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Complement Degradation Process

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Complement Degradation Process*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C40677.

Complement Degradation consists of conjugation, transport, oxidation, and/or proteolysis of complement system proteins; sequentially interacting serum proteins (some serine proteases), their receptors, and related regulatory proteins. Activated by cell-surface bound antibody, immune complexes, or a microbial membrane carbohydrate, complex complement cascades (classical or properdin pathway) generate Membrane Attack Complex, which creates target cell wall pores and lysis. The complement system also plays a role in antibody-dependent cytotoxicity, anaphylaxis, phagocytosis, opsonization, chemotaxis, and hemolysis.