



UNIVERSITATEA DE STAT DE MEDICINĂ ȘI FARMACIE  
"NICOLAE TESTEMIȚANU" DIN REPUBLICA MOLDOVA

# Diseases of Immune System





# *“Double – edge sword” of immune response*

- Immunity system normally defends us against infectious

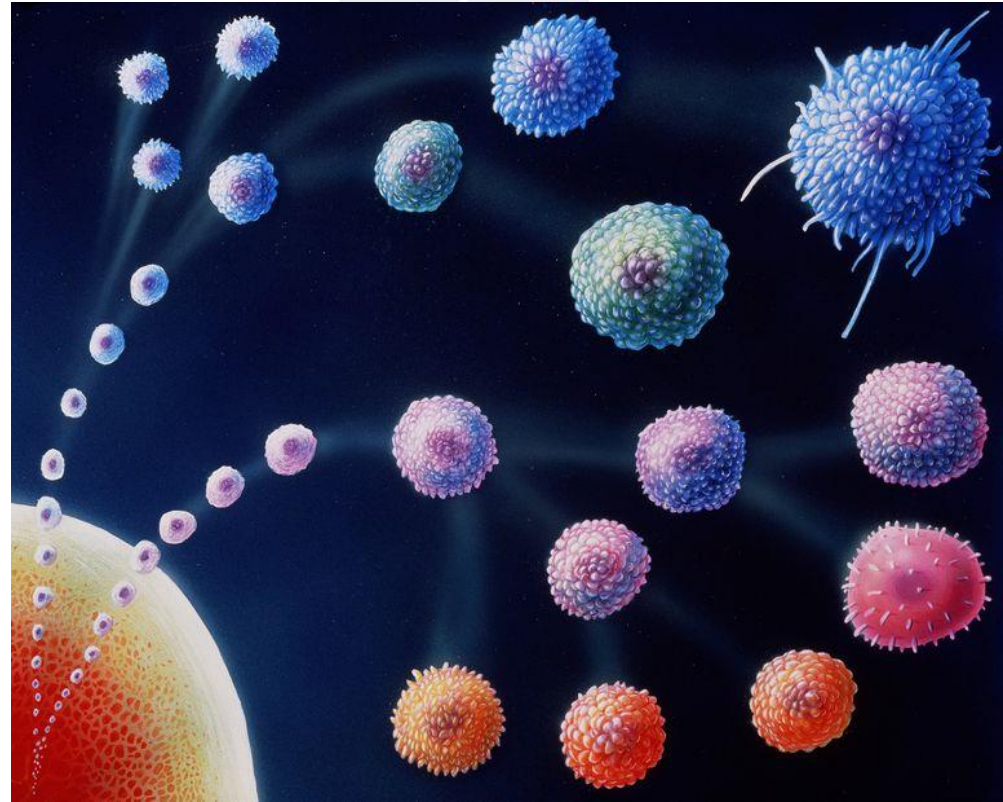


- A hyperactive immune system may cause diseases that can be sometimes fatal  
*(allergy = hypersensitivity)*



# The normal immune response

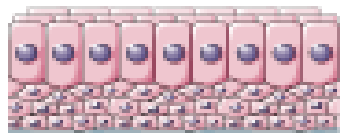
- *The immunity system is vital for survival, because our environment is teeming with potentially deadly microbes and the immunity system protects us from infectious pathogens.*





# Immune system

## Innate immunity



Epithelial barriers

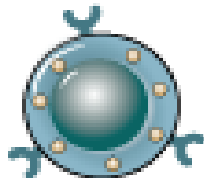


Phagocytes

Dendritic cells



Complement



NK cells

Hours

0

6

12

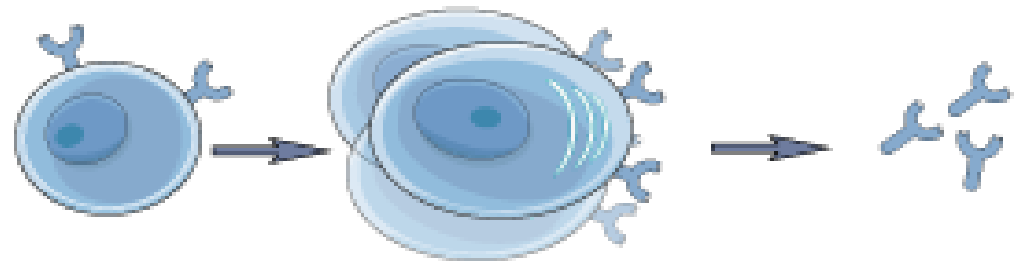
## Adaptive immunity

### *Humoral*

B lymphocytes

Plasma cells

Antibodies



**Against extracellular microbes**

### *Cellular*

APCs

T lymphocytes

Effector T cells



**Against intracellular microbes**

Days

1

4

7

Time after infection

Allergy (hypersensitivity) represents exaggerated and qualitatively modified sensibility and reactivity of the body, in response to antigenic and hapten substances, developed on the basis of immunological reactions associated with cellular injuries, inflammation and necrosis

IMMUNE  
REACTION



CELL INJURY



NECROSIS



INFLAMMATION

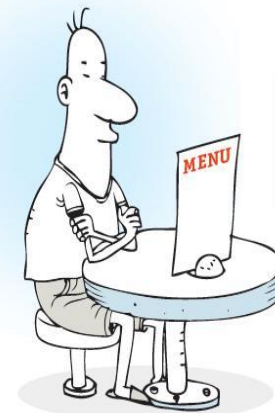
A L L E R G Y





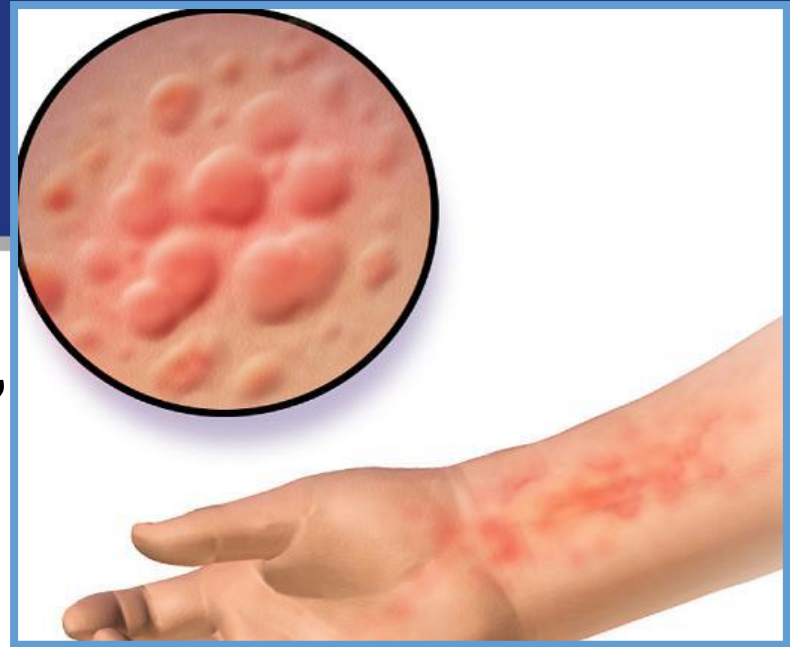
# Etiology of allergy. Types of allergens according to the way of entrance

- Substances of antigenic and hapten nature, that trigger allergic reactions, are called ***allergens***.
- ***Inhaled allergens***, or ***respiratory allergens*** (solid aerosols, perfumes etc.) penetrate via the airways and cause, especially, allergic diseases of the respiratory system (rhinitis, bronchial asthma etc.);
- ***Alimentary allergens*** – components of alimentary products, penetrating via enteral way, producing first of all allergic reactions of the GIT, but by protruding the natural barriers they can reach the internal medium and thus affect other organs;





- **Contact allergens** – pass through the skin and mucosa, and produce local allergic reactions;
- **Iatrogenic, parenteral, injected allergens** – substances administered directly into the internal medium by subcutaneous, intramuscularly, intravenous route with therapeutic or prophylactic goal.





# Etiology of allergy. Types of allergens according to their origin

**ALLERGEN**

**EXOGENOUS**

**House-keeping allergens**

**Industrial allergens**

**Drugs**

**Vegetal allergens**

**Infectious allergens**

**Parasite allergens**

**ENDOGENOUS  
auto-allergens**

*Native natural allergens* - represent normal components of the body, toward which the organism didn't produce immune tolerance during ontogenesis;

*Acquired non-infectious antigens*, normal body structures which were denaturalized by physical, chemical factors or combined with other exogenous substances;

*Acquired infectious allergens* - natural antigens proper for the body, associated with microorganisms, microbial toxins etc.





**According to their chemical composition allergens can be divided in:**



- simple proteins
- nucleoproteins
- polysaccharides
- lipopolysaccharide



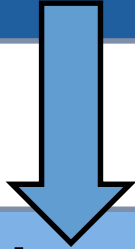
**simple organic substances**

- anorganic substances
- chemical elements



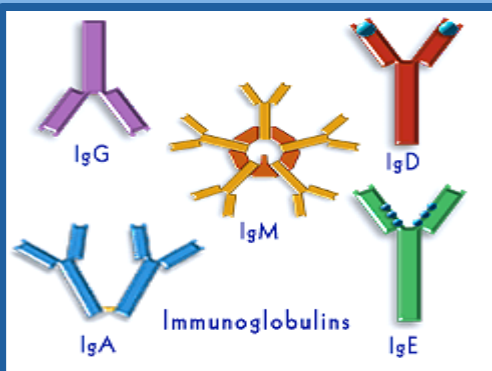


## *Immediate hypersensitivity*



Allergic reactions, which have on the basis humoral immune reactions

**Type I, II and III allergic reaction**

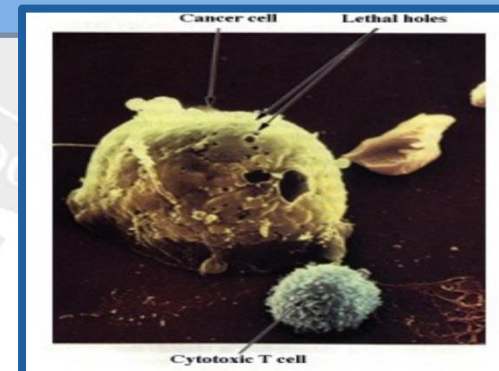


## *Delayed hypersensitivity*



Allergic reactions which have on the basis cellular immune reactions

**Type IV allergic reaction**



# Types of allergic reaction / hypersensitivity

	Type I	Type II	Type III	Type IV
<b>Immune system involvement</b>	IgE	IgG or IgM	IgG and IgM	T cells
<b>Examples of reactions</b>	<b>Contact urticaria</b> (bee sting reaction), local and systemic <b>anaphylaxis</b> , seasonal hay fever, food allergies and drug allergies.	Red blood cells destruction after transfusion of mismatched blood type.	Rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus.	<b>Allergic contact dermatitis</b> , type I diabetes mellitus, multiple sclerosis.

***Seconds to minutes***

***Minutes to hours***

***Several hours***

***Several days***

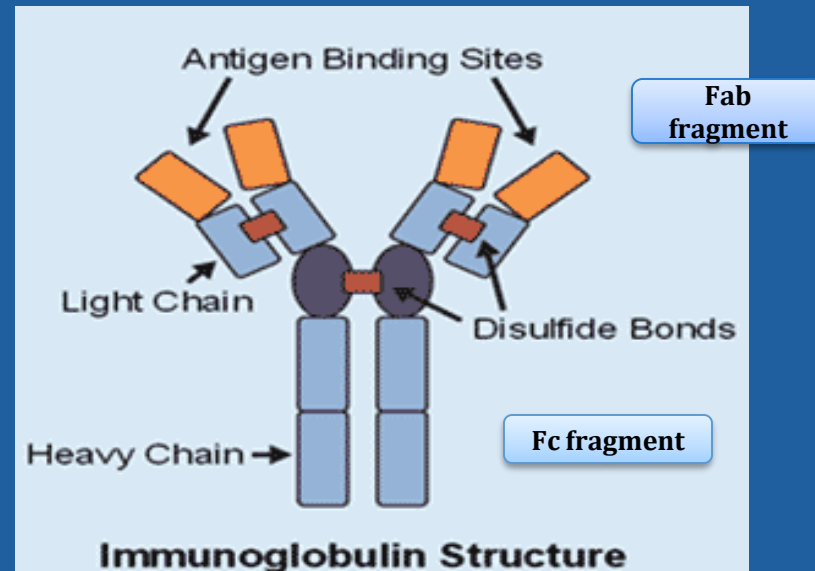
# General pathogenesis of immediate hypersensitivity - I, II, III allergic reactions

(which develop on the basis of humoral immune reactions)

**I. Immunologic stage** (stage of sensitization);

**II. Pathochemical stage**, (release of biological active substances);

**III. Pathophysiologic stage** (clinical manifestations).





# I. Immunologic stage sensitization

Increased body sensibility to allergen with formation of sensitized immune cells or immunoglobulins.

