

Inflammation - and the innate immune system

Richard Ferrero

HUDSON
INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH



CENTRE FOR
INNATE IMMUNITY AND
INFECTIOUS DISEASES

School of Molecular and
Translational Sciences &
Biomedicine Discovery Institute,
Department of Microbiology



MONASH University



Australian Government
National Health and
Medical Research Council

N H M R C

State Government
Victoria

Inflammation

- INFLAMMATION**
- CANCER
- REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
- NEWBORN HEALTH
- HORMONES AND HEALTH

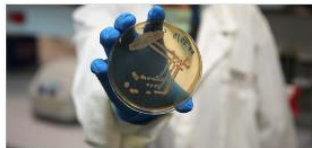
While the immune system protects us from invaders (viruses, bacteria), out-of-control inflammation is the cause of 50 per cent of deaths worldwide and underpins hundreds of chronic diseases and conditions.

Hudson Institute houses Australia's largest group of inflammation and immunity scientists and clinicians. By finding the complex interconnections that control inflammation, they are discovering new ways to diagnose, detect and treat inflammatory diseases and conditions.

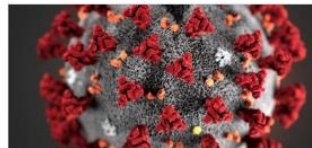


LISTEN TO Professor Elizabeth Hartland, CEO, discussing inflammation.

Inflammation diseases we research



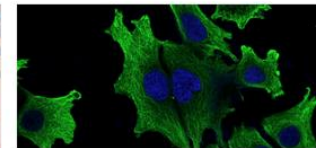
Antimicrobial resistance



COVID-19



Gastroenteritis



Inflammation and cancer



Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)



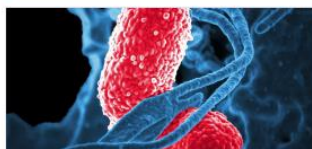
Influenza



Lupus



Microbiome in health and disease



Pneumonia



Seminar outline

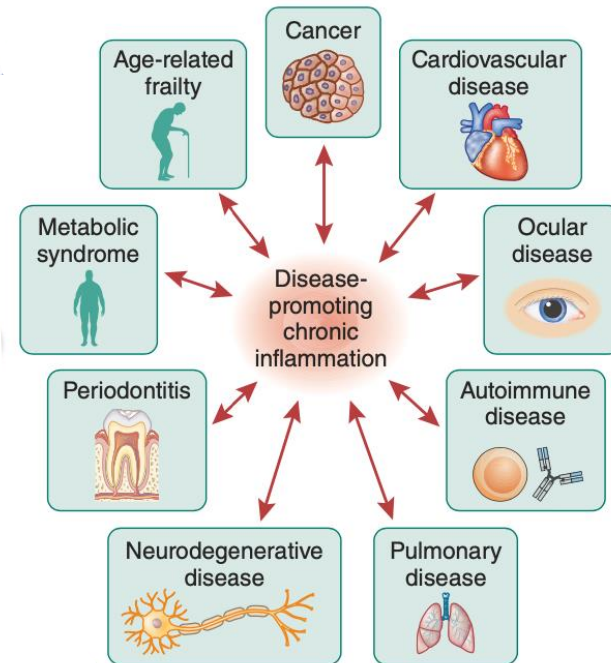
- 1. What is inflammation?**
- 2. Historical perspective on inflammation**
- 3. The innate immune system – What is it and how does it control inflammation?**
- 4. Key factors in skin immunity**
- 5. Questions and conclusions**

What is inflammation?

“A localized physical condition in which part of the body becomes reddened, swollen, hot, and often painful, especially as a reaction to injury or infection.”

- Oxford Dictionary

The root cause of many diseases



Potential contributors and therapeutic targets:

- Accumulation of senescent cells
- Unresolved infection
- Dysbiosis
- Activated microglia and macrophages
- Cytokine and chemokine dysregulation
- Imbalance between pro-inflammation mediators and pro-resolution mediators
- Gene mutations
- Epigenetic modifications
- Lifestyle risk factors

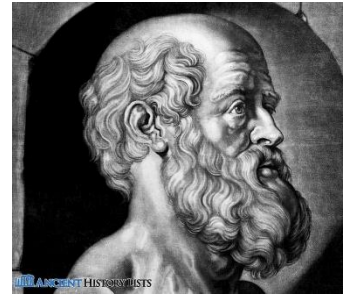
Inflammation: Historical perspective - 1

The Egyptians (3,000 B.C.)

- Ebers papyrus



Hippocrates (5th c B.C.)



- oedema
- sepsis



Celsus (30 B.C.-38 A.D.)



- *rubor* (redness)
- *calor* (warmth)
- *dolor* (pain)
- *tumor* (swelling)

Galen (129 – 210 A.D.)?

