



Objectives

To describe B-cells as the mediators of humoral immunity, (antibody-mediated immunity)

- 2. To describe activation of B-cells which involve:
 - -Antigen recognition
 - -T-dependent & T-independent antigens
 - Requirement for T-helper cells
- 3. To explain clonal selection, clonal expansion & generation of plasma cells & memory cells
- 4. To describe primary & secondary immune responses
- 5. To describe the structure & function of Immunoglobulins



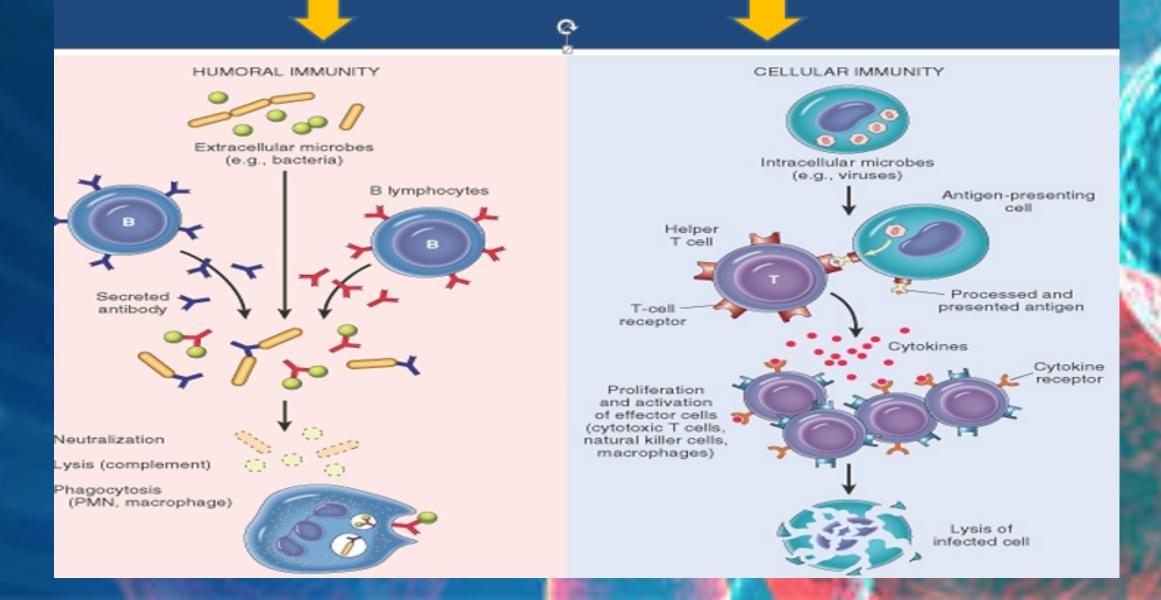
 Humoral immunity is named because it involve substances found in the:

(Humours or body fluids)

• The Humoral Immune Response is the aspect of immunity that is mediated by secreted antibodies.



Nature of antigen determine type of response either EXTRACELLULAR or INTERACELLUALR





Activation of B cells by antigens

There are two types of antigens:

- 1. T- dependant:
- Requires T helper cells .
- 2. T- independent antigens:
- Don't require T helper cells.



T-dependent:

- They depend on T-cells to produce antibodies .
- Macrophages recognize antigens & presents them to T-helper cells.
- T-dependant antigens are mainly proteins on viruses, bacteria & other foreign materials.

