DENDRITIC CELL

GROUPS: MYELOCYTES, MONOCYTES

DESCRIPTION:

Like Macrophages, Dendritic cells are derived from the **monocyte family.** This means Dendritic cells can **phagocytose**, release **cytokines**, and warn other immune cells via **antigen presenting**. Dendritic cells are simply the best **APCs** - their unique shape helps them find and capture unwelcome visitors, plus Dendritic cells work closely with T and B cells to activate the **adaptive immune system**.

Dendritic cells work kind of like trip wires: once they've been set off by an intruder, the alarm is sounded. These cells travel to the lymph node to start a chain reaction, leading to a fast and powerful immune reaction.

> Dendritic cells and Killer T cells "talk" through physical contact. The DC extends out the antigen which connects with the **T-cell receptor**, telling the T cell it's time to start the attack.



WARRIOR STATS

ROLE: Recruit / Scout **SPECIAL ABILITIES:**

SA1 - APC: They can present antigens to other immune cells, like T cells and B cells.

SA2 - DENDRITES: Their "tentacles" allow them to be more sensitive to possible pathogens

SA3 - CYTOKINES: They can remotely call for backup using chemical signals

TARGET(S): N/A, DCs don't do much fighting, they just recruit cytotoxic immune cells instead

TEAMMATES: T Cells, B cells, non-immune tissue

WEAKNESS: You can develop **autoimmune disease** (when the immune system starts attacking healthy cells) if DCs act unusually.