

Cytokines, CK (brief introduction)

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Cytokine

- Common features
- Classification
- biological activities
- Receptors

Communications between cells

- Cell-cell contact
- Soluble cytokines through binding of their receptors

Cytokines

- A group of soluble proteins that mediate communication among cells are collectively designated cytokines.
- Regulate the intensity and duration of the immune response by stimulating or inhibiting the activation, proliferation, and/or differentiation of various cells and by regulating the secretion of antibodies or other cytokines.
- Many types: monokine, lymphokine, colony stimulating factor, CSF...

Common characteristics

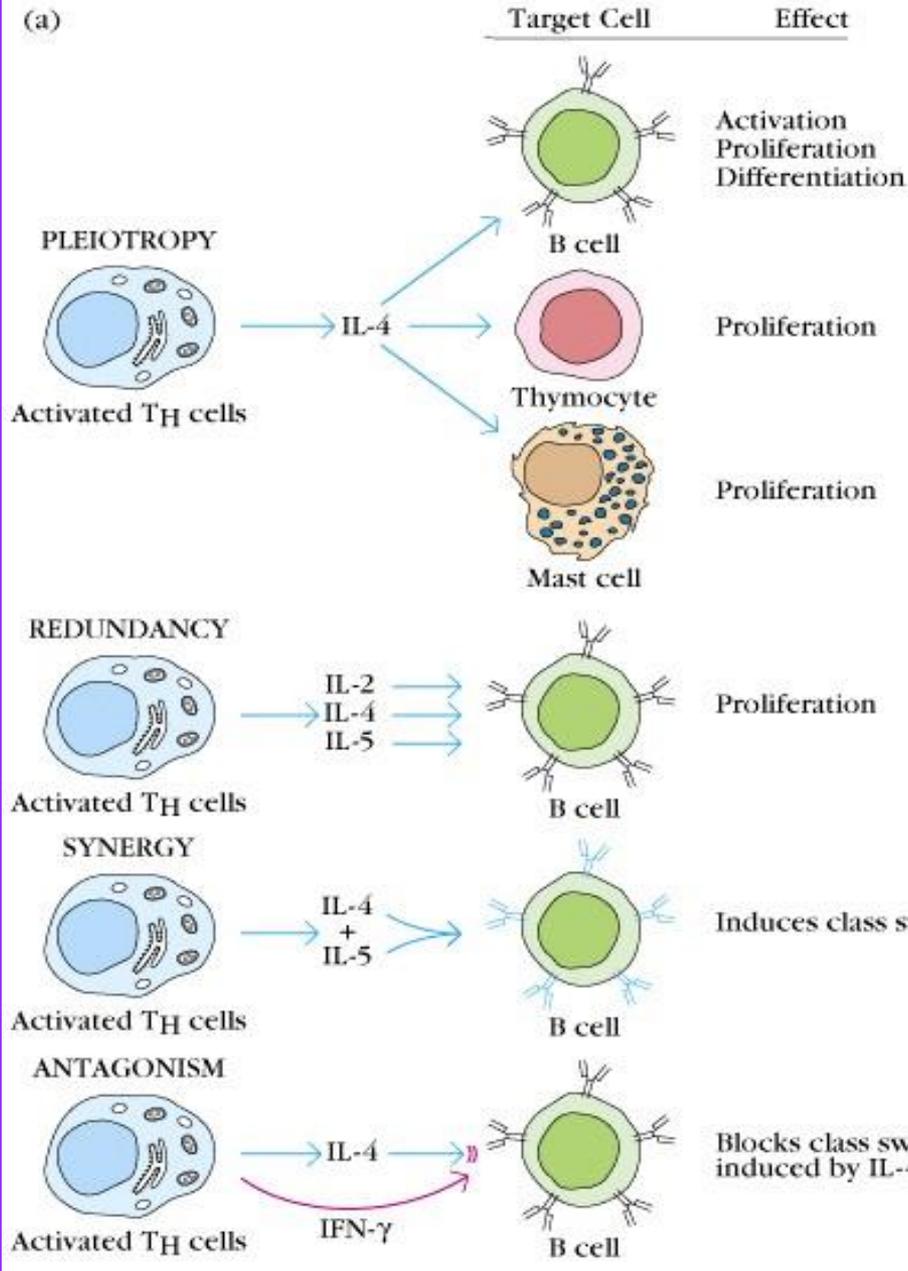
- Low-molecular-weight proteins or glycoproteins
- Function through receptor
- Secreted mainly by **local** various type of tissues and cells (autocrine, paracrine, and endocrine)
- high affinity (Act as very low concentration)

