

# Pathogens and the immune system

Veronica Leautaud, Ph.D.

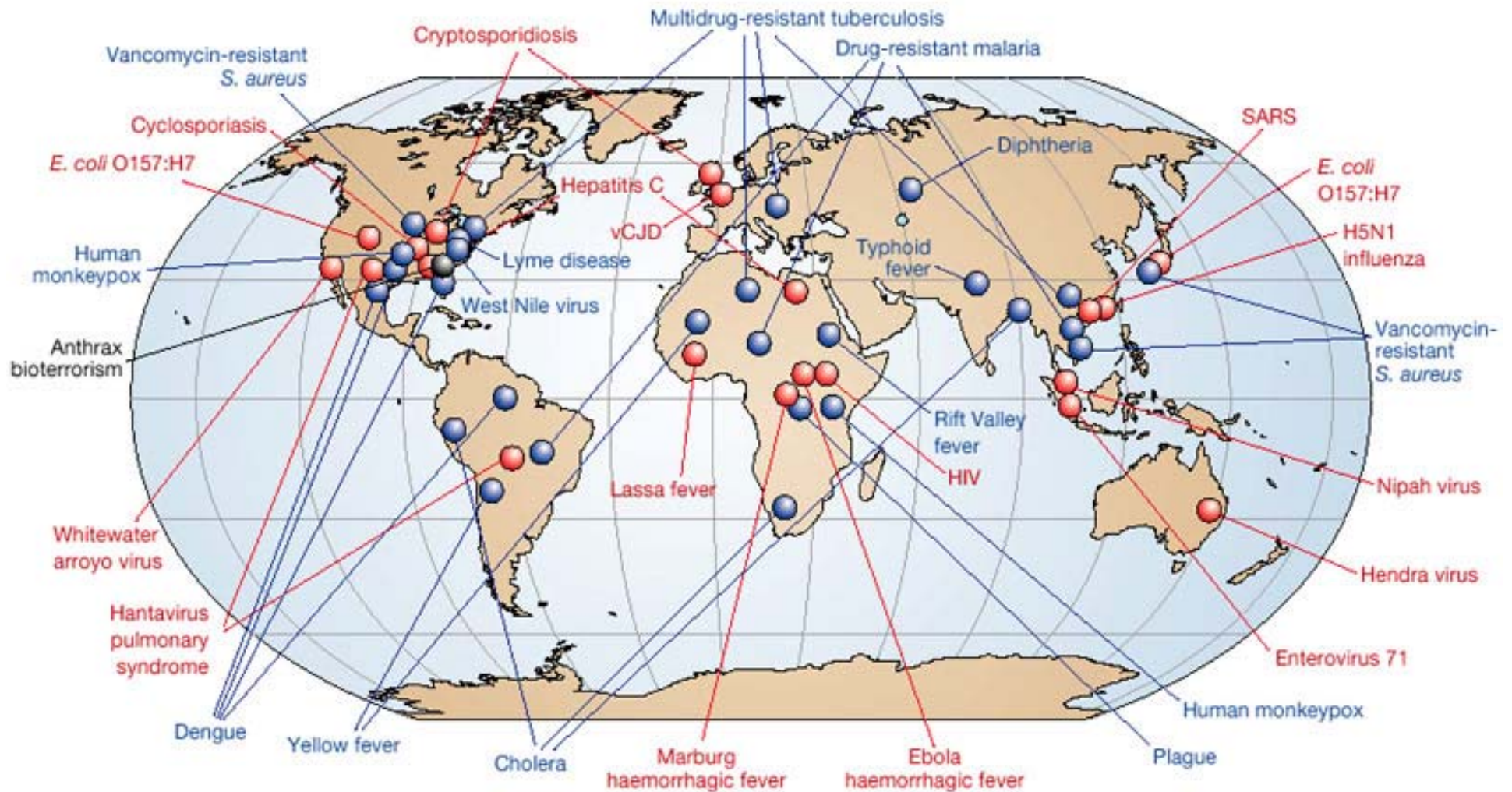
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Lecture 8  
BIOE 301-Bioengineering and World Health

# Review of lecture 7

- Science
  - “**Science** is the human activity of seeking natural explanations for what we observe in the world around us.”
- Engineering
  - Systematic design, production and operation of technical systems to meet practical human needs under specified constraints
  - Six steps of the engineering design method

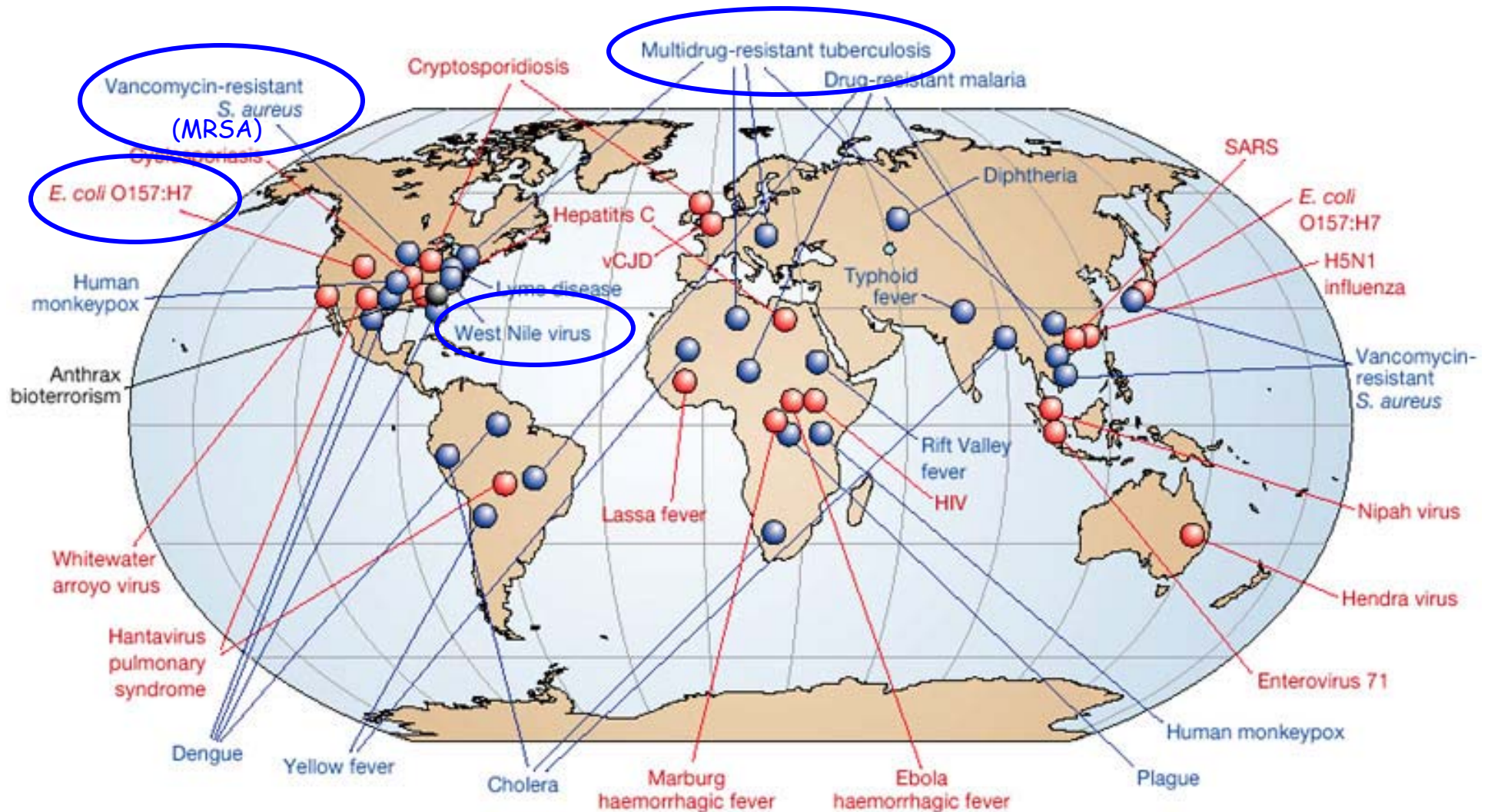
# Infectious diseases: a global health problem



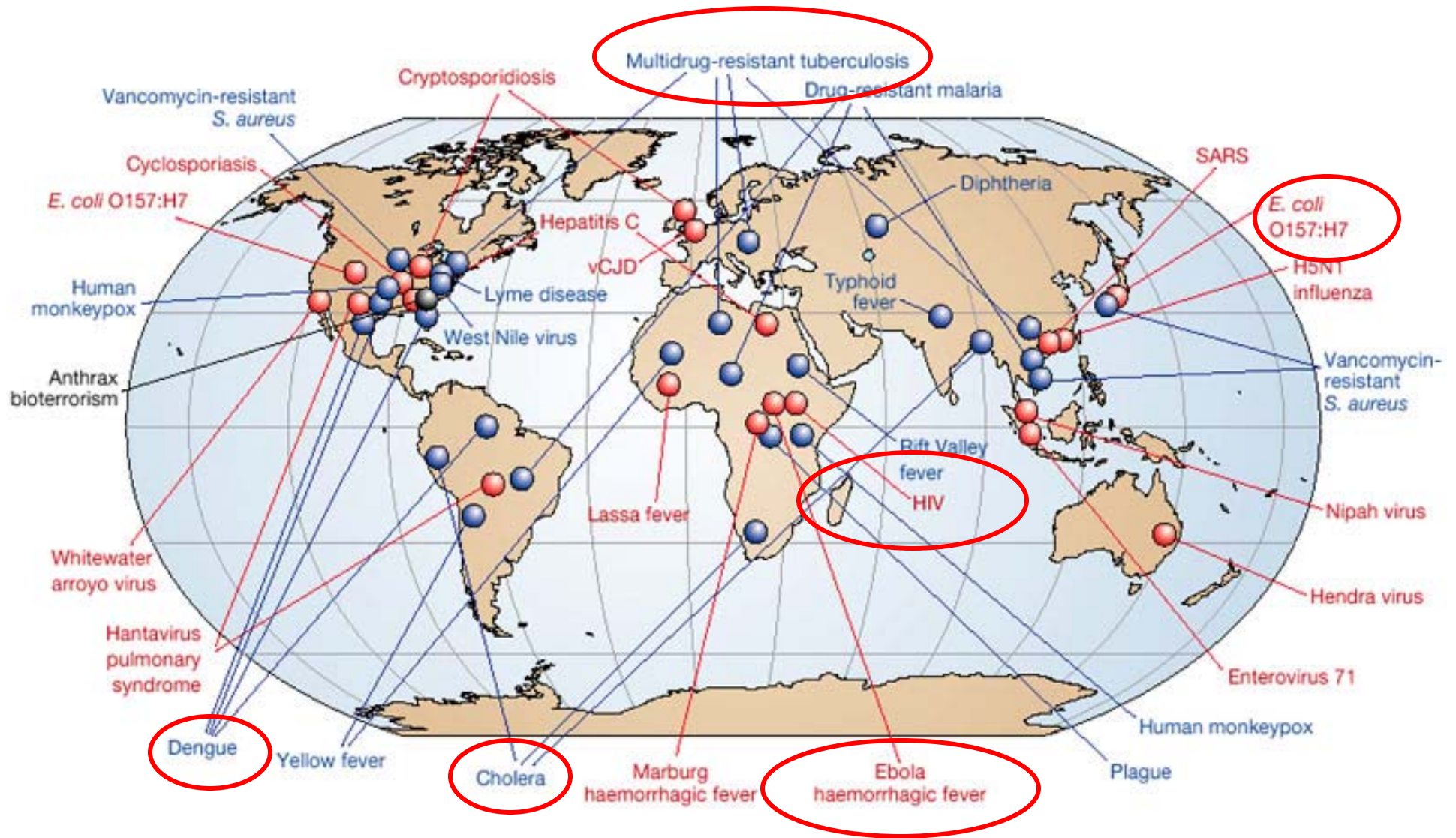
(From Morens, D., et al , 2004)



