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Abstracts 4th Croatian Congress of Medical Biochemists

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SAŽECI
4. HRVATSKOG KONGRESA
MEDICINSKIH BIOKEMIČARA

Abstracts
4th Croatian Congress
of Medical Biochemists

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Zadar, September 24-28, 2003

UPUTE AUTORIMA

Biochemia medica (u nastavku teksta BM) je časopis Hrvatskoga društva medicinskih biokemičara, namijenjen članovima Društva kao i svima čiji je stručni i znanstveni interes povezan s ovim područjem. Zadaća je časopisa BM objavljivanje znanstvenih, stručnih i preglednih članaka iz područja medicinske biokemije i laboratorijske dijagnostike, pisama uredništvu, prikaza knjiga.

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Delmas PD. Biochemical markers of bone turnover in osteoporosis. U: Riggs BL, Melton LJ III, ur. *Osteoporosis etiology, diagnostics and management.* New York: Raven Press, 1988:297-316.

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Delmas PD. Biochemical markers of bone turnover in osteoporosis. In: Riggs BL, Melton LJ III, editors. *Osteoporosis etiology, diagnostics and management*. New York: Raven Press, 1988; 297-316.

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PP
Počasno predavanje
Honorary lecture

PP

**UTJECAJ GLOBALIZACIJE NA RAZVOJ
ZDRAVSTVENIH SUSTAVA I ZDRAVLJE**

StavljeniĆ-Rukavina A.

Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku Medicinskog fakulteta i Kliničkog bolničkog centra "Zagreb", Zagreb

Danas se sve više u svijetu postavlja pitanje u kojoj mjeri procesi globalizacije utječu na zdravlje ljudi i razvoj zdravstvenih sustava. Pod pojmom globalizacije većina ljudi najprije podrazumijeva pojam općih političkih prava, rastuću ekonomsku liberalizaciju, porast razmjene kapitala, kretanje ljudi u potrazi za zaposlenjem, rast velikih multinacionalnih kompanija, te primjenu informacijskih tehnologija u uspostavi sveukupnih odnosa ekonomije, razmjeni informacija i znanja u cijelom svijetu. No, u biti globalizacija je više od ekonomije; ona uz političke ima značajne socijalne i kulturološke posljedice koje uvelike utječu na zdravlje ljudi i razvoj zdravstvenih sustava. Rizici od određenih zaraznih bolesti (HIV), promjena sadržaja ozona, promjene načina života, porast prekograničnih prijenosa bolesti hranom (BSE), širenje rezistencije na lijekove (antibiotici, tuberkulostatici) zahtijevaju jačanje međunarodne suradnje u zakonodavnoj regulaciji u cilju sveopće zaštite zdravlja ljudi koje ne poznaje granica. Poželjne i pozitivne promjene koje globalizacija donosi u području znanja, stjecanja profesionalnih vještina i opća edukacija zdravstvenih struka vodi k općem pokretu slobode profesionalnog rada u zdravstvu u svijetu. Zato prostorna dimenzija globalizacije predstavlja izazov zdravstvenim strukama da djeluju širom svijeta, a ne samo unutar nacionalnog zdravstvenog sustava. Vremenska dimen-

PP

**IMPACT OF GLOBALIZATION ON HEALTH
CARE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND
HUMAN HEALTH**

A. StavljeniĆ-Rukavina

Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb University Hospital Center, Zagreb University School of Medicine, Zagreb

The issue of the extent to which the processes of globalization influence human health and development of health care system has been attracting ever more attention worldwide. For the majority of people, the term globalization primarily implies general political rights, growing economic liberalization, increased capital turnover, migration of people in search for employment, further growth of large multinational companies, and use of computer technologies in the establishment of overall economy relationships, and information and knowledge exchange all over the world. However, globalization is more than pure economy; besides political, it will also entail considerable social and cultural sequences that will greatly influence human health and development of health care systems. The risk of particular infectious diseases (HIV), modified ozone composition, lifestyle changes, increased trans-border dietary transmission of diseases (BSE), spread of drug resistance (antibiotics, tuberculostatics), etc. require tight international collaboration in the field of legal provisions aiming at universal human health protection knowing no borders. The desirable and favorable changes brought by globalization in the fields of knowledge, acquiring professional skills and general education of medical professions lead towards a general movement

zija globalizacije traži od zdravstva stalnu prilagodbu rada i institucionalne promjene koje odgovaraju tehnološkim dostignućima vremena. Tehnološka dostignuća potiču trajnu edukaciju i stjecanje novih vještina u struci, organizaciji i upravljanju zdravstvenim sustavima. Kako se doživljavaju pozitivni i negativni učinci globalizacije na pojedinca u zdravstvenom sustavu i društvu je pitanje načina na koji mislimo i doživljavamo promjene. Informacijske i komunikacijske tehnologije su omogućile globalnu mrežu kojom se izmjenjuju i šire ideje, znanja i omogućavaju brze promjene u liječenju i prevenciji bolesti. Potencijalni pozitivni učinci su upravo u tom segmentu od najvećeg značenja za opće zdravlje ljudi širom svijeta. Stvaranje banaka podataka, načela dobre kliničke prakse, telemedicina, upotreba inovativnih tehnologija, virtualne institucije za edukaciju i liječenje, te edukacija opće populacije o zdravlju i bolesti samo su dio kognitivne dimenzije globalnog zdravlja. Kritike koje prate globalizacijske procese su usmjerene na pitanje hoće li oni povećati već postojeću nejednakost u mogućnostima korištenja pozitivnih učinaka poput novih tehnologija i lijekova, hoće li povećati dominaciju bogatijih nad siromašnijim dijelom svijeta, hoće li omogućiti sve veći utjecaj ključnih međunarodnih institucija na kreiranje zdravstvene politike i zaštite zdravlja i okoliša. Sve navedeno je istodobno nov izazov zdravstvenim strukama da iskoriste pozitivne učinke općega znanja i znanosti u cilju stvaranja strategije kojom će se unaprijediti zdravlje pojedinca i zajednica širom svijeta.

E-mail: ana.stavljenic-rukavina@zg.htnet.hr

of professional freedom in health care worldwide. Therefore, the spatial dimension of globalization implies a challenge to health professions to become active all around the world rather than within the national health system alone. The temporal dimension of globalization calls for continuous adjustment of health care activities and institutional modifications that will correspond to the technologic advances of the time. Technologic advances in turn stimulate continuous education and acquiring new skills in the profession, organization and management of health care systems. How the favorable and unfavorable impacts of globalization on the individual in a health care system are perceived, is a matter of our reasoning and experiencing these changes. The computer and communication technologies have enabled a global network to exchange and disseminate ideas and knowledge, which then leads to fast modifications in disease management and prevention. The potential favorable effects in this very segment are recognized as most important for human health in general. The establishment of databases, principles of Good Clinical Practice, telemedicine, use of innovative technologies, virtual institutions for education and treatment, and education of the general population on health and disease are only a part of the cognitive dimension of global health. The criticism accompanying the processes of globalization refers to fear that they may increase the existing inequity in the availability of the favorable effects such as novel technologies and medication, and the predominance of the rich over the poor regions of the world; and whether they will favor an ever greater influence of the key international institutions on designing health policy, health care and environmental protection. All these issues at the same time present a new challenge for health professions to make use of the favorable impacts of the general knowledge and science to create a strategy for promotion of both individual and community health all over the world.

E-mail: ana.stavljenic-rukavina@zg.htnet.hr

PL-I-III.
Plenarna predavanja
Plenary lectures

PL-1

**ULOGA FUNKCIONALNE GENOMIKE
U ONKOLOGIJI**

Pavelić K.

Institut "Ruder Bošković", Zagreb

Posljednje su godine obilježene dramatičnim utjecajem novog konceptualnog pristupa brzim i sveobuhvatnim analitičkim metodama u širokoj primjeni u biomedicini, koje će nesumnjivo donijeti velike promjene u našoj svakodnevnoj medicinskoj praksi. Ovaj pristup nazvan funkcionalnom genomikom predstavlja temeljit zakret u znanstvenoj strategiji: od istraživanja potaknutih pretpostavkama prema formulaciji zasnovanoj na otkriću i naknadnim testiranjem ove pretpostavke. Funkcionalna genomika obuhvaća 3 znanstvene discipline: transkriptomiku, proteomiku i bioinformatiku. Jedna od najvažnijih primjena transkriptomike (*microarrays* DNK) je ispitivanje promjena u ekspresiji gena koje prate promjene u fiziologiji stanica tijekom razvoja, progresije staničnog ciklusa, medicamentnog liječenja ili progresije bolesti. Brojne su studije pokazale kako se povezani fenotipovi uglavnom odražavaju u povezanim uzorcima staničnih transkripata, što znači da se stanično stanje može obilježiti i klasificirati prema uzorku genske ekspresije. Ova je tehnologija dovela do širokog spektra primjene, kao što su potvrđivanje cilja određenog lijeka, disekcija putanje, otkrivanje genske funkcije i anotacija humanog genoma. U istraživanju raka postoje dvije kategorije proteomike: proteomika ekspresije i funkcionalna proteomika. Proteomika ekspresije pomaže u promatranju proteina koji se različito prikazuju u dotičnom tkivu, tjelesnoj tekućini ili

PL-1

**ROLES OF FUNCTIONAL GENOMICS IN
ONCOLOGY**

K. Pavelić

Rudjer Bošković Institute, Zagreb

Recent years have been marked by a dramatic impact of a new conceptual approach to mass-scale, rapid and global analysis methods in biomedicine which will undoubtedly bring major changes in our daily medical practice. This approach called functional genomics represents a fundamental shift in scientific strategy: from hypothesis-driven research to discovery-based formulation and subsequent testing of the hypothesis. Functional genomics includes 3 scientific disciplines: transcriptomics, proteomics and bioinformatics. One of the most important uses of transcriptomics (DNA-microarrays) is to study changes in gene expression that accompany changes in cell physiology during development, cell cycle progression, drug treatment or disease progression. A number of studies have shown that related phenotypes are generally reflected in related patterns of cellular transcripts, implying that the cellular state can be characterized and classified by the gene-expression pattern. This technology has led to a broad spectrum of applications such as drug target validation, pathway dissection, discovery of gene function and annotation of the human genome. In cancer research, there are two categories of proteomics: expression proteomics and functional proteomics. Expression proteomics helps look at the proteins that are differently displayed in a given tissue, body fluid or serum. This holds promise for identifying disease markers important in early detection/diag-

serumu. To nudi izgleda za identificiranje biljega bolesti važnih za rano otkrivanje/dijagnozu, kao i za praćenje terapijske učinkovitosti, što bi na koncu trebalo dovesti do novih, 'pametnih lijekova'. Funkcionalna proteomika pomaže raspoznati kako proteini djeluju međusobno u živućem sustavu te kako živuće stanice odgovaraju na različite signale. Funkcionalna proteomika će nedvojbeno povećati naše razumijevanje biologije stanica raka. Autor će razraditi i raspraviti slijedeće teme u svjetlu funkcionalne genomike: prijesimptomatsku dijagnostiku, potvrđivanje prognoze, klasifikaciju tumora, te identifikaciju genske ekspresije i ciljeva specifičnih za pojedinu bolest na temelju proteina.

E-mail: pavelic@irb.hr

nosis, and in monitoring therapeutic efficacy, leading eventually to the design of novel 'smart drugs'. Functional proteomics helps determine how proteins interact in the living system and how living cells respond to different signals. Functional proteomics will undoubtedly increase our understanding of the biology of cancer cells. The author will elaborate and discuss the following topics in the light of functional genomics: presymptomatic diagnosis, prognostic validation, tumor classification, and identification of gene-expression and protein-based disease-specific targets.

E-mail: pavelic@irb.hr

PL-2

MIKROTEHNOLOGIJA I NANO-TEHNOLOGIJA: UTJECAJ NA KLINIČKO LABORATORIJSKE PRETRAGE

Kricka L.

University of Pennsylvania Medical Center, Philadelphia, PA, SAD

Tehnologija mikročipova (mikrofluidni čipovi, biočipovi, bioelektronski čipovi), tehnologija *microarrays* (proteinski, peptidni, oligosaharidni, oligonukleotidni i cDNK čipovi) i nanotehnologija (nanocjevčice, nanočestice) spadaju među najaktivnija područja istraživanja i razvoja u bioanalitičkim znanostima. One omogućavaju provedbu brzih i pojednostavljenih pretraga (npr. tzv. uređaji 'laboratorija na čipu'), istodobno testiranje više analita visokog kapaciteta, te nude put ka sofisticiranijim prenosivim analitičkim uređajima lakšim za uporabu koji bi se mogli rabiti na svakom mjestu uz bolesnika ili čak postati osobnim laboratorijima. Njihov potpun učinak na kliničko laboratorijske pretrage tek treba shvatiti, no moguće je nazrijeti koristi što će ih one donijeti u budućnosti. Najuzbudljivija vrst pretraga što će ih one omogućiti vjerojatno će proizići iz trenutno intenzivnih i široko provedenih ispitivanja humanog genoma, proteoma i interaktosoma. Na tržištu su se već pojavili uređaji s mikročipovima, primjerice čipovi za kapilarnu elektroforezu, proteinske i DNK *microarrays*, te 'patch-clamp' čipovi. Uređaji nano veličine još su daleka budućnost za rutinski laboratorij, ali se zlatne i srebrne čestice nano veličine već godinama rabe za obilježavanje u

PL-2

MIKROTEHNOLOGIJA I NANO-TEHNOLOGIJA: UTJECAJ NA KLINIČKO LABORATORIJSKE PRETRAGE

L. Kricka

University of Pennsylvania Medical Center, PA, USA

Microchip technology (microfluidic chips, biochips, bioelectronic chips), microarray technology (protein, peptide, oligosaccharide, oligonucleotide and cDNA chips) and nanotechnology (nanotubes, nanoparticles) are among the most active areas of research and development in the bioanalytical sciences. They are enabling rapid and simplified assays (e.g., so-called 'lab-on-a-chip' devices), high-throughput simultaneous multi-analyte testing, and offer a route to more sophisticated and easier-to-use portable analytical devices that could be used at the point-of-care or even become personal laboratories. Their full impact on clinical laboratory testing is yet to be realized, but it is possible to glimpse the benefits that they will provide in the future. The most exciting type of testing that they will enable is likely to emerge from the current intense and widespread investigations of the human genome, proteome, and interactosome. Already, some microchip devices, such as capillary electrophoresis chips, protein and DNA microarrays, and patch-clamp chips, have been commercialized. Nano-sized devices are still a remote prospect for the routine laboratory, but nano-sized particles of gold and silver have been in use for a number of years as labels in binding assays. One type of test-

testovima vezanja. Jedna vrst pretraga koja bi na koncu mogla rezultirati iz kombinirane primjene mikro- i nanotehnologije su na stanicama temeljene pretrage. Analizatori veličina kojih se smanjuje sve bliže veličini stanice već su se pokazali korisnima, npr. nedavno u 'patch-clamp' čipovima za testove ionskih kanala na pojedinačnim stanicama te u različitim uređajima s mikroelektrodama za manipuliranje i izoliranje stanica. Velika uspješnost mikročipova u mnoštvu različitih primjena u istraživanjima (npr. analiza proteina, genetski testovi, odabir stanica, imuno testovi, otpuštanje uzorka u masenoj spektralnoj analizi) daje snažan poticaj razvoju ovih vrsta uređaja za primjenu u rutinskom laboratoriju, a u ovom će se predavanju propitati utjecaj nano- i mikrotehnologije na klinički laboratorij.

E-mail: kricka@mail.med.upenn.edu

ing that may eventually be enabled by a combination of micro- and nano-technology is cell-based testing. Shrinking analyzers nearer to the size of cells have already been shown to be beneficial, as in the recent patch-clamp chips for ion-channel assays on single cells, and in various microelectrode devices for cell manipulation and isolation. The broad success of microchips in many different research applications (e.g., protein analysis, genetic tests, cell selection, immunoassay, sample delivery in mass spectral analysis) provides a strong impetus to development of these types of devices for use in routine laboratories, and this talk will explore how nano- and microtechnology will impact the clinical laboratory.

E-mail: kricka@mail.med.upenn.edu

PL-3

RAZBORITA UPORABA LABORATORIJSKIH TESTOVA

Müller M.

Kaiser Franz Joseph Hospital, Institute of Laboratory
Diagnostics, Beč, Austrija

U laboratorijskoj su medicini smisljena, točna i precizna rutinska mjerenja bitna za dijagnozu, procjenu rizika, liječenje i praćenje bolesnika. Dijagnostički laboratoriji danas primjenjuju upravljanje kvalitetom kako bi postigli ove ciljeve i poboljšali kvalitetu rezultata pretraga. Međutim, većini od ovih sustava upravljanja kvalitetom nedostaje medicinski dio laboratorijske medicine povezan s bolesnikom; ovi su sustavi usredotočeni na klasično analitičko osiguranje kvalitete i optimiranje procesa. Laboratorijski nalazi su bitni gledajući laboratorijsku dijagnostiku kao medicinsku disciplinu te kao potpora odjelnim liječnicima pri donošenju odluka. Kako bi se postigli ovi ciljevi i liječnicima osigurali kvalitetni laboratorijski nalazi, treba razmotriti ili provesti slijedeće: racionalan odabir pretraga za pojedinu bolest; pripremu bolesnika; uzorkovanje; rukovanje uzorcima prije analize; baratanje rezultatima pretraga poslije analize; tumačenje rezultata pretraga i prihvaćanje odgovornosti; i konzultaciju s liječnicima u svezi s pojedinim bolesnikom. Dijagnostička područja kao što su koagulacija, praćenje lijekova, interakcije lijekova, endokrinologija, imunofenotipiziranje stanica, prirodene grješke metabolizma, praćenje maligniteta i virologija poglavito zahtijevaju la-

PL-3

RATIONAL USE OF LABORATORY TESTING

M. Müller

Kaiser Franz Joseph Hospital, Institute of Laboratory
Diagnostics, Vienna, Austria

In laboratory medicine meaningful, accurate and precise routine measurements are essential for the diagnosis, risk assessment, treatment and follow-up of patients. To achieve these goals and to improve the quality of their test results, diagnostic laboratories have nowadays being implementing quality management. However, most of these quality management systems lack the medical, patient related part of laboratory medicine; the systems are focused on classical, analytical quality assurance and process optimization. Considering laboratory diagnosis as a medical discipline and to support decision making by physicians at the wards, interpretation of laboratory reports is essential. To reach these goals and to provide physicians with quality oriented laboratory reports the following points have to be considered or implemented: rational, disease oriented test selection; patient preparation; sampling procedure; preanalytical handling of samples; postanalytical handling of test results; interpretation of test results and accepting responsibility; and patient oriented consultation with clinicians. Diagnostic areas such as coagulation, drug monitoring, drug interactions, endocrinology, immunophenotyping of cells, inborn errors of metabolism, malignancy monitoring, and virology

boratorijsko tumačenje i potporu pri donošenju kliničkih odluka. Prikazati će se primjeri iz različitih područja laboratorijske medicine. Proces interdisciplinskog kliničkog konzilija proširiti će obveze laboratorija dovodeći ih sve bliže bolesniku. Osoblje dijagnostičkog laboratorija provoditi će skrb o bolesniku, jer će dijagnostička ekspertiza u budućnosti biti partner jednak kliničaru. Uz aktivne interakcije dijagnostički će laboratorij preživjeti u okruženju usmjerenom prema bolesniku, koje će zahtijevati interdisciplinska znanja o vodećim načelima fiziologije i patofiziologije, kao i spremnost za prihvaćanje odgovornosti za tako donešene odluke.

E-mail: mathias.mueller@wienkav.at

especially require data interpretation and laboratory support on clinical decision making. Examples of various areas in laboratory medicine will be presented. The process of interdisciplinary clinical consultation will expand laboratory obligations nearer to the patient. The personnel of a diagnostic laboratory will be providing patient care, as diagnostic expertise will be an adequate partner to the clinicians in the future. With active interactions, diagnostic laboratory will survive in a patient oriented environment that demands interdisciplinary knowledge of the great principles of physiology and pathophysiology as well as readiness to accept responsibility for the decisions thus made.

E-mail: mathias.mueller@wienkav.at

S-1
Okoliš i zdravlje
Environment and health

S1-1

**DODACI U PREHRANI - LIJEKOVI ILI
HRANA (PRIMJER: LAKTOZNA
INTOLERANCIJA)**

Lukač-Bajalo J.

Farmaceutski fakultet, Sveučilište u Ljubljani, Ljubljana,
Slovenija

Zrak, voda i hrana iz okoliša predstavljaju *conditio sine qua non* za život ljudi. Oni mogu biti dobri, manje dobri ili čak štetni, ovisno o egzogenim ili/i endogenim uzrocima. Postoje mnoga endogena stanja u ljudi u kojima hrana reklamirana kao 'dobra' zapravo nije dobra za određenu osobu. Uzimanje određene hrane ili sastojaka hrane izaziva mnoge probavne bolesti. Takav je primjer nepodnošenje laktoze (NL) kao posljedica niske razine laktaze u crijevima, gdje mlijeko ili mliječni proizvodi koji sadrže laktozu mogu izazvati blaže ili čak teške probavne i druge simptome. NL je normalno stanje za odrasle sisavce i javlja se u otprilike 90% crnih i dalekoistočnih populacija. U bjelačkim populacijama situacija je obrnuta, pa većina odraslih osoba (70%-90%) mogu probaviti laktozu u glukozu i galaktozu. Cilj ovoga prikaza je pokazati kako se NL može samodijagnosticirati i kako živjeti s NL. Na koncu želimo naglasiti kako su prehrana te dodaci hrani s niskim sadržajem laktoze obvezatni kod NL i sličnih stanja.

E-mail: jana.bajalo@ffa.uni-lj.si

S1-1

**FOOD ADDITIVES - DRUGS OR FOOD
(EXAMPLE: LACTOSE INTOLERANCE)**

J. Lukač-Bajalo

Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana,
Slovenia

Air, water and food from the environment are conditio sine qua non of our lives. They can be good, less good or even harmful, depending on exogenous or/and endogenous causes. There are many endogenous conditions in humans in which food advertised as 'good' is not really good for a particular person. Many digestive disorders are provoked by consumption of a particular food or food ingredients. Lactose intolerance (LI) as a consequence of low intestinal lactase is such an example, where milk or milk products containing lactose can provoke mild or even severe digestive and other symptoms. LI is a normal condition for adult mammals and occurs in approximately 90% of black and Far East populations. In Caucasian populations the situation is opposite, and most of adults (70%-90%) can digest lactose in glucose and galactose. The aim of this presentation is to illustrate how to self-diagnose LI and how to live with it. Finally, we would like to stress that low lactose diet and food additives are obligatory in LI and similar conditions.

E-mail: jana.bajalo@ffa.uni-lj.si

S1-2

**STANIČNI MEHANIZMI TOKSIČNOSTI
TEŠKIH METALA**

Herak-Kramberger C. M., Sabolić I.

Institut za medicinska istraživanja i medicinu rada, Zagreb

Geološki i biološki procesi na Zemlji održavaju ravnotežni odnos metala u prirodi. Uporabom metala u industriji i poljoprivredi čovjek remeti ovu prirodnu ravnotežu i time ugrožava ljudsko zdravlje. Pojedini teški metali, kao što su kadmij (Cd), živa (Hg), olovo (Pb), arsen (As) i platina (Pt), vrlo su štetni za zdravlje sisavaca. Glavni izvori teških metala za čovjeka su zrak, hrana i voda. Nakon apsorpcije metali izazivaju različite toksične učinke u organizmu, a glavni ciljni organi su im bubrezi, jetra i spolni organi, pa je poremećaj njihove funkcije najčešća posljedica takvog trovanja. U ljudi i pokusnih životinja nefrotoksičnost Cd, Hg i Pt očituje se poremećenom reapsorpcijom i sekrecijom tvari u proksimalnim kanaliciama (PK). Glavni simptomi nefropatije uzrokovane teškim metalima su poliurija, proteinurija, fosfaturija, aminoacidurija i glukozurija, koji ukazuju na oštećenu funkciju različitih prijenosnih mehanizama smještenih u četkastoj membrani stanica PK. U pokusima na životinjama trovanim kadmijem utvrđeno je da poremećaj funkcije četkaste membrane može nastati zbog: a) izravne inhibicije specifičnih prijenosnika, b) skraćanja i oštećenja mikrovila i c) gubitka specifičnih prijenosnika u membrani. Cd izravno inhibira aktivnost vakuolne H⁺-ATPaze i smanjuje njezinu ekspresiju u staničnim organelama, te tako ometa unutarstanični promet (endocitozu i egzocitozu) proteina posredovan vezikulama, što rezultira smanjenjem broja specifičnih prijenosnika u četkastoj membrani. Nadalje, za normalno odvijanje prometa prijenosnika nužna je strukturna i funkcijska cjelovitost citoskeleta. Pokazano je da Cd, Hg i Pt oštećuju strukturu, uređenost i ekspresiju citoskeleta, te tako dodatno ometaju ugradnju prijenosnika u četkastu membranu. Pokusi na štakorima ukazuju na to da su slični stanični mehanizmi odgovorni i za toksične učinke teških metala u epitelu muških spolnih organa, zbog čega nastaju poremećaji u sekreciji i fertilitetu.

E-mail: cherak@imi.hr

S1-2

**CELL MECHANISMS OF HEAVY METAL
TOXICITY**

C. M. Herak-Kramberger, I. Sabolić

Institute of Medical Research and Occupational Medicine,
Zagreb

Metals are natural constituents of the environment and their balance is achieved by both geologic and biologic cycles. Their utilization by humans in industry and agriculture has transformed many metals into potential health hazards. Some metals such as cadmium (Cd), mercury (Hg), lead (Pb), arsenic (As) and platinum (Pt) (often termed as heavy metals) are found to be very toxic to mammals. The main sources of exposure to these metals are air, food and water. Following absorption, they cause a variety of toxic effects in the kidney, liver and reproductive system, their major target organs, that result in their dysfunction. Nephrotoxicity in humans and experimental animals due to exposure to Cd, Hg and Pt is primarily manifested by impaired reabsorption and secretion in proximal tubules (PT). The main symptoms of heavy metal nephrotoxicity include polyuria, proteinuria, phosphaturia, aminoaciduria and glucosuria, indicating involvement of various brush-border membrane (BBM) transporters. As found in experimental Cd nephrotoxicity in rats, impaired functional capacity of the BBM in heavy metal nephrotoxicity may result from: (a) direct inhibition of BBM transporters; (b) shortening and loss of microvilli; and (c) loss of specific transporters from the membrane. The loss of BBM transporters may be caused by impaired vesicle-mediated recycling (endo- and exocytosis) of proteins in PT cells due to diminished expression of the vacuolar H⁺-ATPase and direct inhibition of its activity in intracellular organelles. In addition, Cd, Hg and Pt were found to affect the structure, polymerization state and abundance of cytoskeleton in PT cells, thus contributing to the impaired intracellular vesicle trafficking and preventing functional integration of proteins into the BBM. The experimental evidence in rats show that similar cellular mechanisms of heavy metal toxicity may be involved in the male reproductive system causing dysfunctions of the epithelium and impaired fertility.

E-mail: cherak@imi.hr

S1-3

**STRESNI PROTEINI NA RELACIJI
STANICA - OKOLIŠ**

Barišić K.