Cytokines function in a network manner

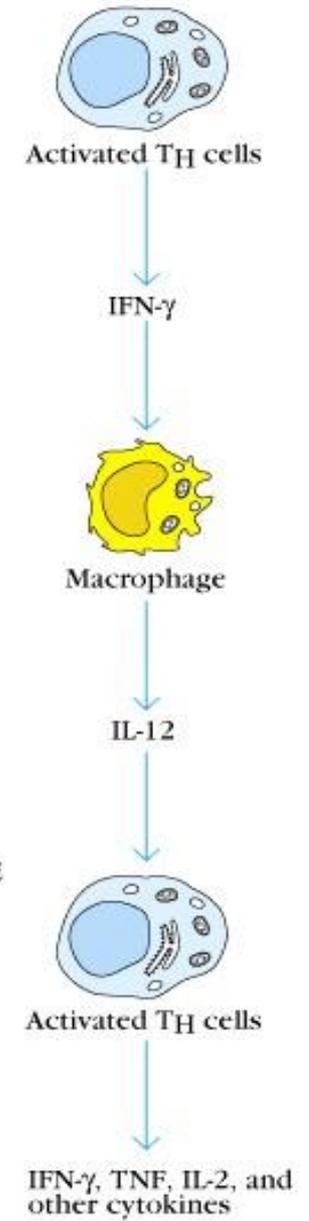
- **Attributes**

- *Pleiotropy.* CK X causes this and that
- *Redundancy.* CK X and CK Y causes this
- *Synergy.* CK X plus CK Y causes this
- *Antagonism.* CK X stops CK Y from causing this

(a)



(b) CASCADE INDUCTION



Classification of cytokines

1. Interleukins, IL
2. Tumor necrosis factor, TNF
3. Interferon, IFN
4. Colony-stimulating factors, CSF
5. Chemokine
6. Growth factor, TGF

1. Interleukins

- Interleukin (IL) is often used to describe cytokines produced by leukocytes although some cytokines are produced by other cell populations

TABLE 12-1 SELECTED FUNCTIONS OF SOME CYTOKINES

Cytokine	Secreted by*	Major biological functions	
		Target cells/tissues	Activity
Interleukin 1 (IL-1 α , IL-1 β)	Monocytes, macrophages, B cells, dendritic cells, endothelial cells, other cell types	T _H cells	Co-stimulates activation
		B cells	Promotes maturation and clonal expansion
		NK cells	Enhances activity
		Vascular endothelial cells	Increases expression of ICAMs†
		Macrophages and neutrophils	Chemotactically attracts
		Hepatocytes	Induces synthesis of acute-phase proteins
		Hypothalamus	Induces fever
Interleukin 2 (IL-2)	T _H 1 cells	Antigen-primed T _H and T _C cells	Induces proliferation
		Antigen-specific T-cell clones	Supports long-term growth
		NK cells (some) and T _C cells	Enhances activity
Interleukin 3 (IL-3)	T _H cells, NK cells, mast cells	Hematopoietic cells	Supports growth and differentiation
		Mast cells	Stimulates growth and histamine secretion
Interleukin 4 (IL-4)	T _H 2 cells, mast cells, NK cells	Antigen-primed B cells	Co-stimulates activation
		Activated B cells	Stimulates proliferation and differentiation; induces class switch to IgG1 and IgE
		Resting B cells	Up-regulates class II MHC expression
		Thymocytes and T cells	Induces proliferation
		Macrophages	Up-regulates class II MHC expression; increases phagocytic activity
	Mast cells	Stimulates growth	