# Infectious diseases: a global health problem

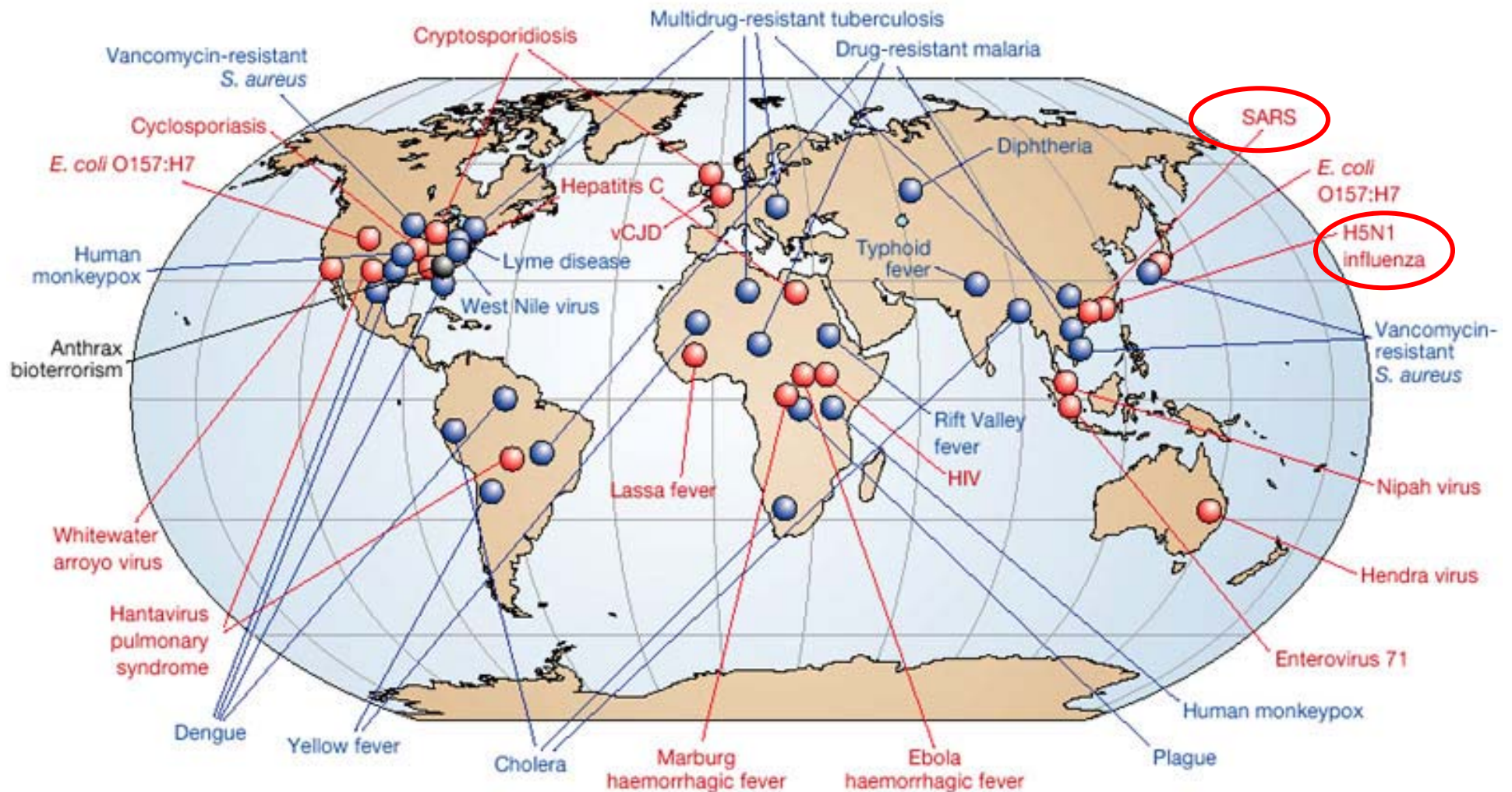


# Infectious diseases: a global health problem





# Infectious diseases: a global health problem



# How can technology help?

## Science

1. Understanding biology: pathogens & disease immune system

## Engineering

2. Developing vaccines: from idea to product
  - vaccine design
  - production
  - testing safety & effectiveness
3. Addressing challenges for vaccine development:
  - Developed vs. developing countries
  - The AIDS vaccine challenge

# Lecture map

1. The players:   Types of pathogens  
                      Cells of the Immune system

2. Types of Immunity

2A. Physical barriers

2B. Innate Immunity

Macrophages

Neutrophils

Complement proteins

Splinter example

2C. Adaptive Immunity

B-lymphocytes: ANTIBODIES

T-lymphocytes: Cell-mediated

Immunologic MEMORY



# Lecture map

## 1. The players: **Types of pathogens**

Cells of the Immune system

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Immunologic MEMORY

# Types of pathogens



*Mycobacterium tuberculosis*  
*Staphylococcus aureus*  
*Escherichia coli* O147:H7  
*Vibrio cholera*  
*Bordetella pertussis* (whooping cough)

## Bacteria



*SARS- Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome*  
*Influenza (Flu)*  
*HIV (AIDS)*  
*Hepatitis C virus*  
*Ebola/ Marburg viruses*

## Viruses

*Plasmodium sp. (Malaria)*  
*Cryptosporidium*

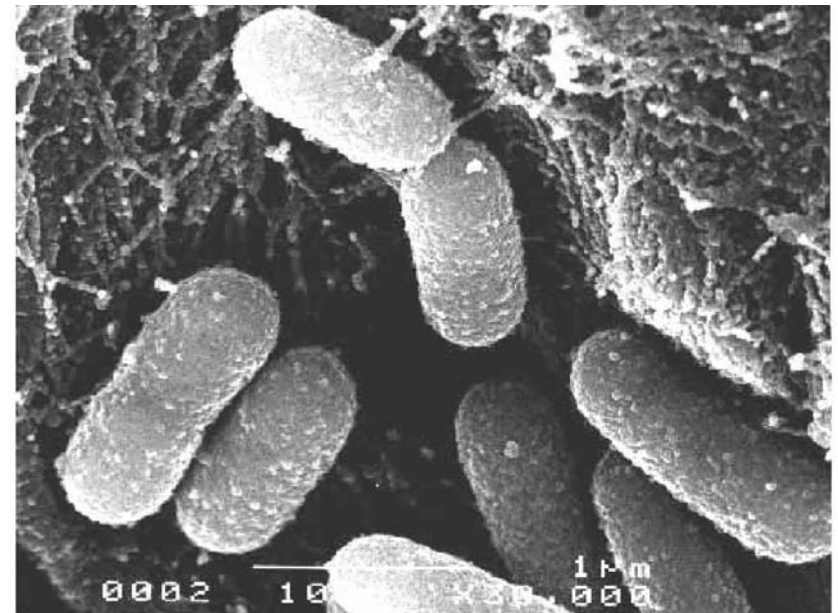
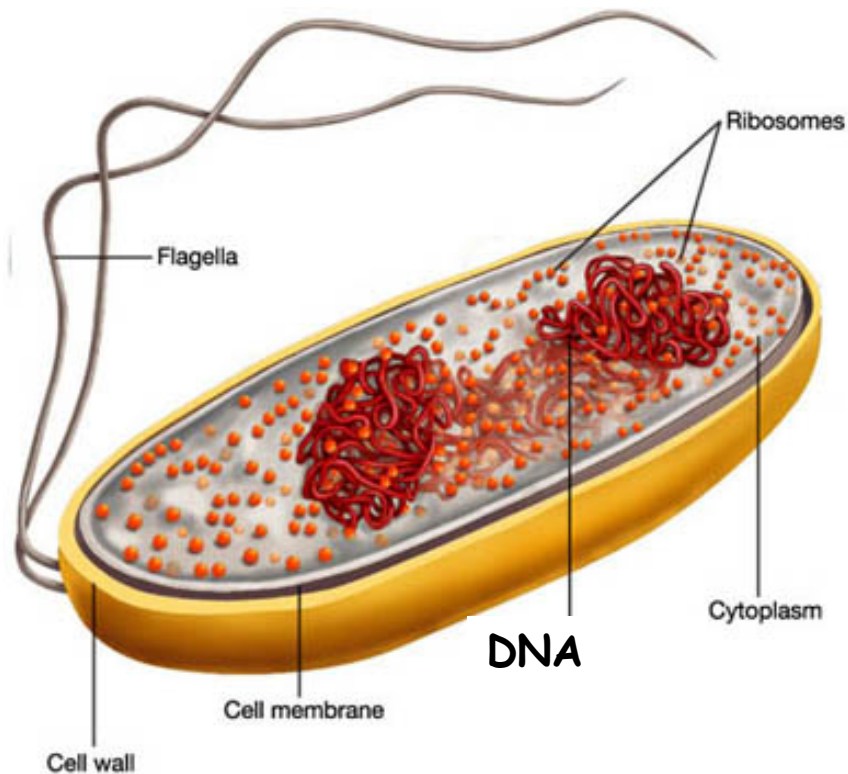
## Parasites

*Candida albicans*

## Fungi

# Bacteria

- Cells with membrane and cell wall (usually)
- Can survive & reproduce outside host
- Can be killed or inhibited by antibiotics
- Responsible for >90% of hospital infections

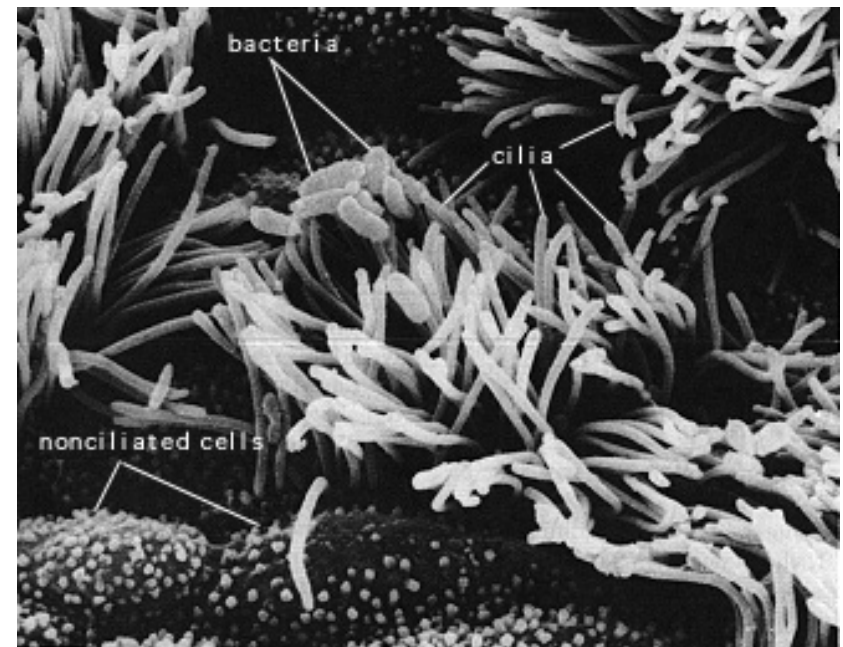
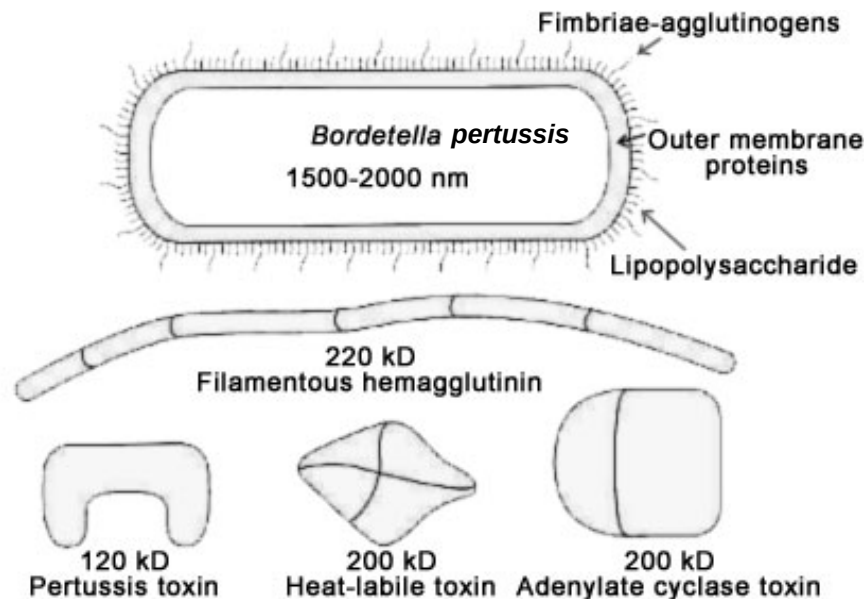


