Inflammation
Acute & Chronic Inflammation
Tissue Repair, Regeneration and Healing
2016-2017

Prepared by
Assistant Professor
Dr. Ghada Nazar AL-jussani
MBCHB., FRCpath UK, London
Jordanian Board in Pathology
European Board in pathology
Iraqi Board in Pathology
Introduction:

One of the characteristic features of living tissue is its ability to react to injury.

In fact, the survival of all organisms requires the ability of their normal cells to respond to injury, and to eliminate foreign invaders such as infectious agents or damaged tissue.

These functions are mediated by a complex host response called inflammation.

Inflammation is a protective response involving host cells, blood vessels and proteins and other mediators, that is intended to eliminate the initial cause of injury and to initiate the process of repair.
The response to injury is divided into:

1- **General body response**:
   This involves nervous & hormonal adjustments and results in considerable metabolic alterations. At the same time the lympho-reticular system will respond by proliferation to provide more phagocytic cells and antibody-forming cells.

2- **Local response**:
   Initially the adjacent living tissue will undergo changes which enable phagocytic cells & circulating antibodies to enter the area of the damage.

   This phase is called **Inflammation**, which continues as long as the tissue damage goes on.
Inflammation:

Is a physiological response of living tissue to injury. Its purpose is to localize and eliminate the injurious agents, To limit the tissue injury and To restore the tissue to normality or as close to normality as possible.
Types of inflammation:

Acute inflammation:
Is the inflammatory response which is sudden in onset, of short duration lasting from few minutes to few days, in which the vascularized and exudative process predominates, with predominantly neutrophilic leukocytes accumulation. It is characterized by the classical cardinal signs of inflammation,

Chronic inflammation:
Is an inflammation of a more insidious onset of longer duration, may last for days to years, it is characterized by influx of lymphocytes and macrophages associated with vascular proliferation and fibrosis (scarring), usually causes permanent tissue damage.

Subacute inflammation:
A condition intermediate between acute and chronic inflammation, i.e. the inflammation that lasts longer than acute inflammation but is not chronic.
Acute Inflammation:

Is the inflammatory response which is sudden in onset, of short duration, and is characterized by the classical cardinal signs of inflammation, and in which the vascularized and exudative process predominates.

The cardinal signs of acute inflammation

(Celsius 30 B.C.)

* Heat (Calor)
* Redness (Rubor)
* Swelling (Tumor)
* Pain (Dolor)
* Loss of function (Functio laesa)
Figure -1 : Cardinal signs of acute inflammation including redness, swelling, pain, heat & loss of function.
Acute Inflammation:

The major local manifestations of acute inflammation are:

1. The vascular dilatation causing erythema (redness) and a warmth (heat).
2. Extravasation of plasma fluid & proteins causing edema (swelling).
3. Leukocytes emigration and accumulation at the site of injury.
Figure 2 - Acute inflammation (skin), showing increased vascular permeability, edema & neutrophilic cells infiltrate in extravascular spaces.
Causes of inflammation:

1. **Infections** (bacterial, viral, fungal, & parasitic) are the most common medically important causes.
2. **Tissue necrosis** (from any cause), including ischemia (e.g., Myocardial Infarction).
3. **Trauma** (blunt & penetrating),
4. **Physical agents** (thermal injuries like burns or frostbite; irradiation)
5. **Chemicals**: Agents as strong acids, alkalis.
6. **Foreign bodies**: (splinters, dirt, & sutures).
7. **Immune / hypersensitivity reactions**: against environmental substances or against self tissue.
Nomenclature:

Inflammation in tissue or organ, is designated by attaching the **suffix**– *itis* to the affected tissue/organ lateen name, e.g.,

Appendix- Appendicitis,
Tonsils- Tonsillitis,
Thyroid-Thyroiditis
Bronchi- Bronchitis,
Myocardium-Myocarditis
Colon-Colitis.

With some exceptions as
pneumonia for inflammation of the lung,
pleurisy for inflammation of the pleura.
Bladder-cystitis,
Liver-Hepatitis,
Skin-Dermatitis,
Ovary–Oophoritis.
Testis-Orchitis etc.
Five important components of inflammatory response interact to resolve the local injury & restore normal function:

1. **Circulating bone marrow-derived cells** include the leukocytes, neutrophils, eosinophils & basophils; lymphocytes, monocytes, & platelets.

2. **Circulating proteins** include clotting factors, kininogens, & complement components, all are synthesized by the liver.

3. **Vascular wall cells** include 
   
   (a) **endothelial cells** (EC).
   
   (b) **the underlying smooth muscle cells** (SMC).
4. **Connective tissue cells** include
   (a) mast cells, macrophages to phagocytose.
   
   (b) the fibroblasts that synthesize the extracellular matrix (ECM).

5. **The extracellular matrix (ECM)** consist of fibrous structural proteins (e.g., collagen & elastin, gel-forming).
F 3: The components of acute & chronic inflammatory responses & their principal functions.
Two major events occur in acute inflammation:

I- Vascular response.
II- Cellular response.

I- Vascular response this includes:

A- Changes in blood flow & vessel caliber:

These begin early after injury, but develop at varying rates depending on the severity of the injury.

They are characterized by:

1. Transient vasoconstriction
2. Persistent vasodilatation
3. Slowing of blood flow:

1. Transient vasoconstriction of the arterioles:

   This is an inconstant finding & in mild injury it disappears with 3-5 seconds. In severe injury such as burn it may last several minutes. The mechanism is unknown, it may be neurogenic due to axonal reflex.
(2) Persistent vasodilatation:

Which first involves the precapillary arterioles & then results in opening of new microvascular beds in the area.

The blood flow thus will be increased in the injured area the volume of the blood there will be 10 folds the normal level.

This is called ACTIVE HYPEREMIA, which is the hallmark of the early haemodynamic changes in acute inflammation.

This is the cause of the heat & redness observed clinically.

At this stage the increased blood volume in the dilated vessels may result in sufficient increase in the local hydrostatic pressure causing transudation of protein-poor fluid into the extravascular spaces called transudate.
F 4 : The major local manifestation of acute inflammation, compared to normal.

(1) Vascular dilation & ↑blood flow (causing erythema & warmth),

(2) extravasation & deposition of plasma fluid & proteins (edema), & swelling.

(3) leukocyte (mainly neutrophil) emigration & accumulation in the site of injury.
(3) **Slowing of blood flow:**

This results from

**a-** Increased vascular permeability of microcirculation with escape of fluids into the extra vascular spaces.

**b-** Increase of the cellular components of the intravascular compartments.

The above changes (a & b) lead to increased blood viscosity.

**c-** Pressure from the accumulated extra vascular fluids that causes compression of the capillaries & arterioles.

The above changes result in slowing and stasis of blood flow.
B-Changes in vascular permeability

Normally, the intravascular hydrostatic pressure is **32 mmHg at the arterial end** of a capillary bed, & **12 mmHg at the venous end**, with a mean of **20 mmHg**.

In the earliest phase of inflammation, arteriolar vasodilatation & increased blood flow result in increased intravascular hydrostatic pressure, causing, the movement of fluid from the capillaries to the extra vascular (interstitial) space. This fluid is called **transudate** (with low specific gravity) which is essentially an ultra filterate of the blood plasma & contains little protein.

Transudation is soon followed by increased vascular permeability that allows the movement of **protein-rich fluid** & even cells, into the interstitium, now this fluid is called an **exudate** (with high specific gravity).
Figure 5: Diagrammatic view of vascular changes in acute inflammation.
Increased vascular permeability is caused by:

1- Endothelial cell contraction Leading to intercellular gaps in postcapillary venules: Is the most common cause of increased vascular permeability.

   It is a reversible process occurs rapidly after binding to histamine, bradykinins, & leukotrienes to specific receptors on endothelial cells surfaces.

   It is short lived lasting 15-30 minutes and only affect venules.

2- Junctional retraction:

   (cytoskeletal reorganization): A slower & more prolonged process resulting from change in cytoskeleton of cells. It is a reversible process also caused by chemical mediators like tumor-necrosis factor (TNF) & interleukin 1 (IL-1) which induces structural reorganization of the cytoskeleton of cells.

   It may take 4-6 hours to develop & persists for 24 hours or more. Venules & capillaries are mostly affected.
3- Direct endothelial cells injury:
   This is caused by direct injury to endothelial cells as in infections and burn or exposure to ultraviolet light.
   Fluid leakage starts immediately after injury & persists several hours or days until the damaged vessels are thrombosed or repaired. Arterioles, capillaries as well as venules are affected.

4- Leukocytes-dependant injury:
   This refers to endothelial cell injury results from accumulation of leukocytes during inflammation.
   Leukocytes become activated & release toxic oxygen metabolites & proteolytic enzymes. Arterioles, capillaries and venules are affected.
Figure 6: Acute inflammation of the conjunctiva showing swelling & redness of both eyelids.
Figure 7: Acute inflammation: showing congested blood vessels with interstitial edema and acute inflammatory cells infiltration.
The Cellular Response

A critical function of inflammation is the delivery of leukocytes to the site of injury. Leukocytes kill bacteria and degrade necrotic tissue & foreign-antigens.

