



Rare Diseases of the Immune System

Series Editors: L. Emmi, D. Prisco

According to the European Parliament, a disease is considered rare when it affects no more than 5 out of 10,000 people. People with rare diseases are not that scarce, however, since we are talking about a phenomenon that affects hundreds of thousands of people in Italy and several millions all over Europe. Many associations, both national and international, have been created in recent years to inform and safeguard patients affected by these syndromes. At the same time, across various disciplines the medical and scientific awareness of the challenges posed by these diseases has risen inexorably. Rare diseases due to alterations in the immune system represent a field of medical science of great interest that is undergoing continuous expansion; these syndromes have a great social and economic impact because they often affect young or very young people at the height of their social activities and relationships. In recent years, much information has been acquired on pathogenesis, diagnosis, and therapy, allowing us to confront these syndromes in a more holistic manner. The series editors are acknowledged experts on immune diseases who have published extensively on various facets of this branch of medicine. This series will be an invaluable resource for immunologists, rheumatologists, hematologists and medical practitioners looking to update their knowledge and a useful educational tool for residents and students.

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