

## Autoimmunity

### — (Autoimmune Diseases) —

— Autoimmune diseases are conditions in which immune system of a body mistakenly attacks and destroys healthy body tissues.

Normally, the immune system can tell the difference between foreign cells and body's own cells. An inappropriate response of the immune system against self-components turned "autoimmunity".

In an autoimmune disease, the immune system attack the parts of the body like joints or skin, as foreign cells.

⇒ It releases proteins called auto-antibodies that attack healthy cells.

**Autoantibody:** - An autoantibody is an antibody (a type of protein) produced by the immune system that is directed against person's own tissues or organs.

One or more auto-antibodies may be produced by a person's immune system when it fails to distinguish between "self" and "non-self".

Some common human autoimmune diseases can be divided into two broad categories —

- ① Organ specific and
- ② Systemic autoimmune disease.