

ATPase

An ATPase is a protein that utilizes the hydrolysis of ATP as an energy source to drive the process of primary active transport in which ions are transported against a concentration gradient, or electrical potential.

NT-proBNP

The N-terminal fragment of pro-B-type natriuretic peptide (NT-proBNP) is an inactive, 76-amino acid peptide derived from the cleavage of the 108-amino acid prohormone, proBNP, to the active hormone BNP, a 32-amino acid peptide. NT-proBNP is a sensitive biomarker of cardiac dysfunction, and can serve as a prognostic indicator in patients with stable coronary artery disease.

Reverse transcriptase

A reverse transcriptase is a type of enzyme responsible for the synthesis of DNA that is complementary to a single-stranded RNA template. The process of reverse transcription is critical to the life-cycle of retroviruses.

Autoantibody

An autoantibody is an antigen-binding protein synthesized by the immune system (ie, B cells) that recognizes the body's normal constituents as "non self"/foreign. Autoantibodies can attack these normal constituents leading to inflammation and tissue damage, and are central contributors to the pathophysiology of autoimmune diseases.

Autoantigen

An autoantigen is a substance that, despite being a normal tissue component, is recognized by the immune system (ie, B cells and T cells) as "non self"/foreign and is subjected to an inappropriate cell-mediated and/or humoral immune attack resulting in autoimmunity.