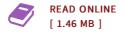


Sphingolipid Biochemistry

By Kanfer, Julian N. / Hakomori, Sen-itiroh

Book Condition: New. Publisher/Verlag: Springer, Berlin | Interest in and emphasis upon different aspects of the sphingolipids have, in general, followed the biochemical developments of the day. The early inves tigators were preoccupied principally with the isolation of "pure" compounds and structural elucidation. This historical perspective is found in the discus sion presented in Chapter 1 (Section 1. 1. 2 and Table III). Still, the isolation and structural characterization of glycolipids are the basic foundation of all our knowledge of enzymology, immunology, and cell biology. Recent infor mation obtained on structure has greatly affected the interpretation of various phenomena related to glycolipids. New structures suggest a new role of gly colipids are the additional gangliosides in human erythrocytes that are known to be important blood group, heterophil, and autoantigens. Erythrocytes are only one example of a cell type whose glycolipid profile has been extensively studied. Our defective knowledge in immunology and cell biology may be due to incomplete un derstanding of structural chemistry. Modern methodology based on methyla tion analysis,...



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