

# Adaptive Immunity

CCV  
Microbiology  
Ch. 16

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## Overview of Adaptive Immunity

- Adaptive immunity is the body's ability to recognize and defend itself against distinct invaders and their products
- Five attributes of adaptive immunity
  - Specificity
  - Inducibility
  - Clonality
  - Unresponsiveness to self (tolerance)
  - Memory

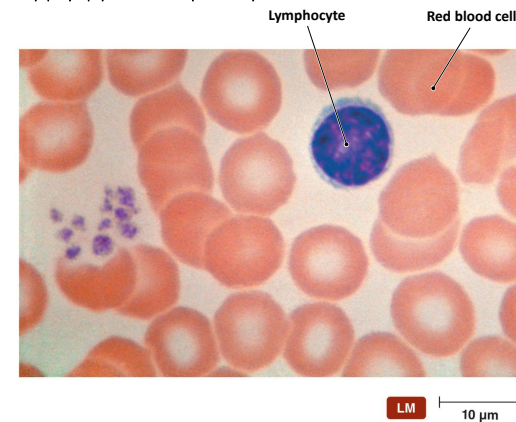
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## Overview of Adaptive Immunity

- Involves activity of lymphocytes
- Two main types of lymphocytes
  - B lymphocytes (B cells)
    - Mature in the bone marrow
  - T lymphocytes (T cells)
    - Mature in the thymus
- Two types of adaptive immune responses
  - Cell-mediated immune responses
  - Antibody immune responses

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Figure 16.1 Lymphocytes play a central role in adaptive immunity.



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## Elements of Adaptive Immunity

### • The Tissues and Organs of the Lymphatic System

- Composed of lymphatic vessels and lymphatic cells, tissues, and organs
- Screen the tissues of the body for foreign antigens

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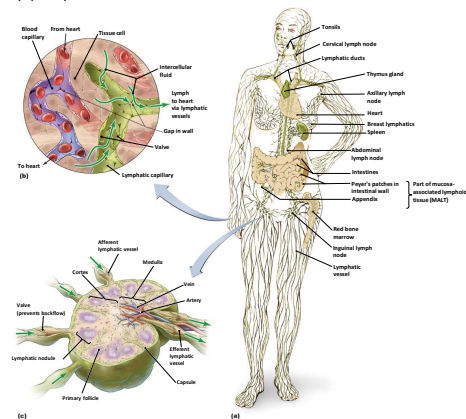
## Elements of Adaptive Immunity

### • The Tissues and Organs of the Lymphatic System

- The lymphatic vessels and the flow of lymph
  - Lymphatic vessels
    - One-way system that conducts lymph from tissues and returns it to the circulatory system
  - Lymph
    - Liquid with composition similar to blood plasma
    - Arises from fluid leaked from blood vessels into surrounding tissues

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Figure 16.2 The lymphatic system.



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## Elements of Adaptive Immunity

### • The Tissues and Organs of the Lymphatic System

- Lymphoid organs
  - Primary lymphoid organs
    - Red bone marrow
    - Thymus
  - Secondary lymphoid organs
    - Lymph nodes
    - Spleen
    - Tonsils
    - Mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue (MALT)

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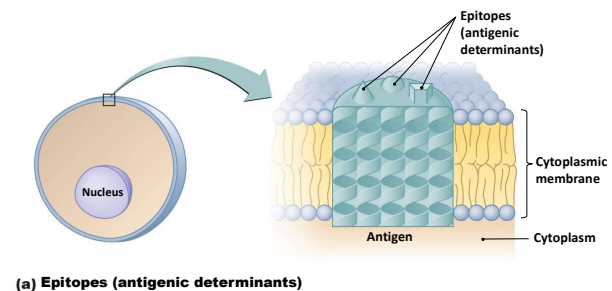
## Elements of Adaptive Immunity

### • Antigens

- Properties of antigens
  - Molecules that the body recognizes as foreign and worthy of attack
  - Recognized by three-dimensional regions called *epitopes* on antigens
  - Large foreign macromolecules make the best antigens
  - Include various bacterial components as well as proteins of viruses, fungi, and protozoa
  - Food and dust can also contain antigenic particles

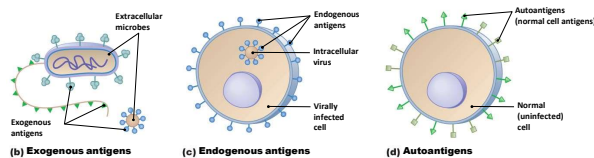
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Figure 16.3a Antigens, molecules that provoke a specific immune response.



