Basic Immunology (Dentistry)

Lecture 1.

Introduction, phylogenesis of the immune system (innate-, adaptive- and natural immunity).

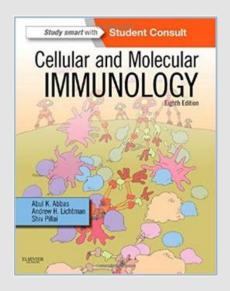
Ferenc Boldizsar MD, PhD

Introducing the subject 1.

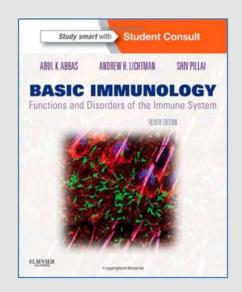
- 2 online lectures / week in MS Teams (preparation of own lecture notes!) All lecture slides and the recordings of the actual Teams lectures will be available on our website (www.immbio.hu).
- We will monitor the active participation on the lectures using online quiz questions in the www.medtraining.eu website. We will ask 5 questions (1point for each) on all lectures. For the acceptance of the semester, at least 50% of the total points must be achieved. If somebody collects more than 50%, extra points will be rewarded to the exam: (51%-60%: 2 points; 61-70%: 4 points; 71-80%: 6 points; 81-90%: 8 points; 91%-: 10 points).
- The presence on the lestures will also be controlled using the medtraining system. We accept the participation on an online lecture only if the student has loged on the medtraining and answered the quiz questions. 3 absences are allowed during the semester.
- **Exam:** online test (www.medtraining.eu) from the lectures. Evaluation: satisfactory 66-71%, average 72-77%, good 78-83%, excellent 84%

Introducing the subject 2.

Our official books you can learn from:



Abul K. Abbas, Andrew H.H. Lichtman, Shiv Pillai: **Cellular and Molecular Immunology**, 8th edition, 2015.



Abul K. Abbas, Andrew H.H. Lichtman, Shiv Pillai: **Basic Immunology**, 4th edition, 2012.

 Attention! Our department has never published or lectored any notes for students, therefore we recommend you to be cautious in case you decide to study from them.

Introducing the subject 3.

- What makes immunology worth studying?
 - The immune system is involved one way or another in almost all human pathological conditions.
 - Many of the laboratory diagnostics are based on immunological methods.
 (see later)
 - More and more diseases get treatable by manipulating the immune system. (see later)
 - Autoimmune diseases affect 7-8% of the population, they are chronic and generally incurable, yet many can be treated effectively. (see later)
 - The number of immunocompromised patients increased recently. (Due to therapeutic immunosuppression and HIV, see later)
 - Laypeople also seem to have strong opinions regarding immunology. →
 Media tends to mix medical facts with quackery and pseudoscience.

First Case of Diphtheria in Spain Since 1986
After Parents Shun Vaccination

TIME

A news report from June of

Our approach

Molecules

Cells

Organs

Functions

Special emphasis on topics related to dentistry.

Basic terms

- **Immunis,- e** (*Julius Caesar*) = exempt, free of burden (E.g. tax, law, or diseases)
- IMMUNE: individuals who do not capitulate to a disease when infected;
- IMMUNITY: status of specific resistance to a disease;
- IMMUNOLOGY: branch of theoretical biology focuses on mechanisms responsible for both self and non-self recognition, elimination of the invaders and protection of the basic structural elements.

Definition of the antigen

Detre (Deutsch) László (1874-1939):

ANTIBODY GENERATOR: foreign substance induces antibody production (1899)

Modern definition: substance, which is recognized by T cell and/or B cell receptors, and it is able to induce active immune response or tolerance according to the host immunogenetic background (MHC haplotype).

Main tasks of the immune system

The immune system is a structural and functional <u>network</u>.

Preserving the integrity of an organism

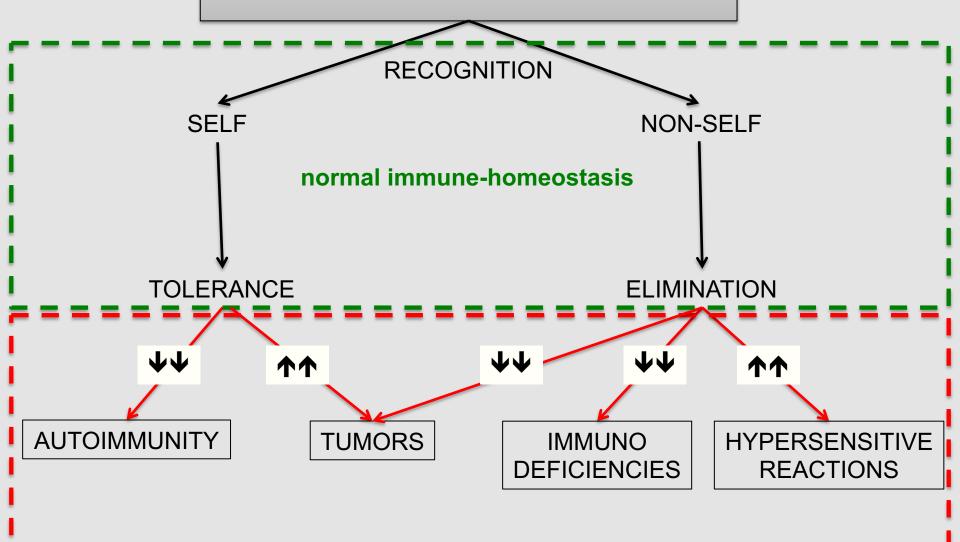
Defense against **external pathogens** (e.g. viruses, bacteria, parasites)

Elimination of one's **pathologically altered cells** (e.g. virally infected cells, cancer cells)

Altered self- and foreign structures must be **recognized** and **distinguished** from the organism's own healthy cells.

immune RESPONSE (either an aggressive response or immunological tolerance)





ALTERED immune-homeostasis= IMMUNOPATHOLOGY

Composition of the immune system



Innate

- None antigen specific
- No immunological memory
- Rapid reactivity
- Linear amplification of the reaction

Adaptive

- Antigen specific
- Immunological memory
- Activated after a latency
- Exponential amplification of the reaction

Natural

Innate-like immunity with adaptive features



Innate immune system

- Pattern recognition receptors (PRR)
- Pathogen associated molecular patterns (PAMP)
- First line defence
- Low number of molecularly distinct receptors and high number of recognized patterns
- Main molecular components: Antibacterial peptides, Complement factors and their receptors, Heat shock proteins, Fc receptors, Inflammatory cytokines, Growth factors, Histamine
- Main cellular components: Macrophages Monocytes, NK cells, Granulocytes, Mast cells

Adaptive immune system

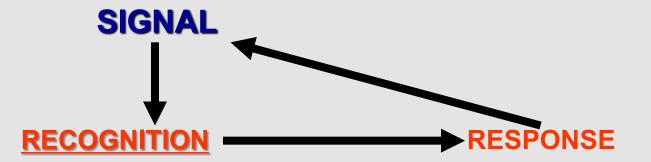
- Antigen receptor (BCR,TCR)
- Epitope specific in a given antigen
- Adaptive immune response
- High number of distinct antigen receptors and high number of recognized antigens
- Main molcelar components: Antibodies, MHC, T and B cell receptors, Lymphatic citokines
- Main cellular components: T cells (both αβ and γδ), B cells, Antigen presenting cells



