La vitesse globale de synthèse des protéines serait ainsi de 1.1% (kératine) + 1.1% (protéines banales) soit environ 2.2%, vitesse correspondant approximativement à la vitesse de renouvellement du RNA.

Il semble donc que, dans le cas d'une synthèse de protéines liée à une multiplication cellulaire, la vitesse du renouvellement du RNA soit semblable à la vitesse de synthèse des protéines. Il est donc possible qu'il y ait un rapport entre ces deux phénomènes, la synthèse des protéines s'effectuant, par exemple, par duplication de particules nucléoprotéiques dont la portion nucléique pourrait être ensuite séparée de la protéine et subir une dégradation rapide, comme l'a suggéré R. JEENER[3].

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ADEQUACY OF HYALURONIDASE PREPARATIONS

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The cause of divergency of the hyaluronidase literature mostly lies in the fact that many preparations also contain biologically active material other than hyaluronidase. SWYER[1] mentioned that some preparations contain histamine. Recently BENDITT *et al.*[2] described another, hitherto unidentified, vaso-active material.

In 1950 we introduced a simple hyaluronidase test: injecting 200 micrograms of purified Schering-hyaluronidase subaponeurotically into the hind-paw of white rats; we examined the grade and extent of the prompt oedema so induced[3]. Thus, a highly purified hyaluronidase from testis (Hyronase-Schering) also elicited the rat limb oedema in our test, and approximately to the same extent (250–275 micrograms)*.

Later we published that, giving 4–7 mg Cortone (Merck) per 100 g rat, our hyaluronidase reaction remains *entirely* negative in the 24th hour[4]. The effect of some *crude* hyaluronidase preparations, however, was insufficiently influenced by cortisone. Furthermore, we observed that preparations, having such a cortisone-unaffected part in producing this limb-oedema, did not evoke a contraction of the guinea-pig ileum, even in a concentration of 4500 microgram (dried material) per ml. The impurity, therefore, could not be histamine. Further investigations are needed to decide whether the vaso-active material of BENDITT and his co-workers may be responsible for the cortisone-unaffected part of this limb-oedema.

At present, we think that only these preparations are to be used for hyaluronidase experiments *in vivo*, which fail to give the rat limb-oedema effect after a developed cortisone effect. Adequate preparations only induce a very slight hyperæmia, if any, besides the marked oedema of the untreated controls.

* It was emphasized that if a negative test, *i.e.* antihyaluronidase effect is referred to, no specificity relating to the enzyme is meant; it only points to the partial or complete absence of the phenomena described.

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