Bacterial Disease Mechanisms: An Introduction to Cellular Microbiology

Michael Wilson, Rod McNab, Brian Henderson
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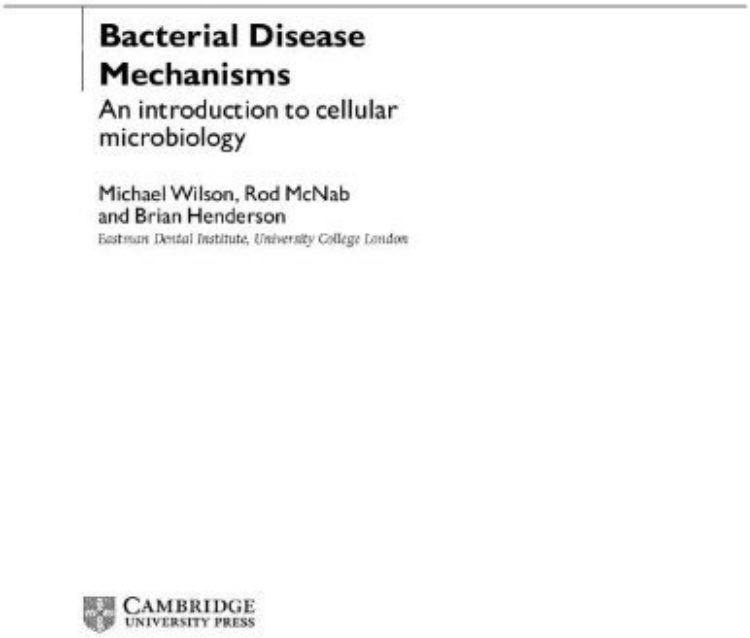

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Antibiotic resistance and our consequent inability to treat many bacterial infections had fuelled an urgent need to understand the means by which bacteria cause disease. This has lead to a renaissance in research into bacterial disease mechanisms and the birth of a new discipline - cellular microbiology. The fruits of such research and how they have

lead to an alternative perspective on bacteria-host interactions are described in this introductory textbook. The central premise is that bacteria have evolved means of manipulating normal host cell functions and overcoming host defence systems to ensure their survival. As well as offering an interesting perspective on the classical bacterial virulence mechanisms, this book outlines the molecular techniques developed to unravel the complexity of bacteria-host interactions. Research may lead not only to a better understanding of disease mechanisms, but also to alternative means of preventing and/or treating bacterial infections.

"...the authors provide a comprehensive introduction to this exciting hybrid of disciplines..." ASM News"...a welcome teaching tool for introducing students to this rapidly growing field.... this text offers a comprehensive look at the molecular mechanisms that allow bacterial pathogens to manipulate normal host cell functions for their own benefit.... the authors do an impressive job of providing an up-to-date view of the major concepts in the interactions between prokaryotic pathogens and their eukaryotic hosts.... Bacterial Disease Mechanisms is likely to become a mainstay for those who teach microbial pathogenesis as well as a useful starting point for researchers interested in acquainting themselves with concepts underpinning this exciting field." Cell become a mainstay..." CellAbout the AuthorMichael Wilson is currently Professor of Microbiology in the Faculty of Clinical Sciences, University College London, and Head of the Department of Microbiology at the Eastman Dental Institute, University College London. He is the co-editor of Community Structure and Co-operation in Biofilms, 2000 (0521793025) and editor of Bacterial Adhesion to Host Tissues, 2001 (0521801079). His main research interests are bacterial virulence factors, biofilms and the development of new antimicrobial strategies.Brian Henderson is Professor of Cell Biology and Head of the Cellular Microbiology Research Group at the Eastman Dental Institute, University College London. His research centres around cytokine biology and the interactions of bacteria with myeloid and lymphoid cells.Rod McNab is Lecturer in Molecular Microbiology at the Eastman Dental Institute, University College London, and works on streptococcal adhesion and colonization factors, biofilms and bacterial cell-cell communication.