

MOR

LECTIN REACTIVITY IN THE FUNCTIONAL EVALUATION OF HUMAN MAMMARY GLAND
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Several lectins have been utilized (DBA, PNA, Con A, WGA and UEA) in a study of normal, hyperplastic and neoplastic breast tissues. The cases studied, considered singularly, and particularly those neoplastics, seem to show a different staining pattern between normal and neoplastic cells. Nevertheless, evaluation of all cases provides evidence for heterogeneous behaviour and therefore it appears impossible to define a constant response in normal, hyperplastic and neoplastic samples. We therefore propose that it may be useful to study lectin reactivity in cases accurately chosen on the basis of precise criteria (age, pregnancy, hormone receptor status). Since lectins show so irregular distribution in the normal-neoplastic sequence, we believe their application to a singular aspect of the pathology of the breast may be more significant. Finally, our results confirm that breast cancer is phenotypically heterogeneous and on the other hand, provide evidence for the presence of different functional activities in the normal glandular epithelium.

MUL

MONOCYTE PROCOAGULANT ACTIVITY (MPCA) IN CANCER PATIENTS IN VITRO

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By means of a one step clotting assay, lymphocyte-dependent MPCA was tested after in vitro stimulation by various agents of mononuclear blood cells (MBC) from cancer patients as well as from control persons. Stimulation by Con A was similar within both groups. Using some tumour-derived proteins for stimulation, the MBC from cancer patients responded more frequently with elevated MPCA as compared to the control group. The results indicate that there is a specific interaction of cancer patients' lymphocytes with tumour-derived proteins.

NAG

DETECTION OF HTLV RELATED ANTIBODIES IN SERA OF PATIENTS WITH HAEMOPOIETIC
MALIGNANCIES IN HUNGARY

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Human T-cell lymphotropic viruses (HTLV) are closely associated with adult T-cell leukaemia (ATL) or related malignancies as well as the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS).

Sera of patients with T-cell leukaemia/lymphoma, acute and chronic lymphocytic leukaemia, haemoblastosis, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, hairy-cell leukaemia and those at risk of AIDS have been tested for specific antibodies against viruses of the HTLV family. In the indirect immunofluorescent test, C91/PL (HTLV I), C1218M (HTLV II), HT-H9 (HTLV III) lymphoid cells - obtained from R.Gallo - and HOS/PL/(HTLV I) adherent cell lines were used.

Sera were also tested in the syncytium inhibition assay, where XC or HOS indicator cells were cocultivated with HTLV producer lymphoid cells. Sera from patients with Kaposi's sarcoma were tested in the same way. The results suggest that there is a low prevalence of HTLV infections in Hungary.
