

Bacterial Superantigens Structure Function And Therapeutic Potential Molecular Biology Intelligence Unit

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The Journal of Immunology 1996-12

Treatments from Toxins Keith Alan Foster 2006-11-02 As little as two decades ago, deliberately injecting botulinum toxin into patients would have seemed foolhardy at best and criminal at worst. The increased clinical use of botulinum toxins has expanded the body of knowledge available on the structure and function of these proteins. This knowledge can be applied to topics as varied as therapies based on the endopeptidase activity of the toxins, vaccine development, protection against botulism, and vectors for neuronal drug delivery. Based on recent scientific and clinical information from top international authorities, Treatments from Toxins: The Therapeutic Potential of Clostridial Neurotoxins reviews the status of current research and development and identifies significant developments. Drawing on their vast experience in this field, the editors present the basic background of the bacteriology and genetics of the neurotoxic clostridia, a history of the discovery of the neurotoxins, and an overview of the tetanus and botulism diseases. The chapters detailing common medical applications of the toxins cover side effects and novel uses, including neuronal drug delivery strategies, and provide a fresh look at what can still be achieved. They also explore the toxins as potential threat agents and the advent of the therapeutic use of botulinum toxins. Highlighting the pitfalls, successes, and challenges that exist when engineering complex proteins, the book brings together the clinical and theoretical worlds. It presents a broad overview of the current status of botulinum research and its clinical applications.

Superantigens Leung 1997-02-20 This up-to-date sourcebook covers viral and bacterial superantigens (SAGs) from molecular structure and immunological processes to pathology and treatment of superantigen-mediated human diseases. Discusses diseases beyond Toxic Shock Syndrome, such as autoimmune and inflammatory skin conditions, as well as the role of superantigens in other infectious diseases. Illustrated

with molecular structures of superantigens.

Viral Superantigens Kyuhei Tomonari 1997-05-30 Since the discovery of viral superantigens in 1991, immunologists have made a number of new discoveries. The discoveries, especially those relating to the interplay between the immune system and viruses producing superantigens, have had a great impact on immunology and virology, as it appears that some diseases are triggered or exacerbated by viral superantigens. Viral Superantigens presents a complete review of this new area of study. Edited by a leading researcher and authored by a distinguished team of contributors, this comprehensive analysis covers every aspect of viral superantigens and related subjects, including critical topics such as effects on the T cell repertoire and viral superantigen-mediated diseases. Immunologists and virologists, clinical practitioners, and graduate students will find this book an invaluable resource to encourage further advances in research.

Superantigens Malak Kotb 2007 A comprehensive book on superantigen biology. It combines many aspects of superantigen biology from the basic molecular mechanisms of superantigen action to the clinical consequences of superantigen intoxication, superantigen related diseases, and measures to combat superantigen toxicity.

Natural Toxins 2 Bal Ram Singh 2012-12-06 From beach encounters, aquaculture perils, and processed-food poisoning to snake bites and biological warfare, natural toxins seem never to be far from the public's sight. A better understanding of toxins in terms of their origin, structure, structure-function relationships, mechanism of action, and detection and diagnosis is of utmost importance to human and animal food safety, nutrition, and health. In addition, it is now clear that many of the toxins can be used as scientific tools to explore the molecular mechanism of several biological processes, be it a mechanism involved in the function of membrane channels, exocytosis, or cytotoxicity. Several of the natural toxins have also been approved as therapeutic drugs, which has made them of interest to several pharmaceutical companies. For example, botulinum neurotoxins, which have been used in studies in the field of neurobiology, have also been used directly as therapeutic drugs against several neuromuscular diseases, such as strabismus and blepharospasm. Toxins in combination with modern biotechnological approaches are also being investigated for their potential use against certain deadly medical problems. For example, a combination of plant toxin ricin and antibodies is being developed for the treatment of tumors. The great potential of natural toxins has attracted scientists of varying backgrounds-pure chemists to cancer biologists-to the study of fundamental aspects of the actions of these toxins.

