

Basic Immunology

Lecture 23-24th

Immunological tolerance

**Physiological and pathological
autoimmunity.**

Autoimmune diseases.

Immune tolerance

The first study in dizygotic twin cattle with a common placenta and shared mixture of each other's red blood cells described the life time tolerance between each other. R.E. Billingham and ***Peter Medawar*** in 1953 injected foreign cells into fetal or neonatal mice, and they could become accepting of future grafts from the same foreign donor. Theories of immune tolerance formulated by ***Sir Frank McFarlane Burnet*** and Frank Fenner, who were the first to propose the deletion of self-reactive lymphocytes to establish tolerance. Burnet and Medawar were ultimately credited for “the discovery of acquired immune tolerance” and awarded with ***Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1960***. In their Nobel Lecture, Medawar and Burnet define immune tolerance as ***“a state of indifference or non-reactivity towards a substance that would normally be expected to excite an immunological response.”***

TOLERANCE & AUTOIMMUNITY

- Upon encountering an antigen, the immune system can either develop an immune response or enter a state of unresponsiveness called tolerance.
- Immunological tolerance is thus the lack of ability to mount an immune response to epitopes to which an individual has the potential to respond.
- Targeting type and tolerating type immune responses composed by the same cellular and molecular components, the differences are in the effector phase only.
- Targeting type immune response or tolerance needs to be carefully regulated since an inappropriate response – whether it be autoimmune reaction to self-antigens or tolerance to a potential pathogen – can have serious and possibly life-threatening immunodeficiencies.

TOLERANCE

- PASSIVE**
- ACTIVE**

AUTOIMMUNITY

- PHYSIOLOGIC REGULATION**
- AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES**

Immunological tolerance

Central tolerance

- T cell mediated
- B cell mediated

Peripheral tolerance

- unresponsiveness
- local microenvironment mediated

Passive tolerance

Unresponsiveness: no MHC recognition or inhibited cellular differentiation.

- **Tolerance induced by the nature of the antigen**
- **Tolerance induced by the body**

Passive tolerance induced by the nature of the antigen

- **chemical nature**
- **dose of the antigen**
 - **low dose tolerance**
(dominantly T cell mediated, long ranging)
 - **high dose tolerance** (B and T cell mediated, short ranging)
- **mode of the administration**

Tolerance induced by the body

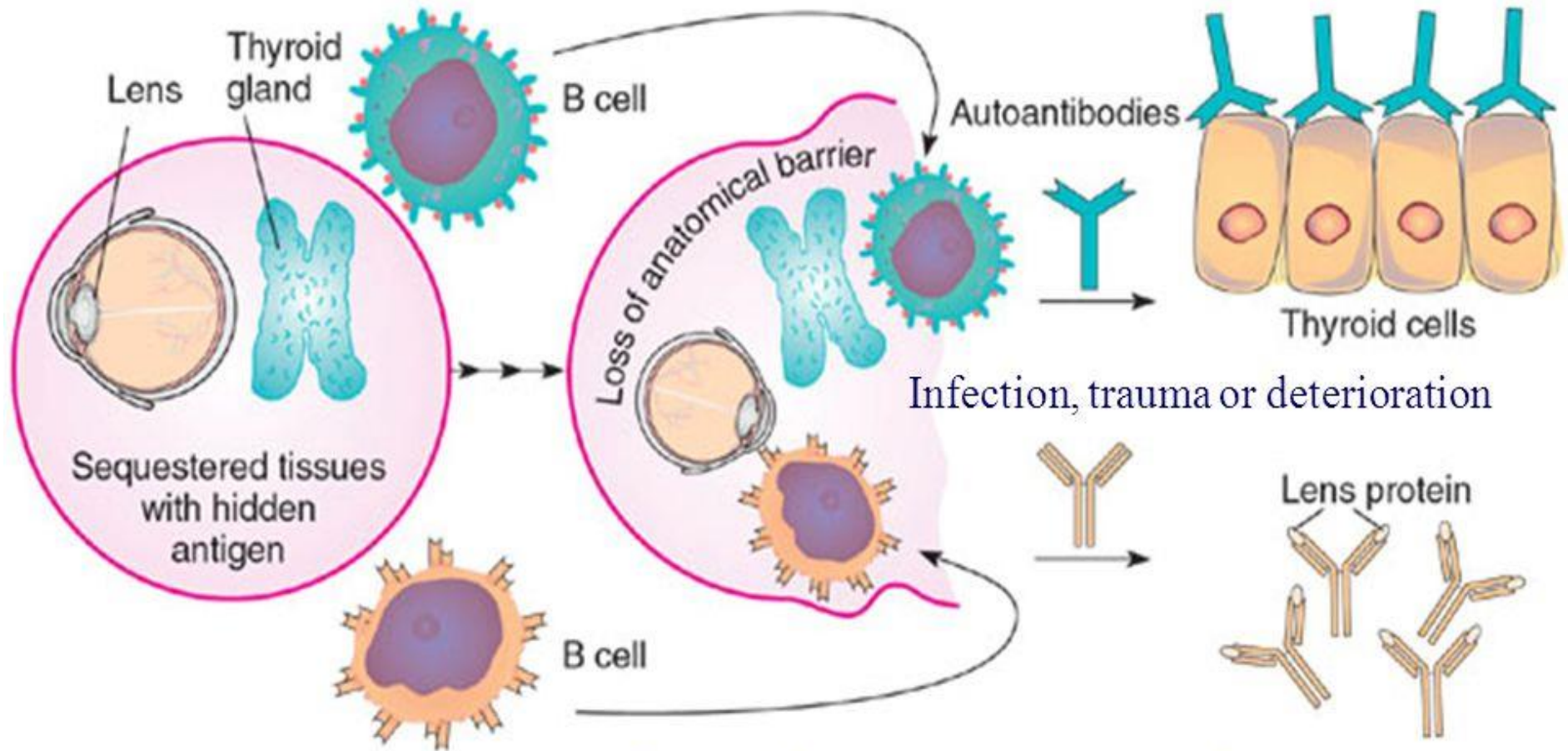
- **sequestered antigens**
 - no MHC recognition**
 - no antigen presentation**
 - no systemic response**
- **heredited or acquired immunodeficiency**
- **clonal anergies**

Sequestered Antigen Theory

Sequestered behind anatomical barriers

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Self reacting lymphocyte clones



(a) Sequestered Antigen Theory

Some tissues are not scanned by the immune system during embryonic growth.
CNS, lens, thyroid & testes

T-cell tolerance

Central Tolerance (selection in the Thymus)

Peripheral Tolerance

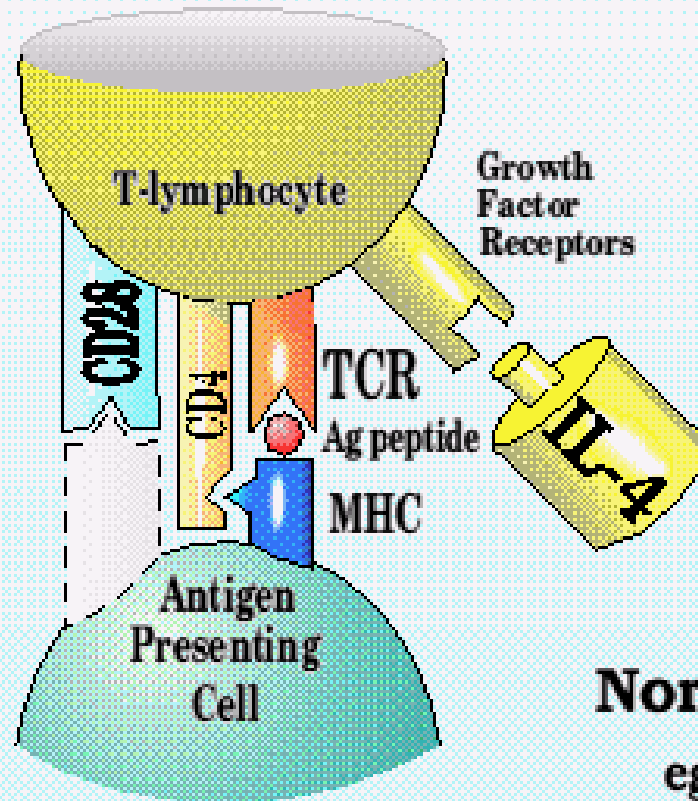
- **Lack of co-stimulation**
- **Receipt of death signal (high dose of antigen)**
- **Control by regulatory T cells**

