

Announcements

REQUEST FOR SPECIMENS FROM ORGAN TRANSPLANT PATIENTS WHO DEVELOPED LYMPHOMAS

The incidence of lymphomas in organ transplant patients is considerably higher than in the general population. Yet overall, such cases are rare and none have been tested thus far for their possible association with the Epstein-Barr virus (EBV). Renal transplant patients may have elevated titers of antibodies to EBV-related antigens, however, presumably due to a reduction in appropriate immune effector cells by the immunosuppressive therapy which results in activations of the viral carrier state established regularly following primary EBV infections. It seems important therefore to determine whether the lymphomas arising in organ transplant patients are associated with EBV by the same techniques which have linked the virus with Burkitt's lymphoma.

We shall appreciate it if our clinical colleagues would send us specimens from such cases for pertinent studies. The specimens required are: (1) serum for determination of the spectrum and titers of antibodies to EBV-related antigen (0.5 ml of more); (2) non-frozen tumor tissue (1 g or more) suspended in any type of tissue culture medium for (a) detection of the EBV-associated nuclear antigen in the lymphoma cells and (b) tests for the presence of EBV DNA in the tumor tissue. The fresh tumor tissue would have to be sent as soon as possible. If this is not feasible, frozen tumor tissue would be suitable at least for (b).

Europe: Dr. George Klein, Department of Tumor Biology, Karolinska Institute, S-104 01 Stockholm 60, Sweden. Tel.: 08/34 05 60.

U.S.A. (West): Dr. Israel Penn, University of Colorado, Medical Center, 4200 East Ninth Avenue, Denver, Colorado 80262, U.S.A. Tel.: (303) 399-1211.

U.S.A. (East): Dr. Werner Henle, Division of Virology, The Joseph Stokes, Jr. Research Institute of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, 34th St. & Civic Center Blvd. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104, U.S.A. Tel.: (215) 387-6180.

TUMOUR MARKERS 1979: CLINICAL AND BIOLOGICAL ASPECTS

The 7th International Meeting of the International Society for Oncodevelopmental Biology and Medicine will be held at the University of Surrey, Guildford, U.K., between 9th and 14th September 1979.

Plenary sessions devoted to biological implications of tumour products, aspects of carcinogenesis, animal models together with new markers are planned. In addition, clinical aspects with particular respect to lung, breast and gastrointestinal tract are planned. Free papers are invited.

Further details from:

A. M. Neville,
Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research,
(London Branch),
The Haddow Laboratories,
Sutton, Surrey, SM2 5PX U.K.