A.Y. 2023-2024

Lesson 22 – Basic immunology: The third line of defense





Acquired (specific) immunity – the third line of defense (TLD)

The body's ability to recognize and defend itself against **distinct invaders**

- Is a "smart" system
 - Also called **specific** and/or **adaptive** immunity
 - "Memory" allows it to respond rapidly to additional encounters with a pathogen
 - If nonspecific immune system has *warriors*, then acquired immunity has more sophisticated *special agents* and *assassins*
- Two types of specific immunity
 - Naturally acquired = immune response against antigens encountered in daily life
 - Artificially acquired = response to antigens introduced via vaccines

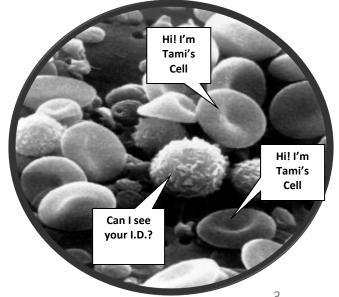


Antigens

- Body does not direct immune response against <u>whole</u> bacteria, fungi, protozoa or viruses
- Foreign molecules (antigens) trigger a specific immune response
 - Include components of bacterial cell walls, capsules, pili, and flagella, as well as proteins of viruses, fungi and protozoa
- Food and dust can also contain antigenic particles
- Enter the body by various methods
 - Through breaks in skin and mucous membranes
 - Direct injection, as with a bite or needle
 - Through organ transplants and skin grafts

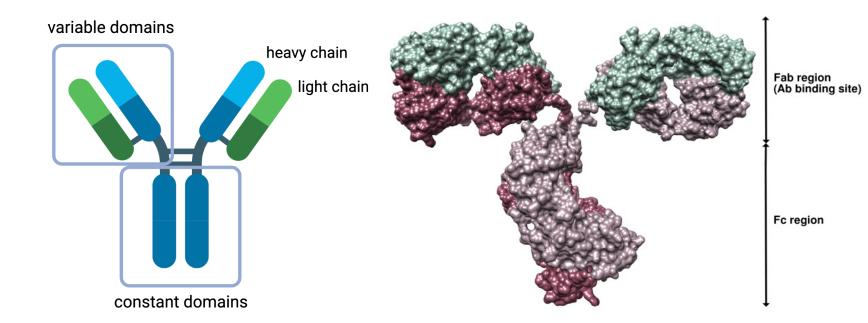


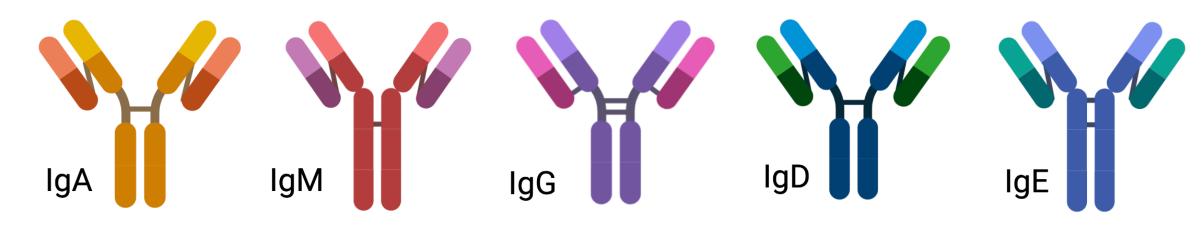
Antigens Are Like Name Tags Antigenic particles are often associated with a specific characteristic of an organism, so are detected as foreign when they get inside another organism that doesn't have that characteristic