Failed co-stimulation results low dose tolerance

"Self" : tolerance

**Non-professional
Antigen
Presentation**

eg. No B7 present



Growth
Factor
Receptors

T-lymphocyte

CD28

CD4

TCR

Ag peptide

MHC

Antigen
Presenting
Cell

IL-4

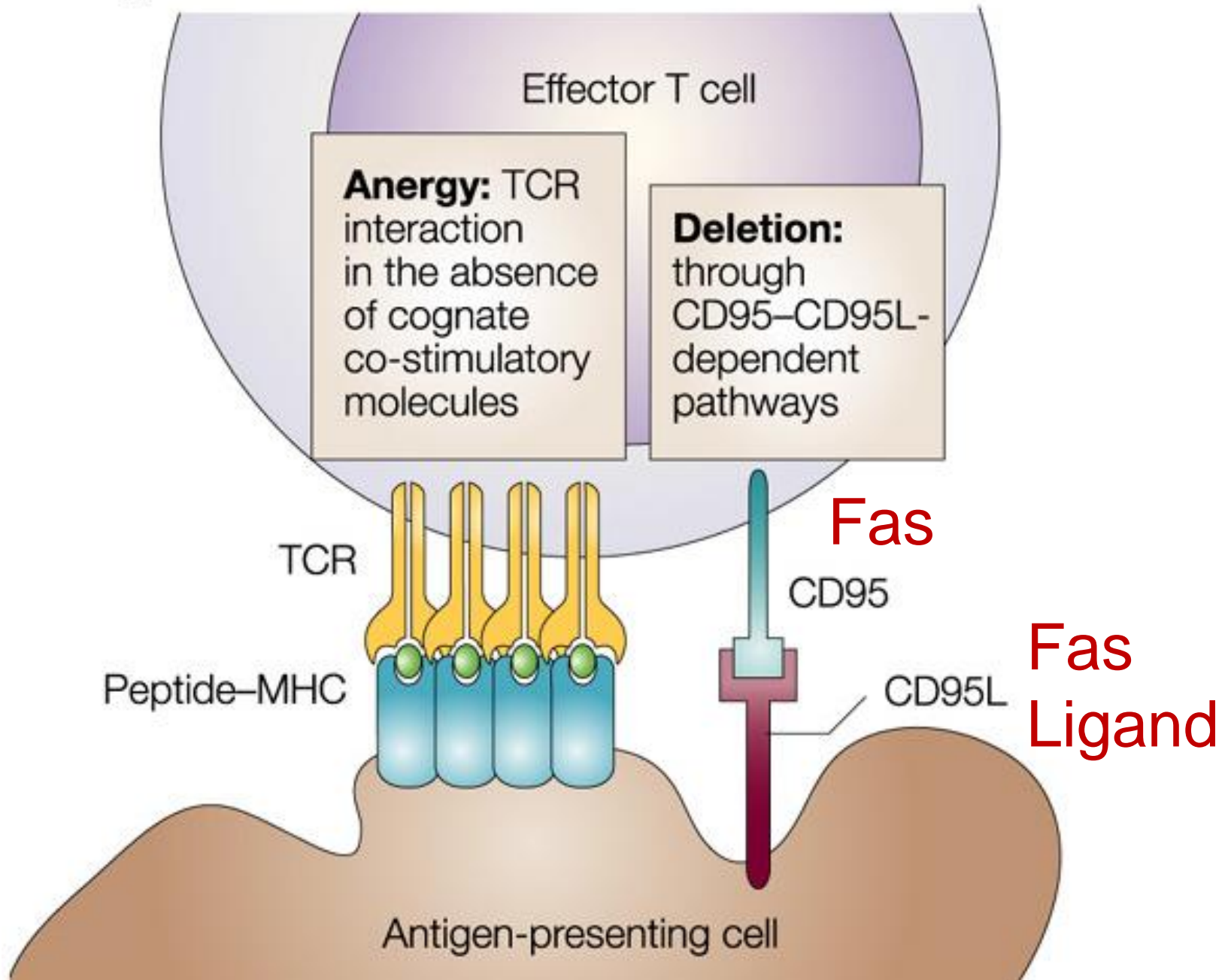
**Non-inflammatory
Environment**

eg. IL-4, 10, TGF- β etc

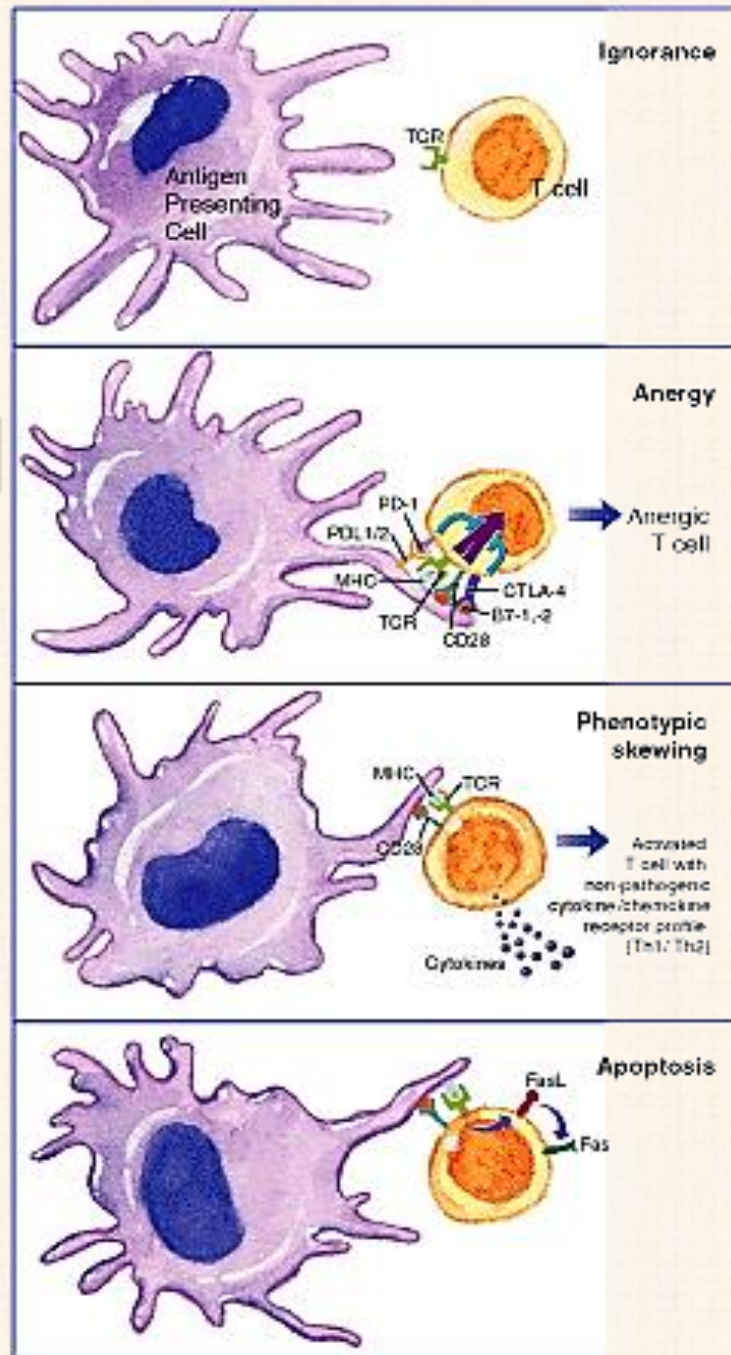
Normal self tissues

eg. pancreatic islets

High-dose tolerance



Peripheral T cell tolerance

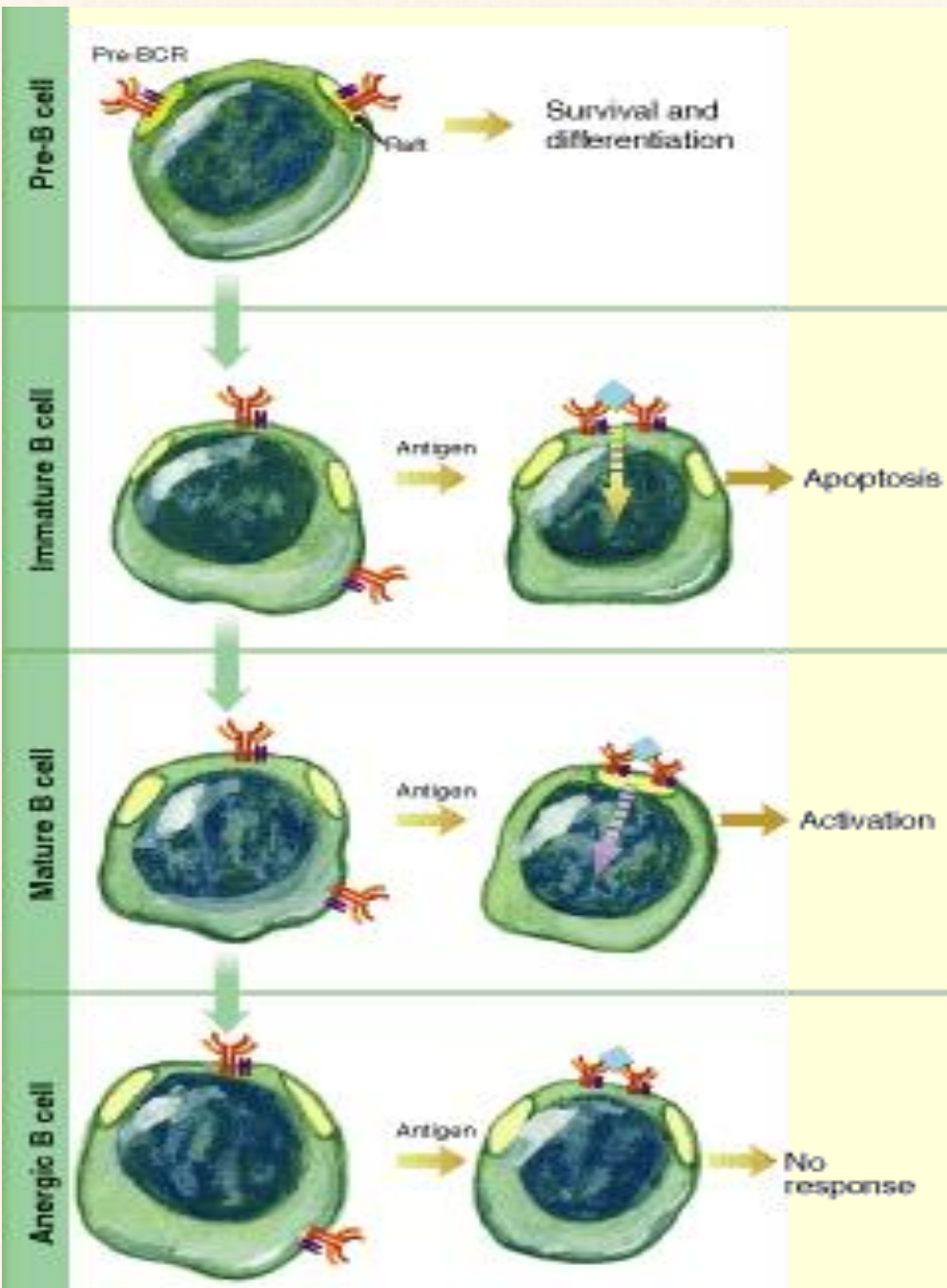


No response
(Sequestered antigens)

Anergy
(Suppression by CTLA-4)

Anergy
(Th1/Th2 cross regulation)

Deletion
(High dose of antigen)

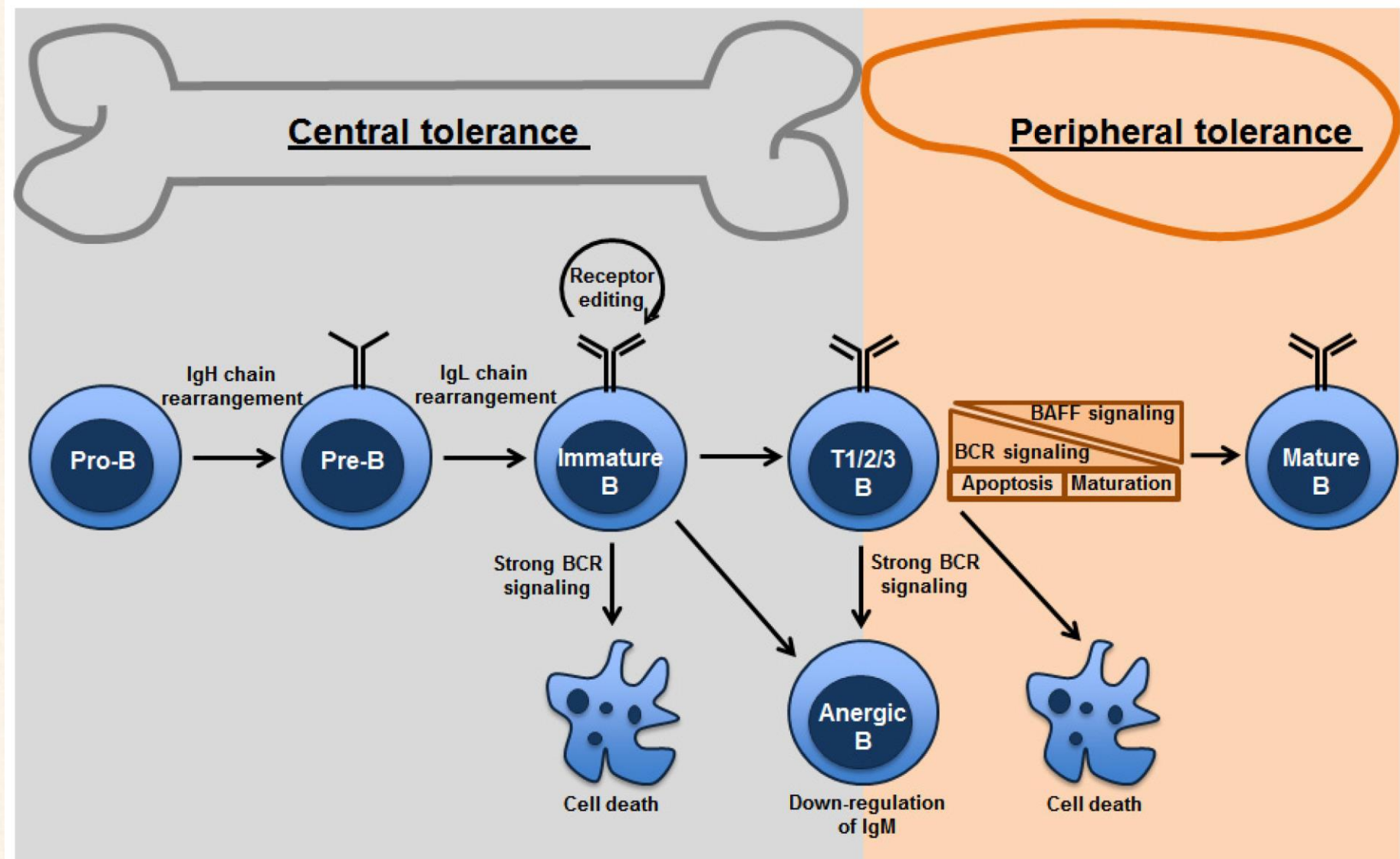


B-cell Tolerance

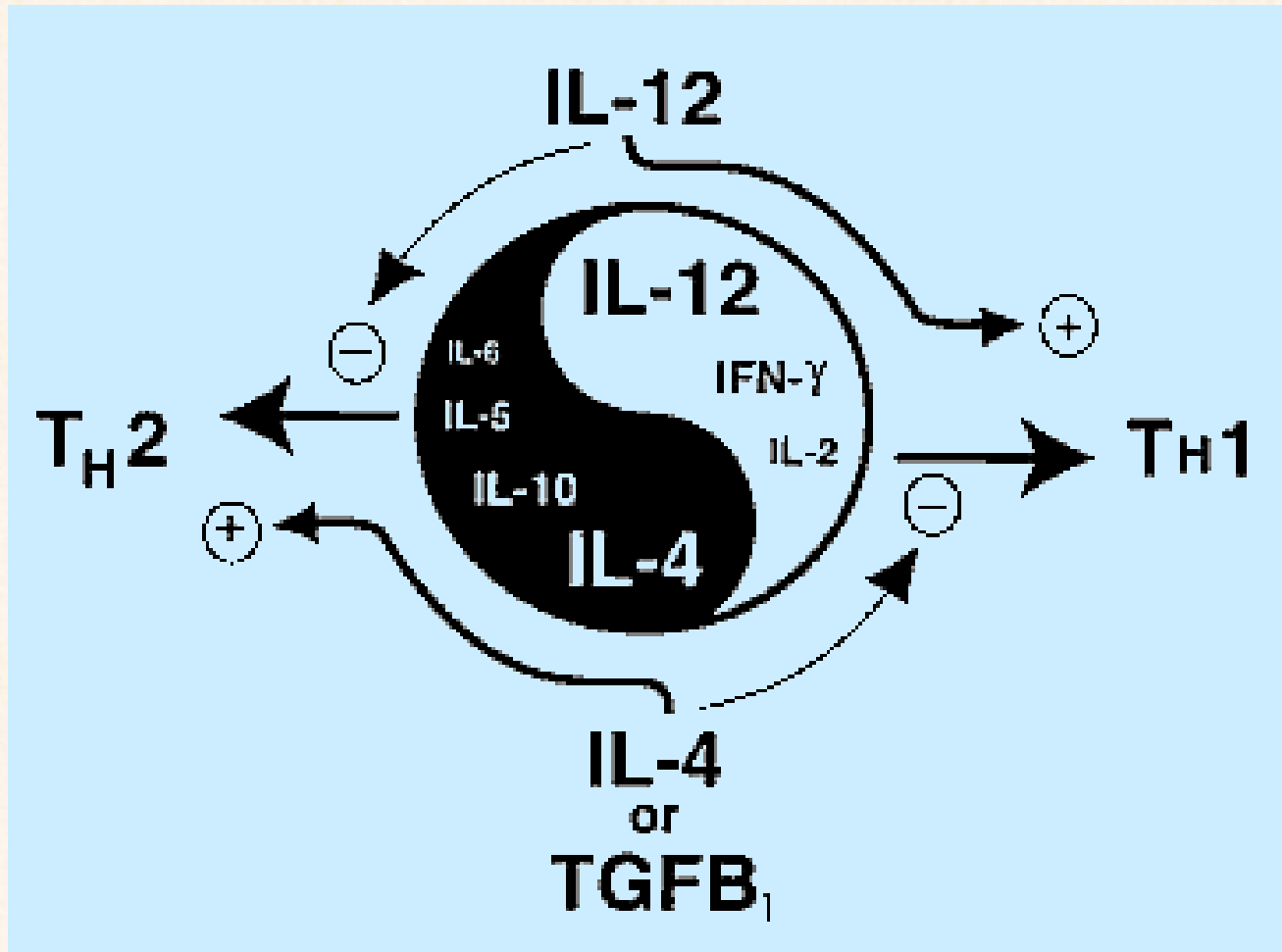
- Central tolerance

- Peripheral tolerance

Mechanisms of B-cell tolerance in bone marrow and periphery



Immunological Yin-Yang



The cytokines IL-12 and TGF beta 1 are predominant influences in "peripheral" and "mucosal" lymphatic tissues. Thus vectorial expression of these cytokines affect T cells and B cells in such a way that proliferating B cells become committed to secrete "peripheral" IgG or "mucosal" IgA, respectively.

ACTIVE TOLERANCE

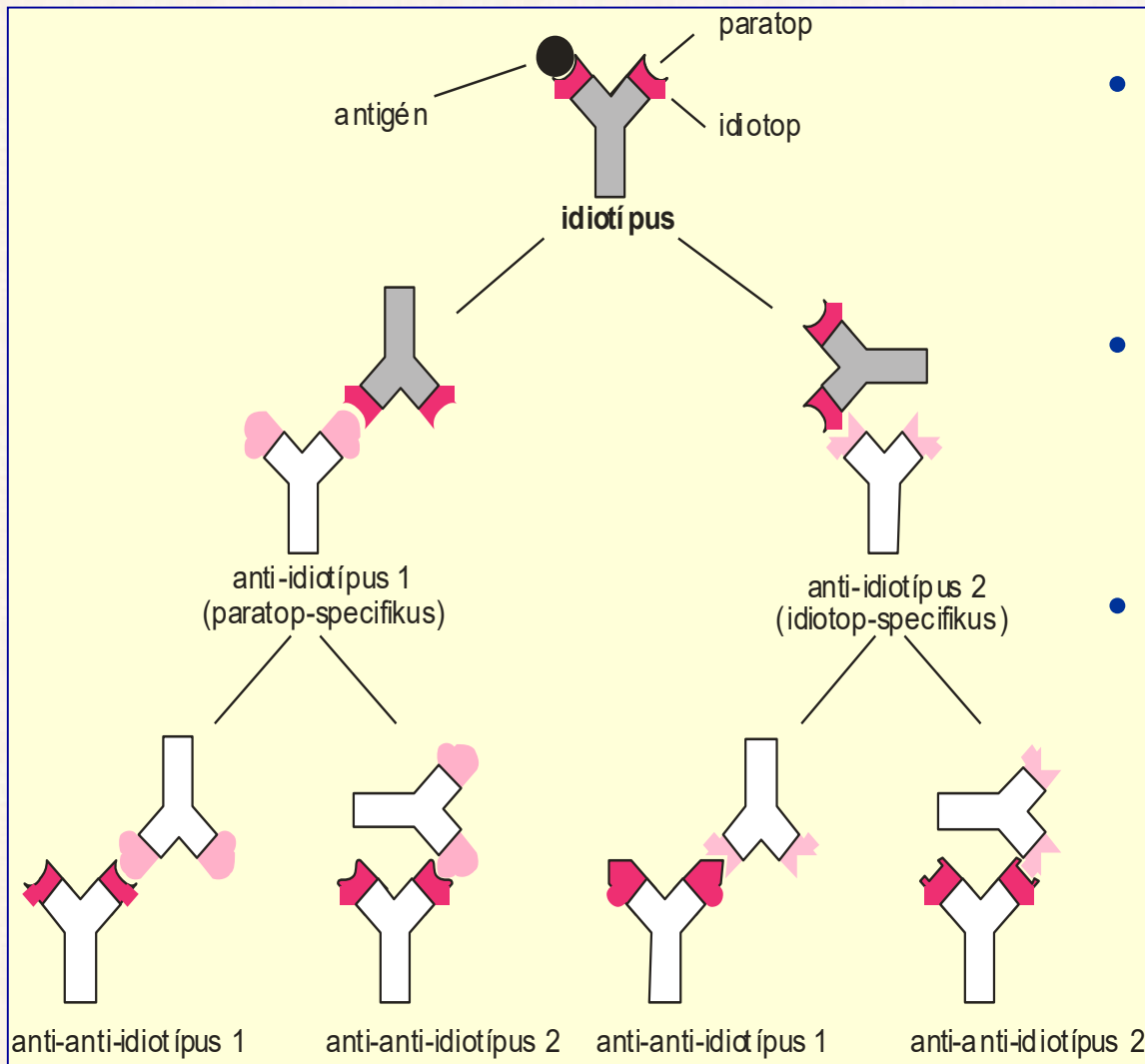
Anti-idiotypic network

- Anti-idiotypic antibodies against T cell and B cell receptors and immunoglobulins
- Antigen-specific inhibition and induction of memory

