

# Effect of Immunosuppressants in Prevention of Lymphocyte Growth and Activation

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## DESCRIPTION

Immunopharmacology is a branch of pharmacology that focuses on the study of drugs that affect the immune system. It encompasses the interactions between drugs and the immune system, and the effects of these interactions on the body. Immunopharmacology plays a crucial role in the development of drugs that can either enhance or suppress the immune response, depending on the condition being treated. The immune system is a complex network of cells, tissues, and organs that work together to protect the body from infections and diseases. It is responsible for identifying and destroying foreign substances such as viruses, bacteria, and cancer cells. The immune system also plays a role in maintaining tissue homeostasis and preventing autoimmunity. The immune system is divided into two main branches: the innate immune system and the adaptive immune system. The innate immune system is the first line of defense against pathogens, and it is composed of cells such as neutrophils, macrophages, and natural killer cells. The adaptive immune system, on the other hand, is responsible for producing specific antibodies against pathogens and is composed of B and T lymphocytes. Immunopharmacology aims to manipulate the immune system by using drugs that target specific components of the immune response. These drugs can be used to enhance the immune response in certain conditions, such as cancer, or to suppress it in autoimmune diseases and organ transplantations.

One of the most widely used immunomodulatory drugs is glucocorticoids. These drugs are synthetic analogs of cortisol, a hormone produced by the adrenal gland in response to stress. Glucocorticoids act by binding to glucocorticoid receptors in immune cells, which then inhibits the production of pro-inflammatory cytokines such as IL-1 and TNF- $\alpha$ . Glucocorticoids are used to treat a wide range of inflammatory and autoimmune conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis, lupus, and asthma. Another class of immunomodulatory drugs is immunosuppressants. These drugs are used to suppress the immune response in conditions such as organ transplantation and autoimmune diseases. Immunosuppressants act by inhibiting the proliferation and activation of lymphocytes. Examples of immunosuppressants include cyclosporine, tacrolimus, and mycophenolate mofetil.

Immunosuppressive drugs are also used in cancer treatment. Cancer cells can evade the immune system by expressing certain molecules

that prevent the recognition and destruction by immune cells. Immunotherapies such as immune checkpoint inhibitors aim to block these molecules and enhance the immune response against cancer cells. Examples of immune checkpoint inhibitors include pembrolizumab and nivolumab, which target the PD-1 receptor expressed on T cells. Another approach to cancer treatment is the use of monoclonal antibodies. Monoclonal antibodies are produced by cloning a single type of B cell that produces a specific antibody against a target antigen. These antibodies can be used to specifically target cancer cells by binding to antigens expressed on their surface. Examples of monoclonal antibodies used in cancer treatment include trastuzumab, which targets the HER2 receptor in breast cancer, and rituximab, which targets the CD20 antigen in lymphoma. Immunopharmacology also encompasses the study of vaccines, which aim to prevent infectious diseases by stimulating the immune system to produce specific antibodies against pathogens. Vaccines can be made from live attenuated or inactivated pathogens, or from specific proteins or peptides expressed by the pathogen. Vaccines have been successful in eradicating diseases such as smallpox and have greatly reduced the incidence of other infectious diseases such as polio and measles. Immunopharmacology is a branch of pharmacology that focuses on the study of drugs that affect the immune system. Immunopharmacology is an interdisciplinary field that draws on knowledge from pharmacology, immunology, biochemistry, and molecular biology. It involves the study of the interactions between drugs and the immune system and how these interactions affect the body. Immunopharmacology involves the development of drugs that can either enhance or suppress the immune response, depending on the condition being treated. For example, drugs that enhance the immune response may be used in cancer treatment, while drugs that suppress the immune response may be used in autoimmune diseases and organ transplantations. The immune system is a complex network of cells, tissues, and organs that work together to protect the body from infections and diseases. Immunopharmacology involves the study of the different components of the immune system and how drugs can target these components to achieve a desired effect.

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