IMMUNOMODULATORY AND IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE DRUGS IN DERMATOLOGY

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Recently, dermatologists have witnessed a revolution in our therapeutic armamentarium with the development of several novel immunomodulators. Although psoriasis remains the only condition in dermatology for which the use of immunomodulators has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration, these drugs have the potential to significantly impact the treatment of several inflammatory conditions in dermatology. This book includes a review of the mechanism of action, dosing, and side-effect profile, as well as a review of the current literature on immunomodulatory and immunosuppressive drugs in dermatology, and also off-label uses of the CD20-positive B-cell antagonist rituximab, the IgE antagonist omalizumab, the tumor necrosis factor-α antagonists infliximab, etanercept, and adalimumab, the pathogenic autoantibody antagonist IVIG, the antirheumatic drug leflunomide, the T-cell response modifiers alefacept, the toll-like receptor 7 agonist topical imiquimod, the oral hypoglycaemic agent metformin, the phosphodiesterase-4 inhibitor Apremilast, and also the new other immunomodulatory drugs and herbs.

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