



The HLA FactsBook

By Steven G.E. Marsh, Peter Parham, Linda D. Barber

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The *HLA FactsBook* presents up-to-date and comprehensive information on the HLA genes in a manner that is accessible to both beginner and expert alike. The focus of the book is on the polymorphic HLA genes (HLA-A, B, C, DP, DQ, and DR) that are typed for in clinical HLA laboratories. Each gene has a dedicated section in which individual entries describe the structure, functions, and population distribution of groups of related allotypes. Fourteen introductory chapters provide a beginner's guide to the basic structure, function, and genetics of the HLA genes, as well as to the nomenclature and methods used for HLA typing. This book will be an invaluable reference for researchers studying the human immune response, for clinicians and laboratory personnel involved in clinical and forensic HLA typing, and for human geneticists, population biologists, and evolutionary biologists interested in HLA genes as markers of human diversity.

- Introductory chapters provide good general overview of HLA field for novice immunologists and geneticists
- Up-to-date, complete listing of HLA alleles
- Invaluable reference resource for immunologists, geneticists, and cell biologists
- Combines both structural and functional information, which has never been compiled in a single reference book previously
- Serological specificity of allotypes
- Identity of material sequenced including ethnic origin
- Database accession numbers
- Population distribution
- Peptide binding specificities
- T cell epitopes
- Amino acid sequences of allotypes
- Key references

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Editorial Review

Review

"One might consider this book to be an HLA Thesaurus, which should be on the desk of every serious HLA research. The compilers have done a excellent job." --*European Federation for Immunogenetics Newsletter*

"This information will prove invaluable to each laboratory and I suggest that each should have a copy of this book...the authors deserve our thanks for bringing the present available information together in one text - to do this was no mean feat." --*British Society of Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics Newsletter*

"...the data are an absolute treasure...I must have spent days looking for this kind of information in the past." --*Immunology Today*

From the Back Cover

How do you keep track of basic information on the proteins you work with? Where do you find details of their physicochemical properties, amino acid sequences, and structure? Are you tired of scanning review articles, primary papers and databases to locate that elusive fact?

The Academic Press FactsBook series has established itself as the best source of easily-accessible and accurate facts about protein groups. Described as 'A growing series of excellent manuals' by *Molecular Medicine Today*, and 'Essential works of reference' by *Trends in Biochemical Sciences*, the FactsBooks have become the most popular comprehensive data resources available. Using an easy-to-follow format, the FactsBooks will keep you up-to-date with the latest advances in structure, amino acid sequences, physicochemical properties and biological activity. Meticulously researched and compiled by experts in the field, keeping abreast of developments has never been so easy!

The *HLA FactsBook* presents up-to-date and comprehensive information on the HLA genes. Fourteen introductory chapters provide an invaluable guide to the basic structure, function and genetics of the HLA genes, as well as to the nomenclature and methods used for HLA typing. This is followed by entries on all the polymorphic components of the HLA system, including HLA-A, -B, -C, -E, -F, -G, -DM, -DO, -DP, -DQ and -DR allotypes.

Entries provide information on:

- current listing of alleles identified
- serological specificity of allotypes
- identity of material sequenced including ethnic origin
- database accession numbers
- population distribution
- peptide binding specificities
- T cell epitopes
- amino acid sequences of allotypes
- key references

About the Author

Dr. Parham was born in London and read natural sciences at Cambridge University. He began study of the genetic basis of HLA polymorphism in 1973 and has continued this line of research ever since. Dr. Parham is currently Professor of structural biology and microbiology and immunology at Stanford University.

Linda Barber's doctoral and post-doctoral studies examined the structure and function of MHC classI and classII molecules with emphasis on the impact of polymorphism on peptides bound and presented for immune surveillance. Dr. Barber's current interests focus on utilizing our understanding of the role of MHC molecules in T cell and NK cell function to develop improved prophylactic and therapeutic strategies for manipulating immune responses.

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