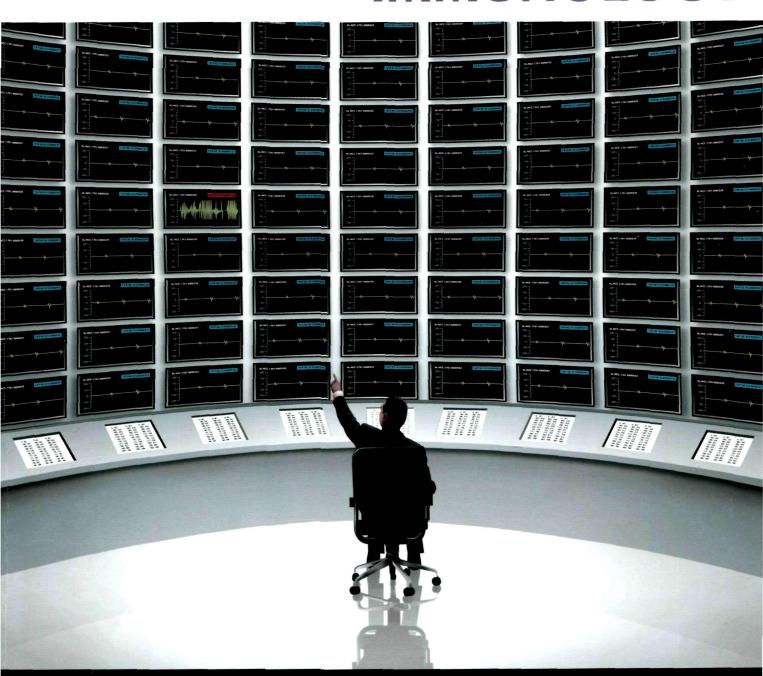


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IMMUNOLOGY



CH-CH-CHANGES

Is discontinuity the key driver of immune responses?

Monitoring immunity

Using MRI methods to visualize immune cell behaviour



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Macrophages in atherosclerosis: a dynamic balance

Kathryn J. Moore, Frederick J. Sheedy and Edward A. Fisher

In this Review, the authors provide a comprehensive overview of the role of macrophage dynamics in determining the initiation, progression and regression of atherosclerotic inflammation. Understanding the factors that determine the inflammatory state of the plaque may help to identify potential therapeutic targets for plaque regression.

FEATURED ARTICLE

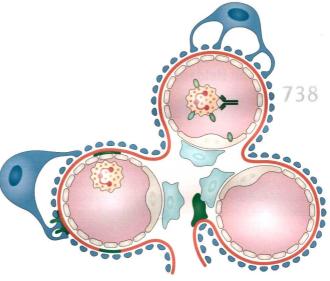
Autophagy in infection, inflammation and immunity

Vojo Deretic, Tatsuya Saitoh and Shizuo Akira It is increasingly understood that autophagy is an ancient defence mechanism that has become incorporated into numerous immunological pathways. As discussed in this Review, its immunological roles include the elimination of microorganisms, the control of inflammation, the regulation of antigen presentation and lymphocyte homeostasis, and the secretion of immune mediators.

The immune system and kidney disease: basic concepts and clinical implications

Christian Kurts, Ulf Panzer, Hans-Joachim Anders and Andrew J. Rees

Chronic kidney disease affects approximately 10% of the Western population. Recent studies have elucidated some of the immune mechanisms that contribute to kidney injury and disease, which are described in this Review. In addition, the contribution of the kidneys to immune homeostasis and the effects of kidney failure on systemic immune functions are discussed.



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► COVER: 'Monitoring discontinuities' by Simon Bradbrook, inspired by the Review on p764.

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B CELL DEVELOPMENT A window of opportunity

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INNOVATION

Tracking immune cells in vivo using magnetic resonance imaging

Eric T. Ahrens and Jeff W. M. Bulte

This Innovation article describes the development of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) methods for image-guided immune cell delivery and for the visualization of immune cell homing and engraftment, inflammation, cell physiology and gene expression.

ESSAY

The speed of change: towards a discontinuity theory of immunity?

Thomas Pradeu, Sébastien Jaeger and Eric Vivier

Here, the authors present a new theoretical framework — the discontinuity theory — to account for how the immune system generates an appropriate immune response to any perceived disturbance. On the the basis of this theory, the authors present a mathematical model and provide examples to explain how this model can account for diverse immune responses.

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