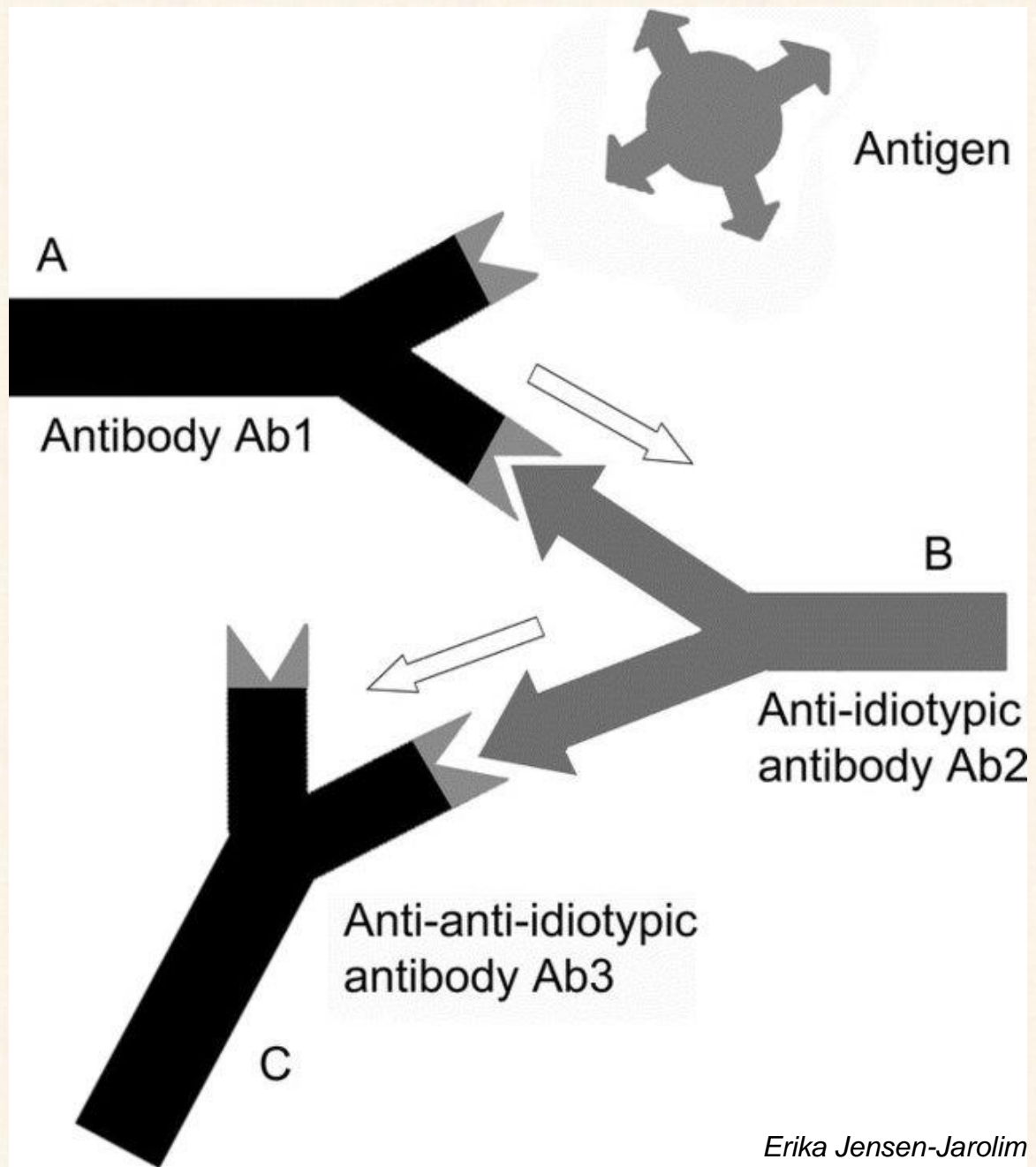
Natural immune system (*“Immunological homunculus”*)

- Low affinity IgM, IgG or IgA natural autoantibodies produced by CD5+ B1B cells
- γ/δ T, $i\gamma/\delta$ T, ILCs1,2,3, MAIT, IEL, iNKT cells

Anti-idiotypic network (N. K. Jerne)



- T- & B-cell suppression
- Functional memory formation
- Biological mimicri (insulin – *anti*-insulin – *anti-anti*-insulin ~ insulin)



The anti-idiotypic network amplifies antigenic signals. (A) An antibody Ab1 is produced in response to a specific antigen. (B) With a defined idiotype, Ab1 induces the production of an anti-idiotypic antibody Ab2. This Ab2 may resemble the original antigen as an internal image. (C) Ab2 can stimulate the synthesis of an anti(anti-idiotypic) antibody Ab3 which principally is of the same specificity as Ab1.

Naturally occurring (auto)antibodies

Autoantibodies of the **IgM (mostly)**, or IgG and IgA classes, **reactive with a variety of** serum proteins, cell surface structures and intracellular **structures, are 'naturally' found in all normal individuals.** Present in human cord blood and in 'antigen-free' mice, their variable-region repertoire is selected by antigenic structures in the body and **remains conserved throughout life.** Encoded by germline genes with no, or few, mutations, natural autoantibodies are characteristically **'multireactive'** and do **not undergo affinity maturation** in normal individuals. Natural autoantibodies may participate in a variety of physiological activities, from immune regulation, homeostasis and repertoire selection, to resistance to infections, transport and functional modulation of biologically active molecules.

Antigens recognized by natural autoantibodies

Heatshock proteins	hsp65, hsp70, hsp90, ubiquitin
Enzymes	aldolase, citockrom c, SOD, NAPDH, citrate synthase, DNA topoisomerase I.
Cell membrane components	β2-microglobulin, spectrin, acetylcholin receptor
Cytoplasmic components	actin, myosin, tubulin, myoglobin, myelin basic protein
Nuclear components	DNS, histones
Plasma proteins	albumin, IgG, transferrin
Cytokines, hormones	IL-1, TNF, IFN, insulin, thyreoglobin

**Bone Marrow
Transplants**

**Solid Organ
Transplants**

**Autoimmune
Diseases**

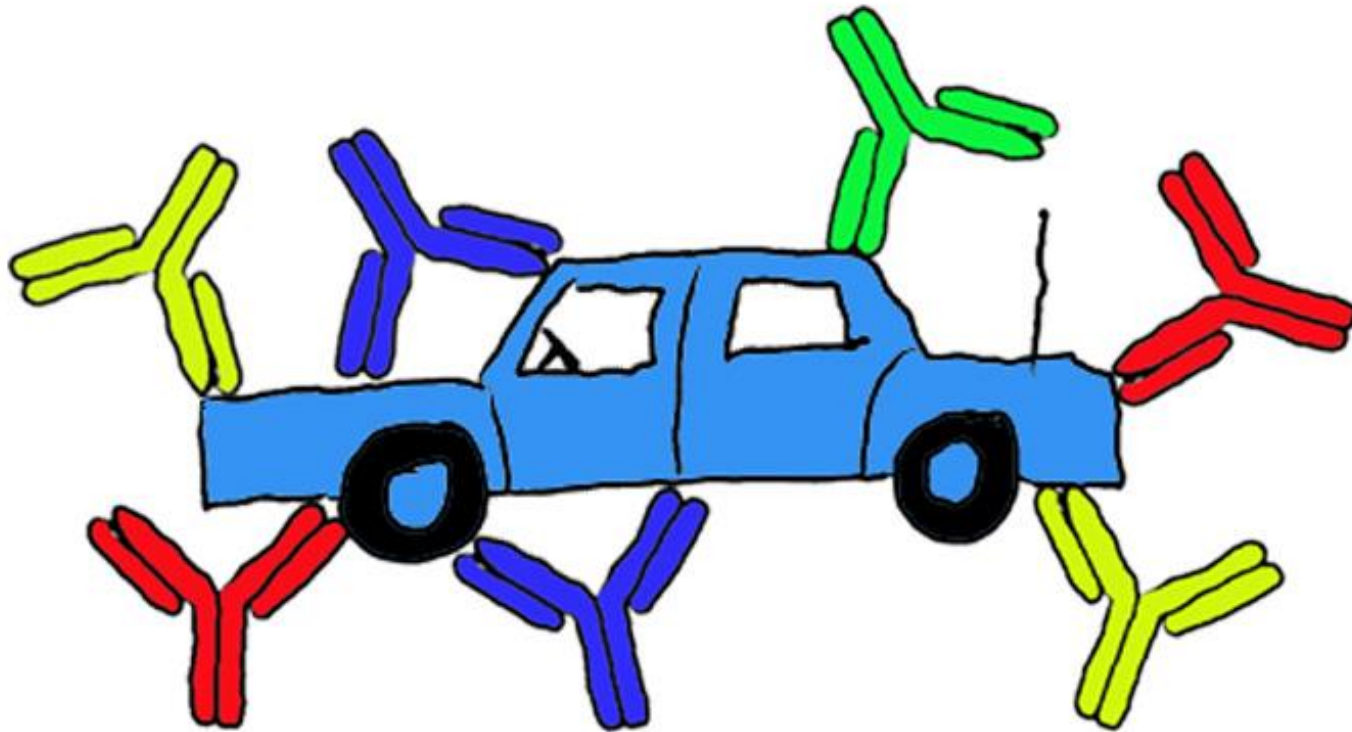


Immunologic Tolerance



**Infectious Diseases/
Vaccine Development**

**Allergic
Diseases**



Autoimmunity

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Autoimmune diseases affect 5-8% of the population !

AUTOIMMUNITY

- **Physiological autoimmunity:** part of the normal immunological regulation
- **Pathological autoimmunity:** diseases caused by self reacting inflammatory immune responses with permanent tissue/organ injury

Pathomechanism of autoimmunity

- **Chronic inflammation and tissue necrosis**

- **Cellular components:**

(T cells CD8 and Th1, NK, Mf, DC, Ne, Eo, Ba, Mc)

- **Humoral components:**

(Ig+complement, ADCC, cytokines, chemokines, tissue hormones and mediators)

Pathomechanism of autoimmunity

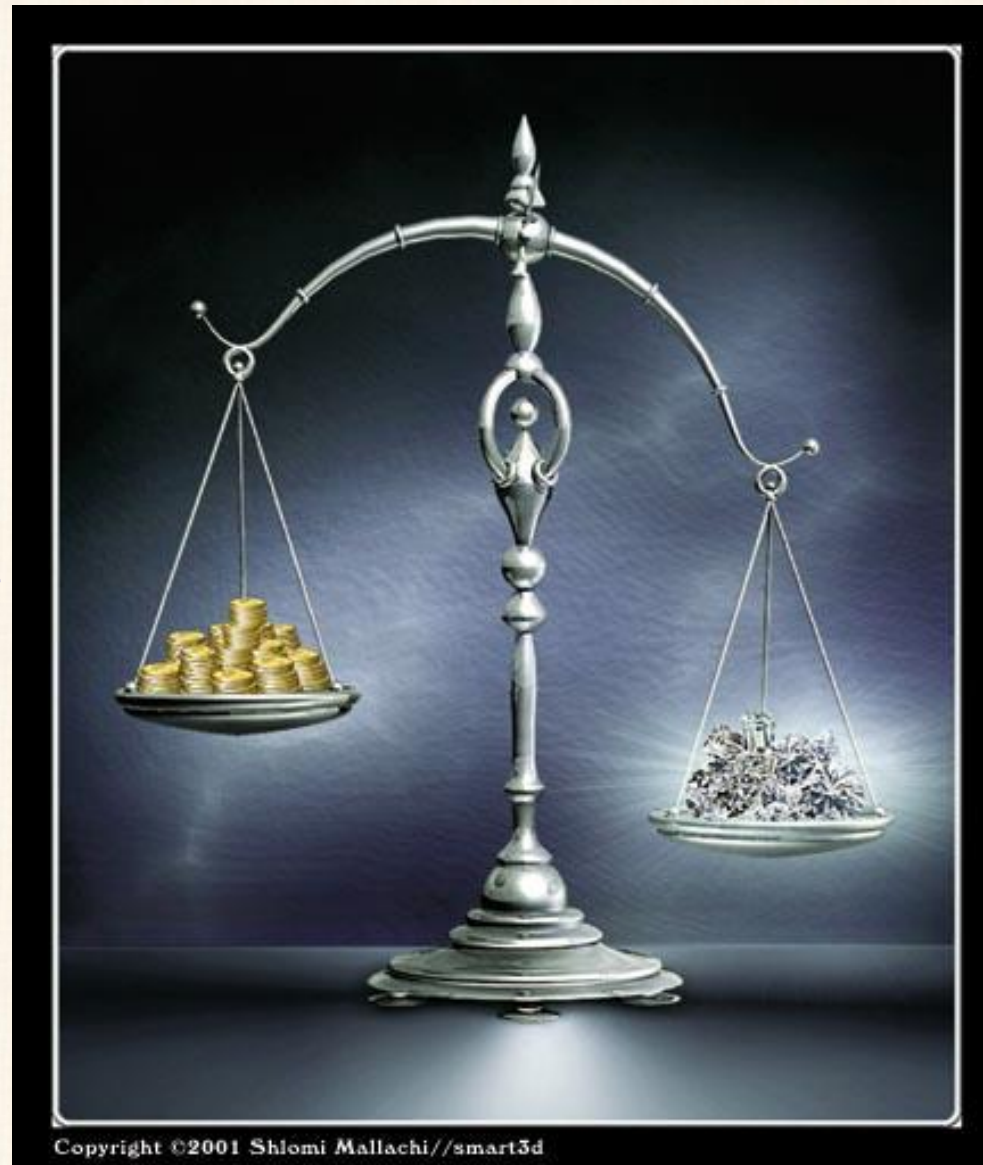
- Multifactor mechanism

(general catastrophe of bio-regulation caused by external and internal factors)