ACTIVE

## Sensitization occurred at the allergen administration

- The first signs of sensitization (specific antibodies) occur over **4-5 days** after inoculation of antigens.
- Peak sensitization occurs at **12th - 14th day**.
- Maximum duration of sensitization is due to immunological memory and can be lifelong.

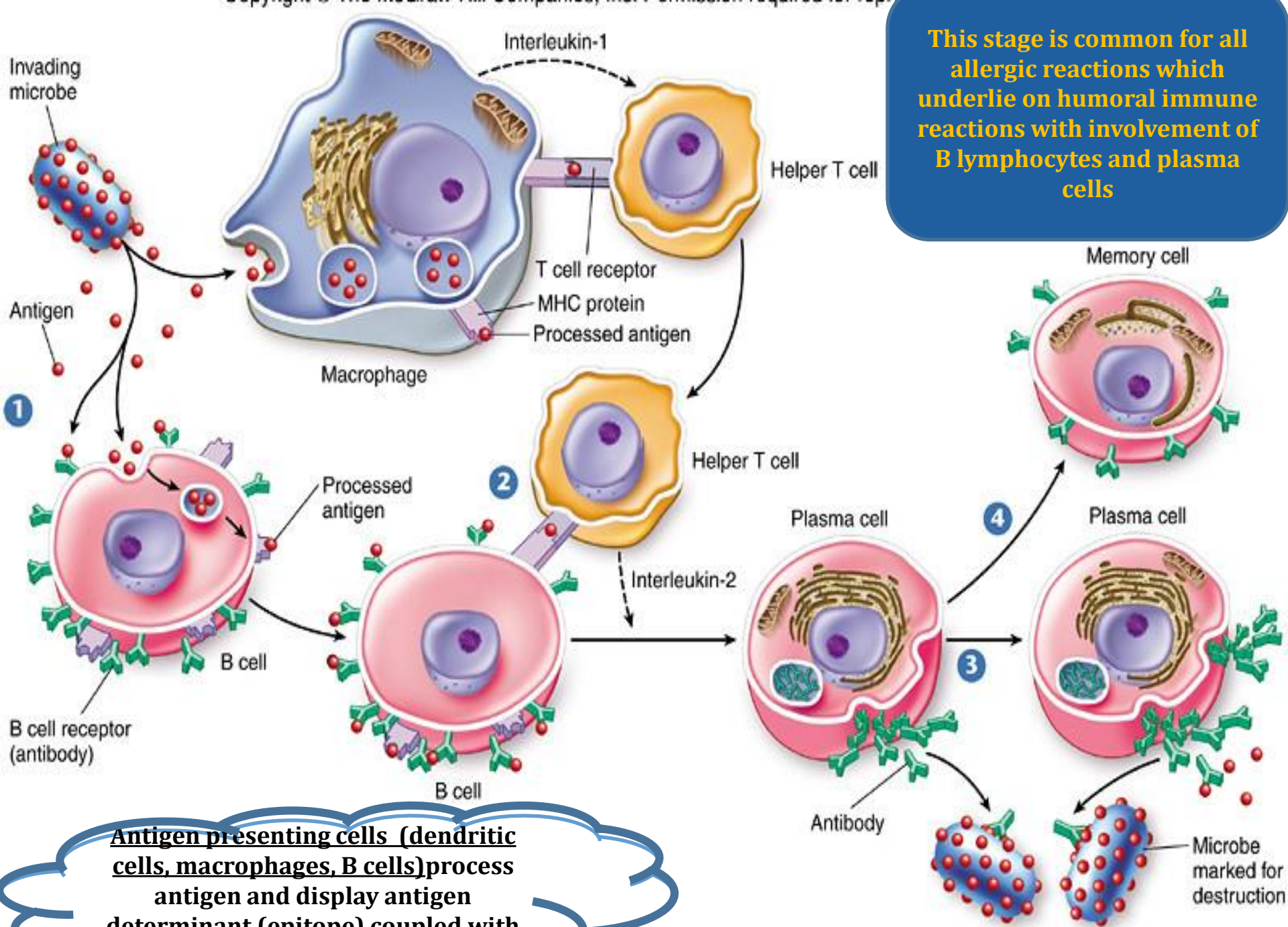


PASSIVE

## Sensitization achieved by transfer of immunoglobulins from actively sensitized animal to non-sensitized animals (not contacted with relevant allergen)

- Occurs over 2-4 hours after the transfer of Ig (time necessary to their fixation on mast cells);
- Lasts up to 2-4 months (the time of transferred-IgE catabolism),
- Does not reappear (lack of immunological memory).





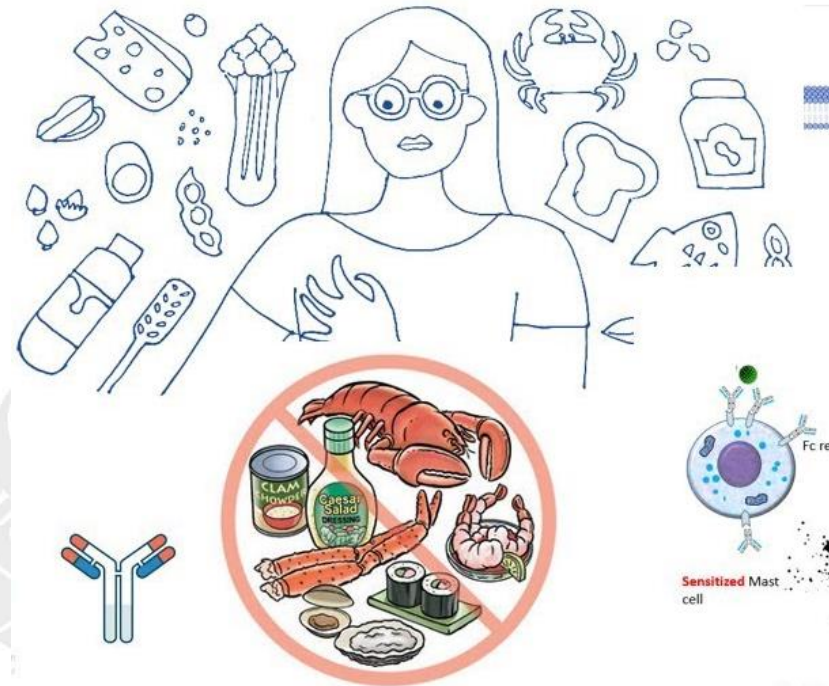
**This stage is common for all allergic reactions which underlie on humoral immune reactions with involvement of B lymphocytes and plasma cells**

**Antigen presenting cells (dendritic cells, macrophages, B cells) process antigen and display antigen determinant (epitope) coupled with MHC II**



# Immediate hypersensitivity (type I)

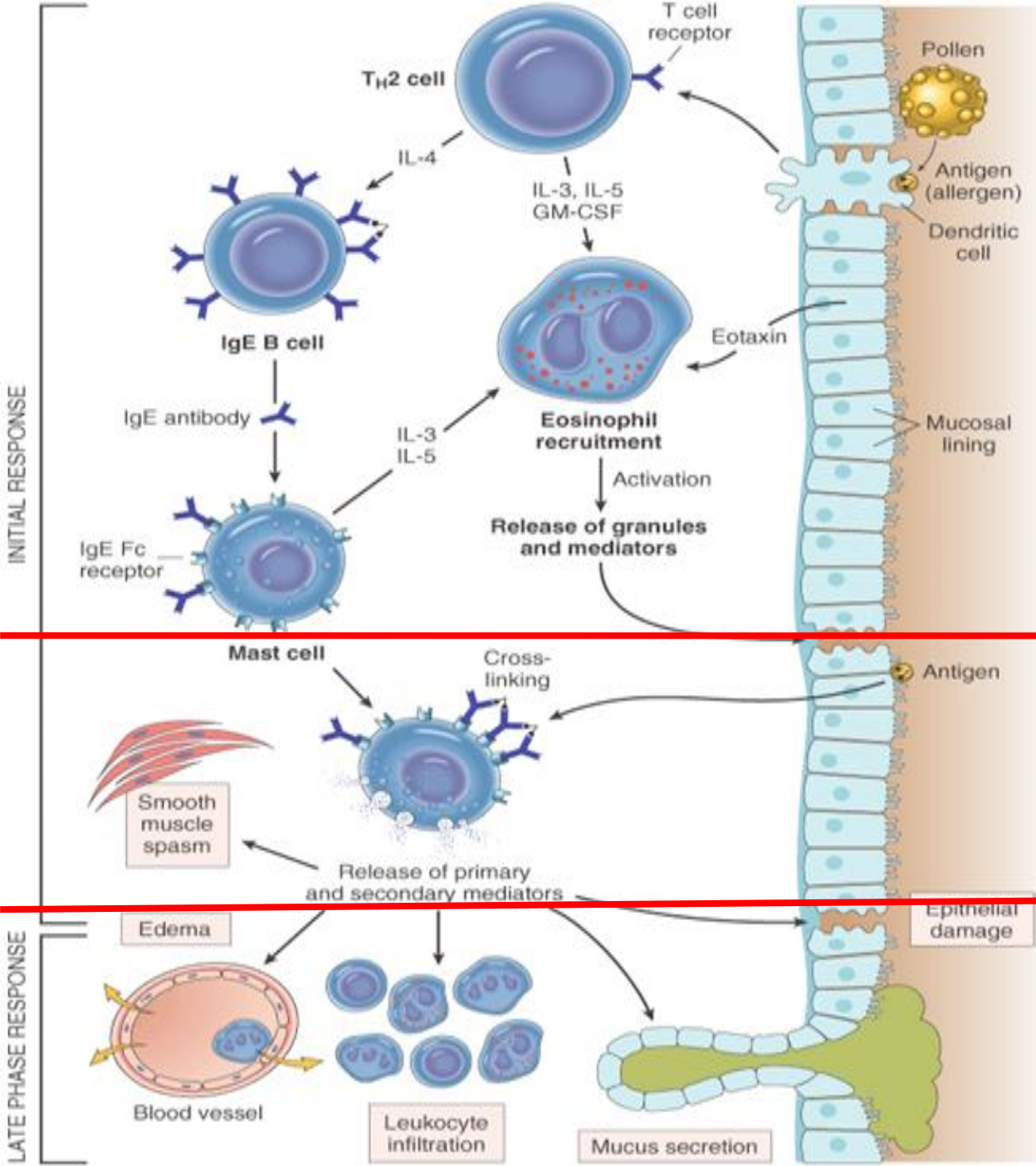
- *Rapid immunologic reaction occurring in a previously sensitized individual that is triggered by the binding of an antigen to IgE antibody on the surface of mast cells, that release mediators and pro-inflammatory cytokines acting on vessels and smooth muscle with subsequent consequences.*
- **systemic** – followed by injection of an antigen (bee sting, peanut allergens)
- **local** – depending on portal of entry of the allergen (skin allergy, hives, allergic rhinitis, conjunctivitis, hay fever, bronchial asthma or allergic gastroenteritis – in food allergy)





