

The Immune System		
Innate (nonspecific) defense mechanisms		Adaptive (specific) defense mechanisms
First line of defense	Second line of defense	Third line of defense
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skin • Mucous membranes • Secretions of skin and mucous membranes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phagocytic cells • Natural killer cells • Antimicrobial proteins • The inflammatory response • Fever 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lymphocytes • Antibodies • Macrophages and other antigen-presenting cells

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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.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acid mantle • Keratin 	Skin secretions make epidermal surface acidic, which inhibits bacterial growth; sebum also contains bacteria-killing chemicals. Provides resistance against acids, alkalis, and bacterial enzymes.
Intact mucous membranes	Form mechanical barrier that prevents entry of pathogens.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mucus • Nasal hairs • Cilia • Gastric juice • Acid mantle of vagina • Lacrimal secretion (tears); saliva 	Traps microorganisms in respiratory and digestive tracts. Filter and trap microorganisms and other airborne particles in nasal passages. Propel debris-laden mucus away from lower respiratory passages. Contains concentrated hydrochloric acid and protein-digesting enzymes that destroy pathogens in stomach. Inhibits growth of bacteria and fungi in female reproductive tract. Continuously lubricate and cleanse eyes (tears) and oral cavity (saliva); contain lysozyme, an enzyme that destroys microorganisms.

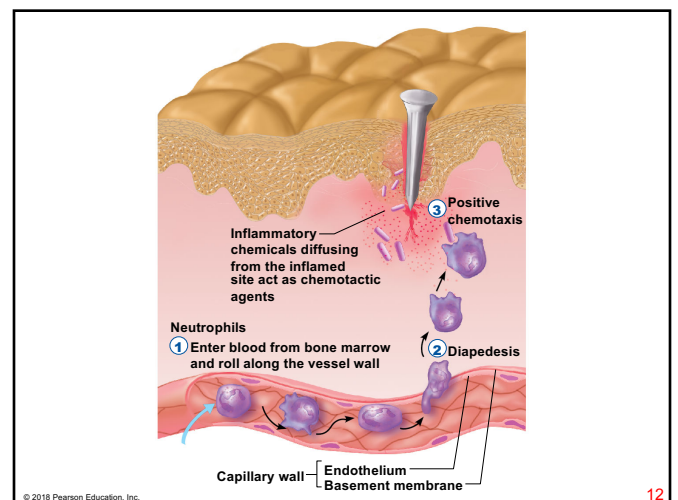
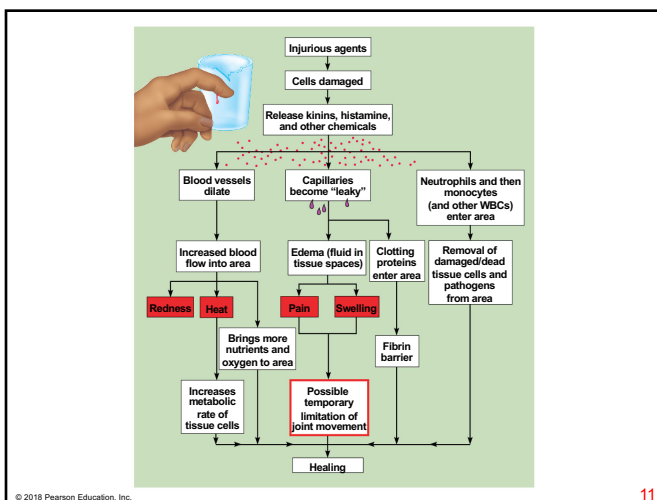
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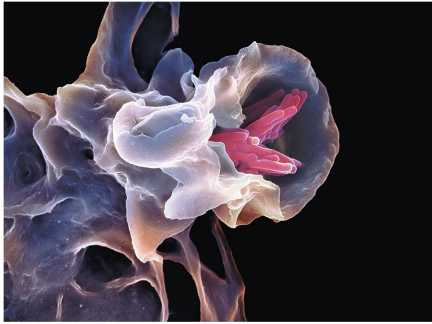
Category and associated elements	Protective mechanism
Cellular and chemical defenses—second line of defense	
Phagocytes	Engulf and destroy pathogens that breach surface membrane barriers; macrophages also contribute to immune response.
Natural killer cells	Promote cell lysis by direct cell attack against 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 pathogens and dead tissue cells, and promotes tissue repair; releases chemical mediators that attract phagocytes (and immune cells) to the area.

