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There is an ongoing equilibrium between infectious agents and their susceptible hosts. While challenge of immune-competent individuals to low pathogenic strains usually results in elimination of the infectious agent, the other host-pathogen matches generally produce clinical courses of the disease. Host cells usually respond to the injuries caused by the pathogens by either committing a suicide (apoptosis) or by acting as silent carriers and transmitting the disease to the other naïve cells (e.g., prevention of apoptosis, phagocytosis, and viral interference).

On the other hand, many pathogens produce certain enzymes or proteins, which lead to the increased cellular adhesion and invasion abilities and also increased pathogenicity. On the other hand, completion of full genome mapping in human and several animals allows the scientists to analyze host resistance genes against such a specific disease by the comparison of sick and healthy individuals' bioinformatics data. This means that the next discovery will be the definition of host resistance genes and their relations with cellular immunity in infectious diseases.

Addressing and highlighting these topics and updating the currently available knowledge about the host cellular immune system and its defensive role played against the pathogens will not only help the readers to understand the underlying mechanisms but will also lead to the arousal of intriguing queries in developing various therapies. We invite authors to submit original research and review articles covering these crucial areas of immunology.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Basic concepts of host-pathogen interactions (role of cellular immunity, cytokine response, acute phase proteins, immunophenotyping, etc.)
- ▶ Immune resistance/immune evasion/immune suppression mechanisms in infectious diseases
- ▶ Host-parasite interactions: viral, bacterial, protozoer, and so forth
- ▶ Genetic resistance to infectious diseases/epigenetics/virulence determination
- ▶ Pattern recognition receptors (RIG-I and Toll-like receptors)
- ▶ Apoptotic and antiapoptotic mechanisms

Authors can submit their manuscripts via the Manuscript Tracking System at <http://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/jir/cip/>.

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