Toxicology Hans Marquardt 1999-10-05 Toxicology is a comprehensive text for researchers and graduate students in toxicology and public health. It addresses every aspect of the field, starting with the fundamentals and incorporating such areas as organ toxicology, applications, and environmental toxicology. In addition to covering the traditional subject matter of toxicology, special emphasis has been placed on recent areas of interest, such as risk assessment, apoptosis, and methodical developments. Key Features * Comprehensive text, covering all aspects of the field of toxicology * Analyzes the importance of toxicokinetics and metabolism as well as cellular targets for the mechanisms of toxic effects * Identifies the various classes of chemical compounds responsible for the toxic effects * Describes the approaches and methods used by various disciplines which investigate toxic effects and their prevention * Adapted from a very successful German text, this edition is completely revised and expanded * The text is well illustrated with diagrams, charts, and tables

American Book Publishing Record 1996

Staphylococcus Aureus Pathogenicity Islands Paul Mano Orwin 2001

RÖMPP Lexikon Chemie, 10. Auflage, 1996-1999 2014-06-11 Die bewährte 10. Auflage der RÖMPP Enzyklopädie von 1999 enthält 44.000 Fachbegriffe, 5.000 Seiten in 6 Bänden, 120.000 Querverweise, 65.000 Literaturhinweise sowie 8.000 Abbildungen, Formeln und Tabellen rund

um die Chemie und angrenzende Naturwissenschaften. Anwendungsbezogen und praxisnah werden die Stichwörter leicht verständlich erklärt, sodass auch Nicht-Chemiker den RÖMPP praktisch in Ihrem Arbeitsalltag einsetzen können. Folgende Fachgebiete sind in den 6 Bänden enthalten: Abfall, Analytik, Angewandte Chemie, Anorganik, Arbeitssicherheit, Biochemie, Biographien, Biologie, Biotechnologie, Elektrochemie, Farbstoffe, Fette/Tenside/Waschmittel, Firmenportraits, Gesetzgebung, Kohle- und Petrochemie, Labortechnik, Lebensmittelchemie, Makromolekulare Chemie, Medizin, Metallurgie, Mineralogie, Naturstoffe, Nomenklatur, Ökologie, Organik, Organisationen, Pflanzenschutz, Pharmazie, Physik, Physikalische Chemie, Radiochemie, Technische Chemie, Toxikologie und Umweltschutz, Warenzeichen.

Bacterial Superantigens Jacques Thibodeau 1995 Although the field of superantigens (SAGs) has boomed in recent years, the function of these proteins in bacterial infection remains elusive. This volume begins with a brief introduction, followed by 15 chapters. Among the topics are structural studies of streptococcal pyrogenic exotoxin superantigens; Yersinia infection--the virulence determinants and SAGs they produce; structural features of T cell receptor recognition of SAGs; the pathophysiology of bacterial SAGs in vivo; and antibody targeted SAGs in experimental tumor therapy. Annotation copyright by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR

Bacterial Infection: Close Encounters at the Host Pathogen Interface Peter K. Vogt 1997-10-09 When it comes to bacterial disease, we are living in a state of false security. Antibiotics have indeed brought unprecedented health benefits, protection from and cure of bacterial diseases during the past 50 years. But there are ominous signs that the fortress and the defenses built on antibiotics are crumbling. They are crumbling because we wittingly or unwittingly created selective conditions for the emergence of superior pathogens that can no longer be controlled by antibiotics. There are numerous warnings. After a long period of eclipse tuberculosis has now emerged as a serious threat unchecked by antibiotic treatment. Recent years have seen reports of cholera epidemics, of anthrax infections, of serious problems with Salmonella and even with E. coli, just to name a few. Mankind is in a race with microbial invaders. The challenge is to anticipate and respond to developments that affect the precarious balance between man and microbe. This will require new knowledge and it will take time for an effective application of that knowledge.

Dynamics and the Problem of Recognition in Biological Macromolecules Oleg Jardetzky 2012-12-06 From within complex structures of organisms and cells down to the molecular level, biological processes all involve movement. Muscular fibers slide on each other to activate the muscle, as polymerases do along nucleic acids for replicating and transcribing the genetic material. Cells move and organize themselves into organs by recognizing each other through macromolecular surface-specific interactions. These recognition processes involve the mutual adaptation of structures that rely on their flexibility. All sorts of conformational changes occur in proteins involved in through-membrane signal transmission, showing another aspect of the flexibility of these macromolecules. The movement and flexibility are inscribed in the polymeric nature of essential biological macromolecules such as proteins and nucleic acids. For instance, the well-defined structures formed by the long protein chain are held together by weak noncovalent interactions that design a complex potential well in which the protein floats, permanently fluctuating between several micro- or macroconformations in a wide range of frequencies and amplitudes. The inherent mobility of biomolecular edifices may be crucial to the adaptation of their structures to particular functions. Progress in methods for investigating macromolecular structures and dynamics make this hypothesis not only attractive but more and more testable.