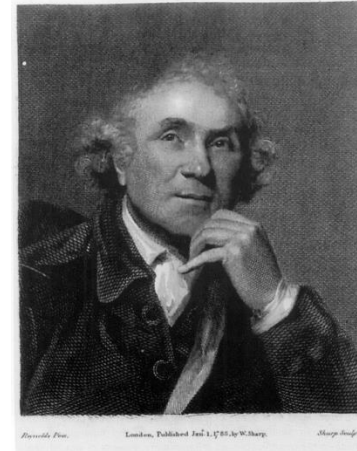


- *functio laesa*
(loss of function)



Inflammation: Historical perspective - 2

John Hunter (18th c. A.D.)
*A Treatise on the Blood,
Inflammation and Gun-
shot Wounds*

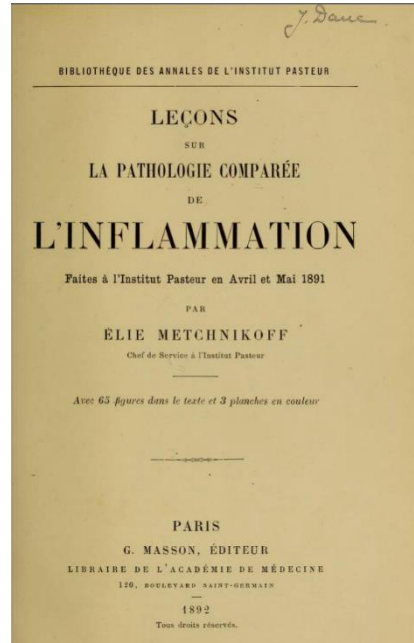
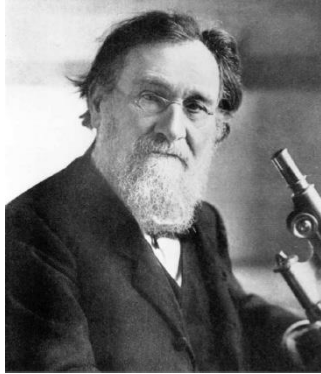


*“Inflammation in itself is not to be considered as a disease, but as a **salutary operation**, consequent either to some violence or some disease.”*

- Described 3 types of inflammation: adhesive, suppurative, ulcerative
- Pus, formation and treatment of abscesses and wounds, infection

Inflammation: Historical perspective - 3

E. Metchnikoff (1890s)



Discovery of the innate immune system (2011) - Nobel Prize in Medicine



Photo: Mosimann for Balzan
Bruce A. Beutler



Photo: Mosimann for Balzan
Jules A. Hoffmann

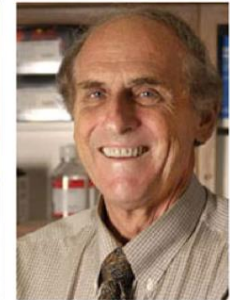
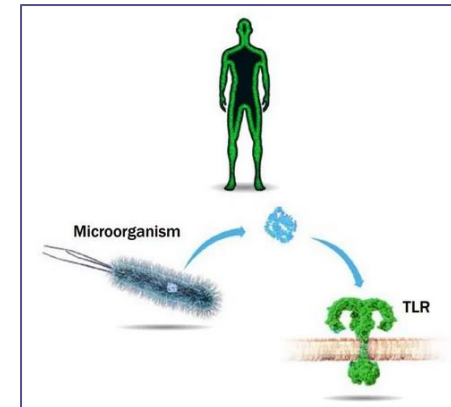
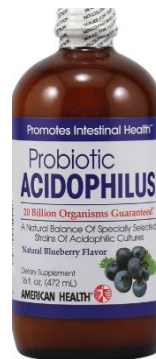
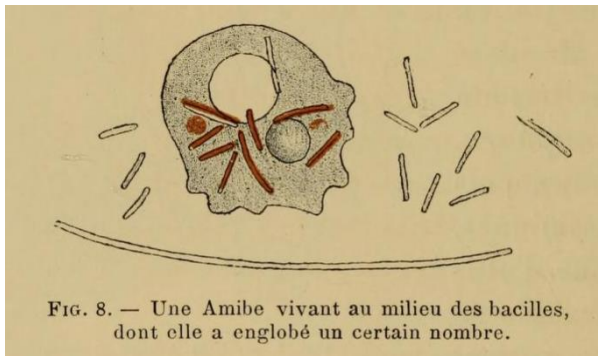


Photo: Rockefeller University Press
Ralph M. Steinman



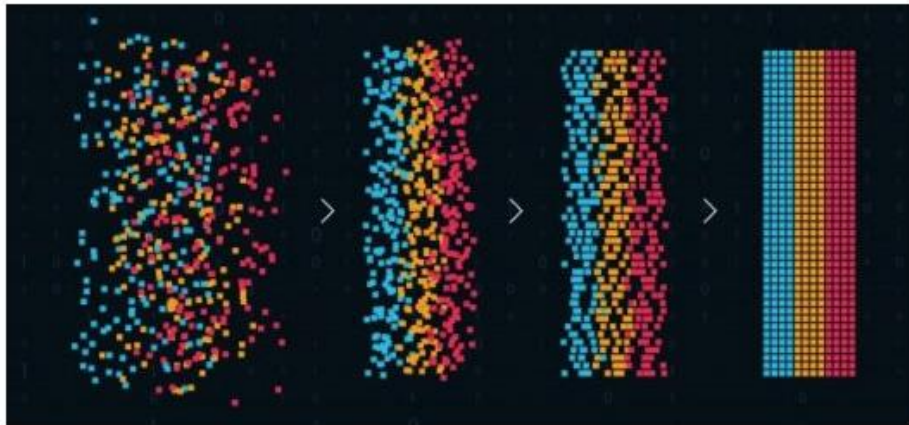
Innate immune recognition of molecular patterns