# Type I hypersensitivity

Fixed Ab + free Ag



*Immunological phase*

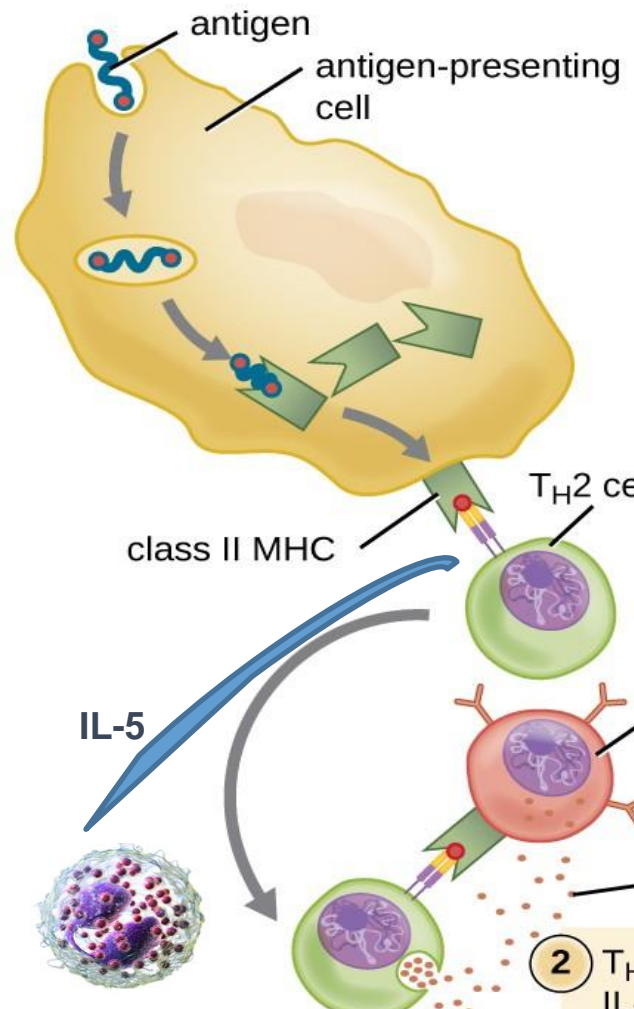
*Pathochemical phase*

*Pathophysiological stage*

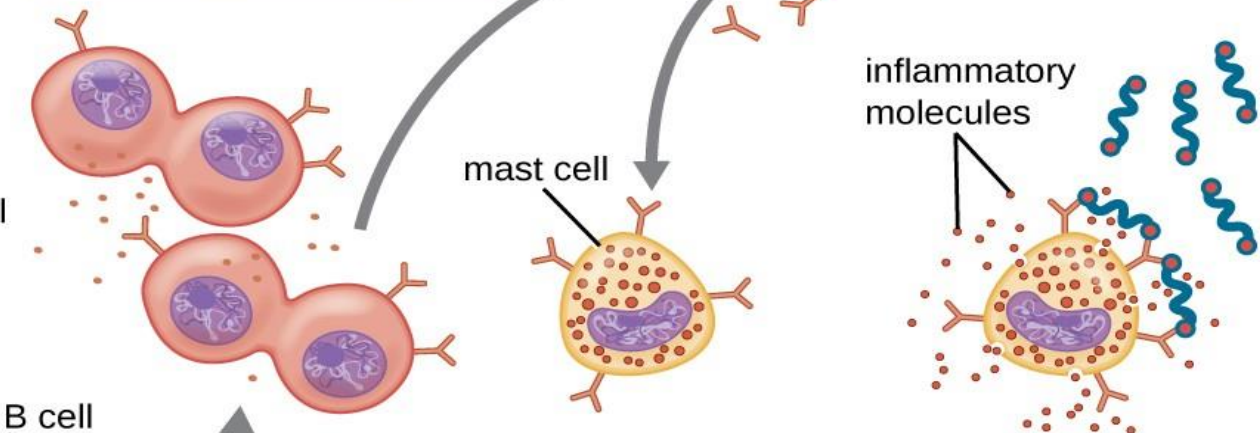


# Immunological stage - immediate hypersensitivity (type I)

**1** Upon first exposure to allergen, APC processes antigen and presents it to  $T_H2$  cell.



**3** B cells proliferate and differentiate into plasma cells that synthesize and secrete IgE antibody.



**4** IgE binds to mast cells by Fc region, sensitizing the mast cells.

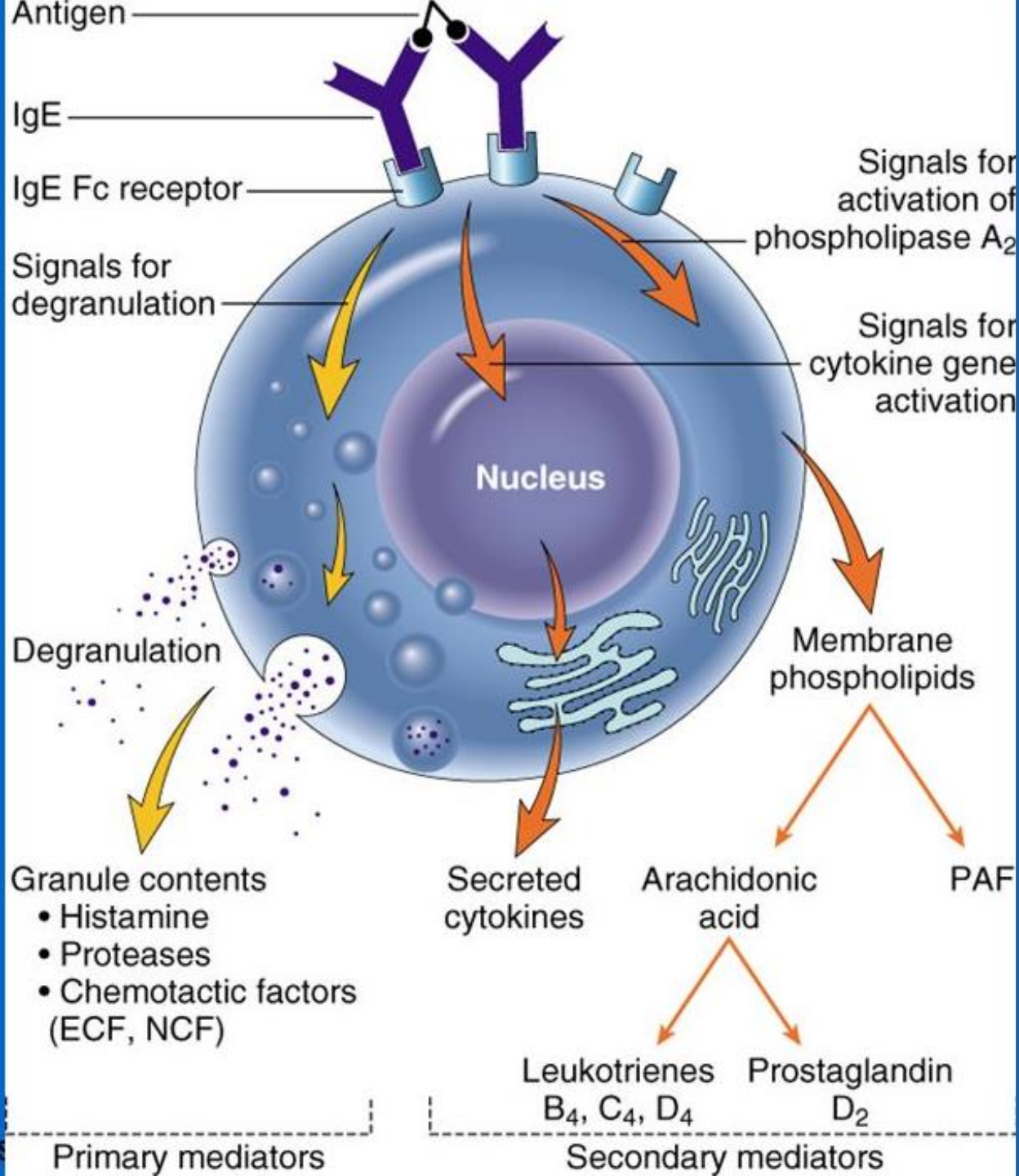
**5** Upon subsequent exposure to allergen, mast cells with IgE bind to antigen and release inflammatory molecules, resulting in allergy symptoms.

**2**  $T_H2$  cell releases IL-4 and IL-12, which activate B cell.

Eosinophil



# Pathochemical stage



- 1. Preformed mediators (vasoactive amines, enzymes)**
- 2. Lipid mediators (leukotriens, prostaglandins, platelet-activating factor)**
- 3. Cytokines and chemokines (TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-1)**





# Pathophysiological stage

**Immediate reaction** (histamine, prostaglandin, and leukotrienes):

- Vasodilation
- Vascular leakage (edema)
- Smooth muscle spasm

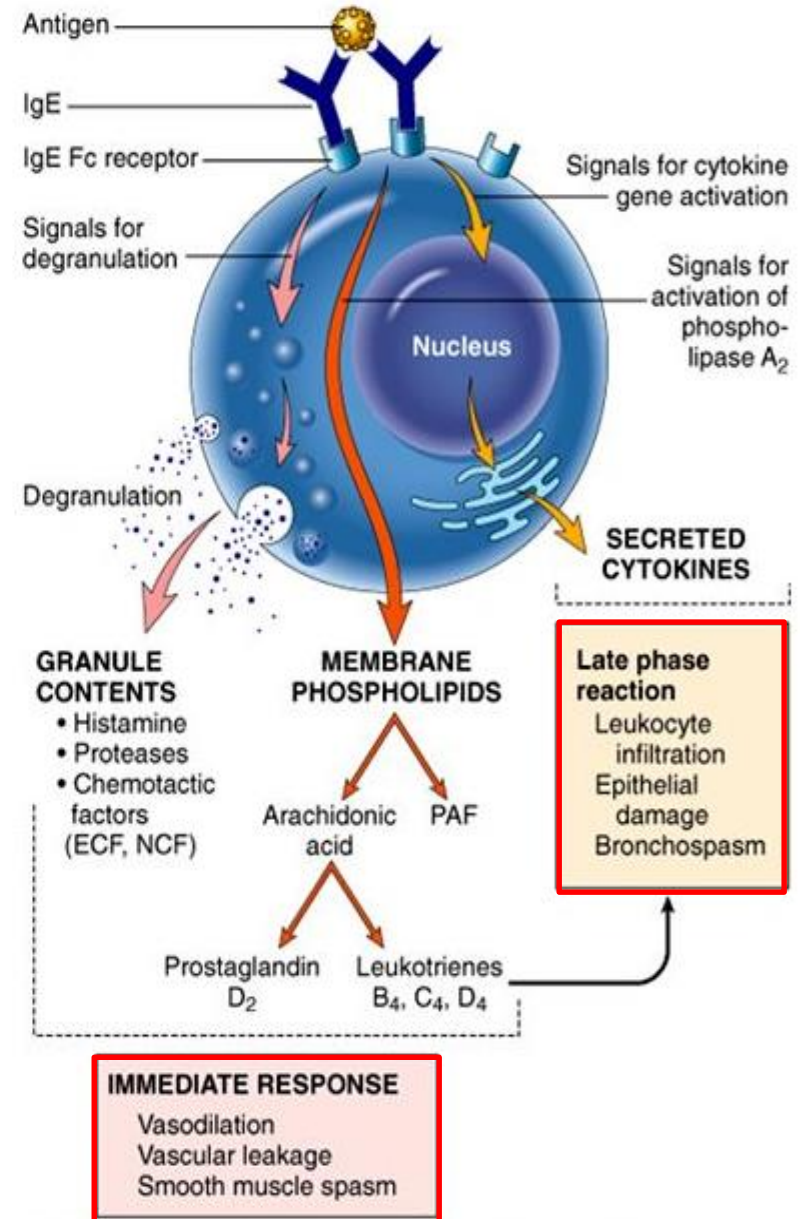
(5-30 min)  
subside in 60 min

**Late-phase reaction** (leukotrienes and other cytokines):

- Leukocyte infiltration (particularly neutrophils and eosinophils)
- Epithelial damage
- Bronchospasm

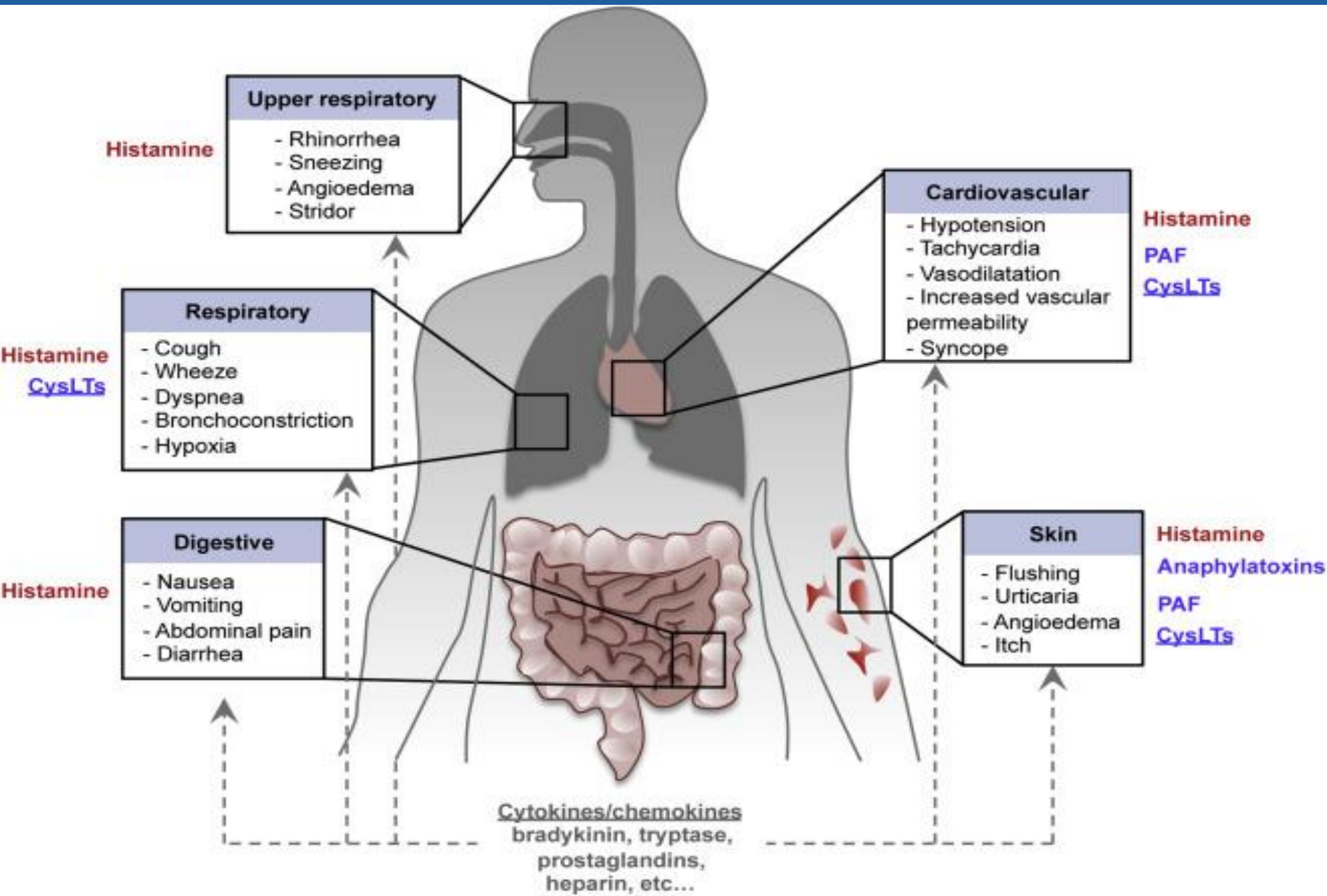
2 – 8 Hr later  
without additional exposure to Ag

*Clinical manifestations may be local or systemic and may range from mild (sinusitis) to severe (anaphylactic shock). Also, may be acute or **CHRONIC** (e.g. asthma)*





# Anaphylactic shock





# Emergency treatment of anaphylactic shock



Anaphylactic reaction?

