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THE CYTOTOXIC EFFECT OF R-INTERLEUKIN-2 ACTIVATED LYMPHOCYTES (LAK CELLS) ON HUMAN UROTHELIAL CELLS

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The purpose of the present study was to elucidate the effect of recombinant interleukin-2 (RIL-2) and RIL-2 activated lymphocytes (LAK cells) on human bladder tumor cells.

We have shown that repeated peritumoral injections of recombinant interleukin-2 (RIL-2) were found to inhibit the growth of human xenogeneic bladder tumors carried in nu/nu mice.

In vitro activated of human peripheral lymphocytes from normal donors as well as from donors suffering from bladder cancer resulted in the generation of killer cells that tested in a ^{51}Cr release assay are cytotoxic for autologous and allogeneic human urothelial cells propagated in vitro. The effects on primary cultures and on established human urothelial cell lines of various grades of transformation have been compared. The results indicate the existence of variations in both the susceptibility of the target cells and the cytotoxicity of the effector cells.