

Possible Topics for Assignment #1

These are only suggestions, other topics are acceptable - please see me if you are unsure.

Influences on the Immune System

Diet, alcohol, aging, environment, the mind (psychoneuroimmunology)

Medical Immunology

Transplants and immunosuppression

AIDS and the immune system

HIV vaccine development

Cancer immunotherapy

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome

Birth control vaccines

Allergies - drug, food, air-borne allergens etc

Autoimmune diseases - e.g. rheumatoid arthritis, lupus, MS

Blood groups

Natural antibodies

Pathogenicity

Viral evasion strategies

Bacterial evasion strategies

Immunological Tools and Methods

Immunological technologies - monoclonal antibody production, human hybridomas

Immunological diagnosis techniques

Vaccine development including DNA vaccines

Boosting the immune system

Function and Characterization of Immune Systems

Evolution of the immune system

Genetics of the immune system

Invertebrate Immunology

Plant Immunology

The identification and functional analysis of specific cells, cytokines, membrane receptors etc (anything we have covered in class)