Polytechnic School Seminars

2013-14

Scientific Sessions in Engineering and Biosciences

Lecture

THE IMMUNE RESPONSE: CELLS AND PROTEINS

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The immune response (IR) is a network of tissues, cells and proteins dedicated to :
- recognize the non-self (infections, tumour cells , etc)
- process the information and destroy the aggressors, to keep our homeostasis

All IR cells derive from the haematopoietic precursors in the bone marrow. They receive the information through the membrane receptors and, with the activation of several intracellular pathways, give the signal to the cell nucleus in order to synthesise different proteins (antibodies, cytokines, chemokines , etc).

The IR cells are distributed in all the body tissues and circulate through the lymphatic vessels. Cytokines are the main comunication signals between cells and antibodies are the neutralising agents of bacterial infections.

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