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Research activity

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Microenvironmental Regulation of Antibody Responses (/research/activity/mds/domains/immunity-infection/virology/microenvironmental-regulation-of-antibody-response/index.aspx)

B lymphocytes are the cells that will generate antibodies – proteins that convey memory and specifically protect us from anything foreign that we encounter during contact with pathogens or during vaccination. B lymphocytes develop as clones of cells that are tuned to specifically produce antibodies against one certain structure. During an immune response B cell clones evolve their genes that code for specificity to a single foreign moiety to become extremely highly specific and affine for this foreign structure. This differentiation process involves B cells migrating in response to chemokines through various microanatomical compartments, in the process interacting with a range of accessory cells. Our research group is studying this differentiation process in response to bacteria (e.g. Salmonella, an organism that kills 1000s of children in developing countries each year), viruses, or model protein antigens. We are trying to understand molecular cues driving B cell compartementalization, cellular interactions in various microanatomical compartments, and the timing and regulation of antibody gene maturation (hypermutation and selection) and variation (immunoglobulin class switching) in the development of these responses. Understanding this better should lead to the development of better vaccines, e.g. children to be protected from childhood diseases, or elderly who do not respond very well to vaccines that are in current use.

Micromanipulation Research - Formulation Engineering Research - School of Chemical Engineering (/research/activity/chemical-engineering/speciality-products/micromanipulation/index.aspx)

Over the last 20 years, novel micromanipulation techniques have been developed by the Group of Micromanipulation, School of Chemical Engineering, initially led by Prof. Colin Thomas and now by Prof. Zhibing Zhang, to measure the mechanical properties of single microparticles, including animal cells, yeast, bacteria, pollen grains, microspheres and microcapsules.

Microwave systems and devices (/research/activity/eece/systems-devices/index.aspx)

The primary (but not only) concern of this research centre is the development of devices and systems for communications and radar. The centre's research covers both basic science and applications. An example of basic science is the work on materials such as dielectrics, ferroelectrics and superconductors. This basic work is complemented by the development of devices such as new, passive and active microwave circuits for real world applications. In addition there is significant work on radar and communication systems.

Midlands Excellence Organisational Improvement Programme (MidEx) (/research/activity/business/midex/index.aspx)

Midlands Integrative Biosciences Training Partnership (/research/activity/mibtp/index.aspx)

Midlands Integrative Biosciences Training Partnership

Modelling for Health Economics (/research/activity/mds/domains/health-pop/healthcare-evaluation-and-methodology/modelling-for-health-economics/index.aspx)

This research group is formed around one of the two methodological programmes within the Health Economics Unit. The research programme arises from concerns about the modelling methods sometimes applied within health economics and a recognition of the importance of observing and developing good practice. The overall aim of the programme is to improve the performance and presentation of the results of model-based analysis for decision making, by continued development and dissemination of aspects of good practice. The programme has two main research areas: 1. Issues to do with uncertainty, including: a) Uncertainty in model construction; b) Representing uncertainty in model results 2. Technical methods of modelling to improve accuracy and/or efficiency of model running, including: a) Methods from numerical analysis; b) Methods for dealing with large decision spaces

Modern British Studies (/research/activity/mbs/index.aspx)

An introduction to the Centre for Modern and Contemporary History at the University of Birmingham.

Molecular Cell Biology and Signalling - Research - School of Biosciences (/research/activity/molecular-cell-biology-signalling/index.aspx)

One of the six research themes in our School of Biosciences, the Molecular Cell Biology and Signalling Theme focuses our research on understanding the molecular mechanisms which underlie cellular processes within a variety of physiological contexts in a range of eukaryotic organisms.

Molecular Haematopoiesis and Epigenetics (/research/activity/mds/domains/Cancer/cancer-cell-biology-epigenetics/molecular-haem-epigenetics/index.aspx)

The experimental haematology page describes the research of Professor Constanze Bonifer into gene regulation in the hematopoietic system. School of Cancer Sciences, University of Birmingham.

Molecular Physics - Physics and Astronomy research (/research/activity/physics/quantum/molecular/index.aspx)

Welcome to the web pages of the Molecular Physics Group. Our research is directed towards the study of the reactions of electrons and ions with neutral molecules at low energies. As well as its fundamental aspects, the research has important applications to the physics and chemistry of naturally occurring plasmas (e.g. the terrestrial atmosphere), industrial plasmas (e.g. surface etchant plasmas), and pollutant monitoring.

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