REFLECTIONS ON SELF: IMMUNITY AND BEYOND
VIEWPOINT

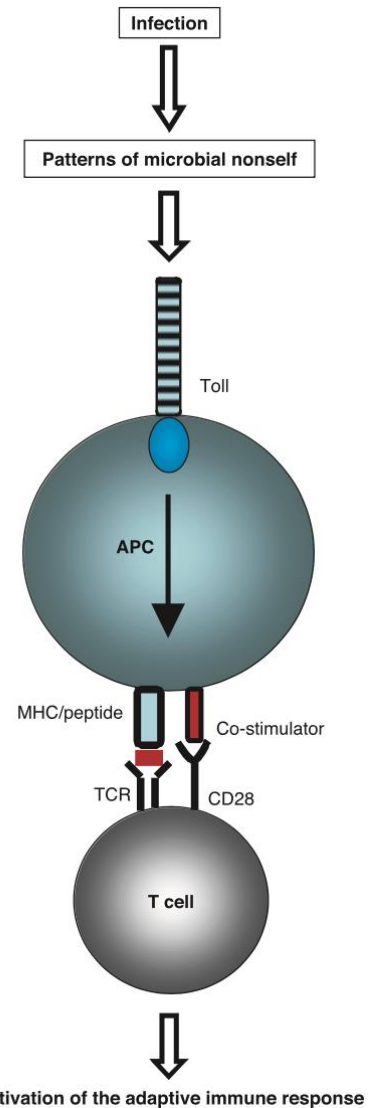
Decoding the Patterns of Self and Nonself by the Innate Immune System

Ruslan Medzhitov* and Charles A. Janeway Jr.

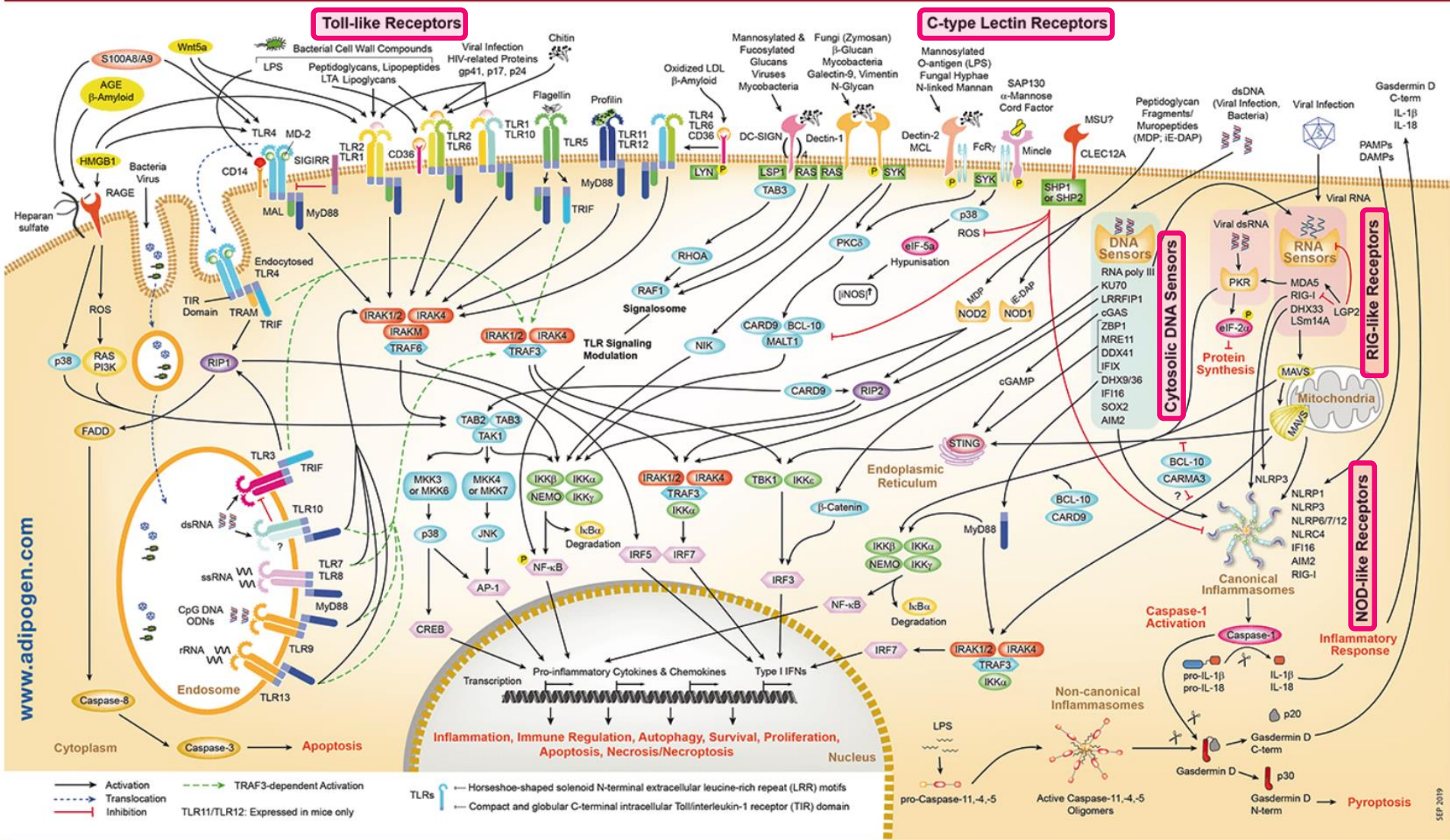
The innate immune system evolved several strategies of self/nonself discrimination that are based on the recognition of molecular patterns demarcating infectious nonself, as well as normal and abnormal self. These patterns are deciphered by receptors that either induce or inhibit an immune response, depending on the meaning of these signals.