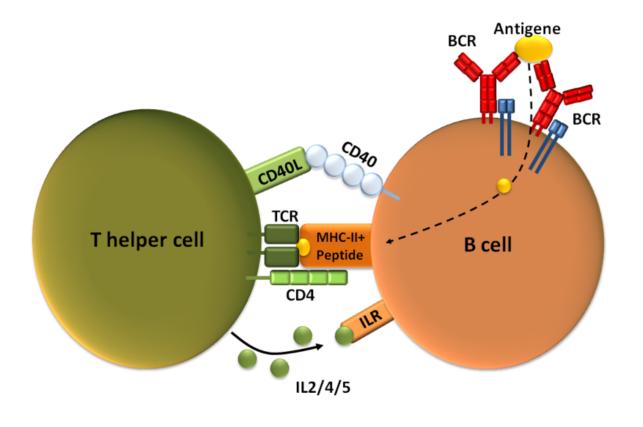
Antibody production by B-cells . stimulate B-cells specific for that antigen to become plasma cells.

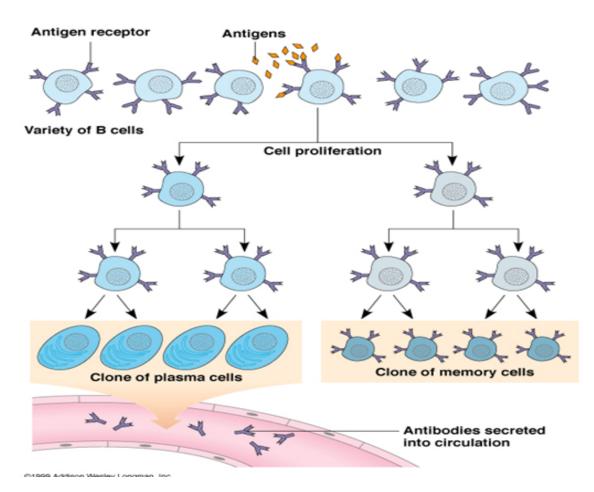
T- independent antigens:

- 1. They do not depend on T-cells to produce antibodies.
- 2. B-cells do not require T-helper cells to produce antibody.
- 3. Antigens are mainly polysaccharides or lipopolysaccharides with repeating subunits. e.g. (bacterial capsules)
- 4. Immune responses are weak compared to T-dependant responses.



Clonal selection and clonal proliferation

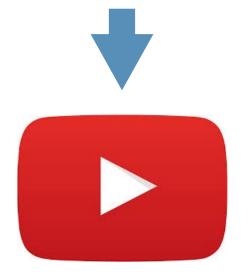






Clonal selection and clonal expansion

Click for further explanation



• Clone:

A group of identical cells derived from a single cell.

Clonal Selection:

A hypothesis which states that an individual lymphocyte (specifically, a B cell) expresses receptors specific to the distinct antigen, determined before the antibody ever encounters the antigen. Binding of Ag to a cell activates the cell, causing a proliferation of clone daughter cells.

Clonal Expansion:

Production of daughter cells all arising originally from a single cell. In a clonal expansion of lymphocytes, all progeny share the same antigen specificity.

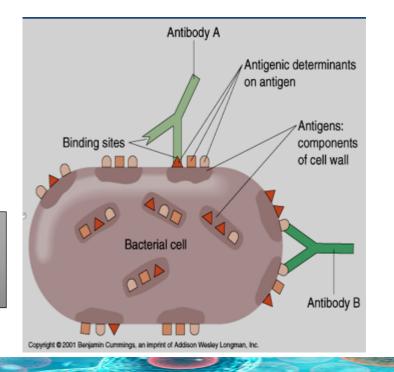


Antigens

- Self" versus "non-self"
- T cells and B cells removed if they recognize self proteins

Antigens are mostly proteins or polysaccharides Antigenic determinants (epitopes)

Each bacterial cell has many different epitopes.





Antibodies

Antibodies are immunoglobulins (Ig) with specific functions.

Where are they found?