Frontiers in Staphylococcus aureus Shymaa Enany 2017-03-08 Staphylococcus was first recognized as a human pathogen in 1880 and was named for its grape cluster-like appearance. In 1884, Staphylococcus aureus was identified and named for its vibrant golden color, which was later found to be the result of golden toxin production. Here, experts examine in-depth patterns of S. aureus colonization and exposures in

humans, mammals, and birds that have led to the development of various clinical diseases. The mode of transmission of *S. aureus* and different methods for its detection in different samples are defined. Conventional antibiotic options to treat this aggressive, multifaceted, and readily adaptable pathogen are becoming limited. Alternative, novel chemotherapeutics to target *S. aureus* are discussed in the pages within, including herbal medicines, bee products, and modes of delivery.

Doody's Rating Service Daniel J. Doody 1996

Structural and Functional Aspects of T Cell Activation by Superantigens 1999

Biology of C Reactive Protein in Health and Disease Waliza Ansar 2016-03-23 This book offers a comprehensive study of C-reactive protein (CRP) belonging to the pentraxin family, including a brief history of CRP, its structure, synthesis and evolution. Focusing on the emerging role of CRP and its clinical application in the field of disease biology, it details the pathophysiological role of CRP in a host of diseases such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancers, rheumatoid arthritis and infectious diseases and others. It also discusses the role of innate immunity and acute phase response (APR) and their key mediators in the host body in response to tissue injury, infection, trauma or surgery, immunological disorders or neoplastic growth. CRP's significance in inflammation is highlighted, and its importance as a clinical marker in cardiovascular disease, its functional significance in Leishmania and Plasmodium infections, its association with the development of insulin resistance in type 2 diabetes mellitus, and its role in cancer are discussed in detail. The book also includes clinical data studies and presents the latest research advances to further readers' understanding of CRP.

Janeway's Immunobiology Kenneth Murphy 2010-06-22 The Janeway's Immunobiology CD-ROM, Immunobiology Interactive, is included with each book, and can be purchased separately. It contains animations and videos with voiceover narration, as well as the figures from the text for presentation purposes.

Fusion Protein Technologies for Biopharmaceuticals Stefan R. Schmidt 2013-01-28 The state of the art in biopharmaceutical FUSION PROTEIN DESIGN Fusion proteins belong to the most lucrative biotech drugs—with Enbrel® being one of the best-selling biologics worldwide. Enbrel® represents a milestone of modern therapies just as Humulin®, the first therapeutic recombinant protein for human use, approved by the FDA in 1982 and Orthoclone® the first monoclonal antibody reaching the market in 1986. These first generation molecules were soon followed by a plethora of recombinant copies of natural human proteins, and in 1998, the first de novo designed fusion protein was launched. Fusion Protein Technologies for Biopharmaceuticals examines the state of the art in developing fusion proteins for biopharmaceuticals, shedding light on the immense potential inherent in fusion protein design and functionality. A wide pantheon of international scientists and researchers deliver a comprehensive and complete overview of therapeutic fusion proteins, combining the success stories of marketed drugs with the dynamic preclinical and clinical research into novel drugs designed for as yet unmet medical needs. The book covers the major types of fusion proteins—receptor-traps, immunotoxins, Fc-fusions and peptibodies—while also detailing the approaches for developing, delivering, and improving the stability of fusion proteins. The main body of the book contains three large sections that address issues key to this specialty: strategies for extending the plasma half life, the design of toxic proteins, and utilizing fusion proteins for ultra specific targeting. The book concludes with novel concepts in this field, including examples of highly relevant multifunctional antibodies. Detailing the innovative science, commercial realities, and brilliant potential of fusion protein therapeutics, Fusion Protein Technologies for Biopharmaceuticals is a must for pharmaceutical scientists, biochemists, medicinal chemists, molecular biologists, pharmacologists, and genetic engineers interested in

determining the shape of innovation in the world of biopharmaceuticals.