<https://www.edureka.co/blog/pattern-recognition/>



Pattern Recognition Receptors (PRRs) Signaling Pathways



The innate immune system

Patterns

“Pathogen-associated molecular patterns” (PAMPs)			“Danger-associated molecular patterns”	
Lipopolysaccharide	Chitin		Uric acid	High-mobility group box 1 (HMGB1)
Peptidoglycan	DNA	RNA	Cholesterol	
			Fatty acids	Heat shock proteins (HSPs)

Receptors (PRRs)

TLR4		Dectins		RIG-I
NOD2	NLRP3		cGAS-STING	

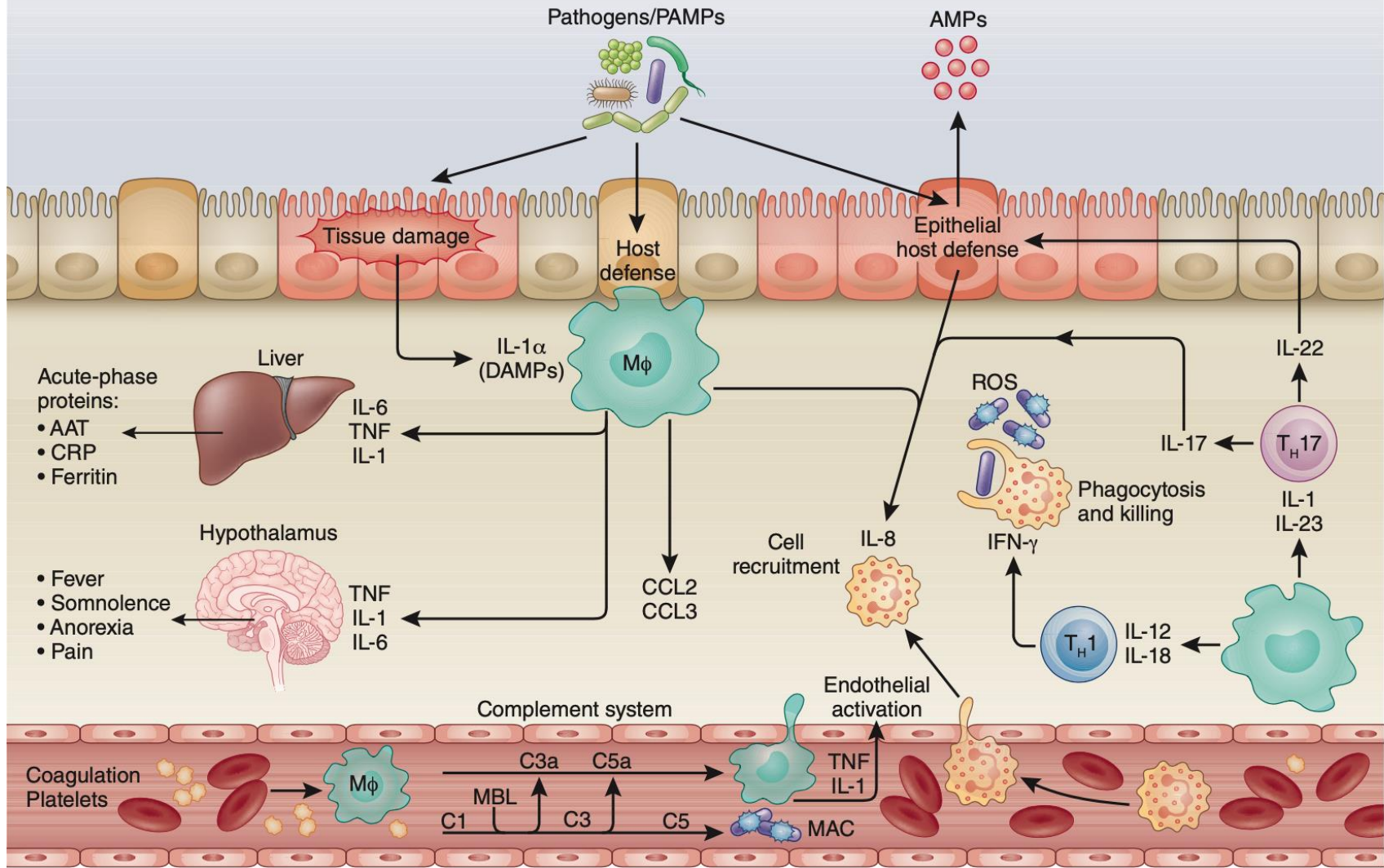
Cellular responses

Production of immune-mediators (e.g. cytokines, chemokines, antimicrobial peptides)		Autophagy	
Cell death (apoptosis, pyroptosis, necroptosis, necrosis)	Unfolded protein response	Cell proliferation	Cell adhesion

**Clinical/
pathological
impact**

Infection	Inflammation	Tissue repair	
Innate immunity (phagocytosis)			Metabolic dysregulation
	Adaptive immunity (B-, T-cells, antibodies)		