Airway, Breathing, Circulation, Disability, Exposure

Diagnosis - look for:

- Acute onset of illness
- Life-threatening Airway and/or Breathing and/or Circulation problems<sup>1</sup>
- And usually skin changes

- Call for help
- Lie patient flat
- Raise patient's legs

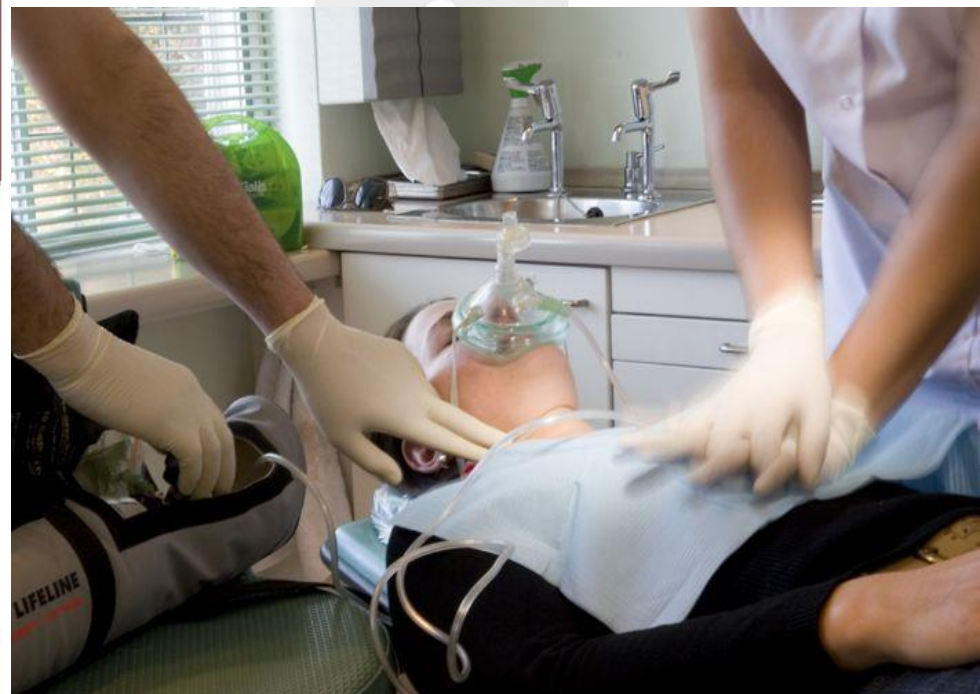
Adrenaline<sup>2</sup>

When skills and equipment available:

- Establish airway
- High flow oxygen
- IV fluid challenge<sup>3</sup>
- Chlorphenamine<sup>4</sup>
- Hydrocortisone<sup>5</sup>

Monitor:

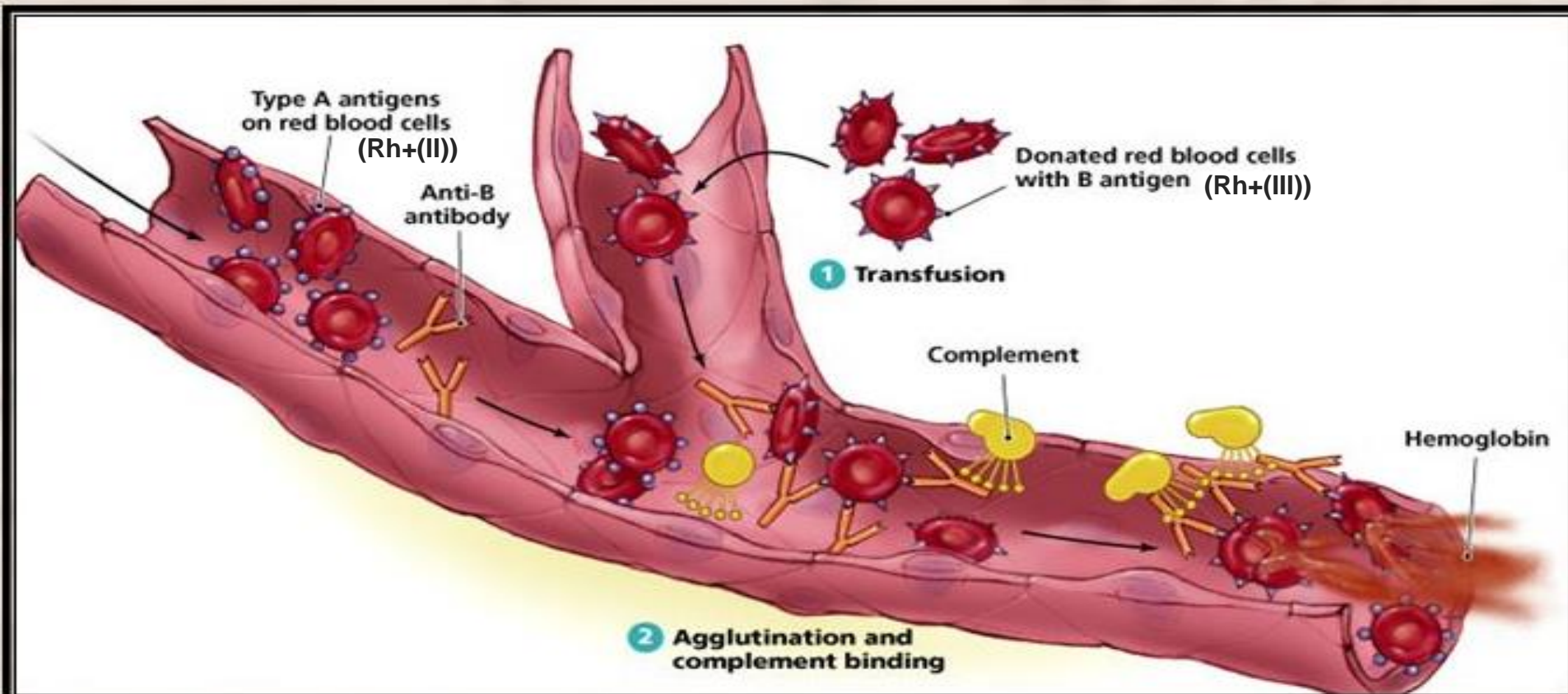
- Pulse oximetry
- ECG
- Blood pressure





# Antibody-Mediated (Type II) Hypersensitivity

- *Antibodies (IgG and IgM) that react with antigens present on cell surfaces or in the extracellular matrix cause disease by destroying these cells, triggering inflammation or interfering with normal functions. (free Ab + fixed Ag)*

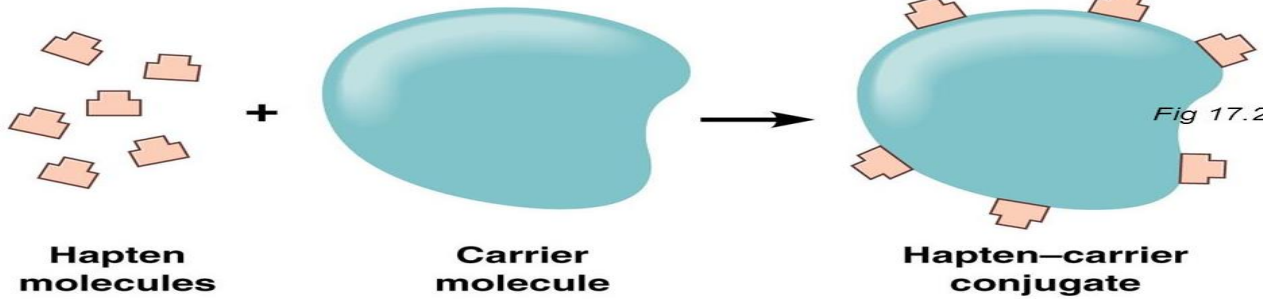




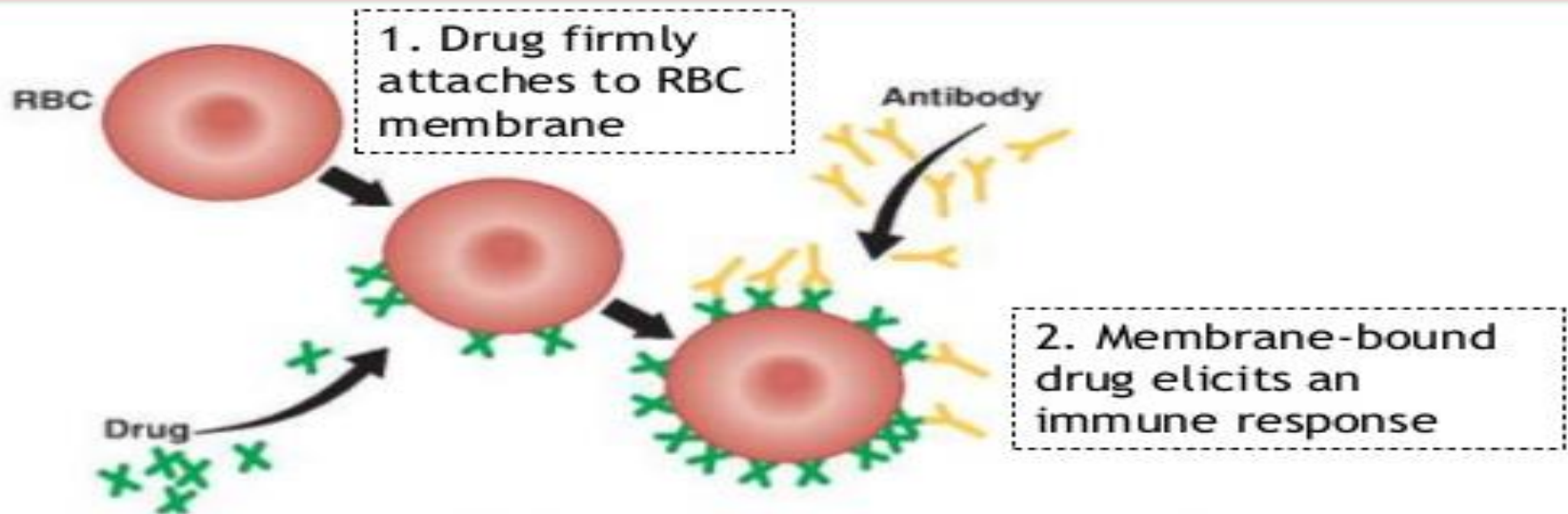
# Type II hypersensitivity (drug reaction)