Antibodies

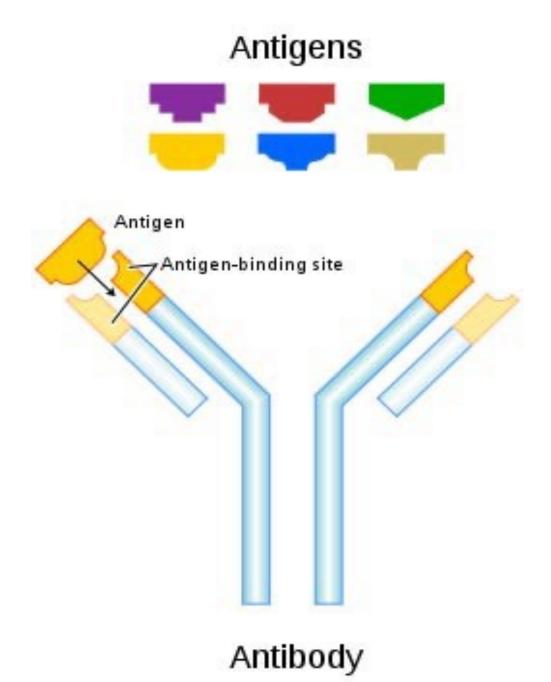
 Also called immunoglobulins (lgs)





Antibodies

- Also called immunoglobulins (lgs)
- Proteins that bind antigens at the antigen-binding site



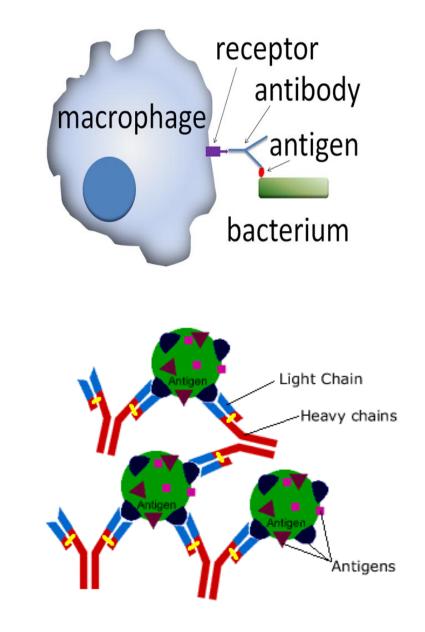
Antibodies

Some act as **opsonins**, markers to identify antigens for phagocytes and stimulate phagocytosis

Some work as **antitoxins** (*i.e.*, they neutralize toxins *e.g.* those causing diphtheria and tetanus)

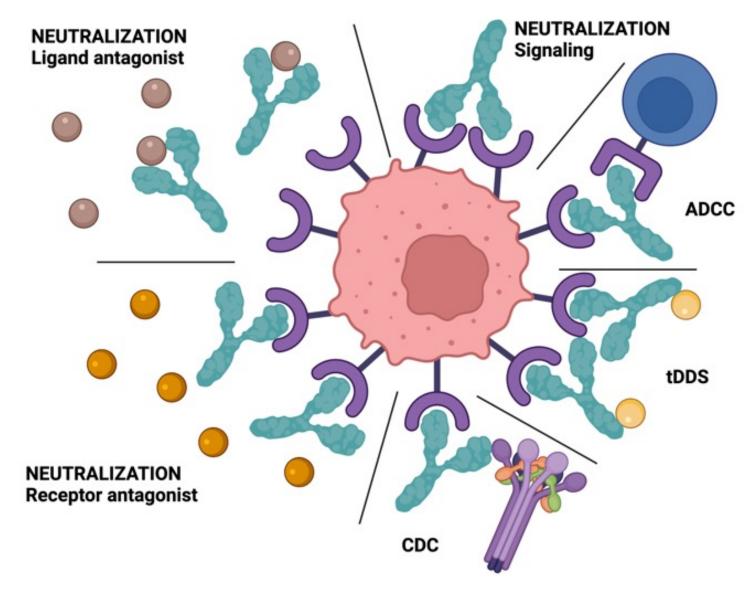
Some attach to bacterial flagella making them less active and easier for phagocytes to engulf

Some cause **agglutination** (clumping together) of bacteria making them less likely to spread



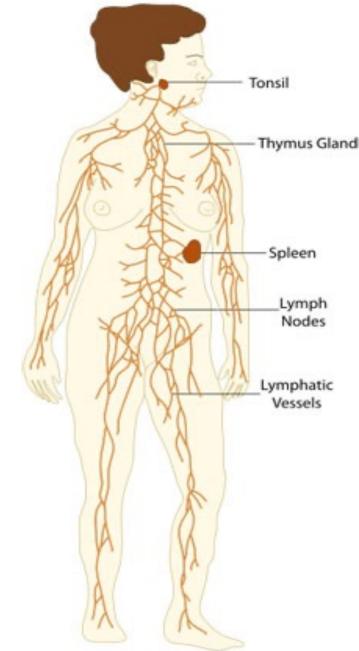
Antibodies And much more...

