.14	Western-Blot antibodies.....	31
2.1.15	antibodies used for FACS analysis	32
2.1.1	Cell lines.....	34
2.1.2	Inhibitors.....	34
2.2	Basic molecular biology methods.....	35
2.2.1	Polymerase chain reaction.....	35
2.2.2	Separation of nucleic acids by agarose gels	35
2.2.3	Photometric quantification of nucleic acid concentration.....	36
2.2.4	Production of chemical competent E.coli.....	36
2.2.1	Cloning of DNA fragments	36
2.2.1.1	Isolation and purification of DNA-fragments	36
2.2.1.2	Cloning of <i>Fcgr2b</i> Isoform1 and Isoform2	36
2.2.1.3	Design of shRNA oligonucleotides	36
2.2.1.1	Hybridization of shRNA oligonucleotides.....	37
2.2.1.2	Ligation	37
2.2.1.3	Transformation of competent bacteria.....	37
2.2.1.4	Minipreparation of transformed E.coli.....	38
2.2.1.1	Maxipreparation of plasmids.....	38
2.2.1.2	Sequencing of plasmids.....	38
2.2.2	RNA-Isolation	38
2.2.3	cDNA synthesis.....	39
2.2.4	Quantitative real-time polymerase chain reaction qRT-PCR and data analysis.....	39
2.3	Biochemical methods.....	40
2.3.1	Preparation of protein lysate	40
2.3.2	Photometric determination of protein concentrations by Bradford assay	41
2.3.3	SDS-PAGE.....	41
2.3.4	Western blot.....	41
2.4	<i>in vitro</i> cell culture.....	42
2.4.1	Cryopreservation and thawing of cells	42
2.4.2	Inhibitor treatment	42
2.4.3	Cell proliferation assay.....	43
2.4.4	MTT-assay	43
2.4.5	Isolation of lineage negative cells from murine bone marrow.....	43
2.4.6	Colony formation Assay	43
2.4.7	Fibronectin adhesion assay	44
2.5	Retroviral transduction	44
2.5.1	Production of retroviral supernatants.....	44
2.5.2	Calcium Phosphate transfection method	44
2.5.3	Collection and storage of retroviral supernatant	45
2.5.4	Testing of viral titers	45
2.5.5	Generation of stable transduced cell lines	45
2.5.6	Transduction of murine lineage negative bone marrow cells	46
2.5.7	Generation of ERHBD-HoxB8 BM cells.....	46
2.5.8	Sorting of transduced cell lines and primary murine cells	47

2.6	Primary patient samples	47
2.6.1	Isolation and freezing of CML MNC	47
2.6.2	Treatment of CML MNC	47
2.6.3	Isolation of CD34 ⁺ CML patient samples	48
2.6.4	Isolation of healthy CD34 ⁺ patient samples	48
2.6.5	Thawing of CD34 ⁺ CML patient samples	48
2.6.6	Treatment of CD34 ⁺ patient samples	48
2.7	Transplantation experiments	49
2.7.1	Breeding and handling of mice strains	49
2.7.2	Genotyping of mice strains	49
2.7.2.1	SCLtTA/BCR-ABL1	49
2.7.2.2	C57Bl6/N <i>Fcgr2b</i> ^{-/-}	50
2.7.3	Injection of 5-FU	51
2.7.4	Transduction of 5-FU treated bone marrow cells	51
2.7.5	Transplantation of transduced bone marrow cells	52
2.7.6	Monitoring of CML like disease	52
2.7.7	Isolation of organs, BM and spleen cells of transplanted mice	53
2.7.8	Histopathological analysis of organs	53
2.8	Fluorescent activated cell sorting (FACS) based methods	53
2.8.1	Apoptosis Assay	53
2.8.2	Analysis of cell cycle	54
2.8.3	Analysis of proliferation using CFSE	54
2.8.4	Analysis of cell surface markers	55
2.8.5	Analysis of CML like phenotype by FACS	55
2.8.5.1	Phenotype FACS analysis of BM and spleen cells	55
2.8.5.2	HSC FACS analysis of BM and spleen cells	55
2.9	Analysis of microarray data	55
2.10	Software and statistical analysis	56
3	RESULTS	57
3.1	Preliminary work – confirmed <i>Fcgr2b</i> transcriptional up regulation on LSC from transgenic SCLtTA/BCR-ABL1 mice	57
3.2	<i>Fcgr2b</i> is up regulated in BCR-ABL1⁺ cells	58
3.2.1	Multipotent progenitor cell population within the stem cell compartment display increased FCGR2B surface expression in transgenic SCLtTA/BCR-ABL1 mice ...	58
3.2.2	BCR-ABL1 up regulates <i>Fcgr2b</i> in 32D cells and primary lineage negative BM cells	60
3.2.3	Fc gamma receptor 2b surface and mRNA expression can be reverted by doxycycline in the transgenic SCLtTA/BCR-ABL1 mice <i>in vitro</i>	61
3.2.4	Up regulated <i>Fcgr2b</i> expression cannot be reverted by TKI treatment <i>in vitro</i>	63
3.2.5	<i>FCGR2B</i> is transcriptional up regulated in CML patients	65
3.3	FCGR2B – oncogenic function for CML leukemogenesis	67
3.3.1	Generation and characterization of ER-HoxB8 immortalized cells from <i>Fcgr2b</i> ^{+/+} and <i>Fcgr2b</i> ^{-/-} BM	68
3.3.2	<i>Fcgr2b</i> inactivation impairs leukemic CFU capacity	71
3.3.3	Cell growth and metabolic activity is affected in BCR-ABL1 ⁺ <i>Fcgr2b</i> knock-out cells	73
3.3.4	<i>Fcgr2b</i> knock-out impairs cell cycle in leukemic cells but has minor effects on apoptosis rate	75
3.3.5	Evaluation of FCGR2B function in transgenic SCLtTA/BCR-ABL1 BM cells	78

