

Basics of Immunology

Introduction Master D2HP

By Viviana Marin-Esteban 2024





Immunology- Host defense against pathogens

Immune response mechanisms



Detection of danger



Dendritic cell

Detection of danger Activation of inflammation





Proinflammatory cytokines



Dendritic cell

Recruitment of circulating cells



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Destruction of the pathogen







Dendritic cell





In a nutshell

- -Immediate response
- Not antigen-specific
- No memory
- 3 goals :
 - Trigger inflammation
 - Destroy the pathogen
 - Initiate adaptative response



Adaptive response components

Cells

Lymphocytes

- T lymphocytes
 - CD4+ helper T cells
 - CD8+ cytotoxic T cells
- B Lymphocytes
 - Plasma cells

Molecules

- Cytokines (helper T lymphocytes)
- Antibodies (plasma cells)
- Cytotoxic molecules (cytotoxic T lymphocytes)

Adaptive response



Differentiation into effectors

• Sélections - Elimination of autoreactive repertoire

Humoral adaptive response = B lymphocytes



1. T cell activation (antigen presentation)

2. B cell activation



Cellular adaptive response = T lymphocytes Helper and cytotoxic response 2. CD8 T cell activation



1. CD4 T cell activation



Memory response

Example of B-lymphocyte memory response illustrated by blood immunoglobulin levels



Adaptive response

In a nutshell

- Delayed answer
- Antigen-specific
- Effectors: antibodies and cytotoxic T cells
- Memory capacity
- 2 Goals:

-to destroy the pathogen, directly or via activation of immune mechanisms
-to set up a protection against future infections (memory)



Differences in immune responses



Innate

- Immediate
- PRR not restrained to a unique antigen
- No memory

Deficiencies in innate response: Bacterial or fungal infections

Adaptive

- Delayed
- Antigen-specific
- Memory capacity

Deficiency :

Humoral response: bacterial infections Cellular response : viral infections, fungal and parasite infections

Immunopathology



Clinical tools related with the immune system

Function	Role	Clinical Tools		
Antimicrobial	Defense against pathogens	Vaccines, vaccine adjuvants, monoclona		
	(innate/adaptive response)	antibodies, immunoglobulin therapies		
Antitumoral	Tumor surveillance and	Immunotherapies (checkpoint inhibitors		
	elimination	CAR-T), cancer vaccines		
Transplantation	Managing immune rejection	Immunosuppressants, tolerance		
		induction therapies		
HSCT	Immune system restoration	Hematopoietic stem cell transplantation		
		(allogeneic/autologous)		

Course outline

• Basics

- Innate Immunity
- Adaptive immunity

Immunopathology

- Allergy
- Graft
- Immune deficiencies (january 2025)
- Auto-immune diseases (january 2025)
- Diagnostic methods using antibodies



Basics of Immunology



Innate response and inflammation Master D2HP



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First lines of defense



Infection = breach of muco-cutaneous barrier



Intrusion alarm: inflammatory response

Roles of inflammation



If > 6 weeks: chronic inflammation => tissue lesions

Clinical manifestations



Innate response components

Cells

Tissue resident:

- Sentinel cells
 Dendritic cells, macrophages
- Others: Mast cells, epithelial cells, endothelium, innate lymphoid cells

Recruited cells:

- Granulocytes (neutrophils ++)
- Monocytes
- NK lymphocytes



Molecules

• Complement

- Cytokines (pro-inflammatory. In resolution phase anti-inflammatory)
- Antimicrobial molecules
- Vasoactive molecules

How do innate cells recognize non-self?