Farmaceutsko-biokemijski fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu,
Zagreb

Proteini toplinskog šoka (hsps) bitni su za održavanje stanične homeostaze te za prilagodbene funkcije stanice. Prva funkcija koja je pridružena ovim iznimno konzerviranim proteinima bila je termotolerancija, tj. zaštita od slijedećeg izlaganja toplinskom šoku. Zaštitna uloga hsps odnosi se i na zaštitu od drugih oblika stresa i povezana je s njihovim svojstvom molekularnih pratitelja koji, kontrolirajući strukturiranje, sortiranje, degradaciju, translokaciju i združivanje proteina, igraju važnu ulogu u prijenosu signala, organizaciji staničnog skeleta, apoptozi, prezentaciji antigena te staničnoj migraciji, proliferaciji i adheziji. Hsps su važni u adaptaciji stanice na mnoge druge stresore, primjerice infekciju, slobodne radikale ili mehanički stres, pružajući staničnu zaštitu od štetnih utjecaja iz okoliša i provocirajući autoimuni odgovor križnom reakcijom između hsp mikroorganizama i svojih staničnih komponenata. Prema molekularnoj masi svrstani su u nekoliko obitelji: mali, hsp40-60, hsp70, hsp90 i hsp110. Ponajbolje je karakterizirana obitelj hsp70 koju čine konstitutivni ili hsc (*heat shock cognate*) 73, inducibilni hsp72, 78 kDa protein reguliran glukozom (grp78) ili BiP, smješten u lumenu endoplazmatskog retikuluma, te grp75 mitohondrijski oblik hsp70 koji se još naziva mito-BiP. Hsp70 je induciran različitim stresnim stimulansima. Naša su istraživanja *in vivo* i *in vitro* pokazala promijenjene koncentracije hsp70 u akutnoj i subkroničnoj intoksikaciji okratoksinom A. Ekspresija hsp70 regulirana je na transkripcijskoj razini pomoću čimbenika toplinskog šoka (HSF). Fenomen križne zaštite kod odgovora na toplinski šok predstavlja osnovu za primjenu hsps u medicini, primjerice, kod kardiovaskularnih bolesti te u zaštiti organa za transplantaciju. Kako se u posljednje vrijeme ističe uloga hsps u imunološkim procesima, oni bi mogli biti iskorišteni za dizajniranje novih lijekova za liječenje autoimunih i malignih bolesti.

E-mail: kbarisic@pharma.hr

S1-3

**STRESS PROTEINS BETWEEN CELL
AND ENVIRONMENT**

K. Barišić

Zagreb University School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry,
Zagreb

Heat shock proteins (hsps) are essential for cellular homeostasis and adaptive functions. The first function to be attributed to these extraordinarily conserved proteins was thermotolerance, i.e. protection from further exposure to heat shock. The protective role of hsps has been extended to other stresses and generally correlates with their properties as molecular chaperones controlling protein folding, sorting, degradation, translocation and assembly, and playing an important role in cell signaling, cytoskeletal organization, apoptosis, antigen presentation, cell migration, proliferation and adhesion. Hsps also play major roles in the processes of adaptation to a number of cellular stresses, such as infection, high temperature, free radicals, or mechanical stress, providing cells with protection from environmental insults and evoking autoimmune responses by cross-reaction between the hsp of microorganisms and cellular 'self' components. Hsps are divided into families based on their molecular mass: small, hsp40-60, hsp70, hsp90, hsp110. The best characterized family is hsp70 family consisting of hsp73 or hsc73 (from heat shock cognate), constitutive member of hsp70 family, hsp72, stress inducible hsp70 family member, 78 kDa glucose-regulated protein, Grp78 or BiP, located within the ER lumen, and mitochondrial hsp70, known as Grp75 or mito-BiP. Hsp70 is induced by a number of stress stimuli. Our in vitro and in vivo investigations have shown changes in the hsp70 concentration upon acute and subchronic intoxication with ochratoxin A. Hsp70 expression is regulated at transcriptional level by the heat shock factor (HSF). The cross-protection phenomenon of heat shock response is the basis for many potential medical applications of hsps, for example, for intervention in cardiovascular diseases or in organ preservation and transplantation. Since hsps are involved in immune processes, they have a potential to be used in the development of immune system-based therapeutics targeted at cancer and autoimmune diseases.

E-mail: kbarisic@pharma.hr

S1-4

OKSIDATIVNI STRES I STANIČNA SMRT

Rumora L., Žanić-Grubišić T.

Farmaceutsko-biokemijski fakultet, Zavod za medicinsku biokemiju i hematologiju, Zagreb

Različiti poticaji iz okoline mogu utjecati na preživljavanje i umiranje stanica u organizmu. Reaktivni produkti kisika predstavljaju jednu od najjačih i najčešćih prijetnja za sve žive organizme. Reaktivni spojevi kisika, poput superoksidnog radikala, vodikovog peroksida, singletnog kisika, hidrosilnog radikala i peroksidnog radikala, mogu se nakupljati unutar stanice uslijed normalnih metaboličkih procesa te različitih toksičnih procesa. Ti spojevi mogu poremetiti prirodne antioksidativne obrambene sustave, što rezultira oštećenjem svih glavnih skupina bioloških makromolekula, poput nukleinskih kiselina, proteina, ugljikohidrata i lipida. Oksidativni stres se definira kao poremećaj u ravnoteži između prooksidansa i antioksidansa, što dovodi do potencijalnog oštećenja stanice. Smatra se da je oksidativni stres jedan od uzročnika brojnih bioloških i patoloških procesa poput starenja, upale, karcinogeneze, ishemije-reperfuzije, kao i čitavog niza bolesti kao što su dijabetes, ateroskleroza i/ili neurodegenerativne bolesti. Smatra se da je uz oksidativni stres i proces apoptoze uključen u patogenezu navedenih bolesti. Apoptoza je način umiranja stanica do kojega često dolazi u fiziološkim uvjetima tijekom razvoja, ali i zbog patoloških poticaja, a omogućava strogu kontrolu broja stanica i veličine tkiva, kao i zaštitu od stanica koje mogu poremetiti homeostazu. Kod apoptoze dolazi do smanjenja volumena stanice, kondenzacije kromatina, internukleosomne fragmentacije DNK, te do fragmentiranja stanice u tzv. apoptotična tjelešca. U procesu apoptoze sudjeluju članovi nekoliko različitih proteinskih obitelji: neki od njih ga potiču, a neki inhibiraju. Spojevi peroksovanadija poznati su kao snažni inzulinomimetici i inhibitori tirozinskih fosfataza. Zbog svoje stabilnosti i djelovanja ovi spojevi postaju privlačni kao potencijalni farmakološki agensi u terapiji dijabetesa, ali je prethodno potrebno ispitati njihovu moguću toksičnost za stanice. Raspravljati će se o djelovanjima peroksovanadijevog spoja bpV (phen) na RINm5F stanice inzulinoma štakora.

E-mail: lrumora@pharma.hr

S1-4

OXIDATIVE STRESS AND CELL DEATH

L. Rumora, T. Žanić-Grubišić

Department of Medical Biochemistry and Hematology,
School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, University of Zagreb,
Zagreb

The intrinsic balance between life and death can be influenced by a number of environmental stresses. Reactive products of oxygen are amongst the most potent and omnipresent threats faced by the living body. Intracellular accumulation of reactive oxygen species such as superoxide anion, hydrogen peroxide, singlet oxygen, hydroxyl radical, and peroxy radical, can arise from toxic insults or normal metabolic processes. These species may perturb the cell's natural antioxidant defense systems, resulting in damage to all of the major classes of biological macromolecules, including nucleic acids, proteins, carbohydrates and lipids. Oxidative stress has been defined as a disturbance in the prooxidant-antioxidant balance, resulting in potential cell damage. It has been implicated in several biologic and pathologic processes like aging, inflammation, carcinogenesis, ischemia-reperfusion, and in diseases including diabetes mellitus, atherosclerosis, and/or neurodegenerative diseases. Apoptosis has also been linked to these diseases, suggesting that both processes might be involved in these pathologies. Apoptosis is a form of cell death that occurs during several physiologic and pathologic situations in multicellular organisms and constitutes a common mechanism of cell replacement, tissue remodeling, and removal of damaged cells. Apoptosis is a complex process characterized by cell shrinkage, chromatin condensation, internucleosomal DNA fragmentation, and formation of apoptotic bodies. Several protein families are implicated in apoptosis: some in the induction of the process and some in the attenuation of the process. Peroxovanadium compounds are potent insulinomimetic agents and protein tyrosine phosphatase inhibitors. Stability and potency of these compounds renders them attractive agents in diabetes mellitus, but their possible cytotoxicity could jeopardize their therapeutic use. The effects of peroxovanadium compound bpV (phen) on rat insulinoma RINm5F cell survival will be discussed.

E-mail: lrumora@pharma.hr

S1-5

**ALERGENI IZ OKOLIŠA - UZROČNICI
BOLESTI I MOGUĆNOSTI LIJEČENJA**

Samaržija I.

Zavod za farmakologiju, Farmaceutsko-biokemijski fakultet
Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb

Postoji mnoštvo štetnih inhalacijskih i neinhalaacijskih tvari u našem vanjskom i unutarnjem okolišu koje mogu izazvati alergijsku reakciju. To mogu biti nespecifični (anorganske ili organske tvari) ili specifični agensi (pelud, insekti, plijesni, bakterije, virusi, prašina, epitel i dlake životinja, neki lijekovi, pa i samo sunce). Takove tvari koje nas okružuju tijekom cijele godine ili samo sezonski za pojedince predstavljaju antigen koji izaziva alergijsku reakciju poput alergijske astme, sezonskog alergijskog rinitisa (peludna groznica), vazomotornog rinitisa, ekceme na koži (urtikarijski osip), reakciju na očima (alergijski konjunktivitis), solarne alergije itd. Zbog otežanih mogućnosti utvrđivanja ovih alergena za pojedinačno važno je provoditi preventivne mjere te pratiti biometereološku prognozu. Međutim, pri pojavi simptoma neophodno je primijeniti odgovarajuće lijekove. To su antihistaminici koji čine osnovni farmakološki pristup, a uz njih se kod težih oblika alergija rabe i glukokortikoidi. Nastanak alergijske reakcije vezan je za aktiviranje mastocita i povećano oslobađanje medijatora upale. Stoga antihistaminici djeluju selektivno kompetitivnim antagonizmom na histaminske H1-izoreceptore i time onemogućuju učinke histamina na perifernim ciljnim stanicama. Antihistaminici registrirani u Hrvatskoj su: difenhidramin (Dimidril), kloropiramin (Synopen), cetirizin (Letizen), ketotifen (Dihalar), loratadin (Claritine, Contral, Flonidan, Rinolan) i feksofenadin (Telfast). Loratadin i feksofenadin se uvelike rabe kod sezonskih alergija (alergijskog rinitisa), oslobađanja peludi pri oprašivanju, alergijskih kožnih bolesti, kao i u profilaksi sunčanih alergija. Ne izazivaju sedaciju niti antikolinergični učinak zbog slabe liposolubilnosti, a učinak im je brz i traje 24 sata. Difenhidramin je ipak najučinkovitiji kod cjelogodišnjih alergijskih reakcija (uzrokovanih kućnom prašinom, životinjskom dlakom i sl.), premda izaziva sedaciju. Zbog povećane učestalosti alergijskih reakcija neophodno je posvetiti veću pozornost edukaciji šire populacije kako bi se uspostavio pravilan način života, spriječila i snizila učestalost alergija, te smanjila uporaba lijekova.

E-mail: itas@pharma.hr

S1-5

**ALLERGENS FROM THE ENVIRONMENT -
DISEASE AGENTS AND TREATMENT
OPTIONS**

I. Samaržija

Department of Pharmacology, School of Pharmacy and
Biochemistry, University of Zagreb, Zagreb

There are many inhaling or noninhaling substances in our outdoor and indoor environment that can cause allergic reactions. These can be nonspecific (inorganic or organic substances) or specific agents (pollen, insect stings, mold, bacteria, viruses, dust, animal epithelium and hair; some drugs, and sun). These substances present in our environment throughout the year or seasonally represent antigens that can induce allergic reaction such as allergic asthma, seasonal allergic rhinitis (hay fever), vasomotor rhinitis, eczema on the skin (urticarial rash), reactions on the eyes (allergic conjunctivitis), solar allergy, etc. As it is difficult to identify allergens on an individual basis, it is important to perform preventive measures and monitor biometeorologic reports. However, the onset of symptoms requires the use of appropriate drugs, i.e. antihistaminics, which are the first-line pharmacological approach, with the addition of glucocorticoids in more severe forms of allergy. The onset of allergic reaction is related to the activation of mastocytes and increased release of inflammatory mediators. Therefore, antihistaminics act selectively by competitive antagonism on H1-isoreceptors, thus preventing the action of histamines on peripheral target cells. The following antihistaminics have been registered in Croatia: diphenhydramine (Dimidril), chlorpiramine (Synopen), cetirizine (Letizen), ketotifen (Dihalar), loratadine (Claritine, Contral, Flonidan, Rinolan) and fexofenadine (Telfast). Loratadine and fexofenadine are mostly used for season allergy: allergic rhinitis associated with pollen release during pollination, allergic skin reactions, and as a prophylaxis of solar allergy. They neither cause drowsiness and psychomotor impairments nor anticholinergic actions because of their low liposolubility. Their effect is quick and lasts for 24 hours. Diphenhydramine is the most potent drug for perennial allergy (caused by home dust, animal hair, etc.), although it has a sedative effect. The ever increasing prevalence of allergic reactions calls for better education of the population at large as the only way to adopt healthier lifestyle, to prevent or reduce the rate of allergies, and to decrease the use of drugs.

E-mail: itas@pharma.hr

S1-6

BIOKEMIJSKI MEHANIZMI NEFROTOKSIČNOSTI MIKOTOKSINA

Petrik J., Čepelak I.

Zavod za medicinsku biokemiju i hematologiju,
Farmaceutsko-biokemijski fakultet, Zagreb

Mikotoksini su sekundarni metaboliti pojedinih vrsta plijesni, koji kontaminiraju hranu biljnog i životinjskog podrijetla. Vrlo su stabilni i nakupljaju se u tkivima ljudi i životinja. Bubrezi su glavni ciljni organ za toksično djelovanje okratoksina A (OTA), citrinina, vomitoksina te zearalenona. Uz nefrotoksični učinak ovi toksini mogu djelovati i hepatotoksično, genotoksično, kancerogeno te imunosupresivno. Etiologija i mehanizam nastanka endemske nefropatije te oko 50% slučajeva tubulointersticijskog nefritisa nisu razjašnjeni. Temeljem brojnih istraživanja učinaka mikotoksina, poglavito OTA, pretpostavlja se njihova značajna uloga u etiološkom mozaiku navedenih bolesti. Smatra se također da vomitoksin može uzrokovati glomerulonefritis, budući da utječe na regulaciju stvaranja IgA. Na staničnoj razini navedeni mikotoksini, ovisno o koncentraciji, mogu pojačati stvaranje reaktivnih kisikovih radikala, citokina, aktivnost endonukleaza, kaspaza te stvaranje DNK 'adukata', stimulirati apoptozu, mijenjati staničnu proliferaciju, inhibirati transportne sustave za organske anione i katione, te inhibirati sintezu proteina i DNK. U okviru opsežnih *in vivo* i *in vitro* ispitivanja nefrotoksičnih učinaka OTA odredili smo neke od spomenutih mehanizama na štakorima soja Wistar tijekom 60 dana, ali uz relativno niske koncentracije OTA (120 µg/kg tjelesne mase/dan). Elektroforetska analiza DNK nije pokazala znakovitu fragmentaciju (DNA laddering). Apoptotične stanice su vizualizirane tehnikom TUNEL (*terminal deoxynucleotidyl transferase-mediated dUTP nick end labeling*) i bojene *in situ* hematoksilinom i eozinom. Broj apoptotičnih stanica kod pokusnih životinja koje su bile izložene djelovanju OTA tijekom 10 dana povećao se 5 puta, nakon 30 dana 6,4 puta, a nakon 60 dana čak 12,7 puta. Koncentracija lipidnih peroksida kod skupine životinja koje su bile izložene OTA kroz 60 dana značajno je porasla (36%) uz istodobno smanjenje katalitične koncentracije superoksid dismutaze (26%) u bubrežnom tkivu štakora. Rezultati ovoga rada pokazuju da OTA već u malim koncentracijama aktivira procese koji stimuliraju apoptozu i oksidativni stres u bubrežnim stanicama.

E-mail: jpetrik@pharma.hr

S1-6

BIOCHEMICAL MECHANISMS OF MYCOTOXIN NEPHROTOXICITY

J. Petrik, I. Čepelak

Department of Medical Biochemistry and Hematology,
School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, University of Zagreb,
Zagreb

*Mycotoxins are secondary metabolites produced by several species of fungi that contaminate food of plant and animal origin. They are exceptionally stable and accumulate in human and animal tissues. Kidney is the main target organ for toxic effects of ochratoxin A (OTA), citrinin, vomitoxin and zearalenone. These mycotoxins can also act as hepatotoxic, genotoxic and carcinogenic agents, and they affect normal immune response. The etiology and mechanism of development of endemic nephropathy and approximately 50% of other tubulointerstitial nephritides are not completely understood. Based on numerous studies of mycotoxin toxicity, especially OTA, their significant role in the etiologic mosaic of the mentioned diseases has been assumed. Moreover, vomitoxin can cause glomerulonephritis by inducing dysregulation of IgA production. At the cellular level, the concentration-dependent effects of mycotoxins have been observed: induction of reactive oxygen species and cytokine production, enhancement of endonuclease and caspase activities and DNA adduct formation, stimulation of apoptosis, modulation of cell proliferation, and inhibition of transport systems for organic anions and cations as well as inhibition of protein and DNA synthesis. In our extensive *in vivo* and *in vitro* studies of the nephrotoxic effects of OTA, we examined some of these effects in Wistar rats exposed to very low OTA concentrations (120 mg OTA/kg body weight daily) for 60 days. OTA treatment caused an increase in the number of apoptotic epithelial renal cells. DNA analysis did not show characteristic fragmentation (DNA laddering). The apoptotic cells were visualized using TUNEL (terminal deoxynucleotidyl transferase-mediated dUTP nick end labeling) assay and stained with hematoxylin and eosin *in situ*. The number of apoptotic cells in OTA treated rats for 10, 30 and 60 days increased 5-, 6.4- and 12.7-fold, respectively, as compared to control cells. The concentration of lipid peroxides showed an increase (36%), however, SOD activity decreased (26%) in rats treated for 60 days. The results of this study showed that the processes stimulating apoptosis and oxidative stress in renal cells could be activated by exposure to even very low concentrations of OTA.*

E-mail: jpetrik@pharma.hr

S2**Nova dostignuća u onkologiji**
*New advances in oncology***S2-1****TELOMERI, TELOMERAZA I KARCINOM**

Ivanković G.

Opća bolnica Varaždin, Varaždin

Opsežna istraživanja proteklih nekoliko godina donijela su golem napredak u razumijevanju ključnih komponenata i složene regulacije telomeraze. Ova jedinstvena stanična reverzna transkriptaza je bitna za održavanje stabilnosti telomera i potrebna je za neograničenu proliferaciju gotovo svih malignih stanica. Identifikacija komponenata telomeraze i sposobnost rekonstitucije aktivnosti telomeraze u normalnim ljudskim stanicama omogućava ispitivanje i definiranje uloge telomeraze u različitim staničnim procesima, kao što su stanično starenje, starenje, razgradnja/obnova DNK, stanična imortalizacija i karcinom. Ektopična ekspresija hTERT koja određuje aktivnost telomeraze može imortalizirati različite humane normalne stanične tipove. Telomeraza je potrebna za dugotrajnu proliferaciju malignih stanica, što dokazuje njenu ulogu u staničnoj imortalizaciji i onkogenezi.

E-mail: mb-mobad@hdmh.hr**S2-1****TELOMERES, TELOMERASE AND CANCER**

G. Ivanković

Varaždin General Hospital, Varaždin

Significant research efforts in the past few years have tremendously increased the understanding of the key components and complex regulation of telomerase. This unique cellular reverse transcriptase is essential for maintaining telomere stability and is required for the unlimited proliferation of almost all cancer cells. Identification of the core components of telomerase and the ability to reconstitute telomerase activity in normal human cells have allowed researchers to experimentally test and define the role of telomeres in diverse cellular processes, such as cellular senescence, aging, DNA damage/repair, cellular immortalization and cancer. Demonstrations that ectopic expression of hTERT, the rate-limiting determinant of telomerase activity, can immortalize diverse normal human cell types and that telomerase is required for the longterm proliferation of cancer cells strongly support the role of telomerase in cell immortalization and oncogenesis.

E-mail: mb-mobad@hdmh.hr**S2-2****NOV PRISTUP RANOM OTKRIVANJU
MALIGNIH STANICA U PERIFERNOJ
KRVI**

Albert W.H., Gutierrez B., Böcher O.

AdnaGen AG, Langenhagen, Njemačka

Pojava tumorskih stanica u perifernoj krvi osoba koje boluju od karcinoma može poslužiti kao rana indikacija koja ukazuje na širenje tumora izvan izvornog mjesta nastanka. Usprkos obrambenim mehanizmima organizma pojedine stanice karcinoma mogu se nastaniti u udaljenim područjima i stvoriti kolonije kao početni korak u nastanku metastaza. Krvlju prenešena udaljena metastaza vodeći je uzrok smrti povezanih s rakom. Stoga se rano otkrivanje metastatskog po-

S2-2**NEW APPROACH TO EARLY DETECTION
OF MALIGNANT CELLS IN PERIPHERAL
BLOOD**

W.H. Albert, B. Gutierrez, O. Böcher

AdnaGen AG, Langenhagen, Germany

The occurrence of tumor cells in peripheral blood of individuals suffering from cancer may serve as an early indication that primary tumor has evaded from its tissue of origin. Despite defense mechanisms of the body, individual cancer cells may attach in distant regions and form colonies as an initial step of metastasis formation. A blood-borne distant metastasis is the leading cause of cancer-related deaths. Hence, early detection of the metastatic potential can be esti-

tencijala može procijeniti otkrivanjem tumorskih stanica u krvotoku. Osjetljivost i specifičnost su glavni ciljevi svake metode koja se rabi u tu svrhu. Međutim, većina opisanih visoko osjetljivih tehnika udružena je sa sve većim problemom specifičnosti zbog pozadinskog signaliziranja iz nelegalne transkripcije. Naša je grupa razvila metodu za otkrivanje tumorskih stanica i njihovu specifičnu identifikaciju i analizu s nižom granicom otkrivanja od jedne tumorske stanice na 5 mL krvi. Da bismo to postigli, kombinirali smo obogaćivanje tumorskih stanica uz primjenu specifično izrađene mješavine protutijela s RT-multipleks PCR tehnikama za otkrivanje mRNK koje kodiraju za tumor specifične biljege. Privremeni rezultati ispitivanja slučajeva pokazali su da pojava tumorskih stanica u krvi bolesnika s karcinomom ukazuje na moguću recidiv tumora, u nekim slučajevima nekoliko mjeseci prije porasta tumorskih biljega u serumu. U zaključku, uspostavljena je osjetljiva i specifična metoda za otkrivanje diseminiranih tumorskih stanica u perifernoj krvi bolesnika s karcinomom testisa, dojke i kolona/rektuma. Ova nova metoda predstavlja opciju za kliničare u predviđanju razvoja metastaza i može omogućiti ispravan odabir bolesnika za adjuvantnu terapiju.

E-mail: wa@adnagen.com

mated by detecting tumor cells in the circulation. Sensitivity and specificity are the main objectives of any method used for this purpose. However, most of the highly sensitive techniques described are associated with an increasing problem of specificity due to background signaling from illegitimate transcription. Our group has established a method of tumor cell selection and their specific identification and analysis with a lower detection limit of one tumor cell in 5 mL blood. To achieve this we combined tumor cell enrichment using a specifically designed antibody mixture with RT-multiplex PCR techniques for the detection of mRNAs encoding for tumor specific markers. Preliminary results of case studies showed the occurrence of tumor cells in blood of carcinoma patients to indicate a potential tumor relapse, in some cases several months prior to the elevation of serum tumor markers. In conclusion, a sensitive and specific method to detect disseminated tumor cells in peripheral blood of testicular, breast and colorectal carcinoma patients has been established. This innovative method is an option for clinicians as a predictive tool with respect to metastasis formation and may result in an appropriate selection of patients for adjuvant therapy.

E-mail: wa@adnagen.com

S2-3

ANTIGEN SPECIFIČAN ZA PROSTATU I RANO OTKRIVANJE RAKA PROSTATE

Stieber P.

Institute of Clinical Chemistry, Klinikum Grosshadern,
University of Munich, München, Njemačka

Antigen specifičan za prostatu (PSA) je serin proteaza što ju proizvodi prostata i otpušta u krv u raznim bolestima prostate. Tako je, za razliku od većine drugih onkoloških biomarkera, PSA (skoro) specifičan za dotični organ. Međutim, kao i kod drugih biomarkera u onkologiji, još je izraženiji nedostatak specifičnosti za tumor. Rak prostate jednako kao dobroćudne bolesti prostate, fizička trauma prostate te čimbenici poremetnje ili različitih utjecaja na žlijezdu mogu dovesti do značajnog porasta PSA u serumu. Kako se rak prostate uglavnom javlja u starijih muškaraca koji istodobno boluju od dobroćudne hiperplazije prostate, problem diferencijalne dijagnoze povećava se, a tumorska specifičnost se smanjuje s dobi. Godinama je već poznato da su visoke razi-

S2-3

PROSTATE-SPECIFIC ANTIGEN AND EARLY DETECTION OF PROSTATE CANCER

P. Stieber

Institute of Clinical Chemistry, Klinikum Grosshadern,
University of Munich, Munich, Germany

Prostate-specific antigen (PSA) is a serine protease produced by the prostate gland and released into the blood in various prostatic disorders; thus, in contrast to most other oncologic biomarkers, PSA is (almost) organ-specific. Nevertheless, there is an even more pronounced lack in tumor specificity as for other biomarkers in oncology. Prostate cancer as well as benign prostatic diseases, physical trauma to the prostate and interfering or influencing factors can lead to significant increases in serum PSA. As prostate cancer generally occurs in elderly men at the same time suffering from benign hyperplasia of the prostate, the problem of differential diagnosis increases and tumor specificity decreases with age. High total PSA levels have been known for years

ne ukupnog PSA dobar pokazatelj prisutnosti raka prostate. Učestala uporaba određivanja PSA čak je dovela do pomaka u dijagnostici prema raku prostate ograničenom na taj organ. Otprilike nekoliko godina dodatno određivanje slobodnog PSA i primjena omjera PSA poboljšali su dijagnostičku učinkovitost PSA i njegovih izoforma kod raka prostate, uglavnom u rasponu od značajnog preklapanja vrijednosti PSA uzrokovanih dobroćudnim i zloćudnim bolestima prostate. Na osnovi naših kliničkih ispitivanja utvrđena je sveukupna dodatna korist u cjelokupnom rasponu preklapanja ukupnog PSA između 2 i 20 ng/ml (Abbott, MEIA, AxSYM), no često primjenjivane prijelomne (*cut-off*) vrijednosti svode ovu visoku dijagnostičku korist na minimum. Stoga smo u rutinskoj primjeni PSA i slobodnog PSA ukinuli uporabu fiksnih prijelomnih vrijednosti, pa rezultate tumačimo za svakog bolesnika pojedinačno izračunavanjem individualne vjerojatnosti za razvoj raka prostate (odnosno odgovarajuće pozitivnosti biopsije). Nakon početnog određivanja PSA i slobodnog PSA u obzir se uzima samo brzina porasta PSA u svakog pojedinog bolesnika. Znanstvene procjene provedene posljednjih godina pokazale su kako razumna primjena PSA i slobodnog PSA te pažljivo tumačenje rezultata može rezultirati stalnim povećanjem kliničke značajnosti ovih biljega. Prilagodбом rezultata stanju svakog pojedinog bolesnika mogu se izbjeći nepotrebne biopsije ili pak poduprijeti odluku o potrebi biopsije.

to be a good indicator of the presence of prostate cancer. The frequent use of PSA determination has even caused a shift to diagnosing more organ-confined prostate cancers. Additional determination of free PSA and use of PSA ratio have for several years now improved the diagnostic efficiency of PSA and its isoforms in prostate cancer mainly in the range of significant overlap of PSA values caused by benign and malignant prostatic disorders. Based on our clinical investigations the overall additional advantage in the whole overlapping range of total PSA between 2 and 20 ng/ml (Abbott, MEIA, AxSYM) is obvious, but the often used fixed cut off values reduce this high diagnostic advantage to a minimum. Therefore, in our routine utilization of PSA and free PSA we put an end to the use of fixed cut off values, and interpret the results of each individual patient by calculating the individual probability of prostate cancer (i.e. the corresponding rate of biopsy positivity). Following initial determination of PSA and free PSA, only the rate of PSA increase in the individual patient is taken in consideration. Scientific evaluation in recent years has demonstrated that a judicious use of PSA and free PSA, and careful interpretation of the results can continuously increase the clinical significance of these markers. By adapting the results to the patient's individual situation, unnecessary biopsies can be avoided and decision on the necessity to perform a biopsy can be supported.