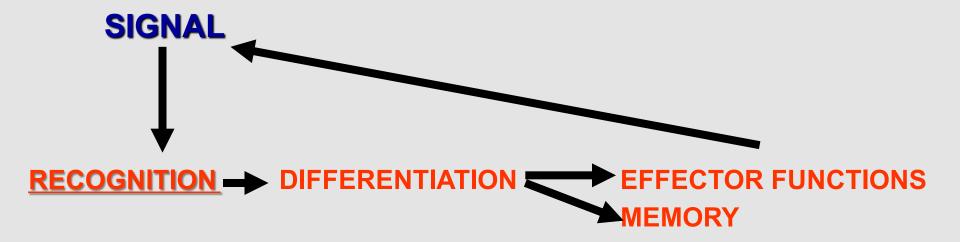
Natural immune system

- Antigen recognition receptors (BCR,TCR) with limited specificity
- Patern recognition profile
- Innate-like immune response
- Limited number of distinct antigen receptors and high number of recognized antigens
- Main cellular components: iNKT cells, iγδT cells,
 MAIT cells, IEL cells, CD5+ B1 cells
- ◆Main molcelar components: natural (auto)antibodies

Theoretical scheme of the innate immunity



Theoretical scheme of the adaptive immunity



Basic Immunology (Dentistry)

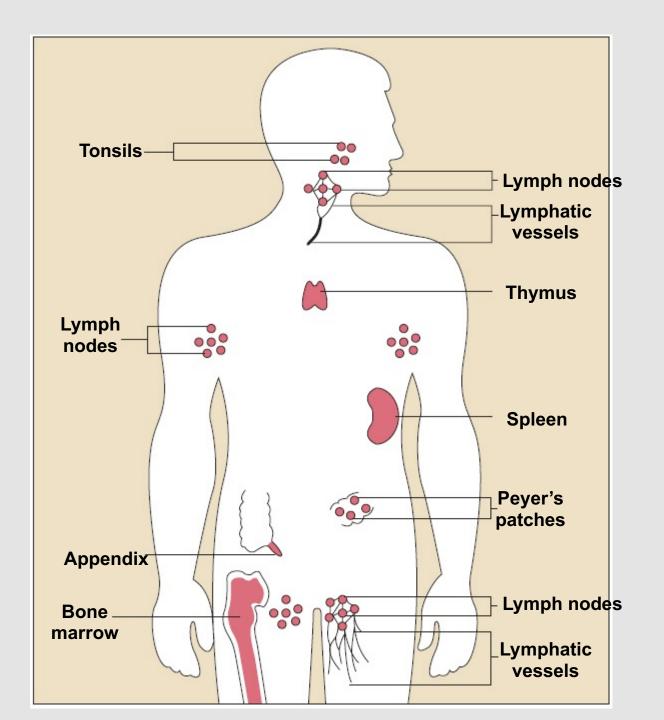
Lecture 2.

Composition of the immune system. Organs, tissues, cells, molecular components.

Ferenc Boldizsar MD, PhD

Organs of the immune system

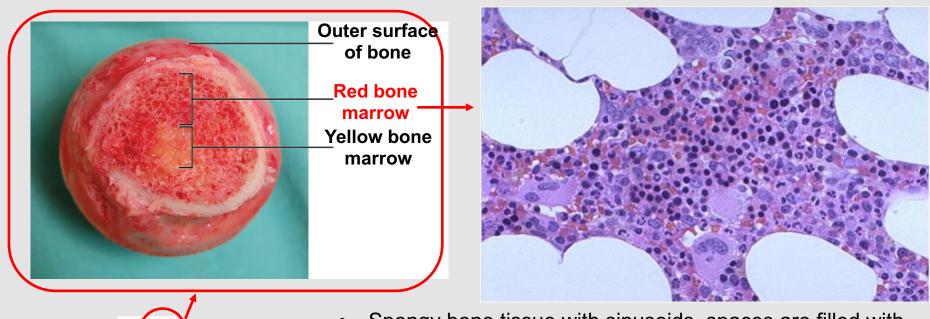
- The immune system is organized into a network of cells and organs.
 (the entire body must be protected from pathogens)
- Lymphoid organs:
 - Primary (production of immune cells)
 - Bone marrow, thymus, embryonic liver (+bursa of Fabricius in birds [nomenclature: "B" lymphocytes originating from the bursa and "T" cells from the thymus^[1,]])
 - Secondary (site of antigen recognition, immune response)
 - Lymph nodes, spleen, MALT (mucosa-associated lymphatic tissue), SALT (skin-associated lymphatic tissue)
 - Tertiary (pathological, usually due to chronic inflammation)
 - E.g. ectopic (=at an abnormal site) lymphoid follicles



Bone marrow (medulla ossium)

- Spongiform tissue found within bones which constitutes 4-5% of the total body weight in adults. (≈2,6 kg)^[2,]
- Red bone marrow (medulla ossium rubra):
 - Found in short and flat bones (sternum, ribs, clavicle, scapula, pelvis, vertebrae, skull) and the epiphysis of long bones (e.g. femur)
 - Role: Producing blood cells (hematopoiesis) → 10¹¹ new cells daily of neutrophils alone^[3.] (the human body is made of approx. 3,7x10¹³ cells)^[4.]
- Yellow bone marrow (medulla ossium flava):
 - Found in the diaphysis of long bones
 - Mainly composed of adipocytes, can turn into red bone marrow when needed (e.g. after blood loss)

Structure of the red bone marrow



- Epiphysis

 Diaphysis
- Spongy bone tissue with sinusoids, spaces are filled with cells of various lineages undergoing hematopoiesis (see later), stromal cells and adipocytes.^[2,]
- Mature and naive B cells leave the bone marrow, whereas T cells produced by the bone marrow are still immature and must undergo further maturation in the thymus.
- Mature: capable of recognizing an antigen
- Naive: haven't yet encountered an antigen

Clinical significance of the bone marrow

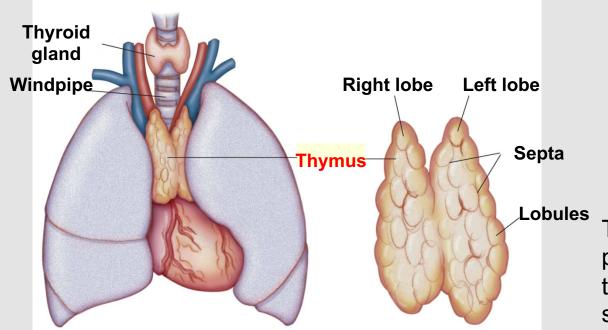
- Bone marrow biopsy or aspiration for histological or cytological assessment in case of hematological diseases (e.g. leukemias, aplastic anemia, etc.)
 - Performed from: iliac crest or sternum^[5.]
- Collecting hematopoietic stem cells (HSC) to perform bone marrow transplantation
 - Usually gathered from the peripheral blood after cell mobilization^[6.]

