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Nota di contenuto	IgE, MAST CELLS AND THE ALLERGIC RESPONSE; Contents; Introduction; Control of in vivo IgE production in the mouse by interleukin 4; Structure and function of FcE receptor II (FcE,RII/CD23): a point of contact between the effector phase of allergy and B cell differentiation; Different mast cell mediators produced by different mast cell phenotypes; Mast cells: immunologically specific effectors and potential sources of multiple cytokines during IgE-dependent responses; Non-IgE-mediated mast cell stimulation; The receptor with high affinity for IgE Calcium: an important second messenger in mast cellsLow affinity IgE receptors: regulation and functional roles in cell activation; IgE and inflammatory cells; Molecular genetics of human responsiveness to allergens; Influence of environmental factors on IgE production; Epidemiology of the allergic response; Heterogeneity of human FcERI-

bearing cells; Conventional and new approaches to hyposensitization;  
Final general discussion; Closing statement; Index of contributors;  
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Sommario/riassunto

Reviews recent basic research into IgE, mast cells, and the allergic response and the relevance of this work to human pathophysiology, and discusses new methods of treatment. This symposium is unique in the IgE field for its breadth of coverage and interdisciplinary nature, and it shows the benefits from the current rapid expansion of knowledge in cell biology, immunology, and molecular genetics, as well as the potential clinical significance of this research to clinical immunologists and allergologists.

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