S2-4**MOLEKULARNA CITOGENETIKA U OTKRIVANJU BOLESTI**

Davidović-Mrsić S.

Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Klinički bolnički centar "Zagreb", Zagreb

Tehnike molekularne citogenetike danas imaju gotovo jednaku važnost kao i tehnike klasične citogenetike. Većina tehnika molekularne citogenetike temelji se na načelima fluorescentne *in situ* hibridizacije (FISH). FISH je tehnika koja omogućava vizualizaciju i time izravnu identifikaciju specifičnih DNA i m-RNA sekvenca (dijelova gena, specifičnih kromosomskih regija i cijelih kromosoma) u stanici. Pomoću ove metode mogu se iskorištavati ne samo metafazni kromosomi, nego i interfazne jezgre. FISH se danas rutinski primjenjuje u prenatalnoj dijagnostici,

S2-4**MOLECULAR CYTOGENETICS IN DISEASE DETECTION**

S. Davidović-Mrsić

Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb University Hospital Center, Zagreb

Today molecular cytogenetic techniques have the same role as classic cytogenetic techniques. Most molecular cytogenetic techniques are based on fluorescent in situ hybridization (FISH). FISH is a technique that enables visualization and identification of specific DNA and m-RNA sequences (gene parts, specific chromosomal regions and whole chromosomes) in cell. With this method, not only metaphase chromosomes but also interphase nuclei can be used. FISH is routinely used in prenatal diagnosis, postnatal clinical cytogenetics, cancer cytogenetics, chimeric fol-

postnatalnoj kliničkoj citogenetici, citogenetici tumora, praćenju kimerizma nakon transplantacije alogene koštane srži, praćenju populacije izložene ionizirajućem zračenju itd.

E-mail: smrsic@net.hr

low-up after allogeneic bone marrow transplantation, follow-up of population exposed to ionizing radiation, etc.

E-mail: smrsic@net.hr

S2-5

DIJAGNOSTIKA KARCINOMA ŠTITNJAČE

Jukić T., Lukinac Lj., Franceschi M., Mateša N.,
Kusić Z.

Klinika za onkologiju i nuklearnu medicinu KB "Sestre milosrdnice", Zagreb

Klinička obrada bolesnika s čvorom štitnjače obuhvaća uzimanje anamneze, fizikalni pregled, određivanje serumske vrijednosti TSH, scintigrafiju i ultrazvuk (UZV) štitnjače te citološku punkciju čvora pod kontrolom UZV, primjena kojega omogućava raniju dijagnozu maligne naravi čvora. Većina čvorova štitnjače su benigni, a karcinomi se nalaze u manje od 5% čvorova. Tumori štitnjače su rijetki i čine 0,74% tumora u muškaraca i 2,3% tumora u žena. Karcinomi folikularnog epitela (KFE) su najčešći tumori štitnjače, od kojih papilarni čine 80%, a folikularni 10%. Većina KFE su neinvazivne naravi i imaju dobru prognozu, ali 5%-10% ovih tumora pokazuje agresivnije ponašanje uz lokalno širenje i udaljene metastaze. Osnova liječenja je kirurško odstranjenje štitnjače, nakon čega slijedi radiojodna (¹³¹I) terapija i hormonska supresijska terapija L-tiroksinom. Praćenje ovih bolesnika uključuje mjerenje serumske koncentracije tireoglobulina (Tg), scintigrafiju cijelog tijela s radiojodom (¹³¹I WBS) i UZV vrata. Većina KFE nakuplja jod i mogu se liječiti pomoću ¹³¹I. Povišen Tg i negativna ¹³¹I WBS upućuju na recidiv tumora ili metastaze koje ne nakupljaju jod. Nuklearno-medicinske (NM) pretrage otkrivanja ¹³¹I negativnih tumora uključuju scintigrafiju s ²⁰¹Talij i ^{99m}Tc-MIBI i pozitronsku emisijsku tomografiju (PET). Radiološke pretrage uključuju RTG pluća, kompjutoriziranu tomografiju (CT) i nuklearnu magnetsku rezonanciju (NMR). Medularni karcinomi (MKŠ) čine 5% karcinoma štitnjače. Potječu od parafolikularnih C stanica, a javljaju se kao sporadični karcinomi (80%) ili se nasljeđuju (20%) u tri klinička sindroma: MEN 2A, MEN 2B i obiteljski MKŠ. Mutacija proto-onkogeneta-ret uzrok je nasljednog oblika bolesti. Osnovno liječenje svih MKŠ je operacija. Neophodno je utvrditi proširenost bolesti i isključiti nasljedni oblik MKŠ. Obrada i praćenje bole-

S2-5

DIAGNOSIS OF THYROID CARCINOMA

T. Jukić, Lj. Lukinac, M. Franceschi, N. Mateša, Z.
Kusić

University Department of Oncology and Nuclear Medicine,
Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Zagreb

Evaluation of a patient with thyroid nodule includes history, physical examination, serum TSH level measurement, thyroid scan, thyroid ultrasonography (US), and US-guided fine needle aspiration biopsy (FNAB) of thyroid nodules. The introduction of FNAB has significantly contributed to the earlier diagnosis of malignant nodules. Most of the thyroid nodules are benign, whereas carcinoma is found in less than 5% of these nodules. Thyroid cancer is a rare malignancy, accounting for 0.74% of cancer in men and 2.3% in women. Carcinoma of follicular epithelium (CFE) is the most common thyroid malignancy, 80% being papillary and 10% follicular cancer. Most of CFE cases have a favorable prognosis, however; 5%-10% of these tumors present aggressive nature with local invasion and distant metastases. Surgical removal of the thyroid gland followed by radioiodine (¹³¹I) therapy and L-thyroxine suppression therapy is the main therapeutic approach for CFE. The follow-up of these patients includes serum thyroglobulin (Tg) determination, ¹³¹I whole body scan (¹³¹I WBS), and US of the neck. Most of the CFE accumulate iodine and can be treated with ¹³¹I. Elevated Tg and negative ¹³¹I WBS indicate the presence of tumor recurrence or metastases without the ability to accumulate iodine. Nuclear medicine (NM) imaging studies in detection of ¹³¹I negative tumors include ²⁰¹Thallium and ^{99m}Tc MIBI scintigraphy and positron emission tomography (PET). Other imaging studies include chest x-ray, computed tomography (CT) and nuclear magnetic resonance imaging (NMR). Medullary thyroid cancer (MTC) accounts for 5% of all thyroid cancers and is derived from parafollicular or C cells. Tumors may occur sporadically (80%) or in families (20%) as part of three clinical syndromes: MEN 2A, MEN 2B and familial MTC. Mutation of ret proto-oncogene is the origin of

snika s MKŠ uključuje UZV vrata i abdomena, RTG pluća, CT/NMR prsnog koša, određivanje tumorskih biljega kalcitonina (Ct) i karcinoembrijskog antigena (CEA) u serumu. Scintigrafija cijelog tijela s ^{111}In oktreotidom indicirana je u slučaju povišenog Ct, a anti-CEA scintigrafija u slučaju povišenog CEA. Druge NM pretrage otkrivanja metastaza MKŠ uključuju $^{99\text{mTc}}$ DMSA i ^{131}I MIBG scintigrafiju cijelog tijela. Anaplastični karcinom je rijedak karcinom štitnjače i najagresivniji karcinom u čovjeka, do danas bez uspješne terapije.

heritable MTC. Surgical therapy is the primary treatment for MTC. It is necessary to determine the extent of the disease and evaluate for heritable MTC. Diagnostic evaluation and follow-up of patients with MTC consist of US of the neck and abdomen, x-ray and CT/NMR of the chest, serum calcitonin (Ct) and carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA) determination. ^{111}In octreoscan is indicated in case of elevated Ct, and anti-CEA scan in case of elevated CEA. Other NM imaging studies include $^{99\text{mTc}}$ DMSA and ^{131}I MIBG scan. Anaplastic carcinoma is a rare type of thyroid cancer and the most aggressive cancer in humans, so far without successful treatment modality.

S2UP-1 (usmeno priopćenje)

PREDVIĐANJE UČINKOVITOSTI KEMOTERAPIJE POMOĆU SERUMSKOG CA 15-3 U BOLESNICA S RAKOM DOJKE

Nekulova M.¹, Simickova M.¹, Pecen L.², Valik D.¹

¹ Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute; ² Computer Institute of Academy of Science, Brno, Republika Češka

Cilj studije je bio utvrditi odražavaju li serumске razine tumorskih biljega procijenjene pomoću novoga algoritma vjerno odgovor na kemoterapiju u bolesnica s rakom dojke. Skupina od 122 bolesnice s ponovljenim rakom dojke, medijan dobi $64,4 \pm 13,1$ (raspon 38-76) godina, liječena je kemoterapijom. Serumске razine CA 15-3 (MEIA, Abbott) mjerene su tijekom sveukupno 854 ciklusa kemoterapije. Matematički algoritam je primijenjen za procjenu koncentracija prije i tijekom liječenja ($c_0 \dots c_n$), relativnih promjena tumorskih biljega nakon prvog i drugog ciklusa kemoterapije ($rc_1=c_0/c_1$, $rc_2=c_1/c_2$, $rc_n=c_{n-1}/c_n$) i omjera ovih promjena ($rc_1/rc_2 \dots rc_n/rc_{n+1}$) radi izračunavanja kretanja biljega. Najbolji rezultat postupnog multivarijantnog Coxova modela za procjenu preživljenja bez bolesti dobiven je za $rc_1=c_0/c_1$, $rc_2=c_1/c_2$ i omjer rc_1/rc_2 . U Coxovu modelu je primijenjena metoda analize preživljenja, uz uporabu Wilcoxonova i log-rank testova. Terapija se smatrala učinkovitom (bolesnice s odgovorom) ako je postignuta potpuna ili djelomična remisija prema kriterijima UICC. Odgovor je postignut u 52 bolesnice, sa stopom odgovora od 42,62% (95% CI: 33,85-51,40), dok je progresija (PB) nastupila u 70 bolesnica - 57,37% (95% CI: 48,10-66,15), tj. bolesnice u kojih je odgovor izostao. Vrijeme do progresije (VDP) kretalo se od 4 do 38 mjeseci i još se procjenjuje u 17 bolesnica

S2UP-1 (oral presentation)

PREDICTION OF CHEMOTHERAPY EFFICACY USING SERUM CA 15-3 IN BREAST CANCER PATIENTS

M. Nekulova¹, M. Simickova¹, L. Pecen², D. Valik¹

¹ Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute; ² Computer Institute of Academy of Science, Brno, Czech Republic

The aim of our study was to determine whether changes in serum levels of tumor markers as evaluated by a novel algorithm closely reflected response to chemotherapy in breast cancer patients. A group of 122 breast cancer patients with recurrent disease, median age $64,4 \pm 13,1$ (range 38-76) years were treated with chemotherapy. Serum levels of CA 15-3 (MEIA, Abbott) were determined during a total of 854 chemotherapy cycles. A mathematical algorithm was used to evaluate pretreatment and subsequent concentrations ($c_0 \dots c_n$), relative changes in tumor markers following first and second chemotherapy cycle ($rc_1=c_0/c_1$, $rc_2=c_1/c_2$, $rc_n=c_{n-1}/c_n$) and ratios of these changes ($rc_1/rc_2 \dots rc_n/rc_{n+1}$) to compute a marker trend. The best result of a stepwise multivariate Cox model for disease-free survival estimate was obtained for $rc_1=c_0/c_1$, $rc_2=c_1/c_2$ and ratio rc_1/rc_2 . The method of survival analysis was used in Cox model, and Wilcoxon and log-rank tests were performed. Therapy was considered effective (responders) if complete or partial remission was achieved according to UICC criteria. Response was achieved in 52 patients - response rate was 42.62% (95% CI: 33.85-51.40), whereas progression (PD) occurred in 70 patients - 57.37% (95% CI: 48.10-66.15) - nonresponders. Time to progression (TTP) varied from 4 to 38 months and is still be-

(cenzurirane bolesnice). Regresijska analiza koncentracija CA 15-3 podijelila je bolesnice s odgovorom u dvije podskupine nakon drugog ciklusa kemoterapije: i) bolesnice s dobrim odgovorom koje su ispunjavale slijedeći kriterij: $rc1/rc2 > 1,31$ i $rc1 > 1,6$ i $rc2 > 1,26$; ova je skupina uključila 51 bolesnicu (41,8%; 95% CI: 33,05-50,56); i ii) bolesnice s manje povoljnim odgovorom koje nisu ispunjavale nijedan od gore navedenih uvjeta (predviđeno VDP: $p < 0,0002$ primjenom Wilcoxonova testa i $p < 0,0036$ primjenom log-rank testa). Ispitivanje je dijelom dobilo potporu od Scientific and Research Scheme MZ00020980501.

E-mail: nekulova@mou.cz

ing assessed in 17 patients (censored patients). Regression analysis of CA15-3 concentrations categorized responders into two subgroups after second chemotherapy cycle: i) good responders fulfilling the criterion: $rc1/rc2 > 1.31$ and $rc1 > 1.6$ and $rc2 > 1.26$ - the group of good responders included 51 patients (41.8%, 95% CI: 33.05-50.56); and ii) less favorable responders not fulfilling any of the above conditions (predicted TTP was: $p < 0.0002$ using Wilcoxon test and $p < 0.0036$ using log-rank test). The study was in part supported by the Scientific and Research Scheme MZ00020980501.

E-mail: nekulova@mou.cz

S3

Molekularna laboratorijska medicina *Molecular laboratory medicine*

S3-1

PRENATALNA MOLEKULARNA DIJAGNOSTIKA DANAS I SUTRA

Sertić J.

Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu i Klinički bolnički centar "Zagreb", Zagreb

Program molekularne dijagnostike genskih bolesti uključuje nekoliko kategorija: 1) bolesnike i članove obitelji s visoko rizičnim nasljednim poremećajima; 2) osobe fertile dobi prije i za vrijeme trudnoće; 3) bolesnike centara za IVF; 4) osobe u prevenciji poligenskih multifaktorskih poremećaja. Prenatalna dijagnostika uključuje ultrazvučne biokemijske i molekularnogenske aspekte. Automatizirana genska analitika omogućuje brzu prenatalnu molekularnu dijagnozu genskih promjena primjenom fluorescentne hibridizacije, pri čemu se DNK izdvaja izravno iz 0,1 ml fetalne krvi, 2 ml amnijske tekućine ili 2 mg korionskih resica. Biološki materijal dobiva se amniocentezom ili koriocentezom između 12. i 17. tjedna trudnoće, a nalaz se šalje kliničaru istoga ili slijedećeg dana. Molekularna dijagnostika genskih bolesti pojedinih zemalja uključena je u sheme europskih centara izvrsnosti koji putem European Molecular Genetics Quality Network i Reference Institute for Bioanalytics of Deutsche Gesellschaft für klinische Chemie nadziru kvalitetu rada (www.emqn.org, www.dgkc-online.de). Danas se prenatalna molekularna di-

S3-1

PRENATAL MOLECULAR DIAGNOSIS TODAY AND TOMORROW

J. Sertić

Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb
University Hospital Center, Zagreb

The program of molecular diagnosis of gene diseases includes several categories: 1) patients and family members with high risk hereditary disorders; 2) persons at fertile age before and during pregnancy; 3) patients from IVF centers; and 4) individuals requiring prevention of polygenic multifactorial disorders. Prenatal diagnosis includes ultrasound biochemical and molecular genetic aspects. Automated gene analyses enable rapid prenatal molecular diagnosis of gene alterations by fluorescent hybridization, with DNA isolated directly from 0.1 ml of fetal blood, 2 ml of amniotic fluid or 2 mg of chorionic villi. Biologic material is obtained by amniocentesis or choriocentesis between 12th and 17th week of gestation, and the result is forwarded to the clinician on the same or next day. Molecular diagnosis of gene diseases is in some countries included in evaluation schemes of European quality centers, which monitor performance quality through European Molecular Genetics Quality Network and Reference Institute for Bioanalytics of Deutsche Gesellschaft für klinische Chemie (www.emqn.org, www.dgkc-online.de). Prenatal molecular diagnosis is presently performed for autosomal re-

jagnostika provodi za autosomno recesivne poremećaje, kao što su cistična fibroza, spinalna mišićna atrofija, zatim X vezane poremećaje kao što su Duchenneova mišićna distrofija, sindrom fragilnog X kromosoma, hemofilija A, te za autosomno dominantne poremećaje kao što je Huntingtonova bolest. Prenatalna molekularna dijagnostika se ne preporuča za nasljedne bolesti (hemokromatoza) kod kojih se klinička slika razvija tek u odrasloj dobi, a koje uz pravodobno liječenje imaju dobru prognozu. Prenatalna dijagnostika provodi se i biokemijskim metodama za neke poremećaje kao što je sindrom Smith-Lemli-Opitz. Prenatalna molekularna dijagnostika u budućnosti će sigurno biti usmjerena na karcinom i rjeđe nasljedne poremećaje kao što je sindrom trojnog A. Molekularna dijagnostika će se razvijati unutar opcije manje invazivnih i manje riskantnih zahvata. Izdvajanje fetalnih stanica iz majčine cirkulacije predstavlja obećavajući pristup k neinvazivnoj prenatalnoj dijagnozi. Za vjerovati je stoga da će budućnost molekularne dijagnostike obilježiti prijeimplantacijska dijagnostika.

E-mail: dcvor@kbc-zagreb.hr

cessive disorders such as cystic fibrosis, spinal muscle atrophy, X-linked disorders like Duchenne muscular dystrophy, fragile X chromosome syndrome, hemophilia A, and autosomal dominant disorders like Huntington's disease. Prenatal molecular diagnosis is not recommended for hereditary diseases (hemochromatosis) where clinical picture does not show progression until adult age and where prognosis is good providing timely therapy. Prenatal diagnosis is also performed by biochemical methods for some disorders such as Smith-Lemli-Opitz syndrome. In the future, prenatal molecular diagnosis will certainly be oriented to treatment of cancer and rare inherited disorders like triple A syndrome. Molecular diagnosis will develop within the option of less invasive procedures and those involving lesser risk. Fetal cell isolation from maternal circulation is a promising approach to noninvasive prenatal diagnosis. We may therefore believe that the future of molecular diagnosis will be marked by preimplantational diagnosis.

E-mail: dcvor@kbc-zagreb.hr

S3-2

HEMOKROMATOZA I WILSONOVA BOLEST

Čuković-Čavka S., Vucelić B.

Klinički bolnički centar "Zagreb", Zagreb

Nasljedna hemokromatoza (NH) je autosomno recesivni poremećaj metabolizma željeza koji rezultira apsorpcijom prekomjerne količine željeza iz crijevne sluznice. Višak željeza nakuplja se u jetri, koži, gušterači, srcu, zglobovima i testisima. Rani klinički simptomi bolesti su pojava bolova u trbuhu, slabost, letargija i gubitak na težini. Kod neliječenih osoba u kasnijem tijeku bolesti prisutna je brončana boja kože, šećerna bolest, kardijalno popuštanje ili aritmije, artritis i hipogonadizam. Dijagnoza se postavlja prema vrijednostima testa zasićenja transferina, koncentraciji feritina u serumu, koncentraciji željeza u jetrenom tkivu i nalazu genetičkog testiranja mutacije C282Y i H63D gena HFE (kromosomski lokus 6p21). Uobičajeni rizik za braću i sestre indeksnog ispitanika iznosi 25%. Većina bolesnika liječi se rutinskom terapijskom venepunkcijom. Ranim postavljanjem dijagnoze i liječenjem bolesnika prije razvoja kliničkih simptoma mo-

S3-2

HEMOCHROMATOSIS AND WILSON'S DISEASE

S. Čuković-Čavka, B. Vucelić

Zagreb University Hospital Center, Zagreb

Hereditary hemochromatosis (HH) is an autosomal recessive disorder which is characterized by inappropriately high absorption of iron by the gastrointestinal mucosa, resulting in excessive storage of iron, particularly in the liver, skin, pancreas, heart, joints and testes. Abdominal pain, weakness, lethargy and weight loss are common early symptoms. Other findings in untreated individuals include progressive increase in skin pigmentation, diabetes mellitus, congestive heart failure or arrhythmias, arthritis, and hypogonadism. The diagnosis is typically based on screening for serum transferrin-iron saturation, serum ferritin concentration and confirmatory tests such as histologic assessment of hepatic iron stores on liver biopsy and/or molecular genetic testing for the C282Y and H63D mutations in the HFE gene (chromosomal locus 6p21). Usually the risk of having HH for sibs of a proband is 25%. The usual therapy is removal of excess iron

guće je spriječiti razvoj potencijalnih komplikacija. Wilsonova bolest je autosomno recesivna bolest koja dovodi do preopterećenja organizma bakrom, a očituje se jetrenim, neurološkim i psihijatrijskim poremećajima ili njihovom kombinacijom. Dijagnoza se temelji na niskim koncentracijama bakra i ceruloplazmina u serumu, povećanoj količini izlučenog bakra u mokraći i povećanoj količini bakra u suhom tkivu jetre. Značajnu ulogu u dijagnozi ima genetičko testiranje gena ATP7B (kromosomski lokus 13q14.3-q21.1), jer rezultati testiranja metabolizma bakra često nisu dovoljni za dijagnozu. Genetičko testiranje osobito je važno za određivanje genetskog statusa rođaka. Sestre i braća indeksnog bolesnika imaju rizik od 25% za nasljeđivanje bolesti. Bolest se liječi lijekovima koji odstranjuju višak bakra iz organizma (kelatori - penicilamin, trientin i amonijak tetratiomolibdat) ili cinkom. Primjena kelatora ili cinka može kod asimptomatskih osoba spriječiti razvoj kliničkih simptoma, a kod bolesnika ih smanjiti.

E-mail: silvija.cukovic@zg.htnet.hr

by routine phlebotomy. Early diagnosis and treatment to normalize serum iron before the symptoms develop prevent the potential complications of HH. Wilson's disease (WD) is an autosomal recessive disorder of copper overload that can present with hepatic, neurologic or psychiatric disturbances, or a combination of these. The diagnosis depends in part on the detection of low serum copper and ceruloplasmin concentrations, increased urinary copper excretion and high hepatic tissue copper concentration. Molecular genetic testing of the ATP7B gene (chromosomal locus 13q14.3-q21.1) is playing an increasingly important role in the diagnosis, as copper studies are frequently equivocal. Molecular genetic testing is also important to determine the genetic status of at-risk sibs. Sibs of an affected individual have a 25% chance of having WD. Treatment with copper chelating agents (penicillamine, trientine, ammonium tetrathiomolybdate) or zinc can prevent the development of clinical findings in asymptomatic affected individuals and reduce findings in many symptomatic patients.

E-mail: silvija.cukovic@zg.htnet.hr

S3-3

ZNAČENJE UPORABE MOLEKULARNO-BIOLOŠKIH METODA U HEMATOONKOLOGIJI

Zadro R.

Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku Medicinskog fakulteta Sveučilišta u Zagrebu i KBC "Zagreb", Zagreb

Podjela malignih hematoloških bolesti prema Svjetskoj zdravstvenoj organizaciji uključuje poznate genetske poremećaje u leukemijama i limfomima te njihovo prognostičko značenje. Zbog toga su razvoj i primjena klinički korisnih tehnika molekularne biologije od velike važnosti u analizi malignih hematoloških bolesti: lančana reakcija polimerazom (PCR), multipleks PCR i PCR u stvarnom vremenu, analiza po Southernu, fluorescentna *in situ* hibridizacija, a u novije vrijeme profil ekspresije gena tehnologijom mikrozraka koja je postala važna za razumijevanje složenih bioloških procesa i njihove uloge u patologiji bolesti na molekularnoj razini. U akutnim limfatičnim leukemijama u djece identificiran je profil ekspresije gena koji dobro korelira sa šest različitih kromosomskih abnormalnosti, dok je u akutnim mijeloidnim leukemijama u odraslih pokazana korelacija između triju specifičnih kromosomskih translokacija i profila eks-

S3-3

ROLE OF MOLECULAR BIOLOGY METHODS IN HEMATO-ONCOLOGY

R. Zadro

Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb
University Hospital Center, Zagreb

*The classification system of hematologic malignancies according to World Health Organization acknowledges the key role of genetics in the definition of specific entities as well as the prognostic heterogeneity of disease entities. Over the past few years, a spectrum of molecular biologic techniques including polymerase chain reaction (PCR), multiplex PCR and real time PCR, Southern blotting and fluorescent *in situ* hybridization have entered into the mainstream of hemato-oncology. Lately the analysis of gene expression patterns with microarray technology is becoming increasingly important to our understanding of complex biological processes and their role in disease pathology at the molecular level. In pediatric B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia, gene expression signatures have been identified that correlate with six different chromosomal abnormalities. Likewise, in adult acute myeloid leukemia, a gene-expression-based predictor has been created that can identify three different chromosomal*

presije gena. Takav znakovit 'molekularni potpis' može predvidjeti bolesnike u kojih će doći do relapsa bolesti ili do postizanja dugotrajne potpune remisije. Također se pojava sekundarne akutne mijeloidne leukemije može predvidjeti na temelju genetičkog otiska primarnog tumora. Molekularno-genetičke metode važna su dopuna rutinske evaluacije malignih hematoloških bolesti koja uključuje morfološku, histološku, imunofenotipsku i citogenetsku analizu; njihova posebna vrijednost je u rasvjetljavanju nejasne dijagnoze, otkrivanju skrivenih abnormalnosti, klasifikaciji prividno homogenih bolesti, identifikaciji specifičnih molekularnih meta za ciljanu terapiju, utvrđivanju molekularnih profila koji predviđaju ishod bolesti, kvantificiranje minimalne ostatne bolesti u praćenju iščezavanja malignog kлона, predviđanju relapsa i utvrđivanju uspješnosti sakupljanja matičnih stanica za autolognu transplantaciju, kao i u situacijama kada različiti tehnički čimbenici onemogućavaju izvođenje i/ili tumačenje konvencionalne citogenetike.

E-mail: rzadro@mef.hr

translocations with a high rate of accuracy. This characteristic molecular signature at the time of diagnosis can provide information that could predict which patients would relapse and which would remain in continuous complete remission. Secondary acute myeloid leukemia could also be predicted on the basis of gene-expression profiling of primary tumor. Molecular genetic testing provides important data that are not always evident from routine pathologic evaluation, such as morphology, histology, immunophenotyping and karyotyping. Their primary role is diagnostic ambiguity; detection of cryptic abnormalities; prognostic stratification; identification of specific molecular targets that are amenable to targeted therapy; identification of molecular signatures that predict outcome; quantification of minimal residual disease after therapy, early detection of relapse, and evaluation of adequacy of purging of autologous stem cell harvests; and when various technical factors preclude the performance and/or interpretation of conventional karyotypic studies.

E-mail: rzadro@mef.hr

S3-4

TESTIRANJE DNK I KONTROLA KVALITETE U LABORATORIJU ZA KLINIČKU DIJAGNOSTIKU

Neumaier M.

