

# New Books

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## **Annual Review of Immunology, vol 29**

Edited by Paul, Littman, Yokoyama. Annual Reviews Inc. 2011. ISBN 978-0-8243-3029-3. 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 remuneration as a nonprofit scientific publisher established to promote advancement of the sciences through the publication of high-quality, reasonably priced volumes. These volumes are organized by Editors and Editorial Committees who invite qualified authors to contribute critical articles reviewing significant developments within the major disciplines.

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

## **Pathogenesis and Management of Atopic Dermatitis**

Current Problems in Dermatology, Vol 41. Edited by T Shiohara. Karger. VIII+ 170 p., 26 fig., 20 in color, 9 tab., hard cover, 2011. Chf187/Eur 138.5/USD 187. ISBN 978-3-8055-9686-2

Breakthroughs have recently been made in our understanding of the pathogenesis of atopic dermatitis (AD). Several studies successfully link loss-of-function mutations in the genes encoding the epidermal structure protein filaggrin with the subsequent risk of developing AD. Another area of AD research points to the importance of increased exposure to various environmental agents, in particular those deprived of microbial stimuli (hygiene hypothesis). Other studies suggest specific mechanisms whereby innate immune responses are functionally defective. Sweating disorder in AD is receiving increasing attention. Nevertheless, the most discussed emerging topic is the role of adaptive immunity in providing cytokines and chemokines that sustain the recruitment, retention, and activation of allergen-specific T cells, dendritic cells, eosinophils, basophils, and mast cells in the tissues involved.

This book addresses the questions raised by dermatologists, pediatricians, practicing physicians, basic immunologists, biologists, pharmacologists, and medical students on the pathogenesis, management, and treatment of AD. To this end, virtually all the chapters have been authored by original investigators who have contributed significantly to the establishment of current concepts.