« Danger » signal



Examples of PRRs



Inflammatory response

Tissue injury





Inflammatory response

Tissue injury





Cytokines and inflammation



Pro-inflammatory

IL-1 : activates endothelium, immune cells, causes fever

TNFα : activates endothelium, immune cells, raises vascular permeability

IL-6 : activates lymphocytes, causes production of inflammatory molecules by the liver

Chemokines

IL-8: Attracts neutrophils

Anti-inflammatory

IL-10Tissue repair, downregulates
pro-inflammatory cytokines andTGFbdiminishes activation of cells

Pleiotropy of cytokine effects





TNFα, IL-1 and IL-6 are therapeutic targets in inflammatory diseases 32

Inflammatory response

Tissue injury















1- Phagocytosis



2- Degranulation and oxydative burst





3- NETosis



DNA ejection from neutrophil Traps microorganisms



The complement system



- About 30 plasma proteins (5%)
- Complex enzymatic activation cascades
- 3 activation ways
- All leading to C3 protein cleavage
- Leads to target cell destruction

Complement overview



Inflammatory response

Tissue injury



Inflammation resolution



Key takeaways



- PRRs detect danger signals, either exogenous (MAMPs) or endogenous (DAMPs), extracellular or intracellular.
- PRRs recognize diverse microorganisms and different PRR are expresed on every innate immune cell.
- PRR interactions triggers the production of proinflammatory cytokines (TNF, IL-1, IL-6).
- Proinflammatory cytokines initiate the inflammatory response by activating local cells, including endothelial cells of nearby blood vessels, and inducing systemic responses such as fever.
- Neutrophils are the first cells recruted on inflammed tissues. They are highly effective at combating pathogens through phagocytosis, oxidative bursts, degranulation, and the release of NETs (DNA-based antimicrobial traps).
- As danger persists, neutrophils are activated and release IL-8, a chemokine that recruits additional neutrophils to the site of inflammationand.

Key takeaways

• Neutrophil activity can cause collateral tissue damage.



- Inflammation resolution: Apoptotic neutrophils are cleared by macrophages via efferocytosis, which switches macrophages to an anti-inflammatory (M2) state.
- Anti-inflammatory mediators: IL-10, TGF-β, and lipid mediators (resolvins, protectins) stop inflammation and promote tissue repair.
- Clinical relevance of cytokines: Cytokine dysregulation contributes to diseases like septic shock or chronic inflammation, making them therapeutic targets.

Starting adaptive response



Dendritic cells

Different subsets with distinct phenotypes, including varying patterns of PRR expression \rightarrow lead to distinct immune responses.



Segura, Eur J Immunol 2022

	cDC1	cDC2	pDC	cDC3	Mo-DC
Cross-presentation	Yes	Yes	Yes	?	Yes
Presentation on MHC II	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Induction of cytotoxic	Yes	Yes	Limited	?	Yes
CD8 T cells					
Induction of Th1 cells	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Induction of Th2 cells	Yes	Yes	No	No	?
Induction of Th17 cells	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Induction of Tfh cells	No	Yes	No	?	Yes
Induction of Treg cells	No	Yes	Yes	?	?
Secretion IL-12	Limited	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Secretion IL-23	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Secretion type I IFN	No	No	Yes	No	No

Peptides associated to MHC / HLA molecules : Processing and presentation pathways



Class I HLA molecules :

- Present peptides mostly derived form endogenous / cytoplasmic proteins
- Peptides are presented to CD8+ T lymphocytes → cytotoxic response

Class II HLA molecules

- •Present peptides mostly derived form exogenous proteins
- Peptides are presented to CD4+ T lymphocytes → cytokine response

Peptides associated to HLA molecules : Processing and presentation pathways



Trained innate immunity



of innate

wang et al Front Immunol 2024

- **'Trained innate immunity'** ability of innate immune system to have an enhanced inflammatory or antimicrobial response upon re-exposure to pathogens or danger signals.
- Observed even with heterologous stimulation.
- Based on the epigenetic and metabolic reprogramming of innate cell precursors (bone marrow or tissues)
- BCG and beta-glucans are canonical inducers.
- Several innate cells have been shown to be trainable (e.g. monocytes, neutrophils, ILC3, NK cells).
- Time • It is distinct from priming, differentiation/polarization, maturation.
 - Different from 'innate immune memory': ability of the innate immune system to retain a "memory-like" response after encountering certain stimuli (pathogens). It is recallable. (NK cells)

Thank you for your attention