



# GENERAL BIOLOGY

## IMMUNE SYSTEM

# IMMUNE SYSTEM:

## (1) ORGANS

- ⦿ Tonsils and adenoids
- ⦿ Thymus
- ⦿ Lymph nodes
- ⦿ Spleen
- ⦿ Payer's patches
- ⦿ Appendix
- ⦿ Lymphatic vessels
- ⦿ Bone marrow

# IMMUNE SYSTEM:

## (2) CELLS

- ⦿ Lymphocytes

- T-lymphocytes
- B-Lymphocytes, plasma cells
- natural killer lymphocytes

- ⦿ Monocytes, Macrophage

- ⦿ Granulocytes

- neutrophils
- eosinophils
- basophils

# IMMUNE SYSTEM: (3) MOLECULES

- ◉ Antibodies
- ◉ Complement
- ◉ Cytokines
- ◉ Interleukines
- ◉ Interferons

# TWO TYPES OF IMMUNITY

## 1. Innate (non-adaptive)

- first line of immune response
- relies on mechanisms that exist before infection

## 2. Acquired (adaptive)

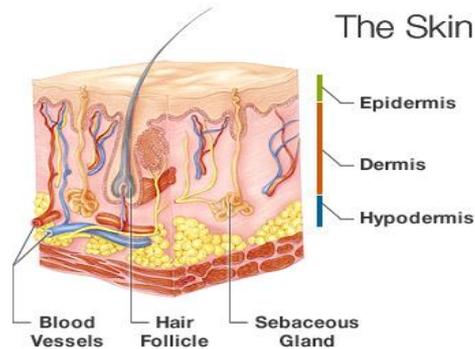
- Second line of response (if innate fails)
- relies on mechanisms that adapt after infection
- handled by T- and B- lymphocytes
- one cell determines one antigenic determinant

# INNATE IMMUNITY

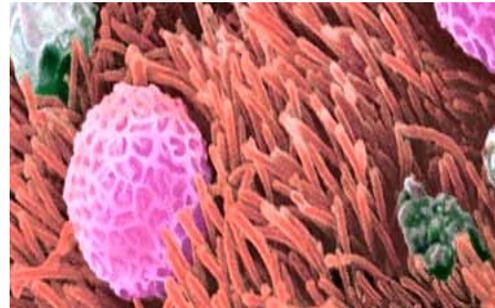
- ⦿ Based on genetic make-up
- ⦿ Relies on already formed components
- ⦿ Rapid response: within minutes of infection
- ⦿ Not specific
  - same molecules / cells respond to a range of pathogens
- ⦿ Has no memory
  - same response after repeated exposure
- ⦿ Does not lead to clonal expansion

# ANATOMICAL BARRIERS - MECHANICAL FACTORS

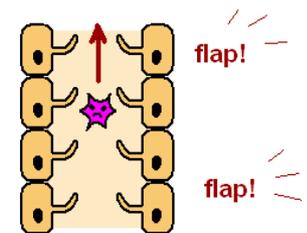
## ◉ Skin



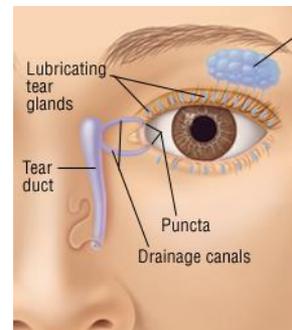
- Mucociliary escalator



The MUCOCILIARY ESCALATOR!