Cumulated Index Medicus 2000

Scientific Report Scripps Research Institute 1994

The Rise of Virulence and Antibiotic Resistance in Staphylococcus aureus Shymaa Enany 2017-03-08 Staphylococcus aureus S. aureus is a growing issue both within hospitals and community because of its virulence determinants and the continuing emergence of new strains resistant to antimicrobials. In this book, we present the state of the art of S. aureus virulence mechanisms and antibiotic-resistance profiles, providing an unprecedented and comprehensive collection of up-to-date research about the evolution, dissemination, and mechanisms of different staphylococcal antimicrobial resistance patterns alongside bacterial virulence determinants and their impact in the medical field. We include several review chapters to allow readers to better understand the mechanisms of methicillin resistance, glycopeptide resistance, and horizontal gene transfer and the effects of alterations in S. aureus membranes and cell walls on drug resistance. In addition, we include chapters dedicated to unveiling S. aureus pathogenicity with the most current research available on S. aureus exfoliative toxins, enterotoxins, surface proteins, biofilm, and defensive responses of S. aureus to antibiotic treatment.

Gram-positive Pathogens Vincent A. Fischetti 2006 Provides comprehensive coverage of all gram-positive pathogens, including genome data. Appeals to clinicians, infectious disease specialists, and instructors and students seeking a single reference source on gram-positive bacteria.

Antibiotics and Bacterial Resistance Wiley 2013-01-14 The need for novel antibiotics is greater now than perhaps anytime since the pre-antibiotic era. Indeed, the recent collapse of many pharmaceutical antibacterial groups, combined with the emergence of hypervirulent and pan-antibiotic-resistant bacteria has severely compromised infection treatment options and led to dramatic increases in the incidence and severity of bacterial infections. This collection of reviews and laboratory protocols gives the reader an introduction to the causes of antibiotic resistance, the bacterial strains that pose the largest danger to humans (i.e., streptococci, pneumococci and enterococci) and the antimicrobial agents used to combat infections with these organisms. Some new avenues that are being investigated for antibiotic development are also discussed. Such developments include the discovery of agents that inhibit bacterial RNA degradation, the bacterial ribosome, and structure-based approaches to antibiotic drug discovery. Two laboratory protocols are provided to illustrate different strategies for discovering new antibiotics. One is a bacterial growth inhibition assay to identify inhibitors of bacterial growth that specifically target conditionally essential enzymes in the pathway of interest. The other protocol is used to identify inhibitors of bacterial cell-to-cell signaling. This e-book — a curated collection from eLS, WIREs, and Current Protocols — offers a fantastic introduction to the field of antibiotics and antibiotic resistance for students and interdisciplinary collaborators.

Table of Contents: Introduction Antibiotics and the Evolution of Antibiotic Resistance eLS Jose L Martinez, Fernando Baquero

Antimicrobials Against Streptococci, Pneumococci and Enterococci eLS Susan Donabedian, Adenike Shoyinka

Techniques & Applications RNA decay: a novel therapeutic target in bacteria WIREs RNA Tess M. Eidem, Christelle M. Roux, Paul M. Dunman

Antibiotics that target protein synthesis WIREs RNA Lisa S. McCoy, Yun Xie, Yitzhak Tor

Methods High-Throughput Assessment of Bacterial Growth Inhibition by Optical Density Measurements Current Protocols Chemical Biology Jennifer Campbell

Structure-Based Approaches to Antibiotic Drug Discovery Current Protocols Microbiology George Nicola, Ruben Abagyan

Novel Approaches to Bacterial Infection Therapy by Interfering with Cell-to-Cell Signaling Current Protocols Microbiology David A. Rasko, Vanessa Sperandio

Superantigen Protocols Teresa Krakauer 2008-02-05 Leading researchers in the biological, chemical, and physical investigation of superantigens describe in step-by-step detail their best experimental techniques to assess the physical characteristics and biological effects of

superantigens. Their protocols range from those for investigating the interactions of superantigens with cellular receptors to those for the analysis of their immunological and biological effects, including methods for using BIOcore to determine binding kinetics and establishing various lymphocyte cell culture systems. There are also accounts of such methods as the RNase protection assay, cytokine ELISA, FACS analysis, and cytokine production at the single cell level..

