1271 This Week in Science

Editorial

1273 Recognizing Self from Nonself

Letters


News & Comment

1299 Cold Fusion Conundrum at Texas A&M ■ Wolf: My Tritium Was an Impurity
1304 North Carolina Protests Chinese Pig Cartel
1305 Amazonian Biodiversity
1306 New Head for the WHO Global Program on AIDS
1307 Peer Review Under Review
1308 Briefings: Voyager's Last Light ■ Damage to Animal Research Mounts ■ Third World Pollution ■ Soviet Missile on Display ■ INS Puts Limits on Togetherness ■ U. of Maryland Gains from Glasnost ■ Turtles Navigation

Research News

1310 The Worm Project
1313 No Pain, No Gain?
1314 From One Coral Many Findings Blossom ■ Coral Pushes Back the Past

Articles

Tolerance in the Immune System

1335 The Role of the T Cell Receptor in Positive and Negative Selection of Developing T Cells: M. Blackman, J. Kappler, P. Marrack
1342 Clonal Deletion Versus Clonal Anergy: The Role of the Thymus in Inducing Self Tolerance: F. Ramsdell and B. J. Fowlkes
1349 A Cell Culture Model for T Lymphocyte Clonal Anergy: R. H. Schwartz
1364 Tolerance in Transgenic Mice Expressing Major Histocompatibility Molecules Extrathymically on Pancreatic Cells: L. C. Burkly, D. Lo, R. A. Flavell
1369 Self-Nonself Discrimination by T Cells: H. von Bohmer and P. Kieslow
1373 The Need for Central and Peripheral Tolerance in the B Cell Repertoire: C. C. Goodnow, S. Adelstein, A. Bastin
1380 Autoimmune Diseases: The Failure of Self Tolerance: A. A. Sinha, M. T. Lopez, H. O. McDevitt

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An allegory of immune tolerance, inspired by M. C. Escher. Immune function depends on distinguishing between self and nonself. When the immune system cannot determine whether an antigen is self or foreign, self tolerance may break down and autoimmune disease ensues. The articles on tolerance in the immune system begin on page 1335. [Concept by Linda J. Miller, illustration by Julie Cherry]