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Figure 16.3b-d Antigens, molecules that provoke a specific immune response.



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## Elements of Adaptive Immunity

### • T Lymphocytes (T Cells) and Preparation for an Adaptive Immune Response

- T cells act primarily against cells that harbor intracellular pathogens
- Some T cells act against body cells that produce abnormal cell-surface proteins
- Circulate in the lymph and blood
- Migrate to the lymph nodes, spleen, and Peyer's patches
- Have T cell receptors (TCRs) on their cytoplasmic membrane

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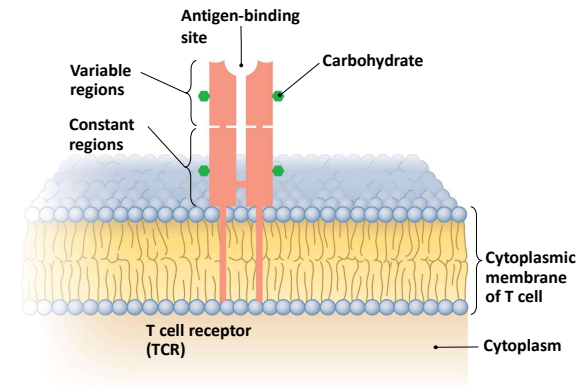
## Elements of Adaptive Immunity

### • T Lymphocytes (T Cells) and Preparation for an Adaptive Immune Response

- Specificity of the T cell receptor (TCR)
  - Each cell's TCR has a specific antigen-binding site
  - TCRs do not recognize epitopes directly
  - TCRs bind only epitopes associated with an MHC protein

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Figure 16.4 AT cell receptor (TCR).



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## Preparation for an Adaptive Immune Response

### • T Lymphocytes (T Cells) and Preparation for an Adaptive Immune Response

#### • The Roles of the Major Histocompatibility Complex and Antigen-Presenting Cells

- Group of antigens first identified in graft patients
- Important in determining compatibility of tissues for tissue grafting
- Major histocompatibility antigens are glycoproteins found in the membranes of most cells of vertebrate animals
- Hold and position antigenic determinants for presentation to T cells

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## Preparation for an Adaptive Immune Response

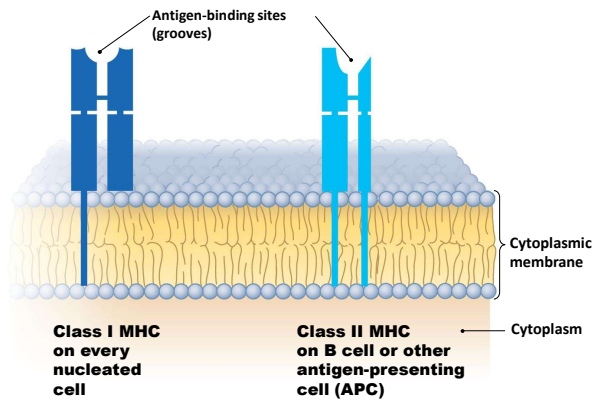
### • T Lymphocytes (T Cells) and Preparation for an Adaptive Immune Response

#### • The Roles of the Major Histocompatibility Complex and Antigen-Presenting Cells

- Antigens bind in the antigen-binding groove of MHC molecules
- Two classes of MHC proteins
  - MHC class I
    - Present on all cells except red blood cells
  - MHC class II
    - Present on antigen-presenting cells (APCs)
      - Include B cells, macrophages, and dendritic cells