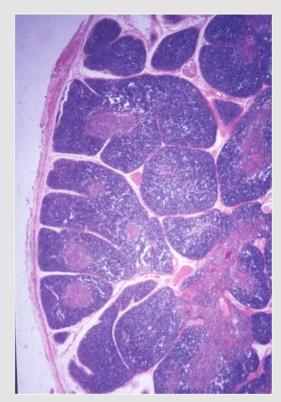




Thymus

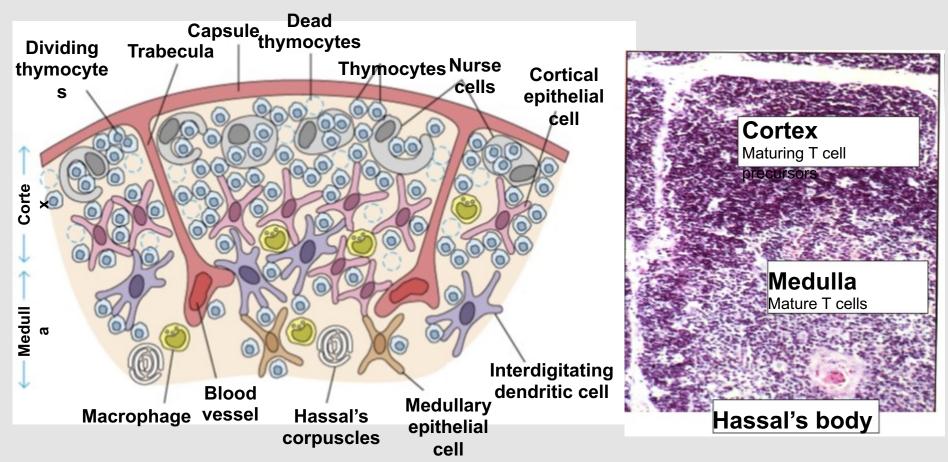
- A lobulated organ located in the superior mediastinum, it is the primary site of T cell maturation.
- Consists of 2 lobes further divided into lobules separated by connective tissue septa. The inner layer of the lobules is called medulla, the





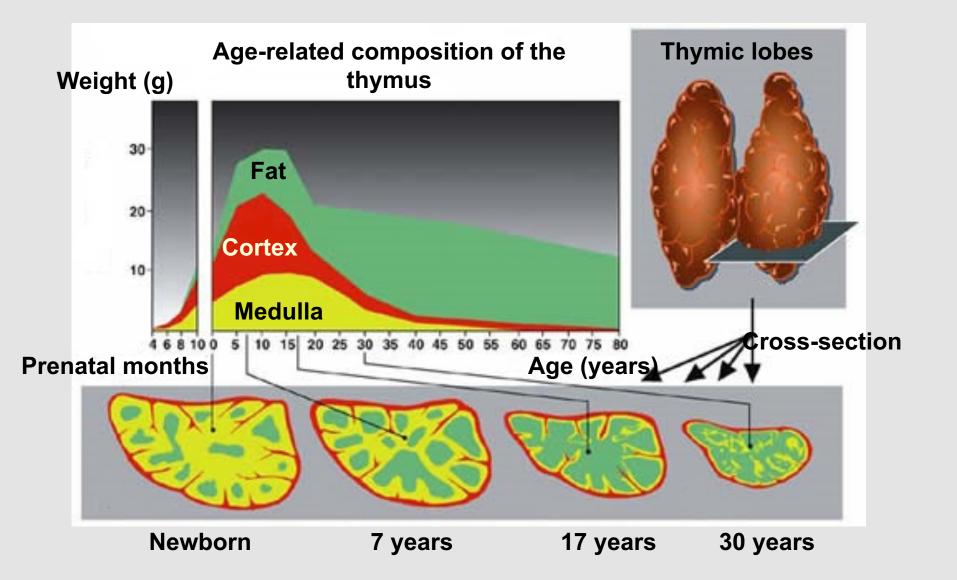
Thymus (H&E staining): the peripheral, basophilic layer is the cortex. The inner medulla seems more eosinophilic because it contains less cell nuclei.

Histology of the thymus



- T cell precursors (=immature cells) produced by the bone marrow enter the thymus through blood vessels → MATURATION (see later) → Mature and naive T cells leave the thymus and enter circulation
- Main cellular components of the thymus: T cells (thymocytes), thymus
 epithelial cells, dendritic cells, macrophages, epithelioreticular cells^[7,]

Involution of the thymus



Clinical significance of the thymus

- Congenital abnormalities (e.g. ectopic thymus or thymic aplasia [=absence of thymus] for instance in DiGeorge syndrome → immunodeficiency)
- Tumors (thymoma, thymus carcinoma)^[8.]
 - May be associated with autoimmune disorders such as myasthenia gravis (see later)
 - Might compress nearby structures (e.g. superior vena cava syndrome, dysphagia, see later in the clinical phase of your studies)



Thoracic CT angiography (dye seen in blood vessels): The red line marks a thoracic mass later confirmed to be a thymoma by histological evaluation.

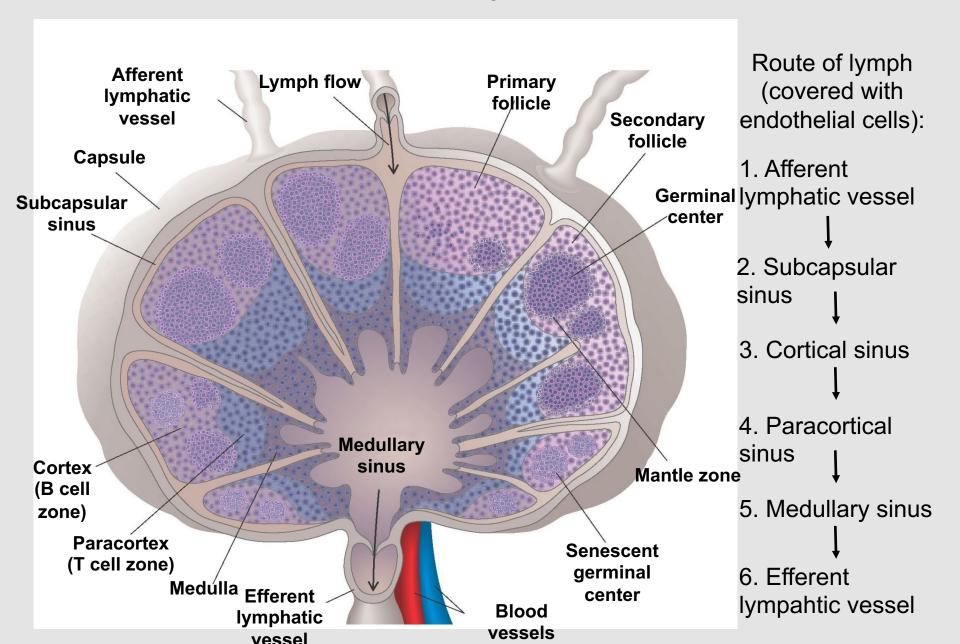
Lymph node (nodus lymphaticus)

- They act as filters of the lymph: lymph reaching the node through the
 afferent lymphatic vessels is filtered for pathogens and cancer cells. (one
 of the organs where the adaptive immune cells can meet with antigens the
 first time)
- This is the place where the antigens that entered the lymphatic system will be recognized by the adaptive immune cells followed by cell proliferation and differentiation.
- Tremendous clinical significance: Infectious agents and cancer cells may



Retroperitoneal lymphadenomegaly (=enlarged lymph nodes) seen on a CT scan image. Arrows mark enlarged lymph nodes.

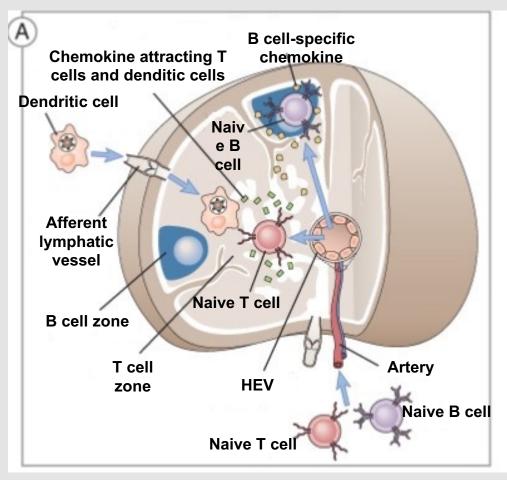
Structure of lymph nodes



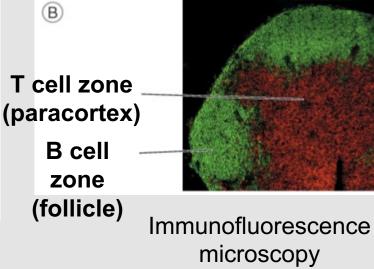
Structure of lymph nodes

- Have outer fibrous capsule from which trabeculae radiate towards the inner part of the organ.
- Layers from outermost to innermost: **cortex**, **paracortex** and the **medulla**.
- Afferent lymphatic vessels enter through the convex surface; the efferent lymphatic vessels and blood vessels (artery and venule) are located at the hilum.
- Reticular connective tissue forms the frameworks of the lymph nodes.
- Sites where immune cells enter:
 - From the bloodstream: high endothelial venules (HEV)
 - From the lymphatic system: afferent lymphatic vessels
- Cellular zones:^[9.]
 - Cortex: B cells organized into follicles, cells that recognized an antigen proliferate and form germinal centers
 - Paracortex: T cells and dendritic cells diffusely
 - Medulla: mainly antibody-producing plasma cells