Size ~ 1 μm



# How do bacteria cause disease?

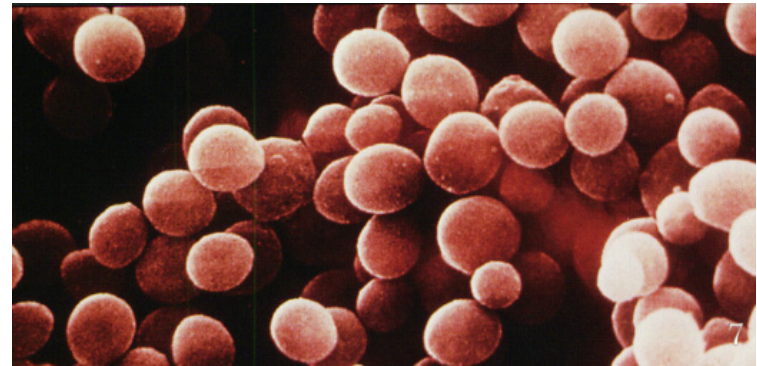
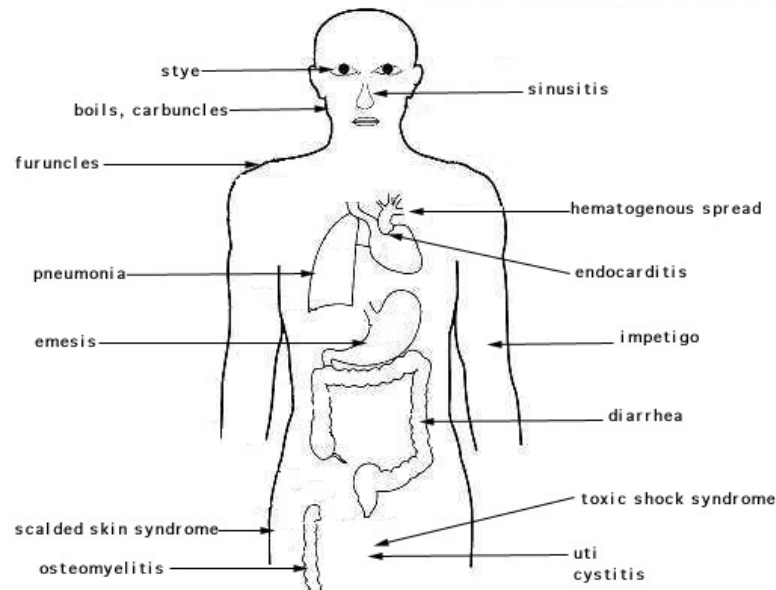
- Invade host
- Reproduce
- Produce toxins which disturb function of normal cells



Paralyze cilia & inhibit clearance  
of respiratory secretions  
= whooping cough

# How do bacteria cause disease?

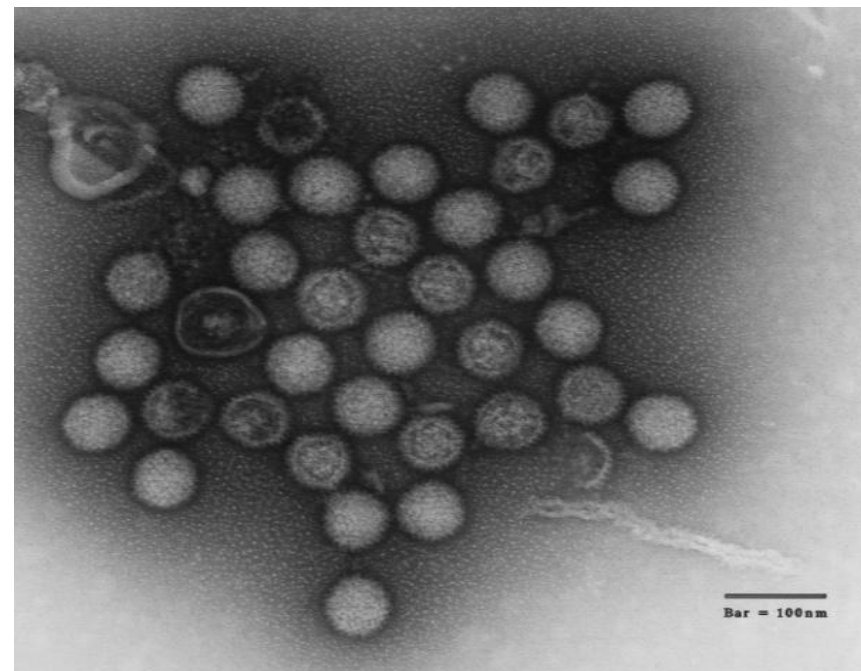
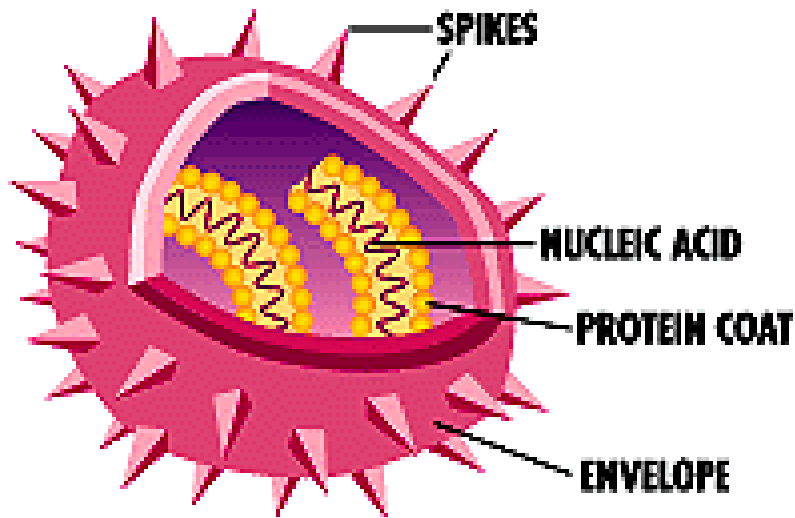
*MRSA: Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus*



<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=15453093>

# Viruses

- Nucleic acid core surrounded by protein capsid, and for some viruses an envelope
- Use host intracellular machinery to reproduce
- They cannot be killed with antibiotics, but antivirals may inhibit different stages of their life cycle in the host
- >50 viruses that can infect humans



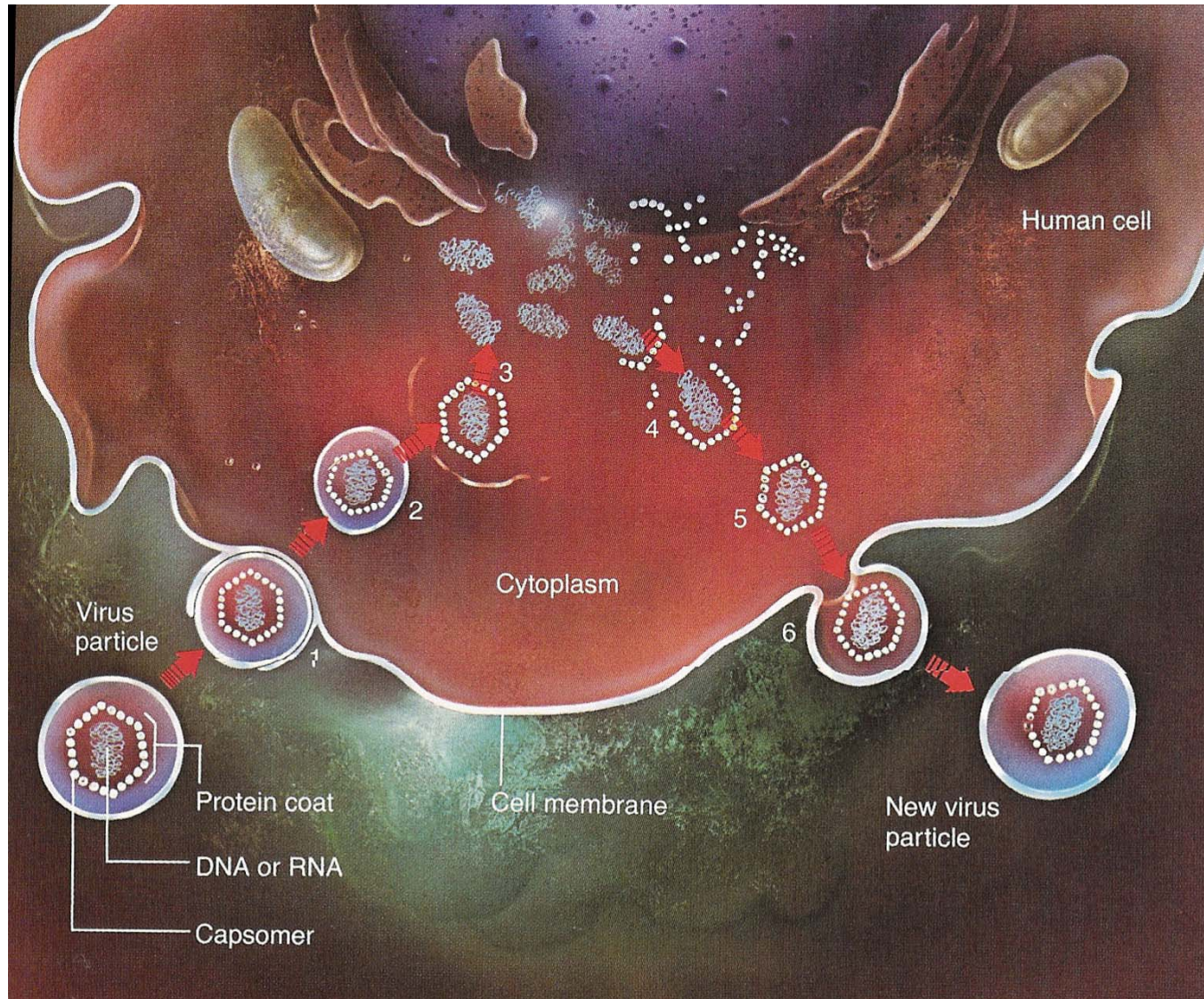
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# How do viruses cause disease?