Q. Where are antibodies produced?.. Stay tuned..



The lymphatic system

- Screens tissues of the body for foreign antigens
- Composed of lymphatic vessels and lymphatic cells
- One-way system that conducts lymph from local tissues and returns it to the circulatory system
- Lymph is a liquid with similar composition to blood plasma
- Lymph nodes house lymphocytes that recognize and attack foreign antigens present in lymph



The lymphocytes

- WBCs of specific immunity (Lesson 21, slide #6)
- Smallest leukocytes
 - Have huge nucleus surrounded by thin rim of cytoplasm
 - Produced from blood stem cells in the red bone marrow

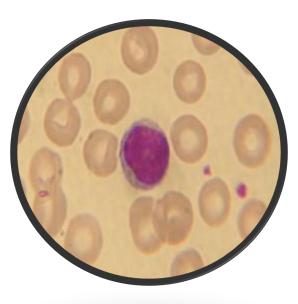


Leukocytes - agranulocytes

- Category of WBCs characterized by the absence of granules in their cytoplasm
- 2 types:



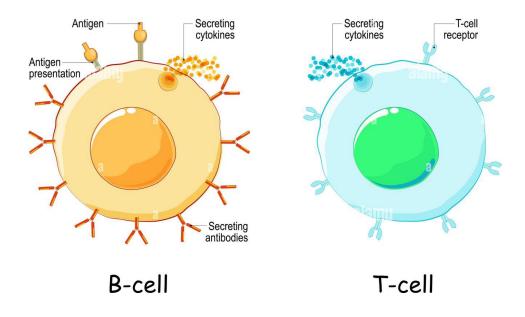
• most involved in the **SPECIFIC IMMUNITY** (3rd line of immune defense - TLD)



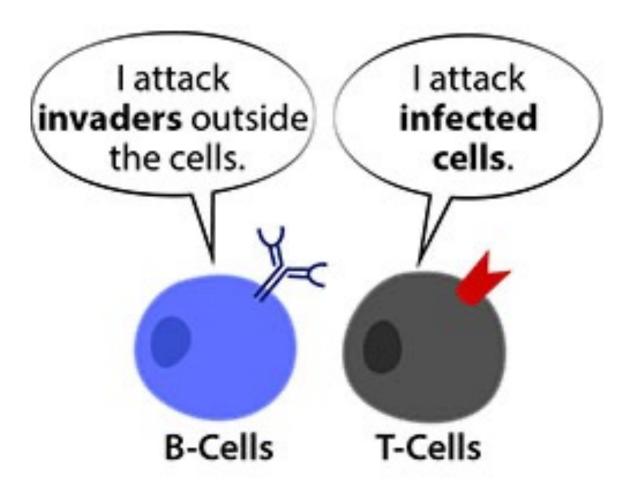
The lymphocytes

- WBCs of specific immunity
- Smallest leukocytes
 - Have huge nucleus surrounded by thin rim of cytoplasm
 - Produced from blood stem cells in the red bone marrow
- Two main types
- B-cells
 - mature in bone marrow, then concentrate in lymph nodes and spleen
- T-cells
 - mature in thymus
- B and T cells mature then circulate in the blood and lymph
- Circulation ensures they come into contact with pathogens and each other

