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Oligoclonal bands in multiple sclerosis; functional significance and therapeutic implications. Does the specificity matter?

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Highlights

- Immunoglobulins in oligoclonal bands secreted by plasma cells in the CNS can contribute to worsening pathology in MS
- Secreted immunoglobulin can interact with microglial Fc receptors in an antigen non-specific manner.
- Microglia and astrocytes may create a survival niche for long-term plasma cell survival.
- Plasma cells, microglia and astrocytes may interact to establish a locally neurotoxic or dystrophic environment.
- Bruton's tyrosine kinase inhibitors may be therapeutic agents for the potential elimination of plasma cells and OCB from the CNS in MS.

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