1. Virus invades host cell
  - Binds to cell membrane receptors
  - Endocytosis brings virus into cell
2. Virus takes over cell
  - Use viral nucleic acid and host cell resources to make new viral nucleic acid and proteins
3. More virus is released from host cell
  - Virus causes host cell to lyse OR
  - Viral particles bud from host cell surface



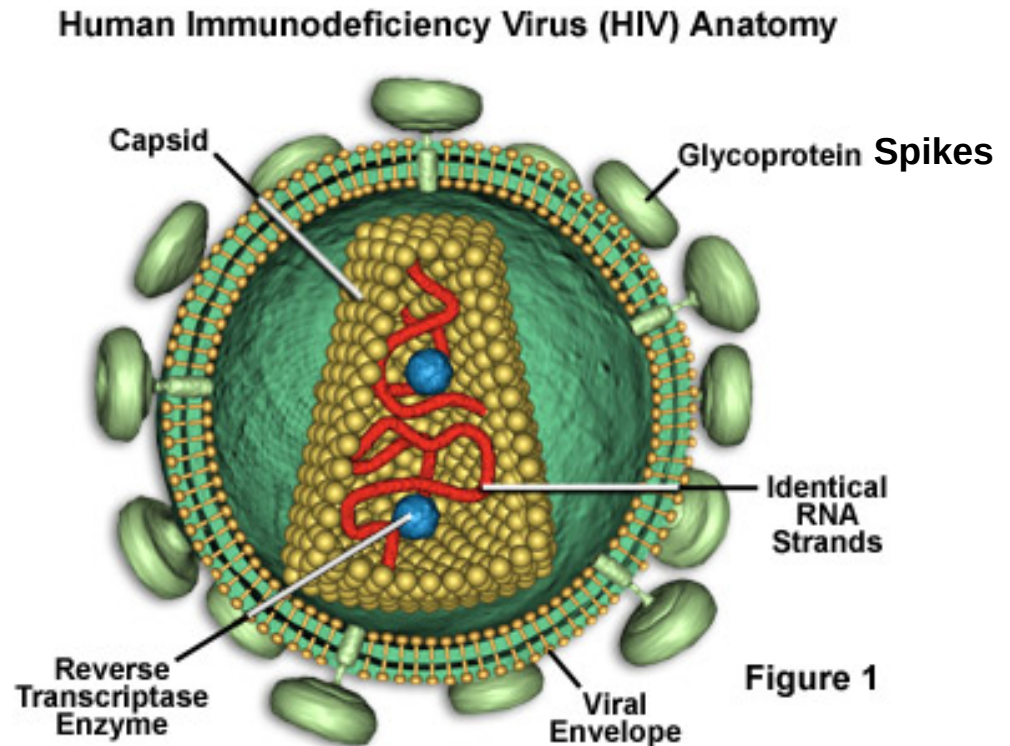
# How do viruses cause disease?



# The Human Immunodeficiency virus (HIV)

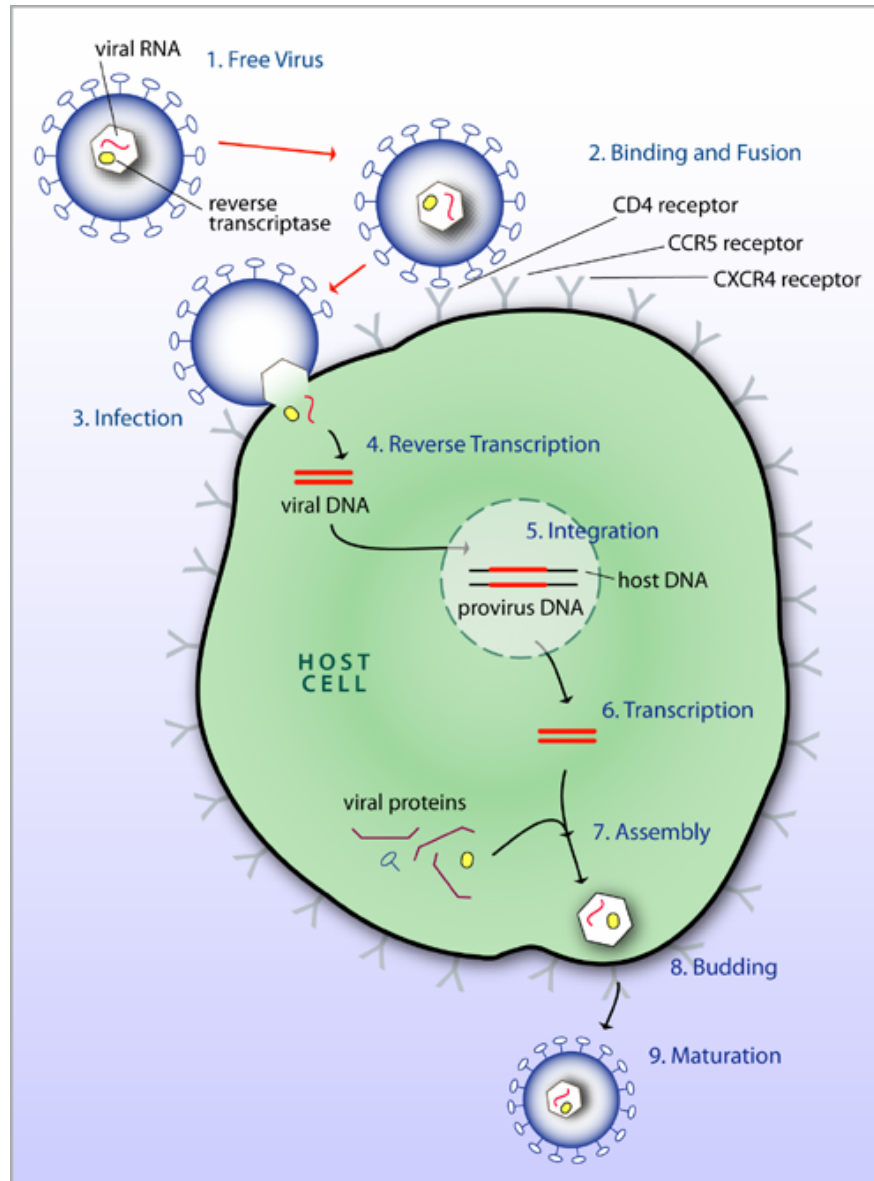
Viral components:

- nucleic acid core (DNA/RNA)
- protein capsid
- envelope
- Glycoproteins

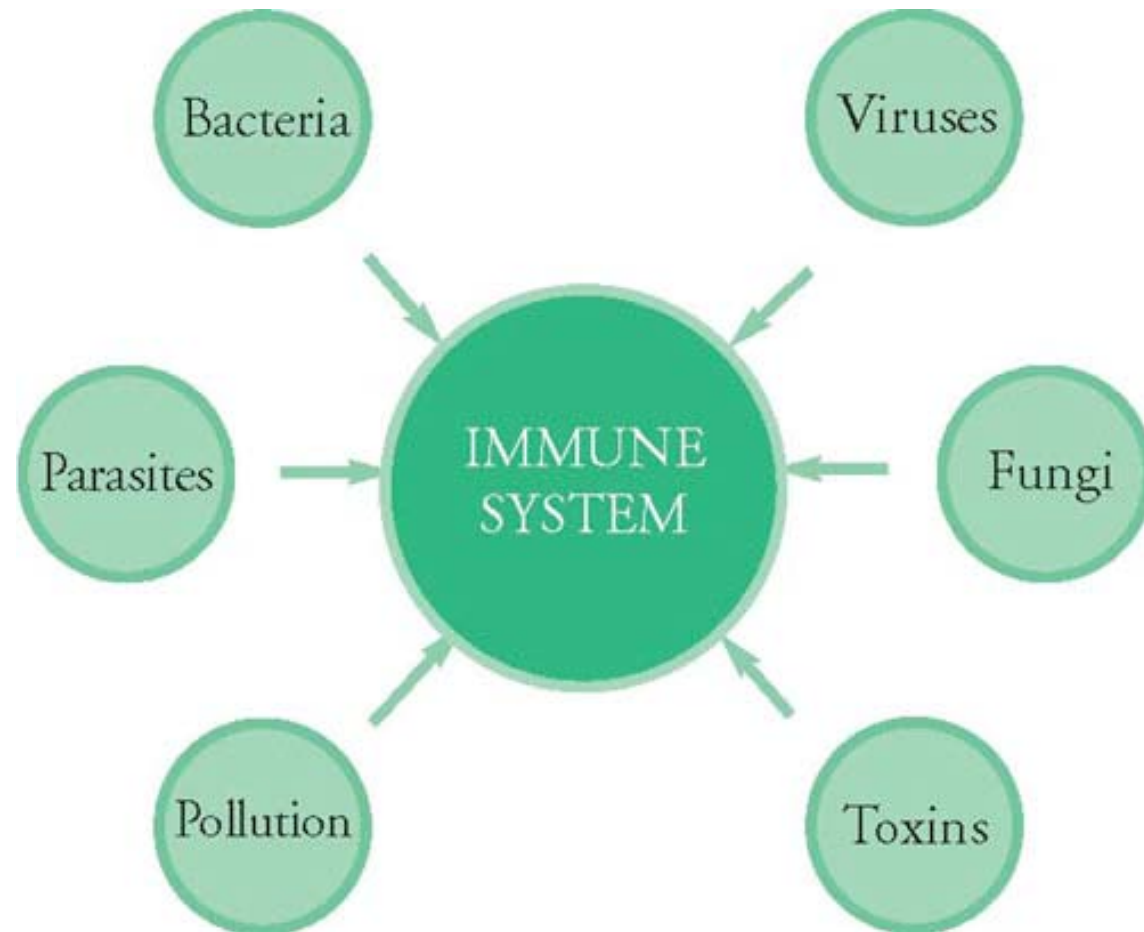




# The Human Immunodeficiency virus (HIV)



# How are we protected against pathogens?





# Lecture map

## 1. The players: Types of pathogens

### **Cells of the Immune system**

## 2. Types of Immunity

### 2A. Physical barriers

### 2B. Innate Immunity

Macrophages

Neutrophils

Complement proteins

Splinter example

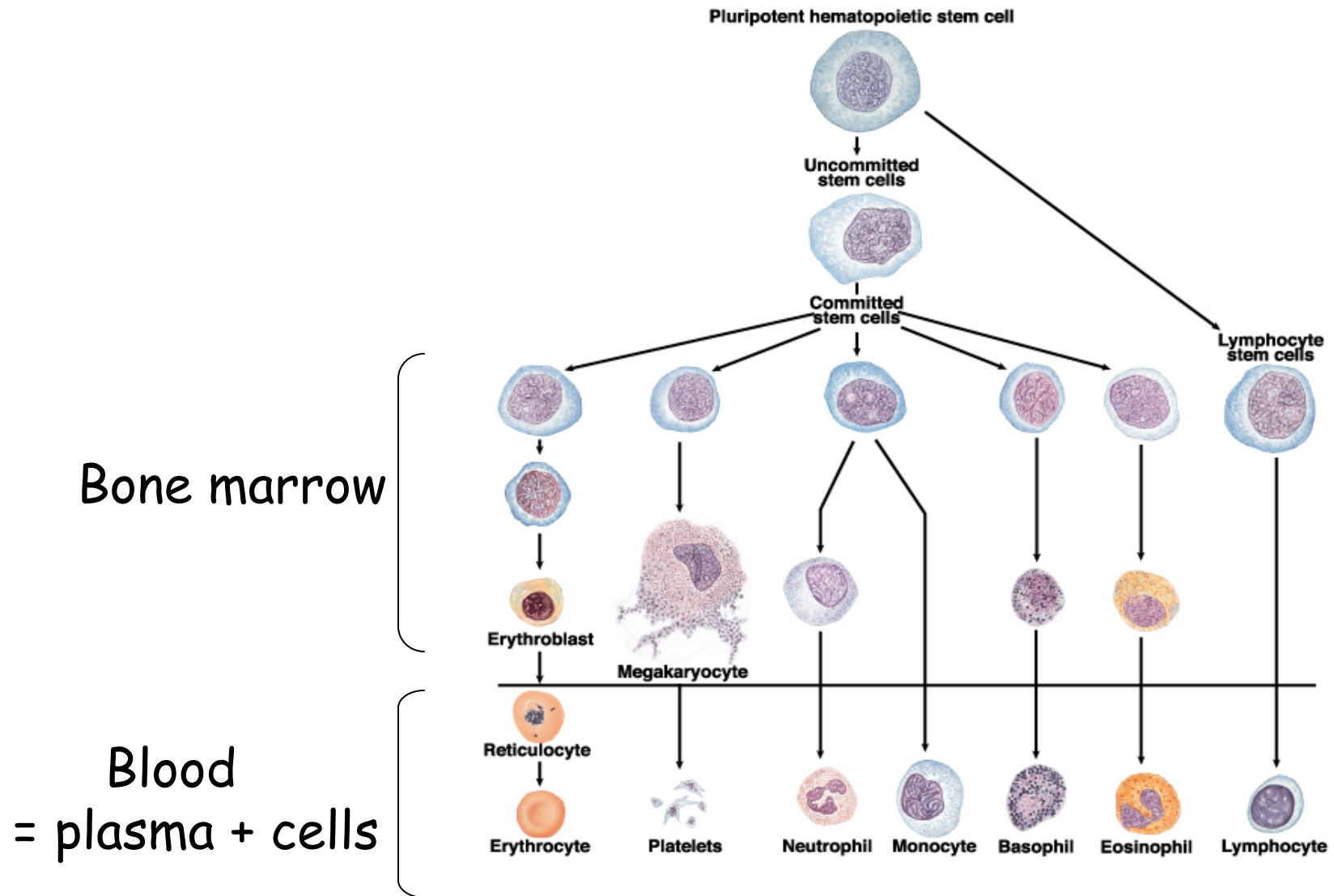
### 2C. Adaptive Immunity

B-lymphocytes: ANTIBODIES

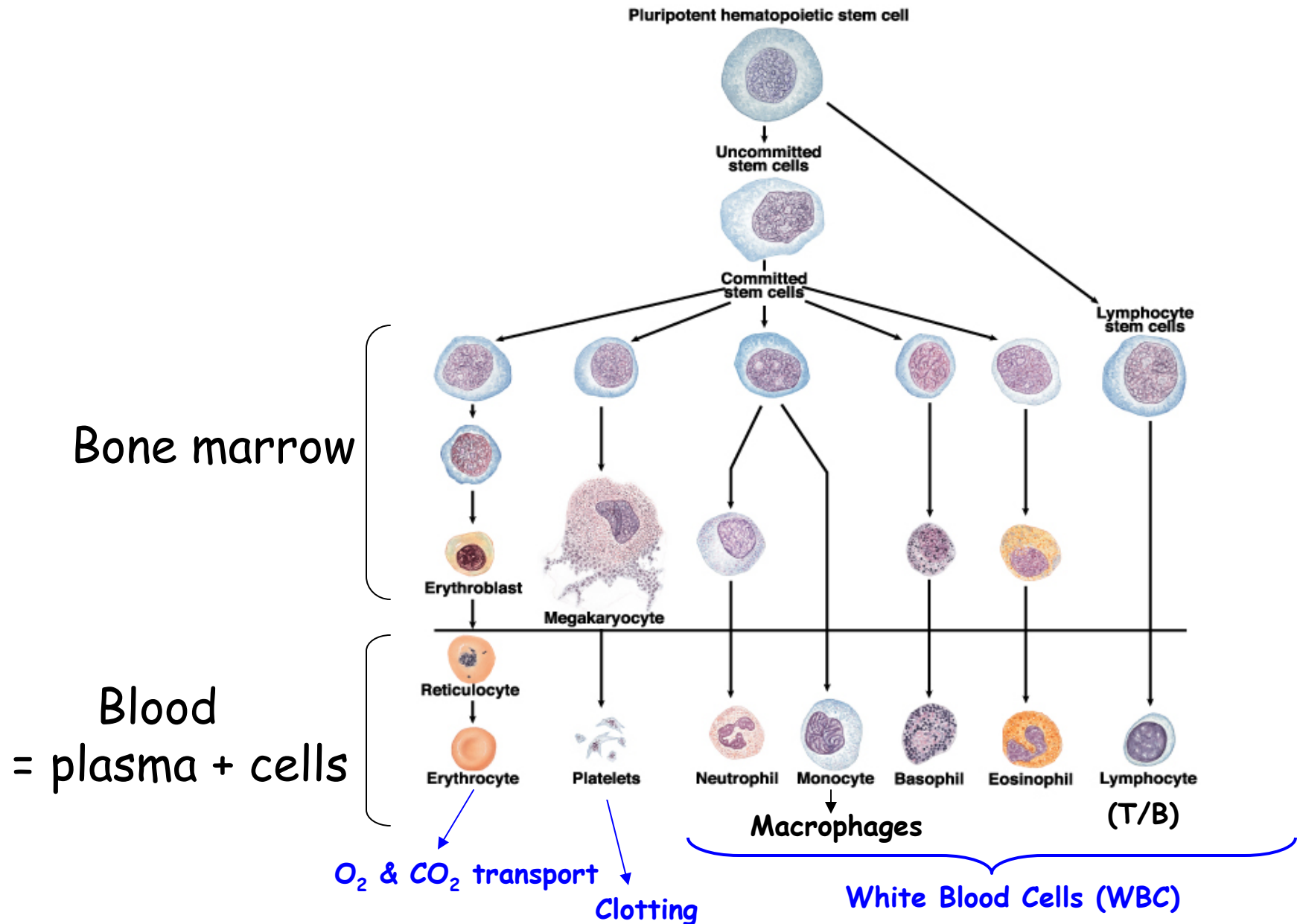
T-lymphocytes: Cell-mediated

Immunologic MEMORY

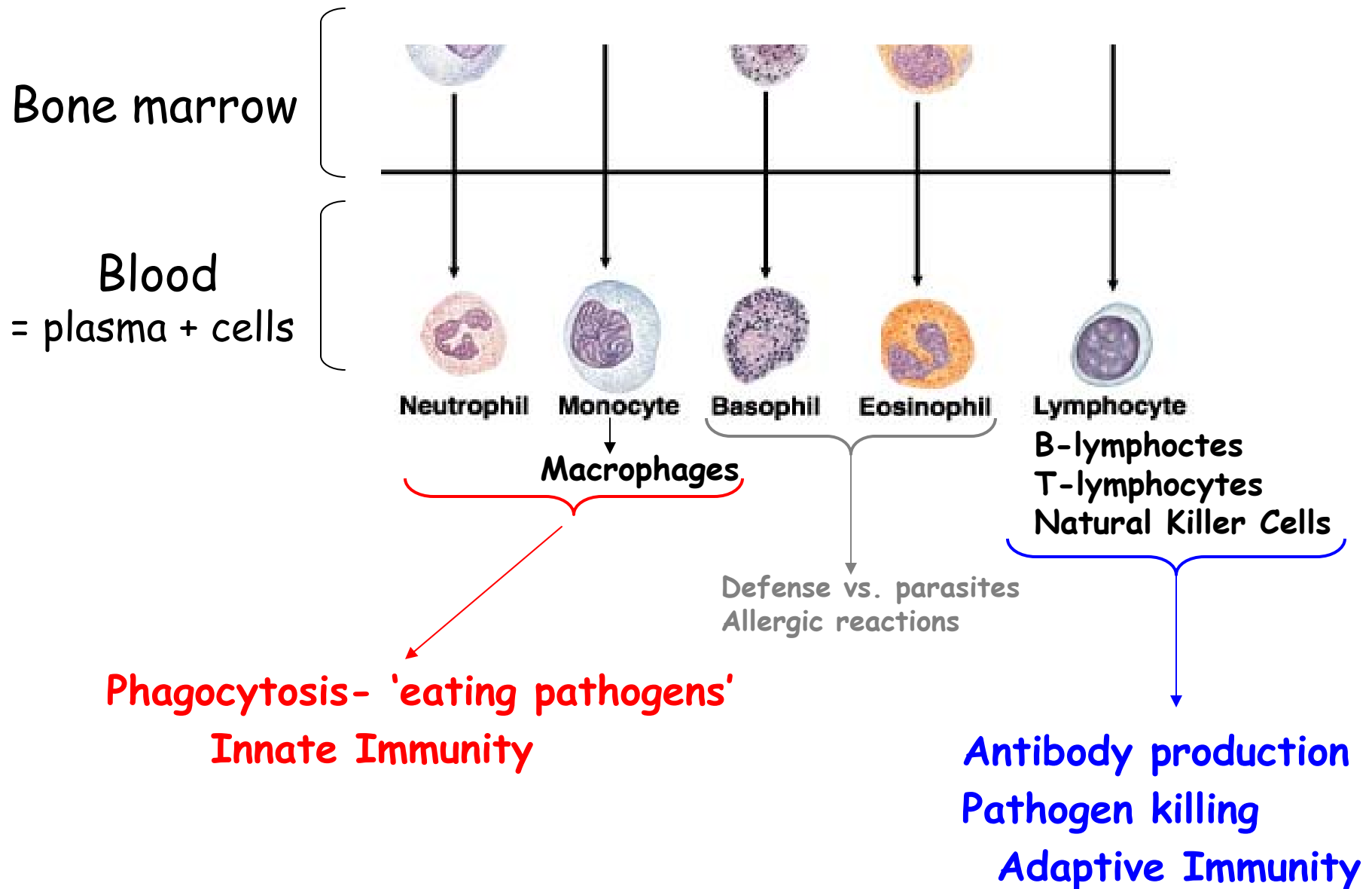
# Cells of the immune system



# Cells of the immune system

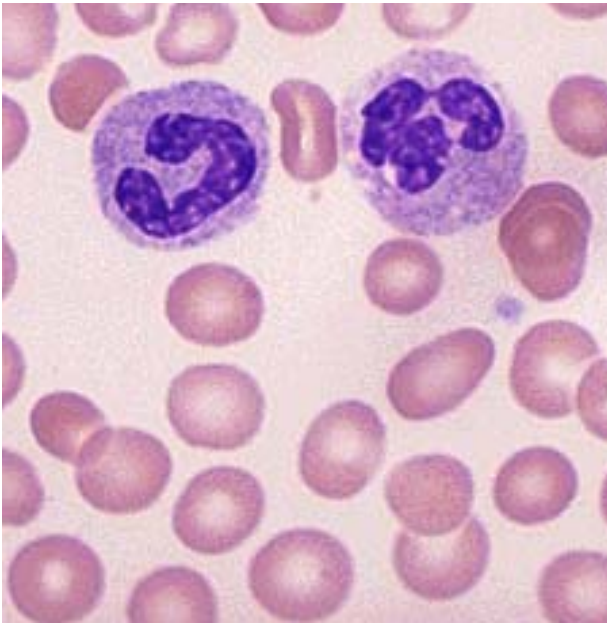


# Cells of the immune system

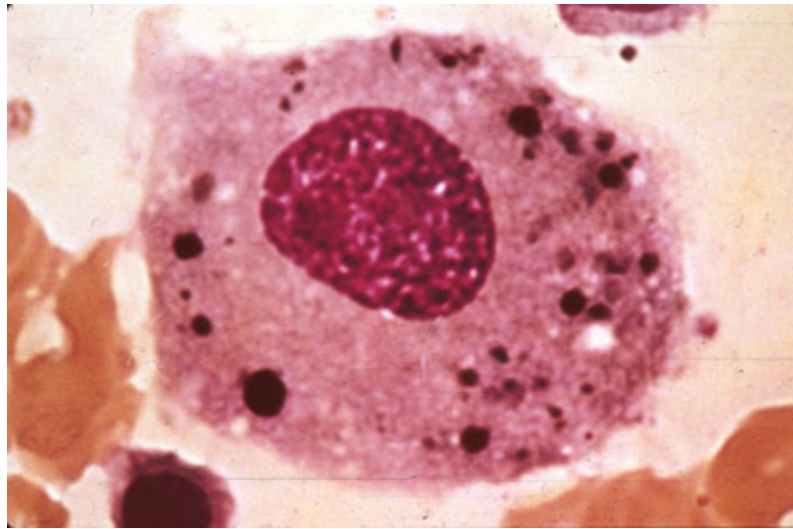




# Cells of the immune system



Neutrophil



Macrophage



Lymphocyte

Phagocytosis- killing

B-lymphocytes  
T lymphocytes  
NK cells

# Question:

- Based on your understanding of the characteristics of bacteria, viruses, and blood cells, identify which item best represents a bacterium, a virus and a blood cell and be able to explain why you chose each.