Induction of inflammation by pathogens



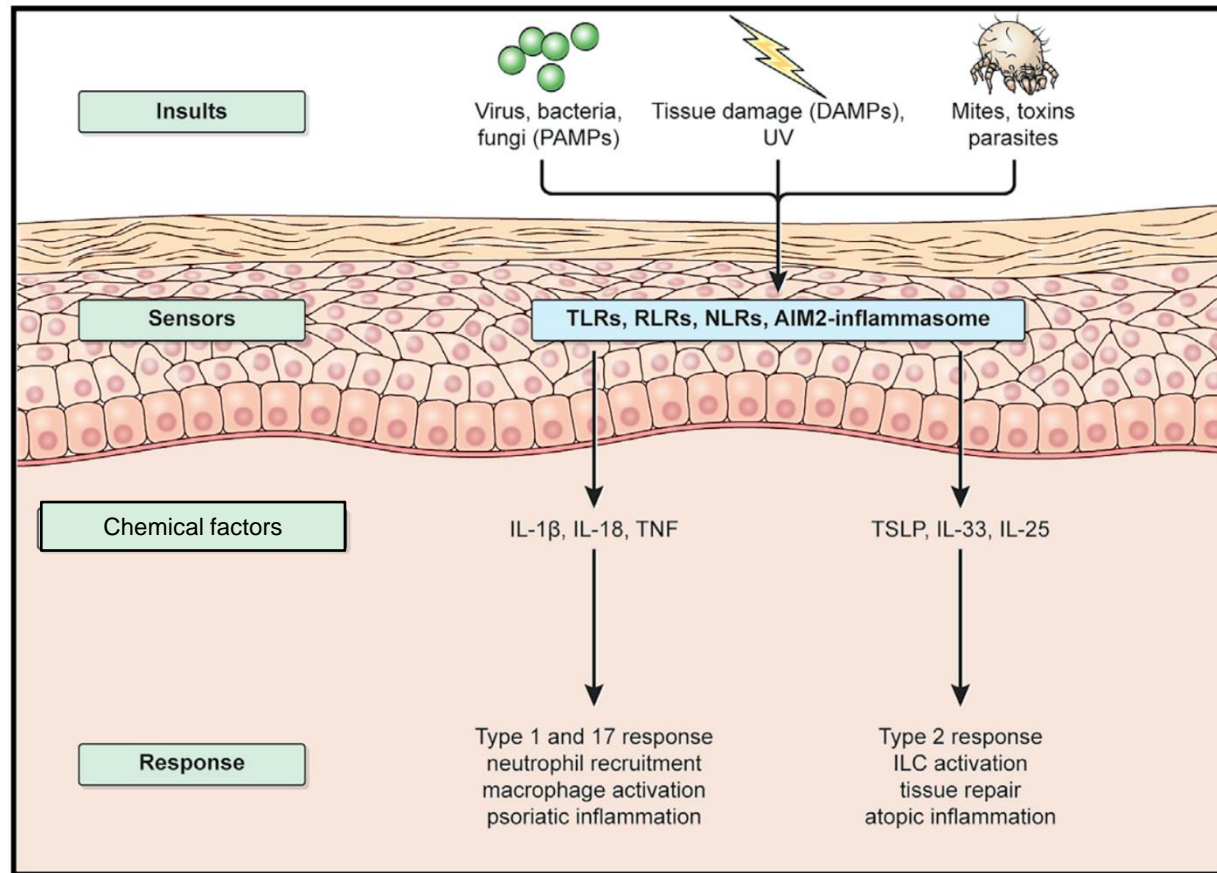
Debbie Maizeis/Springer Nature

“Choreographing immunity in the skin epithelial barrier”*

What is skin and what does it do?

- multilayered (epidermis, dermis, hypodermis – each with its immune cell population)
- endothelial cells, fibroblasts, neurones, adipocytes epithelial cells acting in unison to ensure its function
- direct interactions between immune cells of innate and adaptive systems
- a barrier against environmental pressures e.g. UV, microbes, allergens..
- immune cell interactions with keratinocytes can promote antimicrobial responses or inflammatory disease
- **emerging key factors: hair follicles, neurones, microbiota**

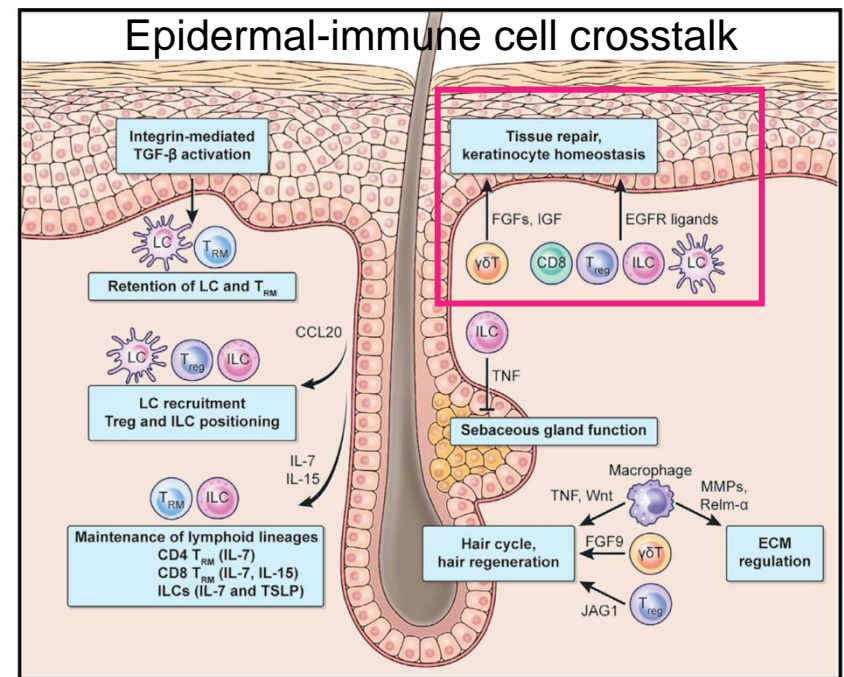
What is skin and what does it do?