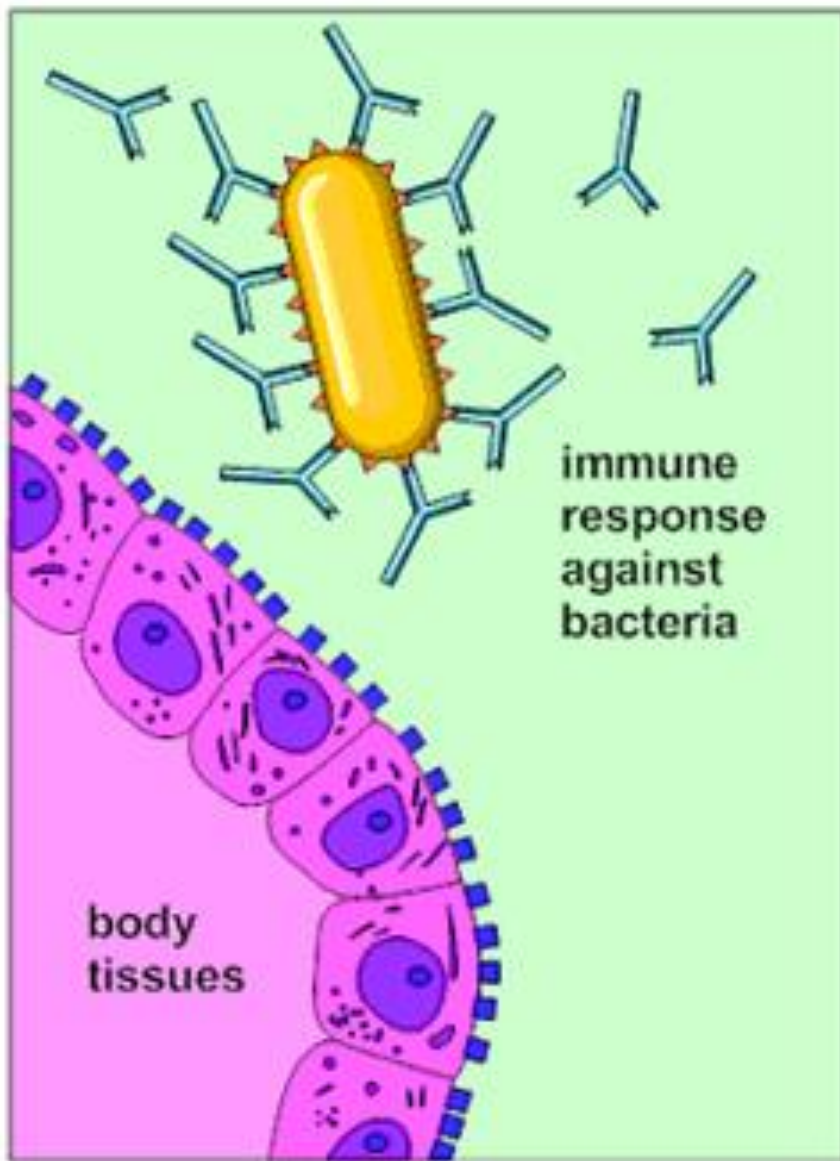
- **Autoimmune “*steady state*”** (failure of dynamic balance on self tolerance and autoimmunity)
- **Role of infections** (molecular mimicry or inefficient natural antibody network)

Autoimmune steady state

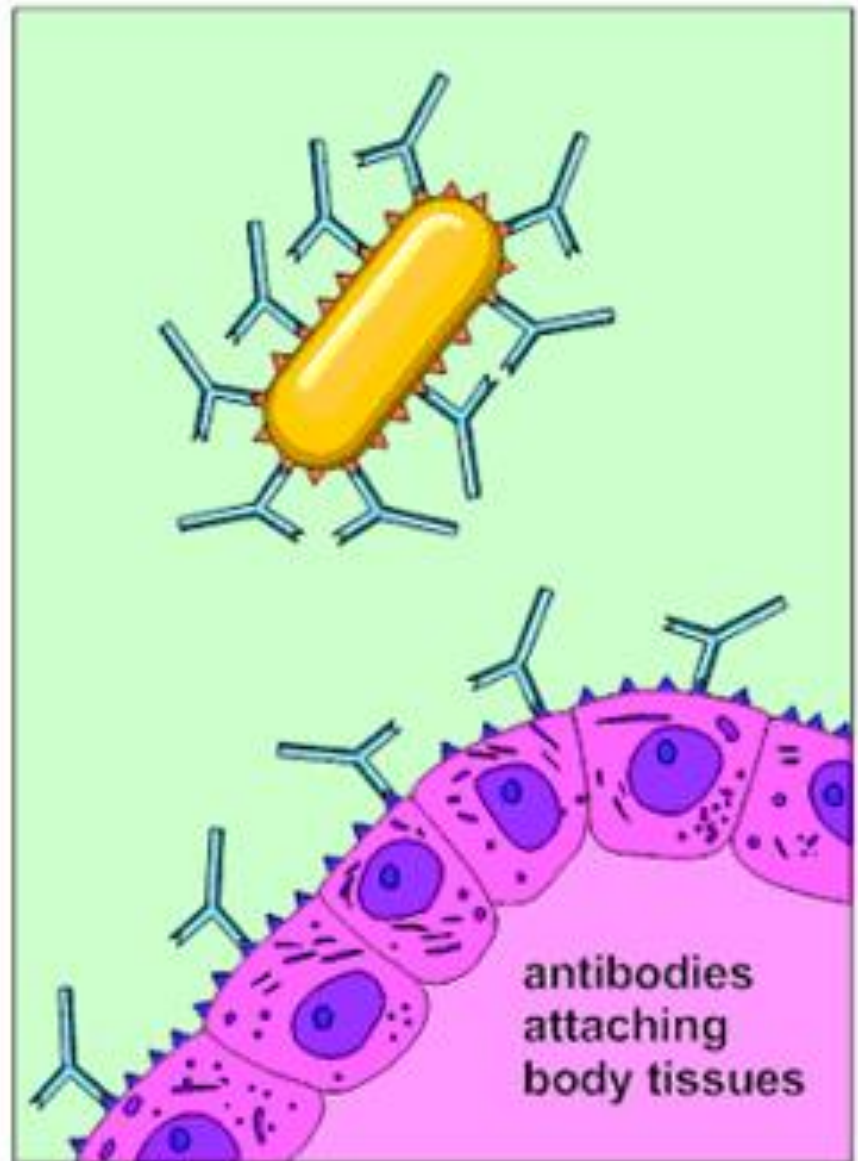
**Self
reacting
immune
response
with
tissues
damages**



**Active
tolerance
and
tissue
repair**



Normal



Autoimmune Disorder

Pathogens and human antigens

Peptid residues

Overlapping sequences

Human cytomegalovirus
IE2

79

PDPLGRPDED

HLA-DR molecule

60

VTELGRPDAE

Poliovirus VP2

70

STTKESRGTT

Acetylcholine receptor

176

TVIKESRGTK

Papilloma virus E2

76

SLHLESLKDS

Insulin receptor

66

VYGLESLKDL

Klebsiella pneumoniae
nitrogenase enzym

186

SRQTDREDE

HLA-B27 molecule

70

KAQTDREDL

Adenovirus 12 E1B

384

LRRGMFRPSQCN

Alfa-gliadin

206

LGQGSFRPSQQN

HIV p24

160

GVETTTPS

Human IgG

466

GVETTTPS

Measles virus P3

31

EISDNLGQE

Myelin basic protein

61

EISFKLGQE

Pathomechanisms of autoimmune diseases

- Autoimmunity by the antigen**
- Failed differentiation and selection of lymphocytes**
- Genetic background**

Autoimmunity by the antigen

Tissue injury or inflammation, leading to:

- **Release of sequestered self antigens**
- **Structural alterations of self antigens**
- **Increased costimulation on tissue APCs**

Autoimmunity by the failure of self tolerance

- **Failed selection of lymphocyte repertoire**
- **Polyclonal activation of anergic self-reactive lymphocytes**
- **Stimulation by foreign antigens that cross-react with self**

Thyroid gland

Graves' disease

Hashimoto thyreoiditis

DR3

3.7

TSH receptor ↑

Thyroid mikrosome

peroxidase, thyroglobulin ↓

DR5

3.2

Pancreas

IDDM

DR4/D

20

R3

B-inslet cellss ↓

DQB

100

GAD, HSP60, junB, insulin,

0302

pre/pro insulin

Neural system

Sclerosis multiplex

Myasthenia gravis

DR2

4.8

Brain white matter, MBP, PLP, MOG, MAG

DR3

2.5

Peripheral neurons and striated muscle

Acetycholin receptor

Heart: rheumatic fever

DR3,D

R4

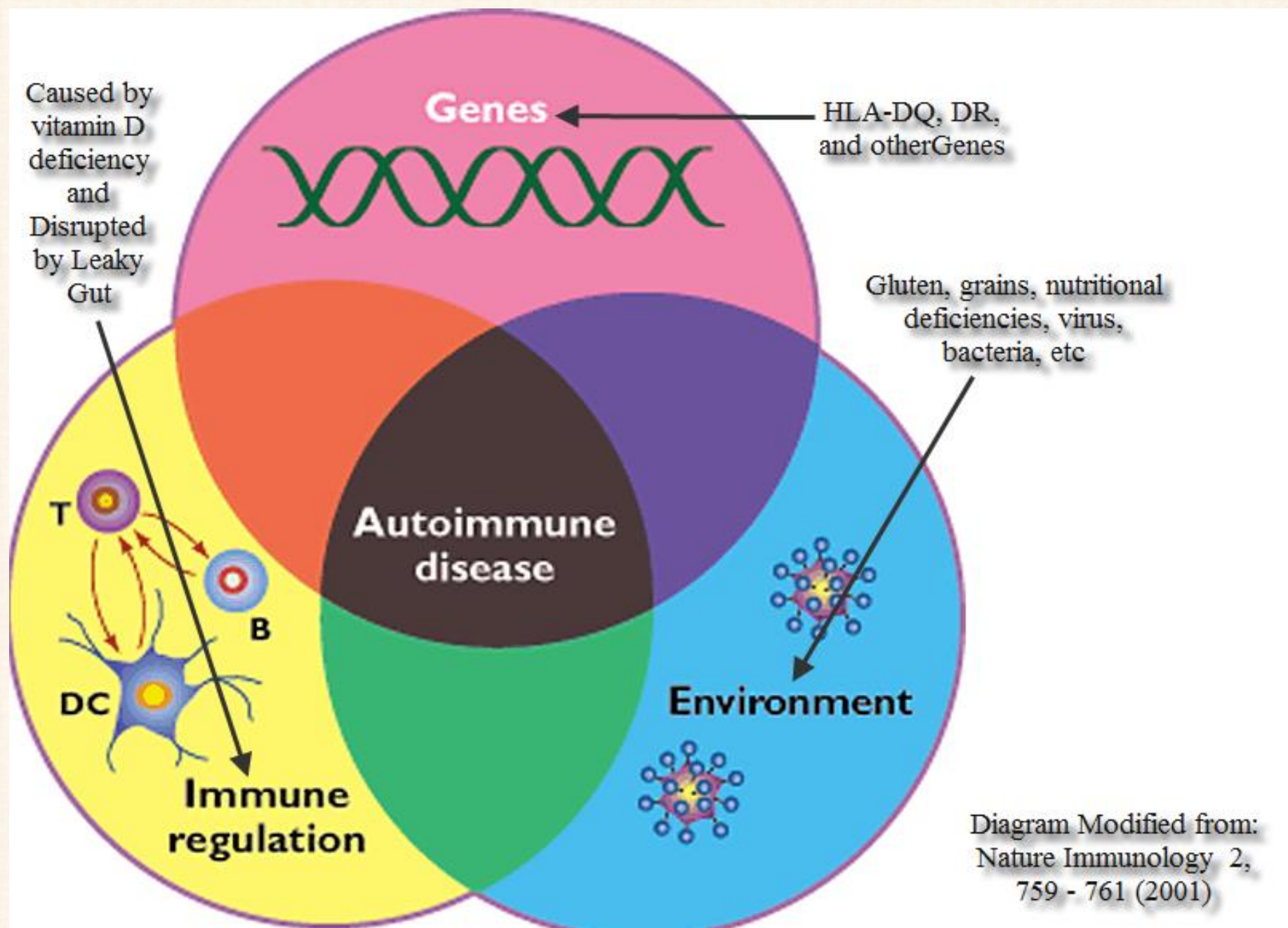
S. B-haemolyticus/Myosin

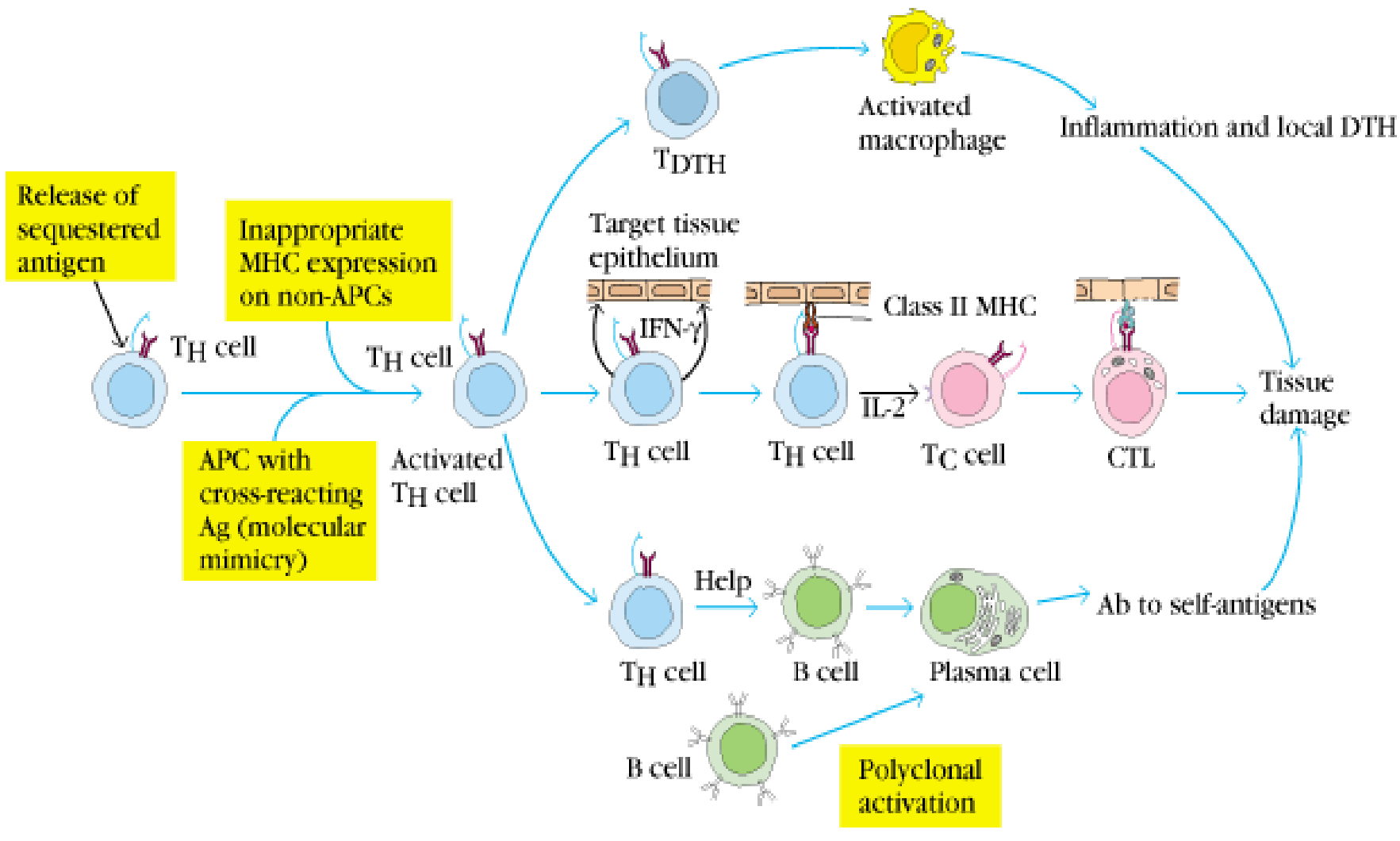
Blood: AHA,
thrombocytopenia

Vvs gP

Thrombocyte gP

SLE	DR3/ DR2	5.8	Kidney, serous layers ds/ssDNS, Sm-IC, SSA SSB
Sjögren syndrome			Exocrine glands, salivary glands, liver, kidney, brain, thyreoid gland, heart, lung, gut
Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)	DR4 DR1	4.2	Joint connective tissues, collagen Type II, IgG RF
Spondyloarthritis (SPA)	B27	<u>90</u>	Vertebra
Reiter disease	B27	<u>33</u>	Clamydia, Yersinia
Salmonella/Shigella arthritis	B27	<u>20.7</u>	