TABLE 12-1 SELECTED FUNCTIONS OF SOME CYTOKINES

Cytokine	Secreted by*	Major biological functions	
		Target cells/tissues	Activity
Interleukin 5 (IL-5)	T _H 2 cells, mast cells	Activated B cells	Stimulates proliferation and differentiation; induces class switch to IgA
		Eosinophils	Promotes growth and differentiation
Interleukin 6 (IL-6)	Monocytes, macrophages, T _H 2 cells, bone-marrow stromal cells	Proliferating B cells	Promotes terminal differentiation into plasma cells
		Plasma cells	Stimulates antibody secretion
		Myeloid stem cells	Helps promote differentiation
		Hepatocytes	Induces synthesis of acute-phase proteins
Interleukin 7 (IL-7)	Bone-marrow, thymic stromal cells	Lymphoid stem cells	Induces differentiation into progenitor B and T cells
		Resting T cells	Increases expression of IL-2 and its receptor
Interleukin 8 (IL-8)	Macrophages, endothelial cells	Neutrophils	Chemokine; chemotactically attracts; induces adherence to vascular endothelium and extravasation into tissues
Interleukin 9 (IL-9)	T _H cells	Some T _H cells	Acts as mitogen, supporting proliferation in absence of antigen
Interleukin 10 (IL-10)	T _H 2 cells	Macrophages	Suppresses cytokine production and thus indirectly reduces cytokine production by T _H 1 cells
		Antigen-presenting cells	Down-regulates class II MHC expression

ILs applied in clinical practice



2. Tumor necrosis factor

- Tumor necrosis factor α : TNF α
- Tumor necrosis factor β : TNF β

TABLE 12-1 SELECTED FUNCTIONS OF SOME CYTOKINES

Cytokine	Secreted by*	Major biological functions	
		Target cells/tissues	Activity
Tumor necrosis factor α (TNF- α)	Macrophages, mast cells	Tumor cells Inflammatory cells	Has cytotoxic effect Induces cytokine secretion and is responsible for extensive weight loss (cachexia) associated with chronic inflammation
Tumor necrosis factor β (TNF- β)	T _H 1 and T _C cells	Tumor cells Macrophages and neutrophils	Antiinflammatory, antiproliferative for stem cell, monomyelocytic cell, and lymphocytes Promotion of fibroblast proliferation and wound healing

3. Interferon

- Interferon, first discovered for that it can interfere with viral replication
- Consisting of large family of secretory proteins
- functions
 - Anti virus
 - Modulate immune response

FUNCTIONS OF IFN

TABLE 12-1 SELECTED FUNCTIONS OF SOME CYTOKINES

Cytokine	Secreted by*	Major biological functions	
		Target cells/tissues	Activity
Interferon alpha (IFN- α)	Leukocytes	Uninfected cells	Inhibits viral replication
Interferon beta (IFN- β)	Fibroblasts	Uninfected cells	Inhibits viral replication
Interferon gamma (IFN- γ)	T _H 1, T _C , NK cells	Uninfected cells Macrophages Many cell types	Promotion of cell-mediated immunity
		Proliferating B cells	Upregulation of MHC expression
		T _H 2 cells Inflammatory cells	Activation of macrophages, neutrophils and NK cells