Bacterial Superantigens Jacques Thibodeau 1995

Coagulase-negative Staphylococci Per-Anders Mårdh 1986

Bacterial Infection: Close Encounters at the Host Pathogen Interface Peter K. Vogt 2012-12-06 When it comes to bacterial disease, we are living in a state of false security. Antibiotics have indeed brought unprecedented health benefits, protection from and cure of bacterial diseases during the past 50 years. But there are ominous signs that the fortress and the defenses built on antibiotics are crumbling. They are crumbling because we wittingly or unwittingly created selective conditions for the emergence of superior pathogens that can no longer be controlled by antibiotics. There are numerous warnings. After a long period of eclipse tuberculosis has now emerged as a serious threat unchecked by antibiotic treatment. Recent years have seen reports of cholera epidemics, of anthrax infections, of serious problems with Salmonella and even with E. coli, just to name a few. Mankind is in a race with microbial invaders. The challenge is to anticipate and respond to developments that affect the precarious balance between man and microbe. This will require new knowledge and it will take time for an effective application of that knowledge.

Books in Print 1995

Emerging Infections 1998-02-09 Emerging Infections is the first volume of the new Biomedical Research Reports Series, which will provide annual updates on hot topics of interest to a broad spectrum of the biomedical research community. This book provides state-of-the-art reviews of new and reemerging bacterial, viral, and parasitic infections, their life cycles, host defense evasion strategies, and clinical features. It includes the history of infectious disease outbreaks, population and evolutionary biology of human pathogens, and current epidemiological models that describe how ecological and demographic changes produce new epidemics. Provides reviews on hot topics of interest to the biomedical research community Editor and contributors are renowned international experts Covers the major established pathogens as well as the new and sensational--such as mad cow disease, hantavirus pulmonary syndrome, pathogenic E. Coli, and flesh-eating bacteria HLA and MHC Michael J. Browning 1996 This is a review of the major histocompatibility complex (MHC), and the role it plays in the immune response and in disease. The emphasis throughout is on the human MHC, but relevant animal studies are included to give a comprehensive review of the subject.

The Staphylococci in Human Disease Kent B. Crossley 1997 This is the first new book on all Staphylococcal infections in many years. It is particularly timely, considering the growing problem of antibiotic resistant staph infections. It covers all Staph infections including hospital infections, toxic shock syndrome, infections in prosthetic devices, immunocompromised patients, and more.

Streptococcal Infections Dennis L. Stevens 2000 Streptococcal Infections: Clinical Aspects, Microbiology, and Molecular Pathogenesis offers an in-depth examination of the spectrum of hemolytic streptococcal infections and their complications. Additionally, the volume incorporates and discusses aspects of pneumococcal, enterococcal, and oral streptococcal disease. The recent resurgence of rheumatic fever, concomitant outbreaks of severe systemic group A streptococcal infections (often accompanied by toxic shock), an increasing incidence of multiple antibiotic resistance among streptococcal species, and an intensified effort to develop effective streptococcal vaccines have brought renewed attention to

the continuing role of streptococci for causing significant medical and public health problems in both industrialized and developing countries. Addressing clinical and epidemiological aspects, and microbiological and other approaches of the research scientist, this volume is the first to comprehensively address these clinically important organisms in many years. The contributors are internationally recognized for their expertise, making this book invaluable for infectious disease physicians, (internists, pediatricians, and family physicians, microbiologists, epidemiologists, and basic scientists with an interest in streptococcal infections and their complications.

Protein Structure — Function Relationship D.L. Smith 2012-12-06 Although many pursue understanding of the relationship between protein structure and function for the thrill of pure science, the pay-off in a much broader sense is the ability to manipulate the Earth's chemistry and biology to improve the quality of life for mankind. Immediately goals of this area of research include identification of the life-supporting functions of proteins, and the fundamental forces that facilitate these functions. Upon reaching these goals, we shall have the understanding to direct and the tools required to implement changes that will dramatically improve the quality of life. For example, understanding the chemical mechanism of diseases will facilitate development of new therapeutic drugs. Likewise, understanding of chemical mechanisms of plant growth will be used with biotechnology to improve food production under adverse climatic conditions. The challenge to understand details of protein structure/function relationships is enormous and requires an international effort for success. To direct the chemistry and biology of our environment in a positive sense will require efforts from bright, imaginative scientists located throughout the world. Although the emergence of FAX, e-mail, and the World Wide Web has revolutionized international communication, there remains a need for scientists located in distant parts of the world to occasionally meet face to face.

