

Preface

This publication is the final stage of a series of studies devoted to the study of the molecular structure of pathogenicity factors of pathogenic microorganisms. In the 70s of the last century, the Laboratory of Biomolecular Bases of Bacterial Pathogenicity was created at the N. F. Gamaleya Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology in Moscow. For many years, under my leadership, the laboratory conducted studies of toxins, enzymes and antigenic substances of pathogenic microorganisms. A series of studies of the enzyme neuraminidase produced by *Cor. diphtheriae*, *Cor. ulcerans* and *Vibrio cholerae* was conducted. The properties of a group of staphylococcal enterotoxins and the conditions for the induction of gamma-interferon were studied. For the first time, an enterotoxin produced by *Bacillus cereus* was isolated and characterized. The experimental materials were published in international journals and the Russian-language scientific press, and were also presented at international conferences.

The development of theoretical and experimental foundations of the pathogenicity phenomenon was continued on the basis of the National Jewish Medical and Research Center, the materials of which served as the basis for two publications in American journals, respectively (see below).