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Immunologic MEMORY

# Types of Immunity

## Physical Barriers

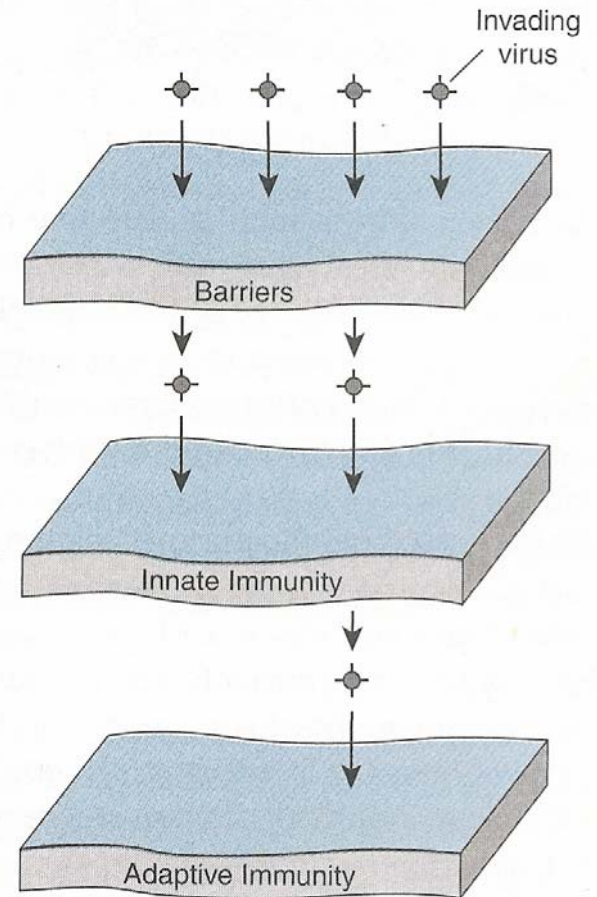
- skin (2 square meters!)
- mucose membranes (400 square meters!)

## Innate Immune System

- General inflammatory response against pathogens outside of the cell

## Adaptive Immune System

- Can adapt to defend against any specific invader inside or outside of the cell
- Important when innate immunity cannot defend against the attack
- Provides 'Immune Memory'





What happens when you get a splinter?





# What happens when you get a splinter?

- Pathogen makes it past a physical barrier
- Symptoms?
  - Red, swollen, hot, pus
- What causes these symptoms?
  - The Innate immune system is kicking into gear!
- Usually innate immune system can take care of it

# The Innate Immune System: 3 main weapons

## -Activated Macrophages

Phagocyte ('eat') invading pathogens

Produce chemicals that:

- increase blood flow (redness & heat)
- cause 'fluid leaking' (swelling)
- recruit neutrophils (pus)

Present antigen to adaptive immune system

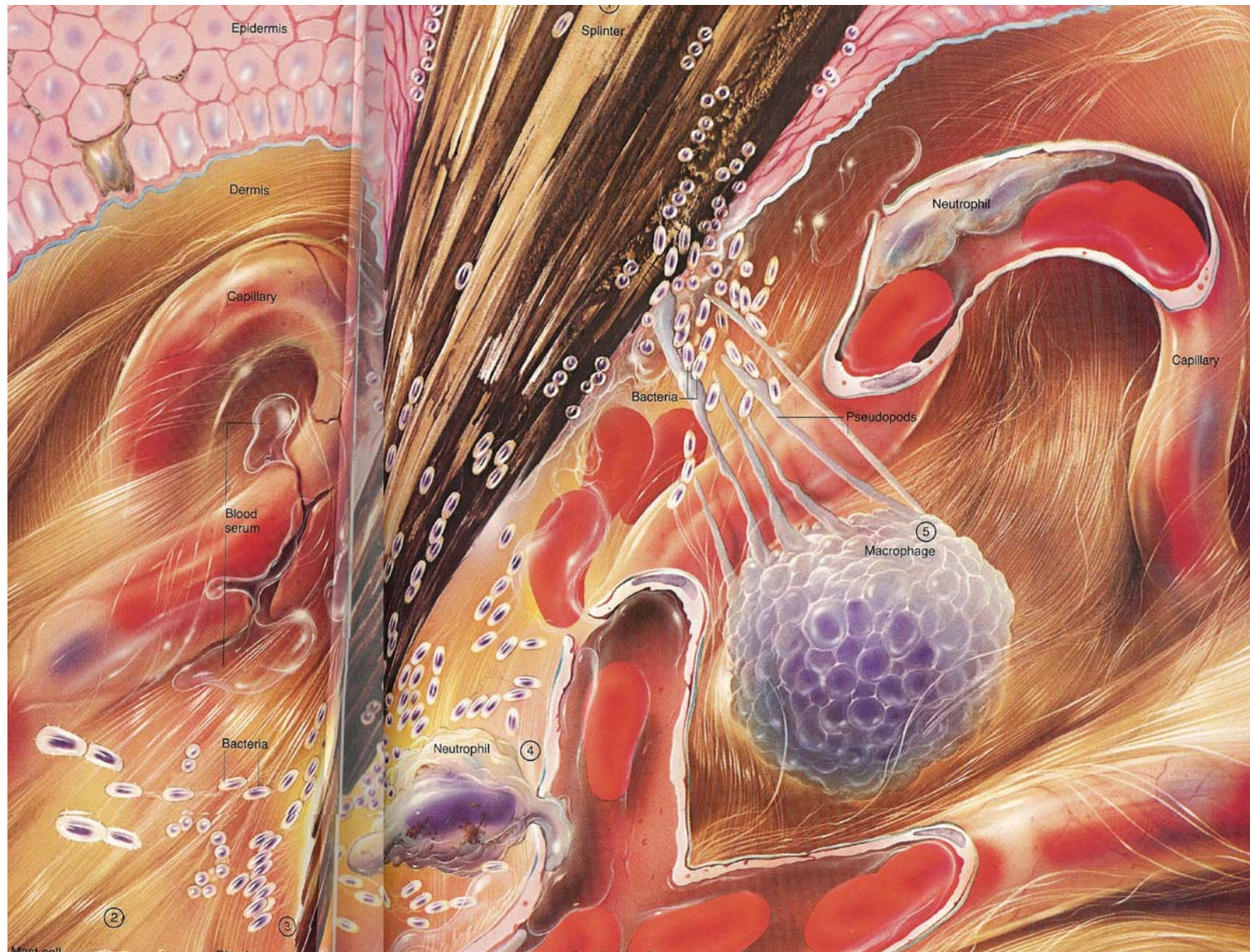
## -Complement proteins

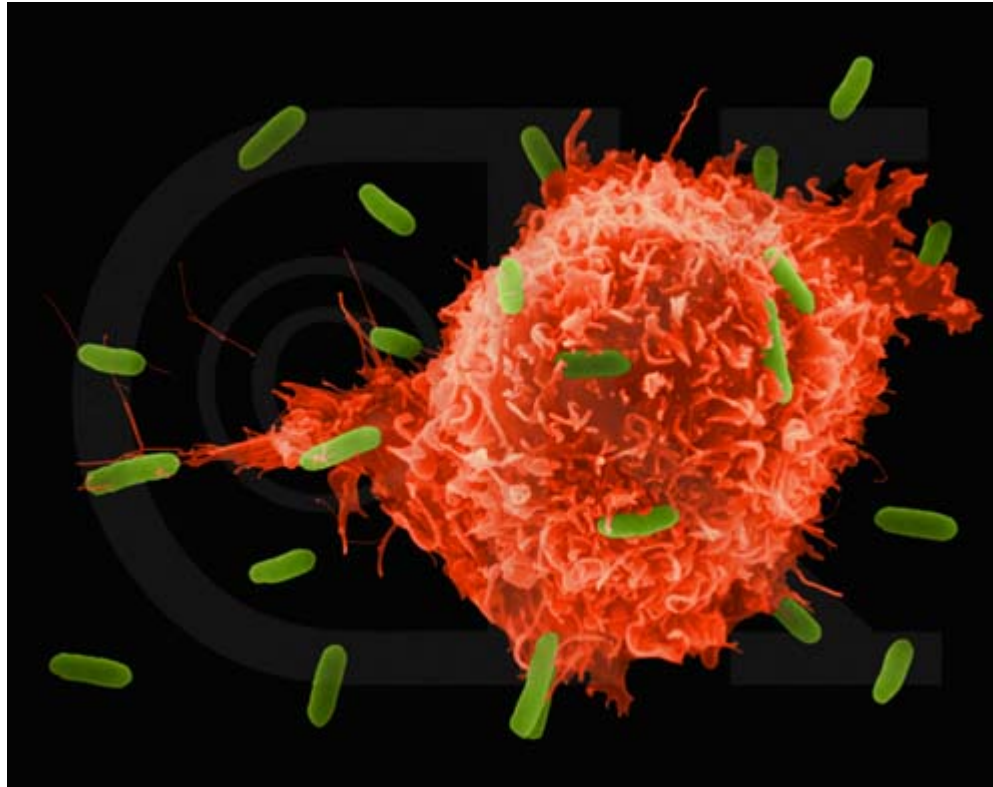
Present in tissue and blood

Attach to surface of bacteria and viruses targeting them for phagocytosis

Recruit other immune cells from blood

# What happens when you get a splinter?





Macrophage attacking *E.coli* SEM x 8,800 ©Denis Kunkel



# Question:

- Based on your understanding of the innate immune system, represent a macrophage during phagocytosis

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**2C. Adaptive Immunity**

**B-lymphocytes: ANTIBODIES**

**T-lymphocytes: Cell-mediated  
Immunologic MEMORY**

# The Adaptive Immune System

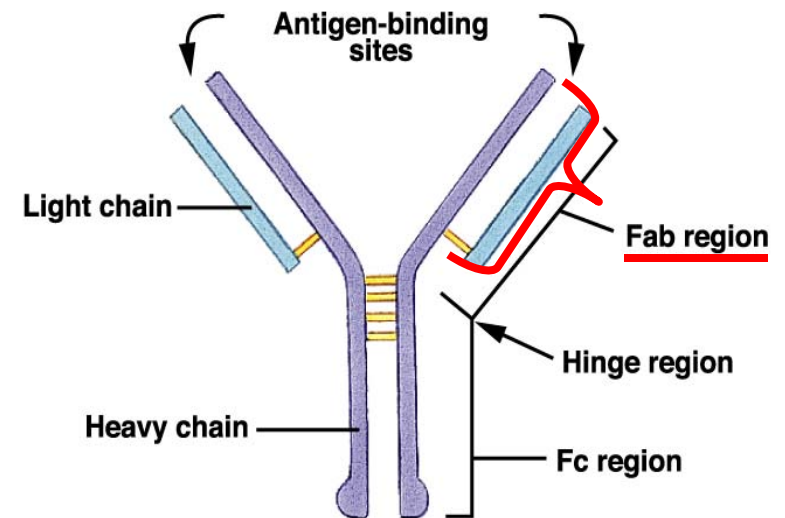
- Recognizes antigens (molecular signatures) specific for each pathogen
- Effective against both intra- and extracellular pathogens
- Two main components: **Humoral immunity**
  - Relies on Antibodies produced by B-lymphocytes
  - Fights pathogens outside of cells