- Flushing action of saliva, tears, urine



# ANATOMICAL BARRIERS - CHEMICAL FACTORS

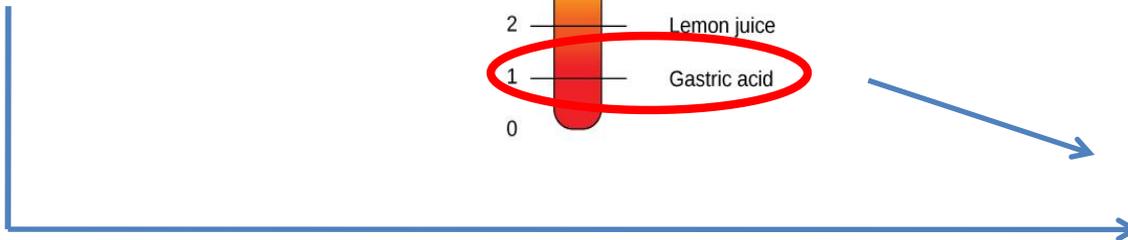
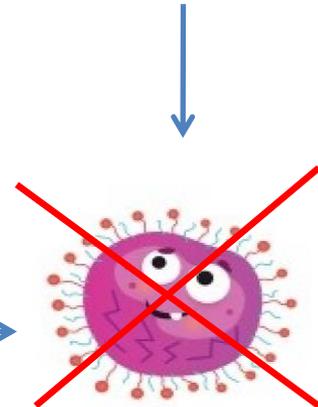
**Antimicrobial  
Peptides in sweat**



**HCl in  
stomach**



**Lysozyme in tears  
/saliva**

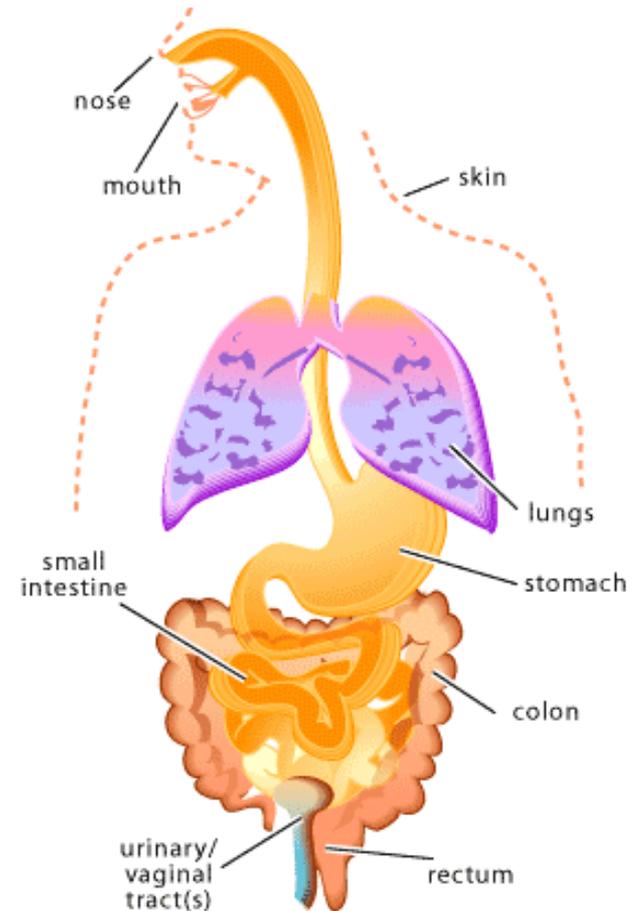


# ANATOMICAL BARRIERS - BIOLOGICAL FACTORS

Normal flora – microbes in many parts of the body

Normal flora – > 1000 species of bacteria

Normal flora – competes with pathogens for nutrients and space

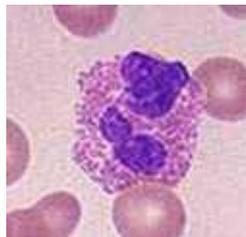


# INNATE IMMUNITY: MECHANISMS

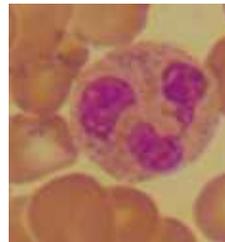
- ⊙ Mechanical barriers / surface secretion
  - skin, acidic pH in stomach, cilia
- ⊙ Humoral mechanisms
  - lysozymes, basic proteins, complement, interferons
- ⊙ Cellular defense mechanisms
  - natural killer cells, neutrophils, macrophages, mast cells, basophils, eosinophils