Body Parts That Can Be Affected by Autoimmune Diseases

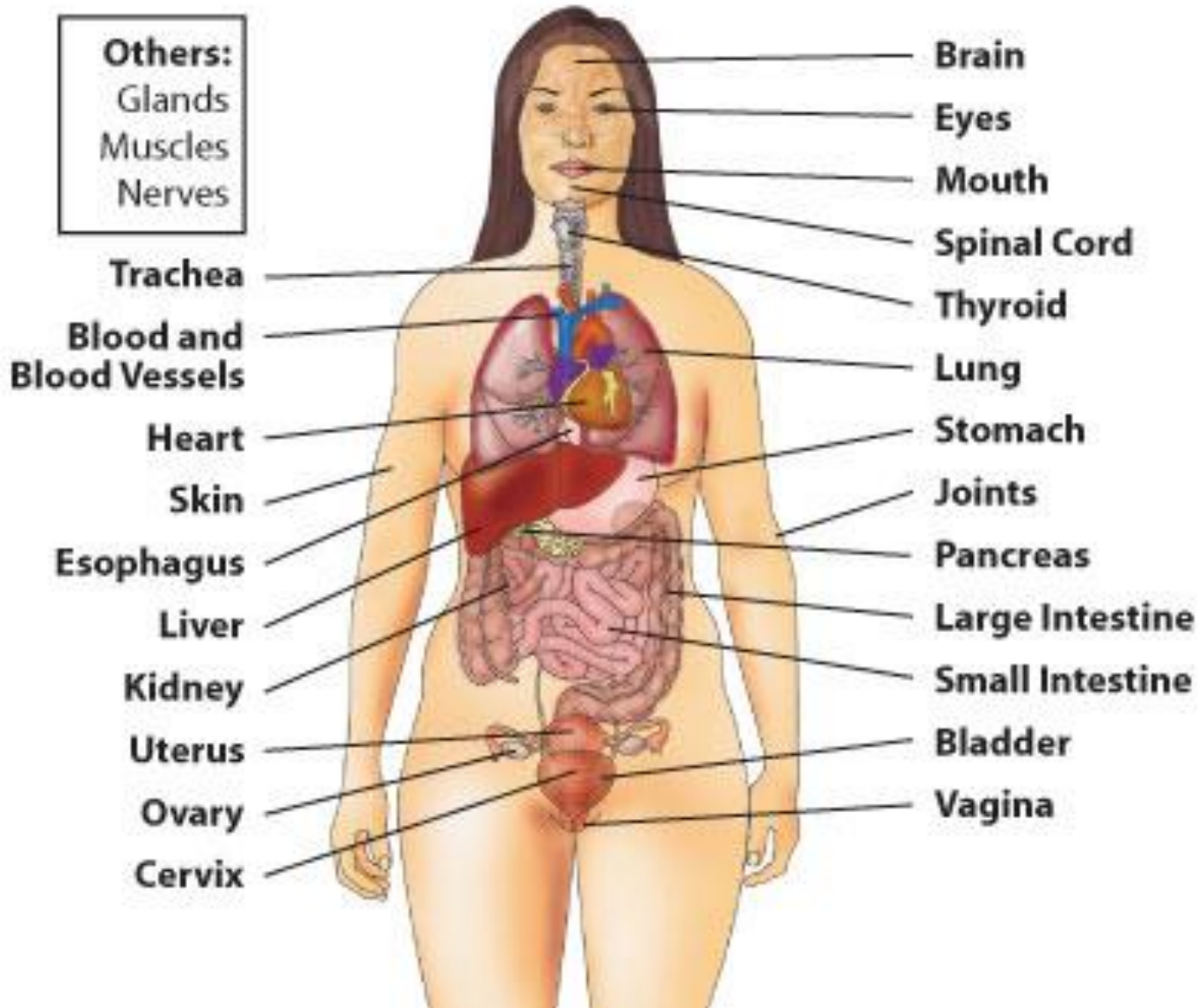
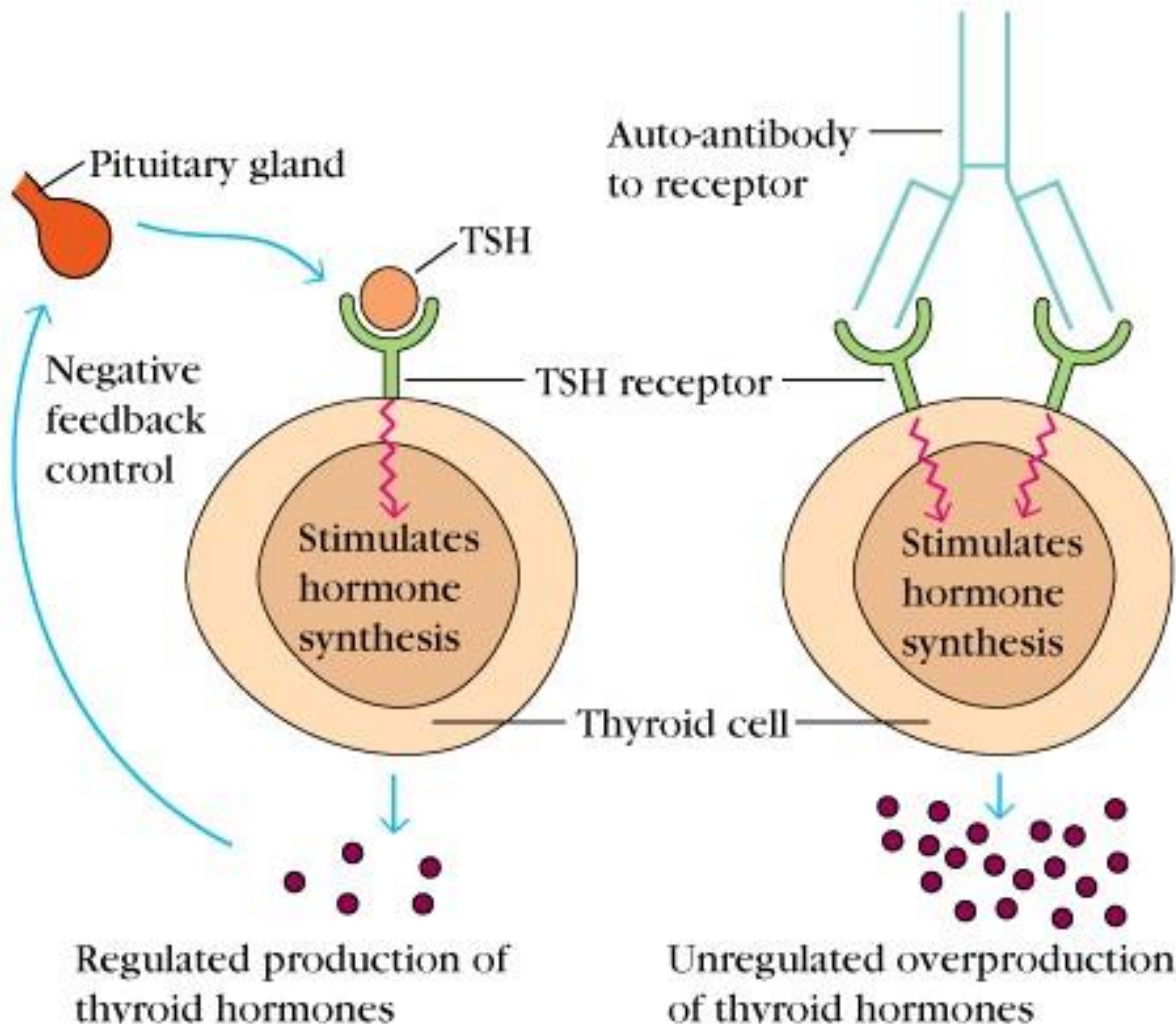


TABLE 20-1 SOME AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES IN HUMANS

Disease	Self-antigen	Immune response
Organ-specific autoimmune diseases		
Addison's disease	Adrenal cells	Auto-antibodies
Autoimmune hemolytic anemia	RBC membrane proteins	Auto-antibodies
Goodpasture's syndrome	Renal and lung basement membranes	Auto-antibodies
Graves' disease	Thyroid-stimulating hormone receptor	Auto-antibody (stimulating)
Hashimoto's thyroiditis	Thyroid proteins and cells	T _{DTH} cells, auto-antibodies
Idiopathic thrombocytopenia purpura	Platelet membrane proteins	Auto-antibodies
Insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus	Pancreatic beta cells	T _{DTH} cells, auto-antibodies
Myasthenia gravis	Acetylcholine receptors	Auto-antibody (blocking)
Myocardial infarction	Heart	Auto-antibodies
Pernicious anemia	Gastric parietal cells; intrinsic factor	Auto-antibody
Poststreptococcal glomerulonephritis	Kidney	Antigen-antibody complexes
Spontaneous infertility	Sperm	Auto-antibodies
Systemic autoimmune disease		
Ankylosing spondylitis	Vertebrae	Immune complexes
Multiple sclerosis	Brain or white matter	T _{DTH} and T _C cells, auto-antibodies
Rheumatoid arthritis	Connective tissue, IgG	Auto-antibodies, immune complexes
Scleroderma	Nuclei, heart, lungs, gastrointestinal tract, kidney	Auto-antibodies
Sjogren's syndrome	Salivary gland, liver, kidney, thyroid	Auto-antibodies
Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE)	DNA, nuclear protein, RBC and platelet membranes	Auto-antibodies, immune complexes

Grave's disease

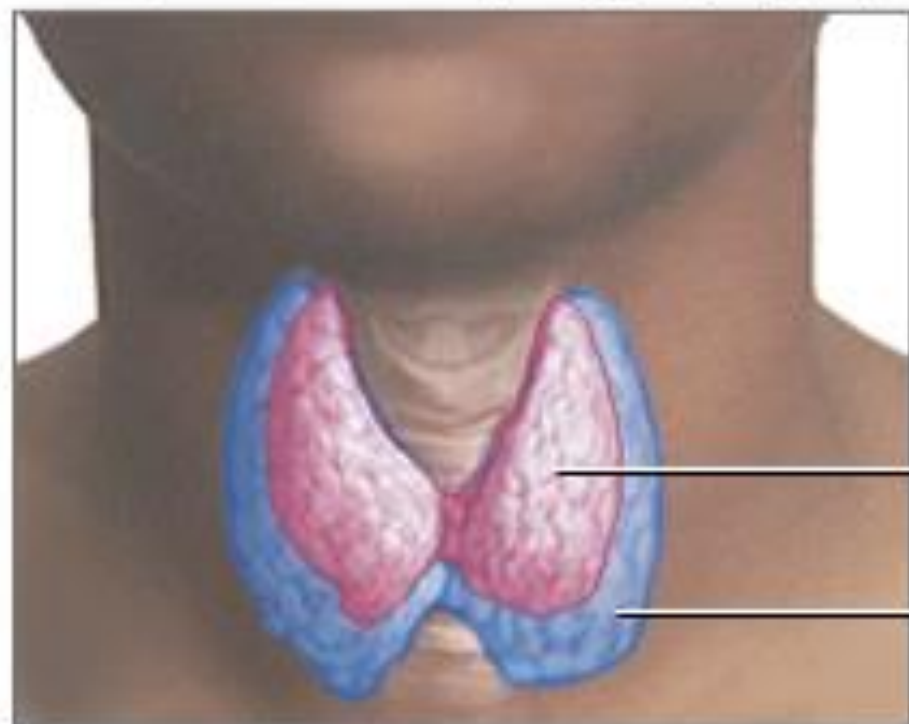
STIMULATING AUTO-ANTIBODIES (Graves' disease)



In **Graves' Disease** patient produces autoantibodies that bind to the receptors for thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH). TSH is produced by the pituitary gland and the receptors for TSH are present on thyroid cells. Binding of these autoantibodies mimics the normal action of TSH which is to stimulate the production of two thyroid hormones, thyroxine and triiodothyronine. However, the autoantibodies are not under a negative feedback control system and therefore lead to overproduction of the thyroid hormones. For this reason these autoantibodies have been termed **long-acting thyroid-stimulating (LATS) antibodies**. Overproduction of thyroid hormones leads to many metabolic problems.



