DEN

IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE PROPERTIES OF DIFFERENT TYPE D RETROVIRUSES

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Type D retroviruses isolated from human cell lines (the Graffi isolate, designated PMFV, the HEp-2 and HeLa viruses) have been found to suppress the response of human and animal normal lymphocytes to T-cell mitogens and in the mixed lymphocyte reaction. The suppressive activity is virus-specific, antigen-non-specific and species-nonspecific. Viral protease- and heat-sensitive proteins, one with a molecular weight approximating 15,000, are responsible for the suppressive activity. On the contrary, the type D Mason-Pfizer monkey virus (MPMV) did not suppress the mitogen response of human and monkey lymphocytes.

An evaluation on the possible origin of immunosuppressive retroviruses which can cause acquired immunodeficiency syndromes (AIDS) has been attempted on the basis of our data and findings from other groups.

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CEA IN PATIENTS WITH STOMACH CANCER

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Material and methodology: 67 patients with stomach cancer were investigated - 49 men and 18 women. The average age of the patients was 65.8. The investigation was carried out using a radioimmunological method with kits from the CEA-Sorin (France).

Results and discussion: 57 of the patients were investigated before operation and 10 after surgical intervention and elimination of the tumour. From the 29 patients with an increased level of CEA, 25 (86.2%) had stomach cancer, i.e. the result was true-positive, and with 4 (13.8%) the tumour was eliminated (i.e. the result was false-positive).

From the 38 patients with normal levels of CEA, in 32 (64.2%) the stomach tumour was not eliminated, i.e. the result was false-negative, and in 6 (15.8%), cancer was removed through surgery and the result was true-negative.

Conclusion: The increased values of CEA are more far indicative than the normal values - with the former the percentage of errors was 13.8% while with the latter this was 84.2%.

DEZ

STUDIES ON A CHEMICALLY-INDUCED, TRANSPLANTABLE RENAL TUMOUR IN F-344 RATS

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Renal tumours in newborn rats from F-344 inbred strain could be induced by a single dose of DMN administered intraperitoneally. Subsequent serial passages of the tumour under renal capsule were successful. The histological features of the renal tumour were not changed after the serial transplantation. The tumour-proliferation was locally invasive and it was never found to metastasize. Histologically, the tumour was identical with mesoblestic nephroma. By electron microscopic examination the cells of the tumour revealed abundant myofilaments resembling smooth muscle cells. Based on the morphological features and that of the high tissue renin(-like) activity, it is suggested that this experimentally-induced renal tumour in F-344 rats, or at least some of its components might have juxtaglomerular cell origin.