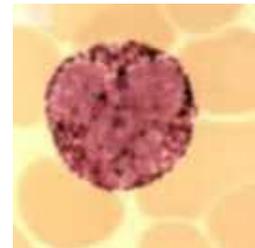
**NK Cell**



**Eosinophils**



**Neutrophil**



**Basophils &  
Mast cells**



**Monocyte  
Macrophage**

# ADAPTIVE IMMUNITY: SECOND LINE OF RESPONSE

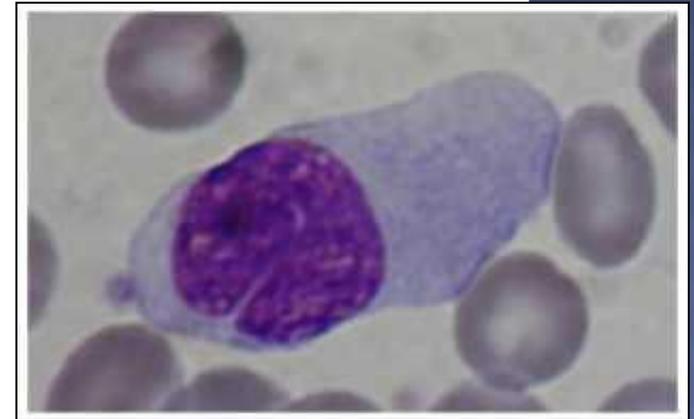
- ⦿ Based upon resistance acquired during life
- ⦿ Relies on genetic events and cellular growth
- ⦿ Responds more slowly, over few days
- ⦿ Is specific
  - each cell responds to a single epitope on an antigen
- ⦿ Has anamnestic memory
  - repeated exposure leads to faster, stronger response
- ⦿ Leads to clonal expansion

# ADAPTIVE IMMUNITY: ACTIVE AND PASSIVE

|            | Active Immunity   | Passive Immunity              |
|------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Natural    | clinical, sub-clinical<br>infection                           | via breast milk,<br>placenta  |
| Artificial | Vaccination:<br><br>Live, killed, purified<br>antigen vaccine | immune serum,<br>immune cells |

# ADAPTIVE IMMUNITY: MECHANISMS

- ◉ Cell-mediated immune response (CMIR)
  - T-lymphocytes
  - eliminate intracellular microbes that survive within phagocytes or other infected cells
- ◉ Humoral immune response (HIR)
  - B-lymphocytes
  - mediated by antibodies
  - eliminate extra-cellular microbes and their toxins



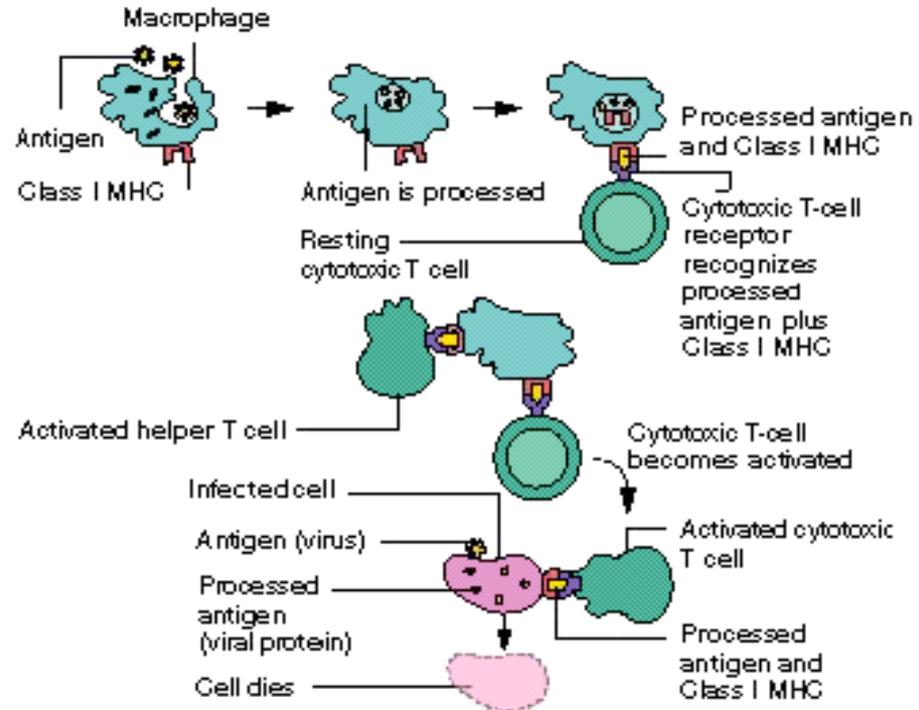
**Plasma cell**  
(Derived from B-lymphocyte,  
produces antibodies)

