POP

ATYPICAL VESSELS AND NEOVASCULARIZATION IN CERVICAL NEOPLASIA

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The relationship between atypical vessels seen colposcopically and dysplasia, carcinoma in situ (CIS), microinvasion and frank invasion was studied.

No patients with dysplasia but about 2% of patients with CIS had atypical vessels. Only half of the patients with microinvasion and all the patients with frank invasion had atypical vessels. The conclusions are: 1) Atypical vessels are not present in dysplasia and rarely associated with CIS; 2) Atypical vessels may be present in microinvasion but are required for frank invasion to occur; 3) Since the invasion can be in or near the area of atypical vessels, diagnostic cone biopsy should be performed if atypical vessels are seen and colposcopic biopsies do not show frank invasion.

POR

USE OF A POOL OF MONOCLONAL ANTIBODIES FOR DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC APPROACHES IN CLINICAL ONCOLOGY.

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We produced and selected several monoclonal antibodies (MoAbs) directed against human breast and ovary carcinomas for diagnostic and therapeutic approaches. Two MoAbs (MBr1, MOv2) have already demonstrated their usefulness in in vitro diagnosis, but clinical applications with these reagents are limited due to their heterogeneous reactivity. The aim of this experiment is to produce, by combining in various pools different MoAbs with complementary reactivities, reagents useful for specific detection of metastatic cells in effusions and in lymph node and bone marrow suspensions as well as for in vitro bone marrow purging. For this purpose we selected MoAbs which were negative on cells normally present in the previous samples (mainly mesothelial cells, lymphocytes and bone marrow cells). By immunofluorescence different pools of purified MoAbs are being tested on frozen sections and cell suspensions from carcinomas to select the reagent that gives the highest percentage of positive carcinomas of a given histotype for diagnostic approaches and the highest number of positive cells in each positive tumour for in vitro bone marrow purging.

PRA

RETROVIRUS-LIKE PARTICLES PRODUCED BY NORMAL HUMAN EMBRYONAL CELLS AND CELL LINES ORIGINATING FROM HUMAN MALIGNANCIES

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Very small amounts of material containing retrovirus-like particles were obtained from culture fluids of human cell lines. Therefore, the methods of cell cultivation and purification of viruses were modified and attempts were made to avoid any possible damage of the particles during the concentration and purification. The particles were found in almost all rapidly growing human cell lines (embryo fibroblasts, various types of leukoses, bladder, lung and mammary carcinomas). The protein analyses of such materials by PAGE were performed by using the sensitive method of silver-staining of proteins. The comparison of various fractions of isopycnic and velocity gradients after SDS-PAGE and e.m. analyses revealed the protein of M_r25K to be of particulate origin in 8 of 11 cell lines tested. The RT activity of virus-like particles in samples with the "major" structural protein of M_r25K appears to be Mn^{2+} dependent. The principal problems at present relate to the very small amounts of virus-like particles and their purity.