Dysregulation of immune pathways directed against infectious agents play key roles in inflammatory conditions e.g. psoriasis, dermatitis

Hair follicles and skin immunity

- Immune systems preceded occurrence of hair follicles in evolution e.g. hairless vertebrates
- Follicles - passageways for environmental signals, immunosurveillance and immune cell traffic?
- Chemical signals - chemokines, cytokines, growth factors
- Innate lymphoid cells – can regulate sebaceous gland size → sebum composition and amount → microbiota
- Epithelialisation in wounds mediated by immune factors e.g. epidermal growth factor receptor ligands, fibroblast growth factors

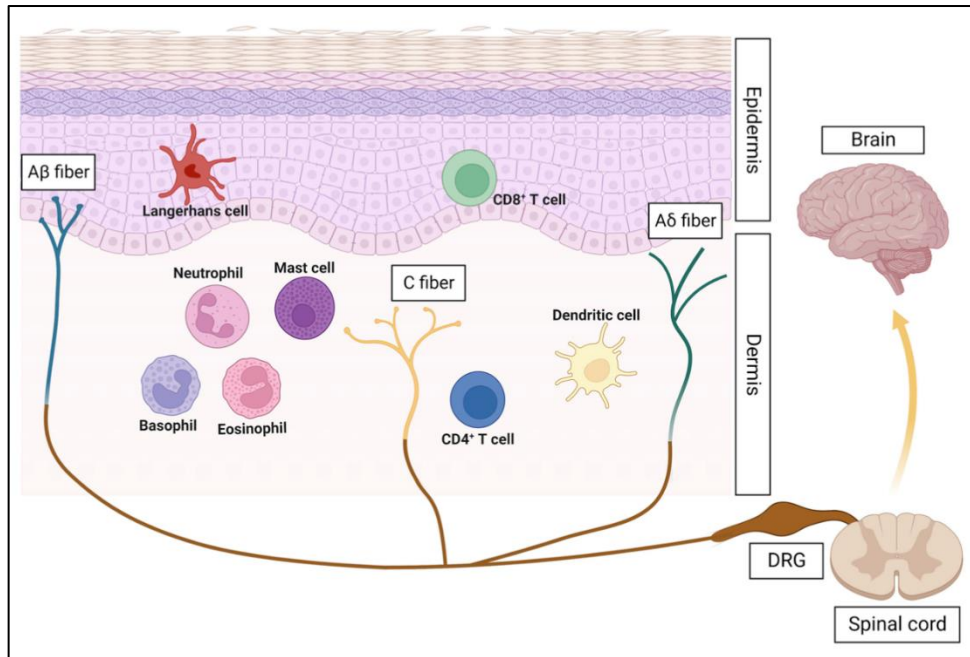


Neurons and skin immunity

- Skin is innervated (role of nervous system in “barriers”)
- Peripheral neurones recognise harmful stimuli
e.g. microbes, allergens

- Neuronal activation leads to pain and itch responses

Immune cell and sensory neurones in skin

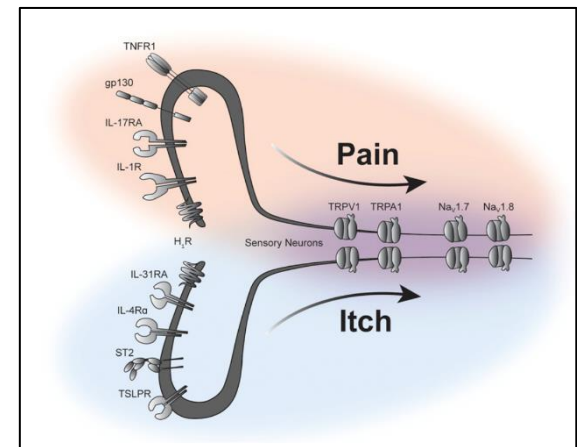


Huang *et al* *Pharmaceuticals* **16**, 246

Cytokine receptors - specialised functions for pain or itch

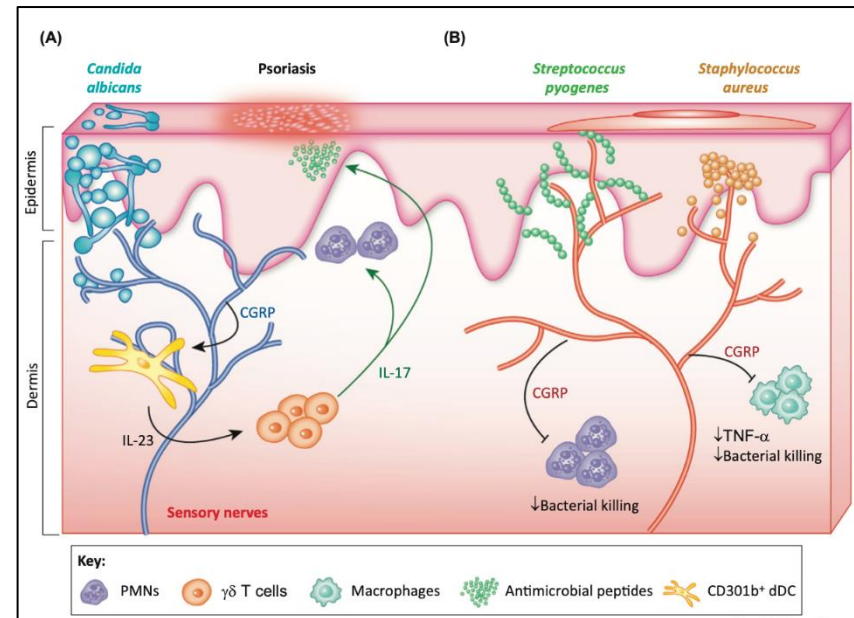
Pain – restrict movement, promote wound healing, prevent infection spread, conserve metabolic resources