Cells of the adaptive immune system

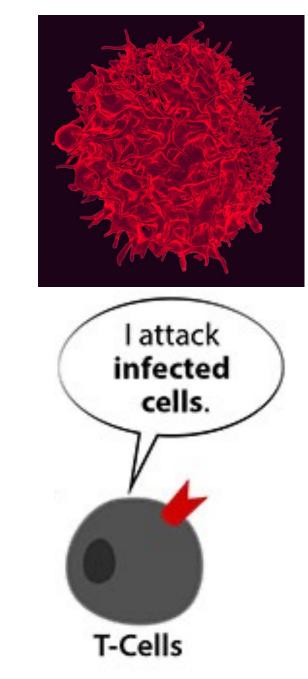


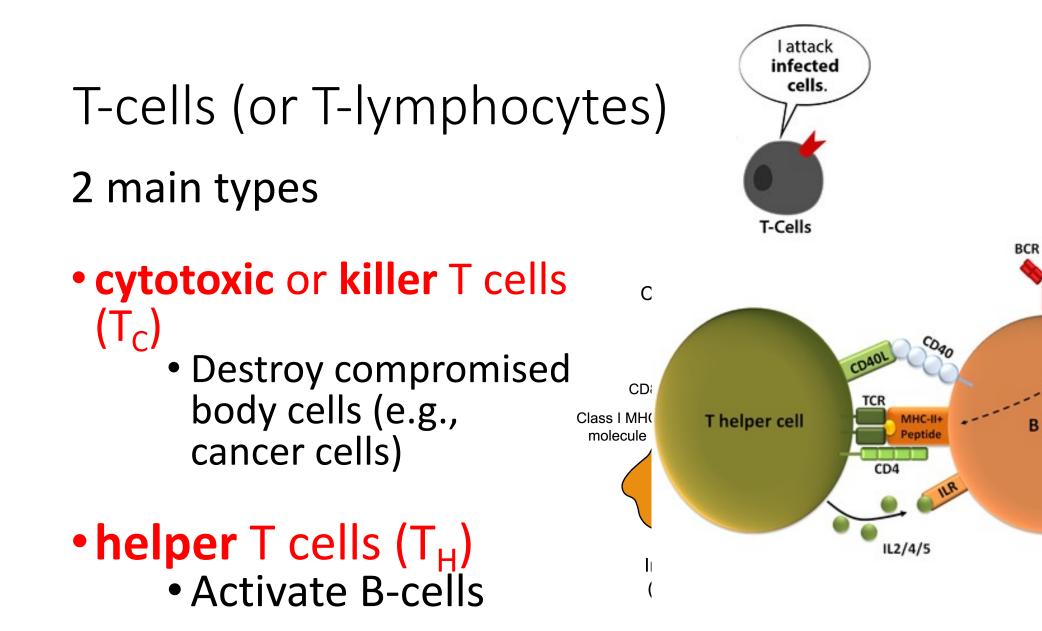
B-*vs.* T-lymphocytes



T-cells (or T-lymphocytes)

- Produced in red bone marrow and mature in thymus
- Circulate in the lymph and blood and migrate to the lymph nodes (and other areas of the lymph system)
- Part of the cellular immune response (aka cell-mediated immune response) because these cells act directly against various antigens
 - Intracellular pathogens (inside the body's cells)
 - Abnormal body cells such as cancer cells





Antiger

B cell

+ T cell

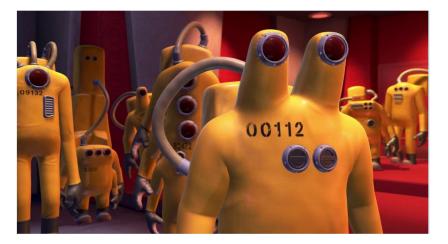
0

0

ed cell

B-cells (or B-lymphocytes) – the APCs

 Consider your WBCs a security patrol for your body and

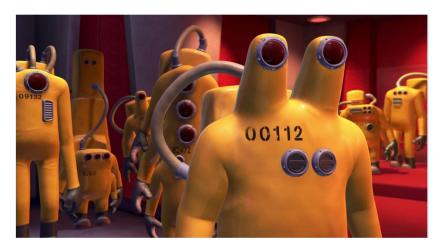


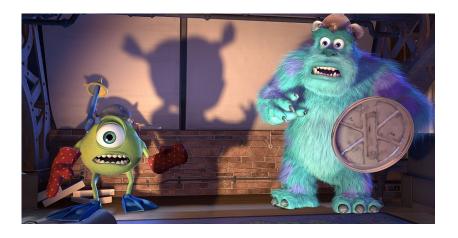
any non-self antigens as the bad guys



The antigen presenting cells (APCs)