Leukocytes also prolong inflammation by inducing tissue damage by releasing enzymes, chemical mediators & toxic oxygen free radicals.

The cellular response includes:
** Leukocytes margination.
** Sticking & Rolling.
** Emigration.
** Chemo taxis.
** Phagocytosis.
Leukocytic margination:

Normal blood flow is called **axial flow** when the cellular components occupy the central column and the fluid component flow near the vessel wall.

During inflammation the cellular component especially the leukocytes assume a peripheral location due to increased permeability & the hemodynamic changes, this is called **margination of leukocytes**.
Figure 8: Acute inflammation: leukocytic cells margination in a dilated congested blood vessel.
Figure 9: Diagramatic view of cellular response in acute inflammation.
Sticking & Rolling:

The WBC adhere in large number to the endothelial surface of the blood vessel they adhere transiently finally coming to stick firmly resembling marbles over which the stream runs without disturbing them.

In time the endothelium can be virtually lined by white cells an appearance called **pavementing**

This binding is due to the presence of the **complementary adhesion molecules** on the leukocytes and the endothelial cells, it is like **lock & key pattern**.
Chemical mediators like C5a & other chemotactic agents, which are released by injured cells including endothelial cells, activate the leukocytes to promote their adherence & rolling on endothelial surface & later on their migration.

The chemical mediators, chemo attractants and certain cytokines, affect these processes by modulating the surface expression or avidity of such adhesion molecules.
The adhesion receptors involved belong to three molecular families, namely, these are involved in weak & transient interactions involved in rolling of leukocytes:

1- **The selectins**: which consist of

- **E-selectin**: which is confined to the endothelial cells.
- **P-selectin**: present on the platelets and endothelium.
- **L-selectin**: present on leukocytes, especially lymphocytes it adheres them to the endothelial cells.

In unactivated endothelial cells P-selectin is found primarily as intracellular **Weibel-Palade bodies**, within minutes after exposure to mediators like **Histamine** or **thrombin**, P-selectin will be distributed to cell surface, where it can facilitate leukocytes binding.

Similarly **E-selectin** & ligand for **L-selectin** are not expressed on normal cells but become expressed on cell surface by effect **IL-1 & TNF**.
2- The immunoglobulin family molecules:

These are involved in the firm adhesion of leukocytes to endothelial cells. They include two endothelial adhesion molecules:

* An intercellular adhesion molecule 1 (ICAM-1) &
* Vascular cell adhesion molecule-1 (VCAM-1).

Both these molecules interact with integrins found on the leukocytes being stimulated by cytokins during inflammation by macrophages like IL-1 & TNF.

3- The integrins & mucin-like glycoprotein:

are transmembrane glycoproteins, that also function as cell receptors for ECAM (endothelial cell adhesion molecule) & VECAM (vascular endothelial cell adhesion molecule). They are normally expressed on WBC plasma membranes, function as receptor for extracellular matrix, but do not adhere to their appropriate ligands until the WBC are activated by chemokines.
Emigration

This is the process by which mobile leukocytes escape from blood vessels into the peri vascular spaces & tissues.

This may involve neutrophils, eosinophils, lymphocytes & monocytes.

They pass through amoeboid movement by inserting pseudopods into the junctions between the endothelial cells and assume position between the endothelial cells and the basement membrane. Eventually, they traverse the basement membrane and escape into the extra vascular space. The extravasation of WBCs is by process called diapedesis.

The red blood cells normally leave blood vessel by leaking from injured vessel.
The complex process of leukocyte migration through blood vessels, shown here for neutrophils.
The type of WBCs seen in inflammatory response varies with the nature & severity of the injury or stimulus and the age of the inflammatory lesion.

In most types of acute inflammation neutrophils predominate in the first 6-24 hours, to be replaced by monocytes within 24-48 hours.

In hypersensitivity reaction eosinophils are the main cell type.

**Chemotaxis:**

This term refers to the directional movement of cells towards an attractant, or defined as Locomotion oriented along a chemical gradient at the site of injury.
The substances that cause chemotaxis are called **chemotactic agents**, these include substances such as:

1. Soluble bacterial products.
2. Components of complement system such as, **C5a**.
3. Products of **lipoxygenase pathway** of arachidonic acid metabolism particularly **leukotriene B4** (LTB4).
4. Cytokines of the chemokine family.

The chemotactic agents **bind to specific receptors on leukocyte cell surface** & induce an intracellular cascade of phospholipids metabolites associated with increased intracellular calcium, which triggers the assembly of cytoskeletal contractile elements necessary for cell movements.
Leukocytic activation:

Once leukocytes have been recruited at site of infection or tissue necrosis, they must be activated to perform their functions.

Stimuli of activation include microbes, products of necrotic cells or several mediators.

After activation leukocytes perform the following functions:

* Phagocytosis.
* Intracellular destruction of phagocytosed microbes or material.
* Liberation of substances to destroy extracellular harmful microbes or material.
* Production of mediators, including arachidonic acid metabolites & cytokines that amplify inflammatory reaction & recruiting more inflammatory cells.
Phagocytosis:

Phagocytosis & the release of lysosomal enzymes are two of the major benefits occurring from the accumulation of leukocytes at the site of inflammation.

There are three distinct steps in phagocytosis:

1- Recognition & attachment.
2- Engulfment.
3- Killing & degradation of ingested material.
Recognition:

Neutrophils & monocytes recognize & engulf bacteria without serum being necessarily present.

However, most injurious agents become recognized only when coated by serum factors called **opsonins**, these include agents such as immunoglobulins (Fc portion) of IgG and complement components such as C3b.

These join specific receptors on leukocyte surface.
Leukocyte activation. Different classes of cell surface receptors of WBC recognize different stimuli.
Engulfment:

Pseudopods from leukocytes (cytoplasmic extensions) flow around the objects to be engulfed to form a membrane-bound phagocytic vacuole that contains the particle called **phagosome** this will fuse with membrane-bound lysosome to form **phagolysosome**. Lysosomes then release their lysosomal enzymes. So the neutrophils and monocytes become degranulated.

Killing & degradation:

Killing & degradation of the ingested particles will be achieved by the lysosomal enzymes. Some of these lysosomal enzymes leak to the extracellular space causing further tissue damage.
Figure 12: Diagramatic view of phagocytosis.
Figure 13: Microscopic view shows severe acute inflammation showing dense neutrophilic cells infiltrate & exudate
Figure 14: Acute inflammation shows (1) the submucosa contains dilated & congested capillaries (thick arrow).

(2) The interstitial connective tissue is pale & edematous due to the presence of inflammatory exudate.

(3) Polymorphs (double arrow) are visible within capillaries (margination), as well as in the submucosa & within the surface stratified squamous epithelium (migration).
F 15: Phagocytosis of cells: shows numerous very large phagocytic cells (thin arrow) the nuclei of which are very large, pale (thick A) & in their abundant cytoplasm are many ingested pyknotic, necrotic cells & lymphocytes (Double arrow).
Figure 16: A graphic chart showing steps of inflammatory responses in acute inflammation.
Responses of Lymphatic Vessels:

Lymphatics also participate in the inflammatory response. Normally any interstitial fluids are removed by lymphatics.

In inflammation, lymph flow is increased and helps drain edema fluid from the extravascular space.

Because the intercellular junctions of lymphatics are loose, lymphatic fluid eventually equilibrates with extravascular fluid.

In addition to fluid, leukocytes and cell debris may also find their way into lymph.

In severe inflammatory reactions, especially to microbes, the lymphatics may transport the offending agent. The lymphatics may become secondarily inflamed (lymphangitis), as may the draining lymph nodes (lymphadenitis).

Inflamed lymph nodes are often painful & are enlarged, because of hyperplasia of the lymphoid follicles and increased numbers of lymphocytes and phagocytic cells lining the sinuses of the lymph nodes.
Figure 17: Photographic view showing acute lymphadenitis i.e. inflammed draining lymph vessels.
Figure 18: Photographic view of acute lymphadenitis. Inflammation of the draining lymph nodes to site of injury.
Chemical mediators:

These are chemical substances that control the vascular and cellular events of inflammations.

The mediators are characterized by the following features:

1- May be produced locally by cells at the site of inflammation, or may be derived from circulating inactive precursors (typically synthesized in the liver) and activated at site of inflammation.

2- Cell-derived mediators are normally sequestered as intracellular granules, rapidly secreted upon cell activation like histamine in mast cells. Or are synthesized by cells in response to stimulus as prostaglandins & cytokines by leukocytes.

3- Plasma derived mediators (complement proteins, kinins) circulate in an inactive form & typically undergo proteolytic cleavage to acquire biological activities.
4- Most mediators act by binding to specific receptors on different target cells. Such mediators may act on one or very few cell types, or may have diverse actions with differing outcome depending on which cell type they affect.

5- Some mediators (e.g. lysosomal proteases, ROS) have direct enzymatic or toxic activities that do not require binding to specific receptors.

6- The action of most mediators are tightly regulated & short-lived, once activated and released from cells, mediators quickly decay as the arachidonic metabolites & enzymes.
They are divided into two major categories:

I- Mediators that are derived from the plasma:

including:
- The kinin system.
- The complement system.
- The coagulation & fibrinolytic system.