Itch – expulsion of irritants



Neurons and skin immunity

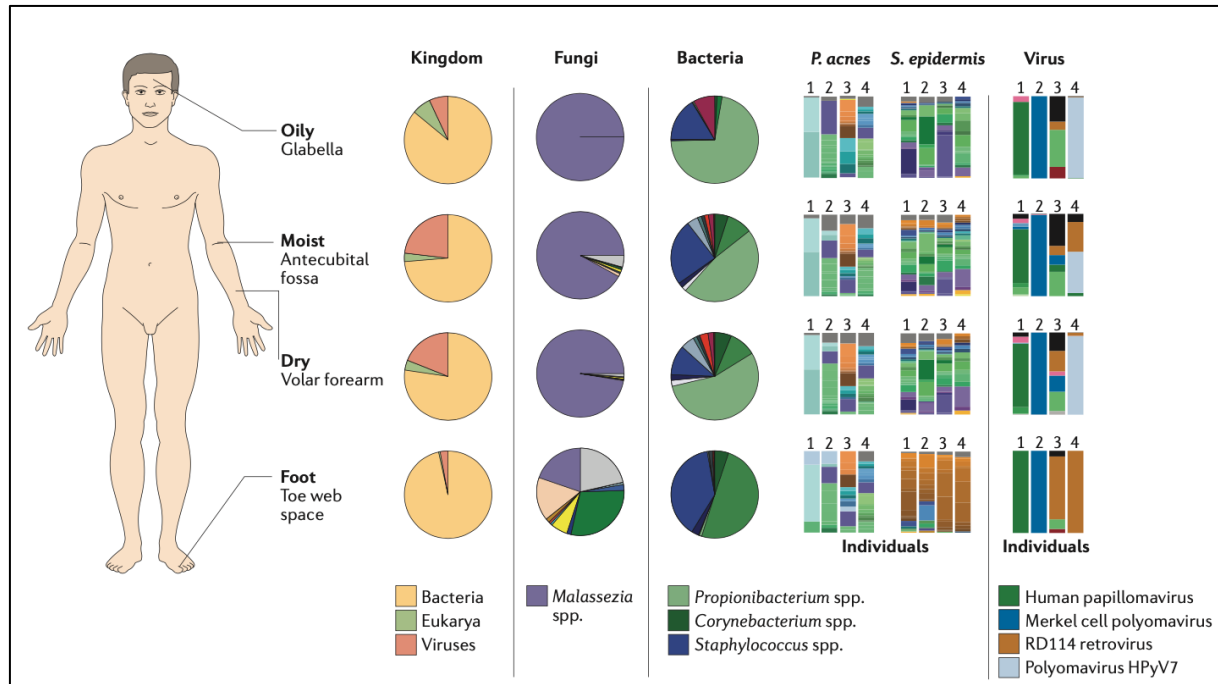
- Sensory neurones:
 - share some features with immune cells e.g. pathogen recognition, soluble factors
 - regulate immune cells
 - can be directly activated by pathogens
- primarily transmit signals from skin to CNS but can also do so to other cells in periphery via efferent route through release of neuropeptides e.g. calcitonin gene-related peptide, CGRP