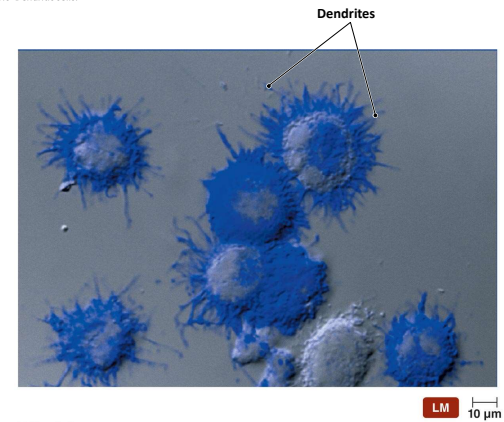
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Figure 16.5 The two classes of major histocompatibility complex (MHC) proteins.



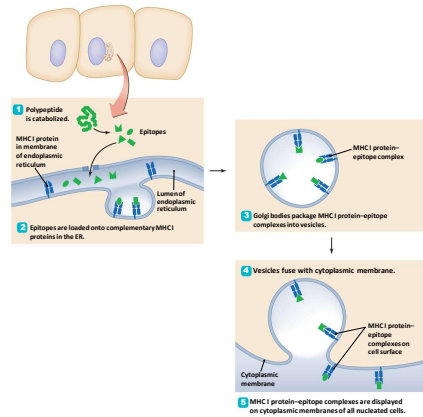
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Figure 16.6 Dendritic cells.



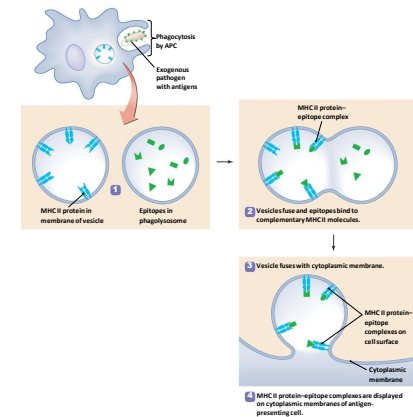
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Figure 16.7 The processing of T-dependent endogenous antigens.



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Figure 16.8 The processing of T-dependent exogenous antigens.



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## Elements of Adaptive Immunity

### • T Lymphocytes (T Cells) and Preparation for an Adaptive

#### Immune Response

- Types of T lymphocytes
  - Based on surface glycoproteins and characteristic functions
    - Cytotoxic T lymphocyte
      - Directly kills other cells
    - Helper T lymphocyte
      - Helps regulate B cells and cytotoxic T cells
      - Includes type 1 and type 2 helper T cells
    - Regulatory T lymphocyte
      - Represses adaptive immune responses

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**TABLE 16.1** Characteristics of T Lymphocytes

Lymphocyte	Site of Maturation	Representative Cell-Surface Glycoproteins	Selected Secretions
Helper T cell type 1 (Th1)	Thymus	CD4, CCR5, and distinctive TCR	Interleukin 2, IFN- $\gamma$
Helper T cell type 2 (Th2)	Thymus	CD4, CCR3, CCR4, and distinctive TCR	Interleukin 4
Cytotoxic T cell (Tc)	Thymus	CD8, CD95L, and distinctive TCR	Perforin, granzyme
Regulatory T cell (T <sub>r</sub> )	Thymus	CD4, CD25, and distinctive TCR	Cytokines, such as interleukin 10

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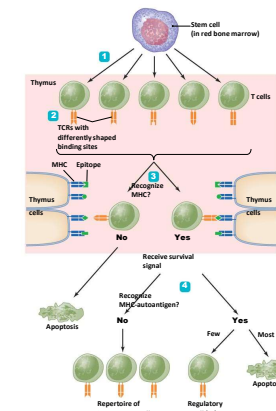
## Elements of Adaptive Immunity

### • T Lymphocytes (T Cells) and Preparation for an Adaptive Immune Response

- Clonal deletion
  - Vital that immune responses not be directed against autoantigens
  - Body eliminates self-reactive lymphocytes
  - Lymphocytes that react to autoantigens undergo apoptosis

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**Figure 16.9** Clonal deletion of T cells.