Type I
IFN

Type II
IFN

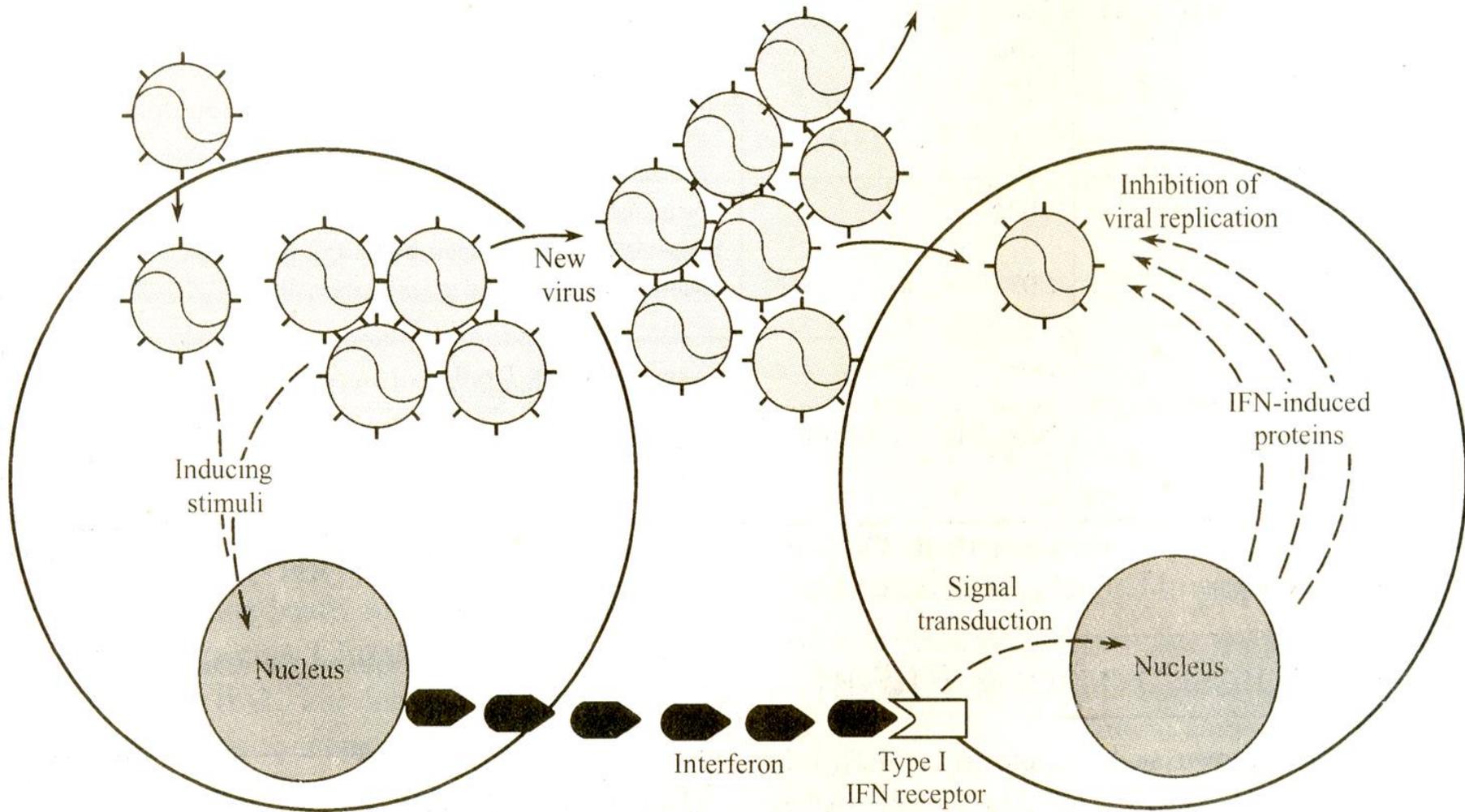