## Cell-mediated Immunity

- Relies on specific receptors on the surface of T-lymphocytes
- Fights pathogens inside of cells

# What is an antibody?

- Bridge between:
  - Pathogen
  - Tool to kill it
- Antibodies have two important regions:
  - Fab region:
    - Binds antigen
    - Binds surface of virus infected cell
  - Fc region:
    - Binds macrophages and neutrophils, induces phagocytosis
    - Binds natural killer cell, induces killing



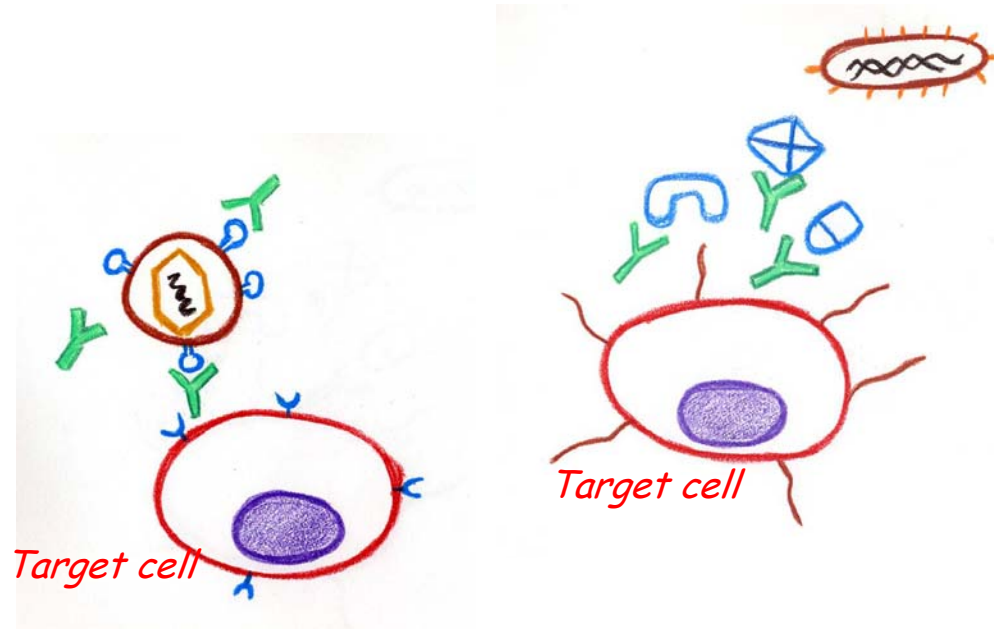


# The Adaptive Immune response: humoral immunity

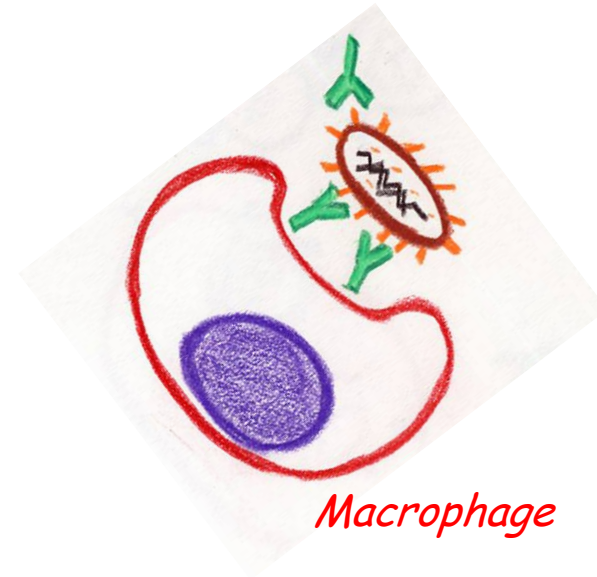
## How do antibodies work?

1. **Neutralization:** Blocking the biological activity of toxin or pathogen *ie. Blocking access*
2. **Bridge:** Bringing together pathogens and phagocytes

# The Adaptive Immune response: humoral immunity



## 1. Neutralization



## 2. Bridge: pathogen-phagocyte

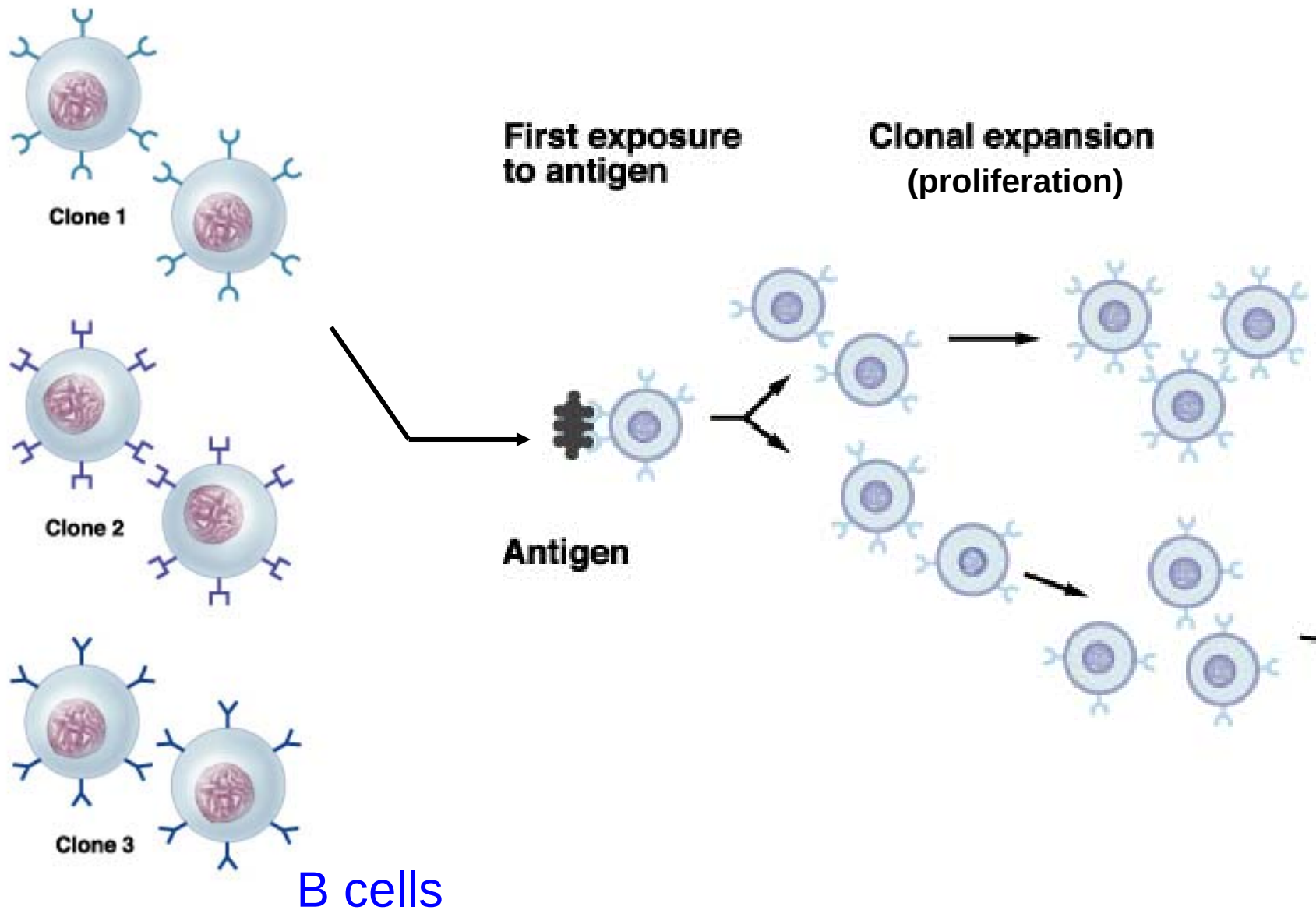
# Question:

- Which components of your kit are most like antibodies?
- Arrange the components of the kit to demonstrate how these antibodies “bridge” a pathogen and the tool to kill it?

# The Adaptive Immune response: humoral immunity

- How are antibodies made?
  - B cells
    - Lymphocytes that make antibodies
    - Have B cell receptors on surface
    - 100 million different types of B cells, each with different surface receptors
    - B cell receptors are so diverse they can recognize every organic molecule
  - When a B cell binds antigen:
    - Proliferates - In one week, clone of 20,000 identical B cells
    - Secretes antibody

# Clonal selection and proliferation





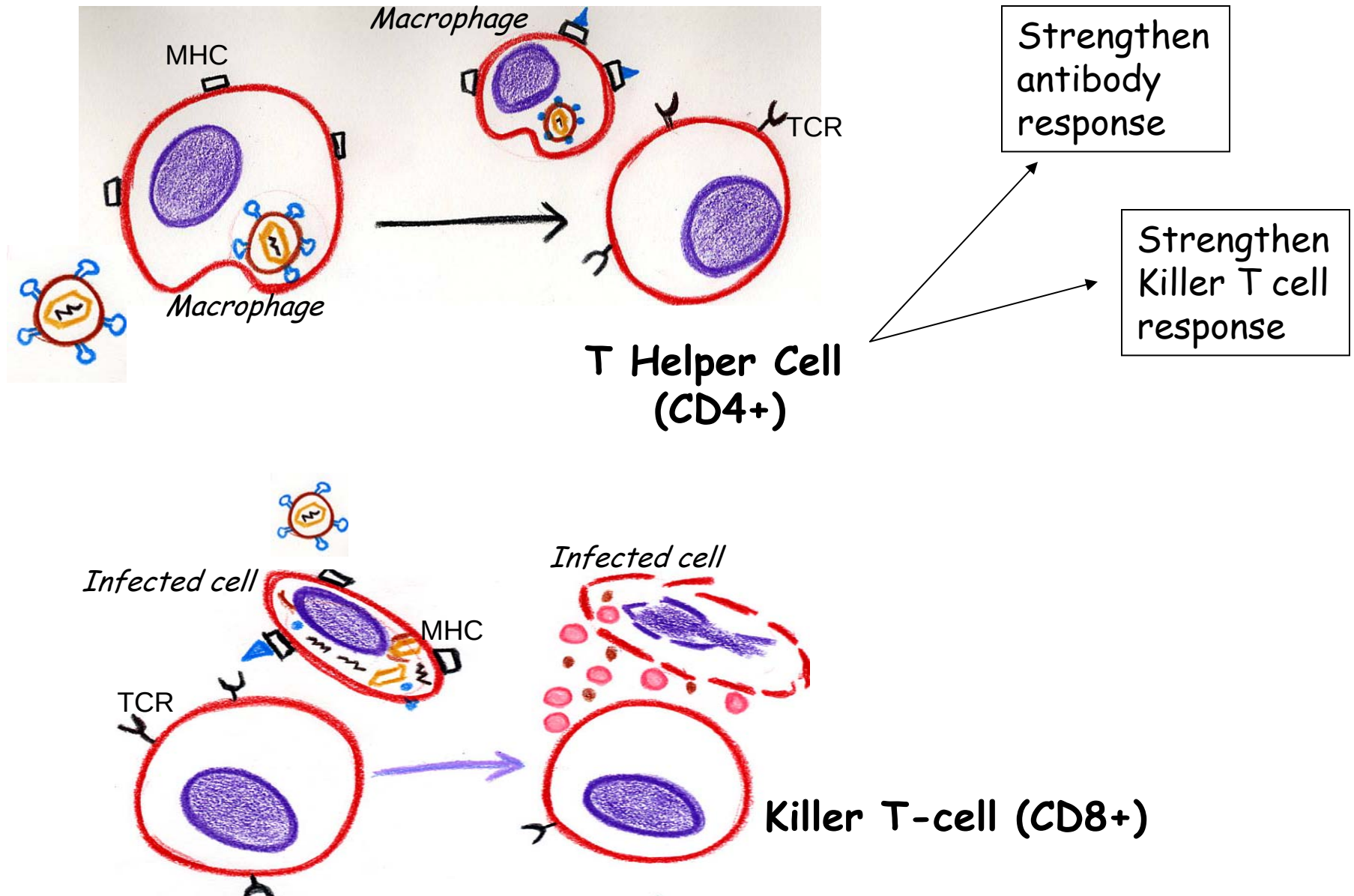
# The Adaptive Immune response: cell-mediated immunity