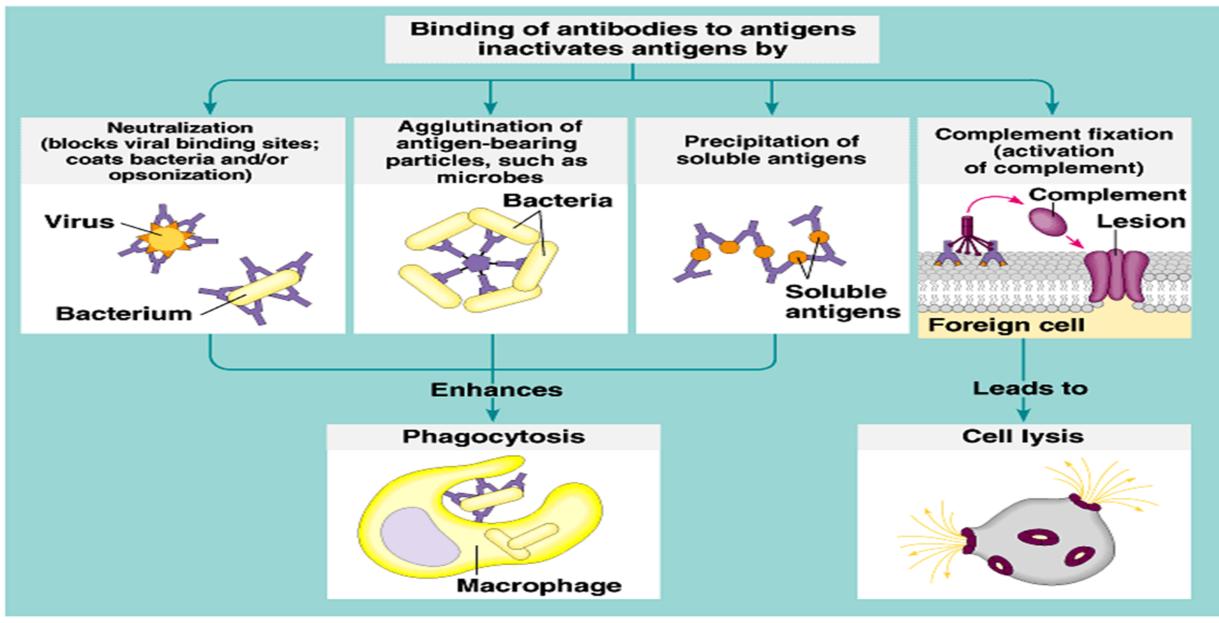
Antibodies are found in extracellular fluids (blood plasma, lymph, mucus, etc.) and on the surface of B cells.

How do they work?

Antibodies bind to specific sites on antigen surfaces and perform protective functions by different mechanisms.

- Note: the part of the antigen that interacts with the antibodies is called epitopes.
- Each antigen has its own Specific antibody.

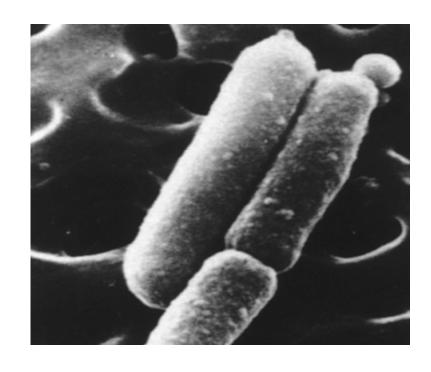
There is a specific antibody for each antigen that stimulates an immune response.



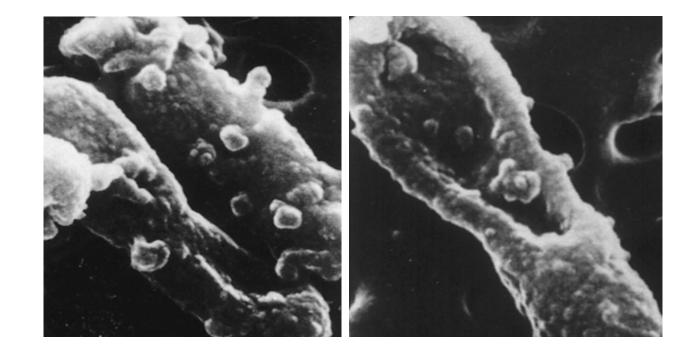
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Electron micrographs of the effect of antibodies and complement upon bacteria.