## Hapten

**Definition:** Small molecule not antigenic by itself.  
Becomes antigenic when bound to "carrier molecule"



- Haptene= small molecules with molecular mass <10000 daltons



Penicillin = molecular mass ~ 350 daltons

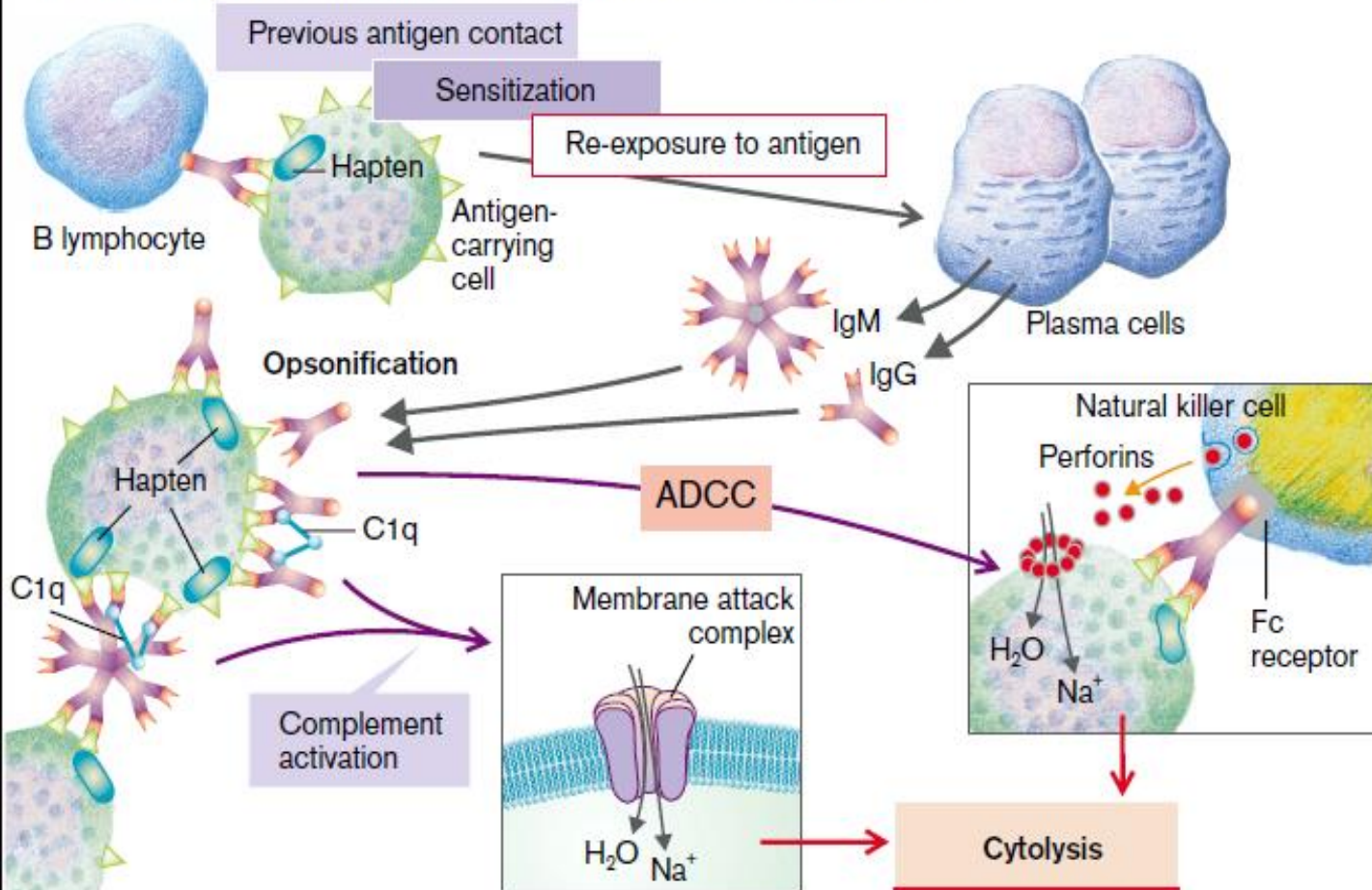
**Prototype drug: penicillin - covalently bind RBC**





# Pathogenesis of type II hypersensitivity

## A. Cytotoxic (Type II) Hypersensitivity to Cellular Antigens



### 1. Activation of complement cascade:

➤ Opsonization and phagocytosis

➤ Formation of MAC (membrane attack complex)

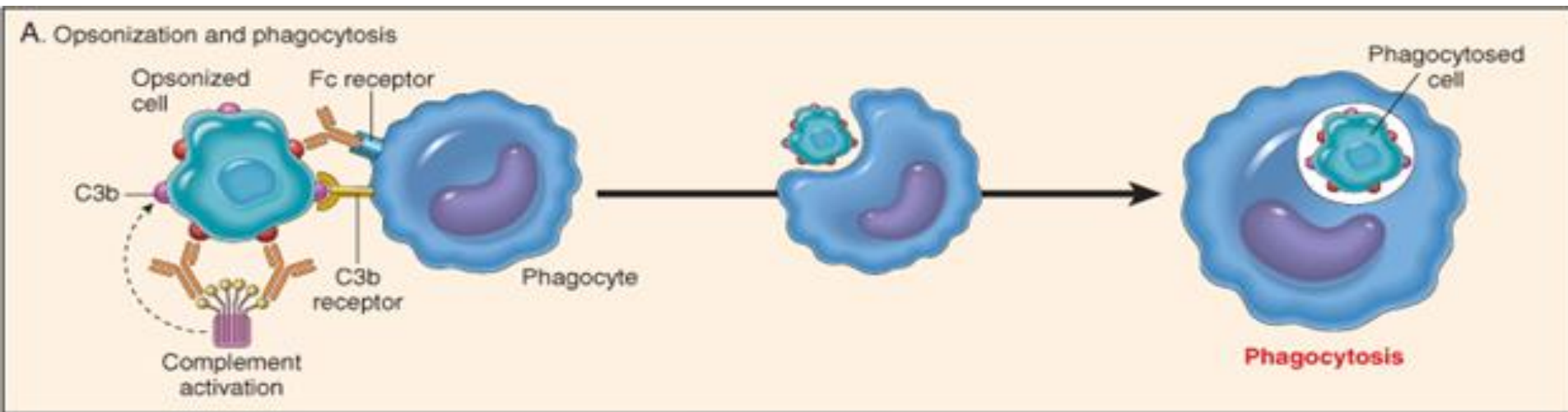
➤ Complement and Fc receptor mediated inflammation

### 2. ADCC (antibody dependent cellular cytotoxicity)

### 3. Antibody-mediated cellular dysfunction

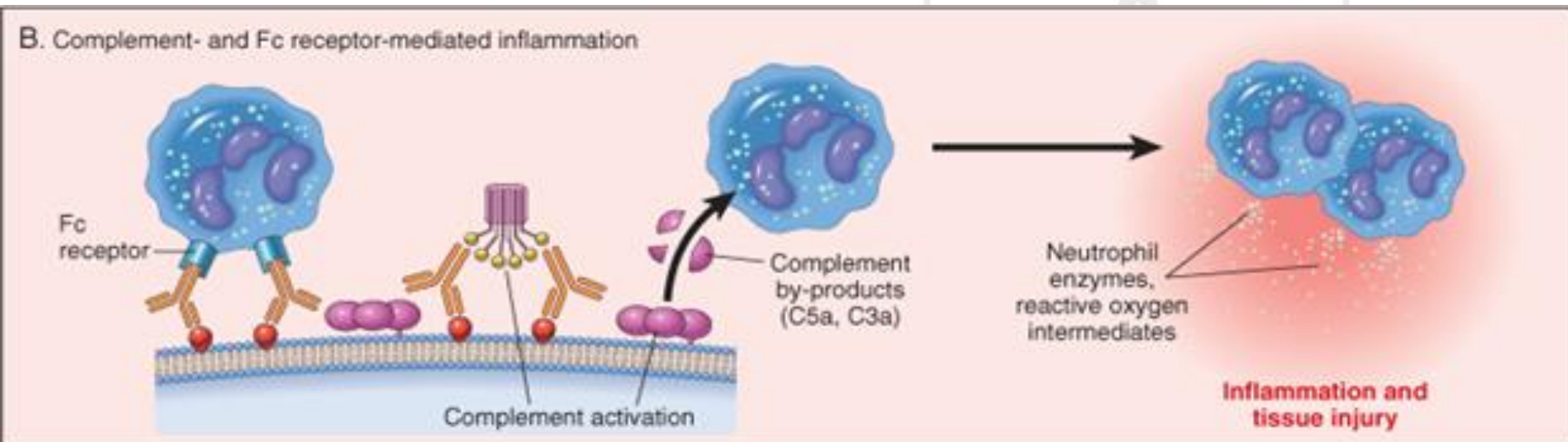
Antigen	Foreign erythrocyte	Hapten + erythrocyte	Hapten + granulocyte	Hapten + thrombocyte	Basal membrane (kidney, lungs)
Lysis	↓ <b>Hemolysis</b>	↓ <b>Hemolysis</b>	↓ <b>Agranulocytosis</b>	↓ <b>Thrombocytopenia</b>	↓ <b>Goodpasture's syndrome, RPGN</b>

# Opsonization and phagocytosis



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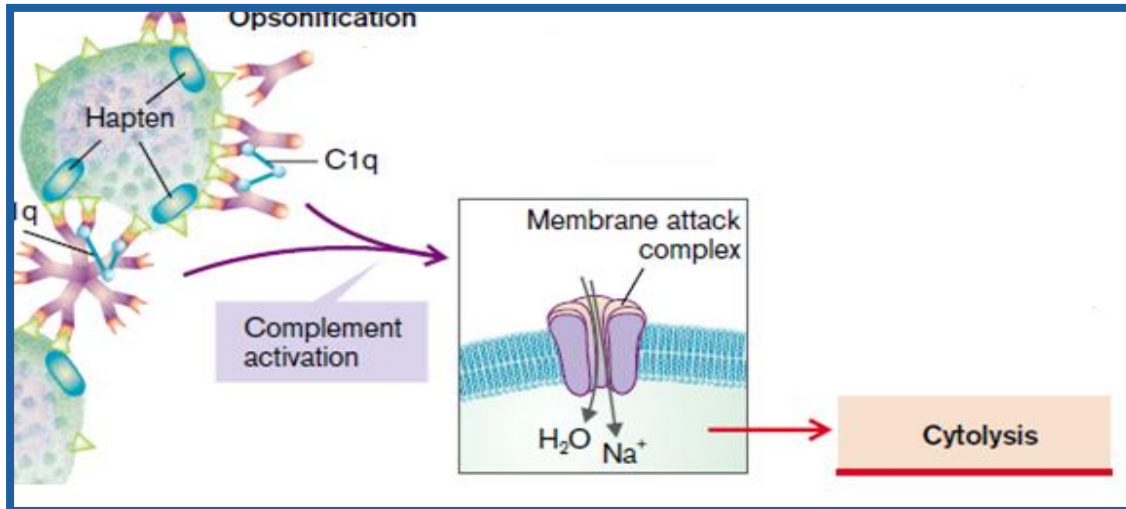
## Complement and Fc receptor – mediated inflammation



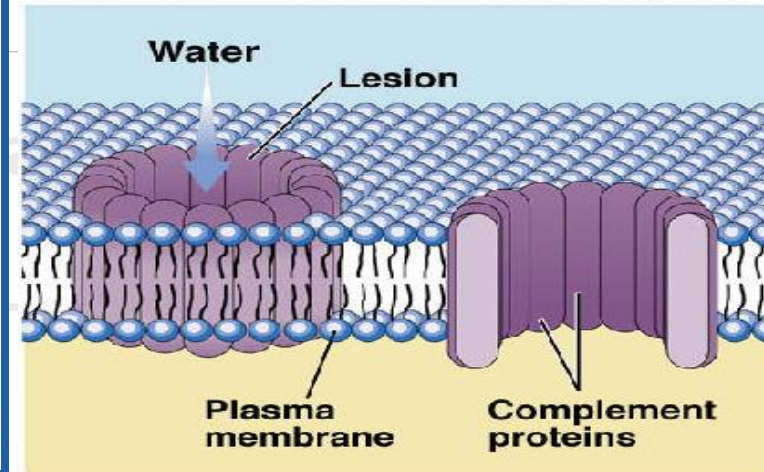
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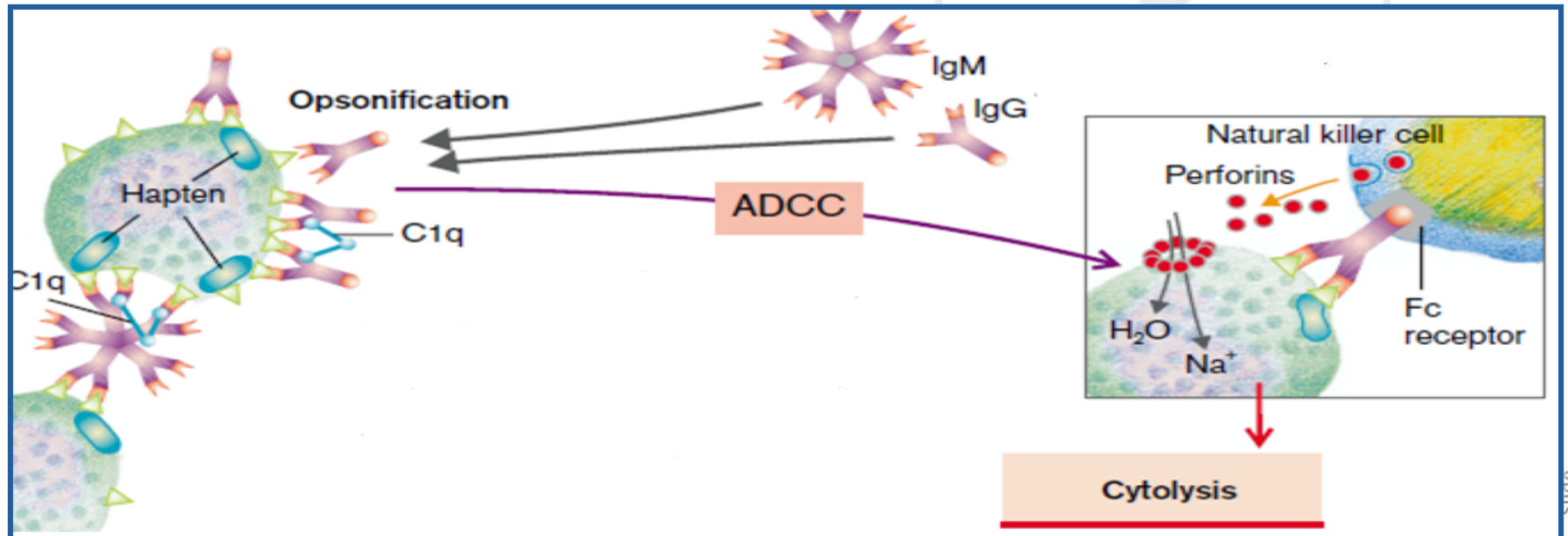
# Formation of membrane attack complex