II- Mediators released from cells:

Either:

A- Preformed mediators in secretory granules of cells. Like:
 * Histamine secreted by mast cells, basophils & platelets.
 * Serotonin secreted by platelets.
 * Lysosomal enzymes secreted by neutrophils & macrophages.
B- Newly synthesized mediators:

- Prostaglandins
- Leukotriens
- Platelets activating factors
- Reactive oxygen species
- Nitric oxide
- Cytokines
- Neuropeptides
F 19: Principal chemical mediators of inflammation

MEDIATORS
- Histamine
- Serotonin
- Prostaglandins
- Leukotrienes
- Platelet-activating factor
- Reactive oxygen species
- Nitric oxide
- Cytokines
- Neuropeptides

SOURCE
- Mast cells, basophils, platelets
- Platelets
- All leukocytes, mast cells
- All leukocytes, mast cells
- All leukocytes, EC
- All leukocytes
- Macrophages, EC
- Macrophages, lymphocytes, EC, mast cells
- Leukocytes, nerve fibers

CELL-DERIVED
- Preformed mediators in secretory granules
- Newly synthesized

PLASMA PROTEIN-DERIVED
- Complement activation
  - C3a
  - C5a
  - C3b
  - C5b-9 (membrane attack complex)
- Factor XII (Hageman factor) activation
  - Kinin system (bradykinin)
  - Coagulation / fibrinolysis system

© Elsevier. Kumar et al: Robbins Basic Pathology 8e - www.studentconsult.com
Plasma-derived mediators:

Coagulation system:

Some of the molecules activated during blood clotting are capable of triggering multiple aspects of the inflammatory response.

Hagman factor (factor XII) is a protein synthesized by the liver that circulates in an inactive form until it encounters collagen, basement membrane or activated platelets.

Activated Hagman factor XII can initiate four systems that may contribute to the inflammatory response:

1- the kinin system, producing vasoactive kinins.
2- the clotting system, producing thrombin & fibrin.
3- the complement system, producing active C3a or C5a helping chemotaxis.
4- the fibrinolytic system, producing plasmin.
Kinins system activation

Kinins system activation leads ultimately to the formation of bradykinin from its circulating precursor high molecular weight kininogen (HMWK).

Bradykinin like histamine causes increased vascular permeability, arteriolar dilation & bronchial smooth muscle contraction. It causes pain when injected to the skin. Its effect is short lived and is rapidly degraded by kininases present in plasma & tissues.
The clotting system:
The proteolytic cascade leads to activation of thrombin, which then cleaves circulating soluble fibrinogen to generate an insoluble fibrin clot.

Factor Xa, an intermediate in the clotting cascade causes increased vascular permeability and leucocytes emigration.

Thrombin participates in inflammation by binding to receptors on platelets, endothelial cells & many other cell types, leading to their activation & leucocytes adhesion.

Also thrombin increases vascular permeability & are chemotactic.
Figure 20: The clotting cascade.
Complement system:

Consists of plasma proteins (numbered C1 to C9), are present in plasma as inactive forms and many are activated by proteolysis to acquire their active form that play important role in host defense (immunity) & inflammation.

Upon activation, different complement proteins coat (opsonize) particles like microbes for phagocytosis and destruction & contribute for inflammatory response by increasing vascular permeability & leukocytes chemotaxis.

Complements ultimately generates a membrane pore like attack complex (MAC) that punches holes in the membranes of invading microbes.
F 21 : Complement system: activation & functions.
Their effects are:

1. **Vascular effects:** 
   
   - **C3a & C5a** called (anaphylatoxins) increase vascular permeability & cause vasodilation.

2. **WBC activation, adhesion, & Chemotaxis:**
   
   **C5a** activates WBC, increase their adhesion to endothelial cells (integrins), & is a potent chemotactic agent for all WBC (except lymphocytes).

3. **Phagocytosis:**

   When fixed to a microbial surface, **C3b** & its inactive proteolytic product **C3b** act as **opsonins** augmenting phagocytosis by neutrophils & macrophages, which express receptors for these complement products.
Fibrinolytic system

Also activated by active Hagman factor (Xa).

This mechanism serves to limit clotting by cleaving fibrin, thereby solubilizing the fibrin clot.

Plasminogen activator released from endothelial cells, leucocytes & other tissues cleaves plasminogen, a plasma protein bound in the evolving fibrin clot, resulting in plasmin, a protease that cleaves fibrin & therefore is important in lysing clots.
Mediators released from cells:
A- Preformed mediators:

Vasoactive Amines:
- Histamine & serotonin

Histamine
- Is produced by mast cells & basophils and platelets.
  A preformed Histamine is released these cells in response to:
  1- during physical injury such as trauma or heat.
  2- immune reactions such as binding of IgE antibody to Fc receptor on mast cells.
  3- C3a & C5a fragment of complement called anaphylotoxin.
  4- Certain cytokins like IL-1 & IL-8.
- Histamine induces vascular dilatation & increased vascular permeability.

Serotonin: 5-hydroxytryptamine
- Is also a preformed mediator primarily in the platelets.
  It is released during platelets aggregation.
  It induces vasodilation (?) Vasoconstriction) during clotting.
Arachidonic acid metabolites (AA):

Prostaglandins, Leukotrienes & lipoxins.

Released from arachidonic acid metabolism, which is a component of cell membrane phospholipids, through the action of cellular phospholipases that have been activated by chemical, physical stimuli, or inflammatory mediators such as C5a.

Their synthesis is increased at sites of inflammation.
Prostaglandins & Thromboxanes are products of cyclo-oxygenase pathway including Prostaglandin E$_2$ (PGE$_2$), PGD$_2$, PGF$_2$ & PGI$_2$ (prostacyclin) & Thromboxane A$_2$ (TXA$_2$).

Platelets contains the enzyme thromboxane synthase & hence (TXA$_2$) which is a potent platelet aggregating agent & vasoconstrictor is produced by these cells.

Endothelial cells lack thromboxane synthase but contain prostacyclin synthase which produces PGI$_2$ which is an active vasodilator & potent inhibitor of platelets aggregation.

Prostaglandins also contribute for pain & fever that accompany inflammation.
F 22 : Arachidonic Acid metabolites.

Cell membrane phospholipids

- Phospholipases

Steroids inhibit →

ARACHIDONIC ACID

- HPETEs → HETEs
- Other lipoxygenases

COX-1 and COX-2 inhibitors, aspirin, indomethacin inhibit

Cyclooxygenase

- Prostaglandin G₂ (PGG₂)
- Prostaglandin H₂ (PGH₂)

- Prostacyclin (PGI₂), Causes vasodilation, inhibits platelet aggregation
- Thromboxane A₂ (TXA₂), Causes vasoconstriction, promotes platelet aggregation

5-Lipoxygenase

- 5-HPETE
- 5-HETE
- Leukotriene A₄ (LTA₄), Chemotaxis
- Leukotriene B₄, Vasoconstriction, Bronchospasm, Increased vascular permeability

12-Lipoxygenase

- Leukotriene C₄ (LTC₄)
- Leukotriene D₄ (LTD₄)
- Leukotriene E₄ (LTE₄)

Lipoxin A₄ (LXA₄), Lipoxin B₄ (LXB₄), Inhibit neutrophil adhesion and chemotaxis

PGD₂, PGE₂, Increased vascular permeability
Cytokines:

Are polypeptides produced by many cell types called interleukins (IL).

The major cytokines in inflammation is Tumor-Necrosis Factor (TNF), IL-1 & IL-6, which are produced by activated macrophages, mast cells and endothelial cells. These are chemo-attractants.

Other cytokines that are more important in chronic inflammation are interferon-gama (IFN-γ) & interleukin-12 (IL-12).

They increase leukocytes binding and recruitment, activation of neutrophils and fibroblasts.

They also cause acute phase reaction during inflammation.
Figure 23
Major effects of TNF & IL-1 in inflammation.
Reactive oxygen species (ROS): Released by neutrophils & macrophages during inflammation, have a role in microbial killing and tissue injury.

Nitric oxide: A short-lived free radical gas produced by many cells, causing vasodilatation and microbial killing.

Lysosomal enzymes: Granules in neutrophils & monocytes, they cause microbial killing and tissue injury.
Figure 24: Sources & effects of NO in inflammation
MORPHOLOGIC PATTERNS OF ACUTE INFLAMMATION:

Will be affected by:

The (1) cause of inflammation.

(2) severity.

(3) the type of tissue involved, can all modify the basic morphologic patterns of acute inflammation, producing distinctive appearances.
1- Serous inflammation:

This is characterized by outpouring of thin watery fluid called **effusion** which is protein-poor fluid that is either derived from the blood (serum) or the secretion of **mesothelial cells** of pleura, peritoneum, pericardium or the synovial cells lining the joint spaces.

This serous fluid accumulates in body cavities as seen in **TB infection**..