Healthy E. coli



Antibody + complement-mediated damage to E. coli

Healthy E. coli

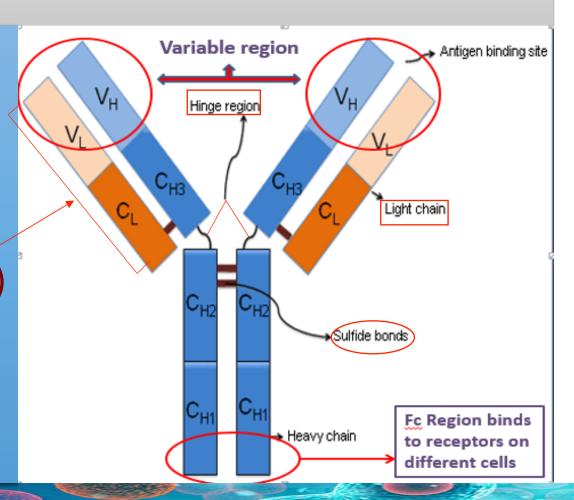


Antibody structure and function

1. Made up of four polypeptides (amino acid chains).

2. Two longer and larger (heavy chains) and the other two shorter and smaller (light chains)

3. Have the shape of the letter "Y".





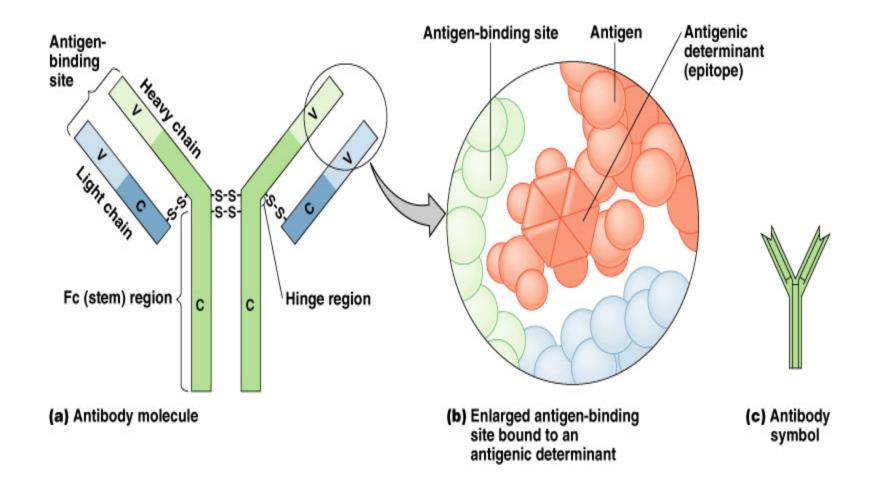
Antibody structure and function

Variable region

has the potential to bind with particular classes of antigens. Once a raw antibody is stimulated to fit onto a specific antigen, it can then react with ONLY that antigen.

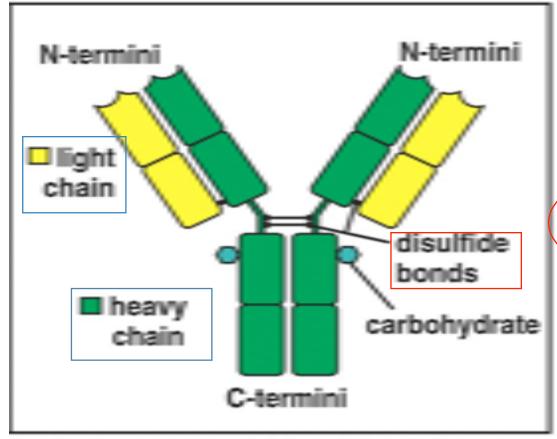
- This is known as <u>SINGLE SPECIFICITY</u>.
- Can fit as precisely as a lock-and-key to an antigen.
- Constant regions.
- Fc region (stem) can bind complement