- How do we kill virus once inside the cell?
  - Antibodies cannot get to it
  - Need T cells
- T Cells
  - Recognize protein antigens
  - When bind antigen, undergo clonal selection
  - Three types of T Cells:
    - Killer T Cells (Cytotoxic T Lymphocytes - CTLs)
    - Helper T Cells (orchestrate adaptive immune response)
    - Regulatory T Cells

# How do T Cells recognize Virus-Infected Cells?

- All cells have **Major Histocompatibility Complex (MHC)** molecules on surface
- T Cells inspect MHC proteins and use this as a signal to identify infected cells
- **Antigens (bits of pathogens) get loaded into MHC molecules:**
  - When virus invades target cell, fragments of viral protein are loaded onto MHC proteins
  - 'Professional' Antigen Presentation Cells (APCs= phagocytes of innate immunity)

# Antigen presentation and cellular immunity



# Question:

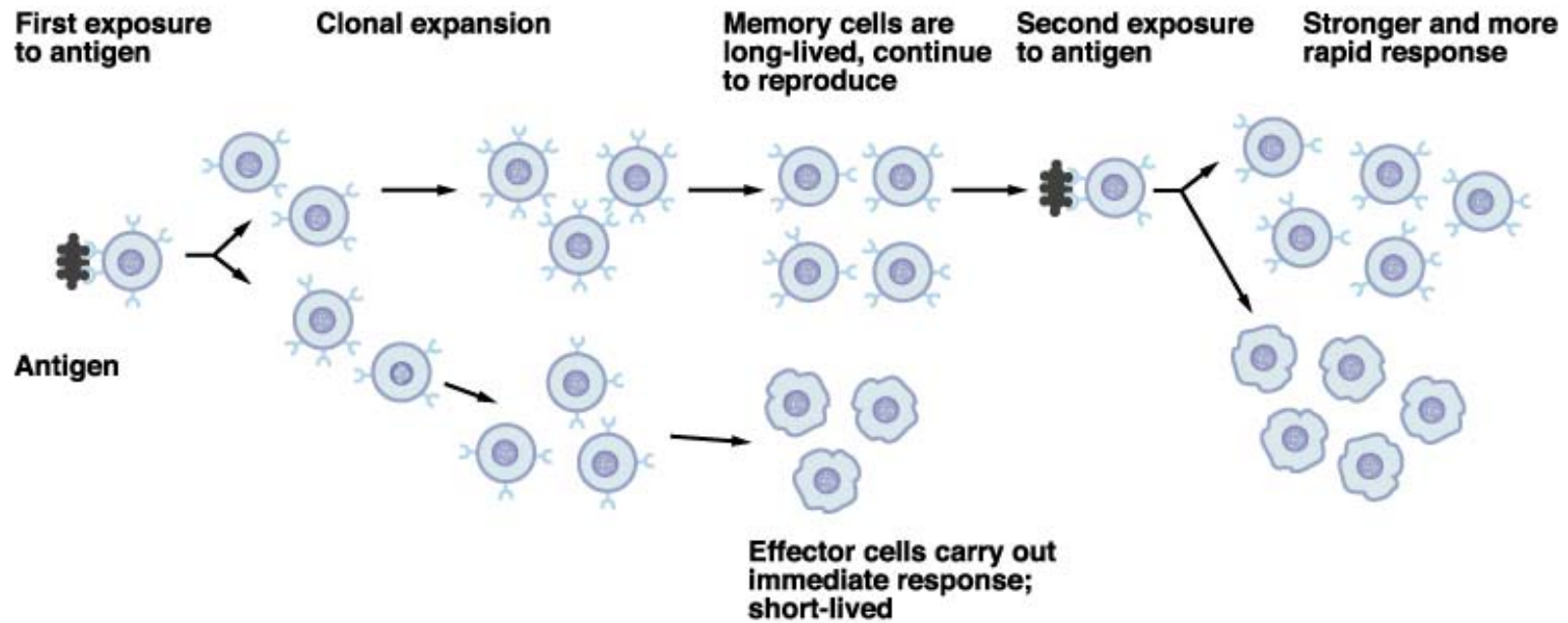
- Demonstrate how the T cell can identify a virus infected cell: antigen presentation
- Why is this component of the adaptive immune system a significant advance over the innate immune system?

# Immunologic Memory

- First time adaptive immune system is activated by an antigen:
  - Build up a clone of B cells and T cells
  - Takes about a week
  - After infection is over, most die off
  - Some remain - memory cells
- Second time adaptive immune system is activated by that antigen:
  - Memory cells are easier to activate
  - Response is much faster - no symptoms

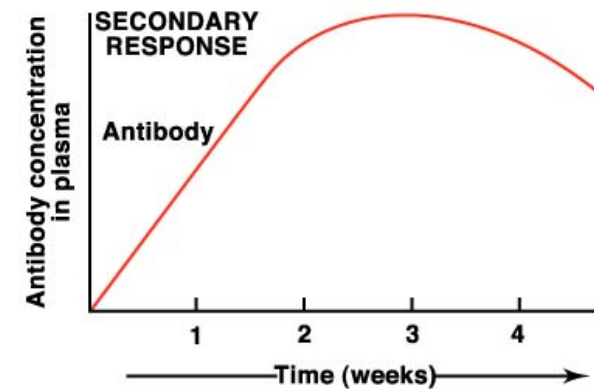
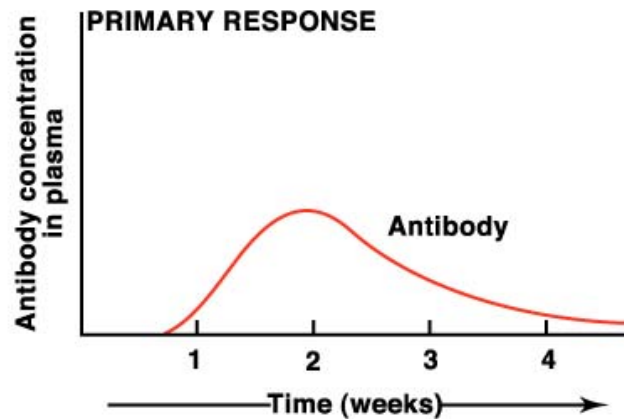


# Immunologic Memory



**Primary response**

**Secondary response**



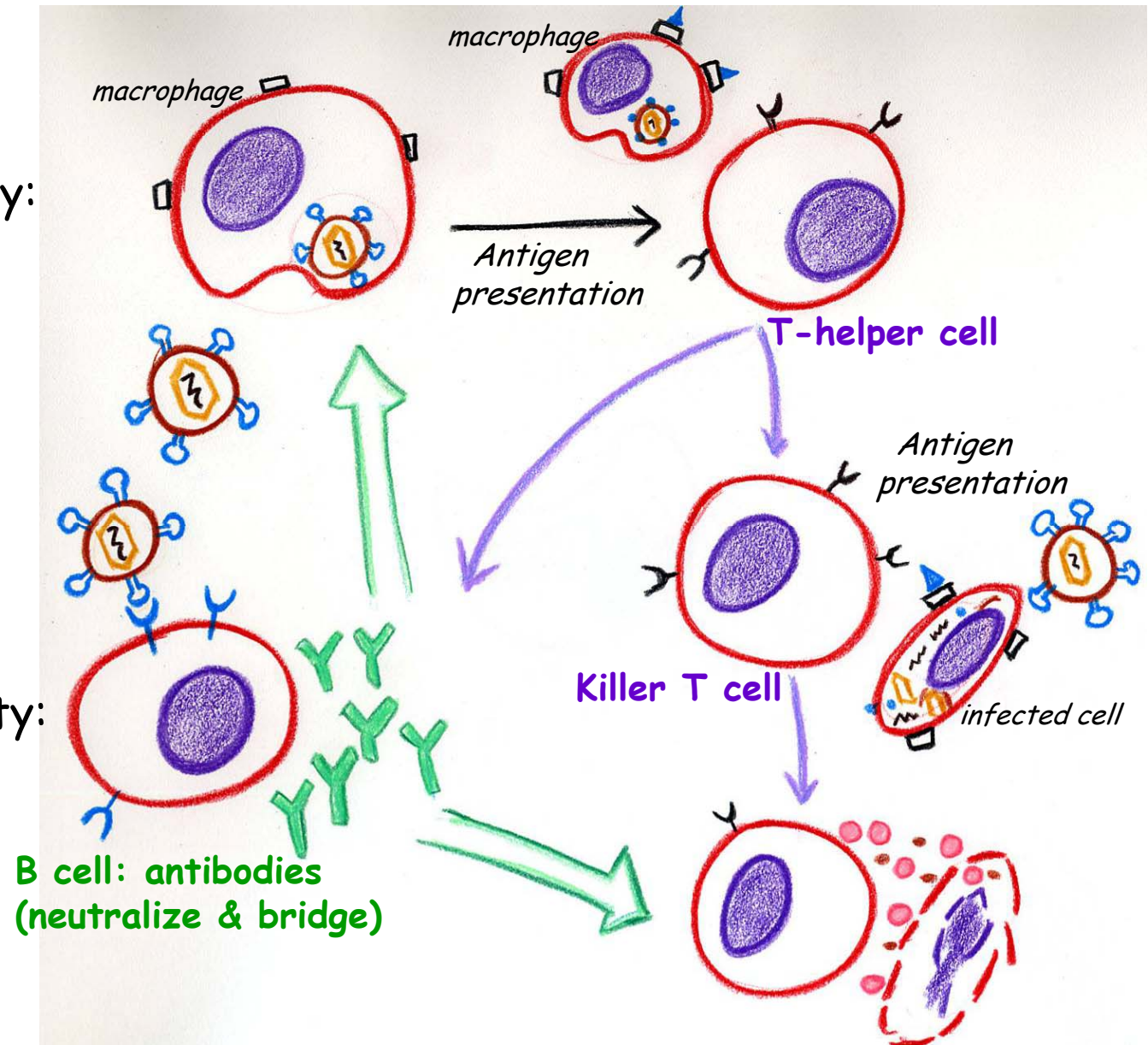
# The adaptive Immune Response

Putting it together...

# The Adaptive immune response

## 1. Cellular Immunity:

## 2. Humoral Immunity:



# Summary of lecture 8

- Pathogens: Bacteria and Virus
- Levels of Immunity:
  - Barriers → First line of defense
  - Innate → Inflammation
    - Phagocytes
    - Complement
  - Adaptive → Immunologic memory
    - Antibody mediated immunity
    - Cell mediated immunity → Pathogens within cells
    - Diversity to recognize 100 million antigens

## Next time

- How do vaccines work?
- Vaccine development:
  - Design
  - Production
  - Testing safety & efficacy
- Challenges of vaccine development

## Assignments Due Next Time

- Homework 5
  - Reading: 'Polio: an end in sight'. Toby Reynolds
  - Questions 1-3



The end.