DESCRIPTION

A comprehensive overview of recent advances, from current basic research and epidemiology, to novel therapeutic strategies and clinical management. Here, the leading scientists who have made major advances in the field provide up-to-date reviews and describe their current knowledge and concepts.

As such, this is the first volume to summarize the implications of the meningococcus genome-sequencing project, emphasizing the novel strategies in vaccine development. Following a look at the history, the authors go on to treat the epidemiology of meningococcal disease, as well as the genetics, structure and function of virulence factors. Further chapters cover cross-talk between meningococci and host cells, genomics and immunobiology.

The result is a standard handbook for all scientists working in the field. While aimed at advanced specialists in basic research, epidemiologists, public health workers, vaccine developers and clinicians, the book is equally appropriate as introductory reading for graduates embarking on their career in this field.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

After his MD thesis in medical microbiology Matthias Frosch continued his career from 1986 to 1994 first as a post-doc at the Max-Planck-Institute for Biology in Tübingen and as a group leader at the Medical School Hannover where he became Professor in
1994. Since 1996 Matthias Frosch is director of the Institute for Hygiene and Microbiology at the University of Würzburg. By order of the Robert-Koch-Institute he was appointed head of the German national research center for Meningococcal Diseases in 2002.

Martin Maiden is Professor of Molecular Epidemiology, and Wellcome Trust Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Zoology, University of Oxford. After obtaining his degree at Reading University, he began his research career at the University of Cambridge where he took his PhD degree. Following a Medical Research Council Training Fellowship in the same laboratory, he moved to the National Institute for Biological Standards and Control in Hertfordshire including a sabbatical at the Max-Planck-Institute for Molecular Genetics in Berlin. He moved to Oxford in 1997 and is a Fellow of Hertford College. His current research focuses on antigenic diversity and its relationship to genetic diversity in populations of microorganisms, especially Neisseria meningitidis and Campylobacter jejuni.

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