Exophthalmos (bulging eyes)



Diffuse goiter

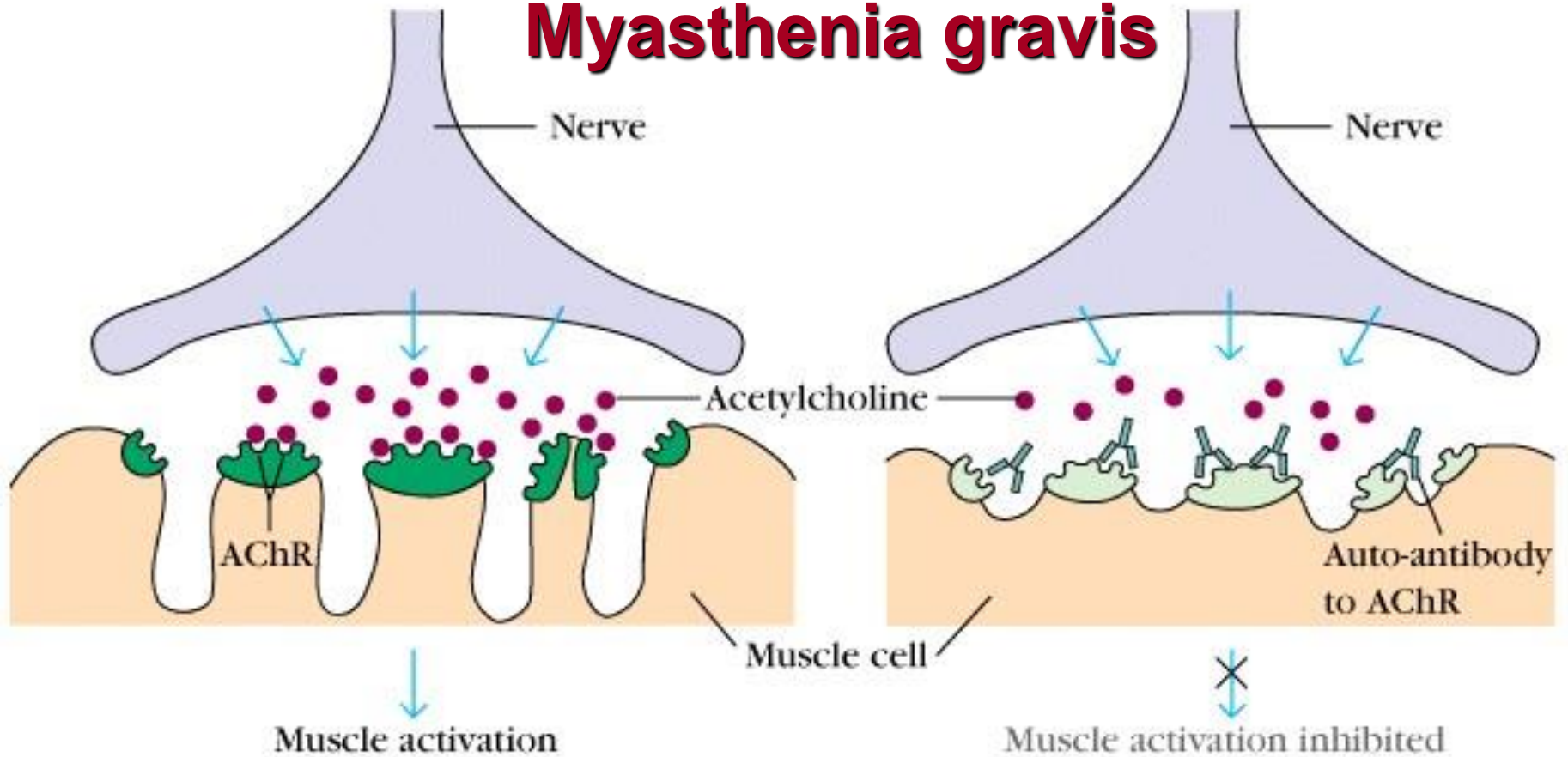
Graves' disease is a common cause of hyperthyroidism, an over-production of thyroid hormone, which causes enlargement of the thyroid and other symptoms such as exophthalmos, heat intolerance and anxiety

Normal thyroid

Enlarged thyroid

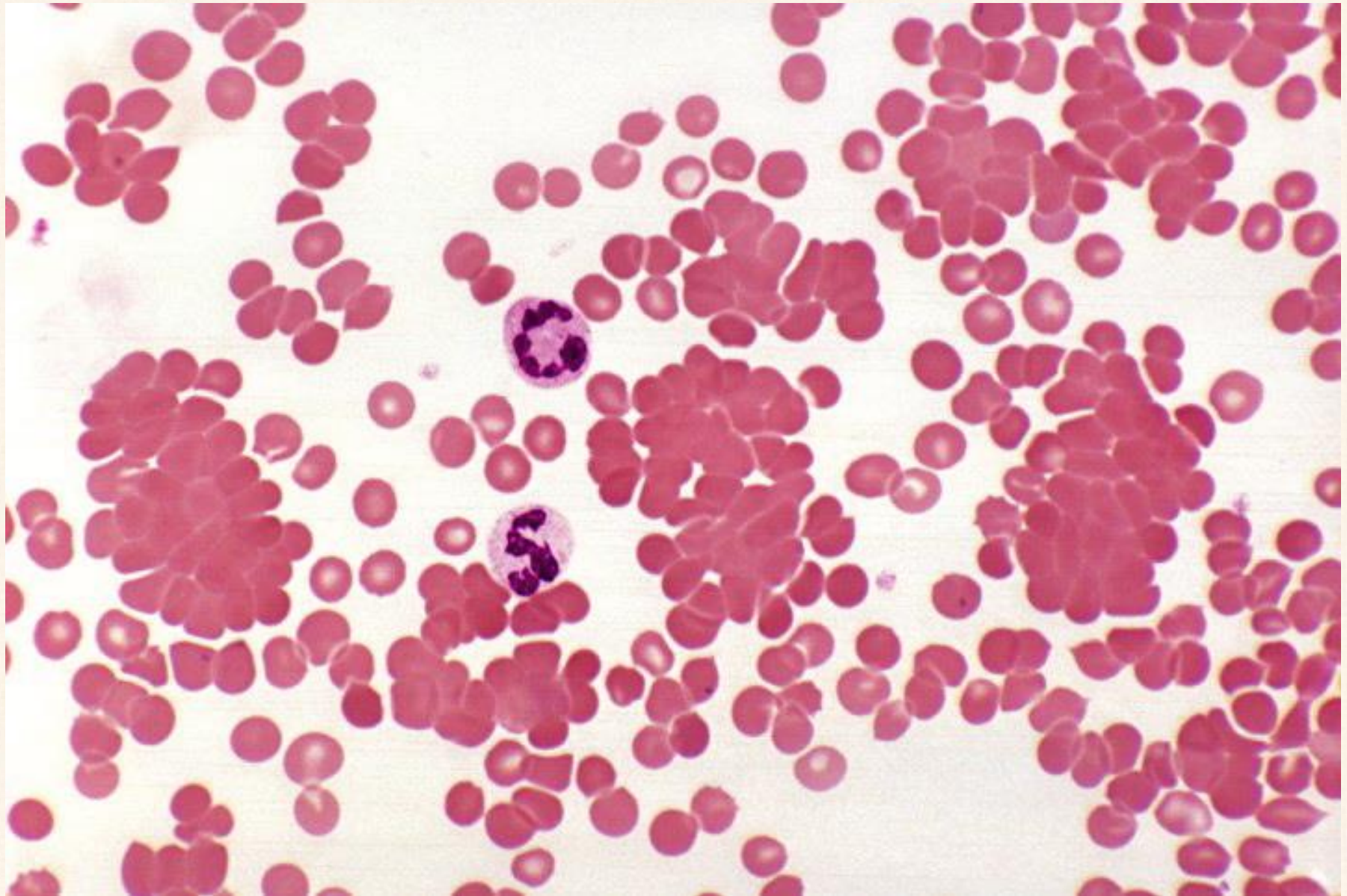
BLOCKING AUTO-ANTIBODIES (Myasthenia gravis)

Myasthenia gravis

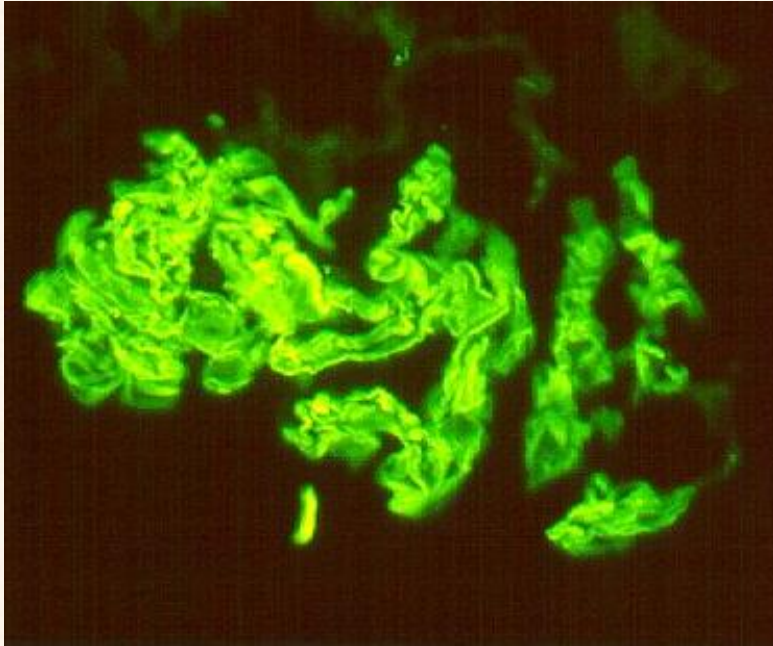


A patient with this disease produces autoantibodies to the acetylcholine receptors on the motor end-plates of muscles. Binding of acetylcholine is therefore blocked and muscle activation is inhibited. The autoantibodies also induce complement-mediated degradation of the acetylcholine receptors, resulting in progressive weakening of the skeletal muscles.

Autoimmune hemolytic anemia



Goodpasture syndrome

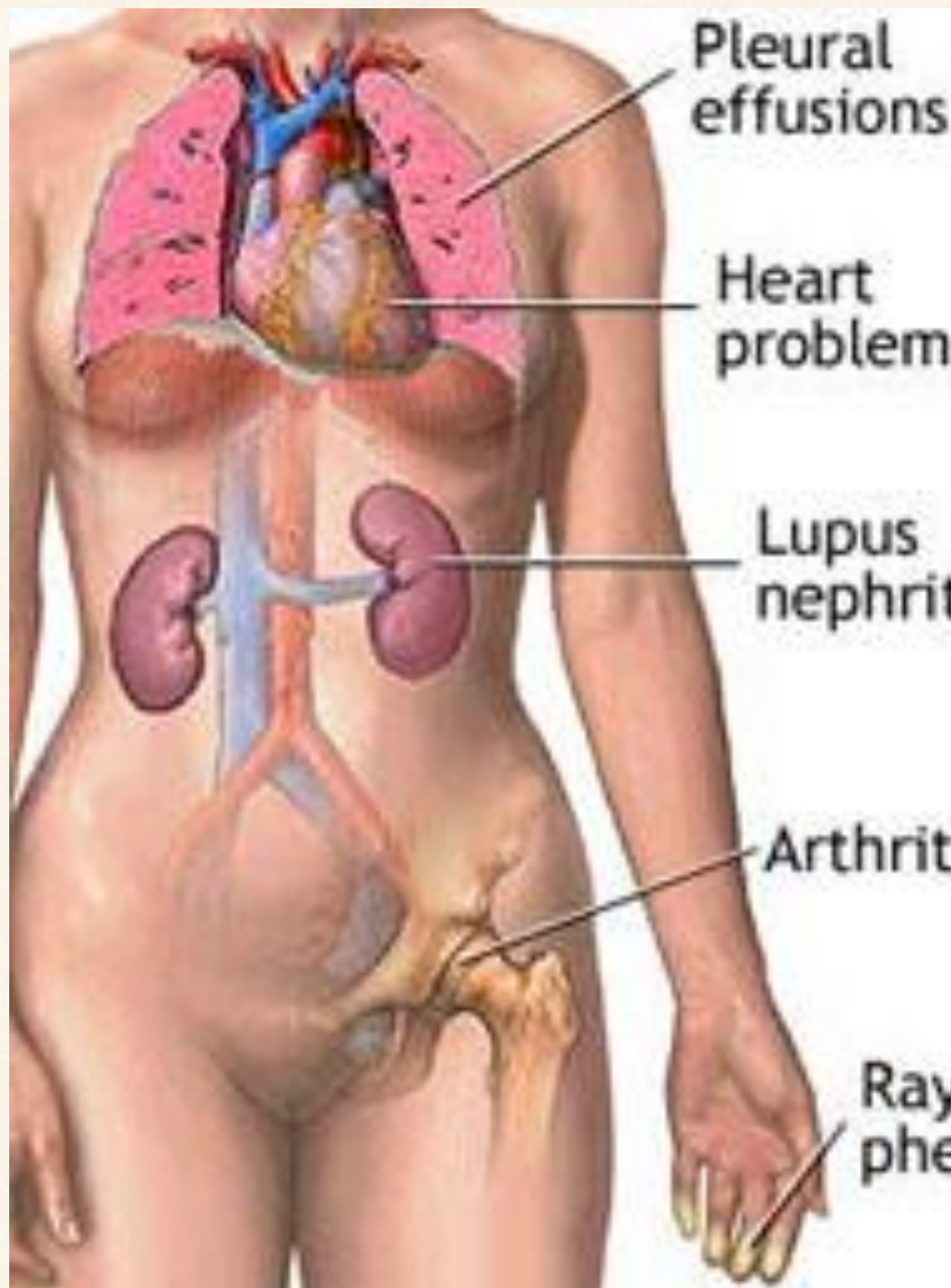


Autoantibodies are produced against alpha-3 subunit of type IV collagen in the basement membranes of glomeruli and lung causing bleeding necrosis.



Characteristic "butterfly" rash over the cheeks of a young girl with **SLE**.

Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) is characterized by fever, weakness, arthritis, skin rashes, pleurisy, and kidney dysfunction. Affected individuals may produce autoantibodies to a range of tissue antigens such as DNA, histones, RBCs, platelets, leukocytes, and clotting factors. SLE typically appears in women between 20 and 40 years of age with a female:male ratio of 10:1. An example of complications arising from SLE is when immune complexes are deposited along the walls of small blood vessels. This deposition activates complement system, resulting in glomerulonephritis and damage to the blood-vessel wall (**vasculitis**) causing widespread tissue damage.



Butterfly rash



Symptoms of systemic lupus erythematosus may vary widely with the individual



Késői, súlyos sclerodermás kézelváltozások



Csökkent maximalis oralis apertura ill. teleangiectasia SSc-ben

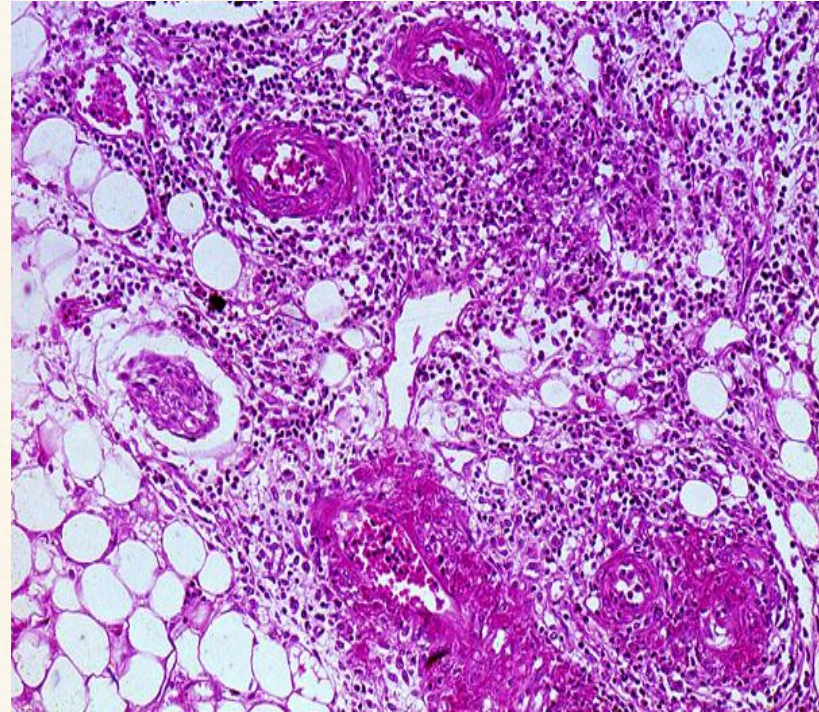
Diffuse cutaneous SSc (**dcSSc**): skin manifestation both on the extremities and on the trunk, severe internal organ involvement, **poor prognosis**

Limited cutaneous SSc (**lcSSc**): skin involvement only on the face and distal part of extremities, no internal organ involvement, **good prognosis**

The major autoantibody in SSc targets DNA topoisomerase I (**Topo I** or **Sci-70**)

