B lymphocytes are cells that play a large role in the humoral immune response, as opposed to the cell-mediated immune response that is governed by T cells. The principal function of B lymphocytes is to make antibodies against soluble antigens although, they do not produce antibodies until they become fully activated. B lymphocytes have unique receptor proteins (referred to as the B cell receptors (BCRs)) on their surfaces that will bind to one particular antigen. BCRs are composed of membrane-bound immunoglobulin, and allow for the distinction of B lymphocytes from other types of lymphocytes, as well as being the principal proteins involved in B lymphocyte activation. The human body makes millions of different types of B lymphocytes each day that circulate in the blood and lymph nodes.

REFERENCES


CHROMOSOMAL LOCATION

Genetic locus: CD83 (human) mapping to 6p23.

SOURCE

B lymphocytes (Lym-1) is a mouse monoclonal antibody raised against Burkitt's lymphoma cell line Raji of human origin.