Varicella-Zoster Virus

Molecular Biology, Pathogenesis, and Clinical Aspects

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Varicella-zoster virus (VZV), a member of the herpesvirus family, is known as the causative agent of chickenpox (varicella) and shingles (zoster). In the past decades, considerable knowledge about the transmission as well as the clinical and epidemiological aspects of VZV infection has been accumulated. Nowadays effective treatment is available and a vaccine has been developed and licensed.

This book provides a comprehensive overview of our current knowledge of the molecular biology and the clinical aspects of VZV. Written by international experts in the field, individual chapters cover the diagnosis, pathogenesis, therapy, and epidemiology of VZV infection.

In addition, recent research findings concerning the viral genome structure, the replication cycle, the mechanisms of latency and reactivation, as well as the development of new vaccines are described. Authoritative and up to date, this volume is a vital reference not only for researchers in the herpesvirus field, but also for clinical microbiologists, dermatologists, pediatricians, and physicians in general and internal medicine.
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Preface

General Aspects

Morphological and Biological Characteristics of Varicella-Zoster Virus
Rahaus, M.; Schünemann, S.; Wolff, M.H.

Genomic Structure and Organization of Varicella-Zoster Virus
Cohen, J.I.

Overview of the Replication Cycle of Varicella-Zoster Virus
Sadzot-Delvaux, C.; Baudoux, L.; Defechereux, P.; Piette, J.; Rentier, B.

Role of Glycoproteins in Varicella-Zoster Virus Infection
Gershon, M.D.; Gershon, A.A.

Varicella-Zoster Virus: Latency and Reactivation
Lungu, O.; Annunziato, P.W.

Pathogenesis and Clinical Aspects

Epidemiology of Varicella Infections
Flisser, A.; Tapia-Conyer, R.

Viremic Stages of Different Varicella-Zoster Virus-Associated Diseases
Schünemann, S.; Wolff, M.H.; Rahaus, M.

Chickenpox (Varicella)
Arvin, A.M.

Shingles (Zoster)
Lilio, H.M.; Wassilew, S.W.

Postherpetic Neuralgia
Watson, C.P.N.

Infections during Pregnancy
Wuttke, P.; Sauerbrei, A.

Diagnosis of Varicella-Zoster Virus-Associated Diseases with Special Emphasis on Infections in the Immunocompromised Host
Wolff, M.H.; Schünemann, S.; Rahaus, M.; Schmidt, A.

Approaches to the Treatment of Varicella-Zoster Virus Infections
Whitley, R.J.

Experience with Live-Attenuated Varicella-Zoster Vaccines
LaRussa, P.

Development of Recombinant Varicella-Zoster Virus Vaccines
Arvin, A.M.; Mallory, S.; Moffat, J.F.

Author Index
Subject Index