Institute for Clinical Chemistry, University Hospital
Mannheim of the University Heidelberg, Mannheim,
Njemačka

Njemačko društvo za kliničku kemiju i laboratorijsku medicinu osnovalo je 1996. godine službenu Radnu grupu za molekularnu dijagnostiku u laboratorijskoj medicini. Cilj Grupe je bio pružiti potporu uspostavi metoda molekularne biologije u kliničkom laboratoriju. Posebni ciljevi u okviru ovoga zadatka bili su slijedeći: 1) primjena i proširenje okvira vanjske procjene kvalitete (EQA), 2) uspostava mreže za napredak u struci i baze podataka između suradnih laboratorija i organizacija, 3) programi izobrazbe i 4) suradnja s drugim radnim grupama koje rade na srodnim temama (npr. WG Preanalytics). Od uspostave programa EQA broj suradnih laboratorija se povećao s 40 na 200 zahvaljujući sveeuropskoj suradnji s drugim nacionalnim znanstvenim društvima i organizacijama EQA. Proširio se je i izbor ispitivanih pokazatelja, pa se sada nude faktor V, faktor II, HFE, ApoE, ApoB100, MTHFR, inhibitor proteinaze 1, UGT-1a, TPMT,

S3-4

DNA TESTING AND QUALITY CONTROL IN THE CLINICAL DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY

M. Neumaier

Institute for Clinical Chemistry, University Hospital
Mannheim of the University Heidelberg, Mannheim,
Germany

In 1996, the German Society for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (DGKL) has established an official Working Group on Molecular Diagnosis in Laboratory Medicine. The Group's objectives were to support the establishment of molecular biology methods in the clinical laboratory. Specific aims for this task were: 1) implementation and extension of external quality assessment (EQA) schemes; 2) establishment of a proficiency network and database between participating laboratories and organizations; 3) educational training programs; and 4) cooperation with other working groups active in related topics (e.g., WG Preanalytics). Since the implementation of the EQA program, the number of participating laboratories has increased from 40 to 200 owing to Europe-wide collaboration with other national scientific societies and EQA organizations. Also, the portfolio of parameters tested has increased now offering Factor V, Factor II, HFE, ApoE, ApoB100, MTHFR, proteinase inhibitor 1, UGT-1a, TPMT,

Cyp450 2D6, a i dalje se širi prema zahtjevima. Uz ove dijagnostičke EQA, provode se tehnički nadzori različitih faza u procesu genetičkog ispitivanja, npr. priprema DNK, procjena i izvješće za produkt PCR, sekvencioniranje DNK i probir na mutacije. Zasad bi se moglo zaključiti slijedeće: prijeanalitički čimbenici (kvaliteta materijala, vrijeme i uvjeti prijevoza, inhibitori itd.) kritični su za kvalitetu rezultata molekularnog testiranja. Molekularne metode koje se rabe za amplifikaciju u testovima genotipiziranja vrlo su moćni glede njihove tehničke izvedbe. Jednostavne metode jednako su vrijedne kao i nove tehnike. Za dotični test nema korelacije između sofisticiranosti metode i kvalitete dijagnostičke procjene. Zapaženo je da vrijednost rezultata testa naglo opada u prisutnosti manjih kontaminacija šablone (1/8 to 1/16) u uzorku. Većina grješaka nije uzrokovana krivim primarnim podacima, nego poslijeanalitičkim tumačenjem. Članovi Radne grupe isto su tako uključeni u različite međunarodne radne grupe EC4 i IFCC-a kako bi doprinijeli sve većoj uspješnosti laboratorijskog testiranja DNK u kliničko kemijskim laboratorijima, npr. kroz organiziranje i provedbu tečajeva izobrazbe. Sveukupno, rezultati našega jednogodišnjeg iskustva opravdavaju stalne napore koji se ulažu u buduću provedbu programa vanjske kontrole kvalitete i sheme ispitivanja stručnosti, s naglaskom na sve-europskoj suradnji.

E-mail: michael.neumaier@ikc.ma.uni-heidelberg.de

Cyp450 2D6, and is constantly being expanded on demand. In addition to these diagnostic EQAs, technical surveyed exercises have been performed addressing various steps in the genetic testing process like DNA preparation, PCR product evaluation and reporting, DNA sequencing and mutational screening. Tentatively, we can draw the following conclusions. Preanalytical factors (material quality, transportation time and modalities, inhibitors, etc.) are critical for the quality of the molecular test result. Molecular methods used for the amplification in genotyping assays appear to be very robust with respect to their technical performance. Simple methods are as valid as new techniques. For a given test, there is no correlation between the sophistication of the method and the quality of diagnostic evaluation. Validity of test results has been observed to steeply decline with minor template contaminations (1/8 to 1/16) present in the sample. Most mistakes are not caused by faulty primary data, but by postanalytical interpretation. Members of the Working Group are also involved in different international working groups of the EC4 and IFCC to contribute to increasing the proficiency in DNA laboratory testing in clinical chemistry laboratories, e.g., by organizing and performing teaching courses. Taken together, the results from our year-long experience justify the continued efforts to implement external quality control programs and proficiency testing schemes in the future, with emphasis on Europe-wide collaboration.

E-mail: michael.neumaier@ikc.ma.uni-heidelberg.de

S3-5

LIZOSOMSKE BOLESTI OD BIOKEMIJSKE OSNOVE DO LIJEČENJA

Fumić K.

Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Klinički bolnički centar "Zagreb", Zagreb

Lizosomi su organele u kojima se u kiselom okruženju odvija najveći dio razgradnje složenih makromolekula. Za te procese odgovorno je više od 50 različitih lizosomskih hidrolaza uz odgovarajuće aktivacijske proteine. Kod lizosomskih bolesti nakupljanja nedostaje ili je značajno snižena aktivnost nekog od tih proteina, što za posljedicu ima nakupljanje nerazgrađenog materijala u organeli, oštećenje stanice i okolnog tkiva. Dosad je poznato više od 40 različitih lizosomskih bolesti nakupljanja s ukupnom zastupljenošću od jednog slučaja u približno 7500 živorođenih. Premda se na prisutnost lizosomskih bole-

S3-5

LYSOSOMAL DISEASES FROM BIOCHEMICAL BASIS TO TREATMENT

K. Fumić

Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb University Hospital Center, Zagreb

Lysosomes are organelles where most degradation of complex macromolecules takes place in acid conditions. More than 50 different lysosomal hydrolases are responsible for this process, together with appropriate activation proteins. The activity of some of these proteins is either missing or decreased in lysosomal storage diseases, which results in the accumulation of undegraded material in the organelle and damage to the cell and surrounding tissue. Up to the present, more than 40 different lysosomal storage diseases have been identified, with an overall prevalence of 1 per approximately 7500 live births. Although the pres-

sti nakupljanja može posumnjati na temelju kliničke slike, zbog preklapanja fenotipova obično je teško postaviti nedvojbenu dijagnozu, pa se ona zasniva na biokemijskoj analizi. Krajnji cilj je identifikacija lizosomskog enzima ili nedostatka proteina koji su u osnovi poremećaja. Poznavanje poremećaja enzima ili proteina nije neophodno samo za konačnu dijagnozu, nego je i preduvjet za provedbu prenatalnih dijagnostičkih pretraga. Gdje god je to moguće treba pokušati pronaći mutaciju ne samo radi potvrđivanja dijagnoze, nego i da bi se omogućilo pouzdano određivanje heterozigota kod pojedinaca koji zatraže genetski savjet. Prijedlog da se lizosomske bolesti nakupljanja liječe nadomjestkom oštećenog normalnim enzimom prvi je iznio Christian de Duve 1964. godine. Međutim, nadomjesna enzimsko terapija postala je stvarnost tek ranih devedesetih godina prošloga stoljeća kada se dokazala sigurnom i učinkovitom kod liječenja Gaucherove bolesti tipa 1. Sada je takva terapija moguća i za Fabryjevu bolest, Pompeovu bolest i mukopolisaharidozu tipa 1. Takvu vrst terapije trenutno prima 9 bolesnika u Hrvatskoj. Buduće mogućnosti liječenja u bolesnika s lizosomskim, ali i drugim nasljednim metaboličkim bolestima obuhvaćaju inhibiciju sinteze supstrata, repopulaciju jetre, transplantaciju matičnih stanica i gensku terapiju.

E-mail: Ksenija.Fumic@zg.htnet.hr

ence of a lysosomal storage disease can often be suspected on the basis of clinical picture, a definite diagnosis is usually difficult to make because of phenotype overlapping and therefore rests with biochemical analysis. The ultimate goal, however, is identification of the lysosomal enzyme or protein deficiency that is at the root of the disorder. Knowledge of the enzyme or protein defect is not only necessary for definitive diagnosis but is also a prerequisite for prenatal diagnostic tests. Whenever possible, identification of the causative mutation by appropriate molecular genetic testing should be attempted not only to confirm the diagnosis but also to enable reliable heterozygote determination in individuals seeking genetic counseling. The suggestion that lysosomal storage diseases could be treated by replacing the defective enzyme with its normal counterpart was first posed by Christian de Duve in 1964. However, it was not until the early 1990s that enzyme replacement therapy became a reality with the demonstration of its safety and effectiveness in type 1 Gaucher disease. This therapy is now available also for Fabry disease, Pompe disease and mucopolysaccharidosis type I. Future possibilities for therapy in patients with lysosomal but also with other inherited metabolic diseases involve inhibition of substrate synthesis, liver repopulation, stem cell transplantation and gene therapy.

E-mail: Ksenija.Fumic@zg.htnet.hr

S3-6

ANALIZA STANIČNOG CIKLUSA STANICA CD133+ I CD133- IZDVOJENIH IZ KRVI UZETE IZ PUPKOVINE

Gršković B., Ružička K., Qujeq D., Müller M.M.

Institute for Laboratory Diagnosis, Kaiser Franz Joseph Hospital, Beč, Austrija

Krvne stanice uzete iz pupkovine (matične stanice/prastanice) pokazuju znatnu proliferacijsku sposobnost, što dovodi do velike ekspanzije ovih stanica u odgovarajućim uvjetima staničnih kultura. Cilj ovoga rada bio je analizirati stanični ciklus stanica CD133+ i CD133- metodom protodne citometrije ovisno o različitim uvjetima kultivacije kao što su dodatak seruma, čimbenika matičnih stanica (*stem cell factor*, SCF), interleukina 3 (IL-3) i interleukina 6 (IL-6). Za izdvajanje stanica rabili smo imunomagnetski sustav. Stanice CD133+ i CD133- nasadili smo u Iscoveov modificirani Dulbeccov medij (IMDM) s

S3-6

CELL CYCLE ANALYSIS OF CD133+ AND CD133- CELLS ISOLATED FROM UMBILICAL CORD BLOOD

B. Gršković, K. Ružička, D. Qujeq, M.M. Müller

Institute for Laboratory Diagnosis, Kaiser Franz Joseph Hospital, Vienna, Austria

Umbilical cord blood cells (stem/progenitor cells) exhibit high proliferative capacities leading to large expansion of cells in appropriate cell culture conditions. The aim of this study was to evaluate by flow cytometry the cycling status of CD133+ and CD133- cells depending on various culture conditions, such as addition of serum, stem cell factor (SCF), interleukin 3 (IL-3) and interleukin 6 (IL-6). An immunomagnetic system was used for cell separation. CD133+ and CD133- cells were seeded in Iscove's modified Dulbecco's medium (IMDM) with different serum concentrations and were stimulated with SCF (100 ng/ml),

različitim koncentracijama seruma te stimulirali SCF-om (100 ng/ml), IL-3 (50 ng/ml) i IL-6 (50 ng/ml). Rezultati našega istraživanja pokazali su da se nakon izdvajanja stanica CD133+ i CD133- nalazi u fazi G0/G1, te 2,9±0,4% i 0,6±0,05% u fazi S staničnog ciklusa. Nakon tjedan dana uzgoja u mediju IMDM obožaćenom konjskim serumom (25%) utvrdili smo da je 25,0±3,5% stanica CD133+ i 30,7±1,3% stanica CD133- u fazi S. Kombinacijom konjskog i fetalnog telećeg seruma (12,5%-tni svaki) uočeno je 30,0±0,6% stanica CD133+ te 27,0±5,2% stanica CD133- u fazi S. Dokazali smo da se stanični ciklus stanica CD133+ ne mijenja dodatkom 12,5%-tnog seruma, međutim, ima za posljedicu smanjenje udjela stanica CD133- u fazi S staničnog ciklusa. Na temelju rezultata istraživanja možemo zaključiti da podrijetlo i koncentracija seruma potrebnog za uzgoj matičnih stanica/prastanica ima učinak na njihovu ekspanziju u uvjetima kulture *in vitro*. Obilježja staničnog ciklusa stanica CD133+ i CD133- međusobno se razlikuju.

E-mail: bgrskov@email.com

*IL-3 (50 ng/ml) and IL-6 (50 ng/ml). Our experiments demonstrated that immediately upon separation 96.0±0.6% of CD133+ cells and 98.8±0.2% of CD133- cells were in the G0/G1 phase, while 2.9±0.4% and 0.6±0.05% were in the S-phase, respectively. After one-week cultivation in IMDM supplemented with horse serum (25%) 25.0±3.5% of CD133+ and 30.7±1.3% of CD133- cells were detected in the S-phase. A combination of horse and fetal calf serum (12.5% each) yielded 30.0±0.6% and 27.0±5.2% of CD133+ and CD133- cells in the S-phase, respectively. Serum concentrations of 12.5% did not change cell cycle characteristics in CD133+ cells while resulting in lower proportions of CD133- cells in the S-phase. In conclusion, our data indicate that the source and concentration of the serum used for cultivation of stem/progenitor cells have an impact on *in vitro* expansion. The cell cycle properties of CD133+ and CD133- cells seem to be different.*

E-mail: bgrskov@email.com

S3UP-1 (usmeno priopćenje)

LDL-RECEPTOR I HIPERKOLESTEROLEMIJA

Zrinski-Topić R.¹, Gabela O.², Sertić J.¹, Floegel M.²,
Stavljenić-Rukavina A.¹

¹ Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu i Klinički bolnički centar "Zagreb"; ² Zavod za biokemiju i molekularnu biologiju, Farmaceutsko-biokemijski fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb

Hiperkolesterolemija se razvija kao posljedica jednog ili istodobno više prisutnih poremećaja pri kojima se mijenja katabolizam aterogenih lipoproteina. Obiteljska hiperkolesterolemija (FH) je monogenska, autosomno dominantna bolest uzrokovana mutacijama u genu za receptor koji veže lipoprotein male gustoće (LDL-receptor). Poznato je više od 700 različitih mutacija koje utječu na funkcijska svojstva LDL-receptora. Dijagnoza FH temelji se na kliničkim i biokemijskim značajkama. Prehrambeni čimbenici kao i drugi genski lokusi koji utječu na razinu kolesterola u krvi mogu ometati dijagnostički pristup. Cilj je bio utvrditi postojanje i učestalost molekularnih promjena u genu za LDL-receptor u bolesnika s hiperkolesterolemijom. Ispitana je skupina hiperkolesterolemičnih osoba (N=249) izabrana prema vrijednostima za LDL-kolesterol

S3UP-1 (oral presentation)

LDL-RECEPTOR AND HYPERCHOLESTEROLEMIA

R. Zrinski-Topić¹, O. Gabela², J. Sertić¹, M. Floegel²,
A. Stavljenić-Rukavina¹

¹ Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb University Hospital Center; ² Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, University of Zagreb, Zagreb

Hypercholesterolemia progresses as a consequence of one or more concurrent disorders which alter atherogenic lipoprotein metabolism. Familial hypercholesterolemia (FH) is a common monogenic autosomal dominant disorder caused by mutations in the low density lipoprotein receptor (LDL-receptor) gene. Until now, more than 700 different mutations have been identified in the LDL-receptor gene. The diagnosis of FH is generally based on clinical and biochemical features. However, many factors including diet and variations at other gene loci may modulate blood cholesterol levels and affect the diagnostic pathway. The aim of the study was to establish the incidence and frequency of molecular changes in the LDL-receptor gene in patients with hypercholesterolemia. A total of 249 hypercholesterolemic patients with LDL-cholesterol above 4.0 mmol/L were selected. The presence of molecular changes in the promotor region and 18

>4,0 mmol/L. Pretraživanje promotora i svih 18 eksona gena za LDL-receptor provedeno je metodom konformacijskog polimorfizma jednolančane DNK (PCR-SSCP). Otkrivene promjene u pojedinim eksonima potvrđene su sekvencioniranjem ulomaka DNK i metodom polimorfizma duljine restrikcijskih ulomaka (PCR-RFLP). Molekularne promjene u genu za LDL-receptor bile su prisutne u 68% bolesnika s hiperkolesterolemijom. Šest različitih mutacija otkriveno je u 30 (12%) bolesnika. Mutacijama zahvaćeni eksoni kodiraju za dvije od ukupno pet funkcijskih domena LDL-receptorskog proteina: domenu koja veže ligand i domenu homolognu s prekursorom epidermnog čimbenika rasta, uloga kojega je nužna za proces recikliranja LDL-receptora. Mutacija Cys127Arg (FH-Zagreb) je novootkriveni poremećaj gena za LDL-receptor. U preostalih bolesnika bili su prisutni slijedeći polimorfizmi: 81 T>C, 1413 G>A, 1773 T>C i 1959 C>T, koji ne mijenjaju aminokiselinski slijed, ali se mogu očitovati promijenjenom aktivnošću proteina. U 26% bolesnika bila je prisutna kombinacija dvaju ili više polimorfizama. Zaključeno je kako vrst i učestalost molekularnih promjena u genu za LDL-receptor doprinose boljem poznavanju patogeneze hiperkolesterolemije te pomažu u iznalaženju najpogodnijeg dijagnostičkog pristupa za genski uvjetovanu hiperkolesterolemiju.

E-mail: renata.zrinski-topic@zg.htnet.hr

exons of the LDL-receptor gene was examined by the method of single strand conformation polymorphism (PCR-SSCP). Detected changes were confirmed by DNA sequencing and method of restriction fragment length polymorphism (PCR-RFLP). Molecular changes in the LDL-receptor gene were detected in 68% of patients with hypercholesterolemia. Six different mutations were demonstrated in 30 (12%) patients. Exons with mutations encode two of five functional domains of the LDL-receptor protein: the ligand binding domain and a region that shares sequence identity to the human epidermal growth factor. This domain mediates receptor recycling. The Cys127Arg (FH-Zagreb) mutation has not yet been reported. Genetic polymorphisms 81 T>C, 1413 G>A, 1773 T>C and 1959 C>T were detected in the remaining patients. These sequence changes do not alter amino acids and are likely to be markers of other changes causing defective protein. In our group of patients, 26% had two or more genetic polymorphisms. The type and frequency of molecular changes in the LDL-receptor gene were found to provide a better insight into the pathogenesis of hypercholesterolemia; they could also facilitate selection of the most appropriate diagnostic approach for genetic hypercholesterolemia.

E-mail: renata.zrinski-topic@zg.htnet.hr

S3UP-2 (usmeno priopćenje)

DJELOMIČNA DUPLIKACIJA 16q: KLINIČKO I CITOGENETSKO ISPITIVANJE

Petković I., Barišić I., Sansović I.

Klinika za dječje bolesti Zagreb, Klinika za pedijatriju, Zagreb

Duplikacije dugog kraka kromosoma 16 su veoma rijetka pojava. Spoznaje o kliničkim posljedicama su zbog malog broja opisanih bolesnika oskudne i predmet su znanstvenog interesa. Prikazujemo rezultate kliničkih i citogenetskih ispitivanja u 10-godišnje djevojčice. Kliničkim pregledom otkrivena je dizmorfija i to epikantus, displastične, nisko položene uške, puni obrazi, tanke usnice i mikrognatija. Tjelesni razvoj bio je uredan, a intelektualni graničan. Prisutne su bile i poteškoće u učenju, uglavnom kao posljedica problema ponašanja, agresivnosti i neposlušnosti. Citogenetsko ispitivanje probanda i obaju roditelja izvedeno je na pripravicima dobivenim kratkotrajnom kulturom stanica periferne krvi. Oba su roditelja imala uredan kario-

S3UP-2 (oral presentation)

PARTIAL DUPLICATION 16q: CLINICAL AND CYTOGENETIC STUDY

I. Petković, I. Barišić, I. Sansović

Zagreb Children's Hospital, Zagreb

Duplication 16q is a rare condition in live-born infants and its clinical presentation has not yet been well defined. We present results of clinical and cytogenetic studies in a 10-year-old girl. Clinical examination showed dysmorphic traits including hypoplastic supraorbital ridges, epicanthus, dysplastic and low set ears, full cheeks, thin lips and micrognathia. Her somatic development was normal, however, she experienced learning difficulties, mostly due to behavioral problems, aggressiveness and disobedience. Cytogenetic analysis was performed on peripheral blood culture of the patient and her parents. Both parents presented with normal karyotype, while cytogenetic analysis in the proband identified an extra GTG-positive band in the long arm of chro-

tip, dok je kod djevojčice identificirana veća dužina dugog kraka kromosoma 16. Metodom FISH ustanovljeno je da je aberantan kromosom u cijelosti građen od materijala kromosoma 16. Preciznom analizom rasporeda GTG-pruga pretpostavljena je duplikacija regije 16q13-q22. Rezultati dosad provedenih ispitivanja ukazuju na to da je duplikacija distalnog dijela dugoga kraka kromosoma 16 udružena s tipičnom kliničkom manifestacijom uključujući i kratak životni vijek. Usporedba rezultata kliničkih i citogenetskih ispitivanja naše bolesnice s dostupnim prikazima u literaturi ukazala je na to da je trisomija proksimalnog dijela dugoga kraka udružena s blagom kliničkom slikom, dok su agresivnost i problemi ponašanja dominantna manifestacija trisomije 16q13.

E-mail: ipetkovic@kdb.hr

mosome 16. FISH with chromosome 16 painting probe stained the aberrant chromosome completely. The analysis suggested duplication of the long arm of chromosome 16, most probably involving the 16q13-q22 region. It has been proposed that duplication of the distal long arm segment may cause typical features of trisomy 16q, including short survival. On the other hand, comparison of the findings recorded in our patient to the cases reported elsewhere revealed that trisomy for the proximal segment of the long arm of chromosome 16 may be associated with mild clinical presentation with behavioral problems as a major manifestation of trisomy 16q13.

E-mail: ipetkovic@kdb.hr

S4

Nove tehnologije u laboratorijskoj medicini *New technologies in laboratory medicine*

S4-1

“MICROARRAY” TEHNOLOGIJA KAO NOVO SREDSTVO U SUVREMENOJ LABORATORIJSKOJ DIJAGNOSTICI

Ferrari M.^{1,2}, Foglieni B.¹, Ferrari F.¹, Stenirri S.¹, Cremonesi L.¹

¹ Unit of Genomics for Diagnosis of Human Pathologies, IRCCS Ospedale San Raffaele, i ² Diagnostica e Ricerca San Raffaele S.p.A., Milano, Italija

Posljednjih godina laboratorijska se medicina ubrzano mijenja s uvođenjem visoko razvijenih tehnologija za testiranje DNK. Sadašnje metodologije zasnovane na proteinima zamjenjuju se analitičkim metodama zasnovanim na DNK/RNK za praćenje humanih patoloških stanja. Jedan od najvažnijih izazova je uvođenje sustava visokog kapaciteta kao što su 'DNK čipovi' u dijagnostičke laboratorije. Pomoću minijaturne test platforme tehnologije utemeljene na mikročipu omogućavaju brzu analizu genetskih podataka u velikim populacijskim uzorcima, čime se skraćuje vrijeme i ručna obrada. Najvažnije primjene biočipova uključuju identifikaciju genske ekspresije i genetske varijacije, od kojih obje mogu imati utjecaja na humanu molekularnu di-

S4-1

MICROARRAY TECHNOLOGY AS A NEW TOOL IN MODERN LABORATORY DIAGNOSIS

M. Ferrari^{1,2}, B. Foglieni¹, F. Ferrari¹, S. Stenirri¹, L. Cremonesi¹

¹ Unit of Genomics for Diagnosis of Human Pathologies, IRCCS Ospedale San Raffaele, and ² Diagnostica e Ricerca San Raffaele S.p.A., Milan, Italy

In recent years, laboratory medicine has been changing rapidly with the introduction of highly advanced technologies for DNA testing. Current protein-based methodologies are being replaced by DNA/RNA-based analytical methods for monitoring of human pathologies. One of the most important challenges is the introduction of high throughput systems such as 'DNA chips' into diagnostic laboratories. Through a miniaturized test platform, microchip-based technologies allow for rapid analysis of genetic information in large sample populations thus reducing time and manual work. The most important biochip applications include gene expression and genetic variation identification, and both may have an effect on human molecular diagnosis and functional

jagnostiku i funkcionalnu genomiku, kao i na identificiranje patogena, analizu okoliša i sudsku medicinu. Štoviše, objavljeno je kako najnovije primjene tehnologije mikročipova poboljšavaju protokole zasnovane na proteinima: razvijeni su čipovi protutijela i antigena kao nova sredstva za analizu proteoma. Čipovi DNK, oligonukleotidi visoke gustoće ili molekule cDNK učvršćene za krutu podlogu prvotno su razvijeni za ispitivanje diferencijalne genske ekspresije uz *microarray* cDNK za identificiranje gena biomarkera kod raka i drugih bolesti. Za otkrivanje mutacija u osnovi su se rabila dva pristupa: ugradnja za alel specifičnog nukleotida (ekstenzija primera, ekstenzija jednog nukleotida /SNE/ ili ekstenzija jedne baze /SBE/) i za alel specifična hibridizacija. Od ovih čini se da primjena mikroelektronike bolje odgovara potrebama molekularne dijagnostike. Mi smo se usredotočili na tehnologiju nanogena koja pruža mogućnosti višestruke primjene, kao što je analiza usidrene *in situ* amplifikacije, pripreme DNK/RNK iz bakterija za probir patogena, imuno testiranja, analize jednostavnih ponovljenih sekvenca te otkrivanje SNP/mutacije. Na osnovi ove tehnologije razradili smo testove za identificiranje nekih čestih talijanskih mutacija gena za beta-globin što uzrokuje beta-talasemiju, u genu ABC transportera specifičnog za mrežnicu (ABCA4) uključenom u Stargardt-ovoj bolesti, te u elementu L-ferritina koji reagira na željezo (IRE), što dovodi do nasljedne hiperferritinemije - sindroma katarakta.

genomics as well as on pathogen identification, environmental analysis and forensic medicine. Moreover, recent applications of the microchip technology have been reported to improve protein-based protocols: antibody and antigen chips are being developed as new tools for proteome analysis. DNA chips, high-density oligonucleotides or cDNA molecules attached to a solid support were initially developed to study differential gene expression with cDNA microarray for the identification of biomarker genes in cancer and other diseases. For mutation detection two approaches have been used basically: allele specific nucleotide incorporation (primer extension, single nucleotide extension /SNE/ or single base extension /SBE/) and allele specific hybridization. Among these, the use of microelectronics seems to better fit the needs of molecular diagnosis. We have focused on the Nanogen technology, which has the potential for several applications such as analysis of anchored in situ amplification, preparation of DNA/RNA from bacteria for pathogen screening, immunoassays, analysis of simple sequence repeats and SNP/mutation detection. Based on this technology, we have developed assays for the identification of some common Italian mutations in the beta-globin gene causing beta-thalassemia, in the retina-specific ABC transporter (ABCA4) gene involved in Stargardt disease, and in the iron responsive element (IRE) of L-ferritin leading to hereditary hyperferritinemia - cataract syndrome.

S4-2

PROTEOMIKA: ISPITIVANJE TERAPIJSKE REZISTENCIJE U STANICAMA RAKA

Sinha P.