3.3.6	Generation of ER-HoxB8 immortalized cells from SCLtTA/BCR-ABL1 and SCLtTA control BM.....	78
3.3.7	shRNA induced knock-down of <i>Fcgr2b</i> in murine BM cells.....	80
3.3.8	CFU capacity and proliferation is impaired in ER-HoxB8 SCLtTA/BCR-ABL1 cells upon shRNA mediated Fc gamma receptor 2b knock-down.....	82
3.4	Genetic depletion and shRNA mediated knock-down of <i>Fcgr2b</i> impairs CML phenotype <i>in vivo</i>.....	83
3.4.1	<i>Fcgr2b</i> knock-out – Influence on the hematopoietic system	83
3.4.1.1	<i>Fcgr2b</i> knock-out reduce T- but increase B-cells in the spleen and influence spleen stem and progenitor cell compartment.....	83
3.4.1.2	<i>Fcgr2b</i> knock-out did not alter the bone marrow stem and progenitor compartment.....	85
3.4.2	<i>Fcgr2b</i> knock-out impairs CML-like phenotype <i>in vivo</i>	86
3.4.3	shRNA mediated knock-down of <i>Fcgr2b</i> attenuates CML development in a transgenic BCR-ABL1 transplantation approach	89
3.5	Oncogenic mechanism mediated by FCGR2B signaling	92
3.5.1	Up regulation of FCGR2B in CML – mechanistic role of the cytokines IL-4 and IL-10.....	92
3.5.1	FCGR2B is phosphorylated in BCR-ABL1 positive cells	95
3.5.2	Oncogenic BCR-ABL1 downstream signaling is impaired upon <i>Fcgr2b</i> depletion.....	97
3.5.3	Retroviral re-introduction of <i>Fcgr2b</i> into BCR-ABL1+ <i>Fcgr2b</i> knock-out cells partly rescue colony formation potential and impaired downstream signaling	98
3.6	Therapeutic targeting of the FCGR2B ITIM motif and BTK as a potential downstream mediator.....	101
3.6.1	Overexpression of SH2-SHIP1-YFP peptide reduced leukemic activity.....	101
3.6.2	Inhibition of FCGR2B downstream target BTK by Ibrutinib in combination with TKI therapy	105
3.6.2.1	Ibrutinib reduces cell viability and clonogenic potential in CML blast crisis cell line K562.....	105
3.6.2.2	Combined Ibrutinib and Imatinib treatment reduce the clonogenic potential of MNCs and CD34+ stem and progenitor cells from CML patients	107
3.6.2.3	Ibrutinib is able to reduce proliferation and contributes to eradication of CML-CP CD34+ CFSE ^{max} stem cells in combination with Imatinib.....	111
4	DISCUSSION	114
4.1	CML – a long way to therapeutic strategies and targets.....	114
4.2	FCGR2B - an ITIM motif containing receptor with a role in CML stem cell biology?	115
4.3	Up regulated <i>Fcgr2b</i> expression is not exclusively dependent on BCR-ABL1 kinase	117
4.4	CML development is impaired due to <i>Fcgr2b</i> knock-out	118
4.4.1	<i>In vitro</i> studies revealed that <i>Fcgr2b</i> knock-out alters BCR-ABL1+ cell properties ...	118
4.4.2	<i>Fcgr2b</i> knock-out impairs CML leukemogenesis <i>in vivo</i>	119
4.5	Oncogenic downstream signaling is altered by FCGR2B.....	121
4.5.1	Activation of oncogenic FCGR2B signaling – a role for SRC kinase.....	121
4.5.2	Impaired oncogenic FCGR2B signaling – a SHIP1 independent mechanism?.....	122
4.5.3	Leukemic FCGR2B signaling impairs ERK1/2, p38 MAPK and BTK activation.....	123
4.6	FCGR2B and associated downstream mediators as a therapeutic target for CML LSCs.....	124

4.6.1	Inhibition of FCGR2B ITIM motif by SH2-SHIP1-YFP peptide reduced leukemic cell function	124
4.6.2	BTK - a new target contributing to the eradication of CML LSCs	125
5	CONCLUSION AND PERSPECTIVES	128
6	BIBLIOGRAPHY	129
7	SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURES	152
	CURRICULUM VITAE	161
	PUBLICATIONS	162