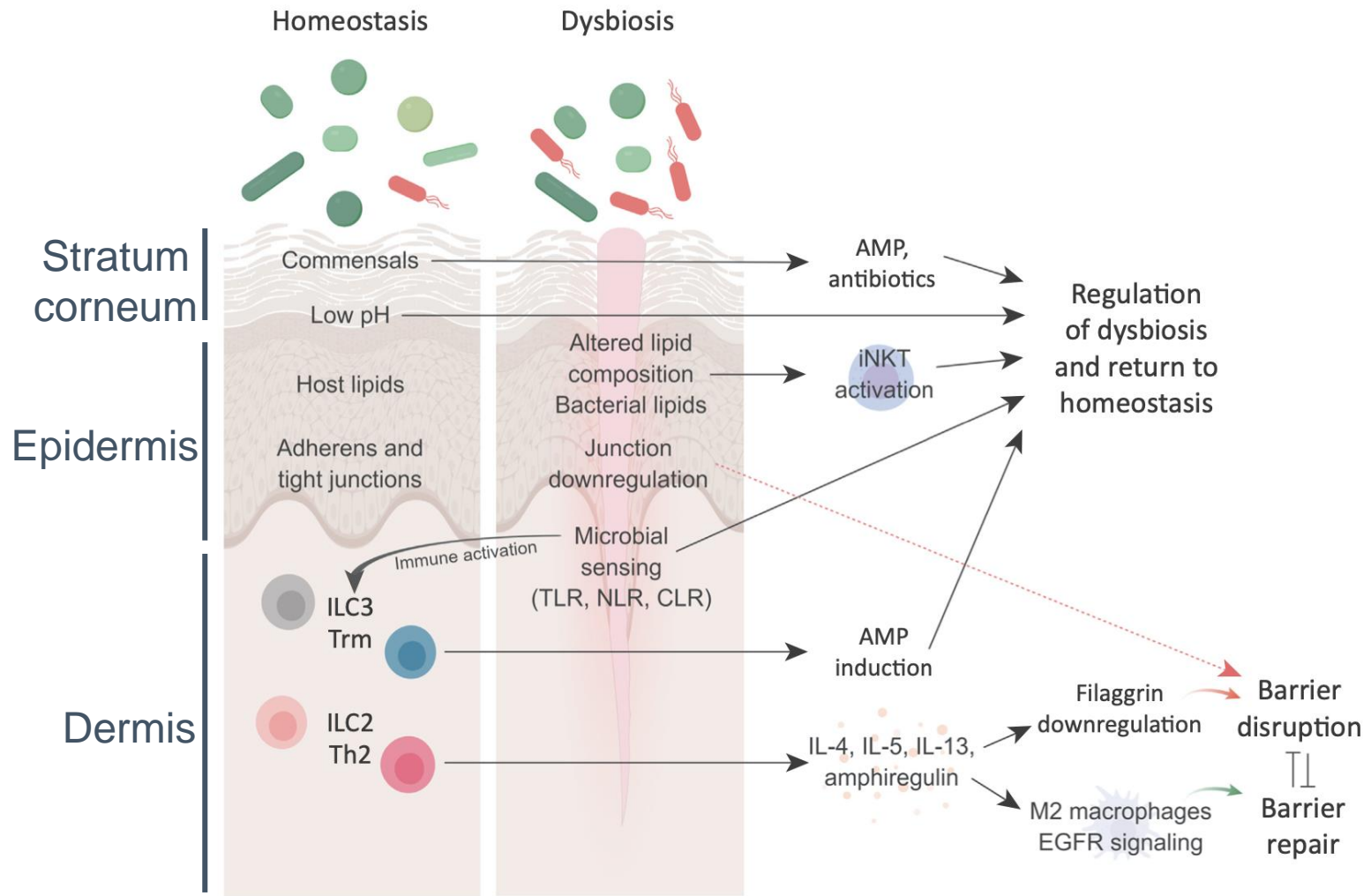
The microbiota and skin

- The microbiota: resident microbes (bacteria, fungi, viruses, parasites)
- Skin microbial communities are shaped by the host immune system (maintain commensals, eliminate pathogens)

- Microbiota composition is shaped by physiological characteristics and individual



The cutaneous barrier - homeostasis versus dysbiosis



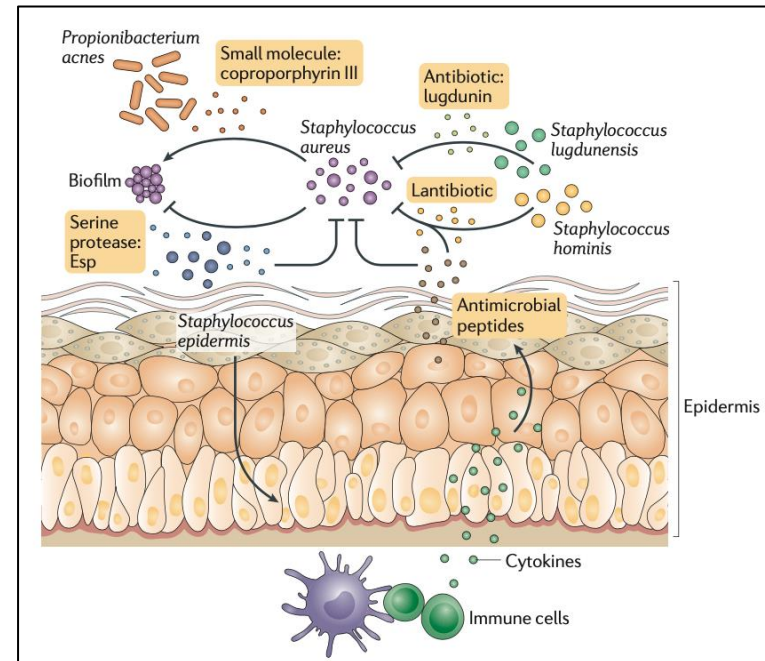
The microbiota and skin

Commensals:

- “educate” skin immune responses
- interact with other commensals and also with pathogens
- have role in skin diseases e.g. atopic dermatitis

Knowledge has been rapidly gained due to technical advances in sequencing (“metagenomics”)

- need to better understand impact of commensals on immune system; how these microbes are sensed; and immunological tools to track commensal-specific responses



The microbiota and skin

- **Both commensals and pathogens regulate neuronal function**
- **Can information about their impact on neurones be used to develop novel approaches to treat infection?**
- **Does the location of pathogen invasion affect neuroimmune interactions *i.e.*, the types of immune cells that are recruited, the neuroimmune modulation mechanism?**

Conclusions

- **Inflammation can have beneficial effects**
 - **host defence, tissue repair**
- **Key role of the innate immune system in inflammation**
- **The need for a better understanding of the microbiome and commensal-pathogen interactions in inflammation**