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## Elements of Adaptive Immunity

### • B Lymphocytes (B Cells) and Antibodies

- Found primarily in the spleen, lymph nodes, and MALT
- Small percentage of B cells circulate in the blood
- Major function is the secretion of antibodies

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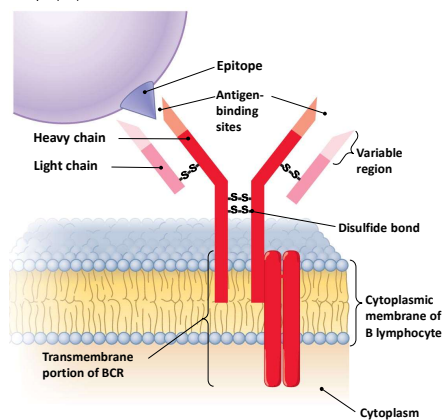
## Elements of Adaptive Immunity

### • B Lymphocytes (B Cells) and Antibodies

- Specificity of the B cell receptor (BCR)
  - Each B lymphocyte has multiple copies of the B cell receptor (BCR)
  - Each B cell generates a single BCR
  - Two variable regions of the BCR form the antigen-binding sites
  - Each BCR recognizes only one epitope
  - The entire repertoire of an individual's BCRs is capable of recognizing millions of different epitopes

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Figure 16.10 B cell receptor (BCR).



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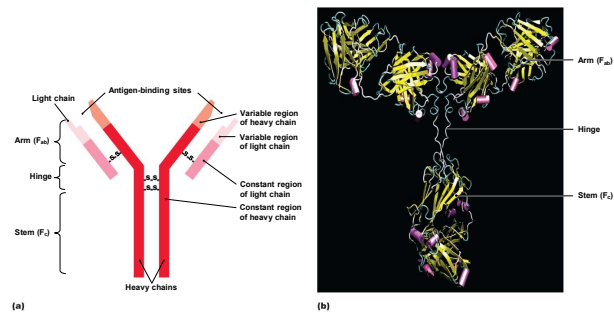
## Elements of Adaptive Immunity

### • B Lymphocytes (B Cells) and Antibodies

- Specificity and antibody structure
  - Antibodies are immunoglobulins similar to BCRs
  - Secreted by activated B cells called *plasma cells*
  - Have antigen-binding sites and antigen specificity identical to the BCR of the activated B cell

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Figure 16.11 Basic antibody structure.



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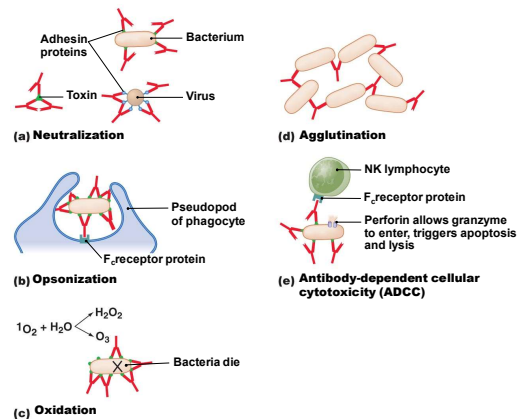
## Elements of Adaptive Immunity

### • B Lymphocytes (B Cells) and Antibodies

- Antibody function
  - Antigen-binding sites are complementary to epitopes
- Antibodies function in several ways
  - Activation of complement and inflammation
  - Neutralization
  - Opsonization
  - Killing by oxidation
  - Agglutination
  - Antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC)

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Figure 16.12 Five functions of antibodies.



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## Elements of Adaptive Immunity

### • B Lymphocytes (B Cells) and Antibodies

- Classes of antibodies
  - Threats confronting the immune system are variable
- Antibody class involved in the immune response varies
  - Type of antigen
  - Portal of entry
  - Antibody function needed
- Five different classes of antibodies

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## Elements of Adaptive Immunity

### • B Lymphocytes (B Cells) and Antibodies

- Classes of antibodies
  - IgM – first antibody produced
  - IgG – most common and longest-lasting antibody
  - IgA – associated with body secretions
  - IgE – involved in response to parasitic infections and allergies
  - IgD – exact function is not known

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**TABLE 16.2** Characteristics of the Five Classes of Antibodies