**Skin blister** that results from burn or viral infection is also an example of serous inflammation.
Figure 25: Gross view of bilateral pleural clear serous fluid, example of serous inflammation.
Figure 26: Serous inflammation of skin in burn showing bullae filled with serous fluid.
F 27 : Serous inflammation: Subepidermal bullous. The epidermis is separated from the dermis by a focal collection of serous effusion.
2- Fibrinous inflammation:

In this type of inflammation there is exudation of large amount of plasma proteins including fibrinogen with subsequent precipitation of masses of fibrin. This is characteristic of certain severe inflammatory responses increasing vascular permeability to allow larger molecules in blood like fibrinogen to pass the endothelial barrier with subsequent precipitation of masses of fibrin.

The accumulated extravascular fibrin appear as an eosinophilic mesh-work of threads on linings of body cavities or on meninges.

Such fibrin may be degraded by fibrinolysis and the debris removed by macrophages resulting in resolution.
In **rheumatic pericarditis**, the pericardial space may become filled with large masses of fibrin, when the epicardium is stripped from the pericardium, the rubbery adherent fibrin coats both surfaces and simulating the appearance of **bread and butter**.

**Organization** of fibrinous exudates by formation of new capillaries with fibroblasts leading to **scarring** and consequently obliterate the pericardial cavity.

B, Pink meshwork of fibrin exudate (F) overlies pericardial surface (P).
F 29: Acute Fibrinous pericarditis.
The epicardial surface of the heart is covered with a fibrinous exudate.
A protein-rich fluid was also present in the pericardial sac.
Figure 30: Gross view of chronic fibrinous pericarditis, showing bread & butter appearance.
F 31: Uraemic pericarditis: heart. fibrinous pericarditis.

The epicardial surface is covered with grey-white strands of fibrin some of which appear contracted & white as a result of organization (so-called, bread & butter appearance).
3- **Suppurative inflammation**: This is characterized by production of large amount of pus (or purulent exudate).

Infection with Staphylococci produce localized suppuration as the **skin pastule**.

In suppurative appendicitis, there is pus within the lumen and an intensive infiltration of polymorph neutrophils that are present in the mucosa, submucosa, muscularis & the serosa of the appendix.

In some cases localized collection of pus will lead to **abscess formation**.
Figure 32: Purulent meningitis. The under surface of the brain is shown. A thick green purulent exudate, pus fills the subarachnoid space over the brain-stem & cerebellum. The patient had acute meningitis caused by staphylococcus aureus.
Figure 33: Acute suppurative tonsilitis, the tonsils being covered by whitish yellowish material (pus).
F 34: Microscopic view of Purulent inflammation.
A, Multiple bacterial abscesses in the lung (arrows) in a case of bronchopneumonia.
B, The abscess contains neutrophils + cellular debris = Pus, & is surrounded by congested blood vessels.
Figure 35: Acute inflammation: Pustule = skin abscess. Small ovoid abscess (thin arrow) within the upper epidermis causing the skin surface. The main constituent of the abscess is neutrophils with necrotic squamous cells.
Membranous or pseudomembranous inflammation:

This is a form of inflammatory reaction that is characterized by the formation of a membrane or more correctly a pseudo-membrane.

It is usually made up of precipitated fibrin, necrotic epithelium & inflammatory leukocytes.

This occurs when the inflammation is so severe as to cause epithelial necrosis and sloughing.

An example of this pattern is seen with Diphtheria affecting the larynx & pharynx.

It may also affect the large bowel causing pseudomembranous colitis. The latter is caused by Clostridium difficile infection.

In this type of inflammation there is an extensive confluent necrosis of the surface epithelium or mucosa & severe inflammation of the underlying tissue.

Fibrinogen coagulates within necrotic tissue & together with polymorph neutrophils, red cells, bacteria & debris of dead tissue produce the false membrane over the inflamed surfaces.
Figure 36: Gross view of colon showing Pseudomembranous colitis, multiple yellowish patches of necrotic material seen on mucosal surface.
Figure 37: Microscopic appearance of pseudomembranous colitis, showing mushroom like membrane over ulcerated mucosa of the colon.
OUTCOMES of acute inflammation are:

(I) Resolution, with complete recovery:

with restoration of normal structure & function, occurs only if all the following conditions are satisfied.

This occurs:

1. When the injury is limited or short-lived,
2. when there has been no, or minimal tissue damage.
3. when the tissue is capable of replacing any necrotic cells.

(II) Progression to chronic inflammation

May follow acute inflammation, if the offending agent is not removed. In some instances (viral infections or immune responses to self-antigens), signs of chronic inflammation may be present at the onset of injury. Depending on the extent of the initial & continuing tissue injury, as well as the capacity of the affected tissues to regrow.
Figure 38: Events in the resolution of inflammation. Phagocytes clear the fluid, WBCs & dead tissue, & fluid & proteins are removed by lymphatic drainage.
(III) - Scarring or fibrosis results:

1. If inflammation occurs in tissues that do not regenerate (e.g., skeletal & myocardial muscles; & neurons).
2. After substantial tissue destruction (if the supporting structures of the tissues are severely damaged), or
3. In extensive fibrinous exudates which can not be completely absorbed & therefore, it is organized by ingrowth of connective tissue & resultant fibrosis.

(IV) - Abscess formation: (suppuration)

May occur in the setting of extensive neutrophilic infiltrate (in pyogenic or “pus forming” bacterial or fungal infections). Due to the extensive tissue destruction as seen in abscess (including the extracellular matrix).
Figure 39: Outcomes of acute inflammation: resolution, healing by scarring or chronic inflammation.
CHRONIC INFLAMMATION

Inflammation of prolonged duration (weeks, months to years) in which active inflammation, tissue injury, & healing proceed simultaneously.

Chronic inflammation is characterized by:

1. Infiltration with mononuclear chronic inflammatory cells, including macrophages, lymphocytes, & plasma cells.
2. Tissue destruction, largely directed by the inflammatory cells
3. Repair, involving new vessel proliferation (angiogenesis) & fibrosis.
Figure 40:
A, Chronic lung inflammation, showing collection of chronic inflammatory cells (asterisk) + destruction of parenchyma (normal alveoli are replaced by spaces lined by cubical epithelium, arrowheads), + fibrosis (arrows).

B, Acute bronchopneumonia. Showing neutrophils filling the alveolar spaces with congested blood vessels.
Causes of chronic inflammation

1- Progression of acute to chronic inflammation: occurs when the acute response cannot be resolved, either:

(a) because of the persistence of the injurious agent, or
(b) because of interference in the normal process of healing.

For example, a peptic ulcer of the stomach or duodenum initially shows acute inflammation followed by the beginning stages of resolution and healing process.

However, recurrent attacks of duodenal epithelial injury interrupt this process, & result in chronic peptic ulcer.
(2) **Viral infections:**

Intracellular infections of any kind typically require a response that involves chronic inflammatory cells (lymphocytes & macrophages) from the onset in order to identify, & eradicate infected cells, as in viral hepatitis.

(3) **Persistent infections** by microbes that are difficult to eradicate, e.g., *tubercle bacilli* of T.B.; *Treponema pallidum* of syphilis, certain viruses, & fungi; all of which tend to established persistent infections & elicit a T lymphocyte-mediated immune response, called (delayed hypersensitivity reaction) i.e. Type IV.
(4) Immune-mediated inflammatory diseases, or hypersensitivity diseases.

Immune reactions may develop against the individual's own tissues, leading to **autoimmune diseases**, resulting in chronic tissue damage & inflammation e.g., **rheumatoid arthritis**.

Immune responses against common environmental substances are the cause of **allergic diseases**, such as bronchial asthma.

(5) Prolonged exposure to potentially toxic agents.

E.g., non-degradable exogenous material such as inhaled **silica & asbestos**, which can induce a chronic inflammatory responses in the lungs called **silicosis & asbestosis** respectively.
Chronic Inflammatory cells and Mediators

**Macrophages:**

The most important cell of chronic inflammation, they are tissue cells that are derived from circulating blood monocytes after leaving the blood.

Macrophages, scattered diffusely in most connective tissues normally, but found in increased numbers in certain organs: Liver (Kupffer cells), CNS (microglial cells), Lungs (alveolar macrophages), Spleen & lymph nodes (sinus histiocytes), or called dendritic cells..

Macrophages act as filters for particulate matter, microbes, & senescent cells and control specific components of the immune system (i.e., T& B lymphocytes) to injurious stimuli.
The half-life of circulating **blood monocytes** is 1 day. Under the influence of adhesion molecules & chemotactic factors, they begin to emigrate following the neutrophils) to the site of injury **within the first 24 to 48 hours** after onset of acute inflammation.

When monocytes reach the extravascular interstitial tissue, they undergo transformation into the larger **tissue macrophages**, which have longer half-lives & a greater capacity for phagocytosis.

Macrophages may also become activated a process resulting in more active metabolism increase of cell size increase content of lysosomal enzymes with increased ability to kill ingested organisms.

The activated macrophages appear large, flat, pink, this appearance is similar to that of squamous cells & therefore, these cells are called **epithelioid macrophages** (**epithelial-like**).

Focal aggregates of these cells called **granuloma**.
Activation of macrophages:

Tissue macrophages are activated by diverse stimuli to perform a range of functions:

1- Classical pathway.
2- Alternative pathway.

1- The classical pathway or classical macrophage activation: Which is induced by microbial byproducts such as bacterial endotoxins, by cell-derived signals like cytokines Ify (interferon gamma), and by foreign substances including crystals & foreign-bodies.