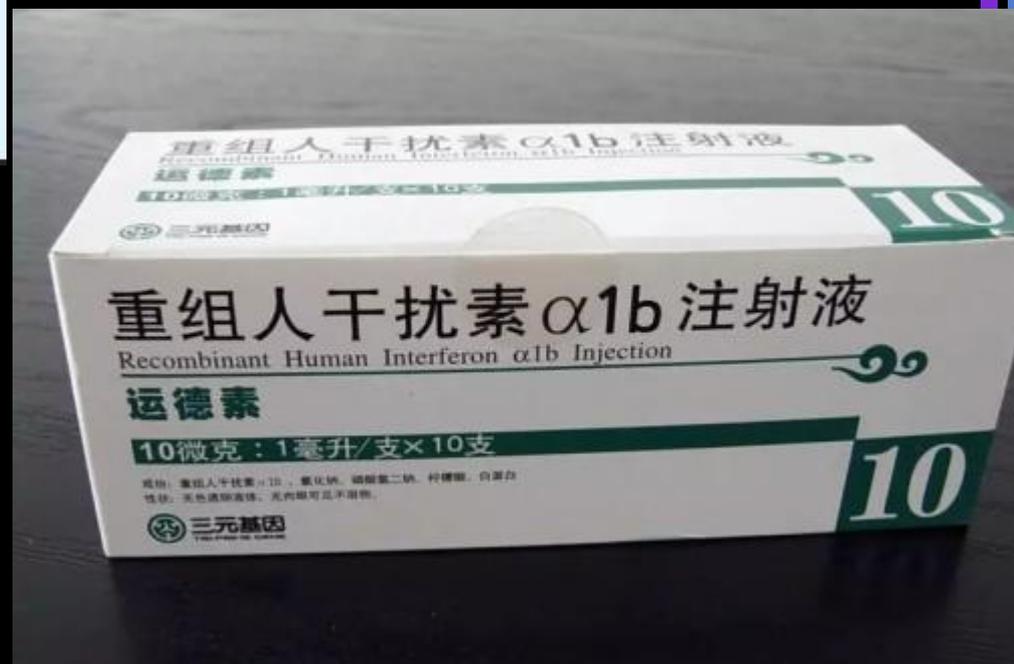
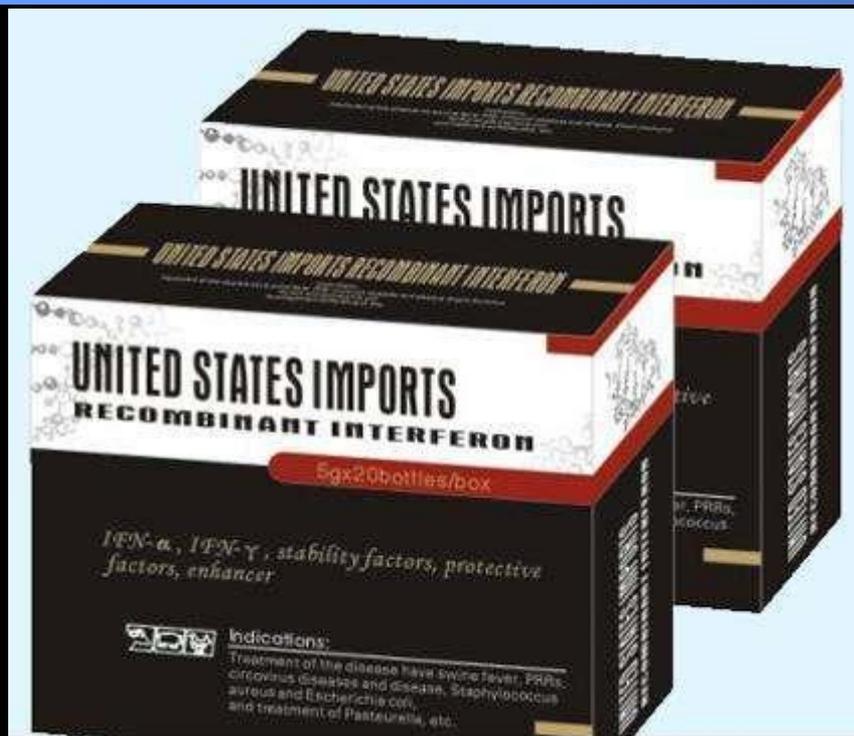