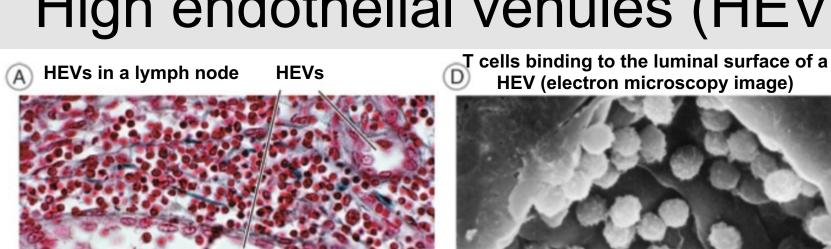
Structure of lymph nodes 3.



The cellular organization is controlled by **chemokines**. (see later in lectures)

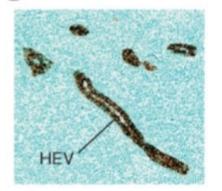


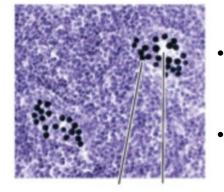
High endothelial venules (HEV)



L-selectin ligand on Bendothelial cells (IHC)

T cells binding to HEV C(frozen section assay)

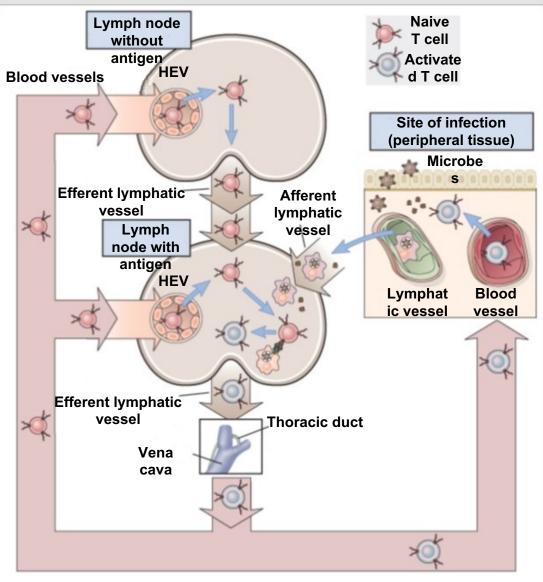




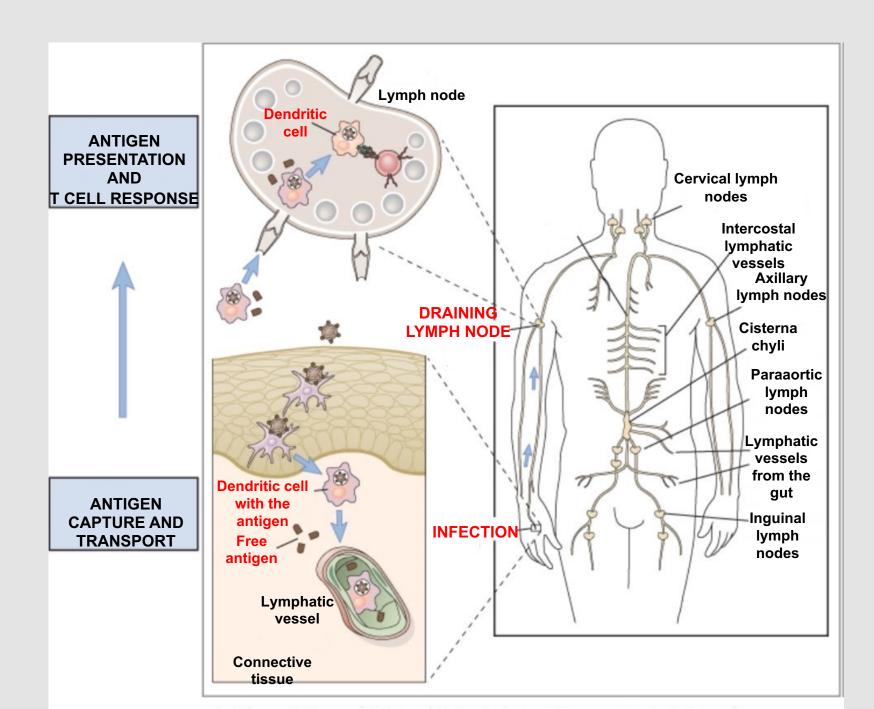
T cells HEV

- **HEVs** Lymphocytes use enter lymphoid organs. (through L-selectin, see later)
- Found in all secondary lymphoid organs (e.g. lymph nodes, tonsils, Peyer's patches), **EXCEPT THE SPLEEN**[10.]

Filtration of lymph by nodes



- 1. Infection on the periphery
- 2. The same antigen may enter the **lymphatic vessels** in different forms:
 - Native bound antigen (e.g. living bacteria)
 - Native soluble form (e.g. proteins derived from dead bacteria)
 - Processed form:
 dendritic cells
 phagocytose the antigen
 and present it as a
 peptide to helper T cells
 (see later)
- 3. Lymphocytes enter lymph nodes either through **afferent lymph vessels** or **HEV**s and meet with the antigens.

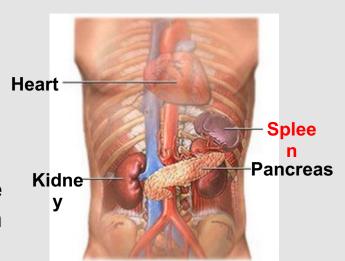


Spleen (lien or splen)

Located in the left hypochondriac region of the abdomen, weighs approx.
 150-200 grams.

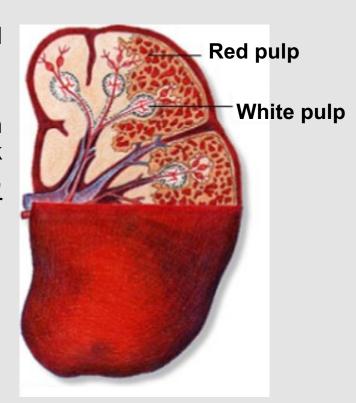
Functions:

- Immunological: filtering the blood for pathogens
- Hemoglobin metabolism: elimination of aged red blood cells by the reticuloendothelial cells→ formation of bilirubin
- Site of hematopoiesis in the embryo as in the liver (can produce red blood cells in pathological conditions even in adults)
- Acts as a storage of red blood cells and platelets (less significant in humans)