## Membrane Attack Complex

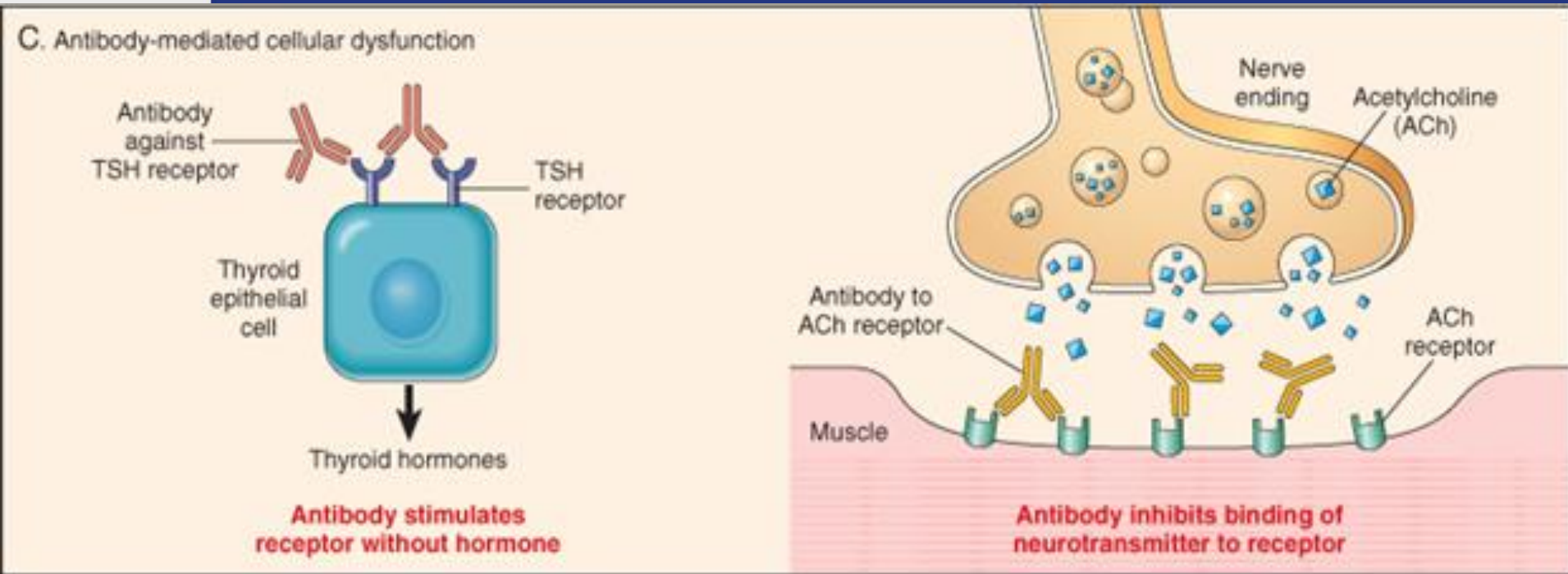


# Antibody - dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC)





# Antibody – mediated cellular dysfunction



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*Graves disease  
(hyperthyroidism)*

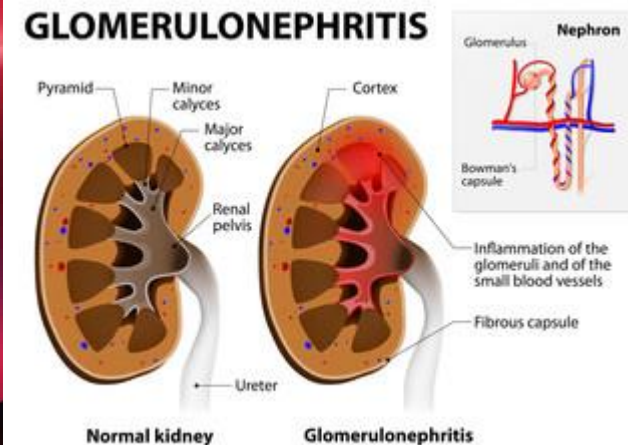
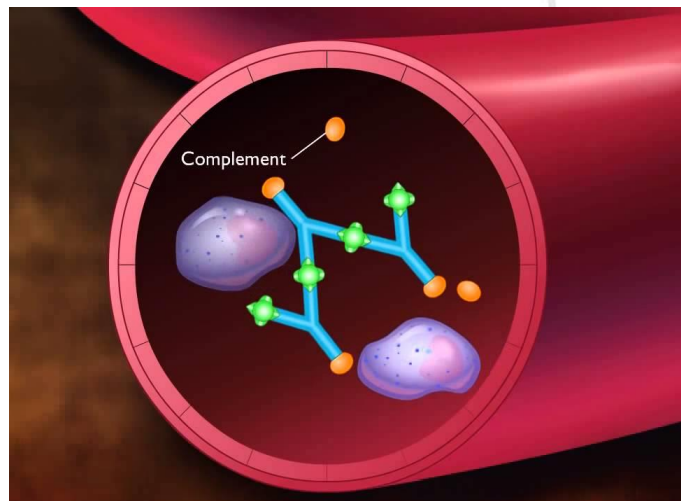
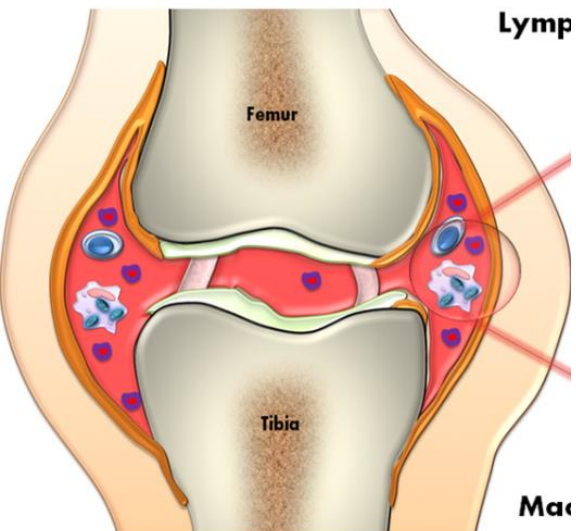
*Myasthenia gravis*

*Antibodies are directed against receptors and impair or dysregulate function without causing cell injury or inflammation*



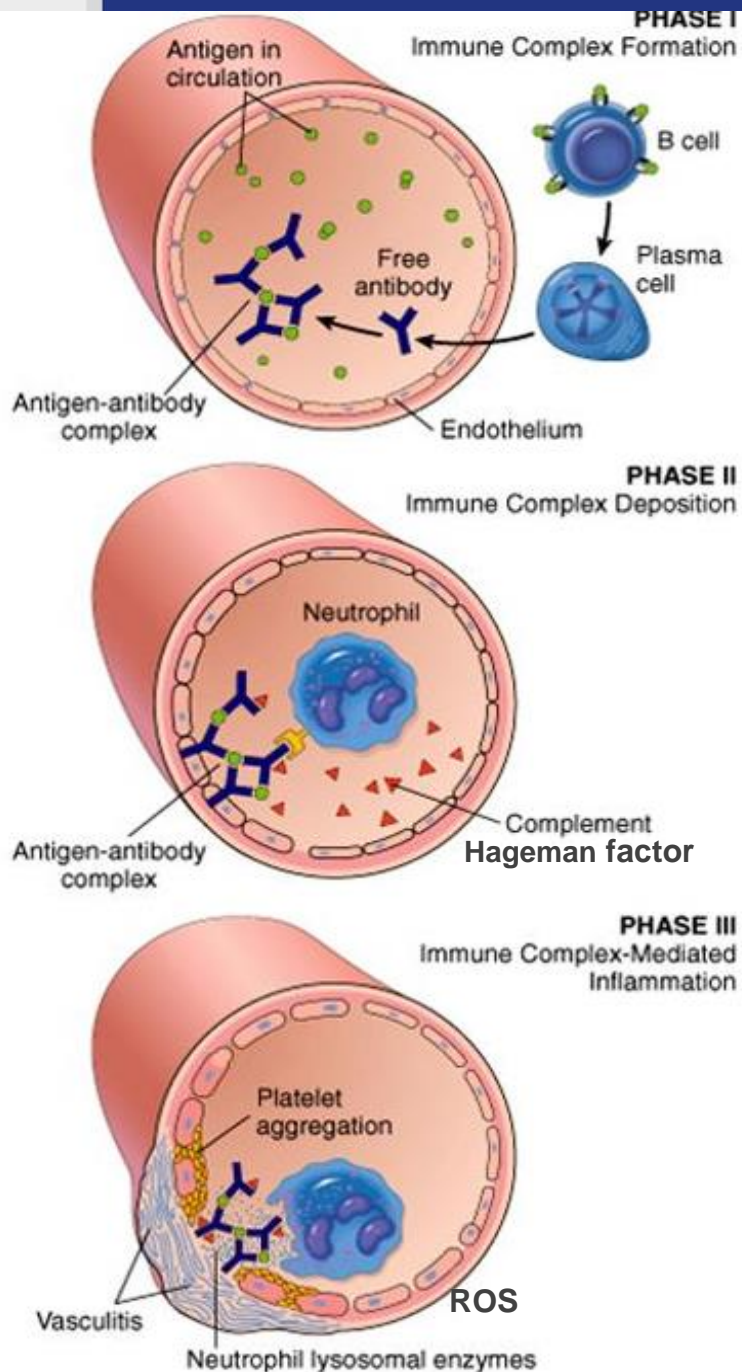
# Immune Complex–Mediated (Type III) Hypersensitivity (Ag free + Ab free)

- IgG and IgM antibodies bind antigens usually in the circulation, and the antigen-antibody complexes deposit in tissues and induce inflammation. The leukocytes that are recruited (neutrophils and monocytes) produce tissue damage by release of lysosomal enzymes and generation of toxic free radicals.
- Immune complexes typically deposit in vessel walls.
- Immune complex-mediated diseases tend to be systemic, but often preferentially involve the *kidney* (glomerulonephritis), *joints* (arthritis), and *small blood vessels* (vasculitis), all of which are common sites of immune complex deposition





# Pathogenesis of type III allergic reaction



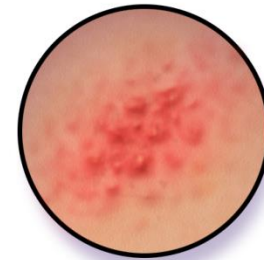
- Formation of immune complexes (Ag + Ab) ~ a week
- Deposition of immune complexes: pathogenic – excess antigen, medium to small size complexes that are broken down slowly
- Inflammation and tissue damage
  - Mediators:**
  - ✓ complement system (C3a, C3b, C5a, C5b-C9)
  - ✓ Hageman factor (Factor XIIa) – clotting system, kinin system, fibrinolytic system
  - ✓ Leukocytes – lysosomal enzymes, ROS



# General pathogenesis of type IV allergic reactions

(delayed allergic reaction = late hypersensitivity)

- I. Immunologic stage*** (stage of sensitization);
- II. Pathochemical stage***, (release of biological active substances);
- III. Pathophysiologic stage*** (clinical manifestations).