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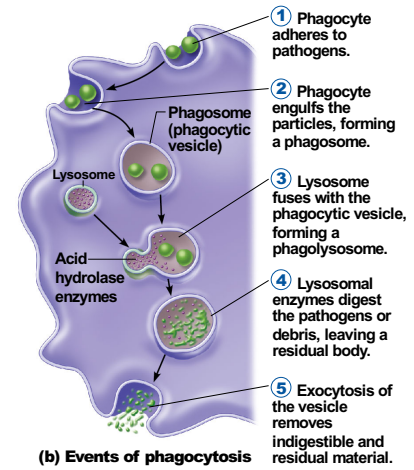
Category and associated elements	Protective mechanism
Cellular and chemical defenses—second line of defense	
Antimicrobial chemicals	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complement • Interferons • Fluids with acid pH 	Group of plasma proteins that lyses microorganisms, enhances phagocytosis by opsonization, and intensifies inflammatory response. Proteins released by virus-infected cells that protect uninfected tissue cells from viral takeover; mobilize immune system. 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.

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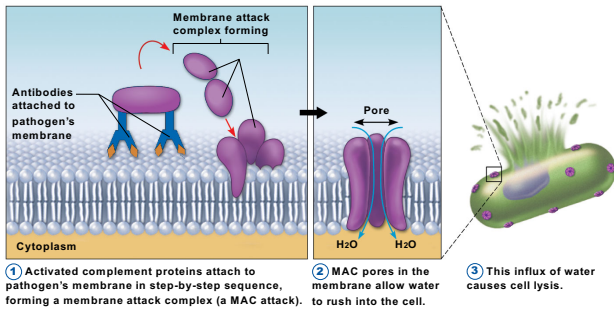




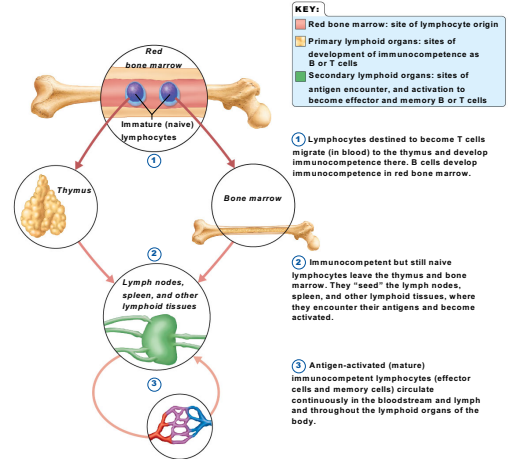
(a) A macrophage (purple) uses its cytoplasmic extensions to ingest bacillus-shaped bacteria (pink) by phagocytosis. Scanning electron micrograph.



