KAL DETECTION AND MONITORING OF HUMAN MALIGNANT MELANOMA OF UVEAL TISSUE WITH THE LAI ASSAY

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The accuracy of the diagnosis and prognosis of malignant melanoma of uveal tissue is a relevant problem of Ophthalmology. Detection of antitumour immunity has become an important guide in establishing the diagnosis of tumourous disease especially in cases when the tumour is very small or in a pigmented naevus. To monitor the specific antitumour immunity the LAI (leukocyte adherence inhibition) test, first described by Halliday and Miller and modified by Kalafut et al, was used. The test was positive in 77 out of 91 patients with histologically verified malignant melanoma of uveal tissue (84.6%). The test was repeated three to six months following excision of the tumour from the eye in 61 patients and in 31 of these(50.8%) the LAI had value dropped. All these patients have survived and after a mean time of 3 years following the surgical intervention, no metastases have been observed. On the basis of these results it is possible to conclude that LAI is a reliable and sensitive test for demonstrating anti-tumour cellular immunity, so that it is therefore considered that the test deserves appropriate clinical evaluation.

KAR CHARACTERIZATION AND HISTOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF A MONOCLONAL ANTI-CYTOKERATIN ANTIBODY GENERATED BY ELECTROFUSION.

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A hybridoma clone (A53-B/A2) producing an anti-cytokeratin antibody has been obtained by electric field-mediated fusion between X63-Ag8.653 cells and spleen cells from a mouse immunized with MCF-7 mammary carcinoma cells. This monoclonal antibody (IgG2a) has been extensively tested on normal and malignant cell lines as well as on cryostat sections of normal tissues and tumours.
The available evidence strongly suggests that it detects an epitope characteristic of an individual cytokeratin (No. 19 of the catalogue of Moll et al., Cell 31, 11, 1982). The monoclonal antibody A53-B/A2 promises to provide a novel histological reagent suited to discriminate between different epithelial lineages or their malignant derivatives.

KER THE EFFECT OF MICROSOMAL ENZYME INDUCTION ON MITOMYCIN C(MMC) DISPOSITION

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The blood concentration of MMC was measured by an HPLC method with a detection limit of 1 ng/ml. Adult male rats weighing 200-250 g were anaesthetised with urethan. After the i.v. injection of 2.5 mg/kg (LD50) of MMC, 0.2 ml blood samples were collected at 2, 5 min and later at 10 min intervals up to 120 min. Pharmacokinetic and biochemical measurements were performed on control, 3-methylcholanthrene (40 mg/kg/dx1) and phenobarbital (100 mg/kg/dx4) pretreated rats. The terminal disposition half-lives (mean $\pm$ SE) were not significantly different in the 3 groups (18.8 $\pm$ 3.3; 21.8 $\pm$ 1.4 and 20.7 $\pm$ 1.3 min). Increase of cytochrome P-450 content, aminopyrene demethylase and benzo(a) pyrene hydroxylase activities in the isolated microsomal fractions proved marked enzyme induction.