# Etiological factors of type IV hypersensitivity

It is triggered mainly:

- by *proteins from pathogens* (viruses, tuberculosis, lepra, leishmaniasis, listeriosis, fungal infections),
- other foreign proteins (e.g., the wheat protein gliadin that causes *celiac disease*),
- and *haptens*, for example, drugs, metals (e.g., nickel), cosmetics, plant constituents

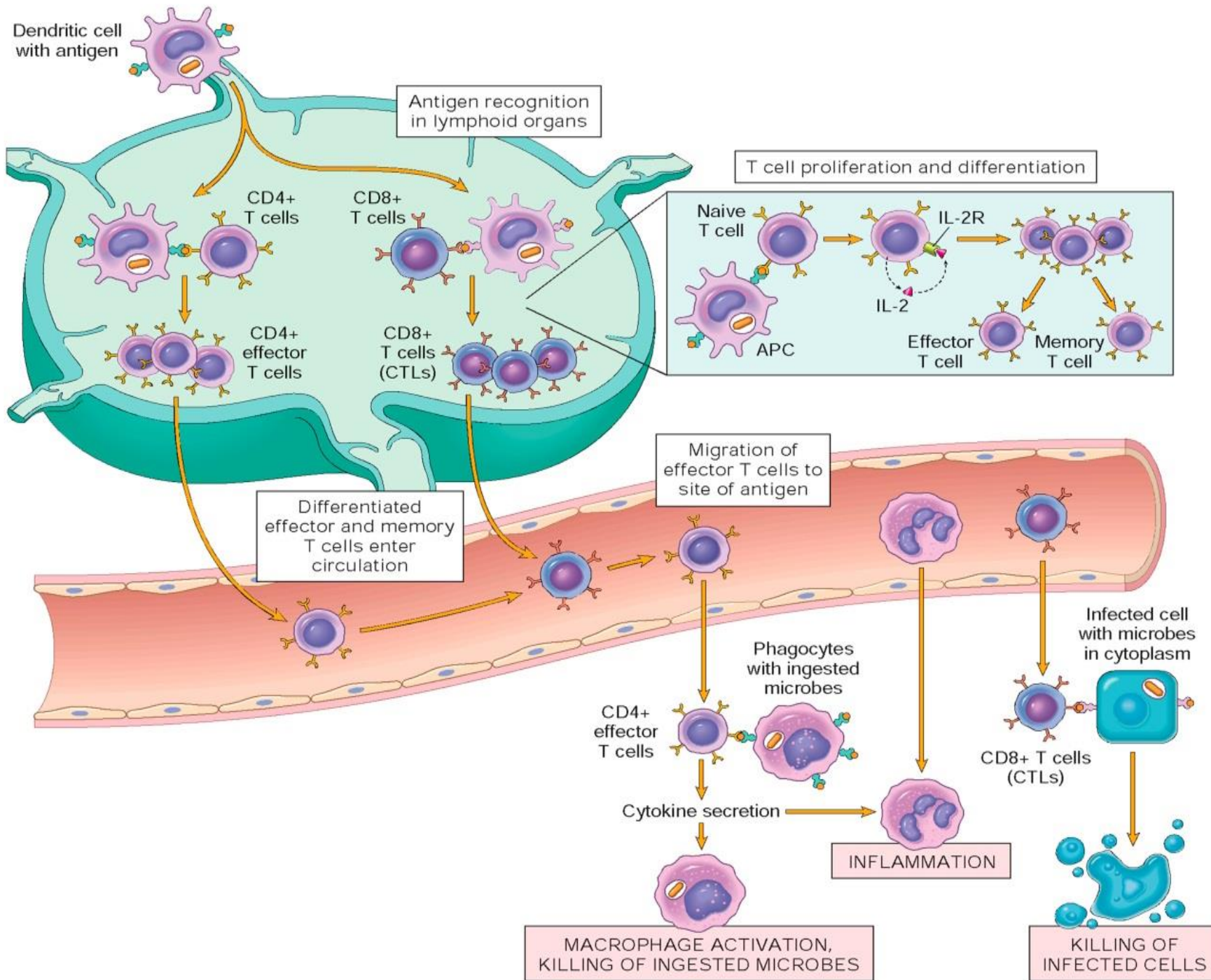


Swollen Gums



Healthy Gums

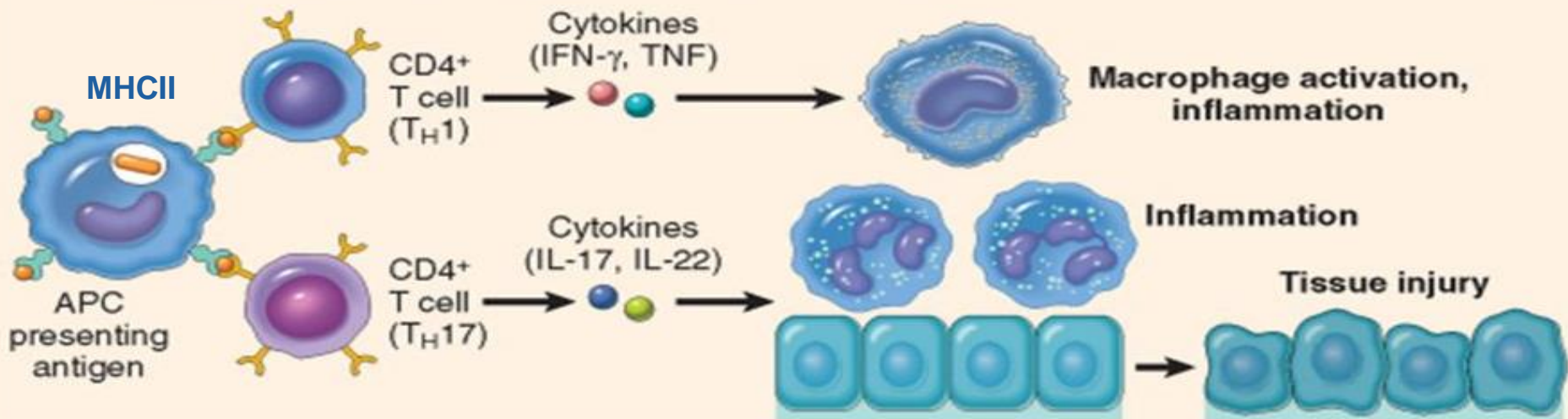






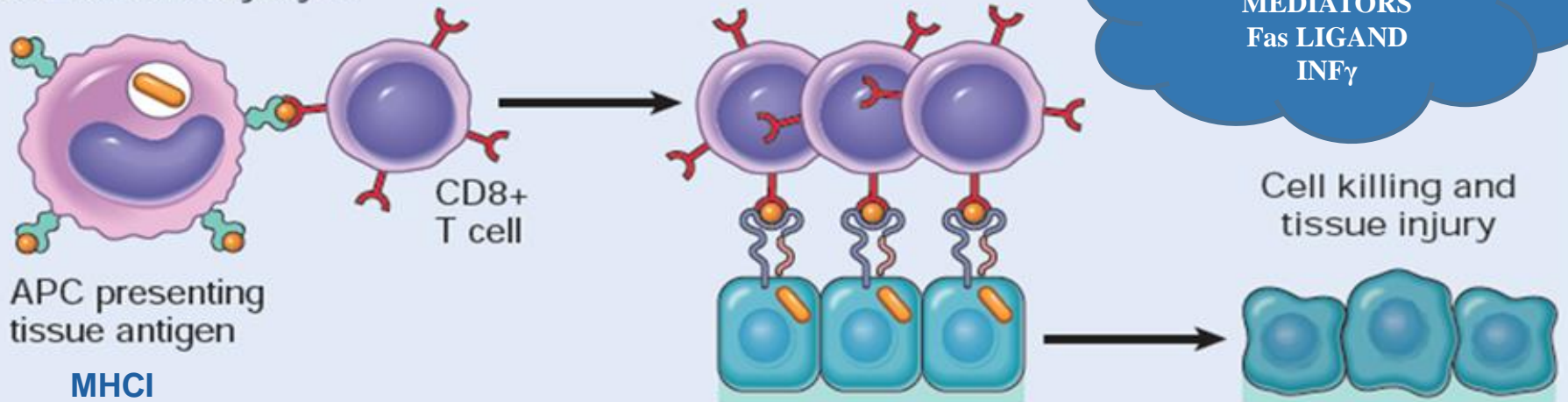
# CD4+ T cell - mediated inflammatory reaction