	IgM	IgG	IgA	IgE	IgD
Structure, number of binding sites	Pentamer, 10	Monomer, 2	Monomer, 2; Dimer, 4	Monomer, 2	Monomer, 2
Type of heavy chain	Mu (μ)	Gamma (γ)	Alpha (α)	Epsilon (ε)	Delta (δ)
Functions	Monomer can act as BCR; pentamer acts in complement activation, neutralization, agglutination	Complement activation, neutralization, opsonization, production of hydrogen peroxide, agglutination, and antibody-dependent cellular toxicity (ADCC); crosses placenta to protect fetus	Neutralization and agglutination; dimer is secretory antibody	Triggers release of antiparasitic molecules from eosinophils and of histamines from basophils and mast cells (allergic reactions)	Unknown, but perhaps acts as BCR
Locations	Serum, B cell surface	Serum, mast cell surfaces	Monomer: serum Dimer: mucous membrane secretions (e.g., tears, saliva, mucus); milk	Serum, mast cell surfaces	B cell surface
Approximate half-life (time it takes for concentration to reduce by half) in blood	10 days	20 days	6 days	2 days	3 days
Percentage of serum antibodies	5–10%	80%	10–15%	<1%	<<0.05%
Size (mass in kilodaltons)	970	150	Monomer: 160 Dimer: 385	188	184

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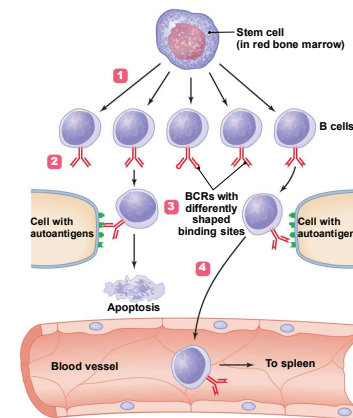
## Elements of Adaptive Immunity

### • B Lymphocytes (B Cells) and Antibodies

- Clonal deletion of B cells
  - Occurs in the bone marrow
  - Similar to deletion of T cells
  - Self-reactive B cells may become inactive or change their BCR

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**Figure 16.13** Clonal deletion of B cells.



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## Elements of Adaptive Immunity

- **Immune Response Cytokines**

- Soluble regulatory proteins that act as intercellular signals
- Cytokines secreted by various leukocytes
- Cytokine network
  - Complex web of signals among cells of the immune system

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## Elements of Adaptive Immunity

- **Immune System Cytokines**

- Interleukins (ILs)
  - Signal among leukocytes
- Interferons (IFNs)
  - Antiviral proteins that may act as cytokines
- Growth factors
  - Proteins that stimulate stem cells to divide
- Tumor necrosis factor (TNF)
  - Secreted by macrophages and T cells to kill tumor cells and regulate immune responses and inflammation
- Chemokines
  - Chemotactic cytokines that signal leukocytes to move

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## Cell-Mediated Immune Responses

- Respond to intracellular pathogens and abnormal body cells
- Common intracellular pathogens are viruses
- The response is also effective against cancer cells, intracellular protozoa, and intracellular bacteria

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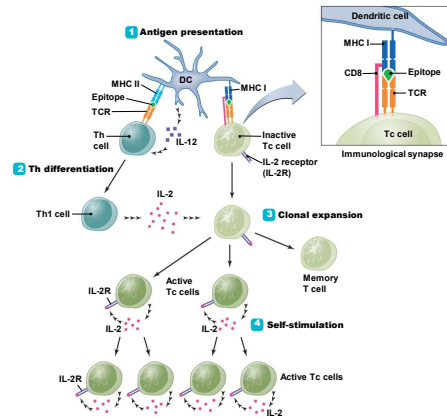
## Cell-Mediated Immune Responses

- **Activation of Cytotoxic T Cell Clones and Their Functions**

- Adaptive immune responses initiated in lymphoid organs
- Steps involved in activation of cytotoxic T cells
  - Antigen presentation
  - Helper T cell differentiation
  - Clonal expansion
  - Self-stimulation

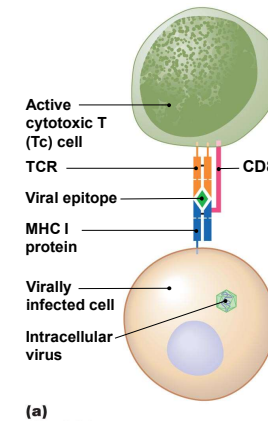
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Figure 16.14 Activation of a clone of cytotoxic T (Tc) cells.