Classically activated macrophages produce lysosomal enzymes, NO, & ROS (free radicals). All enhance their ability to kill ingested organisms & secrete cytokines that stimulate inflammation.

These macrophages are important in host defense against ingested microbes & in many chronic inflammatory reactions.
2- Alternative pathway:

Is induced by cytokines other than IFN-γ such as IL-4 & IL-13 produced by T-lymphocytes & other cells like mast cells & eosinophils.

The activity is not antimicrobial, its principle role is tissue repair.

They secrete growth factors that promote angiogenesis, active fibroblasts & collagen synthesis.

Macrophages secrete mediators of inflammation such as cytokines IL-1, TNF, chemokines & others.

Also they display antigens to T-cells as well respond to signals from T-cells.

IFN-γ induce macrophage fusion into multinucleat giant cells.
Figure 41 - Roles of macrophages in chronic inflammation

- Circulating monocyte
- Adherent
- Emigrating
- Tissue macrophage
- Activated macrophage
- Immune response: Activated T cell
- Activation by microbes, dead cells, etc.
- Cytokine (IFN-γ)

Tissue injury and inflammation:
- Reactive oxygen and nitrogen species
- Proteases
- Cytokines, including chemokines
- Coagulation factors
- AA metabolites

Fibrosis:
- Growth factors (PDGF, FGF, TGFβ)
- Fibrogenic cytokines
- Angiogenesis factors (FGF)
Figure 42: Macrophages: the section shows mainly very large activated macrophages, each with a single vesicular nucleus & abundant granular & vacuolated cytoplasm. Some macrophages contain ingested RBC, polymorphs & cell fragments (Thick arrow). Neutrophils seen (thin arrow).
Lymphocytes:

Both T & B lymphocytes migrate into inflammatory sites using some of the same adhesion molecule pairs & chemokines that recruit monocytes.

Macrophages: present antigens (Ag) to T cells & express membrane molecules produce interleukines which stimulate & activate T-lymphocytes to produce IFN-γ, which is a powerful activator of macrophages, promoting more Ag presentation.

Plasma cells:

Are the terminally differentiated end-product of B-cell activation; they can produce antibodies directed either against persistent Antigens in the inflammatory site, or altered tissue components.
Figure 43 : Lymphocytes (Red & blue arrows). Histiocyte(macrophage) (Green arrow)
Figure 44: Chronic colitis: showing dense chronic inflammatory cells infiltrate mainly lymphocytes & plasma cells.
Figure 45: Plasma cells
Eosinophils

Characteristically found in inflammatory sites around:

1. **Parasitic infections**: eosinophil-specific granules contain major basic protein, that is toxic to parasites.
2. **as part of Allergic immune reactions**:

   Emigration of eosinophils is driven by adhesion molecules similar to those used by neutrophils, & by specific chemokines (*exotoxin*) derived from WBC or epithelial cells.

Mast cells

Are widely distributed in connective tissues throughout the body & can participate in both acute & chronic responses. In atopic individuals (prone to allergic reactions), **mast cells** are “armed” with IgE antibody (Ab) specific for certain Antigens (Ag).

IgE-armed mast cells are important in allergic reactions including **Asthma** & **anaphylactic shock**, & can elaborate cytokines such as **TNF** & chemokines.
Figure 46: Blood Eosinophil
Figure 47: Eosinophils in an inflammed tissue
**Granulomatous inflammation**

Is a distinctive pattern of chronic inflammation characterized by aggregates of activated macrophages called epithelioid cells.

Granulomatous Inflammation is caused by:

1. **Bacterial infection**: Tuberculosis, Leprosy, Syphilitic gumma & Cat-scratch disease.
2. **Parasitic infections**: Schistosomiasis.
3. **Fungal infections**: Histoplasma capsulatum & Blastomycosis.
4. **Inorganic metals or dusts**: Silicosis & Berylliosis.
5. **Foreign body**: Suture, breast prosthesis.
6. **Unknown**: Sarcoidosis.
Microscopically the granuloma consists of:

1. A central aggregate of epithelioid cells or activated macrophages, (large, & flat with pink granular cytoplasm & indistinct cell boundaries), surrounded by

2. A collar of lymphocytes secreting cytokines responsible for ongoing macrophage activation.

3. A surrounding rim of fibroblasts & connective tissue (scarring), due to cytokines elaborated by the activated macrophages; this rim is useful in containing the causative injurious agent, But it may cause harmful tissue injury!

4. A multinucleated giant cell (s) measuring 40 to 50 microns in diameter may be found in some granulomas, with two or more nuclei {e.g., Langhans giant cell in TB granuloma}.

5. Sometimes, caseous necrosis is seen, especially in TB granulomas due to combine effects of hypoxia & FR injury. Identification of T.B. bacilli in such granuloma, using special ZN stain is necessary to confirm the diagnosis of TB.
Figure 48: Microscopic view of granulomatous inflammation, showing rounded aggregates of epithelioid cells, giant cells (arrows) & surrounding lymphocytes with fibrosis.
Figure 49: Microscopic view of foreign-body giant cell granuloma surrounding s particles of suture material.
Figure 50: Caseating tuberculous granuloma showing central caseous necrosis (pink) with peripheral epithelioid cells & Langhans giant cells (arrows), with lymphocytes & fibrosis.
Definitions:

**Transudate:**

Is a **clear** serous fluid that has **low protein content**, **low specific gravity less than 1020**, and a **low cellular content**.

It accumulates in tissue spaces & in serous cavities, when increased intravascular fluid escapes from intravascular compartment due to increased hydrostatic pressure or increased vascular permeability as in **serous inflammation** or in **heart failure**.
**Exudate**: A thick fluid of high protein content, high specific gravity more than 1020, and high cellular content mainly neutrophils, accumulate in tissue spaces, seen in acute suppurative inflammation due to escape of plasma protein and leukocytes due to increased vascular permeability.

**Pus**: A thick creamy yellowish, greenish or blood-stained fluid consisting of neutrophils, necrotic debris, with high protein content and high specific gravity more than 1020. It accumulates in severe suppurative inflammation.
**Abscess:**

A localized collection of pus caused by suppurative inflammation.

The central part of the abscess consists of a mass of acidophilic (pinkish) amorphous semi fluid debris composed of dead tissue cells, and dead leukocytes.

This in turn is surrounded by a zone of viable neutrophils, which is surrounded by a highly vascularized connective tissue called *granulation tissue* and fibrosis which act as a barrier for further spread of the inflammatory process to the surrounding tissues.
Figure 51: Chronic brain abscess, its inner wall is covered with grayish-green pus. The abscess is enclosed by a fibrous capsule, the brownish rim is a granulation tissue (arrows).
**Ulcer:**

Is a **local defect or excavation of the surface of the skin**, or the **lining of a viscous organ** (gastro-intestinal, respiratory or genitor-urinary tracts).

It is produced by sloughing of inflammatory necrotic tissue.

In other words it is a localized loss of the continuity of an epithelial surface.
Figure 52: Gross appearance of an aphthous ulcers in the tongue, caused by viral infections.
Figure 53: Gummatous ulcer (syphilis): Skin. A large, deep ulcer of the abdominal wall. The ulcer base is covered by a necrotic slough.
Figure 54: TB ulcer: ileum: A circumferential ulcer. Contraction of the ulcer scar tissue may produce a localized stricture, with intestinal obstruction, and dilatation of the proximal segment (right of the figure).

B, Low power view of the ulcer crater (pit) with an acute inflammatory exudate in the base.
Figure 56: Microscopic view of Chronic gastric ulcer, showing loss of epithelial lining with acute inflammation & vascular granulation tissue at the ulcer floor.
**Effects of inflammation:**

**A- Beneficial effects:**

These act partly through the flow of exudates into the tissue & partly by the phagocytic & microbial effects of migrated WBCs. :

1. **Dilution of toxins:** exudates dilutes chemical and bacterial toxins & enhance their carriage by lymphatics.

2. **Protective antibodies:** The proteins present in the exudates include antibodies, which have been already present in the plasma as a result of previous infection or immunization. These antibodies attack injurious agents in an attempt to destroy them immunologically.
(3) **Fibrin formation**: Fibrinogen of the blood is included in the exudates which is transformed into fibrin. A network of the deposited fibrin is seen in the inflamed tissue forming a **mechanical barrier** that precludes the movement & spread of bacteria, it may also aid in their phagocytosis.

(4) **Promotion of immunity**:

Bacteria in the inflammatory exudates, whether free or phagocytosed, are carried to the lymph nodes by lymphatics. There they mount an immune response, which provides antibodies & cellular mechanisms that may appear after few days and may remain for years. These immunological mechanisms help destroy microbial agents.
B-Harmful effects:

1- **Swelling**: of acutely inflamed tissue may have serious mechanical effects e.g. in acute laryngitis causes suffocation in children.

2- **Rise in tissue pressure**:
   
   Inflammation when confined within a restricted space cannot expand, the result is an increase in tissue pressure and this interferes with cell function and the blood flow, the latter leads to ischemic injury, e.g. encephalitis and meningitis both cause increased intracranial pressure and even death.

