

New Books

B Cell Trophic Factors and B Cell Antagonism in Autoimmune Disease

Edited by William Stohl. KARGER. VIII + 312 p, 36 Fig., 4 in color, 11 tab, hard cover, 2005. CHF 228.-/EUR 163.-/USD 207.25.

The understanding of B cell biology has increased and expanded enormously in the last three decades. It is now known that B cells, in addition to just differentiating into antibody-secreting cells, serve many other vital functions. For example, their roles as antigen-presenting cells and cytokine-producing cells as well as effector cells and regulatory cells are well appreciated now. Indeed, the pathologic role of B cells in many autoimmune disorders may be largely autoantibody-independent. Today, the B cell is of considerable interest not only to immunologists but also to mainstream clinicians and scientists.

The current volume covers the latest information on the functions of B cells in normal and disease states, and their therapeutic antagonism. Chapters cover cutting-edge topics from the basic to the clinical, including B cells in infection and autoimmunity, CD19-CD21 signal transduction complex, marginal zone B cell physiology and disease, B cell growth and differentiation, their role in rheumatoid arthritis, SLE treatment, the BAFF/APRIL system and B lymphocyte malignancies.

This book is recommended reading for cellular and molecular immunologists as well as for rheumatologists, hematologists and clinical immunologists, and all those interested in human diseases in which B cells play an important contributory role.

Annual Review of Immunology, Vol 23

Edited by William E. Paul, C. Garrison Fathman, Laurie H. Glimcher. ANNUAL REVIEWS INC. 2005. ISBN 0-8243-3022-6. ISSN 0732-0582.

Annual Reviews Inc. began in 1932 with the publication of the "Annual Review of Biochemistry". This company is administered by a Board of Directors whose members serve without compensation as a nonprofit scientific publisher established to promote the advancement of the sciences through the publication of high-quality, reasonably priced volumes.

These volumes are organised by Editors and Editorial Committees who invite qualified authors to contribute

critical articles reviewing significant developments within each major discipline.

For allergologists, these reviews provide a good starting point for updating knowledge in the different areas of immunology research.

Latex intolerance. Basic science, epidemiology, and clinical management

Edited by Mahbub M.U. Chowdhury and Howard I. Maibach. CRC PRESS. September 2004. 288 pp. ISBN 0-8493-1670-7.

Latex intolerance has become an increasingly common diagnosis. As experimental techniques and theoretical concepts emerge, it is important for physicians to stay on the cutting edge of new methodologies in skin research.

Latex intolerance: basic science, epidemiology and clinical management covers all aspects of latex allergy. Each chapter presents the latest research in latex intolerance, exploring issues such as skin irritation, allergic contact dermatitis, and contact urticaria. The well-illustrated textbook also discusses the basic science and clinically relevant practical issues, including the epidemiology, prognosis, and management of latex intolerance. Sections on hand dermatitis, barrier creams, and medical glove regulations enhance understanding of the condition.

Experts with a special interest in this area from the United Kingdom, Europe, and the USA provide a balanced international perspective to this first major book dedicated to latex intolerance. Dermatologists and other medical professionals involved in the treatment of latex intolerance will benefit from this valuable resource.

Features:

- Provides comprehensive coverage of all facets of latex allergy
- Presents separate sections on irritation, allergy, and contact urticaria resulting from latex intolerance
- Includes numerous illustrations including color plates

A sorely needed reference on all areas of latex intolerance.

Skin immune system. Cutaneous and clinical immunodermatology, 3rd edition

Edited by Jan D. Bos. CRC PRESS. October 2004. 848 pp. ISBN 0-8493-1959-5.

Top scientific authors contribute their expertise and put a wealth of complex information into perspective in *Skin immune system: cutaneous immunology and clinical immunodermatology, 3rd edition*. This edition provides an overview of the skin immune system (SIS), a totally updated section on immunodermatological diseases, and six new chapters.

Part I presents historical and comparative information on immunodermatology and includes a new chapter on the immunogenetics of inflammatory skin disease, while Part II covers the cellular elements of SIS and highlights newly defined functional subclasses of cells. Part III describes the humoral elements of SIS and provides two new chapters which focus on defensins and cathelicidins, and on the chemokines of human skin. Part IV discusses how the cellular and humoral elements of SIS interact under different circumstances and includes a new chapter

on signal transduction pathways in cutaneous immunology. Part V focuses on dermatological diseases with a significant immunological background with a new chapter on the immunology of cutaneous drug eruptions, followed by Part VI on immunotherapy in dermatology, which features a new chapter reflecting the recent wave of products from biotechnology.

Since the publication of the previous editions, a great deal of significant information has become available in almost all areas of cutaneous immunology and clinical immunodermatology. This progress has now been reflected in a completely updated and expanded resource.

Features:

- Covers basic and clinical immunodermatology.
- Includes six new chapters on topics such as defensins, chemokines, and biological therapies.
- Provides the latest dermatological research in cutaneous immunology.

A complete compilation of the most up-to-date information.

CORRIGENDUM:

Skin tests with native and chemically modified allergen extracts

Casanovas, M., Gómez, M.J., Carnés, J., Fernández-Caldas, E

In *J Invest Allergol Clin Immunol* 2005; Vol 15(1): 30-36, on page 32, the second column of Table I, the correct data corresponding to IgE binding inhibition of the extract DP of *D. pteronyssinus* is **3.33** instead the value of 33.33.

This data are shown in the correct version of table I, below.

Table I. Values (μg of each allergen preparation) for the 50% binding inhibition to specific IgE and IgG, major allergen contents (μg per mg of freeze-dried extract), protein contents (μg per mg of freeze-dried extract) and PNU (mg of freeze-dried extract). (*ND: Not Detectable).

	IgE			IgG			Major allergens			Protein contents			PNU		
	N	DP	DPP	N	DP	DPP	N	DP	DPP	N	DP	DPP	N	DP	DPP
<i>D. pteronyssinus</i>	0.43	3.33	27.78	0.02	0.01	0.01	Der p 1: 15.6	Der p 1: 0.4	Der p 1: 0.3	473	432	556	9013	9891	6995
<i>P. pratense</i>	0.09	0.45	16.13	0.18	0.02	0.82	Der p 2: 3.1	Der p 2: 3.0	Der p 2: ND*	382	526	786	9310	10310	10290
							Phl p 1: 31.4	Phl p 1: 27.7	Phl p 1: ND*						
<i>O. europaea</i>	0.12	2.91	20.83	0.11	0.16	0.31	Phl p 5: 43.8	Phl p 5: 49.5	Phl p 5: ND*	207	247	343	9674	10520	10066
							Ole e 1: 226.6	Ole e 1: 288.8	Ole e 1: ND*						
<i>P. judaica</i>	0.03	0.01	2.29	0.34	0.14	0.15	Par j 1: 583.4	Par j 1: 819.7	Par j 1: ND*	147	260	455	9687	10635	8771