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Figure 16.15a A cell-mediated immune response.



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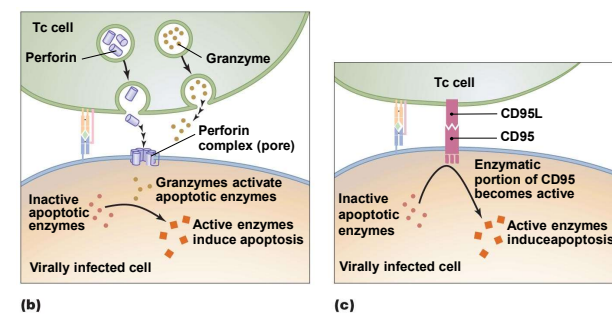
## Cell-Mediated Immune Responses

### • Activation of Cytotoxic T Cell Clones and Their Functions

- Cytotoxic T cells kill their targets by two pathways
  - Perforin-granzyme pathway
    - Involves synthesis of killing proteins
  - CD95 pathway
    - Mediated by a glycoprotein on the body's cells

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Figure 16.15b-c A cell-mediated immune response.



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## Cell-Mediated Immune Responses

### • **Memory T Cells**

- Some activated T cells become memory T cells
- Persist for months or years in lymphoid tissues
- Immediately functional upon subsequent contacts with epitope-MHC complex specific to its TCR
- Memory response is more effective than the primary response

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## Cell-Mediated Immune Responses

### • **T Cell Regulation**

- Regulation needed to prevent T cell response to autoantigens
- T cells require additional signals from an antigen-presenting cell
  - Interaction of the T cell and antigen-presenting cell stimulates the T cell to respond to the antigen
- Regulatory T cells also moderate cytotoxic T cell activity

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## Antibody Immune Responses

- Antibody immune responses mounted against exogenous pathogens and toxins
- Activates only in response to specific pathogens

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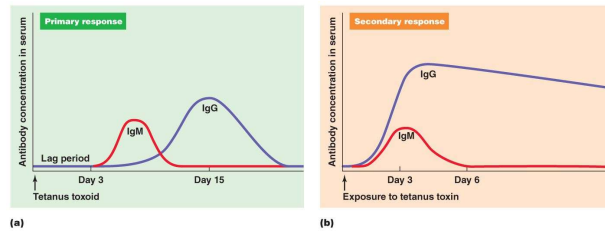
## Antibody Immune Responses

### • **Memory B Cells and the Establishment of Immunological Memory**

- Memory B cells
  - Produced by B cell proliferation but do not secrete antibodies
  - Have BCRs complementary to the epitope that triggered their production
  - Long-lived cells that persist in the lymphoid tissue
  - Initiates antibody production if antigen is encountered again

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Figure 16.19 The production of primary and secondary antibody immune responses.



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## Types of Acquired Immunity

- Specific immunity acquired during an individual's life
- Two types
  - Naturally acquired
    - Response against antigens encountered in daily life
  - Artificially acquired
    - Response to antigens introduced via a vaccine
- Distinguished as either active or passive

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TABLE 16.4 A Comparison of the Types of Acquired Immunity

	Active	Passive
Naturally acquired	 <p>The body responds to antigens that enter naturally, such as during infections.</p>	 <p>Antibodies are transferred from mother to offspring, either across the placenta (IgG) or in breast milk (secretory IgA).</p>
Artificially acquired	 <p>Health care workers introduce antigens in vaccines; the body responds with antibody or cell-mediated immune responses, including the production of memory cells.</p>	 <p>Health care workers give patients antisera or antitoxins, which are preformed antibodies obtained from immune individuals or animals.</p>

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