   Similarly, osteomyelitis leads to bone necrosis due to ischemia caused by pressure on blood vessels.

3- **Sever allergic reaction**: e.g. to pollen may cause severe asthma & dyspnoea, this may sometimes be so severe as to cause death due to asphyxia caused by laryngeal edema.
SYSTEMIC EFFECTS OF INFLAMMATION

These effects are collectively called **acute-phase reaction**.

They include **fever, malaise** (feeling of being sick), **anorexia** (loss of apatite), **insomnia, hypotension**, accelerated degradation of skeletal muscle proteins, increased hepatic synthesis of a variety of proteins (e.g., complement & coagulation proteins), & alteration in the circulating WBC as **leukocytosis**.

The most important mediators of the acute-phase reaction are the cytokines **TNF, IL-1, & IL-6**, produced mainly by WBC in response to infection, or to immune & toxic injury, & are released systemically, frequently in a cascade.

**TNF & IL-1** both act on the **thermoregulatory center of the hypothalamus**-via local PGE production to induce **fever**.
IL-6 stimulates the hepatic synthesis of several plasma proteins,

(1) **Fibrinogen; elevated fibrinogen levels** cause RBC to agglutinate more readily, explaining why inflammation is associated with a higher ESR.

(2) **C-reactive protein (CRP) & serum amyloid A (SAA) proteins**, both bind to microbial cell walls, & they may act as **opsonins** & fix complement, thus promoting the elimination of the microbes.

★ **Leukocytosis** (increased, mature, white blood cell count in blood) is a common feature of inflammatory reactions, especially those induced by bacterial infection. WBC count typically increases from a normal 4,000 to 10,000 to 15,000 - 20,000 cells per micro liter, but may climb as high as 40,000 to 100,000, a so-called **Leukemoid (leukemia-like) reaction**.
Most bacterial infections induce selective increase in polymorphonuclear cells called *(neutrophilia)*,

- while parasitic infections & allergic responses characteristically induce *(eosinophilia)*.

- Certain viruses, like infectious mononucleosis, mumps, & rubella cause selective↑ in lymphocytes *(lymphocytosis)*.

- However, most viral infections, rickettsial, protozoal, & certain types of bacterial infections (e.g., typhoid fever), are associated with a decreased number of circulating WBC called *(leucopenia)*.

  Severe bacterial infections (sepsis), especially by gram-negative bacteria stimulate the production of huge quantities of several cytokines, notably TNF, IL-1, IL-6, & IL-8, resulting in *(septic shock)*, which is usually fatal.
Healing & Repair

Introduction:

When injury & any associated acute inflammatory response has resulted in necrosis of specialized cells and damage to the surrounding matrix, the host response must include attempts at replacement of the dead cells by healthy tissues.

This response is referred to as **healing**, and comprises two processes:

1- **Regeneration**: replacement of the specialized cells by proliferation of those surviving.

2- **Connective tissue response**: called **repair**, characterized by the formation of *granulation tissue* and its subsequent maturation i.e. *fibrous scar formation*. 
Although the fibrous scar is not normal, it provides enough structural stability that the injured tissue is able to function.

Commonly, repair involves a combination of both regeneration & scar formation in varying degrees.

**Fibrosis:** describe the extensive deposition of collagen that occurs in the organs as a consequence of chronic inflammation, or infarction, e.g., myocardium, lungs, liver, kidney, & other organs.

If fibrosis develops in a tissue space occupied by an inflammatory exudate it is called organization (e.g., organizing pneumonia, organizing pleurisy).
To understand repair, we have to know the

(1) Control of **cell proliferation**.
(2) The roles of **stem cells (SC)** in tissue homeostasis.
(3) Functions of the **Extra Cellular Matrix (EXM)** & how it is involved in repair.
(4) The roles of **Growth Factors (GF)** in the proliferation of different cell types involved in repair.
I- The Cell Cycle

The key process in the proliferation of cells, are DNA replication & mitosis. The sequence of events that control these 2 processes is known as the cell cycle.

The cell cycle consists of the:

1. Presynthetic growth phase \( (G_1) \)
2. DNA - synthetic phase, or \( (S) \)
3. Premitotic growth phase \( (G_2) \)
4. Mitotic phase \( (M) \).
MECHANISMS REGULATING CELL POPULATION.
Figure 58: Cell cycle. Diagrammatic view.
Somatic cells are divided into:

**Labile cells**: These cells are capable of regeneration, they have short life span and can multiply throughout life under normal conditions, like skin epidermal cells, gastro intestinal tract, respiratory tract, genitor urinary tract lining epithelial cells & bone marrow cells, after injury these cells undergo regeneration with complete restoration of the normal architecture particularly if the injury is mild and transient.

**Stable cells**: These cells undergo multiplication during embryogenesis, but then cease multiplication when growth ceases. They have longer life span and slower mitotic rate.

They retain their mitotic activity during adult life and can undergo proliferation when stimulated after injury, so that some regeneration of dead tissue occurs in such cells like liver cells, renal, adrenal, pancreatic cells also the fibroblasts and osteoblasts.

**Permanent cells**: Such cells are highly specialized like neurons, the myocardial & the striated muscle cells. They have very long life span and no mitotic activity, once injured they **never** regenerate.
II- Role of Stem cells:

**Stem Cells (SC)**

In most continuously dividing tissues, the mature cells are terminally differentiated & short-lived.

As mature cells die in these tissues, they are replaced by the differentiation of cells generated from their Stem Cells.

Therefore, there is a homeostatic equilibrium between the:

(a) Replication & differentiation of SC, &
(b) The death of the mature fully differentiated cells.

Skin epidermis & the GIT epithelium, are good examples. In both, SC have been identified near the basal layer of the epithelium.
Stem Cells are characterized by two important properties:
A. Self-renwal capacity
B. Asymmetric replication,
which means, that after each cell division some progeny enter a differentiation pathway, while others remain undifferentiated, retaining their self-renewal capacity.

SC with the capacity to generate multiple cell lineages (pluripotent Stem Cells)

Stem cells are of two kinds:

1- Embryonic stem cells (ES cells): These are the most undifferentiated stem cells, they are present in the inner cell mass of the blastocyst, and have extensive cell renewal capacity. Under appropriate culture conditions ES cell can be induced to form cells of all three germ layers, like neurons, cardiac myocytes, liver cells...etc.
2- Adult stem cells: also called tissue stem cells, these are less undifferentiated than ES cells and are found among differentiated tissues & organs.

Although like ES cells have self-renewal capacity, but it is a limited property, and their lineage potential i.e. ability to give rise to specialized cells restricted to some or all the differentiated cells of that tissue or organ. These are present in the bone marrow & several other tissues of the adult individuals.

The most extensively studied tissue or adult stem cells are the hematopoietic stem cells found in the bone marrow, as well as from peripheral blood, after mobilization by certain cytokines like granulocyte colony-stimulating factor (G-CSF).
Bone marrow SC have very broad differentiation capabilities. They can differentiate into all blood cells lineage as well as being able to generate fat, muscle, cartilage, bone, & endothelium (EC).

In clinical practice, marrow stem cells are used for treatment of leukemia & lymphoma.

The ability to identify & isolate stem cells have given rise to the new field of (Regenerative Medicine) its main goal, is the regeneration & repopulation of damaged organs (e.g., Myocardial Infarction) using Embryonal Stem cells or adult SC.

One of the most exciting prospects in this field is of SC therapy known as (therapeutic cloning).
The main steps involved in therapeutic cloning, using ES cells for cell therapy.

In this procedure:

1. The **diploid nucleus** of a cell (e.g., WBC) from a patient (e.g., with MI or CVA) is introduced into an **enucleated oocyte**.
2. The oocyte is activated & the zygote divides to become a **blastocyst** containing donor DNA.
3. The blastocyst is dissociated to obtain **ES cells**.
4. ES cells are capable of differentiating into various tissues (e.g., myocytes or neurons), either in culture or after transplantation into the donor.

The goal is to repopulate the damaged heart or brain cells of the patient, using the patient’s cells **himself**, thus avoiding immunologic rejection.
F 59: Steps involved in therapeutic cloning, using embryonic stem (ES) cells for cell therapy.
III- Extra cellular Matrix (ECM) & Cell-Matrix Interactions

ECM is a dynamic, constantly remolding macromolecular complex, synthesized locally, arrange into a network that surrounds cells, & constituting a significant proportion of any tissue. ECM sequesters water, providing firmness to soft tissue & minerals, giving rigidity to bone.

By supplying cell adhesion & a reservoir for Growth Factors (GF), ECM regulate the movement, proliferation, & differentiation of the cells within it.
ECM occurs in 2 basic forms:

**Interstitial matrix**

& **Basement Membrane.**

**Interstitial Matrix:**

Present in: (1) the spaces between cells in connective tissue. (2) between epithelium & the supportive vascular & smooth muscle structures.

Its major constituents are:

- **fibrillar collagen** (types I, II, III, V)
- **nonfibrillar (IV) collagens**
- **fibronectin**
- **elastin**
- **proteoglycan**
- **hyaluronate & others.**

It is synthesized by mesenchymal cells (e.g. fibroblasts) & tends to form a three-dimensional amorphous gel.
Major components of Extra Cellular Matrix (ECM)
Basement membrane (BM):

The interstitial matrix in connective tissues becomes highly organized around epithelial cells. Epithelial Cells & Smooth Muscle Cells forming the specialized BM.