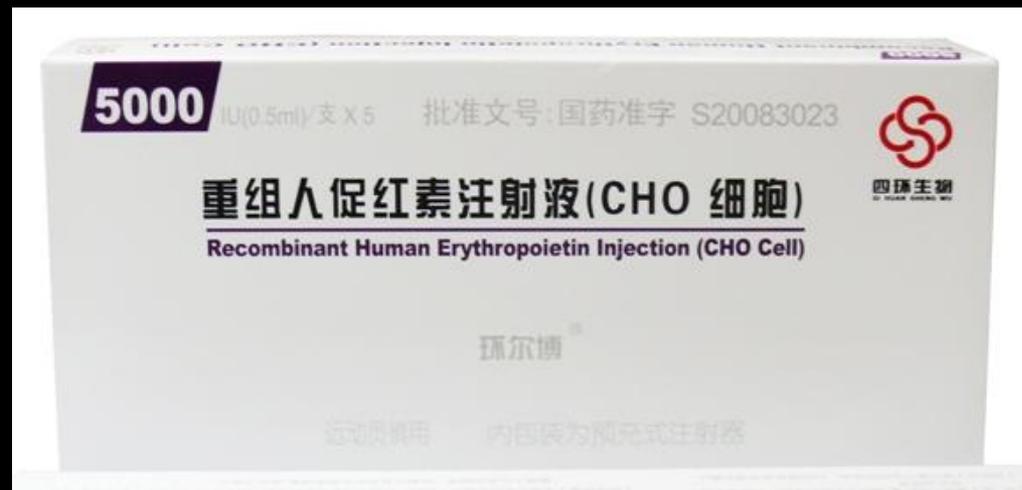
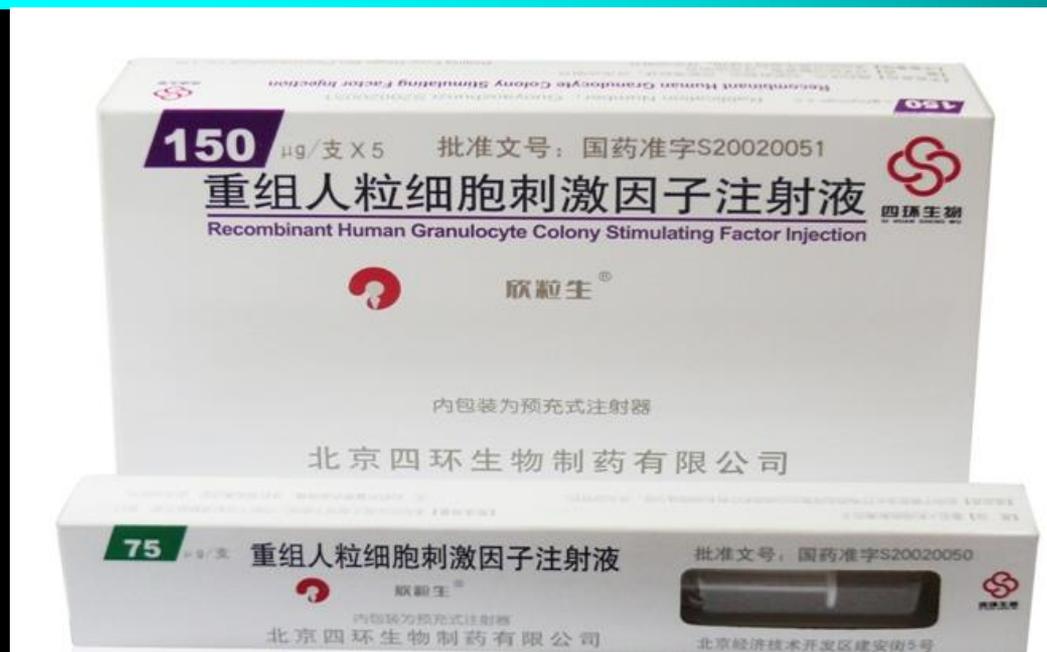
Figure 6-1 Schematic representation of the induction and activity of a type 1 interferon.