# CELL-MEDIATED IMMUNE RESPONSE

## 1. T-cell

- recognizes peptide antigen on macrophage in association with major histocompatibility complex (MHC) class
- identifies molecules on cell surfaces
- helps body distinguish self from non-self

## 2. T-cell goes into effectors cells stage that is able to kill infected cells



# T LYMPHOCYTES

2 types

- helper T- lymphocytes (CD4+)
  - CD4+ T cells activate phagocytes to kill microbes
- ⦿ cytolytic T-lymphocyte (CD8+)
  - CD8+ T cells destroy infected cells containing microbes or microbial proteins

# CELL MEDIATED IMMUNE RESPONSE

## Primary response

- production of specific clones of effector T cells and memory clones
- develops in several days
- does not limit the infection

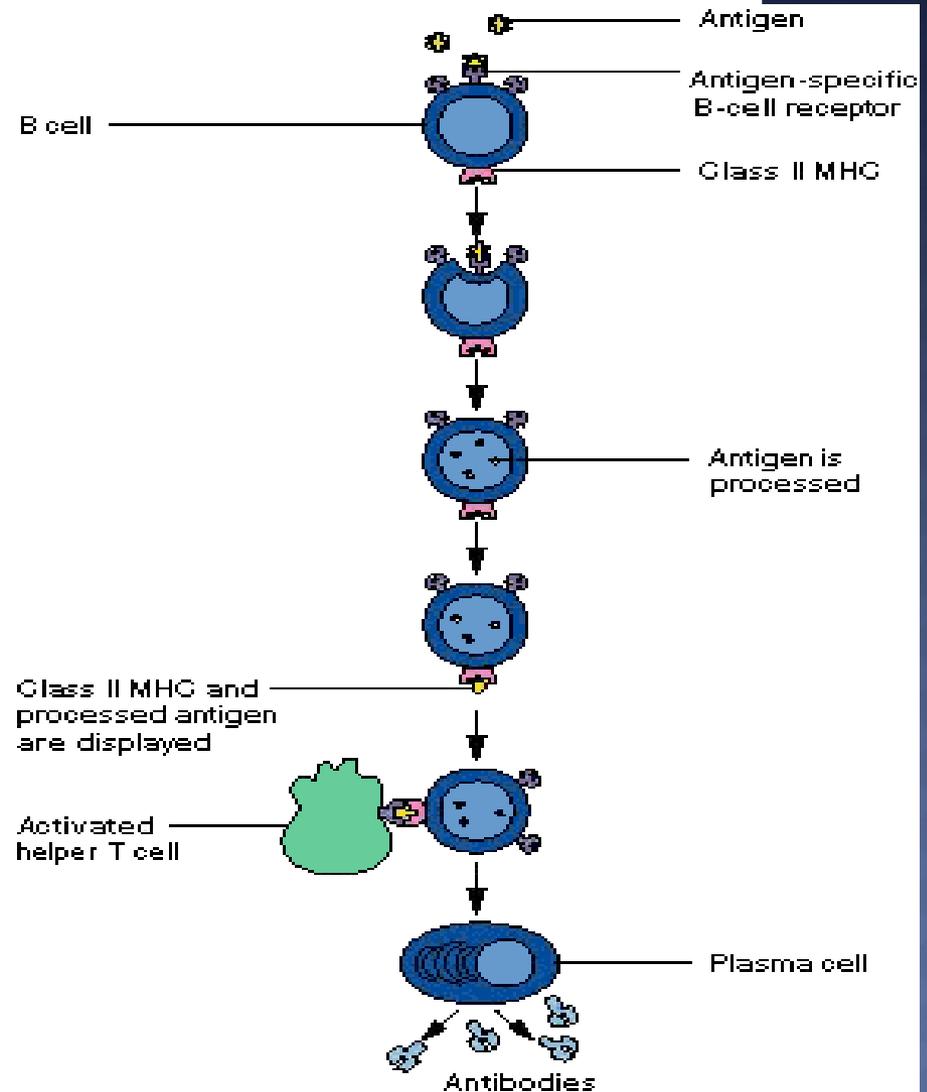
## Secondary response

- more pronounced, faster
- more effective at limiting the infection

Example - cytotoxic reactions against intracellular parasites, delayed hypersensitivity (e.g., Tuberculin test) and allograft rejection

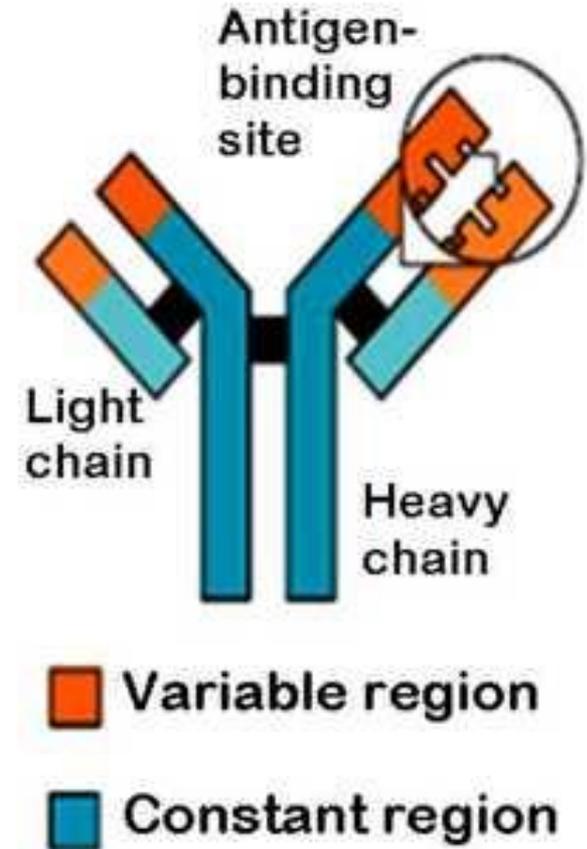
# HUMORAL IMMUNE RESPONSE

1. B lymphocytes recognize specific antigens
  - proliferate and differentiate into antibody-secreting plasma cells
2. Antibodies bind to specific antigens on microbes; destroy microbes via specific mechanisms
3. Some B lymphocytes evolve into the resting state - memory cells



# ANTIBODIES (IMMUNOGLOBULINS)

- ⦿ Belong to the gamma-globulin fraction of serum proteins
- ⦿ Y-shaped or T-shaped polypeptides
  - 2 identical heavy chains
  - 2 identical light chains
- ⦿ All immunoglobulins are not antibodies
- ⦿ Five kinds of antibodies
  - IgG, IgM, IgA, IgD, IgE



# IGG

- ◉ 70-75% of total immunoglobulin
- ◉ Secreted in high quantities in secondary exposures
- ◉ Cross the placenta
- ◉ Major functions / applications
  - neutralize microbes and toxins
  - opsonize antigens for phagocytosis
  - activate the complement
  - protect the newborn

- 4-fold rise or fall indicates active infection
- A single positive sample indicates past exposure

# IGM

- ⦿ Secreted initially during primary infection

- ⦿ Cannot cross the placenta

- ⦿ Major functions / applications

- secreted first during primary exposure
- activates the complement
- used as a marker of recent infection

- Presence in newborn means infection
- Single positive sample in serum or CSF indicates recent or active infection
- Used to detect early phase of infection

