











| The Immune System   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| Innate (nonspecific) defense mechanisms   |  | Adaptive (specific) defense<br>mechanisms   |  |
| First line of defense   | Second line of defense   | Third line of defense   |  |
| <ul> <li>Skin</li> <li>Mucous membranes</li> <li>Secretions of skin<br/>and mucous<br/>membranes</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Phagocytic cells</li> <li>Natural killer cells</li> <li>Antimicrobial proteins</li> <li>The inflammatory<br/>response</li> <li>Fever</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Lymphocytes</li> <li>Antibodies</li> <li>Macrophages and other<br/>antigen-presenting cells</li> </ul> |  |

| Table 12.1 Summary of Innate (Nonspecific) Body Defenses |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Category and associated elements                         | Protective mechanism  |  |
| Surface membrane barriers—first line of defense          |   |  |
| Intact skin (epidermis)                                  | Forms mechanical barrier that prevents entry of pathogens and other harmful substances into body.                                   |  |
| Acid mantle  | Skin secretions make epidermal surface acidic, which inhibits bacterial growth; sebum also contains bacteria-killing chemicals.     |  |
| • Keratin  | Provides resistance against acids, alkalis, and bacterial enzymes.  |  |
| Intact mucous membranes                                  | Form mechanical barrier that prevents entry of pathogens.   |  |
| • Mucus  | Traps microorganisms in respiratory and digestive tracts.   |  |
| Nasal hairs  | Filter and trap microorganisms and other airborne particles in nasal passages.  |  |
| • Cilia  | Propel debris-laden mucus away from lower respiratory passages.   |  |
| Gastric juice  | Contains concentrated hydrochloric acid and protein-digesting enzymes that destroy pathogens in stomach.                            |  |
| <ul> <li>Acid mantle of vagina</li> </ul>                | Inhibits growth of bacteria and fungi in female reproductive tract.   |  |
| <ul> <li>Lacrimal secretion (tears); saliva</li> </ul>   | Continuously lubricate and cleanse eyes (tears) and oral cavity (saliva); contain lysozyme, an enzyme that destroys microorganisms. |  |

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| Table 12.1 Summary of Innate (Nonspecific) Body Defenses (continued) |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Category and associated elements                                     | Protective mechanism   |  |
| Cellular and chemical defenses—second line of defense                |  |  |
| Phagocytes   | Engulf and destroy pathogens that breach surface membrane barriers; macrophages also contribute to immune response.  |  |
| Natural killer cells   | Promote cell lysis by direct cell attack against virus-infected or cancerous body cells; do not depend on specific antigen recognition.  |  |
| Inflammatory response  | Prevents spread of injurious agents to adjacent tissues, disposes of<br>pathogens and dead tissue cells, and promotes tissue repair; releases<br>chemical mediators that attract phagocytes (and immune cells) to<br>the area. |  |

## Table 12.1 Summary of Innate (Nonspecific) Body Defenses (continued)

| Category and associated elements                      | Protective mechanism   |  |
|---|--|--|
| Cellular and chemical defenses—second line of defense |  |  |
| Antimicrobial chemicals                               |  |  |
| Complement  | Group of plasma proteins that lyses microorganisms, enhances phagocytosis by opsonization, and intensifies inflammatory response.      |  |
| Interferons   | Proteins released by virus-infected cells that protect uninfected tissue cells from viral takeover; mobilize immune system.            |  |
| <ul> <li>Fluids with acid pH</li> </ul>               | Normally acid pH inhibits bacterial growth; urine cleanses the lower urinary tract as it flushes from the body.                        |  |
| Fever   | Systemic response triggered by pyrogens; high body temperature inhibits multiplication of bacteria and enhances body repair processes. |  |



Inflammatory chemicals diffusing from the inflamed site act as chemotactic agents

**Neutrophils** 

1 Enter blood from bone marrow and roll along the vessel wall

**2**Diapedesis

Positive chemotaxis

Capillary wall – Endothelium – J Basement membrane –



(a) A macrophage (purple) uses its cytoplasmic extensions to ingest bacillus-shaped bacteria (pink) by phagocytosis. Scanning electron micrograph.





pathogen's membrane in step-by-step sequence, forming a membrane attack complex (a MAC attack).

membrane allow water to rush into the cell.

causes cell lysis.







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