urokinase or total antitrypsin activity were demonstrable in any of the tissue cultures but α_2-macroglobulin was found in small amounts (4–8% of that in normal plasma) in the medium of all the cultures.

The results are in good agreement with the known high fibrinolytic activity of lung tissue, bone marrow and renal tissue and with the absence of such activity in the liver of the adult[11] and in the foetus[12,13]. The minute amounts of degradation products in liver cultures and in the controls on the last day of culture may presumably be explained by spontaneous formation of plasmin from plasminogen contaminating fibrinogen and thrombin. The persistence of activity, even in the explants cultured for 2 weeks, suggests that the fibrinolytic agent is not only released from, but also synthetized, in the explants.

Denaturation of the plasminogen content of the fibrin by heating the clot at 85°C[14] and the use of medium containing a specific inhibitor of plasminogen activator, such as Cyklocapron® (0.01 ml per ml Parker medium), prevented the digestion of the clot and thereby suggested that the agent liberated by the cells is an activator of plasminogen[15].

Zusammenfassung. Es wird eine neue Methode zur Bestimmung der freigesetzten Menge fibrinolytisch wirksamer Stoffe in Gewebekulturen beschrieben. Das Gewebe wird in Leightonröhrchen mit einem standardisierten Fibringerinnsel gezüchtet. Die abgebaute Fibrinmenge – als Mass der fibrinolytischen Aktivität – wird durch immunologische Bestimmung der Spaltprodukte gemessen.

B. Åstedt, M. Pandolfi
and Inga Marie Nilsson[16]

Coagulation Laboratory, Malmö,
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Malmö, and
Department of Embryology,
University of Lund (Sweden), 29 October 1970.

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[16] Koagulationslaboratoriet, Allmänna Sjukhuset, S-21401 Malmö 8 (Sweden).

The Chorio-Allantoic Membrane. A New Site for Development of Mouse Embryos

Mouse embryos have been successfully grown in various extra uterine sites[1–5]. Their ability to survive even in inter-strain and inter-specific transplantation[6,7] emphasizes the absence of an immune response in early embryos and shows they can be used under various experimental conditions.

The chorio-allantoic membrane (CAM) of the chick has been widely used for the maintenance of a variety of explants and micro-organisms. Different types of cells have been grown on the membrane successfully. The present method was developed to study the interaction of different cell types grown in contact with pre-implantation embryos at the onset of differentiation of embryonic cells. A millipore filter was used to locate the embryos on the CAM.

White leghorn eggs incubated for 9 days were used as hosts for the embryos. A window was made in the shell, the shell membrane removed and the CAM exposed. Mouse embryos from animals autopsied 3 days after the

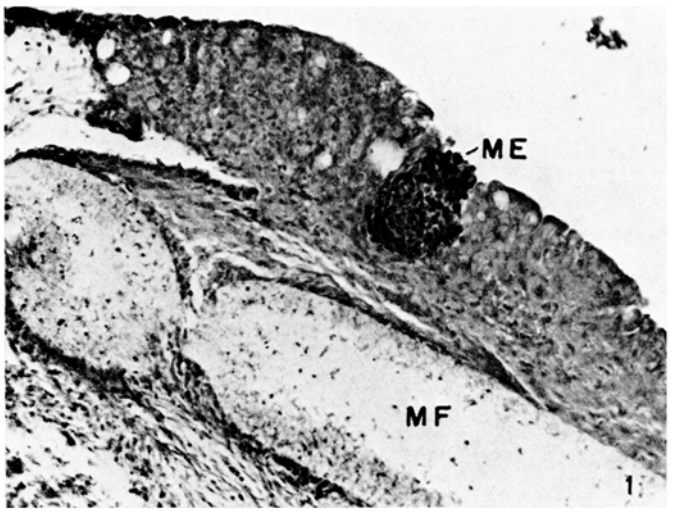

Fig. 1. Surface epithelium of CAM.

