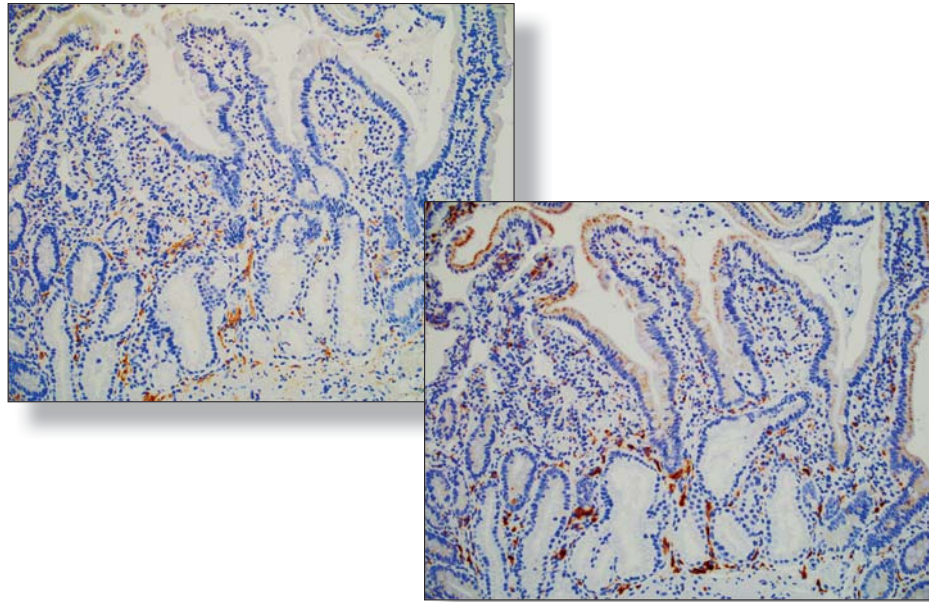


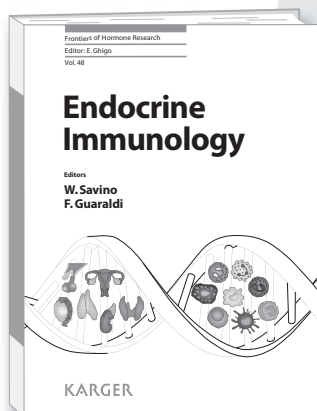
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*The complex endocrine-neuro-immune network  
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# Endocrine Immunology

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## Endocrine Immunology

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In the last decades, several in vitro and in vivo studies have revealed the existence of a very complex network between the neuroendocrine and immune system. Important molecular mechanisms underlying these interactions, in both physiological and pathological conditions, have also been described. Indeed, hormones play a pivotal role in the development and functional regulation of the immune system – both innate and acquired responses. Immune system cells present specific hormone receptors and themselves produce some hormones, thus influencing hormone secretion. More recently, the modulation of hormone secretion has been attempted for treating associated autoimmune disorders, further supporting the strong interplay between the endocrine and immune system.

Distinguished experts, who have published extensively in their fields, have contributed comprehensive chapters to this volume. The focus is on the various aspects of endocrine-neuro-immune connections, providing an updated panorama – from basics to clinical applications – of current knowledge and still debated issues.

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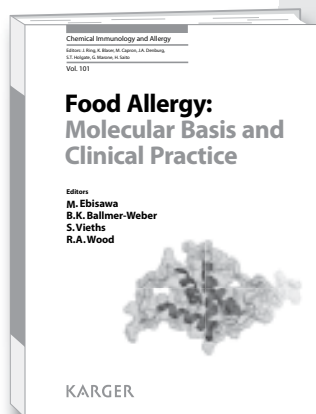
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# Food Allergy: Molecular Basis and Clinical Practice

Editors:

Motohiro Ebisawa, Barbara K. Ballmer-Weber,  
Stefan Vieths, Robert A. Wood

## Food Allergy: Molecular Basis and Clinical Practice

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While first accounts of food allergy date back to antiquity, only in recent years has food allergy become recognized as one of the major allergic diseases. During the last decade the output of research papers on food allergy increased tremendously, and today, issues related to food allergies still attract a lot of attention among academics and the general public. Featuring contributions by world-renowned experts, this book presents the current concept, practice and recent advances in the field of food allergy. A comprehensive background section provides a historical retrospective and information on the immunological basis and epidemiology of food allergies. Main topics discussed include clinical aspects, diagnosis and management, allergen-based food allergies, and disease-based food allergies. Furthermore, nutritional aspects and diets, public policy and educational programs are covered as well as recent hot topics such as molecular-based allergen diagnosis, eosinophilic gastrointestinal food allergies and oral immunotherapy.

Allergists, pediatricians, internists, dermatologists and general practitioners will find this publication an essential source of information as it provides in-depth insights into food allergies from childhood to adulthood.

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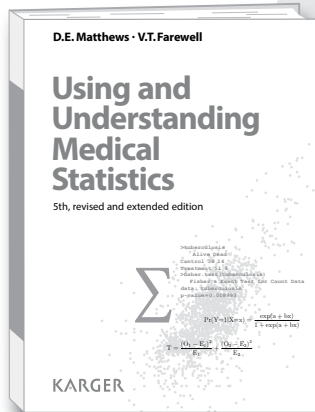
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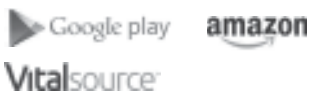
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# Using and Understanding Medical Statistics

5th, revised and extended edition

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Farewell, V.T. (Cambridge)  
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The fifth revised edition of this highly successful book presents the most extensive enhancement since *Using and Understanding Medical Statistics* was first published 30 years ago. Without question, the single greatest change has been the inclusion of source code, together with selected output, for the award-winning, open-source, statistical package known as R. This innovation has enabled the authors to de-emphasize formulae and calculations, and let software do all of the 'heavy lifting'.

This edition also introduces readers to several graphical statistical tools, such as Q-Q plots to check normality, residual plots for multiple regression models, funnel plots to detect publication bias in a meta-analysis and Bland-Altman plots for assessing agreement in clinical measurements. New examples that better serve the expository goals have been added to a half-dozen chapters. In addition, there are new sections describing exact confidence bands for the Kaplan-Meier estimator, as well as negative binomial and zero-inflated Poisson regression models for over-dispersed count data.

The end result is not only an excellent introduction to medical statistics, but also an invaluable reference for every discerning reader of medical research literature.

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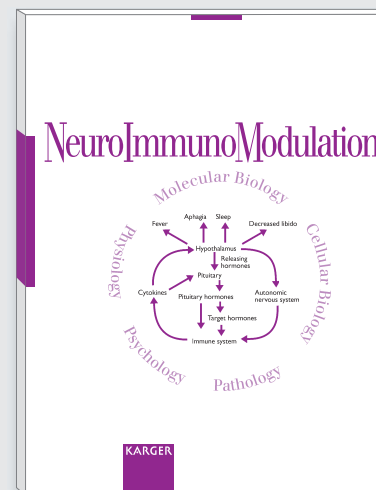
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## Cover illustration

Duodenal biopsy from a pediatric patient with *H. pylori*. The two panels are serial sections, immunostained for alpha-synuclein (left) and CD68 (right), a marker of macrophages and dendritic cells. The image demonstrates the micro-anatomic localization of immune cells to neurites expressing alpha-synuclein. Photo courtesy of Prof. Michael Zasloff, Washington, DC.