# IGA

- ◉ Monomeric in serum
- ◉ Dimeric with secretory component in the lumen of the gastro-intestinal tract and in the respiratory tract
- ◉ Major function / application
  - neutralizes microbes and toxins

- Sero-diagnosis of tuberculosis
- Synthicial respiratory virus tests

# IGD

- ◉ Monomeric
- ◉ Major functions / applications
  - present on the surface of B lymphocytes
  - functions as membrane receptor
  - role unclear
    - ◉ has a role in antigen stimulated lymphocyte differentiation

# IGE

- ⦿ Mediates type I hypersensitivity
- ⦿ Monomeric
- ⦿ Major functions / applications
  - associated with anaphylaxis
  - plays a role in immunity to helminthic parasites

Serodiagnosis of infectious and non infectious allergies (e.g., allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis, parasitic diseases)

# SEQUENTIAL IGM-IGG HUMORAL RESPONSE

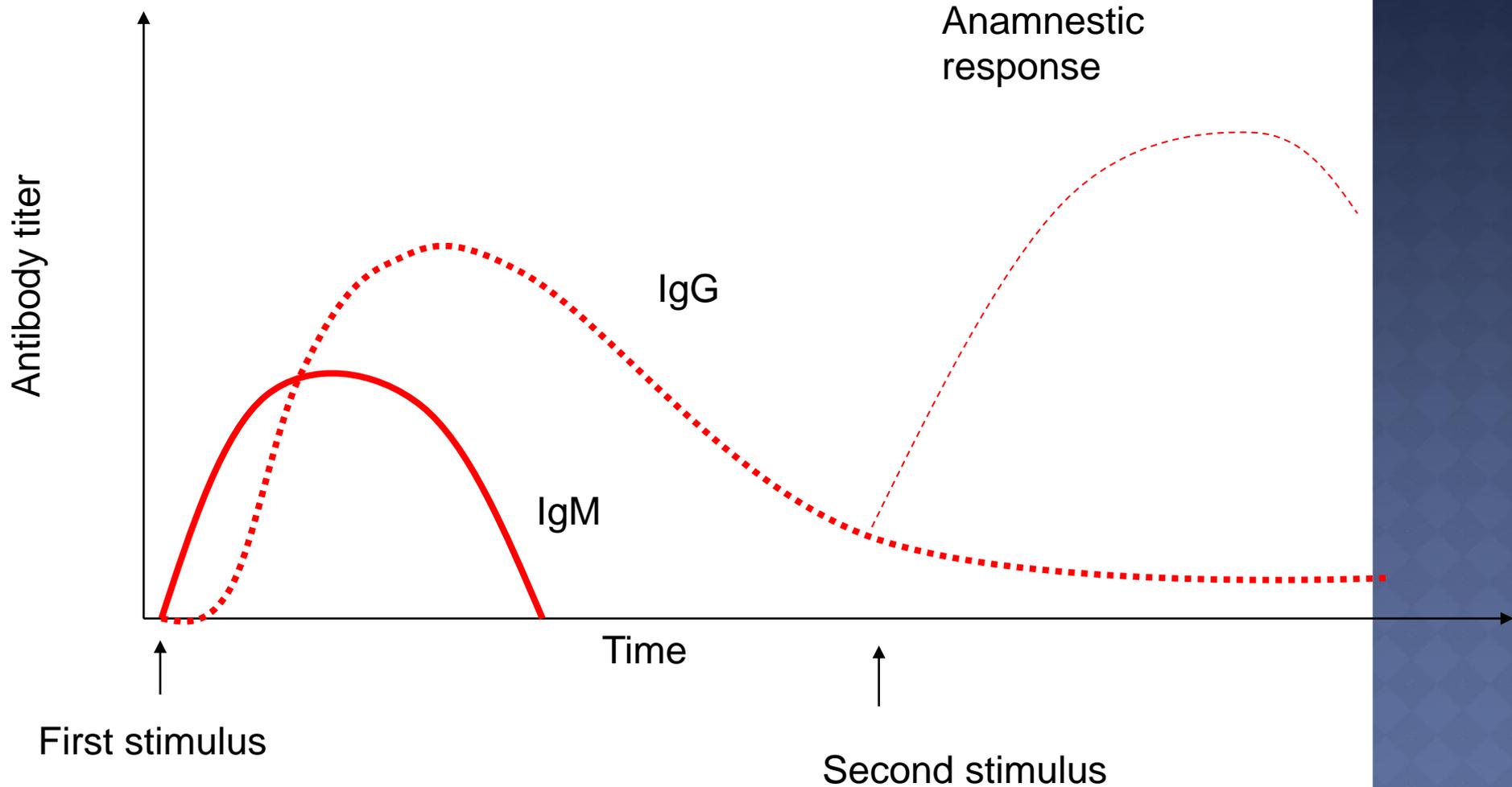
## ◉ IgM

- produced as a first response to many antigens
- levels remain high transiently

## ◉ IgG

- produced after IgM
- higher levels persist in small amounts throughout life
- produced in large amounts during secondary response
  - ◉ persistence of antigen sensitive 'memory cells' after primary response

# IGM - IGG SEQUENTIAL RESPONSE



# FAILURE OF IMMUNE RESPONSE

- ⦿ Immune response helps individuals defend against
  - microbes
  - some cancers
- ⦿ Immune response can fail
  - hypersensitivity reactions
  - immunodeficiency

# HYPERSENSITIVITY REACTIONS

- ⦿ Cause cell damage through excessive immune response to antigens
- ⦿ Hypersensitivity
  - overreaction to infectious agents
- ⦿ Allergy
  - overreaction to environmental substances
- ⦿ Autoimmunity
  - overreaction to self

# IMMUNODEFICIENCY

- ⦿ Loss or inadequate function of various components of the immune system
- ⦿ Can occur in any part or state of the immune system
  - physical barrier, phagocytes, B lymphocytes, T lymphocytes, complement, natural killer cells
- ⦿ The immuno-compromised host
  - has an impaired function of immune system
  - is at high risk of infection

# IMMUNODEFICIENCY

- ◉ Congenital (primary) immunodeficiency
  - genetic abnormality
    - defect in lymphocyte maturation
