

B Cells and Alloantibodies in Transplantation Rejection

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I will provide an introduction to the basic concepts of B cells, Plasma Cells and Antibodies. I will review experimental models that reveal how antibodies can cause inflammation at the site of the graft to elicit graft injury as well as their ability to generate opsonins and contribute to alloreactive T cell priming. I will also summarize some recent clinical data that demonstrate that the densities of B cells and plasma cells in kidney biopsies are more sensitive predictors of poor response to therapy, compared to total cellular infiltrate (CD45) or T cell densities. Finally I will summarize the critical role of B cells, Plasma Cells and Antibodies in Transplantation Rejection.