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Immunogenetics

Methods and Applications in Clinical Practice

Series: Methods in Molecular Biology

- Includes cutting-edge methods and protocols
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The HLA molecules are important regulators of the immune response through mediating antigen presentation and interaction between key immune mediating cells. They are also the major histocompatibility barriers to transplantation, which is the clinical paradigm of the self versus non self concept. It is now recognized that this diverse range of gene systems involved in the control of the immune response have been shown to be important in many aspects of clinical practice. As a result many new molecular and cellular methods have been developed for identifying these genes and their polymorphisms, and immunogenetic laboratories specializing in these methods have developed to support transplantation and other clinical programs. Immunogenetics: Methods and Applications in Clinical Practice focuses on methods for human clinical practice. The emphasis rests on those assays which are of established or potential clinical utility and are likely to be included in the repertoire of tests provided by a routine diagnostic and service laboratory. This volume also contains several review chapters of the MHC complex, the KIR complex, the human immunoglobulin allotypes, as well as reviews of the methods for the detection of alloreactive NK cells and the detection of HLA antibodies by solid phase assays. Written in the successful Methods in Molecular Biology™ series format, chapters include introductions to their respective topics, lists of the necessary materials and reagents, step-by-step, readily reproducible protocols, and notes on troubleshooting and avoiding known pitfalls. Authoritative and easily accessible, Immunogenetics: Methods and Applications in Clinical Practice seeks to serve both the immunogenetics community and the wider scientific community with a collection of detailed information and helpful tips attained by many years of experience in the field.

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