

Immunological synopsis

Man, like any other living being, is part of his environment and needs contact to and protection against this environment as a biological fundamental phenomenon. The interrelations – health/illness, survival or death – are results of inherited potencies (natural resistance), acquired capacities (immunity) and incidental events. Once one has studied the topographic organization, the functional processes and the life profile of immunity, many biological and clinical problems can be explained better and the connections will become clearer.

Immunological processes are initiated against substances «foreign» to an organism because it lacks the necessary (enzymatic) keys to incorporate them into their own structures.

«Natural resistance» is the sum of the innate, non-specific protective mechan-

isms of an organism, «immunity» implies the acquired specific measures for the maintenance of the individual integrity of the body. These specific processes developing immunoglobulin are an evolutionary event acquired during phylogenesis and becoming more complex as the differentiation goes on.

In the *life profile of immunity*, the following periods are distinguished:

- the immunological tolerance of the embryo and fetus;
- the immunological insufficiency of the baby;
- the immunological ripening during childhood to an optimum between the 10th and 12th years;
- the immunological maturity in adolescents and adults is followed, in the 5th and 6th decades of life, by the regressive phase, which leads to the senile immunological paralysis.