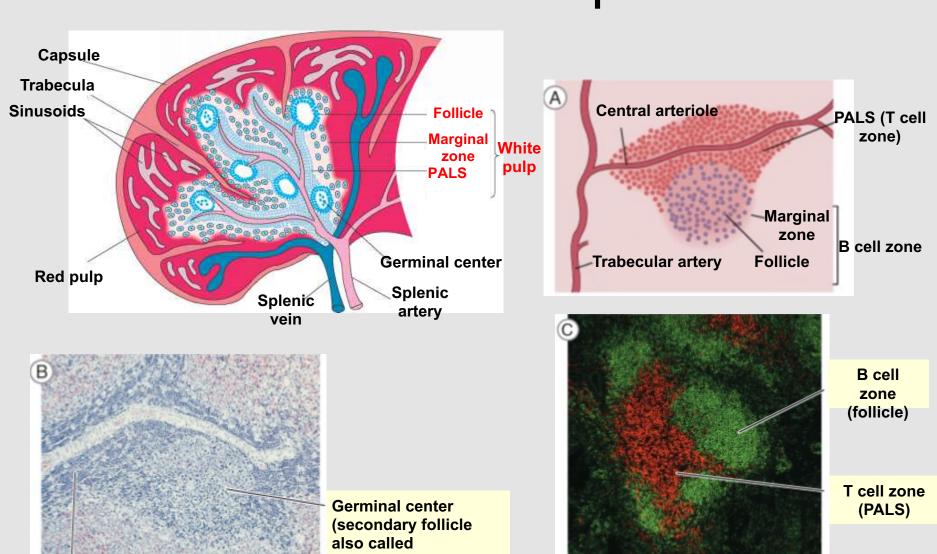


Structure of the spleen 1.

- Has a fibrous capsule and trabeculae.
- THERE ARE NO afferent lymphatic vessels and HEVs.
- Tissue architecture:[11.]
 - Red pulp: sinusoids with an open circulation filled with blood: has a reticular framework populated mainly by red blood cells, macrophages, plasma cells and reticular fibrocytes.
 - White pulp: lymphoid tissue
 - PALS (periarteriolar lymphatic sheath):
 T cells, dendritic cells
 - Follicles (Malpighian follicles): B cells and follicular dendritic cells (FDC)
 - Marginal zone: special, marginal zone B cells (MZB, see later) and MZ macrophages



Structure of the spleen 2.



Malpighian follicle in

the spleen)

PALS (periarteriolar lymphatic

sheath)

Clinical significance of the spleen

- Splenomegaly (=enlarged spleen):
 - Can have several causes such as hematological malignancies, hypersplenism (e.g. hemolytic anemia), increased pressure in the portal veins (cirrhosis), infections (mononucleosis, malaria), storage diseases^[12.]
- Splenic rupture (ruptura lienis):
 - Caused by trauma or an underlying pathological condition, high risk of intra-abdominal hemorrhage
- Splenectomy (=surgical removal of the spleen):
 Leads to increased vulnerability to polysaccharide encapsulated bacteria (see later)^[13.]



CT scan of a patient with chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) showing massive splenomegaly.

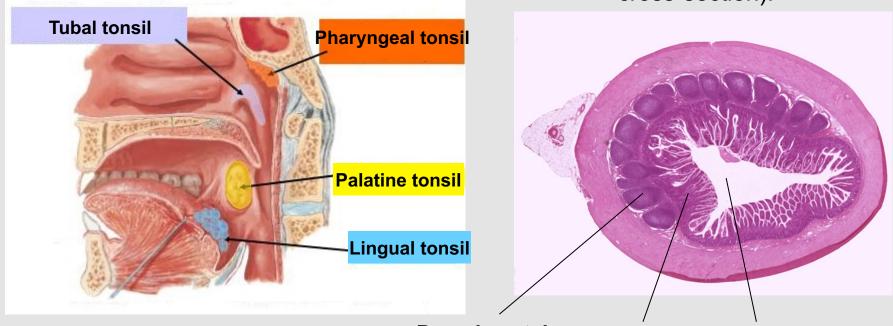
MALT (mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue)

- Mucosa = enormous surface for the pathogens to enter the body!
- MALT = The biggest lymphoid tissue.
- MALT: can be further classified based on location:[14.]
 - GALT (gut-associated lymphoid tissue)
 - BALT (bronchus-associated lymphoid tissue)
 - NALT (nasopharynx-associated lymphoid tissue)
- Organized MALT (site of antigen recognition):
 - Lymphoid cells form organized structures such as follicles (e.g. tonsils of the Waldeyer-ring, Peyer's patches, cryptopatches, isolated follicles, see in the lectures)
- Diffuse MALT (has effector functions):
 - Lymphocytes diffusely scattered in the epithelial layer and lamina propria of mucosal surfaces (IEL=intraepithelial lymphocyte)

Organized MALT

Waldeyer-ring (tonsils):

Peyer's patches in the ileum (H&E, cross-section):

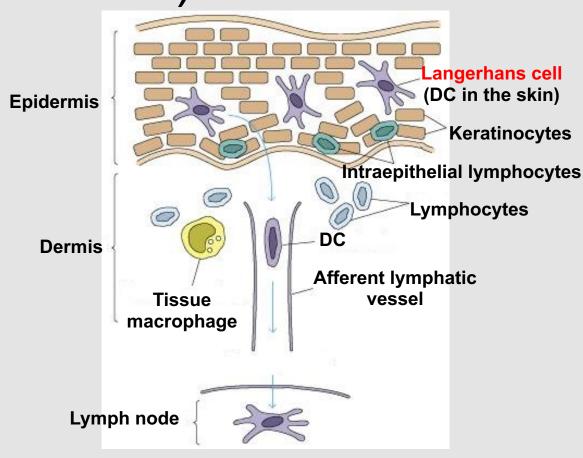


Peyer's patch Intestinal villi Lumen

Both tonsils and Peyer's patches have tissue architecture similar to that of lymph nodes (follicles with B cells, separated T cell zones, HEVs), but unlike lymph nodes they do not have fibrous capsules.

SALT (skin-associated lymphoid tissue)

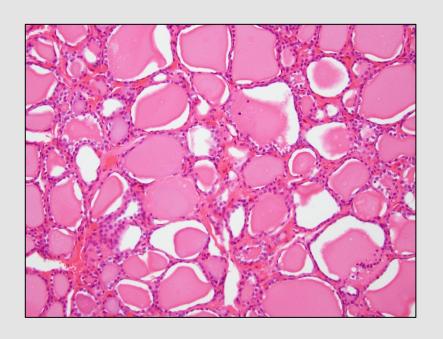
Langerhans cells capture the antigen in the epidermis, then process it and move to draining lymph node through lymphatic vessels. In the lymph node they the present processed antigen to helper T cells.[15.] Several cell types participate in the immunological defense skin. of the (e.g. keratinocytes, macrophages, γδ T cells, see later)



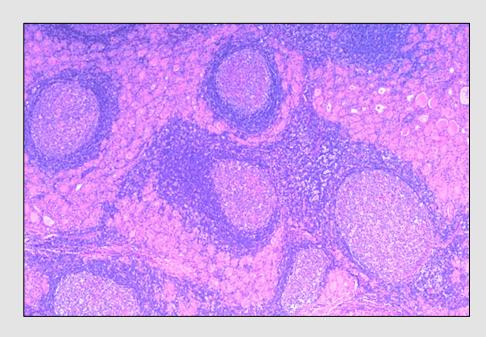
Interdigitating dendritic cell

Example for tertiary lymphatic tissue

IT IS PATHOLOGICAL!