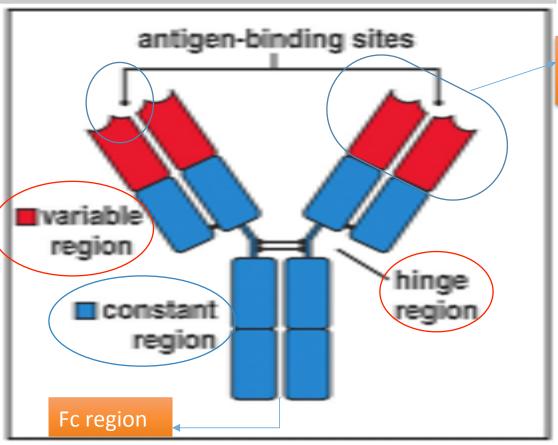






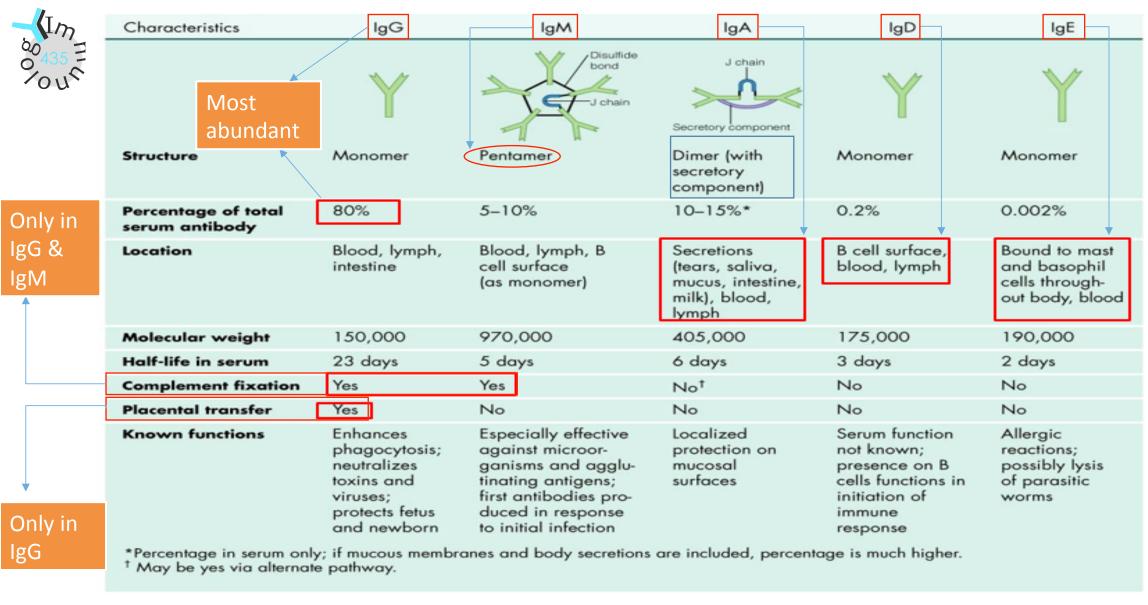
Antibody structure and function





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Variable region

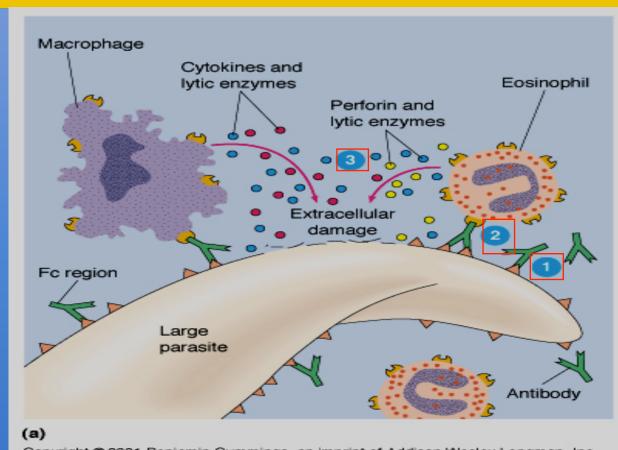


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Antibody dependent cell-mediated cytotoxicity