BM lies (sits) beneath epithelium forming a plate-like chicken wire mesh.

BM major constituents are laminin + amorphous non fibrillar type IV collagen, and proteoglycan.

It is formed by the underlying mesenchymal cells & overlying epithelium.
Figure 61: Bronchial mucosa showing basement membrane (arrows)
Figure 62: Renal glomerulus showing basement membrane (pink colored)
Functions of ECM

(1) **Mechanical support** for Cell anchorage (fixation) + migration + Maintenance of cell polarity.

(2) **Control of cell growth.**

   ECM components can regulate cell proliferation.

(3) **Maintenance of cell differentiation.**

   Type of ECM proteins affects the degree of differentiation of the cells in the tissue, acting via cellular receptor of integrin family.

(4) **Scaffolding for tissue renewal.**

   The maintenance of normal tissue structure requires BM for stromal scaffold.

(5) **BM acts as a boundary between epithelium & underlying connective tissue.**

(6) **Storage & presentation of GFs like FGF & HGF,** both are excreted & stored in the ECM in some tissues.
Collagen:

This is the most abundant of the matrix protein, it is synthesized by the fibroblasts & osteoblasts.

Collagens are fibrous structural proteins, that confer tensile strength.

The collagen s are composed of three separate polypeptide chains braided into rope-like triple helix. More than 30 types have been identified, some of which are unique to specific cells & tissues.

Can be fibrillar collagen like type I, II, III, & V.

Collagen types I & III form a major proportion of the connective tissue in healing wounds & particularly in scars.

The tensile strength of the fibrillar collagen derives from their cross-linking, which is the result of covalent bonds catalyzed by the enzyme lysyl-oxidase, his process requires vitamin C.

That is why individuals with vitamin C deficiency have skeletal deformities.

Other are non-fibrillar & may form:

(a) BM (type IV)

(b) or be component of other structures like intervertebral discs (type IX), or dermal-epidermal junctions (type VII).

Genetic defects in collagen causes diseases like osteogenesis Imperfecta & Ehlers-Danlos syndrome.
ELASTIN

After physical stress, the ability of tissue to recoil & return to a baseline structure is conferred by elastic tissue, especially in the walls of large blood vessel (e.g., aorta, which must accommodate recurrent pulsatile blood flow), uterus, skin, & ligaments. Morphologically elastic fibers consist central core of elastin surrounded by meshwork of fibrillin glycoprotein. Defects in fibrillin synthesis leads to weakening of arterial walls & skeletal deformities like Marfan’s syndrome.

PROTEOGLYCANS & HYALURONAN

These are highly hydrated compressible gel conferring resilience and lubrication such as cartilage in joints.

They consist of long polysaccharides, called glycosaminoglycans, or mucopolysaccharides, (examples are dermatan sulfate & heparan sulfate).

Also serve as reservoirs for Growth Factors s secreted into the ECM (e.g., Fibroblast Growth Factor).
F 63 : Proteoglycans in the ECM & on cells act as reservoirs for GF.
Adhesive Glycoprotein & Adhesion Receptors

Both are involved in:

1. cell-cell adhesion
2. the linkage between cells & ECM, &
3. binding between ECM components.

- The adhesive glycoproteins include:
  - (a) **fibronectin** (major component of the interstitial ECM), synthesized by fibroblasts, monocytes, & endothelial cells. It binds the extracellular matrix components together also attach to integrins & to fibrin in blood clot, necessary in healing.
  - (b) **laminin** (major constituent of BM).

The adhesion receptors, also known as cell adhesion molecules (CAMs), can modulate cell proliferation, differentiation & motility.
INTEGRINS

Are a family of transmembrane glycoproteins that are the main cellular receptor for ECM components, like fibronectins & laminins. Integrins are present in the plasma membrane of most animal cells, with the exception of RBCs.

They bind to many ECM components initiating signaling cascades that can affect cell locomotion, proliferation, & differentiation.
IV- The Nature & Mechanisms of Actions of Growth Factors

Cell proliferation can be triggered by many chemical mediators, such as

(1) hormones.
(2) cytokines,
(3) growth factors (GF);

The first two have many other functions & are discussed separately.

In this section, we focus on polypeptide GF whose major role is to promote cell survival & proliferation & which are important in regeneration & healing.
The major intracellular signaling pathways, induced by GFR are similar to those of many other cellular receptors that recognize extracellular ligands.

The binding of a ligand to its receptor triggers a series of events, by which extracellular signals are transduced into the cell, leading to the stimulation or repression.

Signaling may occur:

1. directly, in the same cell, \textit{(autocrine)}
2. between adjacent cells, \textit{(paracrine)}
3. over greater distances \textit{(endocrine)}
Autocrine signaling:
In which a soluble mediator acts predominantly on the cell that secretes it.
This pathway is important in the immune response (e.g. lymphocyte proliferation induced by some cytokines), and in compensatory epithelial hyperplasia (e.g. liver regeneration).

Paracrine signaling:
In which, a substance affects cells in the immediate vicinity of the cell that released the agent.
This pathway is important for recruiting inflammatory cells to the site of infection, and in wound healing.

Endocrine signaling:
In which a regulatory substance, such as a hormone, is released into the blood stream & acts on target cells at a distance.
F 65: Patterns of extracellular signaling of growth factors.
Growth factors & cytokines involved in regeneration & wound healing are:

**Epidermal growth factor (EGF):**

Released from activated macrophages, keratinocytes & other cells. It is mitogenic for keratinocytes & fibroblasts, stimulates keratinocytes migration and stimulates granulation tissue formation.

**Transforming growth factor alfa (TGF-α):**

Released from activated macrophages, T lymphocytes & keratinocytes & other cells. It stimulates replication of hepatocytes & epithelial cells.

**Hepatocyte growth factor (HGF) (scatter factor):**

Released from fibroblasts, stromal cells in the liver & endothelial cells. Enhances proliferation of hepatocytes & other epithelial cells, and enhance cell mobility.
Vascular endothelial cell factor (VEGF) (isoform A, B, C, D)

Released from mesenchymal cells. It stimulates proliferation of endothelial cells & increases vascular permeability.

Platelets-derived growth factor (PDGF)

Released from platelets, macrophages, endothelial cells, keratinocytes & smooth muscle cells.

It is chemotactic to neutrophils, macrophages, fibroblasts & smooth muscle cells. Stimulates the production of extra cellular matrix protein.

Fibroblast growth factor (FGF)1 & 2:

Released from macrophages, mast cells, T lymphocytes, endothelial cells & other cells.

It is chemotactic & mitogenic for fibroblasts, & keratinocytes. It stimulates keratinocytes migration, angiogenesis, wound contraction & matrix deposition.
**Transforming growth factor beta (TGF-β)**

Released from platelets, T lymphocytes, macrophages, endothelial cells, fibroblasts & smooth muscle cells.

It is chemotactic for neutrophils, macrophages, lymphocytes, fibroblasts & smooth muscle cells & stimulates ECM synthesis & suppresses acute inflammation.

**Keratinocyte growth factor (KGF)**

Released from fibroblasts.

It stimulates keratinocyte migration, proliferation & differentiation.
Regeneration & repair

The relative roles of regeneration & repair vary between the type of tissues affected and also depends on the nature, the severity & the duration of the injury.

I - Type of tissue:

The “Proliferative Potential of Different tissues” is based on the proliferative capacity & thereby, the ability of tissues to repair themselves.

The ability of the surviving cells to divide is the key factor in this response.
II- Severity & duration of injury:

Mild injury may be followed by complete restoration of normal cellular architecture, especially in tissues having labile or stable cells like skin & liver.

The liver cells have a remarkable capacity to regenerate.

In experimental animals up to 90% of liver can be removed surgically and the remaining parenchyma will regenerate to the original mass having normal cellular structure & function.

**living-donor transplantation** in which portion of the liver is resected from a normal individual & is transplanted into a recipient with end-stage liver disease.
Patients with liver tumor, treated by partial hepatectomy, in both conditions the tissue resection triggers a dramatic, proliferative response of the remaining hepatocytes (which are normally quiescent) & the subsequent replication of the surgical removal of 40% to 60% of the liver, in hepatic cells.

In humans when there is massive central necrosis of hepatocytes, with minimal collapse of the matrix as in viral hepatitis, however, in most cases the hepatocytes regenerative responses ensure restoration of the liver architecture and function when infection subsides.
F 66: Regeneration of human liver. CTS of the donor liver in living-donor liver transplantation.

A, The liver of the donor before the operation. Note the right lobe (outline), which will be resected & used as a transplant.

B, Scan of the same liver 1 week after resection of the right lobe; note the enlargement of the left lobe (outline) without regrowth of the right lobe.
While in chronic liver cell injury, when the amount of fibrosis is quite substantial, the regeneration develops in form of regenerating nodules surrounded by fibrous tissue as in liver cirrhosis.