Anti-Topo I autoantibodies are detected **mainly, but not exclusively** in dcSSc

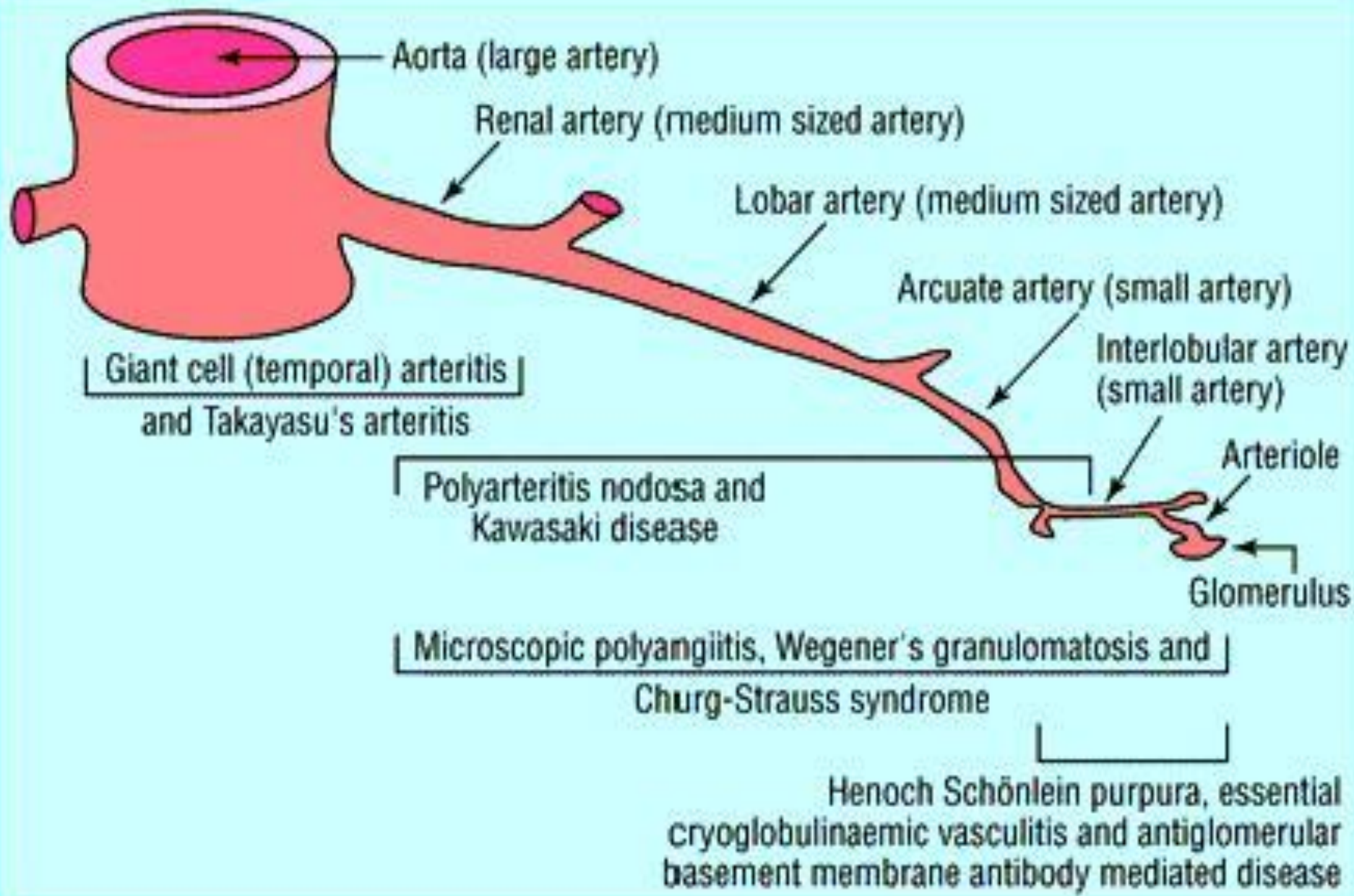
Periarteritis nodosa



The medium sized arteries in the fat tissue appear magenta red because their wall is impregnated with fibrin (fibrinoid necrosis). There is also marked inflammation in the wall of these blood vessels extending into the perivascular connective tissue (arteritis and periarteritis).

Periarteritis nodosa

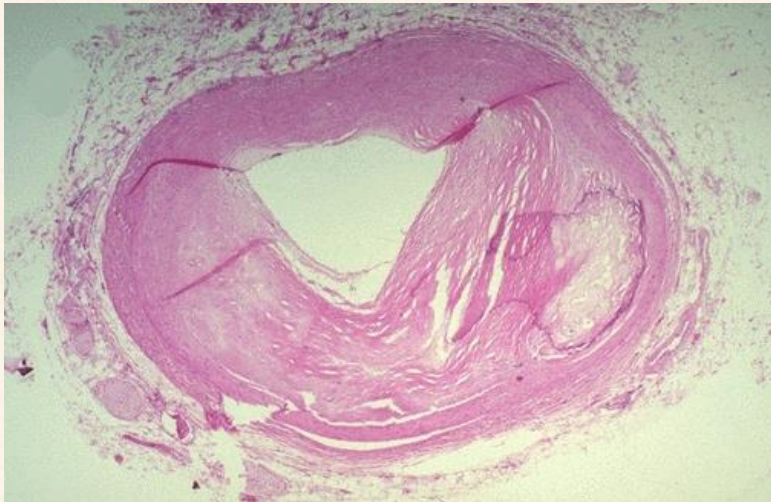




Raynaud's Syndrome



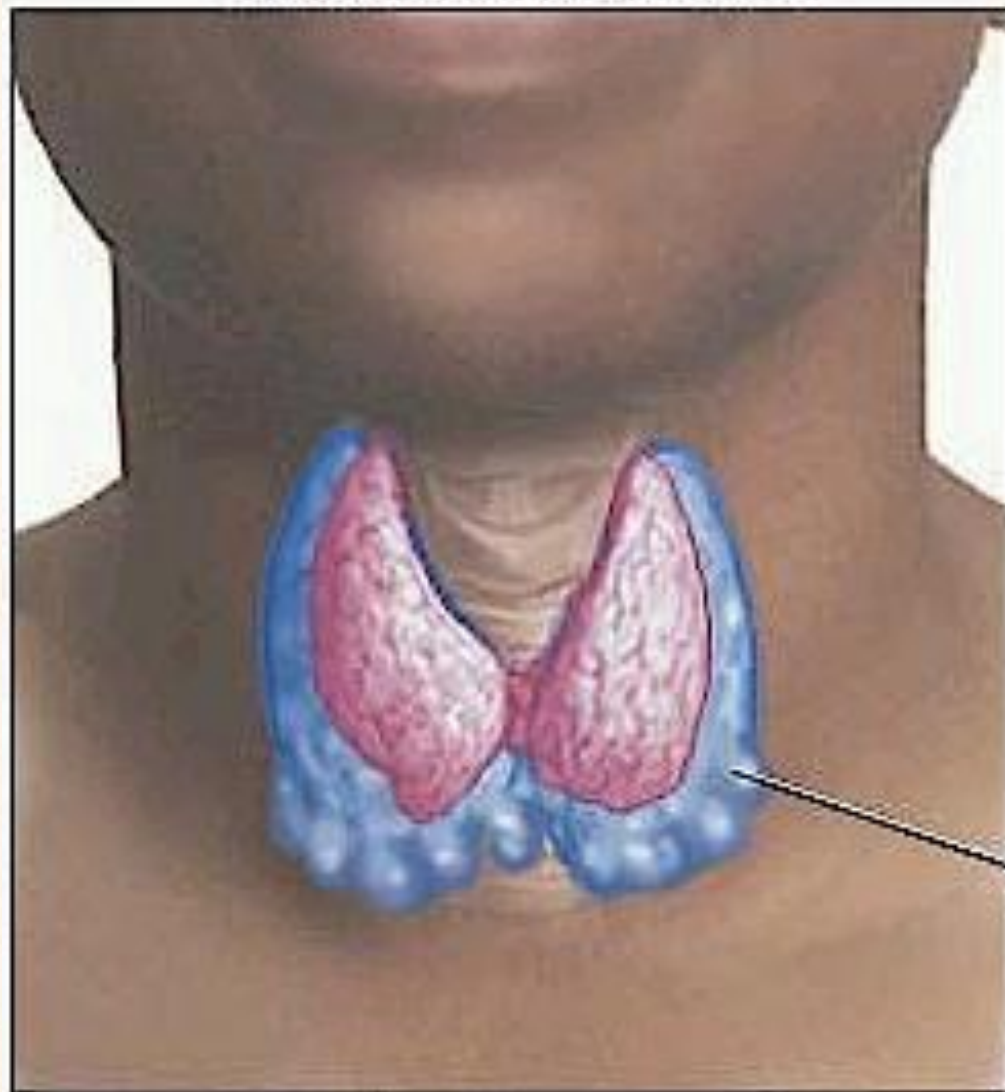
anti-Phospholipid syndrome



Livedo reticularis

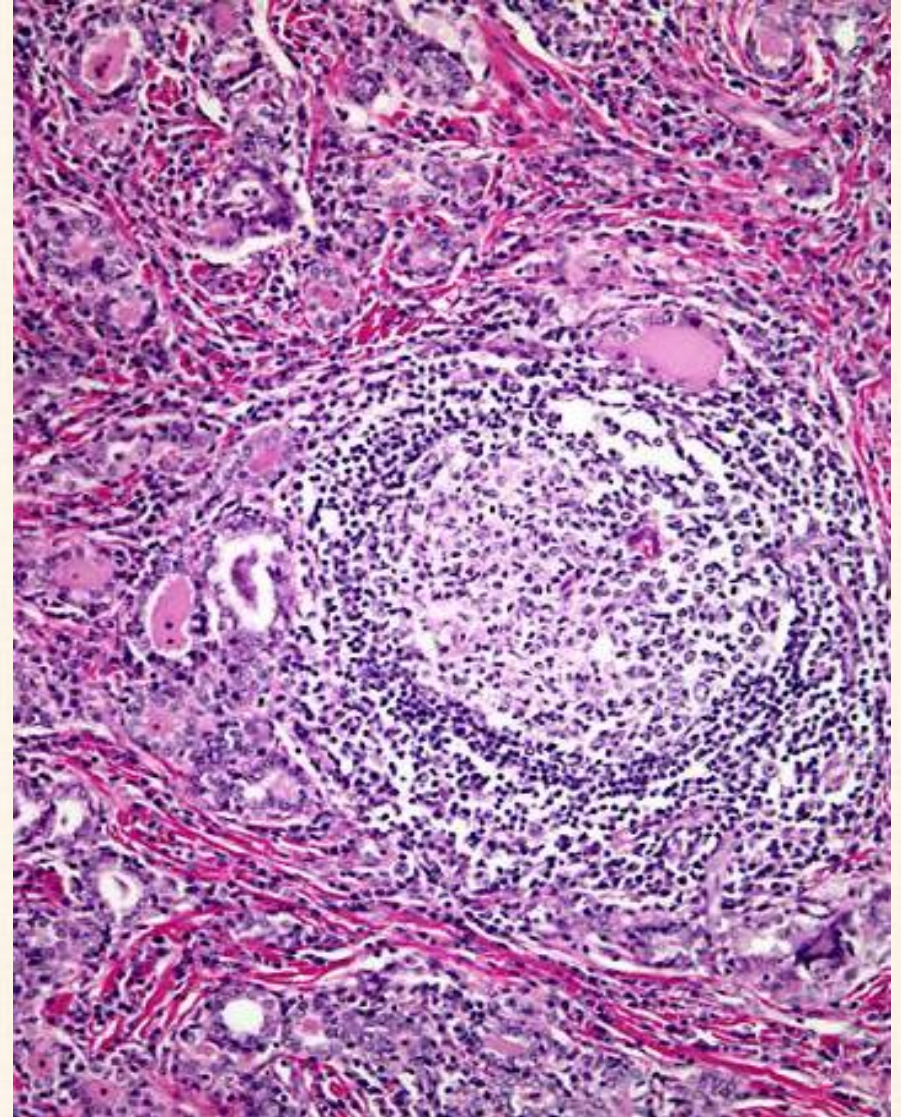
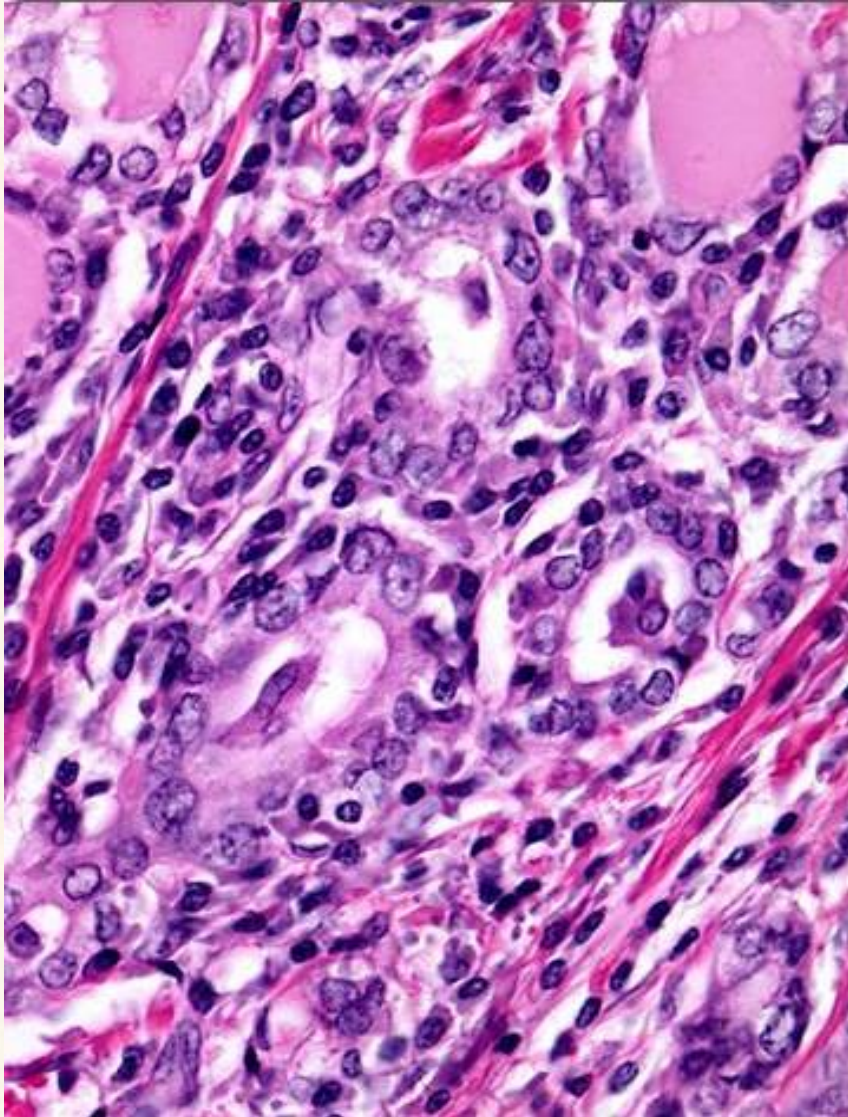
Antiphospholipid Syndrome (APS, APLS, Hughes Syndrome, or Sticky Blood): abnormal antibodies linked to abnormal blood clots within veins and arteries.