The Comprehensive Sourcebook of Bacterial Protein Toxins Joseph E. Alouf 2005-12-20 This book describes the major achievements and discoveries relevant to bacterial protein toxins since the turn of the new century illustrated by the discovery of more than fifty novel toxins (many of them identified through genome screening). The establishment of the three-dimensional crystal structure of more than 20 toxins during the same period offers deeper knowledge of structure-activity relationships and provides a framework to understand how toxins recognize receptors, penetrate membranes and interact with and modify intracellular substrates. Edited by two of the most highly regarded experts in the field from the Institut Pasteur, France 14 brand new chapters dedicated to coverage of historical and general aspects of toxinology Includes the major toxins of both basic and clinical interest are described in depth Details applied aspects of toxins such as therapy, vaccinology, and toolkits in cell biology Evolutionary and functional aspects of bacterial toxins evaluated and summarized Toxin applications in cell biology presented Therapy (cancer therapy, dystonias) discussed Vaccines (native and genetically engineered vaccines) featured Toxins discussed as biological weapons, comprising chapters on anthrax, diphtheria, ricin etc.

Molecular Medical Microbiology, Three-Volume Set Yi-Wei Tang 2001-10-23 The molecular age has brought about dramatic changes in medical microbiology, and great leaps in our understanding of the mechanisms of infectious disease. Molecular Medical Microbiology is the first book to synthesise the many new developments in both molecular and clinical research in a single comprehensive resource. This timely and authoritative 3-volume work is an invaluable reference source of medical bacteriology. Comprising over 100 chapters, organised into 17 major sections, the scope of this impressive work is wide-ranging. Written by experts in the field, chapters include cutting edge information, and clinical overviews for each major bacterial group, in addition to the latest updates on vaccine development, molecular technology and diagnostic technology. * The first comprehensive and accessible reference on Molecular Medical Microbiology * Two color presentation throughout * Full colour plate section * Fully integrated and meticulously organised * In depth discussion of individual pathogenic bacteria in a system-oriented

approach * Includes a clinical overview for each major bacterial group * Presents the latest information on vaccine development, molecular technology and diagnostic technology * Extensive indexing and cross-referencing throughout * Over 100 chapters covering all major groups of bacteria * Written by an international panel of authors expert in their respective disciplines * Over 2300 pages in three volumes
International Books in Print 1997

Endotoxins: Structure, Function and Recognition Xiaoyuan Wang 2010-06-30 Endotoxins are potentially toxic compounds produced by Gram-negative bacteria including some pathogens. Unlike exotoxins, which are secreted in soluble form by live bacteria, endotoxins are comprised of structural components of bacteria. Endotoxins can cause a whole-body inflammatory state, sepsis, leading to low blood pressure, multiple organ dysfunction syndrome and death. This book brings together contributions from researchers in the forefront of these subjects. It is divided into two sections. The first deals with how endotoxins are synthesized and end up on the bacterial surface. The second discussed how endotoxins activate TLR4 and, in turn, how TLR4 generates the molecular signals leading to infectious and inflammatory diseases. The way endotoxins interact with the host cells is fundamental to understanding the mechanism of sepsis, and recent research on these aspects of endotoxins has served to illuminate previously undescribed functions of the innate immune system. This volume presents a description of endotoxins according to their genetic constitution, structure, function and mode of interaction with host cells.

Streptococcal Superantigens Anshu Babbar 2015-07-24 This book provides ample knowledge and better understanding of *Streptococcus pyogenes* and their superantigens. Many illustrations make this a highly informative book. This book elucidates briefly *Streptococcus pyogenes* as a strict human pathogen possessing an array of virulence factors. These help in evading host immune responses such as by the activation of non-specific T-cell subpopulations by producing superantigens. This book mainly focuses on streptococcal superantigens and explains how they are different from conventional antigens. Moreover, it elaborates those diseases in which superantigens are actively involved. Useful aspects of superantigens and different therapeutic interventions to eradicate superantigens induced diseases are also discussed.

Bacterial Protein Toxins K. Aktories 2013-03-14 In recent years remarkable progress has been accomplished with respect to our knowledge about bacterial protein toxins. This refers especially to structural aspects of protein toxins but also holds true for genetics, molecular biology and biochemical mechanisms underlying the action of toxins. This volume covers the very current and exciting aspects of up-to-date bacterial toxicology and comprehensively reviews the most important bacterial protein toxins such as the intracellular acting toxins which exhibit enzyme activity, as well as those toxins that interact with cell plasma membranes by damaging the membranes (pore formation) or stimulating cell receptors (superantigens). This is the most current reference work on these important bacterial protein toxins, which are presented from the point of view of different disciplines such as pharmacology, microbiology, cell biology and protein chemistry.