(b) Events of phagocytosis

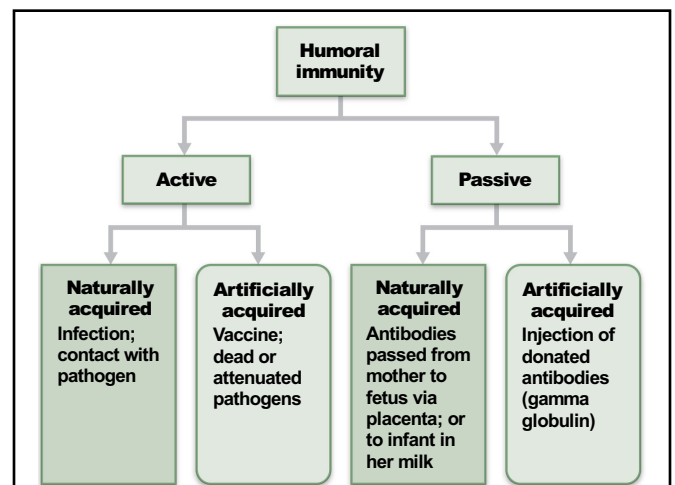
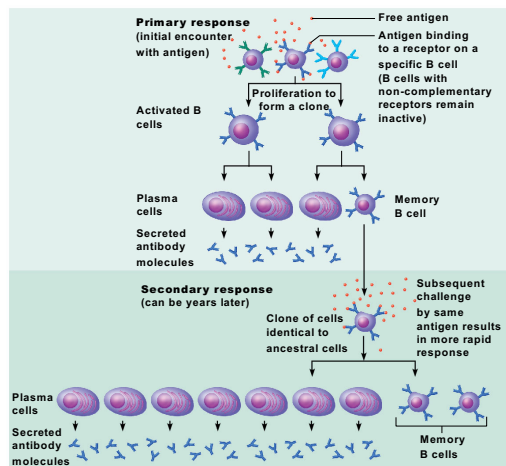


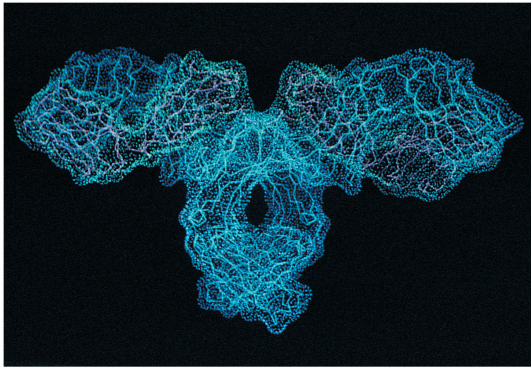
1 Activated complement proteins attach to pathogen's membrane in step-by-step sequence, forming a membrane attack complex (a MAC attack).
2 MAC pores in the membrane allow water to rush into the cell.
3 This influx of water causes cell lysis.



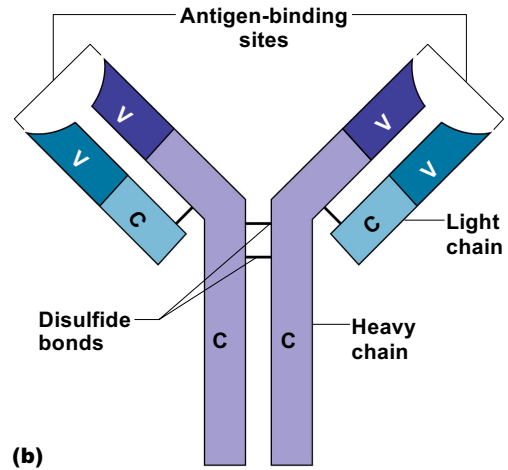
KEY:
■ Red bone marrow: site of lymphocyte origin
■ Primary lymphoid organs: sites of development of immunocompetence as B or T cells
■ Secondary lymphoid organs: sites of antigen encounter, and activation to become effector and memory B or T cells

- 1 Lymphocytes destined to become T cells migrate (in blood) to the thymus and develop immunocompetence there. B cells develop immunocompetence in red bone marrow.
- 2 Immunocompetent but still naive lymphocytes leave the thymus and bone marrow. They "seed" the lymph nodes, spleen, and other lymphoid tissues, where they encounter their antigens and become activated.
- 3 Antigen-activated (mature) immunocompetent lymphocytes (effector cells and memory cells) circulate continuously in the bloodstream and lymph and throughout the lymphoid organs of the body.





(a)



(b)

