Contents

Preface

Monoclonal Antibodies to Normal and Abnormal Epithelial Antigens
Lowell A. Goldsmith and Robert A. Briggaman 3

The Evolution and Complexity of the Genes Encoding the Cytoskeletal Proteins of Human Epidermal Cells
Elaine Fuchs, Kwan Hee Kim, Israel Hanukoglu, and Naoko Tanese 27

Human Skin Epidermal Adenylate Cyclase Systems: Defective Beta-Adrenergic Responsiveness in the Involved Epidermis of Darier's Disease
Hajime Iizuka, Akira Ohkawara, and Yasumasa Ishibashi 45

Influence of Cell Dissociation on Normal Epidermal Cells in Hailey-Hailey's Disease and Darier's Disease
Yasumasa Ishibashi and Atsushi Kukita 59

Substrate Adherence of Newborn and Adult Human Keratinocytes.
M. Mancianti and M. Karasek 71

Keratinocytes Form Multi-Cell Clusters in the Absence of Cell Division or Collagen Synthesis; Tunicamycin Interferes with Cell Cluster Formation
Joseph McGuire and Neal Fedarko 83

Cinemicrographic Study of Cell Proliferation Pattern and Interdivision Times of Human Keratinocytes in Primary Culture
Yukio Kitano, Naoko Nagase, Natsuko Okada, and Masaki Okano 97
Inhibition of Calcium-Induced Terminal Differentiation of Epidermal Cells by Ouabain and A23187
Henry Hennings, Stuart H. Yuspa, and Karen A. Holbrook 109

Synthesis of Basal Lamina by Epidermal Cells in vitro
Sigeru Taniguchi and Takae Hirone 127

Mechanism of Skin Surface Lipid Peroxidation
Itsuro Matsuo, Kazuhiro Yoshino, and Muneo Ohkido.............135

Free Nucleosides and Bases in the Hyperkeratotic Epidermis
Ryohei Ogura and Shuji Kumano 145

Regulation Mechanisms of Hair Growth
Hideoki Ogawa and Michihiro Hattori 159

v

vi CONTENTS

A Sensitive Assay for the Enzyme Activity in Hair Follicles and Epidermis that Catalyses the Peptidyl-Arginine-Citrulline Post-translational Modification
G. E. Rogers and J. A. Rothnagel 171

The Epidermal Barrier to Schistosoma mansoni Infection
Kimie Fukuyama, Sinfu Tzeng, James McKerrow, and William L. Epstein 185

Aspects of the Physiology and Pathophysiology of Desquamation
R. Marks, S. Barton, and R. Marshall 195

Acrolein Vapor Fixation in Electron Microscopy of the Homy Layer
M. Kawai, N. Yoshizawa, G. Imokawa, K. Okamoto, and K. Toda . .207

Cytoplasmic Fine Network and Mitochondria in Normal and Abnormal Cultured Keratinocytes : An Electron Microscopic Study Using Whole-Cell Observation Technique
Hiroyuki Suzuki, Shunichi Baba, Hiizu Tsuchiyama, Tomoyoshi Watabe, and Tatsuya Matsuo 215

Alterations in Epidermal Functions Resulting from Exposure to
Initiators and Promoters of Carcinogenesis
Stuart H. Yuspa 227

Molecular Changes in the Cell Surface of Differentiating Epidermal Keratinocytes
J. D. Zieske and I. A. Bernstein 243

The Role of Cross-Linking in Epidermal Differentiation
J. Kubilus and H. P. Baden 253

Comparative Studies of the Marginal Band and Plasma Membrane of the Epidermis
Hideoki Ogawa, Motomu Manabe, Tetsuya Hirotani, Kenji Takamori, and Michihiro Hattori 265

Keratin Expression during Normal Epidermal Differentiation
Tung-Tien Sun, Riva Eichner, William G. Nelson, Alda Vidrich, and Janet Woodcock-Mitchell 277

Histidine-Rich and Cystine-Rich Keratohyalin Granules in Hamster Cheek Pouch Epidermis
1. Histochemical examination with a fluorescent thiol reagent (DACM)
Tadashi Tezuka 293

Histidine-Rich Protein as a Possible Origin of Free Amino Acids of Stratum Corneum
Izumi Horii, Kiyoshi Kawasaki, Junichi Koyama, Yasuhisa Nakayama, Keisuke Nakajima, Kuninobu Okazaki, and Makoto Seiji 301

The Structure Proteins of the Human Nail
S. Shono and K. Toda 317

CONTENTS vii

Zinc-Binding Proteins of Newborn Rat Epidermis
Kimie Fukuyama, Masahiro Sakamoto, Osamu Ohtani, Sinfu Tzeng, and William L. Epstein 327

Index 339

Preface
This third meeting in the series of Japan-U.S. joint seminars on biochemical aspects of epidermal differentiation held in Tokyo continued the energetic scholarly interchange begun in 1976. Some of the questions raised at that time in Sendai, Japan, and discussed further three years later at Boyne Falls, Michigan, in the United States, were clarified at this latest meeting. The published proceedings of these three conferences document the increasing technical sophistication with which this subject is being attacked on both sides of the Pacific. As an innovation, this latest conference included a delegate from Australia and one from the British Isles.

This volume is dedicated to the memory of Makoto Seiji who passed away before the book went to press. In his death, dermatology has lost a significant contributor. We, his colleagues, will miss his thoughtful comments and his valuable advice. His spirit will certainly influence the intellectual atmosphere of future conferences in this series.

All those involved with the publication of these proceedings hope that the contents will be useful to the field world-wide. Special thanks are due to Drs. K. Toda and H. Ogawa who, under trying circumstances, took care of the logistics of the meeting and the editing of the book. The editors are especially grateful to Etsuko Hamao of the University of Tokyo Press for shouldering the heavy burden of directing the actual publication of the book.

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