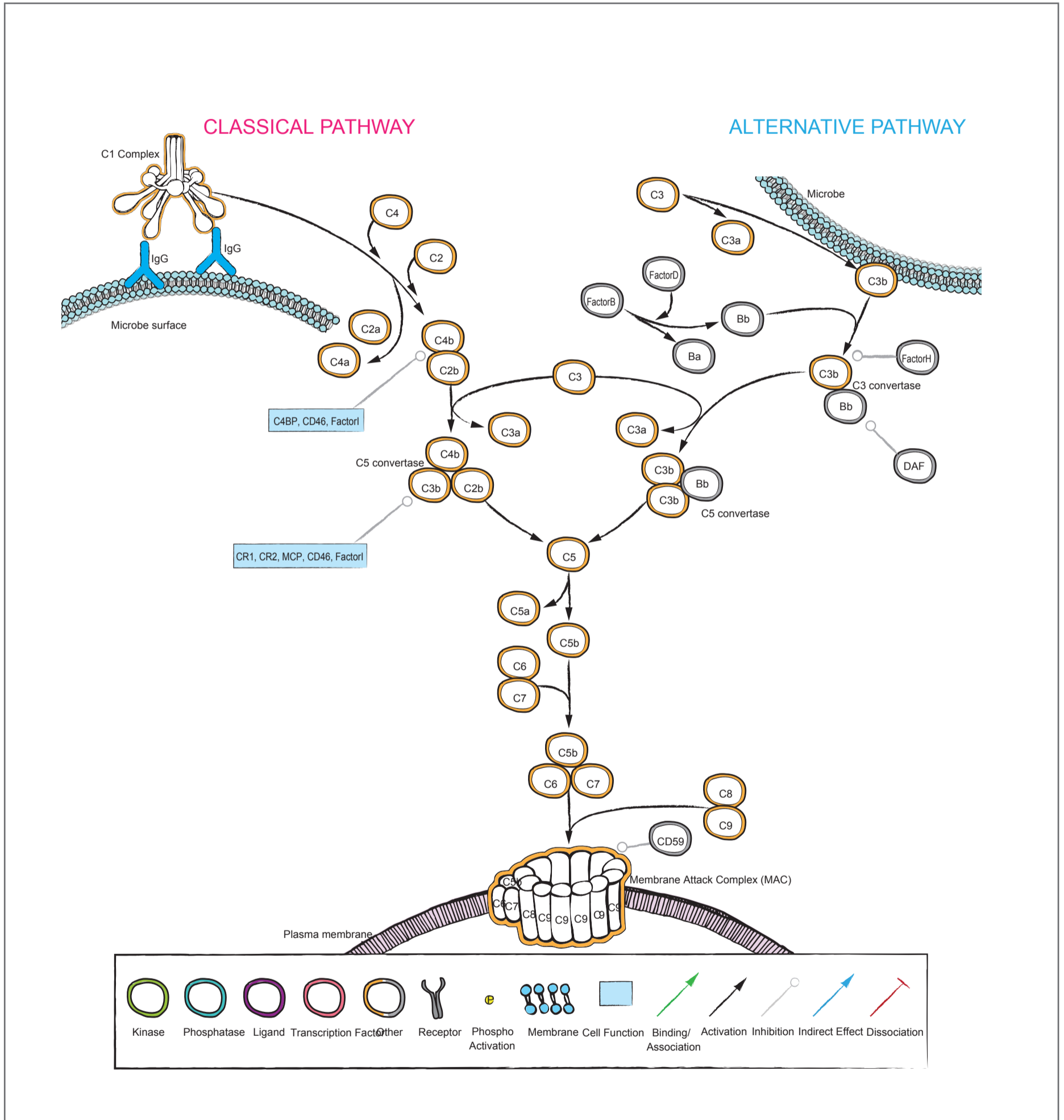


Complement System Pathway



The complement system plays an important role in host defense against infectious agents, as well as, in the inflammation process. This system is comprised of numerous plasma proteins that act as an enzyme or binding protein. The complement system includes distinct cell-surface receptors that are specific for physiological fragments of complement proteins. The classical pathway is the major effector of antibody action. The activation of this pathway promotes opsonophagocytic killing, serum bactericidal activity, and removal of immune complexes.