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Immunology Refresher

Immune System

A coordinated system of cells, tissues, and soluble molecules that constitute the body's defense against invasion by nonself entities, including infectious and inert agents and tumor cells. 1

The immune system has 4 key tasks²:

- 1. Recognition: Detect infection or harm
- 2. Effector function: Contain and eliminate infection
- 3. Regulation: Control activity to avoid damage to the body
- 4. Memory: Remember exposure; react immediately and strongly upon re-exposure

Innate and Adaptive Immunity²

Immune System

INDIATE IMMIDIITY

- Nonspecific
- · Present at all times
- · Immediate but general protection
- · Activates adaptive immune response

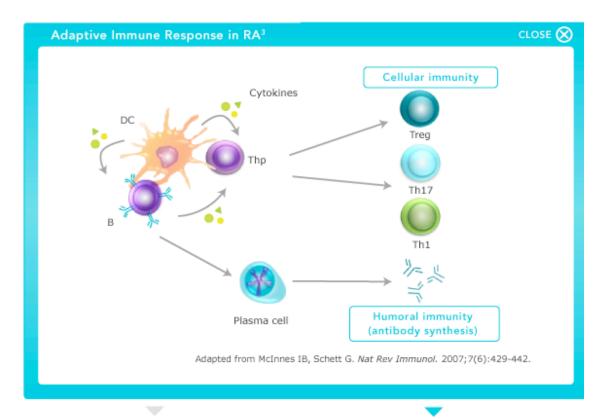
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 Does not improve with repeated exposure to a pathogen

ADAPTIVE IMMUNITY

- Develops in response to infection
- · Protective against specific pathogens
- Leverages components of the innate response
- Develops memory, which may provide lifelong immunity to reinfection with the same pathogen

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COMPONENTS	FUNCTION	COMPONENTS	FUNCTION
Macrophage	Phagocytosis Activation of bactericidal activity Antigen presentation	T lymphocytes	T cells fall into 2 broad classes according to function CD4+ T helper cells (Th) that orchestrate and regulate immune responses CD8+ cytotoxic T cells (CTL) kill cells infected with viruses or other intracellular pathogens All T cells secrete cytokines
Dendritic cell	Antigen uptake in the periphery Antigen presentation		
Neutrophil	Phagocytosis Activation of bactericidal activity		
Other myeloid cells (eg, eosinophils, basophils, mast cells)	Kill antibody- coated parasites Release histamine granules and other pro-inflammatory mediators	B lymphocytes	Produce antibodies in response to antigens Antigen presentation Cytokine secretion
Natural Killer cells	Release lytic granules to kill some virus-infected cells	Antibodies	Bind to antigens to neutralize them or facilitate destruction of microorganisms
Complement	Soluble proteins that form a complex to destroy microorganisms		
Cytokines O O O	Proteins secreted by cells that affect the behavior of nearby cells bearing appropriate receptors	Cytokines	Proteins secreted by cells that affect the behavior of nearby cells bearing appropriate receptors

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