

Epstein-Barr Virus

Latency and Transformation

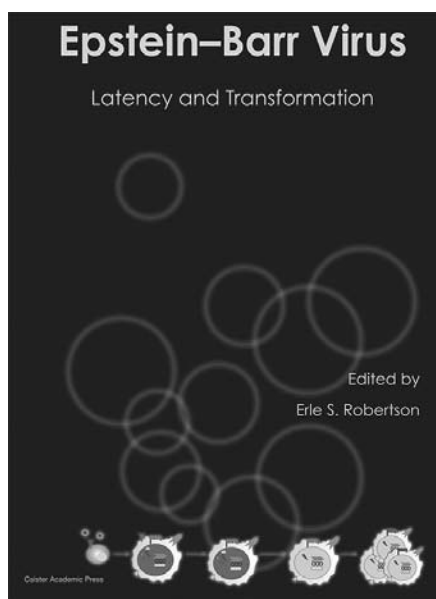
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A fascinating feature of Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) is its ability to persist in the human host. In fact, it is estimated that more than 95% of adults are carriers of the virus. Alarming EBV can transform latently infected primary cells from healthy individuals into cancerous ones, thereby causing important human cancers such as B-cell neoplasms (e.g. Burkitt's lymphoma and Post-transplant lymphomas), certain forms of T-cell lymphoma, and some epithelial tumours (e.g. gastric carcinomas). Understanding viral latency, the triggers of viral reactivation and the mechanism of transformation of normal host cells into malignant cells are critical for the development of strategies for the prevention and control of this intriguing virus and related cancers.

In this book, expert EBV virologists comprehensively review this important subject from a genetic, biochemical, immunological, and cell biological perspective. Essential reading for all EBV virologists as well as clinical and basic scientists working on oncogenic viruses.

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