Institut für Medizinische und Chemische Labordiagnostik, Klagenfurt, Austrija

Kemorezistencija ostaje neriješenim problemom u kliničkoj onkologiji. Stoga je važno identificirati molekularne čimbenike koji će dovesti do razumijevanja mehanizama rezistencije na lijekove u stanicama raka. Na razini ekspresije proteina to se može učiniti pomoću proteomike koja je u proteklom desetljeću dospjela u središte zanimanja i istraživanja. Analizu proteoma najčešće se provodi kombinacijom dvodimenzijске elektroforeze na poliakrilamid gelu (2D-PAGE) i masene spektrometrije (MS), što omogućava visoko kapacitetno identificiranje i kvantificiranje proteina što ih izražavaju stanice, tkiva ili orga-

S4-2

PROTEOMICS: A STUDY OF THERAPY RESISTANCE IN CANCER CELLS

P. Sinha

Institut für Medizinische und Chemische Labordiagnostik, Klagenfurt, Austria

Chemoresistance remains an unresolved problem in clinical oncology. Therefore it is important to identify molecular factors that lead to understanding of the mechanisms of drug resistance in cancer cells. At the level of protein expression, this can be done using proteomics that has become the focus of significant interest and research over the past decade. Proteome analysis is most commonly accomplished by a combination of two-dimensional polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (2D-PAGE) and mass spectrometry (MS), and allows for identification and quantification of the proteins expressed by cells, tissues or an organism in

nizam. Model sustava za ispitivanje pojava rezistencije je primjena kemorezistentnih staničnih linija raka. Mi smo uspostavili stanične linije raka (želuca i gušterače, melanoma, neuroblastoma) koje pokazuju kemorezistentna svojstva prema različitim lijekovima protiv raka kako bismo ispitali terapijsku rezistenciju. U tom kontekstu smo razvili poseban sustav za duge imobilizirane pH gradijente (48 cm) kako bismo poboljšali rezoluciju. U sustavu je kombiniran reproducibilni gel kalup uz pomoć kompjutorski vođene mjerne posude s primjenom vrlo visokih napona tijekom izoelektričnog fokusiranja. Ovi čimbenici omogućavaju znatno povećanu snagu razdvajanja uza sve pogodnosti tehnologije IPG. Uz to je razvijen postupak bojenja srebrom sukladan masenoj spektrometriji MALDI-ToF. Uz primjenu ovoga protokola količina proteina može se smanjiti na 10 µg po gelu. Iako je bojenje srebrom oko 100 puta osjetljivije od bilo koje uobičajene Coomassie boje, postoje i neki nedostaci u svezi s identificiranjem proteina. Postupak zahtijeva najstrožu čistoću zbog problema onečišćenja keratinom, a čepovi gela moraju se izrezati odmah nakon bojenja. Za ispitivanje poslijetranslacijskih modifikacija optimirali smo protokol za imunoblot nakon izoelektričnog fokusiranja. Blotiranje proteina nakon frakcioniranja u imobiliziranim pH gradijentima uvijek je izazivalo stanovite probleme. Opisujemo postupak s trakama IPG odljevenim na Net-Fix kao unutarnju podlogu koja je propusna za električnu struju. Postupak fokusiranja može se provesti u uobičajenim sustavima IPG, npr. IPGphor (Amersham Biosciences), koji omogućavaju električno potpomognutu rehidraciju. Za potrebe međunarodne znanstvene razmjene razrađujemo našu stranicu na Internetu, www.chemoresistance.net, kako bismo uspostavili nove baze podataka za tumore koje će se sastojati od 2-D gela s identificiranim proteinskim točkama.

a high throughput manner. A model system to study resistance phenomena is the use of chemoresistant cancer cell lines. We have established cancer cell lines (gastric and pancreatic carcinoma, melanoma, neuroblastoma) exhibiting chemoresistant properties against various anticancer drugs to study therapy resistance. In this context, we have developed a special system for long immobilized pH gradients (48 cm) to improve spot resolution. The system combines reproducible gel casting using computer-driven burettes with the use of very high voltages during isoelectric focusing. These factors enable greatly increased separation power with all advantages of IPG technology. Additionally, a silver staining procedure compatible with MALDI-ToF mass spectrometry has been developed. Using this protocol, protein amount can be reduced to 100 µg per gel. While silver staining is about 100 times more sensitive than any common Coomassie-stain, there are also a few disadvantages in connection with protein identification. The procedure requires stringent cleanliness because of keratin contamination problems and gel plugs have to be excised directly after staining. To study post-translational modifications, we optimized a protocol for immunoblotting after isoelectric focusing. Blotting of proteins after fractionation in immobilized pH gradients has always caused some problems. We describe a procedure using IPG strips cast on Net-Fix as an internal support that is permeable to electric current. The focusing procedure can be carried out in commonly used IPG systems, e.g., IPGphor by Amersham Biosciences, where electrically assisted rehydration can be performed. For international scientific exchange, we are expanding our Internet page www.chemoresistance.net to establish new tumor databases consisting of 2-D gels with identified protein spots.

S4-3
**TEHNIKA MIKRODIJALIZE U PRAĆENJU
TKIVNIH PROMJENA KOD BOLESTI U
LJUDI**

Palicka V., Zivny P., Hrubá P., Fertek D., Zivna H.
Charles University, Hradec Kralove, Republika Češka

Mikrodijaliza je tehnika prikladna za praćenje krvnog protoka i koncentracija analita u intersticijskom prostoru raznih tjelesnih tkiva. Primjenom malih tankih kapilarnih cjevčica uve-

S4-3
**MICRODIALYSIS TECHNIQUE IN THE
MONITORING OF TISSUE CHANGES IN
HUMAN DISEASE**

V. Palicka, P. Zivny, P. Hrubá, D. Fertek, H. Zivna
Charles University, Medical Faculty Hradec Kralove,
Czech Republic

Microdialysis is a technique appropriate for monitoring blood flow and analyte concentrations in interstitial space of different body tissues.

denih u tkivo može se mjeriti krvni protok i određeni analiti. Sondu za mikrodijalizu čini kapilarna cjevčica s polupropusnom membranom. Tvari iz intersticijske tekućine prolaze kroz pore u membrani, a odabir se provodi različitim veličinama membranskih pora (obično do molekularne težine od 20 kDa). Male molekule mogu izlaziti i ulaziti, pa se mjere čiste promjene. Na dinamiku protoka analita iz tkiva u otopinu unutar sonde za mikrodijalizu utječu brojni čimbenici (tj. promjene u tkivnoj koncentraciji analita, hidrostatski tlak, tkivna perfuzija, osmolalnost unutar i izvan sonde, protok otopine za mikrodijalizu i dr.). Uza standardizaciju ovih uvjeta mikrodijaliza bi se mogla primjenjivati za: mjerenje promjena tkivnog protoka krvi uz dodatak pravog biljega protoka u perfuzijsku otopinu; mjerenje koncentracija specifičnih analita u tkivnom intersticiju - najčešće mliječne kiseline, glukoze, glicerola i ureje; mjerenje tkivne koncentracije lijekova; usporedbu rezultata mjerenja koncentracije u tkivu i sistemskim tekućinama; predviđanje promjena sistemske cirkulacije; usporedbu tkivnih promjena s razvojem bolesti i prognozom za bolesnika. Zasad je mikrodijaliza metoda koja obećava, koja je minimalno invazivna i može se bez problema rabiti čak i za praćenje promjena u čvrstim organima (jetra, bubrezi te tkivo središnjeg živčanog sustava). Objavljena su neka iskustva u području promjena krvotoka u jetri štakora nakon djelomične hepatektomije ili nefrektomije. Mikrodijaliza može osigurati dodatne podatke o tkivnom metabolizmu u bolesnika koji se podvrgavaju operaciji na otvorenom srcu te o razvoju šoka. Mikrodijaliza je tehnika koja obećava i otvara nova područja u biokemiji tkiva.

E-mail: palicka@lfhk.cuni.cz

By using small, thin capillary tubes inserted into the tissue, one can measure blood flow and particular analytes. Microdialysis probe is a capillary tube with semipermeable membrane. Substances from the interstitial fluid diffuse across pores in the membrane. Selection is made by different size of the membrane pores (usually up to a molecular weight of 20 kDa). Small molecules can pass in and out, and net changes are measured. The dynamics of the analyte tissue-to-solution flow within the microdialysis probe is influenced by numerous factors (i.e. changes in the analyte tissue concentration, hydrostatic pressure, tissue perfusion, osmolality both within and beyond the probe, flow rate of microdialysis solution, etc.). By standardization of these conditions, microdialysis could be used to: measure changes in tissue blood flow using proper flow marker added to the perfusion fluid; measure concentrations of specific analytes in tissue interstitium, with lactic acid, glucose, glycerol and urea being the most common analytes; measure drug concentrations in the tissue; compare results of tissue and systemic fluid concentrations; predict changes in systemic circulation; and compare tissue changes with the disease development and prognosis of the patient. Up to now, microdialysis is a promising method, which is minimally invasive and can be used without problems even for monitoring changes in solid organs (liver, kidney, and central nervous tissue). Some experiences have been published in the field of blood flow changes in rat liver after partial hepatectomy or nephrectomy. Microdialysis can add information on tissue metabolism in patients undergoing open-heart surgery and shock development. Microdialysis is a promising technique which opens new fields in tissue biochemistry.

E-mail: palicka@lfhk.cuni.cz

S4-4

GLIKANSKE STRUKTURE - IZVOR NOVIH INFORMACIJA U DIJAGNOSTICI

Dumić J., Flögel M.

Zavod za kemiju i molekularnu biologiju, Farmaceutsko-biokemijski fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb

Glikozilacija je najzastupljenija posttranslacijska modifikacija, a glikokonjugati igraju nezamjenjivu ulogu u brojnim biološkim procesima, uključujući oplodnju, imune reakcije, replikaciju virusa, infekciju mikroorganizmima, stanični rast, adheziju i upalu. Ipak, glikanske su se

S4-4

GLYCAN STRUCTURES - A SOURCE OF NEW DIAGNOSTIC INFORMATION

J. Dumić, M. Flögel

Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, University of Zagreb, Zagreb

Glycosylation is the most abundant post-translational modification. The importance of glycoconjugates for many biological processes including fertilization, immune defense, viral replications, microbial infection, cell growth, adhesion and inflammation is well documented, yet glycan

strukture još donedavno rijetko rabile kao izvor informacija u dijagnostici, primarno zbog goleme individualne varijabilnosti glikana (mikroheterogenosti) te zbog nedostatka pristupačnih, lako izvedivih analitičkih metoda. Unatoč poteškoćama, analiza se glikana pokazala ključnom za dijagnostiku nasljednih bolesti uzrokovanih poremećajem metabolizma ugljikohidrata, primjerice Tay-Sachsove bolesti, Gaucherove bolesti, kongenitalne mišićne distrofije tipa Fukuyama te kongenitalnih poremećaja glikozilacije. No, u posljednje vrijeme brojni dokazi o povezanosti specifičnih glikozilacijskih promjena i stečenih bolesti, kao što su dijabetes, alergije, tumori, autoimune, kardiovaskularne i neurološke bolesti, potaknuli su silan razvoj analitičkih alata i postupaka za analizu glikanskih struktura (MALDI-MS, HPAEC, FACE). Različitost individualnih 'glikanskih profila' silno se odražava u fiziološkoj raznolikosti, pa će za individualizaciju terapije biti nužno identificirati glikanske biomarkere koji su jedinstveni za određenu populaciju bolesnika. 'Glikanski profili' biti će pokazatelji individualnih odgovora na različite lijekove u smislu njihove učinkovitosti ili toksičnosti (farmakoglikomika). Tehnologija koja najviše obećava je Glyco Chip® array-mikrozrake kompleksnih ugljikohidrata, kojom je moguće pouzdano analizirati interakcije proteina i glikanskih struktura. Mnoge su bolesti, uz promjene glikana, povezane i s promjenama lektina, fizioloških receptora glikokonjugata. U našem su laboratoriju osmišljene i sintetizirane nove analitičke alatke Glycoprobes®, pomoću kojih je prvi puta moguće odrediti lektinsku aktivnost u kompleksnim biološkim uzorcima. Određivanje lektinske aktivnosti pruža značajno preciznije i vrijednije podatke od mjerenja same količine lektina. Poznavanje specifičnih promjena glikozilacije i lektinskih aktivnosti u skorijoj će budućnosti postati nezaobilazan korak za dijagnozu, prognozu i liječenje mnogih bolesti.

E-mail: jdumic@pharma.hr

structures were until recently seldom used to provide diagnostic information, mainly because of two reasons: enormous individual glycan variability (microheterogeneity) and lack of user friendly analytical methods. In spite of difficulties, the analysis of glycans has proved to be essential in diagnosing hereditary disorders based on defective carbohydrate metabolism, e.g., Tay-Sachs disease, Gaucher disease, muscle-eye-brain disease, Fukuyama-type congenital muscular dystrophy (FCMD) and congenital disorders of glycosylation (CDG). However, tremendous enhancement of analytical tools and procedures for glycan analysis (MALDI-MS, HPAEC, FACE) has been initiated by the growing evidence that many acquired diseases (e.g., cancer, diabetes, allergies, autoimmune, cardiovascular, neurologic and gastric disorders) could also be correlated to specific glycosylation changes, and that such changes could either cause the pathology or be a consequence of the disease. The variability of individual glycan profiles is reflected in physiological diversity. Thus, individualized therapy will require identified glycan biomarkers, unique to specific patient populations. 'Glycomic profiles' will be indicative of individual responses to different drugs in terms of efficacy and toxicity (pharmacoglycomics). The most promising relevant tool is GlycoChip® technology - a microarray of complex carbohydrates, allowing for accurate and efficient analysis of protein-glycan interactions. Not only glycans but also their specific physiological receptors - lectins are affected in many diseases. Glycoprobes® have been designed and synthesized in our lab as a valuable new tool to monitor lectin activity in complex biological samples. Lectin activities provide substantially more accurate and informative data than the measurements of lectin content. Knowing the specific changes of glycosylation and lectin activities will become indispensable for the diagnosis, prognosis and treatment of many diseases in the near future.

E-mail: jdumic@pharma.hr

S4-5

SMJERNICE STARD ZA PRIKAZ REZULTATA ANALIZE DIJAGNOSTIČKE TOČNOSTI

Šimundić A.M.

Klinički zavod za kemiju, Klinička bolnica "Sestre milosrdnice", Zagreb

Tijekom proteklih desetak godina znakovito je porastao broj radova objavljenih u citiranim publikacijama koji sadrže sve složeniju statističku

S4-5

THE STARD INITIATIVE FOR REPORTING STUDIES OF DIAGNOSTIC ACCURACY

A.M. Šimundić

Clinical Institute of Chemistry, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Zagreb

A significant increase in the number of papers with statistical methods of high complexity has been observed in widely cited journals over the

analizu. Usporedno s porastom broja objavljenih radova pojavila se i potreba standardiziranja uvjeta izvođenja istraživanja i objavljivanja rezultata. Osnovni cilj takve standardizacije obuhvaća razumljivost, usporedivost i ponovljivost svakog znanstvenog rada. Do danas su objavljene brojne smjernice i preporuke za mnoge grane biomedicinskog istraživanja: za izvještavanje randomiziranog kliničkog pokusa (CONSORT Statement), za provođenje epidemiološke analize, za statističku analizu u medicinskim publikacijama, za provođenje i objavljivanje rezultata multicentričnih studija, za objavljivanje rezultata ispitivanja iz područja psihologije, onkologije, molekularne biologije i dr. Osobito zanimljiva za medicinske biokemičare je nedavna pojava smjernica za potpuno i točno izvještavanje rezultata analiza dijagnostičke točnosti (The Standards for Reporting of Diagnostic Accuracy, inicijativa STARD). Dijagnostička točnost je pojam koji opisuje potencijal nekog dijagnostičkog postupka (najčešće laboratorijskog testa) da razluči između dvaju stanja. Najčešće se radi o izboru između zdravlja i bolesti, no u obzir dolazi i svaki drugi izbor između dvaju stanja. Metodologija analize dijagnostičke točnosti laboratorijskog testa obuhvaća ispitivanje njegove kliničke osjetljivosti i specifičnosti, prediktivnih vrijednosti, učinkovitosti te ROC analizu, a dobivene rezultate trebalo bi izvještavati poštujući smjernice inicijative STARD. Inicijativu STARD su prihvatili urednici mnogih časopisa i tendencija je da one postanu standard, te da njihovo poštivanje bude obveza autora. Ovo će predavanje dati pregled smjernica STARD i njihovo tumačenje.
E-mail: ana-maria.simundic@post.hinet.hr

past decade. This phenomenon has generated a push towards standardizing the design, performance and reporting of research studies. The main goals of such standardization are comprehensiveness, comparability and reproducibility of the study. Many guidelines and recommendations for a variety of scientific fields in biomedicine have been published to date: CONSORT statement for publishing results of controlled clinical trials, guidelines for epidemiologic studies, for statistical reporting in articles intended for medical journals, for multicenter trials as well as for trials in psychology, oncology, molecular biology, etc. Of special interest to the readers in the field of clinical chemistry is a recent publication of standards for complete and accurate reporting of studies of diagnostic accuracy (The Standards for Reporting of Diagnostic Accuracy, STARD Initiative). Diagnostic accuracy refers to the potential of a diagnostic procedure (most commonly laboratory test) to discriminate between two conditions. Most commonly it is the choice between health and disease, however, any other dichotomous choice is possible. Diagnostic accuracy of a laboratory procedure can be analyzed and expressed in a number of ways, including clinical sensitivity, specificity, predictive values, efficacy and ROC analysis. Results should be reported following the guidelines of STARD Initiative. The Initiative has already been adopted by many editorial boards. The tendency is to make them a standard mandatory for authors. This lecture aims to explain and highlight the most important parts of the STARD Initiative.

E-mail: ana-maria.simundic@post.hinet.hr

S4UP-1 (usmeno priopćenje)

DOKAZIVANJE HERPES SIMPLEX VIRUSA TEHNIKOM PCR U STVARNOM VREMENU

Kozić S., Vince A., Iščić-Beš J., Baća-Vrakela I., Kutela N.

Klinika za infektivne bolesti "Dr. Fran Mihaljević", Zagreb

Herpes simpleks virus (HSV) tipa 1 i 2 uzrokuje niz kliničkih simptoma središnjeg živčanog sustava (SŽS). HSV infekcija u imunokompromitiranih osoba i novorođenčadi može dovesti do ozbiljnih komplikacija sa smrtnim ishodom, ako se terapija ne primijeni na vrijeme. Referentna metoda za dokazivanje HSV infekcije SŽS-a je

S4UP-1 (oral presentation)

DETECTION OF HERPES SIMPLEX VIRUS BY REAL-TIME PCR

S. Kozić, A. Vince, J. Iščić-Beš, I. Baća-Vrakela, N. Kutela

Dr. Fran Mihaljević University Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Zagreb

Herpes simplex virus (HSV) types 1 and 2 cause a variety of clinical symptoms in the central nervous system (CNS). HSV infection often occurs in immunocompromised patients and neonates leading to serious complications and death unless treated on time. Molecular detection of HSV DNA has become a reference standard assay for CNS infections caused by HSV. The aim of

molekularno otkrivanje HSV DNK. Cilj rada bio je uvođenje osjetljivog, specifičnog i brzog laboratorijskog testa za otkrivanje HSV DNK, te razlikovanje HSV 1 i HSV 2 tipa virusa. Analizirano je 50 likvora uzetih od bolesnika s encefalitisom ili meningoencefalitisom. DNK je izolirana iz likvora brzom ekstrakcijskom tehnikom. Otkrivanje HSV DNK izvedeno je pomoću uređaja Light Cycler (LC) koji omogućava otkrivanje PCR produkata u stvarnom vremenu. Otkrivanje se osniva na načelu prijenosa energije fluorescentne rezonance (FRET, *fluorescence resonance energy transfer*). Dodatna analiza krivulje topljivosti (*melting curve*) omogućava razlikovanje HSV 1 i HSV 2 tipa virusa. Kontrola kvalitete rada osigurana je uporabom unutarnjih kontrola, te negativnih i pozitivnih kontrola tijekom svake analize. Od ukupno 50 uzoraka likvora dokazali smo HSV 1 tip virusa u 4 uzorka. Dva pozitivna uzorka pripadala su novorođenčadi, dok su dva bila uzeta od odraslih osoba. Niti jedan uzorak nije bio pozitivan na HSV 2 tip virusa. PCR u stvarnom vremenu je osjetljiva, specifična i brza metoda za otkrivanje HSV DNK u likvoru. S obzirom na to da se ovakva analiza može izvesti za manje od dva sata nakon punktiranja, u slučaju pozitivnog nalaza može se dovoljno rano primijeniti terapija.

E-mail: sanja.kozic@zg.htnet.hr

the study was to introduce a sensitive, specific and rapid laboratory test for HSV DNA detection and differentiation of HSV 1 and HSV 2. A total of 50 cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) samples obtained from patients with encephalitis or meningoencephalitis were analyzed. DNA was extracted from CSF by the rapid extraction protocol. HSV DNA detection was performed by a newly developed LightCycler (LC) instrument that enables real-time detection of PCR products (continuous monitoring of amplicon development). Detection was based on the fluorescence resonance energy transfer (FRET) principle. Melting curve analysis enabled the HSV 1 and HSV 2 strains to distinguish. Quality control was assured by using internal controls (IC), and negative and positive controls. Using LC PCR we detected 4 HSV 1 positive samples out of 50, two from newborns and adults each. None of the samples was HSV 2 positive. Real-time PCR is a sensitive, specific and rapid method for HSV DNA detection in CSF samples. Analysis can be done in less than two hours, which is essential for early therapy initiation.

E-mail: sanja.kozic@zg.htnet.hr

S5

Laboratorijska medicina temeljena na dokazima *Evidence based laboratory medicine*

S5-1

BOLESTI DVADESETOGA STOLJEĆA: PROBLEMI DVADESETPRVOGA STOLJEĆA?

Orešković S.

Škola narodnog zdravlja "Andrija Štampar", Zagreb

Ne možemo ne čuditi se nad skokovitim napretkom medicinskih tehnologija od 1900. godine do današnjega dana. Naši se djedovi još sjećaju kućnih posjeta negdašnjih liječnika. Glavni instrumenti koje su liječnici toga doba imali na raspolaganju bili su znanje i dosjetljivost te nekoliko osnovnih instrumenata ili bočica koje bi liječnik uvijek nosio sa sobom. Danas ljudi žive u prosjeku 30 godina duže od svojih predaka s početka

S5-1

TWENTIETH CENTURY DISEASES: TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY PROBLEMS?

S. Orešković

"Andrija Štampar" School of Public Health, Zagreb

One cannot help but wonder at the leap of progress made in medical technologies from 1900 up to the present day. Our grandparents still remember home visits made by old time doctors. The main instruments that a doctor disposed of at that time were knowledge and quick-wittedness as well as several basic instruments or vials which a doctor would always carry with him. Nowadays people live on an average 30 years longer than their ancestors at the beginning

20. stoljeća. Na cijeli taj proces utjecali su mnogobrojni čimbenici, poglavito razvoj industrije inženjeringa, čime su otvorene mogućnosti za neprocjenjive i krajnje složene inovacije u medicini. Međutim, tradicionalni pristupi su ozbiljno podcijenivali teret mentalnih bolesti kao što su depresija, ovisnost o alkoholu i shizofrenija, vodeći računa samo o smrtnosti, ali ne i invalidnosti. Projekcije za budućnost pokazuju kako bi se 2020. godine udio psihijatrijskih i neuroloških stanja u sveukupnom opterećenju mogao povećati za gotovo polovicu, s 10,5% ukupnoga opterećenja na skoro 15%. To je veći proporcionalni porast negoli onaj za kardiovaskularne bolesti. Očekuje se da će do 2020. godine opterećenje bolestima uzrokovanim prenosivim, materinskim i perinatalnim stanjima te prehrambenim nedostacima pasti na petinu sveukupnog opterećenja. Isto se tako očekuje da će do 2020. godine opterećenje bolestima koje se mogu pripisati duhanu nadmašiti ono izazvano bilo kojom pojedinom bolešću. Očekuje se da će udio duhana porasti s razine od 2,6% sveukupnog svjetskog opterećenja bolestima 1990. godine na tek nešto ispod 9% ukupnog opterećenja u 2020. godini, u usporedbi s malo ispod 6% za ishemijsku bolest srca, za koju se pretpostavlja da će biti vodeća bolest u svijetu. Duhan i psihijatrijske bolesti nisu samo svjetski, nego isto tako nacionalni i regionalni hitan zdravstveni problem s kojim će se tek morati suočiti mnoge vlade, pa tako i vlada Republike Hrvatske.

of the 20th century. Numerous factors influenced the whole process, especially the development of the engineering industry, which opened up opportunities for invaluable and extremely complex innovations in medicine. However, the burdens of mental illnesses, such as depression, alcohol dependence and schizophrenia, have been seriously underestimated by traditional approaches that take account only of deaths and not disability. The projections show that psychiatric and neurologic conditions could increase their share in the total global burden by almost half, from 10.5 per cent of the total burden to almost 15 per cent in 2020. This is a bigger proportionate increase than that for cardiovascular diseases. By 2020, the disease burden due to communicable, maternal and perinatal conditions and nutritional deficiencies is expected to fall to a fifth of the total. Also, by 2020, the burden of disease attributable to tobacco is expected to outweigh that caused by any single disease. From its 1990 level of 2.6 per cent of all disease burden worldwide, tobacco is expected to increase its share to just under 9 per cent of the total burden in 2020, compared with just under 6 per cent for ischemic heart disease, the leading projected disease. Tobacco and psychiatric disorders are not only global, but also national and regional health emergency that many governments, including the Government of Croatia, have yet to confront.

Disease burden measured in Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALYS)

Estimate 1990			Projection 2020		
Rank	Cause	% total	Rank	Cause	% total
1	Lower respiratory infections	8.2	1	Ischaemic heart disease	5.9
2	Diarrhoeal diseases	7.2	2	<u>Unipolar major depression</u>	5.7
3	Perinatal conditions	6.7	3	Road traffic accidents	5.1
4	<u>Unipolar major depression</u>	3.7	4	Cerebrovascular disease	4.4
5	Ischaemic heart disease	3.4	5	Chronic obs pulmonary disease	4.2
6	Cerebrovascular disease	2.8	6	Lower respiratory infections	3.1
7	Tuberculosis	2.8	7	Tuberculosis	3.0
8	Measles	2.7	8	War	3.0
9	Road traffic accidents	2.5	9	Diarrhoeal diseases	2.7
10	Congenital abnormalities	2.4	10	HIV	2.6

In females and developing countries unipolar major depression is projected as becoming the leading cause of disease burden

Table. Murray C, Lopez A. Global burden of disease. Harvard University Press, 1999.

S5-2

**LABORATORIJSKA MEDICINA
TEMELJENA NA DOKAZIMA - UVODNA
RIJEČ**

Rogić D.

Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku Kliničkog
bolničkog centra "Zagreb" i Medicinskog fakulteta
Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb

Jednostavna proizvodnja monoklonskih protutijela, automatizacija svih klasičnih grana laboratorijske medicine, proteomika, nanotehnologije... to su samo neke od pokretačkih sila koje stoje iza brzog porasta broja i vrsta laboratorijskih pretraga kojima smo svjedoci u današnje vrijeme. Laboratorijske pretrage naručuju se sa svrhom donošenja ili isključenja dijagnoze, procjene prognoze, ali i zbog toga "što se kod tih bolesnika te pretrage uvijek rade". Dijagnostičke studije koje se bave učinkovitošću i stvarnom korisnošću određene laboratorijske pretrage najčešće su nedovoljno dobro dizajnirane i zbog toga mogu stvoriti krivi dojam o stvarnom doprinosu određene pretrage u kliničkom zbrinjavanju bolesnika. Posljedično, sustavni pregledi dijagnostičkih studija također uglavnom sažimaju pogrešne rezultate, pa su i zaključci takvih studija nerijetko krivo usmjereni. Strogi proces procjenjivanja dijagnostičkih pretraga prije uvođenja u kliničku praksu ne samo da bi spriječio pogrešne zaključke glede dijagnostike i liječenja, nego bi smanjio i cijenu zdravstvene skrbi brisanjem nepotrebnih pretraga. Optimalan dizajn studije podrazumijeva usporedbu ishoda u randomiziranoj skupini bolesnika u kojih je napravljena pretraga koja se ispituje naspram onih u kojih je učinjena standardna pretraga ili nije učinjena nikakva pretraga. Gotovo jedini primjer takvog pristupa dijagnostičkim pretragama jesu studije koje uspoređuju ishod (duljina boravka u bolnici, smrtnost) u bolesnika kojima je u okviru obrade kod prijma zbog boli u prsima učinjen troponin I. naspram skupine bolesnika kojima su učinjene standardne enzimske pretrage. U tom smislu se sustavnim pristupom i radom na dizajnu dijagnostičkih studija otvaraju vrata prema dobivanju pravih informacija o dometima i ograničenjima pojedine dijagnostičke pretrage u kontekstu sumnje na određenu bolest. Na taj se način ne poboljšava samo kvaliteta skrbi za bolesnika, nego se isto tako zaustavlja značajan a nepotreban odljev financijskih sredstava unutar zdravstvenog sustava.

