Cytokines: A Practical Approach

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If the various cells of the body are to work together harmoniously they have to speak to each other. One of the ways they do this is by secreting proteins called cytokines, which diffuse into the surrounding extracellular fluid and bind to specific receptors on neighbouring cells. Normal cells may even talk to themselves if they have receptors for their own cytokines. Cytokines are thus polypeptide hormones with short range paracrine or autocrine effects. No fewer than 29 distinct varieties with at least 85 synonyms are now recognised. Well known examples include the interferons, interleukins, and various other growth factors which are of central...

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Cytokines, including interleukins, interferons, tumor necrosis factors, and chemokines, have a variety of pro- and anti-inflammatory effects in the body through a number of biochemical pathways and interactions. Stimuli, actions, interactions, and downstream effects of cytokines have been investigated in more depth in recent years, and clinical research has also been conducted to implicate cytokines in causal patterns in certain diseases. However, particular cutoffs of cytokines as biomarkers for disease processes have not been well studied, and this warrants future work to potentially improve Cytokines: A Practical Approach is a guide to some of the most important techniques in cell biology, immunology, biochemistry, and molecular biology in use today, and is not exclusively for those interested in cytokines, but also for scientists from many different disciplines in medical research and the biological sciences. In all, over 130 different techniques are described in detail in this book, ranging from the basic to the highly sophisticated. ...more. Get A Copy. Amazon. Stores ▾

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