4. Colony-stimulating factors, CSF

- **CSF: Cytokines that support the production of particular mature blood cell types from pluripotent stem cells or committed progenitors in the bone marrow.**
- **Classification**
 - **GM-CSF: granulocyte-monocyte colony-stimulating factor**
 - **M-CSF: monocyte colony-stimulating factor**
 - **G-CSF: granulocyte colony-stimulating factor**
 - **EPO (erythropoietin)**
 - **SCF (stem cell factor)**
 - ...



5. Growth factor

Stimulating particular tissue
growth and differentiation

- Epidermal Growth Factor (EGF)
- vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF)
- Nerve Growth Factor (NGF)
- Transforming growth factor β (TGF β)

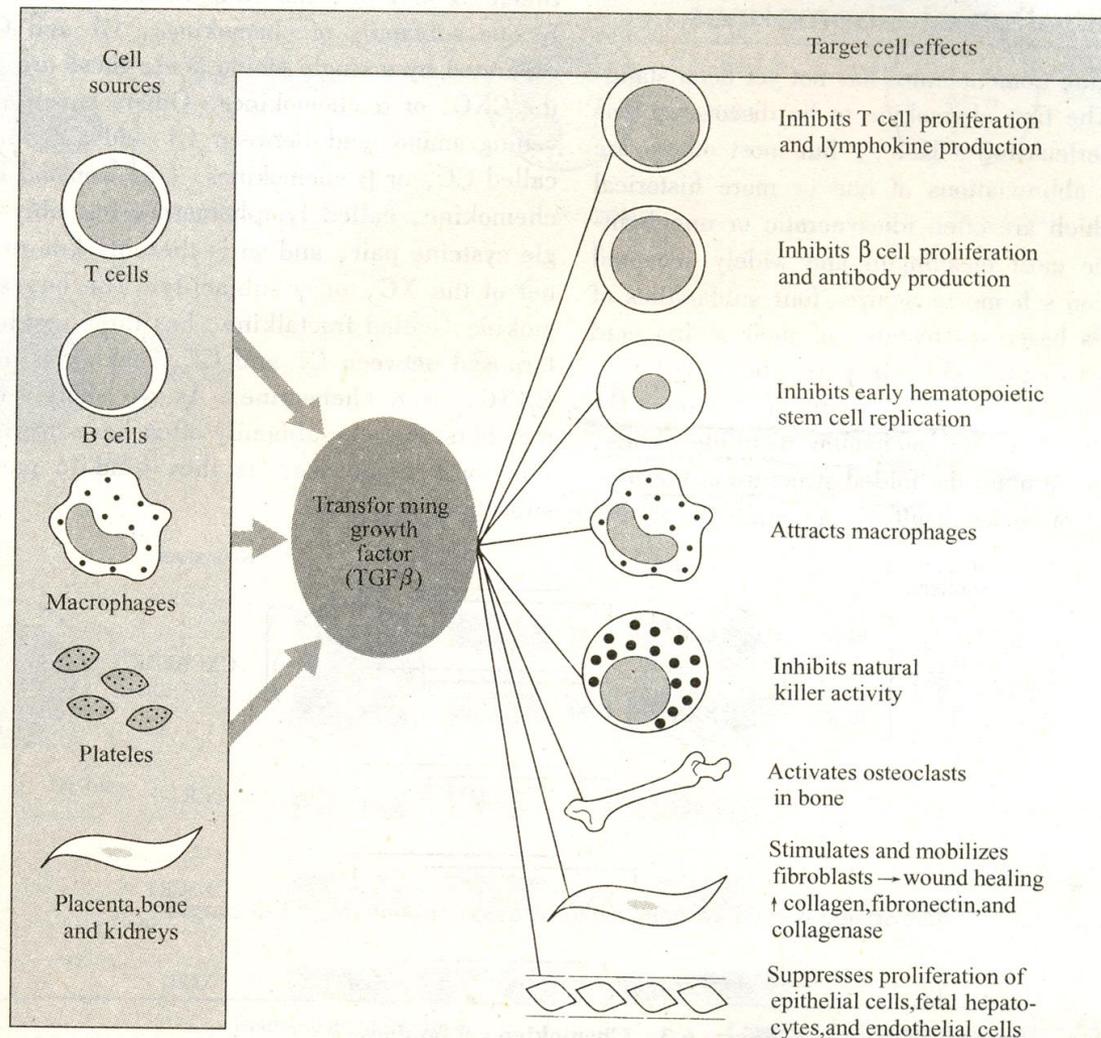


Figure 6-2 Cell sources and effects of TGF-β.

TGFβ: Negative regulator of immunity and hematopoiesis

6. Chemokines

Cytokines that have potent chemoattractant activity for monocytes and neutrophils

Over 35 such chemoattractant cytokines have been characterized, and additional members are being discovered at an accelerating rate, making this one of the largest functional groups of cytokines known.

Main functions of CK

- Immune regulation
- Play a role in the development and differentiation of immune cells
- Regulate cell apoptosis
- Enhance tissue repair

Cytokine Receptor

- There are several cytokines receptor families
- Some receptors use common subunits
- Receptors of different affinity

CLINICAL APPLICATION

- IL-2, IFN- γ , IFN- α are approved to treat infectious microbes and tumors
- CSF for treatment of some blood diseases
- ...

More than in medical practice



Rh-epidermal growth factor

Cytokine Summary

- Definition
- Common features
- Classification
- Functions of IL-2, IL-4, IL-10, IFN, and TGF β