E-mail: dunjarogic@hotmail.com

S5-2

**EVIDENCE-BASED LABORATORY
MEDICINE - INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**

D. Rogić

Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb
University Hospital Center, Zagreb

The ease of monoclonal antibody production, automation in all classic fields of laboratory medicine, proteomics, nanotechnologies ... these are just some of the driving forces behind the rapid expansion in the number and variety of laboratory tests being performed nowadays. Laboratory tests are generally ordered to confirm or exclude a diagnosis, to estimate prognosis, but also because "we always order these tests in such patients". Diagnostic studies dealing with the efficacy and real utility of a certain laboratory test frequently are quite inappropriately designed, thus generating a wrong impression on the clinical utility of the test in question. Consequently, systematic reviews of diagnostic studies just summarize wrong results leading to wrong conclusions. A process of strict evaluation before a laboratory test enters the clinical arena should eliminate such events and at the same time save substantial health resources. An optimal study design consists of outcome comparison between two randomized groups of patients, i.e. one undergoing the diagnostic test evaluated, and the other undergoing standard protocol (another test or no testing at all). Some of the rare examples of such studies are those on troponin I testing performed in chest pain patients and evaluated according to the length of stay and mortality. Correct diagnostic study design is the only scenario to obtain relevant information on the discriminating power of a laboratory test within a specific disease context. Such approach not only increases the quality of patient care, but also improves the cost-efficiency of health services.

E-mail: dunjarogic@hotmail.com

S5-3

**OSNIVANJE PODRUŽNICE COCHRANE
COLLABORATION U HRVATSKOJ**

Mastilica M.

Katedra za medicinsku sociologiju i ekonomiku zdravstva,
Škola narodnog zdravlja "Andrija Štampar" Medicinskog
fakulteta Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb

Suvremena medicina kao znanost i umijeće liječenja uspješnost svoje prakse nužno temelji na praćenju i primjeni rezultata znanstvenih medicinskih istraživanja. Razvoj medicinske prakse utemeljene na znanstvenim dokazima (*evidence based medicine*) danas je općenito prihvaćen kao značajan pokazatelj kvalitete zdravstvene zaštite. Problem je što se medicinsko znanje tako brzo mijenja i povećava da sama mogućnost praćenja novih znanstvenih spoznaja postaje od presudne važnosti za učinkovitost rada liječnika praktičara, ali i medicinskih znanstvenika i zdravstvenih planera. Liječnici se danas suočavaju sa sve većim obiljem informacija koje proizlaze iz oko 30.000 biomedicinskih znanstvenih časopisa i 17.000 novih biomedicinskih knjiga izdanih na godinu. Archie Cochrane (1900.-1988.), engleski epidemiolog, već je 1970-ih godina upozorio na potrebu 'kritičkih sažetaka' svih relevantnih rezultata kliničkih istraživanja, podijeljenih prema specijalnostima i dostupnih svima kako bi se omogućilo uspješnije i znanstveno utemeljeno donošenje medicinskih odluka, na što je 1993. godine osnovana Cochrane Collaboration, međunarodna znanstvena organizacija dobrovoljno okupljenih medicinskih stručnjaka (oko 5500 iz cijeloga svijeta), koja ima za svrhu promicanje zdravstvenog odlučivanja putem pripremanja, prikupljanja i osiguravanja dostupnosti sustavnih znanstvenih pregleda o učincima zdravstvenih intervencija. Nastojanje Cochrane Collaboration je učiniti svakom dostupnim najnovije i pouzdane znanstvene dokaze/informacije o medicinskim učincima u prevenciji, liječenju ili rehabilitaciji određenog zdravstvenog problema ili skupine problema. Sustavni znanstveni pregledi Cochrane kao temeljni proizvodi Cochrane Collaboration predstavljaju sinteze rezultata znanstvenih istraživanja (randomiziranih kontroliranih kliničkih pokusa i drugih istraživanja) najčešće rađene metodom meta-analize, a objavljuju se u elektronskom obliku (u obliku CD-ROM-a ili na Internetu) u Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, što zajedno s bazom podataka randomiziranih kliničkih pokusa čini glavni dio Cochrane Library (1147 sustavnih znanstvenih pregleda i 311.024 klinička pokusa u izdanju 2001.). U Hrvatskoj je skupina nastavnika pri Medicinskom fakultetu u Zagrebu, Školi narodnog zdrav-

S5-3

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A COCHRANE
COLLABORATION BRANCH IN CROATIA**

M. Mastilica

Department of Medical Sociology and Health Economics,
Andrija Štampar School of Public Health, Zagreb
University School of Medicine, Zagreb

In modern medicine as a science and treatment skill, the efficiency of practice is inevitably based on the follow-up and implementation of the scientific medical research results. The development of evidence based medicine has currently been generally accepted as a significant indicator of health care quality. The problem is that medical knowledge changes and increases so quickly that the very opportunity of following novel scientific concepts has become crucial for the efficiency of medical practitioners as well as of medical scientists and medical planning officers. At present, the physicians face an ever growing body of information deriving from some 30,000 biomedical scientific periodicals and 17,000 new biomedicine books published a year. As early as the 1970s, Archie Cochrane (1900-1988), an English epidemiologist, pointed to the need of 'critical abstracts' of all relevant results of clinical studies, categorized according to specialties and generally available, thus to allow for more efficient and scientifically based decision making in medicine. This initiative resulted in the establishment of Cochrane Collaboration, an international scientific organization of medical professionals gathered on a voluntary basis (around 5500 from all over the world), with the aim to promote medical decision making through preparation, collection and ensuring availability of systematic scientific surveys on medical intervention effects. The purpose of Cochrane Collaboration is to make the latest and reliable scientific evidence/information on medical effects in the prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of a particular health problem or group of problems widely available. The systematic Cochrane scientific surveys as the main Cochrane Collaboration products provide a synthesis of research results (randomized controlled clinical trials and other studies), mostly performed by the method of meta-analysis and published in the form of electronic data (CD-ROM or on the Internet) in the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews which, along with the database on randomized clinical trials make the main body of Cochrane Library (1147 systematic scientific reviews and 311,024 clinical trials in the 2001 issue). A group of the School of Medicine and Andrija Štampar School of Public Health faculty and expert clinicians in collaboration with the Ministry of Health have launched activi-

lja "Andrija Štampar" i stručnjaka iz kliničke medicine u suradnji s Ministarstvom zdravstva pokrenula inicijativu za razvoj aktivnosti Cochrane Collaboration u našoj sredini. Aktivnosti bi se u prvom redu ogledale u širenju dostupnosti i uporabi elektronske Cochrane baze sustavnih znanstvenih pregleda u odlučivanju u medicinskoj praksi, što bi bio značajan doprinos njenoj učinkovitosti i kvaliteti. Zasad je baza podataka Cochrane dostupna korisnicima Ovida, međutim, svaka bi zdravstvena ustanova (bolnica, dom zdravlja) trebala imati mogućnost pristupa ovoj bazi kliničkih smjernica. Druga razina aktivnosti bila bi okupljanje zainteresiranih stručnjaka iz svih specijalnosti koji bi bili registrirani suradnici Cochrane Collaboration i radili na razvoju sustavnih znanstvenih pregleda kliničkih istraživanja na svom području. Ovim putem također pozivamo sve zainteresirane da nam se jave. Konačan cilj tih nastojanja bio bi osnivanje Hrvatskoga Cochrane Collaboration centra koji bi bio u pravom smislu središnjica za širenje dostupnosti i izradu medicinskih smjernica utemeljenih na znanstvenim pokazateljima. U svijetu se sustavni znanstveni pregledi-smjernice Cochrane sve više prepoznaju kao najbolji izvor znanstveno dokazane medicinske prakse i nadamo se da će i u Hrvatskoj doprinijeti boljoj, kvalitetnoj i učinkovitijoj zdravstvenoj zaštiti. Sve dodatne informacije o Cochrane Collaboration mogu se naći na Internet stranici www.cochrane.de.

E-mail: mmastil@snz.hr

ties aimed at the development of Cochrane Collaboration activities in Croatia. These activities will be primarily focused on extending the availability and utilization of the Cochrane database of systematic scientific reviews in the Croatian medical practice and decision making, which should greatly improve their quality and efficiency. For the time being, the Cochrane database has been available to Ovid users, however, the idea is that every health institution (hospital, medical center) should have access to this database of clinical guidelines. The anticipated activities should also include assembling of interested medical specialists who will be registered Cochrane Collaboration collaborators and work on the development of systematic scientific reviews of clinical studies in the respective field of medicine. This is an opportunity to invite all those interested to contact us. The ultimate goal is the foundation of the Croatian Cochrane Collaboration Center, which will function as a genuine center for the development and dissemination of scientific evidence based medical guidelines. The Cochrane systematic scientific reviews - guidelines have been ever more recognized worldwide as the supreme source of evidence based medical practice, and we do hope that they will contribute to better, upgraded and efficient health care also in Croatia. Any additional information on Cochrane Collaboration is available at the website www.cochrane.de.

E-mail: mmastil@snz.hr

S5-4

LABORATORIJSKA MEDICINA TEMELJENA NA DOKAZIMA I ŠEĆERNA BOLEST

Sandberg S.¹, Horvath A.R.²

¹ Haukeland University Hospital, Bergen, Norveška i

² University of Szeged, Szeged, Mađarska

Uporaba pretraga u laboratorijskoj medicini u stalnom je porastu. Stalno se uvode nove pretrage, dok se 'stare' pretrage rijetko ukidaju. To bi, zajedno s ograničenim javnim sredstvima za zdravstvo, trebalo predstavljati izazov za stručnjake iz laboratorijske medicine da pribave dokaze za iskorištenje različitih pretraga. Kako bismo mi kao struka potkrijepili vrijednost i učinkovitost kliničkih odluka te široko obznanili rezultate prakse utemeljene na dokazima, trebamo osigurati slijedeće: 1) dijagnostički točna primarna istraživanja visoke kvalitete; 2) sustavne visoko kvalitetne preglede kliničke korisnosti dijagnostičkih pretraga; 3) razvoj i provedbu smjernica zasnovanih na dokazima za primjenu dijagnostičkih pretraga; IFCC je odlučio usredotočiti

S5-4

EVIDENCE BASED LABORATORY MEDICINE AND DIABETES MELLITUS

S. Sandberg¹, A.R. Horvath²

¹ Haukeland University Hospital, Bergen, Norway, and

² University of Szeged, Szeged, Hungary

In laboratory medicine, the use of tests is on an increase. New tests are constantly introduced by enthusiasts, whereas 'old' tests are seldom removed from the repertoire. This, together with limited public funds for health care, should underline the challenge for laboratory medicine professionals to provide evidence for the utility of different tests. Therefore, in order to support the validity and effectiveness of clinical decisions, and to disseminate the results of evidence-based practice, we as a profession need to provide: 1) good quality primary research of diagnostic accuracy; 2) good quality systematic reviews on the clinical usefulness of diagnostic tests; and 3) development and implementation of evidence-based guidelines on the use of diagnostic tests; the IFCC has de-

se na temu Laboratorij i šećerna bolest, te je u tom smislu uspostavio radnu grupu. Ova će Radna grupa pribaviti znanstvene dokaze o tome kako dijagnosticirati i pratiti šećernu bolest pomoću laboratorijskih pokazatelja, te će ove dokaze upotrijebiti u stručnoj izobrazbi. Točnije, Radna će grupa provesti slijedeće: a) ispitati najbolju dijagnostičku strategiju za dijagnosticiranje šećerne bolesti; b) pregledati i ispitati sadašnju uporabu laboratorijskih pretraga, te obrazovati liječnike i bolesnike u tumačenju laboratorijskih pretraga koje se primjenjuju u dijagnosticiranju i praćenju šećerne bolesti; c) pružiti kvalitetnu specifikaciju za analite koji se rabe u dijagnosticiranju i praćenju šećerne bolesti; d) dati preporuke za minimalne kriterije pri uporabi glukometara; i e) nastojati se povezati s drugim grupama ili pojedincima (uključujući proizvođače) koji će surađivati u poslu koji treba obaviti. U predavanju će se prikazati laboratorijska medicina zasnovana na dokazima u svezi s aktivnostima Globalne kampanje za šećernu bolest.

E-mail: sverre.sandberg@isf.uib.no

decided to focus on the Laboratory and Diabetes Mellitus and has therefore established a task force to address this topic. The Task Force will provide scientific evidence on how to diagnose and monitor diabetes mellitus by laboratory parameters and will use this evidence to educate the profession. In more detail, the Task Force will: (a) examine the best diagnostic strategy for diagnosing diabetes mellitus; (b) review and study the current use of laboratory tests, and educate doctors and patients in the interpretation of laboratory tests used in diagnosing and monitoring of diabetes mellitus; (c) provide quality specifications for analytes used to diagnose and monitor diabetes mellitus; (d) give recommendations on the minimum criteria for use of glucometers; and (e) try to associate with other groups or persons (including manufacturers) who will co-operate on the work to be done. The lecture will present evidence-based laboratory medicine in relation to the activities of the Global Campaign on Diabetes Mellitus.

E-mail: sverre.sandberg@isf.uib.no

S5-5

BILJEZI ALKOHOLIZMA - PRISTUP ZASNOVAN NA DOKAZIMA

Simonsson P.

Department of Clinical Chemistry, Malmö University Hospital, Malmö, Švedska

Biokemijski biljezi mogu se rabiti kao sredstvo za otkrivanje zlorabe alkohola i, što je najvažnije, za praćenje liječenja od alkoholizma. Međutim, ovom pitanju valja pristupiti kritički, vodeći računa o kliničkim i biokemijskim aspektima. Iz kliničke perspektive alkoholizam je široko definirano stanje gdje nedostaje dijagnostički zlatni standard i izražava se u različitim oblicima u različitim populacijama. Stoga se i dijagnostičke potrebe kliničara znatno razlikuju. To treba imati na umu pri utvrđivanju biljega zlorabe alkohola za pojedinu zemlju. Idealni bi biljeg trebao biti visoko osjetljiv i specifičan za zlorabu alkohola. Osjetljivost tradicionalnih biljega (GT i MCV) kreće se u rasponu od 25% do 75%, no specifičnost im je niska, jer su im povišene vrijednosti česte u različitim bolestima. Različiti biljezi razlikuju se i po vremenu u kojem su korisni. Uglavnom, u kliničkoj kemiji potrebna je kombinacija biljega. Transferin s nedostatkom ugljikohidrata (CDT) pojavio se kao specifičan biljeg zlorabe alkohola i postao najvažnijim biljegom alkoholizma u švedskoj kliničkoj praksi. Na njega ne utječu lijekovi, kao ni praćea medicinska stanja, uz neke iznimke. Međutim, povišene razine CDT-a nađene su u nekih

S5-5

MARKERS OF ALCOHOLISM - EVIDENCE BASED APPROACH

P. Simonsson

Department of Clinical Chemistry, Malmö University Hospital, Malmö, Sweden

Biochemical markers can be used as tools to detect alcohol abuse and, most importantly, to follow up treatment of alcoholism. However, the subject has to be approached critically, keeping both clinical and biochemical aspects in mind. From a clinical perspective, alcoholism is a diffusely defined condition lacking a diagnostic gold standard and it is expressed in several forms in different populations. The diagnostic need of the clinician therefore varies considerably. This has to be considered when providing state markers of alcohol abuse. The ideal marker should be highly sensitive and specific to alcohol abuse. Traditional markers (GT and MCV) have a sensitivity in the range of 25% to 75% but exhibit low specificity as elevated levels are common in a variety of disorders. Different markers also have different time spans during which they are useful. Generally, a combination of markers has to be provided in clinical chemistry. Carbohydrate-deficient transferrin (CDT) has emerged as a specific marker of alcohol abuse and has become the most important marker of alcoholism in Swedish clinical practice. It is not influenced by medication or, with some exceptions, concurrent medical conditions. However, elevated levels have been found in some

bolesnika s jetrenom bolešću. Genetske varijante transferina nalaze se u 1%-2% populacije i mogu uzrokovati lažno negativne i lažno pozitivne rezultate. Prirodni poremećaji glikozilacije udruženi su sa znatno povišenim razinama CDT-a. CDT se analizira kromatografijom ionske izmjene, na minikolonama ili pomoću HPLC. Kako oblici transferina s nedostatkom ugljikohidrata postoje kao a-, mono-, di- i trisialotransferin, bitno je postići konsenzus o molekularnoj definiciji CDT-a. Jedna međunarodna grupa upravo radi na standardiziranju i kalibriranju CDT-a.

E-mail: per.simonsson@klkemi.mas.lu.se

patients with liver diseases. Genetic variants of transferrin are found in 1%-2% of the population and may cause false negative and false positive results. Congenital disorders of glycosylation are associated with markedly increased levels. CDT is analyzed by ion exchange chromatography, either on minicolumns or using HPLC. As carbohydrate-deficient forms of transferrin exist as a-, mono-, di- and trisialotransferrin, it is essential that a consensus is reached on the molecular definition of CDT. Work is now in progress by an international group with the aim to standardize and calibrate CDT.

E-mail: per.simonsson@klkemi.mas.lu.se

S5-6

POBOLJŠANJE RADNOG PROTOKA I ISKORIŠTENOSTI U LABORATORIJU SVEUČILIŠNE BOLNICE

Griesmacher A.

University Hospital of Innsbruck, Central Institute of Medical and Chemistry Laboratory Diagnosis, Innsbruck, Austrija

Sveučilišna bolnica u Innsbrucku ima 1500 kreveta i nudi sve suvremene medicinske specijalnosti. Središnji zavod za medicinsku i kemijsku laboratorijsku dijagnostiku (CIMCL) je odgovoran za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku Bolnice, a u 2002. godini proveo je 4.800.000 analiza. Zavod je odgovoran za slijedeće pretrage: hematološke, koagulacijske, kliničko kemijske, terapijsko praćenje lijekova/toksikološke, proteine, endokrinološke i serološke. Na raspolaganju je i 24-satna hitna služba sa suženim rasponom pretraga. Štoviše, Zavod je uključen i u brojna klinička ispitivanja. CIMCL je pneumatskim portalom spojen s čitavom Bolnicom. Mjerenja iz kliničke kemije, proteina, hormona, lijekova i serologije provode se na 9 različitih analizatora. U najbližoj se budućnosti planira provedba konsolidacijskog programa kako bi se na najmanju mjeru svelo cijepanje uzoraka i smanjio broj tehničara potrebnih za rad na svim ovim analizatorima. Glavni je cilj ove konsolidacije stvaranje tzv. Laboratorijske jezgre, gdje će se rutinski rad odvijati na dvjema suvremenim analitičkim platformama. Time će se smanjiti cijepanje uzoraka i vrijeme proteklo od prijma uzorka do izdavanja nalaza, i omogućiti učinkovitije iskorištenje ljudskih potencijala. Uz to, algoritmi razborite postupne dijagnostike provode se za funkcijske testove štitnjače, trombofiliju, hemofiliju i hematologiju, kako bi se poboljšao dijagnostički doprinos laboratorija. Tumačenjem laboratorijskih nalaza bolesnika i dijagnostičkih algoritama odgovornost se pomiče prema kliničkom laboratoriju i prisiljava osoblje laboratorija da prihvati pristup sve bliži samom bolesniku.

E-mail: Andrea.Griesmacher@tilak.at

S5-6

IMPROVING THE WORKFLOW AND USAGE OF AN UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL LABORATORY

A. Griesmacher

University Hospital of Innsbruck, Central Institute of Medical and Chemistry Laboratory Diagnosis, Innsbruck, Austria

The University Hospital of Innsbruck has 1500 beds and is offering all modern medical specialties. The Central Institute of Medical and Chemistry Laboratory Diagnosis (CIMCL) is responsible for the Hospital laboratory diagnosis and performed 4,800,000 analyses in the year 2002. The Institute is responsible for the following examinations: hematology, blood coagulation, clinical chemistry, therapeutic drug monitoring/toxicology, proteins, endocrinology, and serology. A 24-hour emergency service with a reduced spectrum is also available. Moreover, the Institute is involved in a number of clinical studies. A pneumatic post is connecting the entire Hospital with CIMCL. Nine analyzers are used for the measurements in clinical chemistry, proteins, hormones, drugs and serology. In order to minimize the splitting of samples and to reduce the number of technicians necessary for running all these analyzers, a consolidation program will be implemented in the nearest future. The aim of this consolidation is mainly the creation of the so-called Core Laboratory concentrating the routine workflow on two modern analytical platforms. This will reduce sample-splitting and turnaround time, and will enable a more efficient use of human resources. In addition, algorithms for a rational stepwise diagnosis have been implemented for thyroid function tests, thrombophilia, hemophilia and hematology in order to improve the diagnostic input of the laboratory. The interpretation of laboratory patient reports and diagnostic algorithms shifts responsibility towards clinical laboratory and forces laboratory staff to more patient-oriented approaches.

E-mail: Andrea.Griesmacher@tilak.at

S6

Hitna laboratorijska dijagnostika
Emergency laboratory diagnosis

S6-1

**PRETRAGE UZ BOLESNIKA: PREGLED I
POGLED U BUDUĆNOST**

Rumenjak V.

Zavod za medicinsko laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Opća
bolnica "Sveti Duh", Zagreb

Pretrage uz bolesnika su područje medicinsko biokemijske dijagnostike koje zauzima sve važnije mjesto u kliničko laboratorijskoj dijagnostici. U usporedbi s medicinsko biokemijskim laboratorijem, pretrage uz bolesnika su područje koje se tehnološki najbrže razvija. Istodobno pretrage uz bolesnika ostaju područje mnogobrojnih nedoumica, osobito stoga što i primijenjena tehnologija mijenja konvencionalan pristup medicinsko laboratorijskoj dijagnostici. Tijekom 1980-tih pretrage uz bolesnika postale su pristupačne bolnicama kao alternativa centralnom laboratoriju za izvođenje brzih laboratorijskih testova. Zbog sve snažnijeg pritiska za kraćim vremenom obrade i razvoja uređaja s većim mogućnostima pretrage uz bolesnika postaju sve popularnije. Ipak, mnoge od tih tehnologija uvedene su bez znanja medicinsko biokemijskog laboratorija i bez organizacijskog plana osiguranja kontrole kvalitete. Pretrage uz bolesnika definirane su kao svako ispitivanje koje nije provedeno u laboratoriju, nego se poduzima uz bolesnika, a rezultati kojega mogu utjecati na medicinsko liječenje bolesnika. Pretrage uz bolesnika razlikuju se od analiza izvedenih u centralnom laboratoriju po tome što ne zahtijevaju laboratorijski prostor, nego se laboratorij nalazi na mjestu pružanja medicinske intervencije: uzimanje uzorka, provedba testa (analize) i tumačenje rezultata odvijaju se uz bolesnika. Razlikovanje pretraga uz bolesnika od centralnog laboratorija je donekle arteficialno, ali sa stajališta upravljanja nužno, jer pretrage uz bolesnika uključuju ne-laboratorijsko osoblje koje rabi posebne tehnologije prilagođene primjeni uz bolesnika. Pretrage uz bolesnika imaju svoj početak prije nekoliko desetljeća. Međutim, kroz mnoge godine ove su pretrage ostale ograničene na samo nekoliko testova. Zahvaljujući pristupu koji nije zahtijevao brigu o troškovima liječenja i boravka bolesnika u jedinicama intenzivne skrbi rijetko je bilo potrebe za brzim testovima. Ovakav pristup počeo se mijenjati kada su troškovi liječenja postali sastavni dio procjene

S6-1

**POINT OF CARE TESTING: AN OVERVIEW
AND LOOK TO THE FUTURE**

V. Rumenjak

Institute of Medical Laboratory Diagnosis, Sveti Duh
General Hospital, Zagreb

Point of care testing (POCT) has attracted considerable interest in medical laboratory diagnosis. Compared with testing performed at medical biochemistry laboratory, POCT is one of the most rapidly growing areas of the diagnostic industry. At the same time, POCT remains controversial, and some of these technologies challenge the conventional approach to performing laboratory testing. During the 1980s, POCT became available to hospitals as an alternative to central laboratory for providing rapid laboratory testing. Due to increasing pressures for faster turnaround time and the development of a broader menu of devices, POCT has been growing in popularity. However, some of these technologies were introduced at hospitals without the knowledge of the clinical laboratory and in the absence of an organizational plan to ensure quality control. POCT has been defined as all testing not undertaken at a laboratory but close to the patient, its results possibly leading to change in the respective patient care. POCT differs from a central laboratory testing in that it does not require a laboratory, since the specimen is obtained, the test performed and the result reviewed at the very site where care is provided. Differentiating POCT from central laboratory is somewhat artificial, but is useful from the management point of view because it involves testing by nonlaboratory personnel using specialized technologies adapted for POCT testing. The beginnings of POCT date many decades back. During these years, POCT was limited to a few tests. There was not much concern about the costs of health care and length of stay at intensive care units, so there was little need of POCT. This line of reasoning began to change when health care cost became part of the medical care quality assessment. This change has resulted in reassessment of the role of clinical laboratory and POCT. On the other hand, as the result of this reassessment, POCT is occasionally overutilized with little benefit for the patient.

E-mail: vlatko.rumenjak@zg.htnet.hr

kvalitete liječenja. Ove promjene rezultirale su ponovnom procjenom uloge kliničkog laboratorija i mogućnosti pretraga uz bolesnika. S druge strane, kao rezultat ovakvog pristupa u nekim je slučajevima došlo do značajnog povećanja pretraga uz bolesnika, ali s malom koristi za bolesnika.

E-mail: vlatko.rumenjak@zg.htnet.hr

S6-2

OSIGURANJE KVALITETE PRETRAGA UZ BOLESNIKA

Perkov S., Flegar-Meštrić Z.

Zavod za kliničku kemiju, Klinička bolnica "Merkur",
Zagreb

Osiguranje kvalitete mjerenja analita iz pune krvi ima određene specifičnosti koje je potrebno poznavati pri definiranju kriterija za kvalitetu, određivanju analitičke pouzdanosti mjerenja i izboru strategije provođenja kontrole kvalitete koja će osigurati dobivanje pouzdanih rezultata mjerenja prema zadanim kriterijima. Zahtjevi za kvalitetom analita prve kategorije hitnosti trebali bi se temeljiti na veličini biološke varijacije. Problem je, međutim, što je vrlo malo podataka o veličini biološke varijacije za parametre acidobaznog statusa, odnosno uopće je nema za parcijalni tlak kisika u arterijskoj krvi. U tom slučaju mogu se rabiti kriteriji prihvatljivosti rezultata temeljeni na veličini varijacije distribucije rezultata bolesnika. Mnogo značajniji problem je činjenica da veličina varijacije pri analizi uzorka pune krvi na multiparametarskim acidobaznim analizatorima ne proizlazi iz poteškoća u analitičkom procesu, nego poteškoće najčešće nastaju zbog nemogućnosti kontrole predanalitičkih čimbenika. U određivanju analitičke pouzdanosti mjerenja analita iz pune krvi nameće se problem sljedljivosti međunarodno prihvaćenih referentnih metoda i materijala zbog nedostatka odgovarajućeg kontrolnog materijala koji bi po svom sastavu bio što sličniji punoj krvi, bio dostupan u dovoljnim količinama, imao stabilnost kroz dulje razdoblje i pokrivaio cijelo koncentracijsko područje. Preporuka je stoga za određivanje analitičke nepreciznosti i netočnosti rabiti komercijalne kontrolne uzorke proizvođača analizatora koji zadovoljavaju kriterije sljedljivosti međunarodno prihvaćenih referentnih materijala i metoda u proizvodnji kalibratora i kontrolnih uzoraka. Zbog toga je prije puštanja u rad multiparametarskog analizatora za pretrage uz bole-

S6-2

POINT OF CARE QUALITY ASSURANCE

S. Perkov, Z. Flegar-Meštrić

Institute of Clinical Chemistry, Merkur University Hospital,
Zagreb

Assurance of the quality of measurement of analytes from whole blood implies certain specific features which should be well recognized and taken into account in defining the quality criteria, determining analytical reliability of the measurement, and selecting a quality assurance strategy which will provide reliable results according to the required criteria. The requirements for the quality of first category urgency analytes should be based on the size of biological variation. The problem arises from the fact that few data are available on the size of biological variation for the parameters of acid-base status, i.e. there are no data at all for arterial oxygen partial pressure. In this case the criteria of acceptability of the results based on the size of distribution variability of patient results can be used. The major issue is that variability in multi-profile blood gas testing of whole blood does not relate to difficulties in the analytical process but rather lies in the difficulties in controlling preanalytical factors. The determination of analytical reliability of measurement of analytes from whole blood imposes a problem of compliance with the internationally accepted reference methods and materials due to the lack of control material that would have a matrix similar to whole blood, be available in an adequate quantity, have stability for a long period, and span the medically significant range. Therefore, for the determination of analytical inaccuracy and imprecision the use of commercial control samples provided by the manufacturer of the analyzer meeting the requirements of compliance with the internationally accepted reference materials and methods in manufacturing calibrators and control samples is recommended. For this reason, before putting a multi-parameter analyzer into operation for the

snika vrlo važno učiniti analitičku procjenu koja uključuje određivanje analitičke nepreciznosti, netočnosti, linearnosti, te komparativna mjerenja respektabilnim rutinskim metodama. Komparativna mjerenja rutinskim metodama ne samo što omogućavaju usklađivanje rezultata, nego neizravno omogućavaju provođenje vanjske kontrole kvalitete, ako je respektabilni rutinski analizator uključen u program vanjske procjene kvalitete. Standardizacija predanalitičke faze, izobrazba o mogućim predanalitičkim pogreškama uz redovno provođenje kontrole kvalitete i usklađivanje rezultata s referentnim analizatorima osigurati će dobivanje pozdanih rezultata mjerenja analita prve kategorije hitnosti na multiparametarskim analizatorima uz bolesnika.