Healthy thyroid tissue (medium magnification)



Ectopic lymphoid follicles in the thyroid gland in Hashimoto's thyroiditis (small magnification)

Cells of the innate and adaptive immune system

Innate:









neutrophil, eosinophil, basophil

2. Monocyte (blood), macrophage (tissues)





3. Dendritic cell (DC), follicular dendritic cell (FDC)









B cell

Adaptive:

Helper

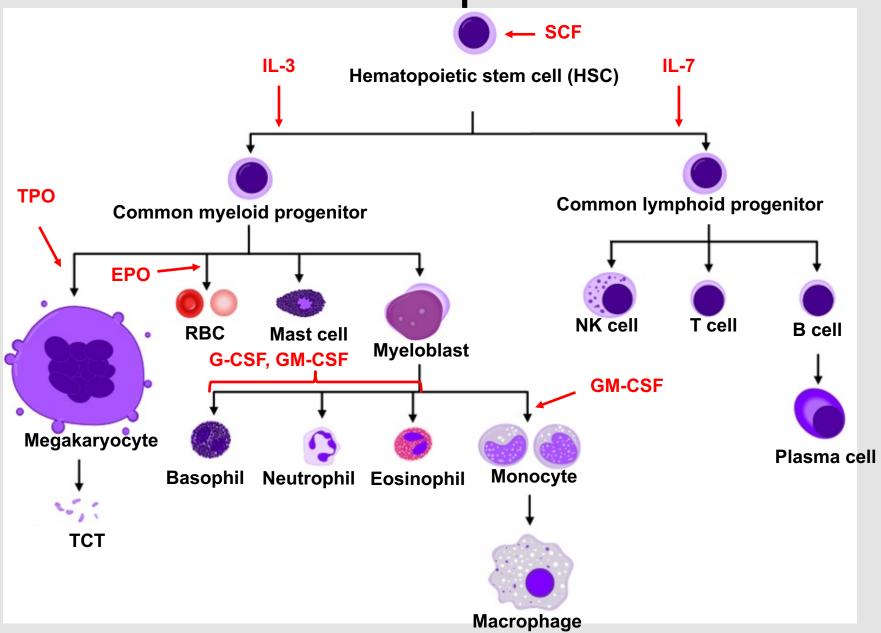
T cell

Cytotoxic

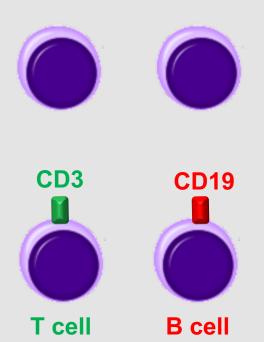
5. NK cell (natural killer)



Hematopoiesis



CD markers

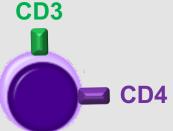


Certain cells (e.g. lymphocytes) cannot always be distinguished based on their morphology.

Different cells can be identified and distinguished by the molecules they express on the cell surface or in the cytoplasm.

IMMUNOPHENOTYPE: The characteristic molecular pattern of a cell type determined with the use of antibodies.

Such SURFACE MOLECULES were given a standardized nomenclature:



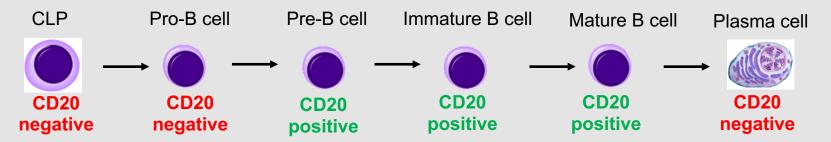
CD = Cluster of differentiation, usage: CD+number, e.g.:

CD1, CD2, CD3, CD4, etc...

The structure and function of CD marker **varies**! Example for immunophenotype: CD3+/CD4+/CD8- → Helper T cell

Types of CD markers

- Lineage markers: Molecules expressed exclusively on certain cell lineages.
 - E.g.: CD3 → found on all T cells CD19 → found on all B cells
- Maturation markers: The immunophenotype might differ in the phases of cell maturation, certain molecules are only expressed on immature cells, others on mature, fully functioning cells, etc.
 - E.g.: CD20 (It is also a lineage marker of B cells, cannot be found on any other cells)

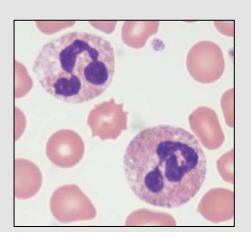


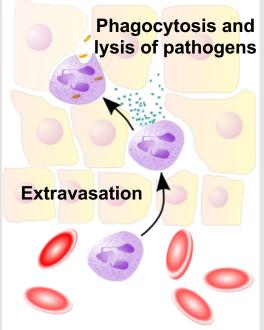
- Activation markers: Molecules expressed by activated cells, whereas resting cells either lack them completely or express them at low levels, e.g.:
 - CD25 (The alpha chain of the interleukin-2 receptor, IL-2Rα, see later)
 - CD80 and CD86 (B7-1 and B7-2, so-called costimulatory molecules expressed by activated antigen presenting cells, see later)

Neutrophil granulocyte

Leukocyte %	55-70
Main function:	Elimination of pathogens, removal of tissue debris
Recognition:	PRR, Fc receptor, Complement receptor
Content of granules:	Digesting enzymes
Elimination of pathogens:	Phagocytosis, respiratory burst, degranulation
Produced mediators:	Inflammatory cytokines
Fc receptor:	FcγR (binds IgG)
Role in diseases: Red: Only possible afte	Inflammatory reactions r the activation of the

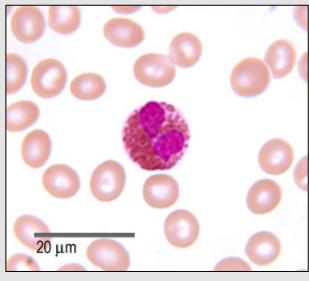
adaptive immunity

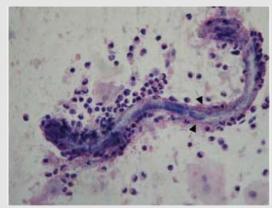




Eosinophil granulocyte

Leukocyte %	2-4
Main function:	Defense against multicellular parasites
Recognition:	PRR, Fc receptor
Content of granules:	Toxic proteins, enzymes
Elimination of pathogens:	Degranulation
Produced mediators:	Prostaglandins, Leukotrienes, Inflammatory cytokines
Fc receptor:	FcεR (binds IgE)
Role in diseases:	Allergic reactions



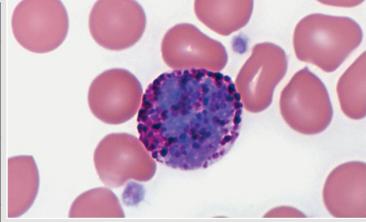


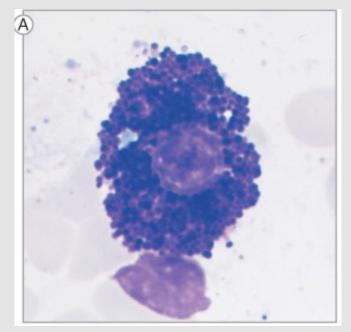
Eosinophils surrounding a *Strongyloides* stercoralis larva. (sputum from a parasitic pneumonia case)

Red: Only possible after the activation of the adaptive immunity

Basophil granulocyte

Leukocyte %	0-1
Main function:	Defense against multicellular parasites
Recognition:	PRR, Fc receptor
Content of granules:	Histamine, heparin
Elimination of pathogens:	Degranulation
Produced mediators:	Cytokines (e.g. IL-4), Leukotrienes
Fc receptor:	FcεR (binds IgE)
Role in diseases:	Allergic reactions

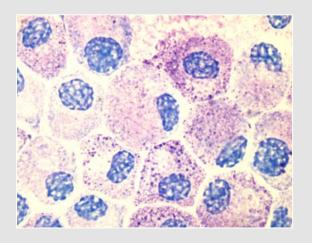




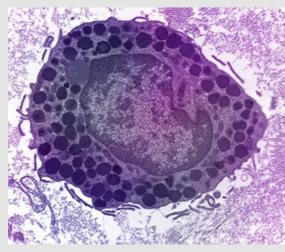
Red: Only possible after the activation of the adaptive immunity

