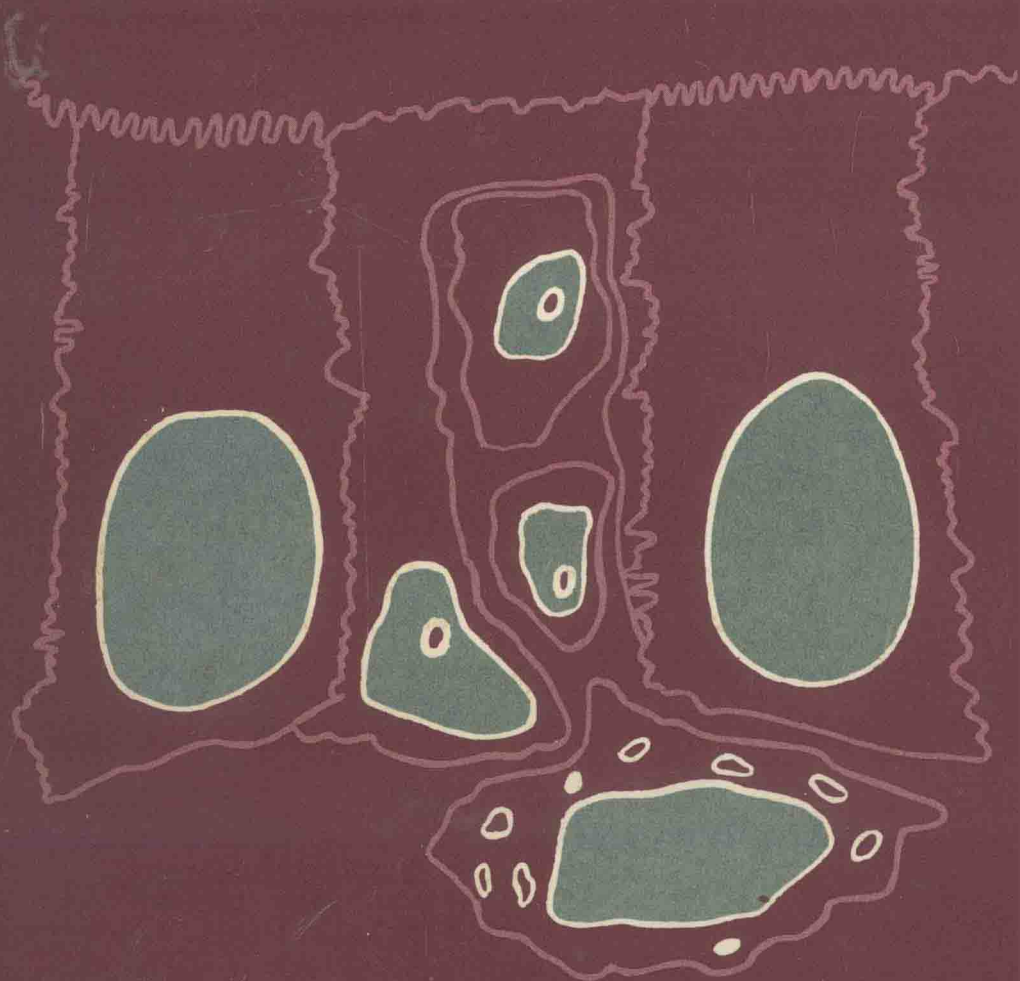


FOOD INTOLERANCE

EDITED BY
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FOOD INTOLERANCE

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Preface

Adverse reactions to foods can present in a variety of simple or complex clinical manifestations. Some patients have symptoms that are readily recognized and appropriately managed by the attending physician. Other patients undergo a series of investigations and therapeutic maneuvers before the definitive diagnosis is established. Clinical history, relief of symptoms on exclusion of the offending food, and reappearance of symptoms on challenge remain the mainstays of differential diagnosis. Recent developments in biochemistry and immunology have provided fascinating new facets to pathogenesis and etiologic recognition. It must be emphasized, however, that only a proportion of deleterious effects attributed to foods can be proven to be truly "allergic," that is, mediated by antibodies or sensitized lymphocytes or both. Transient or prolonged intestinal mucosal enzyme deficiency, pancreatic insufficiency, reactions to food additives and preservatives and natural toxicants, contamination with microorganisms and microbial products, singly or in combination, produce diverse end-organ effects. This book brings together a discussion of both basic and clinical aspects of intolerance to foods. The emphasis on commonly encountered entities such as cow's milk protein hypersensitivity and transient sugar intolerance is intentional. On the other hand, microbiologic and toxicological causes of food reactions are mentioned only in passing. Extensive bibliographic citations refer the reader to sources for further information.

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February 12, 1983

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PART

I

BASIC AND DEVELOPMENTAL ASPECTS
