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The Biochemical Society's Forty-fifth Symposium held at Cambridge in June 1979 dealt with two areas of biomedical research currently regarded as among the most exciting and clinically important research interests: the molecular mechanics of the immune response and the biochemistry of the cell surface. Speakers at the Symposium reviewed results from this work and in addition gave emphasis to those research aspects providing greatest promise in future work with the lymphocyte. A number of the major contributions to the Symposium form the basis of this publication.

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