Mast cell (mastocyte)

Found in:	Tissues
Main function:	Defense against multicellular parasites
Recognition:	PRR, Fc receptor
Content of granules:	Histamine, heparin, enzymes
Elimination of pathogens:	Degranulation
Produced mediators:	Cytokines, Leukotrienes
Fc receptor:	FcεR (binds IgE)
Role in diseases:	Allergic reactions



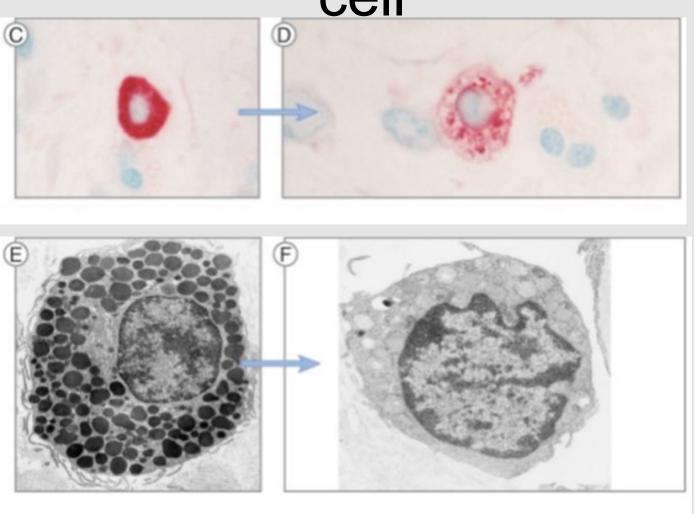
Cultured mast cells (Toluidine blue staining)



Red: Only possible after the activation of the adaptive immunity

Mast cell (electron microscopy image)

Quick degranulation of a mast cell

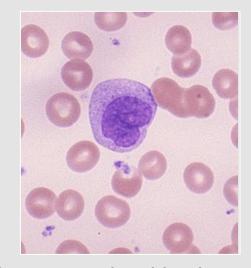


Monocyte, macrophage

Leukocyte %:	2-8
Main function:	Phagocytosis, Antigen presentation, Cytokine production,
Site of antigen presentation:	Locally, in the tissues
Recognition:	PRR, Fc receptor, Complement receptor
Elimination of pathogens:	Phagocytosis, Respiratory burst
Produced mediators:	Cytokines
Fc receptor:	FcγR (binds IgG)
Role in diseases:	Type IV. hypersensitivity



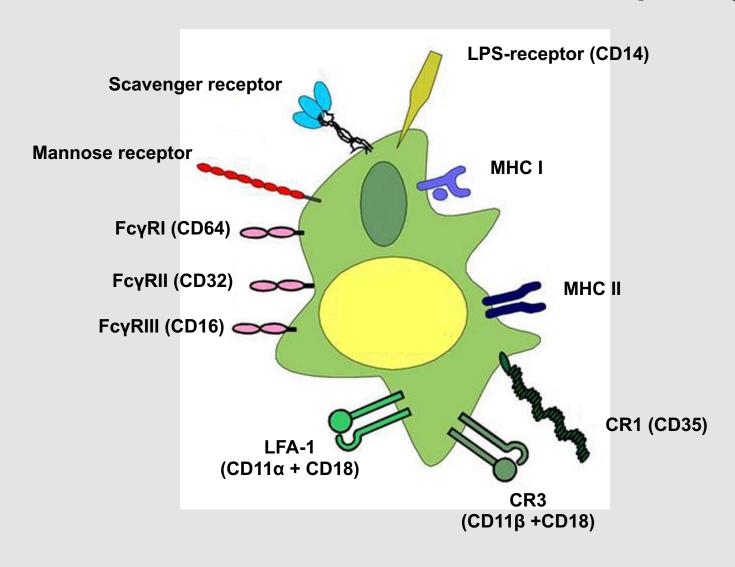
A macrophage ingesting (phagocytosing) bacteria (SEM image)



A monocyte in a blood smear

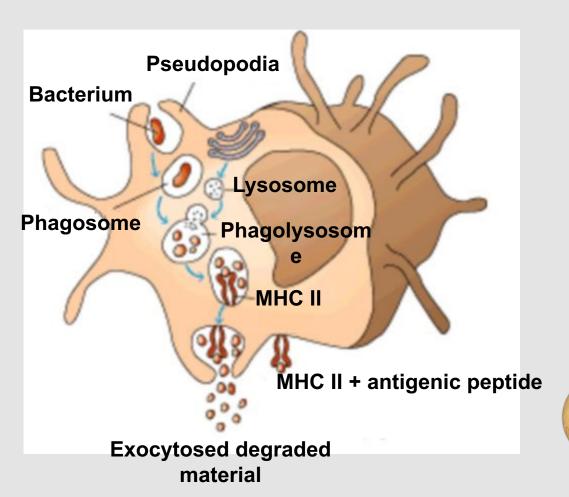
Red: Only possible after the activation of the adaptive immunity

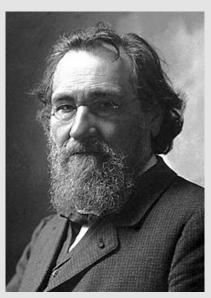
Surface molecules of macrophages



Phagocytosis

Phagocytosis and antigen presentation of macrophages:





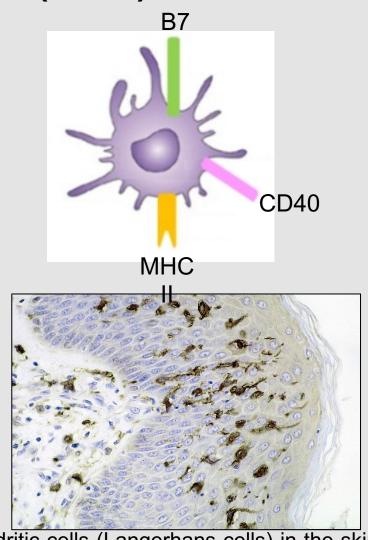
Ilya Ilyich Mechnikov who discovered macrophages and the phenomenon of phagocytosis.

Was awarded the 1908 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine jointly with Paul Ehrlich "in recognition of their work on immunity".

Dendritic cell (DC)

Found in:	Tissues
Main function:	Antigen presentation
Site of antigen presentation:	In the secondary lymphoid organs
Recognition:	PRR, Fc receptor
Produced mediators:	Cytokines
Fc receptor:	FcγR (binds IgG)
Role in diseases:	Autoimmunity, HIV infection

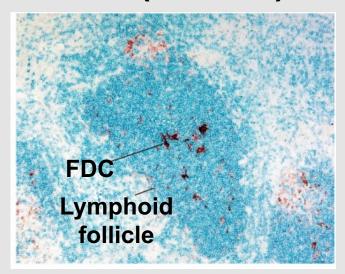
Red: Only possible after the activation of the adaptive immunity



Dendritic cells (Langerhans cells) in the skin of a *Mycobacterium ulcerans* infected patient. (immunohistochemistry)

Follicular dendritic cell (FDC)

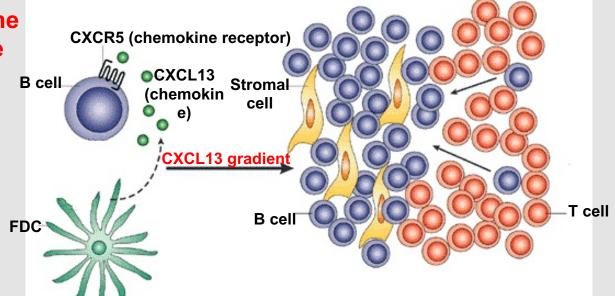
Found in:	Lymphoid follicles
Main function:	Formation of follicles, Keeping the antigen in the follicle for B cells
Recognition:	Fc receptor, Complement receptor
Produced mediators:	Cytokines
Fc receptor:	FcγR (binds IgG)



