Immune Defenses

2. Specific Defenses:

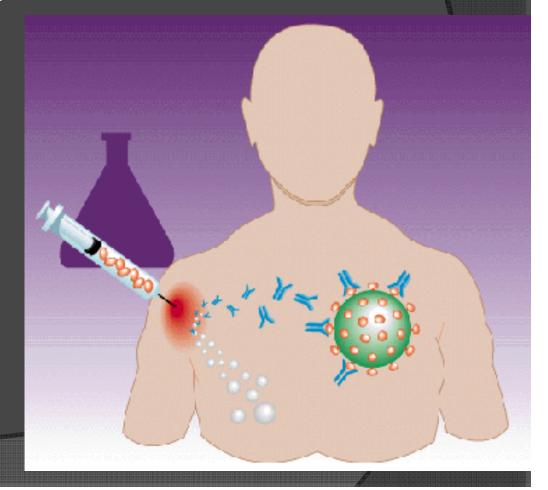
If a pathogen gets past the <u>nonspecific</u> <u>defenses</u>, then... the immune system reacts with a series of **specific defenses** that attack the pathogen.

Analogy: These defenses are like the different lines of defense in the Army.



Vaccines

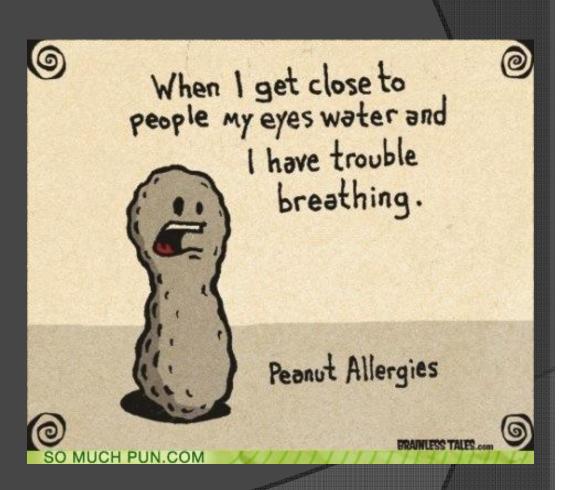
- What is in the shot they give you?
 - Vaccines contain antigens or weakened forms of a pathogen.
- They work by:
 - Causing B cells
 to make
 antibodies
 against the
 antigen.



Immune System Disorders

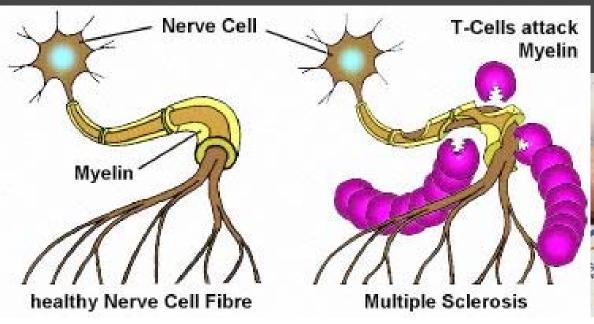
• Allergies

Immune system
 overreaction
 to antigens on
 foreign
 substances that
 are usually
 harmless



Immune System Disorders

- Autoimmune Diseases:
 - the immune system attacks the cells & tissues of the body.
- Example:
 - multiple sclerosis (MS) T cells destroy myelin sheath around neurons



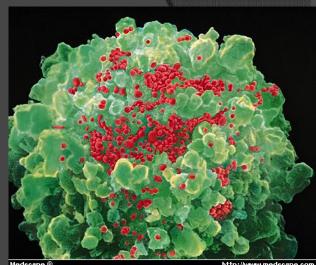


Immune System Disorders

AIDS

(acquired immune deficiency syndrome):

- Caused by HIV (human immunodeficiency virus)
- HIV weakens the immune system by killing helper T cells
- People with HIV (or AIDS) can easily get illnesses or infections



Jobs of the Immune Cells

Macrophage ("big eater")

 eats pathogens & sticks their antigen on outside of cell.

Helper T cells

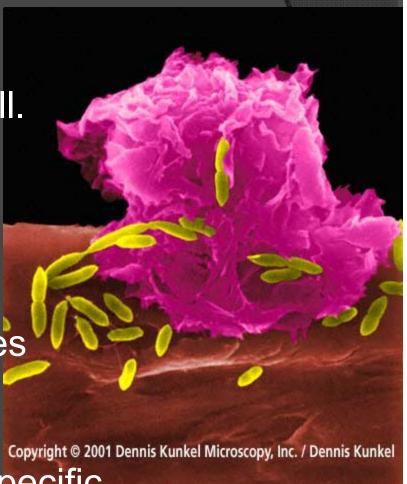
 Signal to other immune cells to attack certain invaders

Killer T cells

 Identify infected cells, attaches to them, & destroys the cell.

B cells

 Make antibodies to prevent specific antigens from hurting the body.



Antibodies vs. Antigens

- Proteins
- Recognize chemical signals from another cell (antigens on a pathogen)
- Y shape

 Chemical signal on the surface of a pathogen