Hashimoto's disease

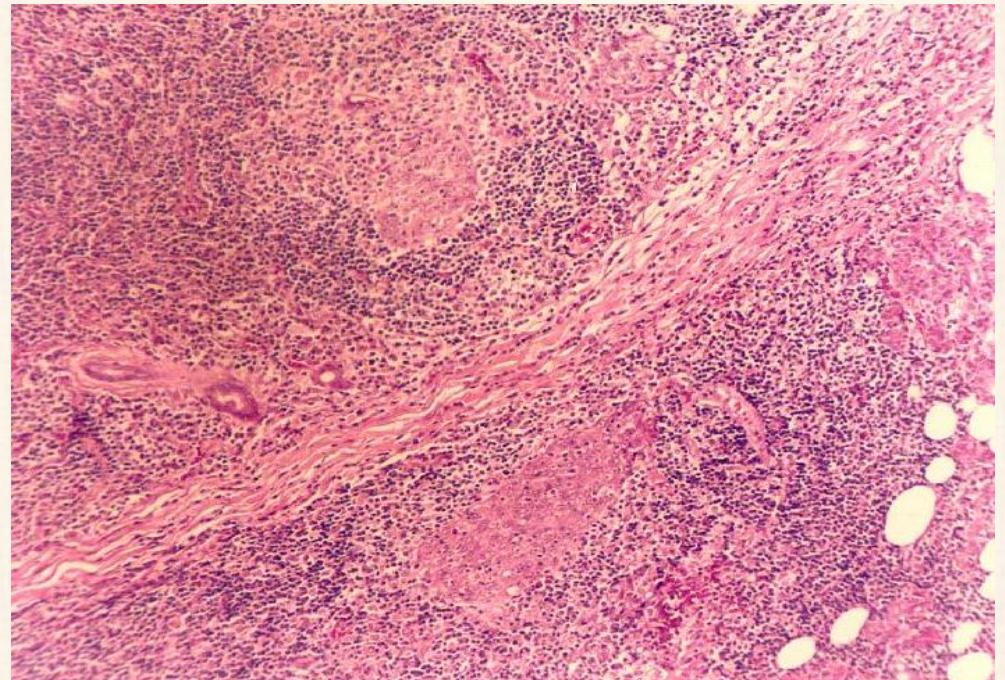
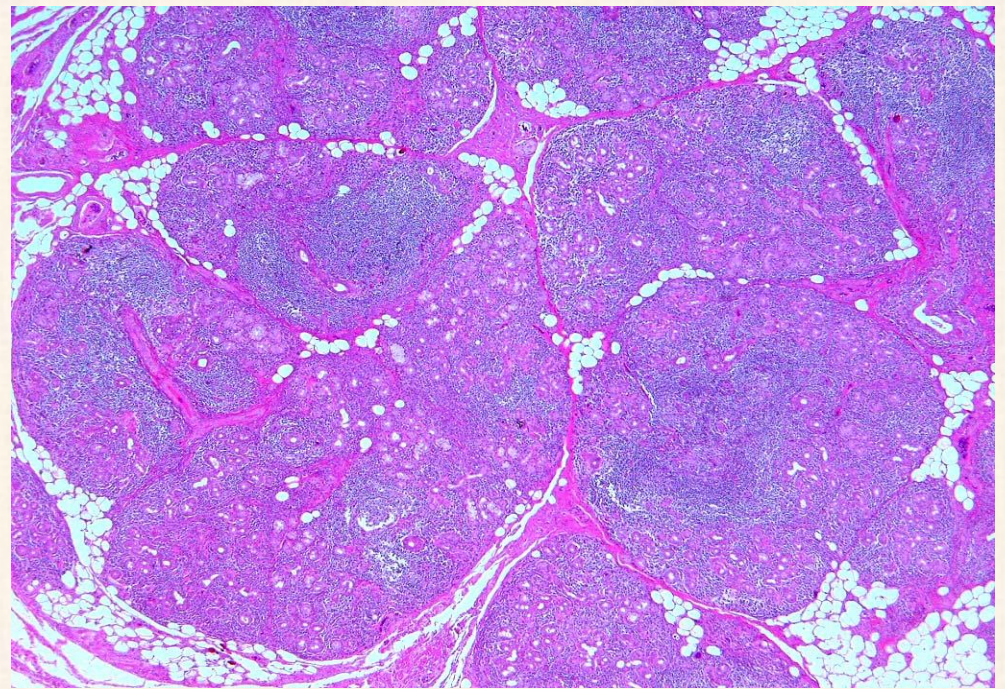
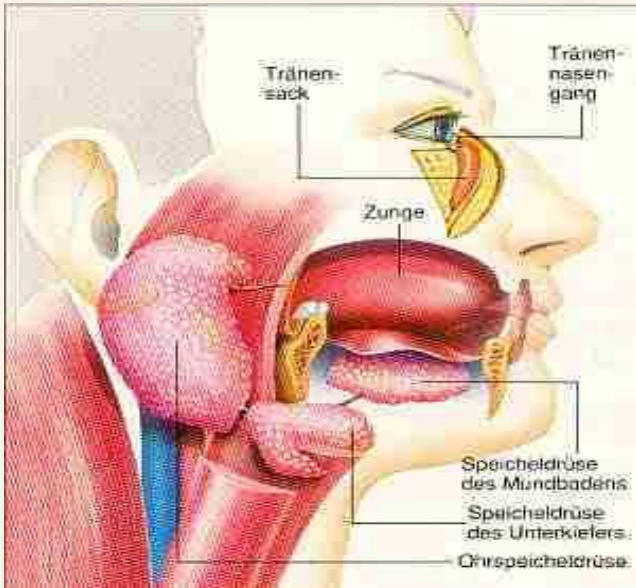


Enlarged, inflamed
hypofunctioning
thyroid (goiter)

Hashimoto's disease



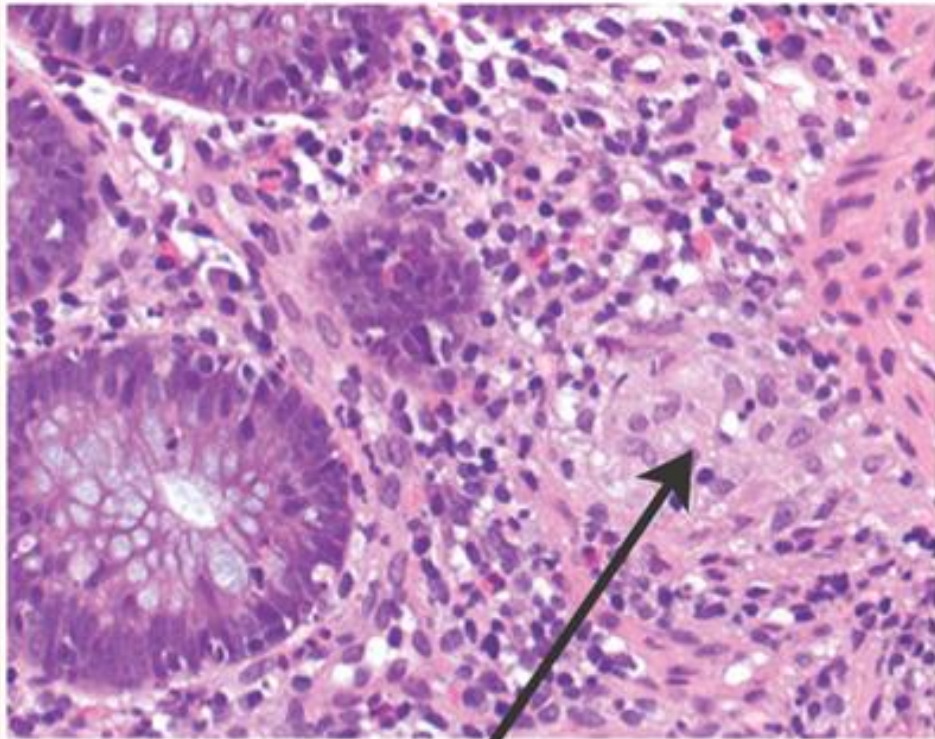
Sjögren syndrome



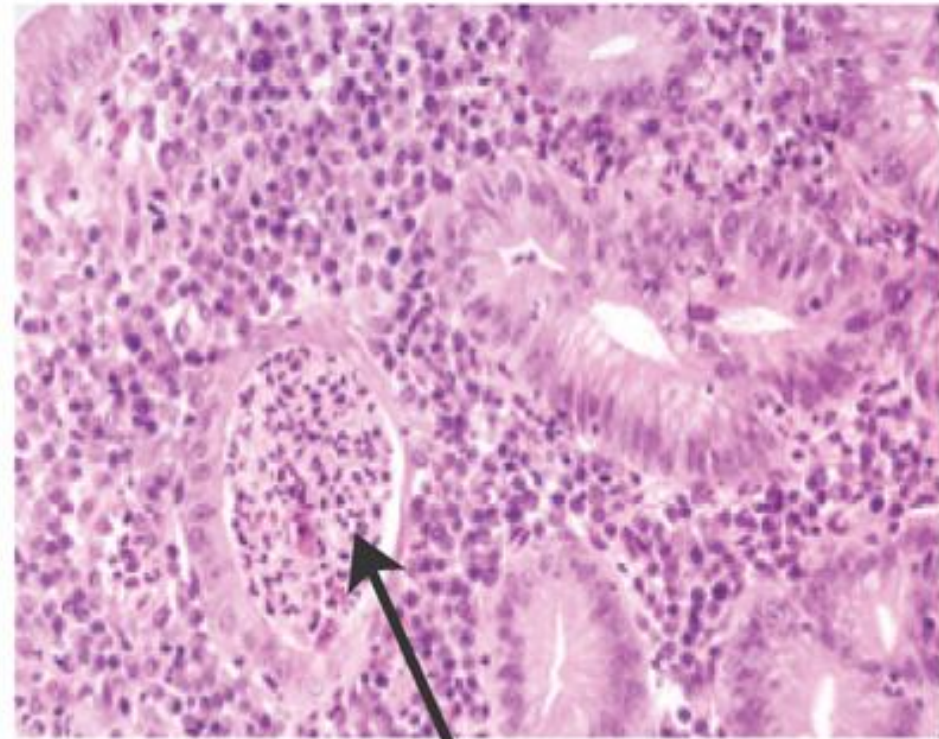
Inflammatory Bowel Diseases

Crohn's disease

Ulcerative colitis

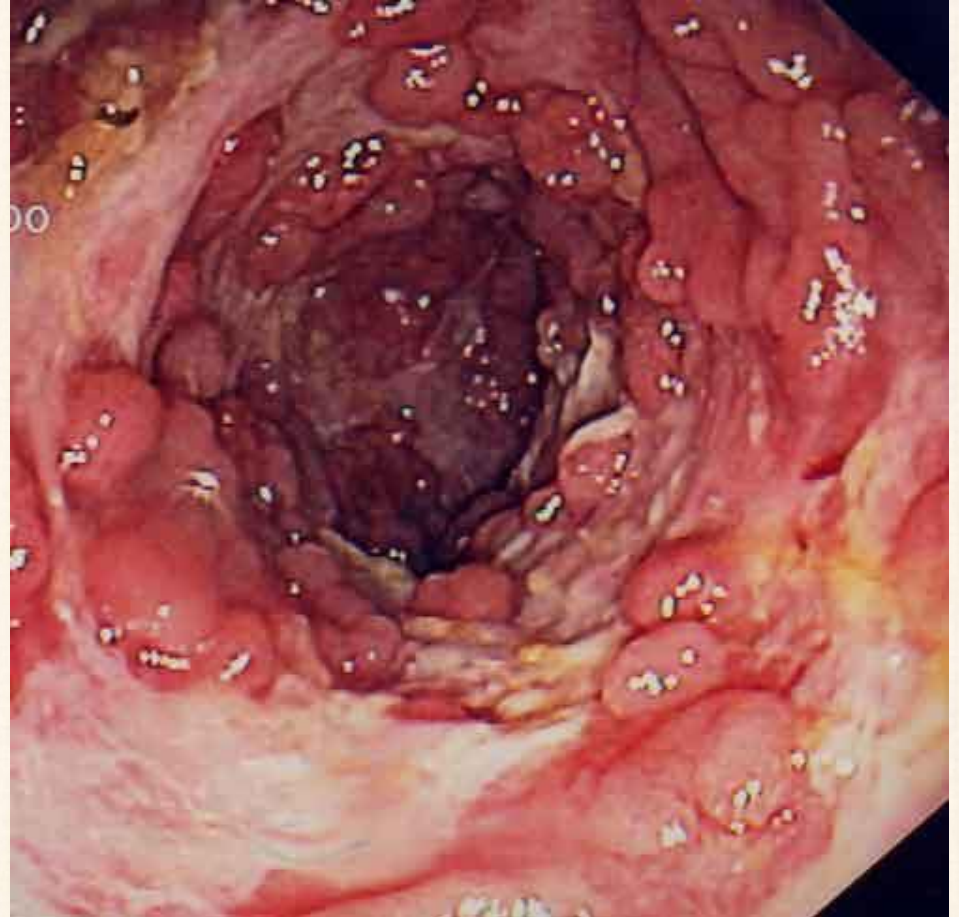
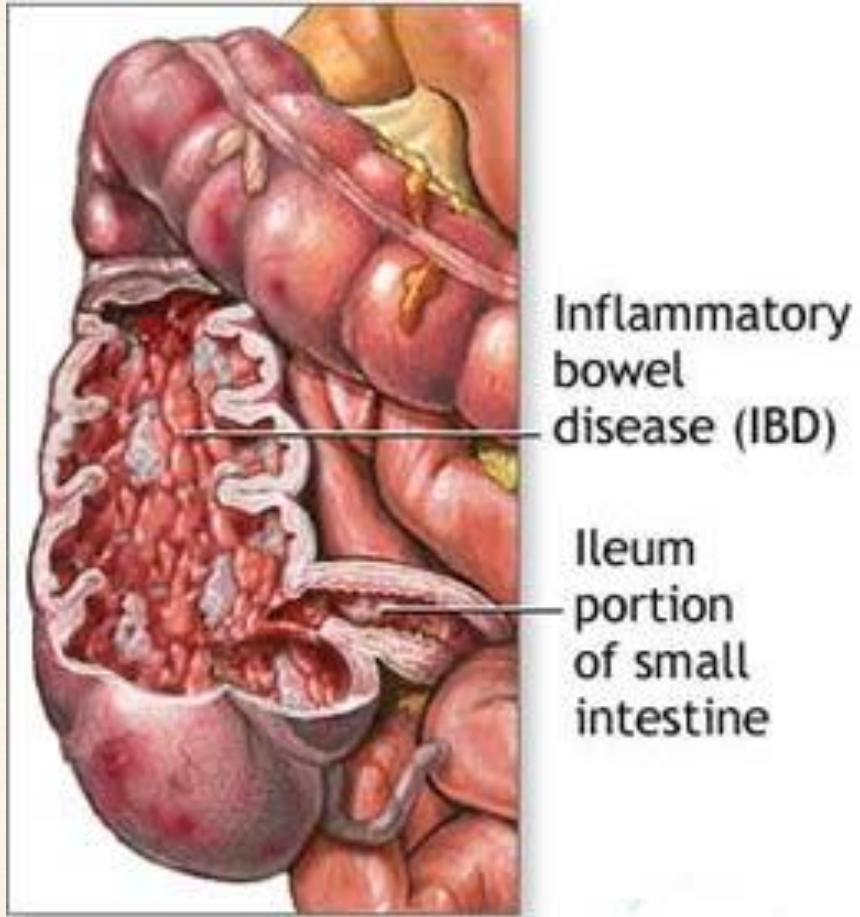


Granuloma



Crypt abscess

Crohn's disease



Ulcerative colitis