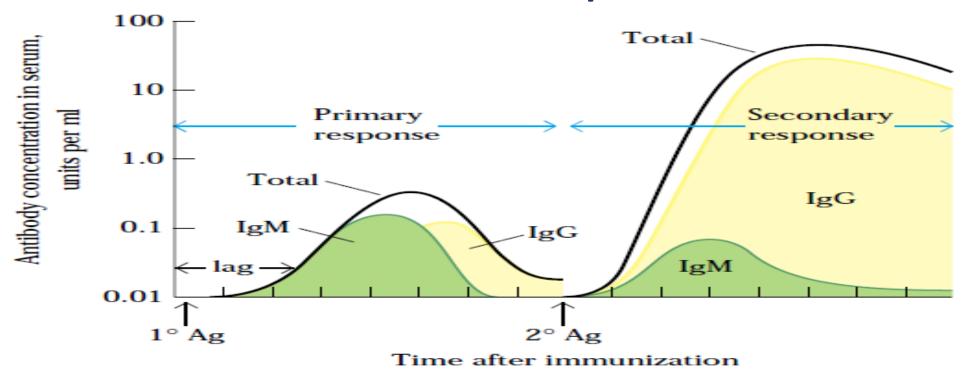
- (1) Antibodies coat infecting cell (large parasite usually) FC facing outwards.
- (2) NK (lysing ability), Macrophage, neutrophils, and eosinophils have receptors for FC region of antibody.
- (3) Secretion of lytic enzymes to destroy parasite.



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Concentration & type of antibody in primary & secondary immune responses



Primary & Secondary immune responses:

- Initial encounter with antigen produce primary immune response.
- Subsequent challenge with same antigen produce secondary immune response.



Comparison between primary & secondary responses

Property	Primary response	Secondary response
Responding B cell	Naive (virgin) B cell	Memory B cell
Lag period following antigen administration	Generally 4–7 days	Generally 1–3 days
Time of peak response	7–10 days	3–5 days
Magnitude of peak antibody response	Varies depending on antigen	Generally 100–1000 times higher than primary response
Isotype produced	IgM predominates early in the response	lgG predominates
Antigens	Thymus-dependent and thymus- independent	Thymus-dependent
Antibody affinity	Lower	Higher



summary

- B cells can be activated by antigens to produce antibodies either with the assistance of helper T cells or directly by the antigen itself.
- Antibodies are made up of two heavy and two light amino acid chains and take the shape of the letter "Y".
- Different types of antibodies are located at various sites to provide protection by agglutination, precipitation, complement fixation etc.
- Secondary humoral immune response is swift and a stronger immune response mediated by IgG class of antibodies because of the memory cells.



Thank you!

Boys Team:

Ibrahim Al-Beeshi

Abdulnasser Alwabel

Torki Alnaser

Abdulelah Abukhalaf

Nasser Almuqbil

Majed Alasbali

Faisal Alqahtani

Mohammed Alfawaz

Girls Team:

Noura AlTawil

Ruba Alsaaran

Sara AlHussein

Farah Mendoza

Munira AlSalman

Kayan Kaaki

Nourah AlKharraz

Nojood AlHaidari

Atheer AlNashwan

Hissah AlMuzini

Malak AlYahya

If you have any suggestions or alterations contact us! Email lmmunology435@gmail.com