It seems that the tendency of chronic inflammatory process to produce excessive fibrosis is related to continuing production of macrophages & lymphocytic-derived cytokines like interleukin-6 (IL-6) & tumor necrosis factor (TNF) & growth factors like HGF & EGF & TGF-α which act as a mediator of the healing process.
Mechanisms of tissue repair. In this example, injury to the liver is repaired by regeneration if only the hepatocytes are damaged, or by laying down of fibrous tissue (scarring) if the matrix is also injured.
Figure 68: Liver cirrhosis: Liver section stained by reticulin stain. There are three regenerative liver nodules (double arrow), separated by broad bands of reticulin fibers (thick arrow). An example of healing by combine regeneration & fibrosis which follows injury to the liver cells & stroma.
Angiogenesis:

Is a process of new blood vessel development from existing vessels, primarily venules.

It is critical in healing at site of injury, in development of collateral circulation at sites of ischemia, & in allowing tumors to increase in size beyond the constraints of their original blood supply.

Steps of angiogenesis include:
1. **Vasodilation** occurring in response to NO & increased permeability induced by vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF).
2. **Migration of proliferating endothelial cells** from pre-existing blood vessels towards the area of tissue injury forming solid tube.
3. **Remodelling of proliferating endothelial cells into capillary tubes attached to the lumen of the pre-existing vessel**.
4. **Recruitment of periendothelial cells (pericytes) & smooth muscle cells around the new capillaries**.
5. **Suppression of endothelial cells proliferation & deposition of basement membrane**.

The major growth factors involved in angiogenesis: the most important are vasacular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) & basic fibroblast growth factors (basic FGF).
Figure 69: Diagrammatic demonstration of steps of angiogenesis.
HEALING OF SKIN WOUND

Here, we specifically describe the healing of skin wounds.

As it involves both epithelial regeneration & the formation of connective tissue scar, it is thus illustrative of the general principles that apply to wound healing in all tissues.

Healing of skin wounds: Either

I- Healing by Primary intention. (Primary union) Or
II- Healing by secondary intention (Secondary union)
Healing by Primary Intention

Occurs in an uninfected clean sterile wound without tissue loss as in surgical incision approximated by surgical sutures.

The incision causes only focal disruption (loss of continuity) of epithelial BM & death of relatively few epithelial & connective tissue cells.

As a result, epithelial regeneration predominates over fibrosis.

A small scar is formed, but there is minimal wound contraction.
When an incision is made in the skin & subcutaneous tissue, blood escapes from the cut vessels, it clots on the wound surface & fills the gap between the wound edges, which is narrow in sutured wound.

Within **24 hours**: neutrophils are seen at the incision margin, migrating toward the fibrin clot. This is called traumatic inflammatory response. Meanwhile, the Basal cells at the cut edge of the epidermis begin to exhibit mitotic activity.

Within **24 to 48 hours**, epithelial cells from both edges have begun to migrate & proliferate along the dermis, depositing basement membrane components as they progress.
The cells meet in the midline beneath the surface scab, yielding a thin but continuous epithelial layer. The basal cell proliferation stops by contact inhibition.

By day 3, neutrophils have been largely replaced by macrophages, followed by angiogenesis & granulation tissue, which consists of proliferating capillaries & fibroblasts progressively invades the incision space.

Collagen fibers being laid down by the fibroblasts are now evident at the incision margins, but these are vertically oriented & do not bridge the incision.

Epithelial cell proliferation continues, yielding a thickened epidermal covering layer.
By day 5, angiogenesis reaches its peak as **granulation tissue** fills the incisional space & collagen fibrils become more abundant & begin to bridge the incision.

The epidermis recovers its normal thickness as differentiation of surface cells yields a mature epidermal architecture with surface keratinization.

**During the second week:**

There is continued collagen accumulation & fibroblasts proliferation. The WBC infiltrate, edema, & the vascularity are substantially diminished. The long process of "blanching" (pallor) begins, accomplished by collagen deposition within the incisional scar & the regression of vascular channels.

**By the end of the first month** the scar comprises acellular connective tissue, devoid of inflammatory cells & covered by an essentially normal epidermis.

Hair follicles & sebaceous glands which are destroyed in the line of incision are permanently lost.
F 70: Steps of wound healing by first intention (left) & second intention (right).

In the latter, note the large amount of granulation tissue & wound contraction.
F 71: Phases of wound healing

- Inflammation
- Granulation tissue
- Wound contraction
- Collagen accumulation
- Remodeling

Days

© Elsevier. Kumar et al: Robbins Basic Pathology 8e - www.studentconsult.com
Figure 72: Healing of surgical wound by primary intention or union.
Figure 73 : Healed wound: Cornea. The healed wound is visible as a ‘gap’ in the stroma, filled with a connective tissue & many fibrocytes (double A), the epithelium covering the gap in it (thin A) is much thinner than the normal epithelium on each side of the wound.
Figure 74: A, Granulation tissue showing numerous blood vessels, edema, & a loose ECM; minimal mature collagen. B, Trichrome stain of mature scar, showing dense collagen (blue) with only scattered vascular channels.
Healing by Secondary Intention

When cell or tissue loss is more extensive, as in Infarction, Abscess, Ulcer or Large wound, the reparative process is more complex.

The regeneration of parenchymal cells alone cannot restore the original architecture, therefore, there is an extensive ingrowth of granulation tissue from the wound margins, followed by ECM accumulation & scarring.

This is called secondary union or healing by second intention.
Secondary union differs from the primary in several aspects:

(1) A larger clot or scab rich in fibrin and fibronectin forms at the surface of the wound.

(2) Inflammation is more intense because large tissue defects have a greater volume of necrotic debris, exudate, and fibrin that must be removed. Consequently large defects have a greater potential for secondary inflammation – mediated injury.

(3) Larger defects require greater volume of granulation tissue to fill in the gaps & provide the underlying framework for the re-growth of tissues epithelium. A greater volume of granulation tissue generally results in a greater mass of scar tissue.
(4) Secondary healing involves wound contraction.

Within 6 weeks large skin defects may be reduced to 5%-10% of their original size largely by contraction.

This process is due to the presence of myofibroblasts, a modified fibroblasts exhibiting many of the ultrastructural & functional features of contractile smooth muscle cells.
Figure 75: Healing by secondary intention of a large wound with excessive tissue necrosis.
Figure 76: Healing of skin wound by secondary intention
Figure 77: Healing by secondary intention: showing a large irregular permanent scar.
Wound Strength

Carefully sutured wounds have approximately 70% of the strength of unwounded skin, largely because of the placement of the sutures.

When sutures removed after one week, wound strength is approximately 10% of that of unwounded skin, but this increases rapidly during the next 4 weeks.

The recovery of tensile strength results from:
(1) Collagen synthesis exceeding degradation during the first 2 months, & from
(2) structural modifications of collagen (e.g., cross-linking & increased fiber size) when synthesis declines at later times.

Wound strength reaches 70% to 80% of normal by 3 months, but usually does not improve beyond that point.
Factors that cause delay of healing process:

In wound healing, normal cell growth & fibrosis may be altered by a variety of factors, frequently reducing the quality or adequacy of the reparative process:

1. **Infection**, is the single most important cause of delay in healing, by prolonging the inflammation phase of the process, & potentially increases the local tissue injury.

2. **Nutrition** has profound effects on wound healing, for example, protein deficiency & especially, vitamin C deficiency, inhibit collagen synthesis & retard healing.

3. **Glucocorticoids** (steroids): have well-documented anti-inflammatory effects, & their administration may result in poor wound strength owing to diminished fibrosis.
4. **Mechanical factors** such as increased local pressure or torsion may cause wounds to pull apart (separate), or dehisce (e.g. abdominal wound dehiscence after laparotomy).

5. **Poor blood perfusion**, due either to atherosclerosis (which reduce arterial blood supply), or to obstructed venous drainage, e.g. varicose veins, both impairs healing.

6. **Foreign bodies** such as fragments of steel (e.g. gun-shot, glass, wood, or even bone, impede (delay) healing process.
Healing wounds may also generate excessive granulation tissue that protrudes above the level of the surrounding skin & in fact, prevent re-epithelialization. This is called *exuberant granulation*, or *proud flesh*.

Sometimes, the accumulation of excessive amounts of collagen can give rise to *prominent raised scars known as* Keloids, more commonly seen in blacks.
F 78 : Keloid.
A, Excess collagen deposition in the skin forming a raised scar known as a keloid. B, Thick collagen deposition in the dermis (pink color).
Figure 79: Keloid.
Figure 80: Keloid in a healed wound in the Skin. The epidermis & dermis (thin arrow) appear normal, but the deeper dermis & subcutaneous tissues are replaced by very broad bands of hyaline eosinophilic collagen (thick arrow).
Figure 81: Exuberant granulation tissue.
Figure 82: Foreign-body granuloma: healed wound of skin, showing granulation tissue, consisting of (1) large & greatly dilated capillaries, (2) lymphocytes & plasma cells, (3) fibroblasts (thin arrow), (4) very large giant cells enclosing nylon suture material, (thick arrow) from the original surgical incision.
F 83: Large old kidney infarct, now replaced by a large fibrotic scar.
Figure 84: Healing of diabetic skin ulcer.
THANK YOU