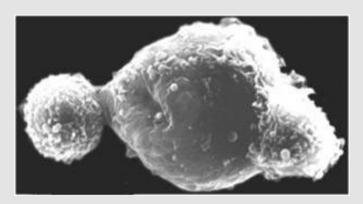
Red: Only possible after the activation of the adaptive immunity

Iccosome:

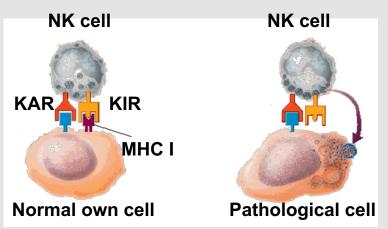
- Antigen
- Antibody + Fc receptor
- Complement + Complement receptor



Natural killer cells (NK cells)



Two NK cells kill a cancerous cell. (Scanning electron microscopy image)



Blood lymphoid cells:	≈ 10%
Main function:	Killing cells infected with intracellular pathogens, Killing cancer cells
Recognition:	KAR → killing the target KIR → sparing the target Fc receptor, Complement receptor
Cytotoxicity:	Fas-FasL, Perforin, Granzymes
Produced mediators:	Cytokines
Fc receptor:	FcγR (binds IgG)
Characteristic marker:	CD56

CELL IS LEFT ALIVE

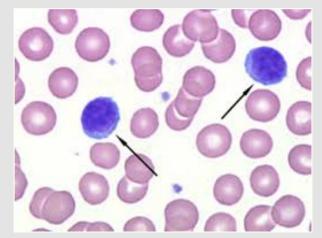
CELL IS KILLED

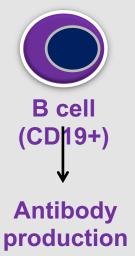
Red: Only possible after the activation of the adaptive immunity

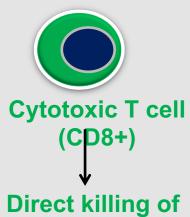
Lymphocytes

Leukocyte %:	25-40*
Main function:	ADAPTIVE IMMUNITY
Recognition	Antigen-specific receptors (TCR, BCR)

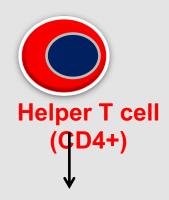
* Including NK cells



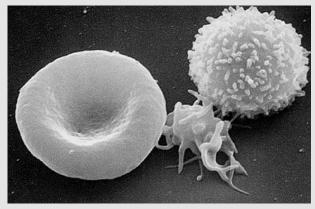








Regulation of the immune response

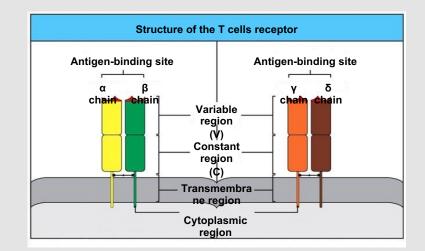


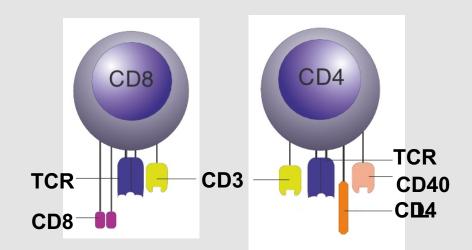
A red blood cell, a platelet and a lymphocyte (SEM image)

All of the above are done in an ANTIGEN-SPECIFIC manner!

T cells

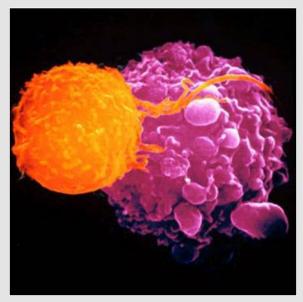
Main function:	Antigen-specific killing of target cell (CD8+), Regulation of the immune response through cytokines (CD4+)
Recognition:	Through MHC, antigen-specific TCR
Possible type of TCR:	αβ and γδ
Produced mediators:	Cytokines
Main types of αβ T cells:	CD4+ Helper CD8+ Cytotoxic
Site of production:	Bone marrow, thymus
Characteristic marker:	CD3 (Makes a complex with the TCR)





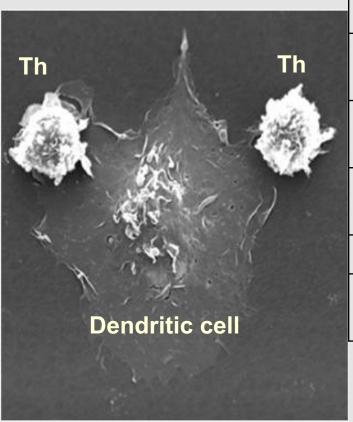
Cytotoxic T cells (Tc or CTL)

Blood T cells:	1/3
Main function:	Effector cell of the cellular immunity
Recognition:	Through MHC I, antigen- specific TCR
Target cells to kill:	Infected with IC pathogens, Cancerous, Foreign (transplantations!)
Recognized antigens:	Endogenous (from the cytoplasm of the target cell)
Cytotoxicity:	Fas-FasL, Perforin, Granzyme
Immunophenotype:	CD3+/CD8+/CD4-



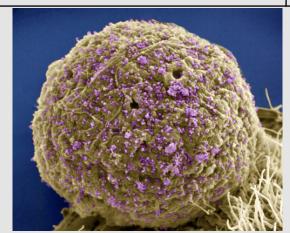
A cytotoxic T cell kills a cancer cell. (SEM image)

Helper T cells (Th)



Two helper T cells attached to a dendritic cell. (Scanning electron microscopy image)

Blood T cells:	1/3
Main function:	Regulation of immune response
Recognition:	Through MHC II, antigen-specific TCR
Recognized antigens:	Exogenous (degraded in phagolysosomes)
Immunophenotype:	CD3+/CD4+/CD8-
Role in diseases:	Autoimmunity, HIV infection



Yellowish-brown: Th

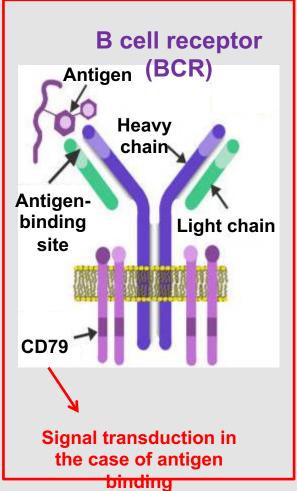
cell

purple: **HIV** virions

(SEM image)

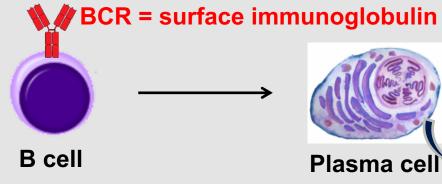
γδ T cells

- They express TCRs that consist of γ and δ chains.
- They are innate-like lymphocytes, they are not as well-characterized as αβ T cells.^[17.]
- They are mainly found in the skin and the mucosa; usually as intraepithelial lymphocytes (IELs). They can be detected in the peripheral blood in low numbers.
- They participate in the early phases of the immune response against invasive pathogens.
- Their antigen-recognition is MHC-independent.
- They mainly recognize lipid antigens.



B cells

10-15
Antibody production, Antigen presentation
Native antigens with antigen-specific BCR
B1 and B2
Bone marrow
CD19 (makes a complex with BCR)





Antibody against the same antigen recognized by the **BCR** (secreted immunoglobulin)

Thank you for your attention!

