

## Preface

This is the first edition of the HIV Molecular Immunology Database, an annual compendium summarizing known B cell and T cell epitopes in HIV. For T cell epitopes, this volume provides maps of epitope locations, organized by both by protein and by HLA restriction patterns, and summaries of the variability of the epitope observed in available international HIV sequences, references and annotation. For B cell epitopes, a summary table of peptide-reactive monoclonal antibodies is provided, organized by protein.

Please note the following:

- 1) We attempted to be comprehensive, but because of the magnitude of the task, the database is certain to be missing some important references, and the annotation may not always be clear. If you notice something amiss about an entry referring to your work, or if we have not included one of your papers, please contact Bette Korber (address below), and the situation will be rectified in subsequent releases of the database. Reprints or preprints would be much appreciated.
- 2) Three review articles on HIV-1 T-immunity appear in Part IV. While we attempted to be as comprehensive as possible in the CTL section of the database, Brander and Walker, as an alternative, provide a summary restricted to the best-defined CTL epitopes in their article. They intend to update this summary in future releases. Ward et al. provide a discussion of HLA frequencies and considerations for vaccine design. DeGroot et al. provide a discussion of computer algorithms for predicting epitopes in protein sequences. Next year the review section will focus on B-cell immunity.
- 3) We are planning a WWW site, at "<http://hiv-web.lanl.gov/immuno/>" and ftp site, at "<ftp://atlas.lanl.gov/pub/aids-db/IMMUNO-DB>", both of which should be up by early 1996. The Web site will offer a browsable and printer-ready on-line version of this document, while the ftp site will offer the raw data that went toward producing it, for those who wish to use the data for further analysis.
- 4) At the beginning of Parts I, II and III, you will find a description of the material included in each section.

Sincerely,

Bette Korber  
T10 MS K710  
DCDP 01U  
Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Los Alamos, NM 87545 USA  
(505) 665-4453 phone  
(505) 665-3493 fax  
Email address for comments pertaining  
to the database: [immuno@t10.lanl.gov](mailto:immuno@t10.lanl.gov)