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Natural Resistance to Tumors and Viruses

By O. Haller

Springer Jan 2012, 2012. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 244x170x7 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - Natural resistance is now coming to be recognized as a potentially important phenomenon in host defense against infection and malignancy. Genetically controlled resistance mechanisms are usually effective early in infection and before conventional immune responses are generated. Comparisons of experimental systems where natural resistance plays a prominent role demonstrate the complexities of the host defense mechanisms involved, as evidenced in the present volume. Nevertheless, some common components of genetic resistance are discernible and largely comprise natural killer cells, macrophages, and interferon. These and additional factors would seem to constitute a first line of defense in host resistance against both viruses and tumors. It is evident that considerable variation in the relative importance of distinct mechanisms may be found among various resistance systems and that, most likely, additional effector functions will be discovered. Resistance to tumors and most viruses is under polygenic control, has a complex mode of inheritance, and depends on appropriately complex effector mechanisms. Instances, however, where a single gene locus determines resistance or susceptibility to a virus,...



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