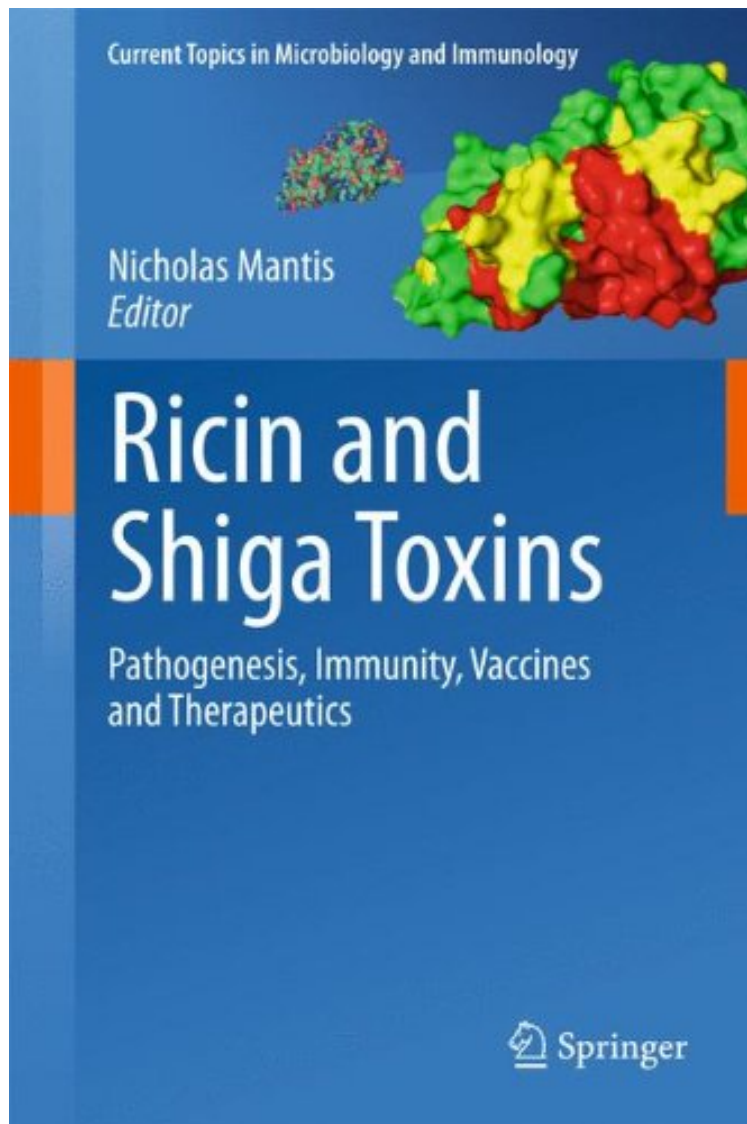


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(Current Topics in Microbiology and Immunology)

Ricin and Shiga Toxins: Pathogenesis, Immunity, Vaccines and Therapeutics (Current Topics in Microbiology and Immunology)

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From Springer : Ricin and Shiga Toxins: Pathogenesis, Immunity, Vaccines and Therapeutics (Current Topics in Microbiology and Immunology) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ricin and Shiga Toxins: Pathogenesis, Immunity, Vaccines and Therapeutics (Current Topics in

Microbiology and Immunology):

In May of 2011, Western Europe experienced a severe outbreak of Shiga toxin (Stx)-producing *E. coli* (STEC) that culminated in more than 3200 cases and 39 deaths. While Stx is not the only virulence factor associated with STEC, it is certainly the primary determinant associated with the onset of hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS). At the present time, there are no clinically approved measures to neutralize Stx in individuals suffering from STEC infection. Nor are there any preventatives or therapeutics for ricin toxin. Although incidents of ricin exposure are largely unheard of, federal agencies and public health officials consider it a significant threat. It is well documented that domestic and international terrorist groups have stockpiled, and in some cases weaponized ricin with the intent of releasing it into the public sphere and causing panic, illness and/or death on a local, regional, or possibly national scale. The chapters, written by leading experts in the field, are organized so as to cover all aspects of ricin and Stx, including pathogenesis, immunity, vaccines and therapeutics. This outstanding collection of reviews will serve as an important and readily accessible resource for the research community in the coming years.

From the reviews: This 10-chapter volume is designed to take the reader through a series of well-written, well-illustrated reviews about ribosome inactivating proteins (RIPs). This volume would give graduate biologists wishing to pick up information on ribotoxins a pretty good grounding in the current state of knowledge. The volume is equally valuable for postgraduates interested in this field, in bringing them up to date with the state of play and likely research directions to come. (Gareth Griffiths, *Microbiology Today*, November, 2012)

From the Back Cover: The intent of this volume of *Current Topics in Microbiology and Immunology* was to bring together a collection of in-depth and cutting edge reviews that highlight our current understanding of the biology of ricin and Shiga toxin (Stx), with the long term goal of advancing the development of countermeasures against these toxic agents. In May of 2011, Western Europe experienced a severe outbreak of Stx-producing *E. coli* (STEC) that culminated in more than 3200 cases and 39 deaths. While Stx is not the only virulence factor associated with STEC, it is certainly the primary determinant associated with the onset of hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS). At the present time, there are no clinically approved measures to neutralize Stx in individuals suffering from STEC infection. Nor are there any preventatives or therapeutics for ricin toxin. Although incidents of ricin exposure are largely unheard of, federal agencies and public health officials consider it a significant threat. It is well documented that domestic and international terrorist groups have stockpiled, and in some cases weaponized ricin with the intent of releasing it into the public sphere and causing panic, illness and/or death on a local, regional, or possibly national scale. As the title of this volume indicates, the chapters, written by leading experts in the field, are organized so as to cover all aspects of ricin and Stx, including pathogenesis, immunity, vaccines and therapeutics. This outstanding collection of reviews will serve as an important and readily accessible resource for the research community in the coming years.