## A. Delayed-type hypersensitivity and immune inflammation

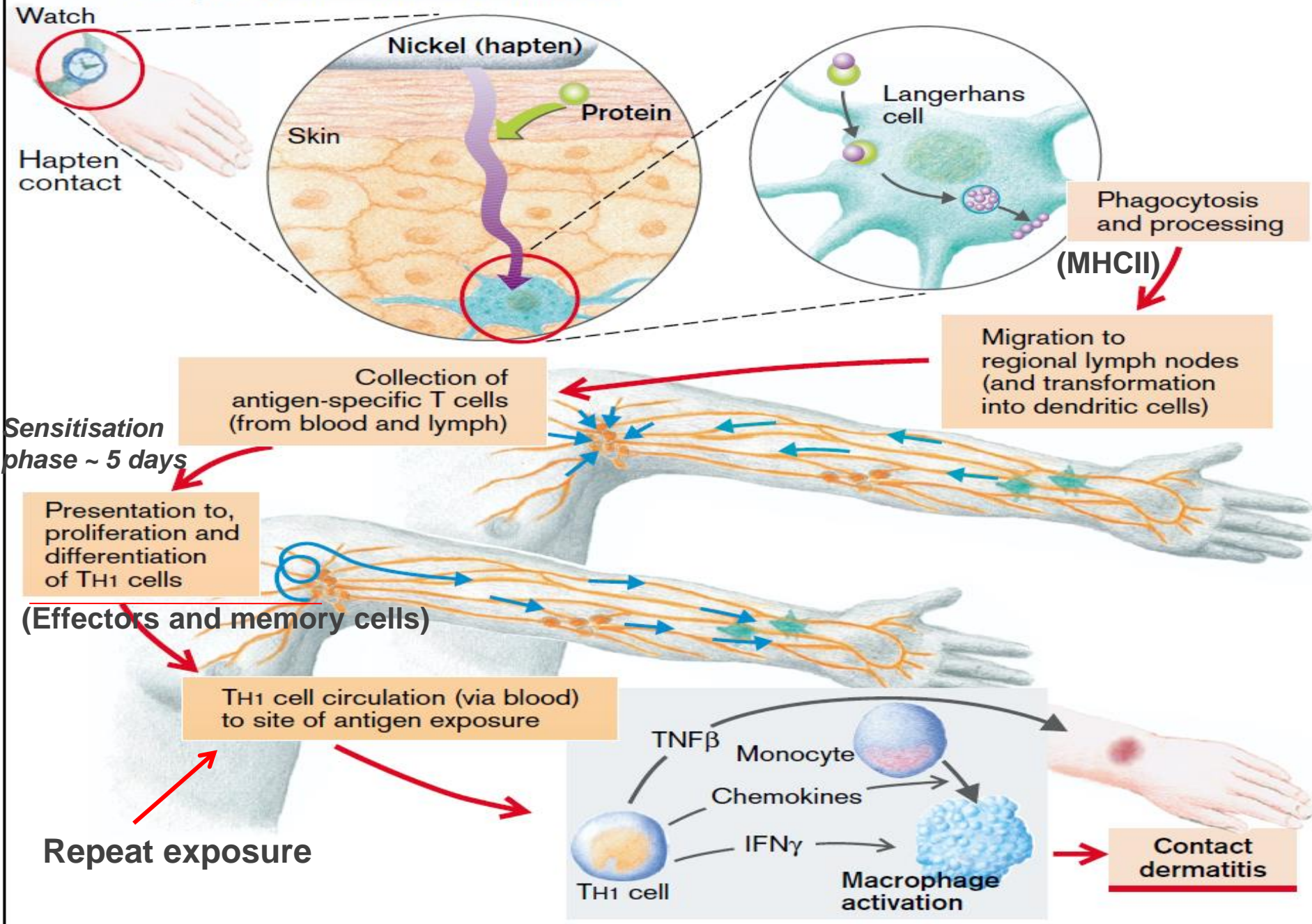


# CD8+ T cell - mediated cytotoxicity

## T cell-mediated cytotoxicity



# D. Development of Contact Dermatitis





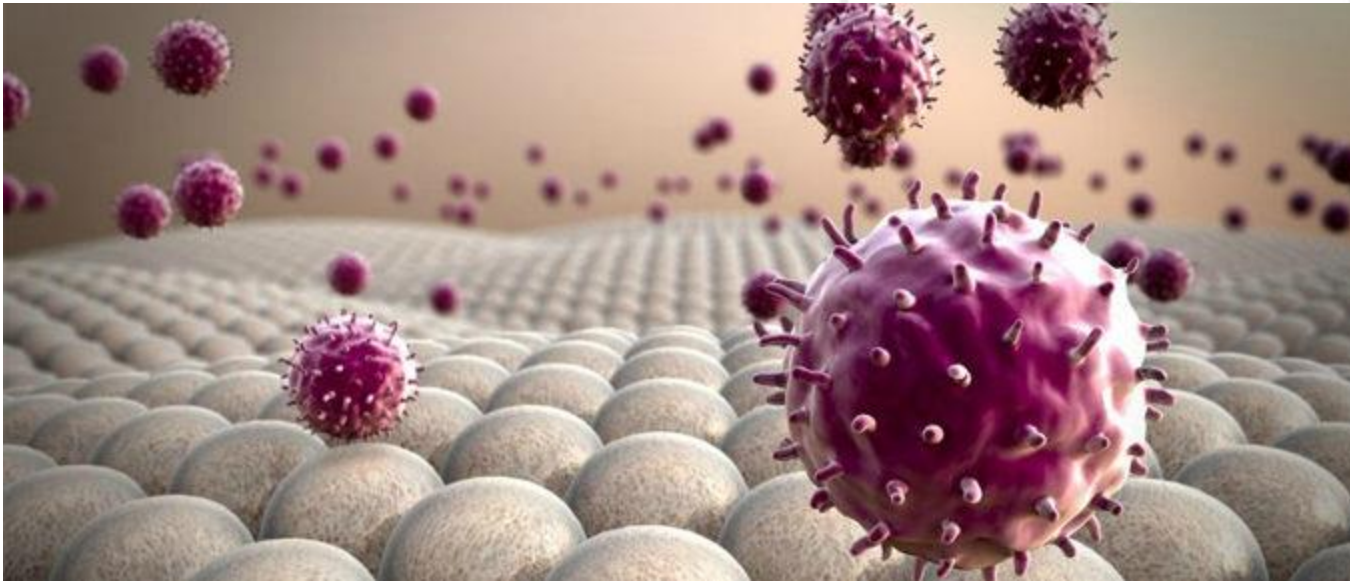


# AUTOIMMUNE DISORDERS

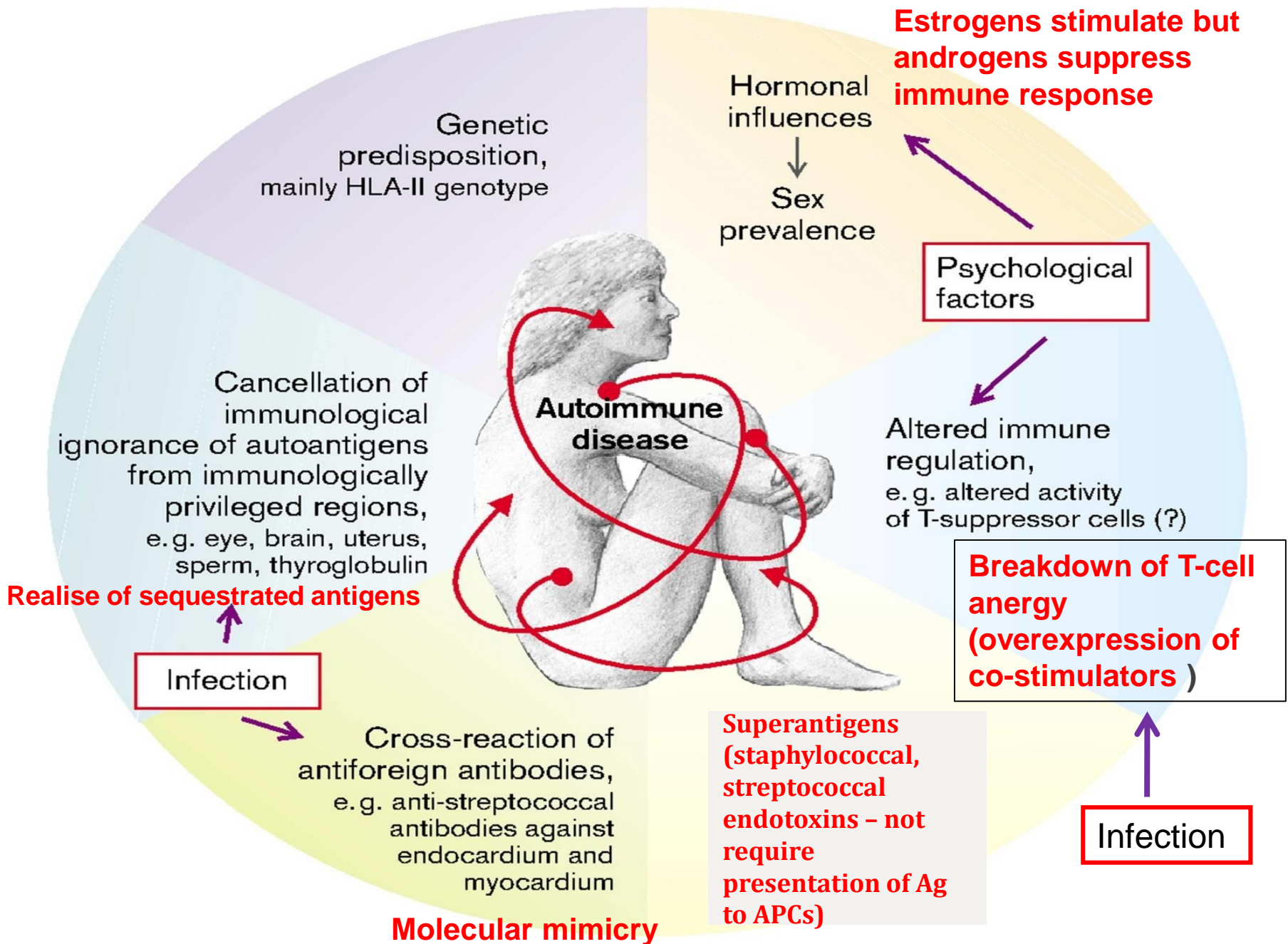
The immune system normally exists in an equilibrium in which lymphocyte activation, which is required for defense against pathogens, is balanced by the mechanisms of tolerance, which prevent reactions against self-antigens.

The underlying cause of autoimmune diseases is the failure of tolerance, which allows responses to develop against self-antigens.

Immune reactions against self-antigens – *autoimmunity* - are an important cause of certain diseases in humans.



# A. Causes of Autoimmune Disease

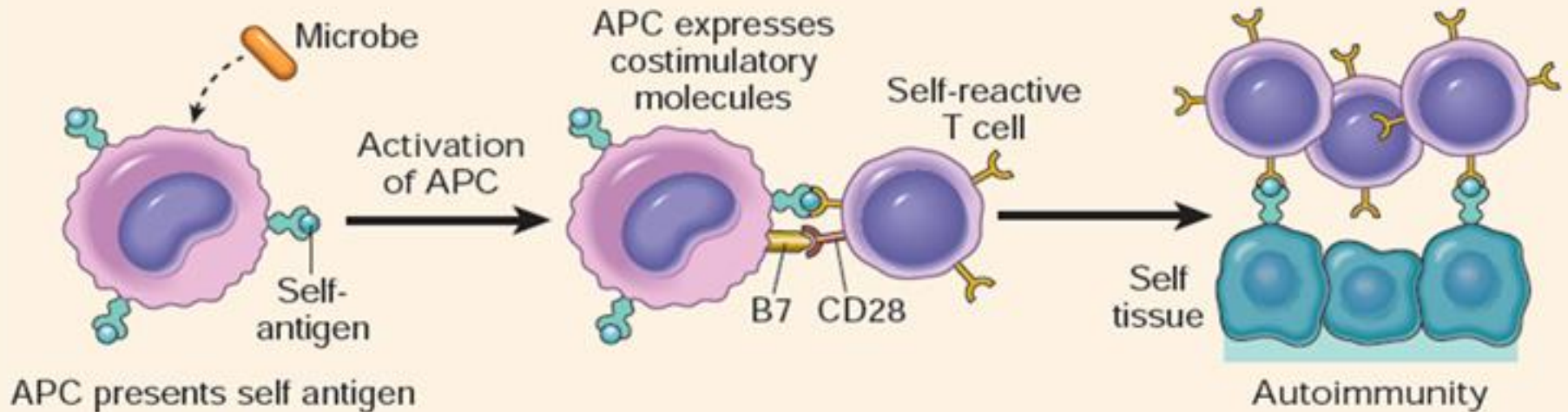




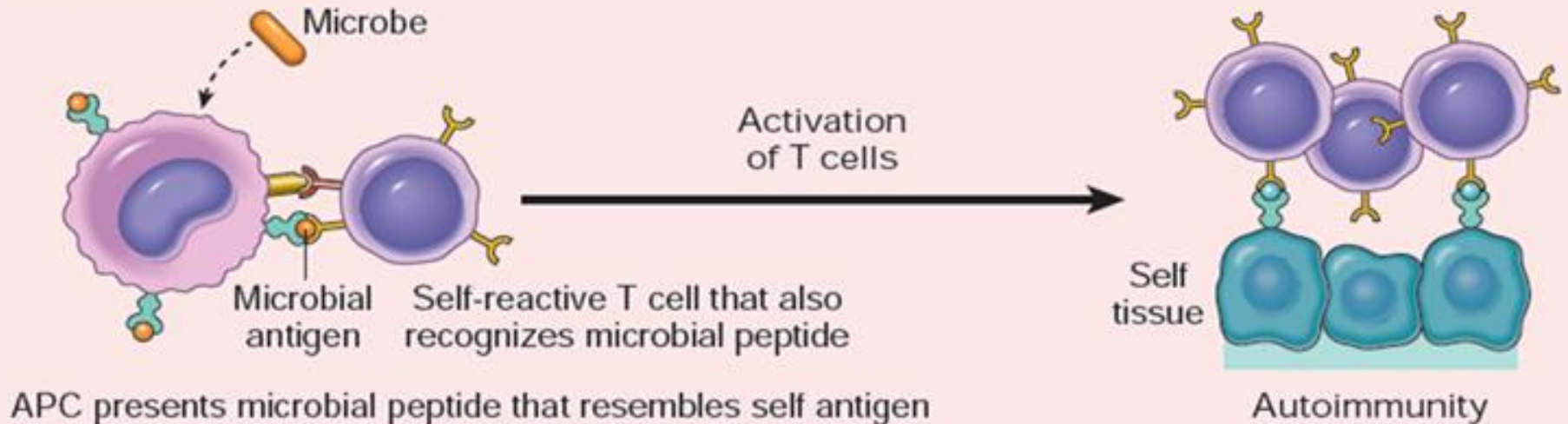


# Postulated role of infections in autoimmunity

## A. Induction of costimulators on APCs



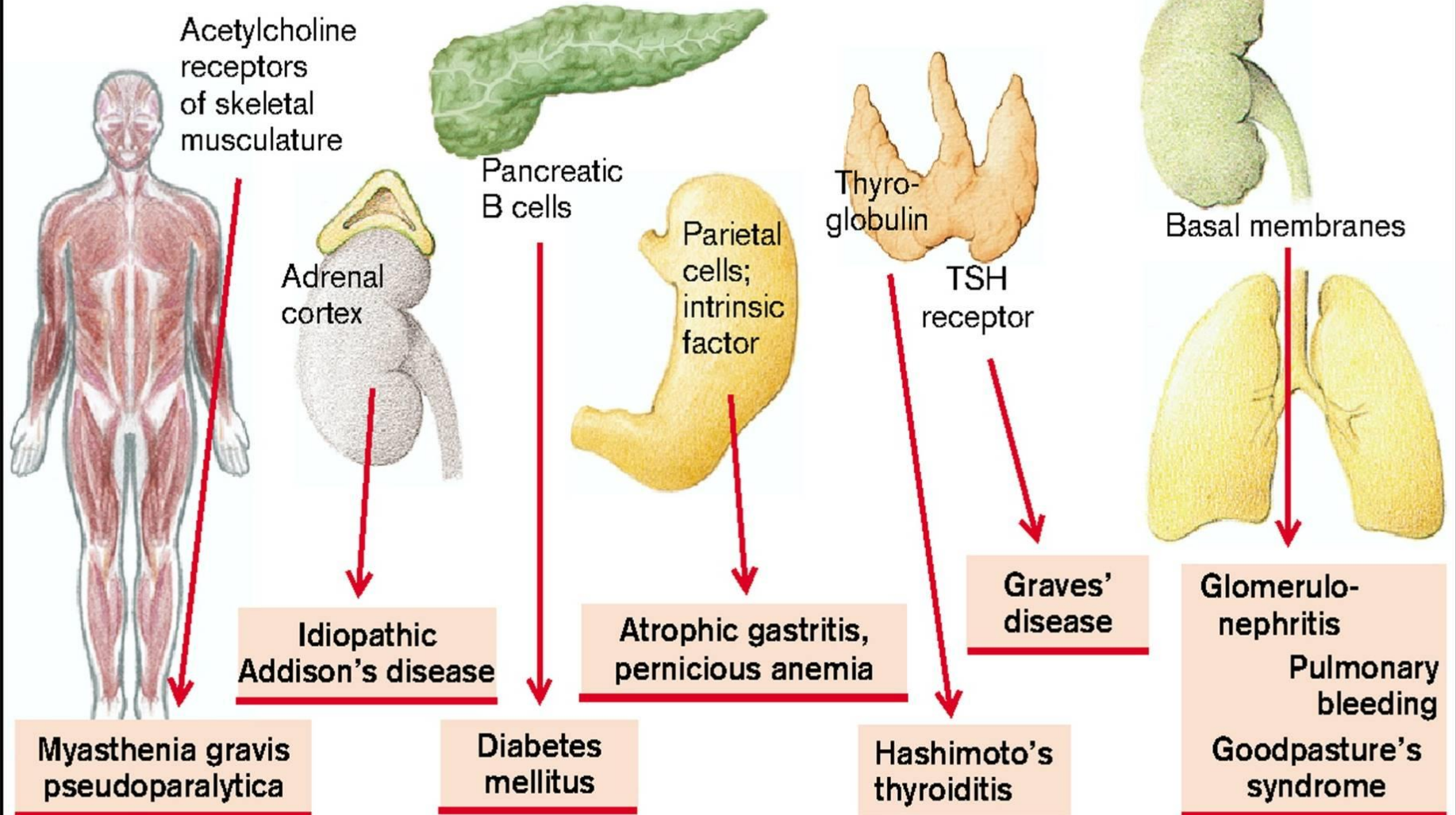
## B. Molecular mimicry



## B. Organ-Specific and Tissue-Specific Autoimmune Diseases

Organ-specific autoantibodies  
or T cell activation  
against

Tissue-specific  
autoantibodies  
against







Thank  
you !!!

