

Contents

	Acknowledgements	xi
1	Introduction	I
	Some historical perspectives	3
	The classical precipitin reaction	4
	The basis of specificity	7
	The forces binding antigen to antibody, 9; Antibody affinity, 12; Avidity and the bonus effect of multivalent binding, 15; Specificity and cross-reactions, 16; The antibody site and antigen determinants, 17	
	Further reading	19
2	The immunoglobulins	21
	The basic structure of the immunoglobulins	21
	Variations in structure of the immunoglobulins	25
	Structural variation in relation to antibody specificity, 29; Variability in structure unrelated to antibody specificity, 31	
	Comparison of immunoglobulin classes	35
	Immunoglobulin subclasses, 40; Other immunoglobulin variants, 41	
	Further reading	44
3	The synthesis of antibody	47
	Two types of immune response	47
	Role of the small lymphocyte	47
	Primary response, 47; Secondary response—memory, 48	
	The thymus	51
	The Bursa of Fabricius	52
	Two populations of lymphocytes: T- and B-cells	53
	Identification of B- and T-lymphocytes, 54; Lymphocyte surface phenomena, 61	
	Cellular co-operation in the immune response	63
	The role of macrophages, 63; Co-operation between T- and B-cells, 64; Relevance to antigenicity, 66	
	The anatomical basis of the immune response	70
	Lymph node, 70; Spleen, 75; Encapsulated lymphoid tissue, 76	
	Synthesis of humoral antibody	76
	Detection of antibody-forming and antigen-sensitive cells, 76; Protein synthesis, 79; Abnormal immunoglobulin synthesis, 80; Immunoglobulin classes, 82	

Genetical control of the immune response	83
Genes affecting general responsiveness, 83; Immune response linked to immunoglobulin genes, 84; Immune response linked to the major histocompatibility complex, 84	
Regulation of the immune response	86
Immunological tolerance	88
At birth, 88; In adult, 89; Termination of tolerance, 93	
Ontogeny of the immune response	94
Phylogeny of the immune response	97
Further reading	100

4	Theories of antibody synthesis	101
	Instructive theory	101
	Selective theory	101
	Evidence for a selective theory	102
	Absence of antigen from plasma cells, 102; Unfolding experiments, 103; Amino acid sequence of antibodies, 103; Genetic studies, 103	
	Clonal selection model	103
	Evidence for clonal selection model	105
	One cell/one immunoglobulin, 105; Relation of surface antibody to future performance, 105	
	Validity of the clonal selection model	107
	Genetic theories of antibody variability	111
	Further reading	116

5	Interaction of antigen and antibody <i>in vitro</i>	119
	Precipitation	119
	Quantitative precipitin curves, 119; Precipitation in gels, 119; Single radial immunodiffusion (SRID), 122; Immunoelectrophoresis, 122	
	Radioactive binding techniques	126
	Determination of antigen-binding capacity, 126; Determination of antibody binding capacity, 127; Radioimmunoassay, 128	
	Immunofluorescence	128
	Other labelled antibody methods, 132	
	Reactions with cell surface antigens	133
	Binding of antibody, 133; Agglutination, 133; Opsonic adherence, 136; Stimulation, 136; Cytotoxic reactions, 137	
	Complement	137
	Nature of complement, 137; The complement fixation test (CFT), 139; Activation of complement, 139; The complement sequence, 141; Role in defence, 144; Role in disease, 146; Complement deficiencies, 146; Genetics, 147	
	Neutralization of biological activity	147
	Further reading	149

6	Hypersensitivity	151
	Type I—anaphylactic sensitivity, 151; Type II—antibody-dependent cytotoxic hypersensitivity, 151; Type III—complex-mediated hypersensitivity, 151; Type IV—cell-mediated (delayed-type) hypersensitivity, 152; Type V—stimulatory hypersensitivity, 154	
	Type I—Anaphylactic sensitivity	154
	Systemic anaphylaxis, 154; Mechanism of anaphylaxis, 155; Atopic allergy, 158	
	Type II—Antibody-dependent cytotoxic hypersensitivity	160
	Isoimmune reactions, 162; Autoimmune reactions, 164; Drug reactions, 166	
	Type III—Complex-mediated hypersensitivity	166
	Antibody excess (Arthus-type reactivity), 167; Antigen excess (serum sickness), 170; Detection of immune complex formation, 172	
	Type IV—Cell-mediated (delayed-type) hypersensitivity	173
	Cellular basis, 174; Effector mechanisms, 176; <i>In vitro</i> tests for cell-mediated hypersensitivity, 178; Relation to antibody synthesis, 180; Tissue damage, 182	
	Type V—Stimulatory hypersensitivity	183
	Summary of different types of hypersensitivity	185
	Further reading	187
7	Immunity to infection	189
	Innate immunity	189
	Preventing entry, 189; Counterattack against the invaders, 190; The role of complement, 193	
	Acquired immunity	194
	Immunity to bacterial infection	195
	Role of humoral antibody, 195; role of cell-mediated immunity (CMI), 198	
	Immunity to viral infection	201
	Protection by serum antibody, 202; Local factors, 202; Cell-mediated immunity, 203	
	Immunity to parasitic infections	206
	Protozoa, 206; Helminths, 208	
	Prophylaxis	209
	Passively acquired immunity, 209; Active immunization, 210	
	Primary immunodeficiency	216
	Secondary immunodeficiency	220
	Further reading	223

8	Transplantation	225
	Evidence that rejection is immunological	225
	Transplantation antigens	227
	Genetics, 227; The major histocompatibility complex in mice, 228; The major histocompatibility complex in man, 233	
	Rejection mechanisms	234
	Lymphocyte-mediated rejection, 234; The role of humoral antibody, 235	
	Prevention of graft rejection	239
	Tissue matching, 239; General immunosuppression, 240; Antigen-specific depression of homograft reactivity, 244	
	Clinical experience in grafting	246
	Biological significance of the major histocompatibility complex	248
	Polymorphism, 248; Immunological relationship of mother and foetus, 249; Recognition systems, 250; The cancer cell and the allograft reaction, 252; Relation of MHC to the complement system, 259; Association with disease, 259	
	Further reading	263
9	Autoimmunity	265
	The spectrum of autoimmune diseases	265
	Autoantibodies in human disease	266
	Overlap of autoimmune disorders	272
	Genetic factors in autoimmune disease	274
	Aetiology of autoimmune response	276
	Pathogenic mechanisms in autoimmune disease	281
	Effects of humoral antibody, 282; Effects of complexes, 287; Cellular hypersensitivity, 291; Experimental models of autoimmune disease, 294	
	Diagnostic value of autoantibody tests	297
	Treatment of autoimmune disorders	297
	Summary: comparison of organ-specific and non-organ-specific diseases	299
	Further reading	300
	Appendix	
	Ministry of Health schedule of vaccination and immunization procedures	303
	Index	307