

WHAT ARE HYPERSENSITIVITY REACTIONS?

- Immune responses that are exaggerated or inappropriate against an antigen or allergen.
- 4 types:-
- Type 1:-immediate hypersensitivity(anaphylactic reaction)
- Type 2:-Cytotoxic(antibody dependent)
- Type 3:-Immune complex reaction
- Type 4:-Cell mediated(delayed hypersensitivity)

TYPE I HYPERSENSITIVITY

- Takes seconds to minutes
- Typically IgE mediated
- Involves 2 steps, **sensitization** & **secondary exposure**.
- Sensitization involves binding of allergen to APC>helper T cell in lymph node>conv. To TH2 cell>releases mediators>plasma cells release IgE and recruits eosinophils>IgE binds to mast cells.
- Secondary exposure after months cause binding of allergen to pre-sensitized mast cells>degranulation>release of mediators causing hypersensitivity.

EARLY PHASE RESPONSE

- Occurs in seconds to minutes
- Release of histamine causes smooth muscle contraction >bronchoconstriction > difficulty breathing, blood vessel dilation & inc. permeability>edema>urticaria/hives.
- Responsive to antihistamines.

LATE PHASE RESPONSE

- Occurs 6-8 hrs. after exposure
- More severe reaction
- Involves mediators such as leukotrienes and prostaglandins
- Further recruitment of eosinophils ,basophils &TH2 cells>cascade
- Causes sustained bronchoconstriction and edema.
- Not responsive to antihistamines,requires steroids.

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DIAGNOSIS

- History of exposure
- Family history of atopy
- Skin prick testing
- Serum allergen specific IgE
- Mast cell serum tryptase levels

MANAGEMENT

- Antihistamines
- Corticosteroids>PG < inhibition,recruitment of mast cells inhibition, vasoconstriction>red. Cell leakage &edema
- Leukotriene receptor antagonists
- Omalizumab(monoclonal IgE antibody).

ANAPHYLACTIC SHOCK

- Acute, generalized, severe type I reaction & may cause death.
- Clinically presents with bronchospasm, facial & laryngeal edema, hypotension, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea.
- Management:-
- ABCDE protocol
- Position pt. lying flat & feet raised
- Give oxygen
- Monitor BP
- Establish venous access
- 0.5ml of 1:1000 (1mg/ml) epinephrine IM & repeat after 5 min. if shock persists
- Administer antihistamines IV (10-20mg chlorpheniramine)
- Administer 100mg IV hydrocortisone
- If hypotension persists > 1-2L of fluid

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TYPE 2 HYPERSENSITIVITY

- Cytotoxic hypersensitivity
- Antibody mediated causing destruction of healthy cells
- Specific to tissue/organ
- Central tolerance prevents reaction of immune cells to normal healthy cells/self antigens.
- B cells release IgM & IgG > react to self antigens on surface of cells > can be intrinsic or extrinsic e.g, penicillin & activates complement system.
- Involves 3 cytotoxic mechanisms.

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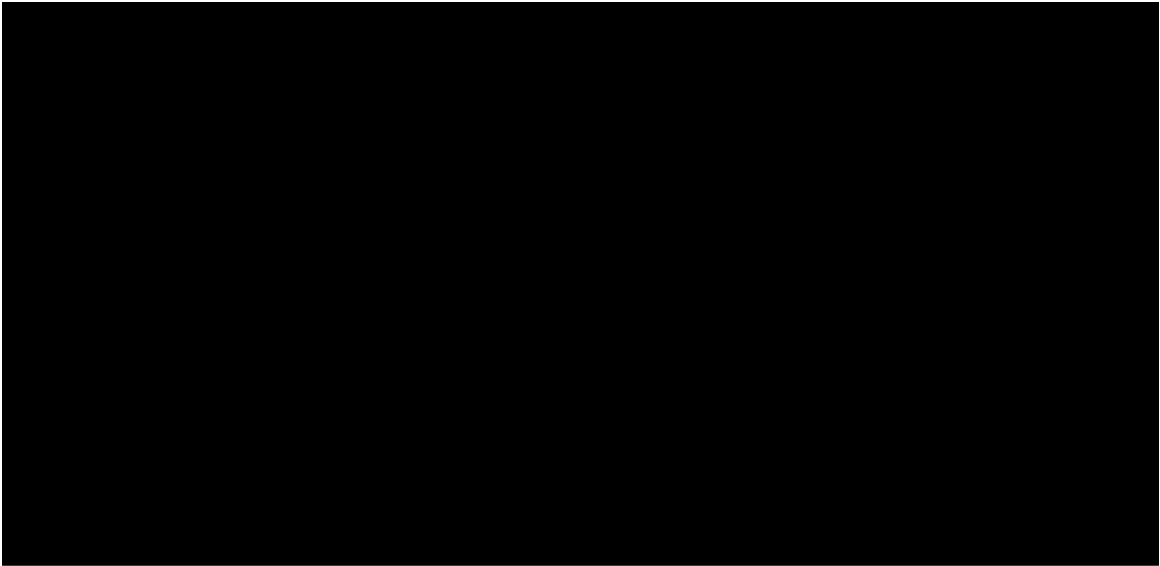
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- cytotoxic mechanism I:-
- Neutrophils recruited>enzymes released>oxygen free radicals>destroy cells.
- extrinsic>drug reactions>antigens mostly blood bound> **hemolytic anemia,thrombocytopenia, neutropenia**
- Intrinsic>GoodPasture syndrome>antibodies against basement membrane in kidneys & alveoli

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- Cytotoxic mechanism 2:-
 - Last complement proteins of complement cascade bind together and form membrane attack complex(MAC)
 - Attaches to antigen on cell>opens membrane>cell lysis
 - E.g,ABO incompatibility
 - Cytotoxic mechanism 3:-
 - C3b binds to IgG on cells>opsonized>phagocytosis in the spleen

TYPE 3 HYPERSENSITIVITY

- Antigen-Ab complexes bind to blood vessel walls>tissue damage
- Plasma cells typically switch from IgM to IgG.
- Differs from type 2 that immune complexes are present in blood rather than on cell surface
- Immune complexes bound to blood vessels>complement cascade(on a larger scale than type 2)>inc. capillary permeability>edema
- Neutro`phils recruited>degranulation>cell damage>vasculitis(in kidneys,joints)
- E.g, SLE, serum sickness

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TYPE 4 HYPERSENSITIVITY

- cell mediated(CD4+ & CD8+ T cells)
- Antigen+APC>lymphnode> CD4+ T cell binds and matures>releases IL-2 & IFN>macrophages release further cytokines>edema/urticaria
- Delayed 6 to 8 hrs.
- CD8+ binds to APC & directly kills/damages the host cell.
- E.g, atopic dermatitis,tuberculosis,multiple sclerosis, IBD