- Consider your WBCs a security patrol for your body and
- any non-self antigens as the bad guys
- The larger the patrol, the more likely one of the officers will run into a bad guy and help the body apprehend it
- Any WBC that can grab and present an antigen to another immune cell, is called an antigen presenting cell (APC)



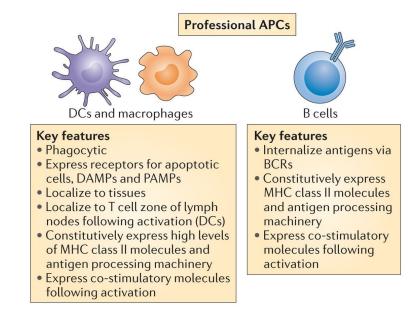


The APCs

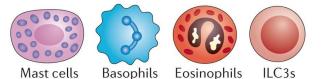
 Antigen-presenting cells (APCs) are a heterogeneous group of immune cells that mediate the cellular immune response by processing and presenting antigens for recognition by certain lymphocytes such as T cells

The APCs

- Antigen-presenting cells (APCs) are a heterogeneous group of immune cells that mediate the cellular immune response by processing and presenting antigens for recognition by certain lymphocytes such as T cells
- APCS are classified as
 - Professional APCs
 - include dendritic cells, macrophages, Langerhans cells and B- cells
 - Atypical APCs
 - Include basophils, eosinophils, some skin cells l(ike fibroblasts and some epithelial and endothelial cells cells) and glial cells (brain) among others





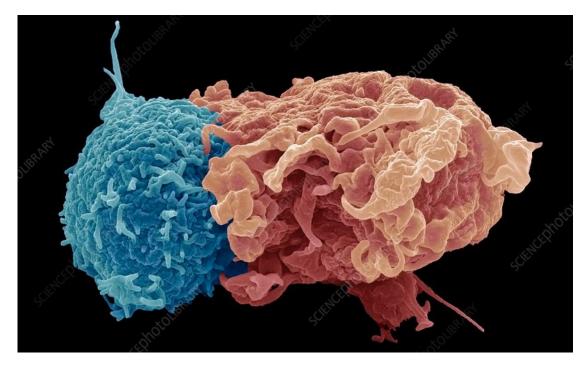


Key features

- Inducible expression of MHC class II molecules
- Antigen-presenting functions limited to specific immune environments (especially type 2 immune settings)
- Lack of compelling evidence that they can activate naive CD4⁺ T cells in an antigenspecific manner

Antigen presentation

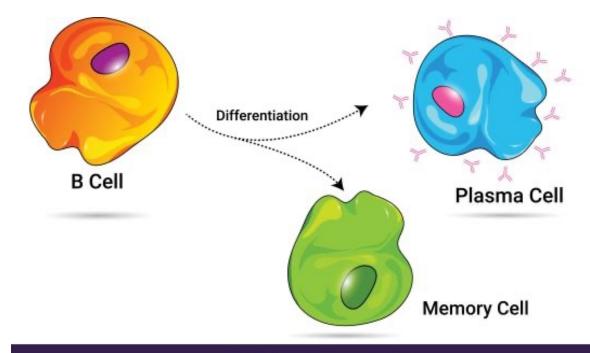
- Macrophages (red) are antigen-presenting cells (APCs)
- They present antigens (fragments on the surface of pathogens or foreign objects) to Thelper-lymphocytes (Th, blue), activating them
- Each Th lymphocyte recognizes and binds to a specific antigen
- Binding of the Th cell to the antigen presented by the macrophage activates the Th cell
- This leads to its proliferation and the activation of other immune cells that eliminate the antigen



B-cells (or B-lymphocytes)

Activated B-lymphocytes produce either:

- Plasma cells
 - make antibodies to a pathogen



Memory cells

 remember the same pathogen for faster antibody production in future infections

Answer to question in slide 7

B Cell Differentiation