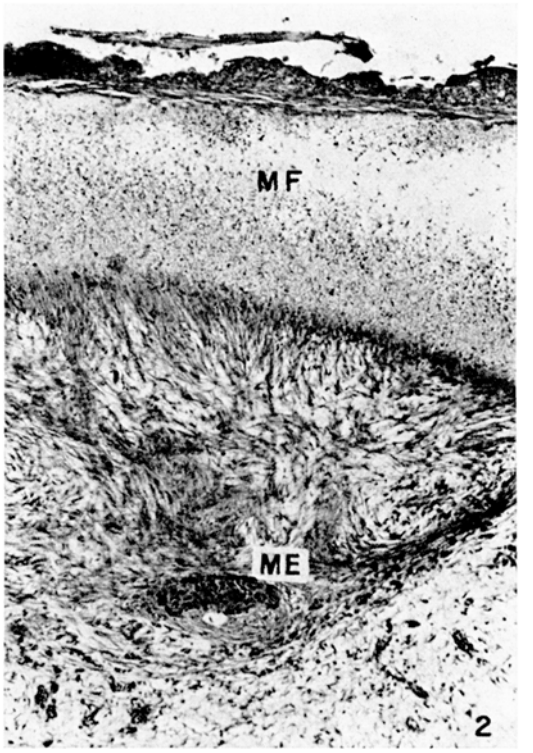

Fig. 2. Surface epithelium below the CAM epithelium and deep in the stroma.

vaginal plug was observed, were collected by flushing the uterine horns. 4–8 embryos were transferred to a 1 × 1 mm piece of millipore filter (RA 1.2 μm porocity) with a micro-pipette. The filter was then inverted and gently placed on the CAM near a site with blood vessels, in this way the embryos were brought into close contact with the CAM. The egg shell was now sealed with cello-tape and the eggs incubated for periods of up to 8 days. At specific intervals the area of the CAM around the millipore filter was dissected out and the tissue fixed and processed for histological study.

Observations show that mouse embryos (ME) survive and grow on CAM. They were found at different sites in relation to the millipore filter (MF); in the surface epithelium of CAM (Figure 1), below the CAM epithelium and deep in the stroma (Figure 2).

The embryos consisted of large characteristic cells containing large darkly staining nuclei, they were thus easily distinguishable from the surrounding CAM cells. The embryos always retained their entity even whilst their cells were undergoing mitosis[8].

Résumé. On rend compte du succès de la transplantation extra-utérine des embryons de souris âgés de 3 jours sur une membrane chorio-allantoïque d'embryon de poulet. Les observations poursuivies jusqu'à 8 jours après transplantation montrent qu'ils subsistent et grandissent sur la membrane.

B. K. BATRA and S. T. PALAYOOR

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CONGRESSUS

Hungary
Second International Congress of Psycho-Neuroendocrinology

in Budapest, 1–3 July 1971

The program will consider the following topics: Developmental neuroendocrinology; Biosynthesis and release of pituitary trop-hormones; Drug actions on neuroendocrine and brain mechanisms; Hormonal effects and brain mechanisms; Developments in clinical neuroendocrinology.

Each session will be followed by a free discussion of 6 min duration and presentation of new unpublished data by registered participants.

A registration fee of U.S.$ 20.– or of 20 rubels (for participants from socialist countries) will be requested from participants till March 31, 1971, at the following address: Hungarian National Bank, in favour of the IBUSZ account No. RCS 505019.

Further information from: Secretariat of the Congress of the International Society of Psycho-Neuroendocrinology, Motesz, Aprod-ut. 1–3, Budapest (Hungary).

Switzerland
Third International Congress for Stereology

in Berne 26–31 August 1971

Under the auspices of the International Society for Stereology the meeting shall comprise interdisciplinary sessions on basic stereological methods, their mathematical foundations and their application to various disciplines. Analysis of shape, topological properties, size distribution and number of particles on microscopic sections shall receive special attention. Further topics include sampling problems and instrumentation, particularly automatic image analysis and data processing. Information and provisional program by: Third International Congress for Stereology, Anatomisches Institut der Universität, Bühlstrasse 26, CH-3000 Bern (Switzerland).

CORRIGENDUM

J. D. HOROWITZ, M. L. MASHFORD and MARGARET NUNN: *Sex Differences in Level of a Vasoactive Plasma Protein and Changes During Pregnancy*, Experientia 26, p. 790 (1970). Figure 1 was substituted for Figure 2, and vice versa.

MORS

Prof. Dr. Paul Huber

The Birkhäuser Publisher and the editors of Experientia deeply regret to announce the death of their associate-editor

H. M.