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HOST IMMUNE RESPONSE TO MELANOMA-ASSOCIATED ANTIGENS SHED BY CULTURED HUMAN MELANOMA CELLS INTO TISSUE CULTURE MEDIUM
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Proteins shed by cultured human melanoma cells *in vitro* were analyzed for their biochemical and antigenic properties and compared to those produced by skin melanocytes. High-molecular-weight melanoma-associated antigens, immobilized on Sepharose beads, are recognized by patients' peripheral lymphocytes forming recognizable pseudorosettes. The pseudorosetting formation depends on the stage of the disease.

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CELL TRANSFORMATION BY DELETED, MUTATED AND RECOVERED ASV

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Transformation of mammalian cells with avian sarcoma viruses (ASV) is often directed by incomplete provirus. In some cases the transformed cells harbour only cryptic proviral structure represented by *v-src* flanked by LTRs. From such cells transforming ASV can be rescued if fused with chicken fibroblasts infected with suitable helper virus. Rescued ASVs arise either by recombination of cryptic proviral structure with the helper virus which leads to the accommodation of *v-src* on the new position on the retroviral genome, or the cryptic proviral structure is transmitted by the helper virus in absence of detectable recombination. Altered *src* gene has been revealed also in ASV2257 obtained after the inoculation of chicken embryos with full transformation-defective ASV mutant. Minor alterations in *v-src* gene resulting in appearance of morph mutants arise frequently after ASV adaptation on foreign species cells or in populations of rescued viruses.

The mechanism of ASV provirus alterations, rescued of *v-src* and genesis of transforming ASV has been investigated.

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STAGE-DEPENDENCE OF CYTOTOXIC IMMUNE RESPONSE IN AML AND CGL

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The cytotoxic activity of lymphocyte and plasma samples from different stages of CGL and AML was compared. Target cells from blastosis were labelled with ⁵¹Cr. Lymphocytes and plasma samples from blastoid crisis of CGL as well as progressive stage of AML had no or minimal cytotoxic activity for autologous target cells. However, lymphocytes and plasma samples from the quiescent phase of CGL proved to be cytotoxic for autologous blast cells and their effect could be blocked by native gp70 antigens of GaLV and BaEV. The blocking effect of carbohydrate-free gp70 and p15 (E) antigens was found less frequently. A similar relationship was found in AML, with the exception of the effect of BaEV antigens.