- ◉ Acquired (secondary) immunodeficiency
  - results from infections, nutritional deficiencies or treatments
    - AIDS, chronic leukemia

# ALTERED IMMUNITY: IMMUNO-COMPROMISED

|                          |                         | Disorder                | Compromised function  |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Altered anatomic barrier | Mucus membrane          | Reduction in IgA        | Microbe binding   |
|                          | Gastro-intestinal tract | Elevated pH             | Bacteria killing  |
|                          |                         | Change in flora         | Colonization resistance   |
| Immune system            | Innate immunity         | Reduction of complement | Activates phagocytosis<br>Opsonization of bacteria<br>Membrane attack complex |
|                          |                         | Neutropenia             | Phagocytosis  |
|                          |                         | Monocytopenia           | Bacteria killing  |
|                          | Adaptive immunity       | Reduction of T cells    | Activation of macrophages<br>Activation of B lymphocytes                      |
|                          |                         | Hypo-gammaglobulinemia  | Neutralizes pathogens and toxins, opsonization, complement activation         |

# SUMMARY (1)

## ◎ Innate immunity

- relies on mechanisms already existing before microbe infects host
- is the first line of defense
- has no memory for subsequent exposure
- relies on non specific mechanisms

# SUMMARY (2)

## ◉ Adaptive immunity

- develops following entry of microbe into the host
- comes into action after innate immunity fails to get rid of microbe
- has memory to deal with subsequent exposure
- happens through specific cells
  - ◉ T cells (cell mediated)
  - ◉ B cells (antibody mediated)

# SUMMARY (3)

- ◎ Primary immune response
  - short lasting
  - smaller in magnitude
- ◎ Secondary immune response
  - longer in duration
  - larger in magnitude
    - develop 'memory cells' following primary response
- ◎ Failure of immune response can result in:
  - hypersensitivity
  - immunodeficiency