E-mail: mb-sperk@inet.hr

determination of bedside tests it is particularly important to perform analytical assessment, including determination of analytical imprecision, inaccuracy, linearity, as well as comparative measurements using respectable routine methods. In addition to correlating the results, comparative measurements using routine methods also indirectly allow for the external quality control if a respectable routine analyzer has been included in the external quality assessment program. Standardization of the preanalytical stage, education on potential preanalytical errors together with regular quality control and correlation of results with reference analyzers will provide reliable results of measurement of the analytes of the first category of urgency on multi-parameter bedside analyzers.

E-mail: mb-sperk@inet.hr

S6-3

DIJAGNOSTIČKA VAŽNOST BRZOG FENOTIPIZIRANJA SERUMSKE BUTIRILKOLINESTERAZE

Simeon-Rudolf V.¹, Šurina B.²

¹ Institut za medicinska istraživanja i medicinu rada,
² Zavod za kliničku kemiju, Klinička bolnica "Merkur",
Zagreb

Suksametonij je kratkodjelujući mišićni relaksans koji se daje bolesnicima neposredno prije kirurškog zahvata u svrhu trahealne intubacije. Obična serumska butirilkolinesteraza (BChE, EC 3.1.1.8) brzo ga razgrađuje. Uz onu običnu (U) BChE u ljudskom serumu postoji u nekoliko genetičkih varijanata: atipična (A), fluorid-rezistentna (F), tiha (S), Kalow (K) i J varijanta. Biokemijskim metodama može se identificirati petnaestak fenotipova ovoga enzima u serumima ljudi. Neke genetičke varijante (A, F, S) imaju smanjen afinitet za suksametonij i sporije ga razgrađuju nego obična BChE, pa je njegova koncentracija prilikom primjene dovoljna da se veže na acetilkolinski receptor i blokira prijenos impulsa između živca i mišića. Stoga nastupa produžena paraliza mišića, a u nekim krajnjim slučajevima to može završiti smrću. Otkrivanje varijanata BChE potrebno je da bi se identificirale osobe koje mogu biti osjetljive na kratkodjelujući mišićni relaksans, kako bi se njima i njihovim bliskim rođacima mogao dati pravodobni stručni savjet. U Zavodu za kliničku kemiju Kliničke bolnice "Merkur" osnovana je Jedinica za fenotipiziranje BChE s podacima o obiteljima kod kojih

S6-3

DIAGNOSTIC ROLE OF RAPID SERUM BUTYRYLCHOLINESTERASE PHENOTYPING

V. Simeon-Rudolf¹, B. Šurina²

¹ Institute of Medical Research and Occupational Health,
² Institute of Clinical Chemistry, Merkur University
Hospital, Zagreb

Suxamethonium (succinylcholine) is a short-acting muscle relaxant that is administered to patients undergoing surgery to facilitate tracheal intubation. In most cases the drug is quickly hydrolyzed by usual serum butyrylcholinesterase (BChE, EC 3.1.1.8). However, several genetic variants of this enzyme have low affinity for the drug and prolong the time of hydrolysis. Therefore, the drug blocks acetylcholine receptors, impulse transmission between nerve and muscle is inhibited, and prolonged muscle paralysis ensues. In some extreme cases prolonged apnea may even result in cardiac arrest and death. BChE in human serum exists in several genetic forms; these include the usual (U), atypical (A), fluoride resistant (F), silent (S), Kalow (K) and J variants, giving rise to fifteen phenotypes which can be identified by standard biochemical methods coupled with family studies. Individuals who have inherited A or /and F variants are unable to quickly hydrolyze suxamethonium at pharmacological concentrations. Detection of BChE variants is necessary in order to identify patients prone to experiencing sensitivity to short-acting muscle relaxants and to counsel

su ustanovljene urođene varijante BChE sa slabim afinitetom prema suksametoniju. Ustanovljene su 'Kartice upozorenja' kao informacija od važne medicinske naravi kako bi se upozorilo anesteziologa na mogućnost ekspresije prolongirane respiracijske apneje kod primjene kratkodjelujućih mišićnih relaksansa. Uvedena je metoda za biokemijsku identifikaciju fenotipova koja se temelji na mjerenju aktivnosti enzima i stupnja inhibicije hidrolize butiriltiokolina dibukainom, natrijevim fluoridom, ureom i dimetilnim karbamatom Ro 02-683. Postupak je prilagođen za analizator VP Abbott i testiran u sudjelovanju suradnika Jedinice za fenotipiziranje u Međunarodnom programu kontrole kakvoće mjerenja aktivnosti i određivanja fenotipova BChE. Na taj je način moguće brzo prijeoperacijski odrediti ima li bolesnik varijantu BChE koja sporo razgrađuje suksametonij, te je tako moguće izbjeći komplikacije pri operacijskom zahvatu.

E-mail: vesimeon@imi.hr

them and their relatives who may be similarly affected. The Cholinesterase Unit for detection of individuals, carriers of inherited suxamethonium sensitive BChE variants has been formed at the Institute of Clinical Chemistry, Merkur Clinical Hospital, Zagreb, Croatia. The method has been established for identification of BChE phenotypes in human serum. It comprises the measurement of the activity of the enzyme and the inhibition of butyrylthiocholine hydrolysis by dibucaine, sodium fluoride, urea and the dimethylcarbamate Ro 02 0683. The procedure has been adapted for VP Abbott analyzer and tested during participation in the International Proficiency Programme No. 4 for quality control of measurements and BChE phenotyping. Cholinesterase Unit is issuing Warning Cards to carriers of inherited serum BChE variants in order to avoid prolonged respiratory apnea that suxamethonium may cause.

E-mail: vesimeon@imi.hr

S6-4

ZNAČENJE LABORATORIJSKE DIJAGNOSTIKE U MOŽDANOM UDARU

Vukasović I.

Klinički zavod za kemiju, Klinička bolnica "Sestre milosrdnice", Zagreb

Moždani udar, prvi uzrok smrtnosti i invalidnosti u Republici Hrvatskoj, nastaje zbog intracerebralnog ili subarahnoidnog krvarenja (15%-20%) ili zbog moždane ishemije uzrokovane hemodinamski, trombozom ili embolijom (80%-85%). Predstavlja akutno stanje koje zahtijeva hitnu intervenciju uključujući i hitnu laboratorijsku obradu uzoraka krvi, likvora i mokraće. Iako se današnja dijagnostika moždanog udara temelji pretežito na tzv. metodama slikovnog prikaza doplerske sonografije, ekstrakranijskog obojenog doplera, transkranijalnog doplera te kompjutorizirane tomografije (CT), ipak je u diferencijalnoj dijagnostici i praćenju tijeka bolesti neophodna analiza likvora. Određivanjem hematogenih pigmenata u likvoru moguće je razlučiti krvarenja uza skeletne strukture, intracerebralnu hemoragiju, subduralnu hemoragiju, cerebralni ili subduralni hematoma te krvarenja iz aneurizama. Razina glikemije predstavlja prediktivnu vrijednost za razvoj pogoršanja i hemoragijsku transformaciju. Novije studije upućuju na povezanost koncentracije homocisteina, lipo-

S6-4

THE ROLE OF LABORATORY DIAGNOSIS IN STROKE

I. Vukasović

Clinical Institute of Chemistry, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Zagreb

Stroke is the leading cause of death and disability in Croatia. Stroke occurs due to intracerebral or subarachnoid hemorrhage (15% - 20%) or cerebral ischemia caused by hemodynamic impairment, thrombosis or embolism (80% - 85%). Stroke is an acute state that requires immediate intervention including emergency laboratory testing of blood, cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) and urine samples. Although current diagnosis of stroke is mostly based on neuroimaging methods of doppler sonography, extracranial color doppler, transcranial doppler and computed tomography, CSF analysis is necessary in differential diagnosis and follow-up of the course of disease. Hemorrhages adjacent to skeletal structures, intracerebral hemorrhage, subdural hemorrhage, cerebral or subdural hematoma and aneurysmal hemorrhage can be differentiated by determination of hematogenic pigments in CSF. The level of glycemia has a predictive value for exacerbation and hemorrhagic transformation. Recent studies point to correlation of homocystein, lipoprotein (a) and total antioxidative status with the sever-

proteina (a), totalnog antioksidativnog statusa s jakošću cerebrovaskularne bolesti. Proteine specifične za središnji živčani sustav, neuron specifičnu enolazu (NSE), S-100 protein i mijelinski bazični protein (MBP) nakon moždanog udara nalazimo u serumu. Oslobođaju se iz oštećenih nervnih stanica, prolaze krvno-moždanu barijeru i dospjevaju u cirkulaciju. NSE predstavlja osjetljiv biljeg postishemijskog i hemoragijskog oštećenja mozga. S-100 protein nakon 8 sati do 4. dana od moždanog udara korelira s veličinom infarkta te se rabi u predviđanju kliničkog ishoda. Vršna vrijednost MBP 4-5. dana nakon udara korelira s veličinom lezije. Godine 1992. započeli su prvi kontrolirani pokusi o djelotvornosti rekombinantnog tkivnog plazminogena (rtPA) u liječenju moždanog udara 3-6 sati od početka simptoma. Liječenje se provodi prema točno određenom protokolu, a svako odstupanje donosi velik rizik za komplikacije, poglavito hemoragijsku transformaciju. Kumulativne meta-analize potvrdile su pozitivan učinak ove terapije unatoč brojnim rizicima. Istraživani su i biokemijski pokazatelji rizika u primjeni ove terapije. Prije i tijekom provođenja terapije potrebne su koagulacijske i hematološke pretrage. Više autora izvijestilo je o značenju određivanja koncentracije metaloproteinaze matriksa 9 (MMP-9) prije početka terapije. Ipak, ostaje nejasno doprinose li povećane koncentracije MMP-9 u plazmi stvaranju tromba rezistentnog na trombolizu ili je to epifenomen nastao zbog drugih čimbenika.

E-mail: ines.vukasovic@zg.htnet.hr

ity of cerebrovascular disease. Neuron specific enolase (NSE), S-100 protein and myelin basic protein (MBP), the central nervous system specific proteins, are found in serum of stroke patients. These proteins are released from damaged neurons, cross the blood-brain barrier and reach the circulation. NSE is a sensitive marker of postischemic and hemorrhagic brain lesion. At 8 hours to 4 days post-stroke, S-100 protein correlates with infarct size and is used to predict clinical outcome. On day 4-5 post-stroke, the peak MBP value correlates with lesion size. Controlled studies of the efficiency of recombinant tissue plasminogen (rtPA) in the management of stroke 3-6 hours from the onset of symptoms were launched in 1992. The treatment is performed according to a strict protocol, whereby any departure is associated with a high risk of complications, especially hemorrhagic transformation. Cumulative meta-analyses have confirmed the favorable effect of this therapy in spite of numerous risks. Biochemical parameters of the risk associated with this therapy have also been investigated. Coagulation and hematology tests are required before and during therapy. The role of pretherapeutic matrix metalloproteinase 9 (MMP-9) determination has been reported by several authors. However, it remains to clarify whether elevated plasma concentration of MMP-9 contributes to the formation of thrombus resistant to thrombolysis or it is an epiphenomenon due to some other factors.

E-mail: ines.vukasovic@zg.htnet.hr

S6-5

DIJAGNOSTIKA SUSTAVA ZGRUŠAVANJA I FIBRINOLIZE U PORODNIŠTVU

Raić B.

Zavod za hematologiju Klinike za unutarnje bolesti, Klinička bolnica "Sestre milosrdnice", Zagreb

U humanoj reprodukciji bitno je održanje majčine i fetalne cirkulacije. Za to su odgovorni sustav zgrušavanja i sustav fibrinolize. Tijekom normalne trudnoće aktivira se sustav zgrušavanja, a fibrinolitična se aktivnost smanjuje. Vrijednosti fibrinogena su povećane zbog povećanog volumena plazme i povećane sinteze fibrinogena. Koncentracija čimbenika zgrušavanja je povećana, pogotovo FV i FVIII, te FVII i FX. Aktivnost F XIII pada i ima za posljedicu odlaganje fibrina u uteroplacentnoj cirkulaciji. Inhibitori ATIII i PC se smanjuju. Smanjena fibrinolitična aktivnost

S6-5

COAGULATION AND FIBRINOLYSIS DIAGNOSIS IN OBSTETRICS

B. Raić

Department of Hematology, University Department of Medicine, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Zagreb

In human reproduction, maintenance of the maternal and fetal circulation is crucial. The systems of coagulation and fibrinolysis are responsible for it. During normal pregnancy, the coagulation system is activated, whereas the fibrinolytic activity is reduced. The values of fibrinogen are elevated because of the increased plasma volume and fibrinogen synthesis. The concentration of coagulation factors is increased, especially of FV and FVIII as well as FVII and FX. The activity of FXII decreases, resulting in fibrin deposition in the uteroplacental circulation. The ATIII and PC

se tijekom normalne trudnoće ne mijenja. Ubrzava se tek nakon poroda. Značajan je porast plazminogena i PAI. Razina razgradnih proizvoda fibrina/fibrinogena je niska. Značajan je i umjereni pad trombocita (do donje granice normale). Potkraj trudnoće volumen trombocita poraste. Promjene u laboratorijskim testovima u trudnoći, porodu i babinju mogu izazvati teška krvarenja i tromboembolijske bolesti (DVT, plućna embolija). Sindrom antifosfolipidnih protutijela obilježen je sklonošću pojavi arterijske ili venske tromboze. Zbog navedenih promjena tijekom normalne trudnoće neophodna je kontrola laboratorijskih testova sustava zgrušavanja i fibrinolize. Međutim, tijekom trudnoće nastaju i poremećaji u smislu DIK-a i nastaju dodatne komplikacije kod: 1) abrupcije placente, 2) embolije plodnom vodom, 3) septičnog pobačaja, 4) rupture uterusa, 5) produženog šoka, 6) eklampsije i preeklampsije, 7) sindroma HELLP. Eklampsija i preeklampsija su stanja koja nastaju tijekom trudnoće, te je neophodno laboratorijski otkriti promjene u smislu pada trombocita, smanjenja fibrinogena, potrošnje čimbenika zgrušavanja, eventualne pojačane fibrinolitične aktivnosti, te porast FDP. U žena kojima je već prije trudnoće dijagnosticirana neka bolest zbog ovih već navedenih promjena nužna je laboratorijska kontrola sustava zgrušavanja i fibrinolize. No, još veće značenje ova laboratorijska dijagnostika ima u mogućim iznenadnim, dodatnim komplikacijama tijekom i nakon poroda, te u babinju.

inhibitors decrease. The suppressed fibrinolytic activity remains unchanged during normal gestation, and accelerates only after delivery. There is a considerable increase in plasminogen and PAI. The level of fibrin/fibrinogen degradation products is low. There is also a moderate platelet decrease (to the lower normal limit). Towards the end of gestation, the platelet volume increases. Changes in the laboratory tests during pregnancy, delivery and puerperium can cause severe bleeding and thromboembolic disorders (DVT, pulmonary embolism). The syndrome of antiphospholipid antibodies is characterized by proneness to arterial or venous thrombosis. These changes that may occur during normal pregnancy require control laboratory testing of coagulation and fibrinolysis. However, disorders in terms of DIC may also occur during pregnancy, entailing additional complications in: 1) abruptio placentae, 2) amniotic fluid embolism, 3) septic abortion, 4) uterus rupture, 5) delayed shock, 6) eclampsia and preeclampsia, and 7) HELLP syndrome. Eclampsia and preeclampsia are conditions occurring during gestation, thus changes in terms of platelet decline, fibrinogen decrease, coagulation factor utilization, possible enhanced fibrinolytic activity, and FDP increase should be detected by laboratory testing. The women in whom a disease associated with these changes has already been diagnosed before pregnancy require laboratory control of coagulation and fibrinolysis systems. However, this laboratory diagnosis plays an even greater role in the possible sudden, additional complications intra- and postpartally as well as in the puerperium.

S6UP-1 (usmeno priopćenje)

VAŽNOST TIMSKOG PRISTUPA U DIJAGNOSTICI UZ BOLESNIKA (POINT OF CARE)

Brkljačić V., Juričić Lj., Rogić D.

Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Klinički bolnički centar "Zagreb", Zagreb

Određivanje uz bolesnika (*point of care testing*, POCT) danas zauzima posebno mjesto u kliničko laboratorijskoj praksi. Brze i pravodobne analize doprinose racionalizaciji i ubrzanju terapijskih postupaka. U KZZLD KBC "Zagreb" cjelovit svakodnevni nadzor određivanja uz bolesnika obavlja mali stručni tim koji je zadužen i za poduku osoba koje će ga neposredno provoditi. Ukupno je pet uređaja Nova Biomedical Stat

S6UP-1 (oral presentation)

THE ROLE OF TEAM APPROACH IN POINT OF CARE DIAGNOSIS

V. Brkljačić, Lj. Juričić, D. Rogić

Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb University Hospital Center, Zagreb

Point of care testing currently has a special place in the clinical laboratory practice. Rapid and timely analyses contribute to rationalization and acceleration of therapeutic procedures. Comprehensive daily monitoring of point of care testing has been performed at the Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb University Hospital Center, by a small expert team also responsible for training of persons involved in direct monitoring. A total of five Nova Biomedical Stat Profile

Profile M smješteno u Hitni laboratorij te u jedinice intenzivne skrbi Opće, Kardijalne kirurgije, Neurokirurgije i Dječjeg odjela. Pouzdanost uređaja dnevno u zadanim vremenskim razmacima te prema potrebi provjeravaju za to zaduženi medicinski biokemičari pomoću komercijalnih kontrola i humanih uzoraka (heparinizirana krv). Ovakva organizacija rada navedenih uređaja i statistički podaci daju uvid u kvalitetu i ispravnost rada uređaja, ali i laboratorijskog i medicinskog osoblja, te isto tako ukazuju na moguće propuste i mjesta gdje i kako treba djelovati radi poboljšanja svih analiza koje se izvode na uređajima uz bolesnika. U radu je prikazana polugodišnja pohrana i statistička obrada dobivenih rezultata te izrada prateće dokumentacije pomoću osobnog računala i komercijalnog programa. Statistička obrada podataka komercijalne vodene kontrole (χ , SD i CV) je pokazala zadovoljavajuću preciznost i točnost, kao i dobru korelaciju na uzorcima heparinizirane krvi na svih pet uređaja. Tijekom ispitivanog razdoblja (6 mjeseci) dobiveni CV (%) iznosili su do 5% za sve analite. U skoroj budućnosti u planu je povezivanje svih uređaja i integriranje u laboratorijski informacijski sustav i elektroničko poslovanje laboratorija.

E-mail: vsrenger@kbc-zagreb.hr

M instruments have been installed at the Emergency Laboratory and intensive care units at Departments of Surgery, of Cardiac Surgery, of Neurosurgery, and of Pediatrics. Instrument reliability is verified daily at defined periods and whenever necessary by responsible medical biochemists using commercial controls and human specimens (heparinized blood). Such organization and distribution of the instruments and statistical data provide evidence on the quality and proper performance of the instruments as well as of the laboratory and medical staff; it also reveals the possible oversights and points where improvements are necessary in the analyses performed as point of care testing. Semi-annual collection and statistical processing of the results obtained, and production of accompanying documentation by use of personal computer and commercial program are presented. Statistical data processing on commercial water control (χ , SD and CV) showed satisfactory precision and accuracy as well as good correlation on heparinized blood samples on all five instruments. During the period of observation (6 months), the CVs (%) recorded were up to 5% for all analytes. A plan in the near future involves connection of all instruments and integration into the laboratory computer system and electronic laboratory operations.

E-mail: vsrenger@kbc-zagreb.hr

P1

Bolesti hematopoetskog sustava
Diseases of hematopoietic system

P1-1

**UTJECAJ ERITROPOETINA NA
VRIJEDNOSTI KRVNE SLIKE KOD
HEMODIJALIZIRANIH BOLESNIKA**

Bošnjak N., Sapunar A., Dujmov I.

Klinička bolnica "Split", Odjel za medicinsku laboratorijsku
dijagnostiku, Split

Eritropoetin je glikoprotein koji se proizvodi u stanicama bubrega i izlučuje u plazmi kao reakcija bubrega na prisutnu hipoksiju. Bolesnici s anemijom imaju u plazmi visoke vrijednosti eritropoetina koje su obrnuto proporcionalne koncentraciji hemoglobina. Bolesnici sa zatajenjem bubrega u uremiji imaju poremećenu proizvodnju eritropoetina i stoga relativno nisku koncentraciju u plazmi. Kliničku primjenu eritropoetina nalazi u liječenju anemije zbog nedostatne proizvodnje eritropoetina te kako bi se normalna eritropoeza podigla na višu razinu. Obradili smo 61 bolesnika na dugogodišnjoj dijalizi (36 muškaraca prosječne dobi 55 godina i 25 žena prosječne dobi 62 godine). Usporedili smo njihove vrijednosti broja eritrocita, hemoglobina, prosječnog volumena eritrocita (MCV), postotka hipokromnih eritrocita, retikulocita i koncentraciju hemoglobina u retikulocitima s onima u kontrolnoj skupini od 30 zdravih ispitanika slične prosječne dobi. Vrijednosti smo određivali na hematološkom brojaču tvrtke Bayer Technicon H*3. Hemodijalizirani bolesnici podijeljeni su u četiri skupine prema dozi eritropetina. U svim skupinama određivali smo navedene testove ponovno nakon četiri tjedna davanja eritropoetina. Kod ovih bolesnika s anemijom primjena rekombinatnog eritropoetina nije dovela do značajnog poboljšanja anemije, ali su oni trebali manje transfuzija

P1-1

**EFFECT OF ERYTHROPOIETIN ON
BLOOD TEST RESULTS IN
HEMODIALYSIS PATIENTS**

N. Bošnjak, A. Sapunar, I. Dujmov

Department of Medical Laboratory Diagnosis,
Split University Hospital, Split

*Erythropoietin is a glycoprotein hormone produced primarily by the kidneys in response to hypoxia and is secreted into the plasma. Therefore, anemic patients have increased plasma erythropoietin levels that are inversely proportional to their hemoglobin level. In contrast, patients with uremia usually have considerably impaired erythropoietin production and thus relatively low plasma levels. Clinical application of erythropoietin is in the treatment of anemias due to inadequate production of endogenous erythropoietin and for stimulation of physiologic erythropoiesis to supranormal levels. We studied 61 patients (36 male, mean age 55 years and 25 female, mean age 62 years) with chronic renal insufficiency on hemodialysis. The values of red blood cells (RBC), hemoglobin, mean corpuscular volume (MCV), percentage of hypochromic RBC, reticulocytes and hemoglobin concentration in reticulocytes were determined on a Technicon H*3 blood counter (Bayer) and compared with those in the control group of patients (n=30). Hemodialysis patients were subdivided into four groups according to erythropoietin dosage. Test results of all groups were redetermined in four weeks, after erythropoietin treatment. In the subgroup of hemodialysis patients with anemia the treatment with recombinant human erythropoietin resulted in an increase in hemoglobin levels,*

eritrocita, došlo je do porasta koncentracije hemoglobina i poboljšanje kvalitete života.

E-mail: bekavac@kbsplit.hr

decrease in RBC transfusion required, and improved quality of life.

E-mail: bekavac@kbsplit.hr

P1-2

ODREĐIVANJE TRANSFERINSKIH RECEPTORA, TRANSFERINA I ŽELJEZA U REFERENTNOJ SKUPINI ŽENA

Mladina B., Sapunar A., Dujmov I., Ivelja N.

Klinička bolnica Split, Odjel za medicinsku laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Split

Receptori transferina (sTfR) su transmembranski proteini prisutni na površini većine stanica. Oni vežu transferin na površinu stanice i prenose ga u stanicu. Uloga receptora transferina je opskrba stanica željezom. Koncentracija transferinskih receptora u plazmi je približno proporcionalna količini ukupnog transferina. Cilj rada bio je ispitati povezanost sTfR, transferina i željeza u referentnoj skupini žena. Receptori transferina i transferin određivani su nefelometrijski na BN Pro Spec (Dade Behring). Željezo je određivano na analizatoru Hitachi 917. Obradeno su 34 uzorka (žene, 18-24 godine). Između sTfR i transferina nađena je statistički značajna povezanost ($F=5,4$; $p=0,026$). Koeficijent korelacije iznosio je 0,38, a koeficijent determinacije 0,145. Između sTfR i željeza nađena je statistički značajna negativna povezanost ($F=6,8$; $p=0,014$). Koeficijent korelacije iznosio je -0,42, a koeficijent determinacije 0,175. sTfR je neovisan parametar statusa željeza, koji raste kod nedostatka željeza.

E-mail: bmladina@net.hr

P1-2

DETERMINATION OF SOLUBLE TRANSFERRIN RECEPTOR, TRANSFERRIN AND IRON IN A REFERENCE GROUP OF ADULT FEMALES

B. Mladina, A. Sapunar, I. Dujmov, N. Ivelja

Department of Medical Laboratory Diagnosis, Split University Hospital, Split

Transferrin receptors are transmembrane proteins present on the surface of most cells. It binds iron-loaded transferrin to the cellular surface and transports it into the cell. The role of soluble transferrin receptor (sTfR) is cell supply with iron. The concentration of sTfR in plasma is approximately proportional to the quantity of total body transferrin. The aim of the study was to compare sTfR, transferrin and iron in a reference group of adult females. sTfR and transferrin were measured by immunonephelometry on a BN Pro Spec (Dade Behring). Iron was determined on a Hitachi 917. Our clinical study included 34 females aged 18-48 years. There was a significant correlation between sTfR and transferrin ($F=5.4$; $p=0.027$). Coefficient correlation was 0.38 and determination coefficient 0.145. A significant negative correlation was observed between sTfR and iron ($F=6.8$; $p=0.014$). Correlation coefficient was -0.42, and determination coefficient 0,175. sTfR is an independent parameter of iron status and is increased in iron deficiency.

E-mail: bmladina@net.hr

P1-3

TOPLJIVI SERUMSKI TRANSFERINSKI RECEPTOR (sTfR) I INDEKS sTfR/log FERITIN U SIDEROPENIČNOJ ANEMIJI I ANEMIJI KRONIČNE BOLESTI

Margetić S., Topić E., Kvaternik M., Ružić-Ferenc D., Bubenik V.

