Immunopathology

IIIrd International Symposium

La Jolla (California), January 1963

Edited by

Prof. Dr. Pierre Grabar, Paris
Prof. Dr. Peter A. Miescher, New York

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III[RD] INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

Held at Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation
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This symposium was made possible through grants received from the National Foundation and the Atomic Energy Commission (USA)

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Immunopathology, i.e. the study of immune phenomena in disease, has attracted growing interest. The number of investigators devoted to this field is increasing at a great rate, and correspondingly, the number of contributions has been multiplying in recent years. This development is also reflected in the symposia on immunopathology. The first symposium was devoted to a variety of problems involving immunologic mechanisms. Investigators with broad and diverse interests discussed their mutual problems and points of view. For the second symposium it was found more desirable to limit the discussion to the problem of mechanisms of tissue damage produced by immune reactions, a field of immunopathology which has received special attention from many investigators. Only 15 months later, the third symposium took place. The fact that it was possible and desirable to hold another meeting after such a short interval without undue repetition gives evidence for the rapidity of development of interest in immunopathology.

The topics of the Third Symposium on Immunopathology were selected in order to cover some of the most active new developments in immunopathology. Much progress has been achieved in the understanding of the structure of immune globulins; with the characterization of the various structural subunits of the immune globulins, exact genetic studies have become possible, opening a new field of genetics of immune globulins.

The second and third topics dealt with the problem of antibody formation and the factors that influence it. This problem not only has broad biologic interest but also may have direct clinical applications.

In the fourth session, mechanisms of immunogenic kidney disease were discussed. A number of differing experimental immune mechanisms are known to produce damage to the kidney. However, in immunopathology of the human kidney, much work has still to be done in order to understand the differing pathogenic pathways involved in the various kidney disorders.

The last chapter deals with mechanisms of hematologic damage produced by immunological reactions. Formed elements of the blood are easily available for investigation, and thus lend themselves for the study of the mechanisms of cell damage produced by immune reactions. Special attention was given to the action of antigen-antibody complexes.

The Third Symposium on Immunopathology was very generously sponsored by the National Foundation and the Atomic Energy Commission. We wish to gratefully acknowledge their financial support and their understanding cooperation.

As in the previous proceedings, the pertinent discussions have been edited by a number of participants. Repetitions were eliminated whenever possible, and the sequence of the discussion was arranged in order to facilitate their reading by non-participants. We are especially indebted to Drs. B. Benacerraf, Charles G.

Cochrane, E. Franklin, and H. Müller-Eberhard for their collaboration in editing the discussions. We are grateful to all participants for their contributions and help in the organization of the symposium and in the publication of the proceedings.

In the preparation of this symposium and in its actual organization, Dr. G. McMahon acted again as an efficient secretary general. We gratefully acknowledge his invaluable help.

Dr. h. c. Christian Overstolz and Dr. H. G. Oeri from Schwabe & Co. spared neither trouble nor expense in the publication of the present volume. We owe our thanks to them. The distribution of the book in the United States of America has kindly been undertaken by the publishers Grune & Stratton, Inc., New York and London.

Paris and New York, September 1963 *Pierre Grabar* *Peter A. Miescher*

WELCOME

There is no doubt that immunopathology, in an environment of proper and integrated disciplines, is one of the most, if not the most, productive health sciences in our era. At meetings such as these, with immunopathology as the fundamental and common interest for a selected few who do so much, there is no question as to accomplishment. Accordingly, our institution is proud to be a participant in the proceedings of the Third International Symposium on Immunopathology.

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