Klinička bolnica "Sestre milosrdnice", Klinički zavod za kemiju, Odsjek za laboratorijsku hematologiju, Zagreb

Cilj rada bio je ispitati vrijednosti koncentracije topljivog serumskog transferinskog receptora (sTfR) i indeksa sTfR/log feritin (sTfR/logF) u si-

P1-3

SOLUBLE SERUM TRANSFERRIN RECEPTOR (sTfR) AND sTfR/log FERRITIN INDEX IN IRON DEFICIENCY ANEMIA AND ANEMIA IN CHRONIC DISEASE

S. Margetić, E. Topić, M. Kvaternik, D. Ružić-Ferenc, V. Bubenik

Laboratory of Hematology, Clinical Institute of Chemistry, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Zagreb

The aim of the study was to assess the concentrations of soluble serum transferrin receptor (sTfR) and sTfR/log ferritin index (sTfR/logF)

deropeničnoj anemiji i anemiji u reumatoidnom artritisu (anemija kronične bolesti). U istraživanju je bio uključen 61 kontrolni ispitanik i 96 anemičnih bolesnika. U zdravih ispitanika izmjerene vrijednosti sTfR i indeksa sTfR/logF nisu se statistički značajno razlikovale ovisno o spolu i životnoj dobi. Rezultati su pokazali da su u bolesnika sa sideropeničnom anemijom izmjerene vrijednosti sTfR i sTfR/logF statistički značajno veće u odnosu na kontrolnu skupinu ispitanika i skupinu ispitanika s anemijom u reumatoidnom artritisu. Na temelju dobivenih rezultata zaključujemo da je određivanje sTfR uz izračun indeksa sTfR/logF pouzdan laboratorijski test u dijagnostici sideropenične anemije. Ispitani parametri su pokazali zadovoljavajuću kliničku primjenjivost i u diferencijalnoj dijagnostici sideropenične anemije i anemije kronične bolesti. ROC analizom je indeks TfR/logF pokazao bolji dijagnostički potencijal u odnosu na parametar sTfR. U bolesnika s anemijom kronične bolesti vrijednosti ispitanih parametara, sTfR i sTfR/logF, nisu se statistički značajno razlikovale ovisno o koncentraciji C-reaktivnog proteina, što upućuje na to da na ispitane parametre ne utječe akutni ili kronični upalni proces.

E-mail: sandra.margetic1@zg.hinet.hr

values in iron deficiency anemia and anemia in rheumatoid arthritis (anemia of chronic disease). The study included 61 apparently healthy volunteers as a control group and a total of 96 anemic patients. In healthy subjects there were no significant sex and age differences in sTfR and sTfR/logF values. The results showed that sTfR and sTfR/logF levels were significantly higher in patients with iron deficiency anemia than in control subjects and those with anemia in rheumatoid arthritis. The results showed sTfR and sTfR/logF to be reliable parameters in the diagnosis of iron deficiency anemia. On differential diagnosis of iron deficiency and anemia of chronic disease, the tested parameters of sTfR and sTfR/logF also showed acceptable clinical utility. ROC analysis showed a higher discriminating power of sTfR/logF versus sTfR in the diagnosis of iron deficiency anemia as well as on differential diagnosis between iron deficiency anemia and anemia of chronic disease. In patients with anemia of chronic disease, the tested parameters of sTfR and sTfR/logF showed no significant differences according to C-reactive protein concentration. These results suggest the tested parameters not to be affected by acute or chronic inflammatory disease.

E-mail: sandra.margetic1@zg.hinet.hr

P1-4

IMUNOFENOTIPIZACIJA U RAZLIKOVANJU TRIHOLEUKEMIJE I SPLENIČNOG LIMFOMA S VILOZNI LIMFOCITIMA

Kardum-Paro M.M.¹, Šiftar Z.¹, Nazor A.¹, Kušec R.^{1,2},
Kardum-Skelin I.³, Šušterčić D.³, Jakšić B.²

¹ Zavod za kliničku kemiju, ² Klinika za unutarnje bolesti,

³ Laboratorij za citologiju Klinike za unutarnje bolesti, KB
"Merkur", Zagreb

Trihroleukemija (TL) je poseban oblik kronične limfoproliferativne bolesti praćen pancitopenijom, splenomegalijom i infiltracijom koštane srži mononuklearnim stanicama (trihocitima) znakovitog fenotipa (CD103+CD25+CD11c+CD19+CD22+). Temeljem znakovite morfološke slike i imunofenotipskog profila B-limfocita diferencijalno dijagnostička potvrda TL znači isključenje slične limfoproliferativne bolesti (LPB), kao što je splenični limfom s viloznim limfocitima (SLVL) (CD103-CD25-CD11c-/CD19+CD22+). Cilj rada bio je usporedbom rezultata citomorfološke analize i imunofenotipizacije utvrditi razinu slaganja

P1-4

FLOW CYTOMETRY METHOD IN DISTINCTION BETWEEN HAIRY CELL LEUKEMIA AND SPLENIC LYMPHOMA WITH VILLOUS LYMPHOCYTES

M.M. Kardum-Paro¹, Z. Šiftar¹, A. Nazor¹, R. Kušec^{1,2},
I. Kardum-Skelin³, D. Šušterčić³, B. Jakšić²

¹ Institute of Clinical Chemistry, ² University Department of
Medicine, ³ Laboratory of Cytology, University Department
of Medicine, Merkur University Hospital, Zagreb

Hairy cell leukemia (HCL) is a rare form of clonal B-cell malignancy characterized by pancytopenia, splenomegaly and bone marrow infiltration with malignant B-lymphocytes. On differential diagnosis of HCL, another B-cell lymphoproliferative disorder such as splenic lymphoma with villous lymphocytes (SLVL) has to be excluded based on the cell morphology and their immunophenotypic profile. The aim of the study was to compare cell morphology and cell immunophenotyping to assess their diagnostic impact in differentiating HCL from SLVL. During three years, 9 diagnoses of HCL, 4 diagnoses of SLVL

dviju različitih metoda i korisnost imunofenotipizacije u razlikovanju ovih dvaju entiteta. Citomorfološkom analizom koštane srži (14 uzoraka) tijekom tri godine dijagnosticirano je 9 slučajeva TL (tartarat-rezistentna kisela fosfataza (TRAP) pozitivni), 4 slučaja SLVL (od toga 2 moguća LPB) (TRAP negativni, anti-TL monoklonsko protutijelo DBA44 pozitivni) i 1 slučaj B-prolimfocitne leukemije (B-PLL), te je učinjena imunofenotipizacija metodom protočne citometrije. Unutar skupine TL (9), imunofenotipizacijom je u 6 slučajeva (6/9; 66,7%) opisan znakovit fenotip trihocita (CD103+CD25+CD11c+CD19+CD22+ uza snažnu koekspresiju biljega CD103/CD22); u dva slučaja ekspresije biljega CD103 i CD25 nisu uočene (CD103-CD25-CD11c+CD19+CD22+; bez koekspresije biljega CD103/CD22) (?varijanta TL), dok je u jednom slučaju TL ekspresija biljega CD103, CD25 i CD11c u koštanoj srži bila negativna, a naknadnom imunofenotipizacijom stanica u punknatu slezene je uočena samo jasna ekspresija biljega CD11c na B-limfocitima (?SLVL; ?atipična TL). Unutar skupine SLVL (4) imunofenotipizacija je opisala 1 SLVL (1/4; 25%) znakovitog fenotipa (CD103-CD25-CD11c-/CD19+CD22+) i tri LPB (CD103-CD25+CD11c+CD19+CD22+FMC7+) (?1 atipičan B-CLL; ?2 B-NHL) (moguća pozitivnost anti-TL monoklonskog protutijela DBA44 u LPB do 5%), dok je B-PLL temeljem fenotipa opisan kao SLVL (CD103-CD25-CD11c+CD19+CD22+FMC7-), a ponovljena analiza ukazala je na isti fenotip, 1c+CD19+CD22+. Snažna i jasna ekspresija antigena CD25 i CD103 1c+CD19+CD22+ je najspecifičnija i najosjetljivija odlika trihocita, ali 1c+CD19+CD22+ ne i B-limfocita u SLVL, te je u diferencijalnoj 1c+CD19+CD22+ dijagnostici ovih dvaju entiteta imunofenotipizacija i 1c+CD19+CD22+ određivanje ekspresije ovih dvaju antigena neophodno. 1c+CD19+CD22+ Poradi sličnosti SLVL i ostalih LPB (varijante TL, CLL, PLL) 1c+CD19+CD22+ dvojbene slučajeve je uputno istražiti i citogenetski.

E-mail: mariana.kardum@zg.hinet.hr

(two LPD possible) (TRAP negative, anti-HCL monoclonal DBA 44 antibody positive), and 1 B-PLL were made on the basis of cell morphology and tartarate-resistant acid phosphatase (TRAP) positivity. Within the group of HCL diagnoses (9), a characteristic immunophenotypic profile was described in 6 cases (6/9; 66.7% consistency) (CD103+CD25+CD11c+ CD19+CD22+; coexpression CD103/CD22 obtained); because of negativity of CD103 and CD25 (CD103-CD25-CD11c+ CD19+CD22+; without coexpression CD103/CD22) two cases were considered as a HCL variant. Only in one case there was no expression of either CD103 or CD25, or CD11c, however, obvious positivity of CD11c on B-cells was found in the spleen (?SLVL; ?atypical HCL). Within the group of SLVL (4) only 1 SLVL with a characteristic immunophenotypic profile was described (1/4; 25.0% consistency) (CD103-CD25-CD11c-/CD19+CD22+), 3 were considered for LPD (CD103-CD25+CD11c+CD19+CD22+FMC7+) (?1 atypical B-CLL; ? 2B-NHL) (anti-HCL monoclonal DBA 44 antibody positivity possible up to 5%). One B-PLL was considered as SLVL (CD103-CD25-CD11c+CD19+CD22+FMC7-) and reanalysis indicated the same profile. Accordingly, strong and obvious positivity of CD25 and CD103 on B-cells as the most specific and sensitive markers for HCL makes the FCM useful in the differential diagnosis of these two entities. However, when SLVL or other LPDs are suspected (HCL variants, CLL, PLL), cytogenetics should be employed.

E-mail: mariana.kardum@zg.hinet.hr

P1-5

**KARAKTERIZACIJA AKUTNE
MIJELOIČNE LEUKEMIJE PROTOČNOM
CITOMETRIJOM**

Šiftar Z.¹, Kardum-Paro M.M.¹, Kušec R.², Nazor A.¹,
Kardum-Skelin I.³, Šušterčić D.³, Jakšić B.H.², Minigo H.²

¹ Zavod za kliničku kemiju, ² Hematološki odjel Interne klinike, ³ Citološki odjel Interne klinike, KB "Merkur", Zagreb

Imunofenotipizacija protočnom citometrijom je korisna metoda za analizu blastnih stanica, određivanje linijske pripadnosti i stadija zrelosti u akutnim leukemijama. Cilj studije bio je utvrditi korisnost standardnog panela protutijela koji se rabi u dijagnostici akutne mijeloične leukemije (AML), te pokušati prikazati učinkovitost dodatnih ne-mijeloičnih biljega CD2, CD19 i CD56 u pre-poznavanju AML t(8;21), AMLt (15;17) i AMLinv (16) podtipova. U studiju je uključen 61 bolesnik s AML koji su dijagnosticirani u razdoblju od 2000. do 2003. u našoj ustanovi. AML su dalje klasificirane kao AML0, AML1, AML2, AML2 t(8,21), AML3 t(15;17), AML4, AML4Eo inv(16), AML5, AML6, AML s multilinijskom displazijom i bifenotipska leukemija, s 5, 4, 20, 3, 3, 11, 2, 1, 3, 8 i 1 slučajem. Najkorisniji biljezi za postavljanje dijagnoze AML osim AML6 su HLAD/DR, CD33, CD34, CD13, MPO i CD117 u frekvenciji od 95, 92, 80, 80, 75 i 56%. Nadalje, nađeno je da je MPO značajno niži ($p < 0,05$) u AML0 nego u zrelijim tipovima, što je potvrđeno Mann Whitneyom neparametrijskom analizom, za razliku od CD34 koji je baš suprotno viši. Eritroleukemija je dijagnosticirana na osnovi pozitivnosti glikoforina A, a za AML3 je znakovit negativan HLAD/DR, sa značajno višim vrijednostima CD33 nego u drugim tipovima. Dodatni napor je učinjen da se dijagnosticiraju entiteti s povratnim citogenetskim translokacijama testiranjem na izražaj CD2, CD19 i CD56 na blastnim stanicama. CD2 je bio pozitivan u oba slučaja AML4Eo inv(16), a CD19 u 1/3 i CD56 u 1/1 slučaju AM2 t(8;21). Preporučena kombinacija biljega je korisna u dijagnozi AML. Određivanje izražaja CD2, CD19 i CD56 na blastima je obećavajuće i potrebno ga je potvrditi u daljnjem radu.
E-mail: mb-zsift@inet.hr

P1-5

**FLOW CYTOMETRIC
CHARACTERIZATION OF ACUTE
MYELOID LEUKEMIA - A
RETROSPECTIVE STUDY**

Z. Šiftar¹, M.M. Kardum-Paro¹, R. Kušec², A. Nazor¹, I. Kardum-Skelin³, D. Šušterčić³, B.H. Jakšić², H. Minigo²

¹ Institute of Clinical Chemistry; ² Department of Hematology, ³ Department of Cytology, University Department of Medicine, Merkur University Hospital, Zagreb

Immunophenotyping by flow cytometry is a useful method for assessment of blast cells, their lineage determination and maturity stage in acute leukemias. The study was designed to evaluate the usefulness of the standard panel of antibodies used in flow cytometric determination for the diagnosis of acute myeloid leukemia (AML), and to try to display the efficiency of additional non-myeloid markers CD2, CD19 and CD56 to recognize AML t(8;21), AML t(15;17) and AML Eo inv(16) subtypes. Sixty-one patients with AML included in the study were diagnosed at our hospital between 2000 and 2003. AMLs were further classified as: AML0, AML1, AML2, AML2 t(8;21), AML3 t(15;17), AML4, AML4Eo inv(16), AML5, AML6, AML with multilineage dysplasia and biphenotypic leukemia, with 5, 4, 20, 3, 3, 11, 2, 1, 3, 8 and 1 case, respectively. The most useful markers contributing to the diagnosis of AML, except for AML6, were HLAD/DR, CD33, CD34, CD13, MPO and CD117 at a frequency of 95, 92, 80, 80, 75 and 56%, respectively. Moreover, MPO was found to be significantly lower ($p < 0.05$) in AML0 than in more mature types, as confirmed by Mann Whitney nonparametric analysis. On the contrary, CD34 was higher. The diagnosis of erythroleukemia was based on glycoporphin A positivity, and AML3 was characterized by HLAD/DR negativity, with a significantly higher level of CD33 than in the other types of AML. An additional effort was made to diagnose entities with recurrent cytogenetic translocation by testing the expression of CD2, CD19 and CD56 on blast cells. CD2 was positive in both cases of AML4Eo inv(16), CD19 in 1/3 and CD56 in 1/1 case of AML2 t(8;21). The proposed combination of markers proved to be useful in the diagnosis of AML. Determination of CD2, CD19 and CD56 expression on blasts seems promising, however, it should be confirmed in future studies.

E-mail: mb-zsift@inet.hr

P1-6

**UČESTALOST MOLEKULARNIH
IZOFORMA BCR/ABL p210 I NJIHOVO
KLINIČKO ZNAČENJE U BOLESNIKA S
KRONIČNOM MIJELOIČNOM
LEUKEMIJOM**

Vranić T.¹, Marušić-Vrsalović M.¹, Mandušić T.¹, Šiftar Z.¹,
Kardum-Skelin I.², Minigo H.³, Jakšić B.R.³, Kušec R.¹

¹ Zavod za kliničku kemiju, Odjel za molekularnu
dijagnostiku, ² Citološki odjel, ³ Hematološki odjel Klinike
za unutarnje bolesti, KB "Merkur", Zagreb

Fuzijski onkogen BCR/ABL translokacije $t(9;22)(q34;q11)$ dovodi do spajanja eksona 3 ili 2 BCR gena s eksonom 2 ABL gena. Transkripti b3a2 ili b2a2 kodiraju protein 210kD (p210). Rjeđi transkripti su e1a2 koji kodira manji protein (p190) te e19a2 koji kodira veći protein (p230). Cilj rada bio je istražiti učestalost p210 BCR/ABL izoforma b3a2 i b2a2, javljanje p190 BCR/ABL molekularnog oblika, te usporediti molekularne BCR/ABL izotipove s kliničkim, hematološkim i biokemijskim parametrima. U istraživanje su uključena 24 bolesnika s kroničnom mijeloidnom leukemijom (KML) u razdoblju od 1986. do 2003. godine. BCR/ABL preuredba dokazana je citogenetski i RT-PCR-om (metoda BIOMED-1) kod svih bolesnika. Svi su imali fuzijski transkript p210 BCR/ABL i to b3a2 (75%) ili b2a2 (25%). Jedan bolesnik je iskazao koekspresiju b3a2 i b2a2 transkripta. Kod dvoje bolesnika (8,3%) nađen je p190 BCR/ABL subklon. Kaplan-Meierova analiza pokazala je bolje (ali ne značajno) preživljenje kod tipa b2a2 u odnosu na b3a2. Wilcoxonov test za korelaciju tipova transkripata prema broju leukocita, trombocita, bazofila, mijeloidnih blasta u perifernoj krvi i koštanoj srži, LDH, veličini slezene, dobi i spolu nije pokazao značajnu razliku. Ipak, koncentracija hemoglobina bila je značajno viša ($p=0,036$) kod b3a2 tipa prema b2a2 [130g/L(108-146) vs. 103g/L(76-167)]. Nije bilo korelacije između pojave fibroze u koštanoj srži ili povećane eozinofilne mijelopojeze s tipovima molekularnih transkripata. Dvoje od šestoro bolesnika s b2a2 tipom iskazala su složenu kromosomsku preuredbu $t(9;6;22)$ i + der(22) $t(9;22)$. Zamijetili smo nešto nižu pojavnost b2a2 molekularne izoforme p210 BCR/ABL (25%) u odnosu na literaturne podatke (40%). Molekularni podtip b2a2 fuzijskog transkripta nema bolju prognostičku značajnost, iako korelira s višim koncentracijama hemoglobina. Potrebno je nastaviti istraživanje s većim brojem bolesnika.

E-mail: rkusec@rudjer.irb.hr

P1-6

**FREQUENCY OF BCR/ABL p210
MOLECULAR ISOFORMS AND THEIR
CLINICAL SIGNIFICANCE IN PATIENTS
WITH CHRONIC MYELOGENOUS
LEUKEMIA**

T. Vranić¹, M. Marušić-Vrsalović¹, T. Mandušić¹, Z. Šiftar¹,
I. Kardum-Skelin², H. Minigo³, B.R. Jakšić³, R. Kušec¹

¹ Institute of Clinical Chemistry, Department of Molecular
Diagnosis, ² Department of Cytology, ³ Department of
Hematology, Merkur University Hospital, Zagreb

BCR/ABL fusion oncogene caused by translocation $t(9;22)(q34;q11)$ fuses exon 3 or 2 of BCR gene to exon 2 of ABL gene. Transcripts b3a2 or b2a2 encode p210 kD protein (p210). Less frequent are transcript e1a2 translated into smaller protein (p190) or larger (e19a2) fusion with p230. This study was designed to determine the frequency of p210 isoforms b3a2 and b2a2, incidence of p190 molecular variant, and to correlate molecular isotypes with clinical, hematologic and biochemical parameters. Twenty-four chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML) patients diagnosed from 1986 till 2003 were included in the study. BCR/ABL rearrangement was confirmed by cytogenetics and RT-PCR (BIOMED-1 method) in all patients. All patients had p210 fusion transcript of either b3a2 type (75%) or b2a2 type (25%). One (4.2%) patient showed coexpression of b3a2 and b2a2 type of fusion transcript. Two (8.3%) patients had the p190BCR/ABL subclone. Kaplan-Meier analysis showed apparent (not significant) survival advantage for b2a2 over b3a2 type. Wilcoxon test for correlation of transcript types to white blood cell counts, platelets, basophils, myeloid blasts in PB and BM, LDH, spleen size, sex or age showed no significant difference. However, hemoglobin level was significantly higher ($p=0.036$) for b3a2 transcript type compared to b2a2 [130g/L (108-146) vs. 103 g/L(76-167), respectively]. There was no correlation for the existence of BM fibrosis or increased eosinophilic myelopoiesis with molecular transcript types. Of interest, two of six b2a2 type patients had complex chromosomal rearrangements, i.e. $t(9;6;22)$ and + der(22) $t(9;22)$. We observed a somewhat lower incidence of b2a2 molecular isoform of p210BCR/ABL (25%) than expected (40% according to literature). Certain prognostic significance favoring b2a2 type was found. Additional studies in a greater number of patients are warranted.

E-mail: rkusec@rudjer.irb.hr

P1-7

**PRAĆENJE MINIMALNE OSTATNE
BOLESTI U AKUTNIM MIJELOIČNIM
LEUKEMIJAMA SEMI-KVANTITATIVNOM
METODOM RT-PCR**

Šiftar Z.¹, Bobetić-Vranić T.¹, Marušić-Vrsalović M.¹,
Kardum-Skelin I.², Jakšić B.³, Minigo H.³, Kušec R.¹

¹ Zavod za kliničku kemiju, ² Citološki odjel, ³ Hematološki
odjel Interne klinike, KB "Merkur", Zagreb

Novom klasifikacijom Svjetske zdravstvene organizacije malignih bolesti hematopoetskog i limfoidnog tkiva izdvojene su akutne mijeloične leukemije (AML) s povratnim citogenetskim promjenama: AML s t(8;21)(q22,q22), AML1/ETO; AML s t(15;17)(q11-12) i varijante, PML/RARalfa; i AML s inv(16)(p13;q22) ili t(16;16)(p13;q11), CBFbeta/MYH11X kao zasebni entiteti. Molekularna dijagnostika je korisna i vrlo osjetljiva metoda koja se rabi za postavljanje dijagnoze AML i praćenje minimalne ostatne bolesti (MOB) nakon postupaka intenzivne kemoterapije. Studija je tako osmišljena da pokaže kako testiranje na molekularne biljege pomaže u procjeni uspješnosti terapije, razotkriva MOB i čak predviđa recidiv bolesti. Desetero bolesnika s AML dijagnosticirani su u posljednje dvije godine u našoj ustanovi kao pozitivni na AML1/ETO (n=4), PML/RARalfa (n=4) ili CBFbeta/MYH11X (n=2) fuzijske gene. Molekularni biljezi su potvrđeni standardnom semi-kvantitativnom metodom RT-PCR prema preporukama BIOMED-1. Izražaj transkripata se pratio tijekom terapije i nakon nje, prema utvrđenim terapijskim programima. MOB je nađena nakon šest mjeseci ili duljeg razdoblja u 6 bolesnika. Dvoje bolesnika bilo je još uvijek pozitivno na CBFbeta/MYH11X, a troje na AML1/ETO molekularni transkript, bez kliničkih znakova bolesti. Citomorfološkim pregledom koštane srži nisu nađeni blasti, osim u slučaju s pozitivnim AML1/ETO, kada ih je nađen minimalan broj. Bolesnik koji je bio neprekidno dulje od 16 mjeseci pozitivan na PML/RARalfa ušao je u recidiv. Istodobno su u koštanoj srži nađeni blasti jedino kada je marker bio povišen preko dva loga. Praćenje molekularnih biljega pomaže u utvrđivanju MOB i njezine progresije, predviđajući recidiv bolesti i prije kliničke pojave.

E-mail: mb-zsift@inet.hr

P1-7

**MONITORING OF MINIMAL RESIDUAL
DISEASE IN ACUTE MYELOID LEUKEMIA
BY SEMI-QUANTITATIVE RT-PCR**

Z. Šiftar¹, T. Bobetić-Vranić¹, M. Marušić-Vrsalović¹, I.
Kardum-Skelin², B. Jakšić³, H. Minigo³, R. Kušec¹

¹ Institute of Clinical Chemistry, ² Department of Cytology,
³ Department of Hematology, University Department of
Medicine, Merkur University Hospital, Zagreb

The new World Health Organization classification of neoplastic disease of hematopoietic and lymphoid tissues recognizes acute myeloid leukemias (AML) with recurrent cytogenetic translocations: AML with t(8;21)(q22,q22), AML1/ETO; AML with t(15;17)(q11-12) and variants, PML/RARalfa; and AML with inv(16)(p13;q22) or t(16;16)(p13;q11), CBFbeta/MYH11X as distinct entities. Molecular diagnosis is a useful and very sensitive method used for the diagnosis of AML and monitoring of minimal residual disease (MRD) after intensive chemotherapeutic procedures. The study was designed to show that molecular marker testing helps demonstrate therapeutic efficacy, to disclose MRD, and even to predict the disease relapse. Ten AML patients included in the study were diagnosed at our institution as positive for AML1/ETO (n=4), PML/RARalfa (n=4) or CBFbeta/MYH11X (n=2) fusion genes during the past two years. Molecular markers were confirmed by the standard semi-quantitative RT-PCR method according to BIOMED-1 protocol. Expression of transcripts was monitored during and after the course of therapy, according to therapeutic schedules. After six months or later, MRD was observed in six patients. Two patients were still positive for CBFbeta/MYH11X and three for AML1/ETO molecular transcripts, without clinical signs of the disease. These observations were not confirmed by cytomorphological examinations of bone marrow, except in case with AML1/ETO positivity, when a minimal number of blasts was found. Relapse occurred in the patient continuously positive for PML/RARalfa for 16 months. At the same time, blasts in the bone marrow were only found when marker positivity increased over two logs. Accordingly, molecular marker monitoring helps in diagnosing MRD and its progression, and in predicting the disease relapse even before its clinical manifestation.

E-mail: mb-zsift@inet.hr

P1-8

OTKRIVANJE AML1/ETO PRIJEPISA U BOLESNIKA S T(8;21) PRI DIJAGNOZI I TIJEKOM TERAPIJE POMOĆU KVANTITATIVNE POLIMERAZNE LANČANE REAKCIJE

Zadro R.¹, Kastelic R.², Bulum J.³, Rajić Lj.⁴, Stavljenić-Rukavina A.¹, Labar B.³

¹ Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku KBC "Zagreb", ² Abbott Diagnostics, Predstavništvo u RH, ³ Interna klinika, ⁴ Klinika za pedijatriju, KBC "Zagreb", Zagreb

Translokacija t(8;21) jedna je od najčešćih preuredba gena u akutnim mijeloidnim leukemijama (AML) s učestalošću od oko 20% odraslih i 40% dječjih AML-M2. Posljedica ove translokacije je spajanje gena AML1 na kromosomu 21q i gena ETO na kromosomu 8q u združeni gen AML1/ETO. Prijepis aml1/eto može se otkriti kvalitativnom i kvantitativnom lančanom reakcijom polimerazom (PCR) kod bolesnika pri dijagnozi i u kliničkoj remisiji. Cilj rada bio je usporediti rezultate kvalitativnog i kvantitativnog PCR u otkrivanju prijepisa aml1/eto te izmjeriti količinu prijepisa aml1/eto u uzorcima koštane srži bolesnika u različitim vremenskim točkama od trenutka postavljanja dijagnoze do završetka terapije. Uporabom tehnologije Light Cycler izvedena je analiza 50 uzoraka RNK izolirane standardnim metodama iz koštane srži 13 bolesnika kod kojih je pri dijagnozi dokazan prijepis aml1/eto kvalitativnom PCR. Usporedba dobivenih rezultata pokazala je potpunu podudarnost ishoda testa kvalitativno i kvantitativno PCR. Određena je granična vrijednost od 0,27 za omjer aml1/eto:G-6-PDH iznad koje su rezultati proglašeni pozitivnima. Taj raspon pri dijagnozi je iznosio 0,31-2,35. Šestero bolesnika s t(8;21) kod kojih je postignuta potpuna remisija bolesti praćeni su u različitim vremenskim razmacima nakon postavljene dijagnoze i uvodne terapije. Uočen je postupan pad razine prijepisa aml1/eto od trenutka postavljanja dijagnoze (raspon 1,0-2,35) na manje od 0,3 jedan do tri mjeseca nakon početka terapije. U zaključku, kvantifikacija ostatne bolesti tehnologijom Light Cycler pouzdana je i osjetljiva metoda praćenja dinamike iščezavanja malignog klona stanica.

E-mail: rzadro@mef.hr

P1-8

MOLECULAR MONITORING OF AML1/ETO TRANSCRIPT IN AML PATIENTS AT DIAGNOSIS AND FOLLOW-UP BY QUANTITATIVE PCR

R. Zadro¹, R. Kastelic², J. Bulum³, Lj. Rajić⁴, A. Stavljenić-Rukavina¹, B. Labar³

¹ Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb University Hospital Center, ² Abbott Diagnostics, Representative Office in Croatia, ³ University Department of Medicine, ⁴ University Department of Pediatrics, Zagreb University Hospital Center, Zagreb

The t(8;21) is one of the most common translocations in acute myeloid leukemia (AML) occurring in approximately 20% of adult and 40% of pediatric AML-M2 patients. The result of this translocation is the fusion gene AML1/ETO whose transcripts can be detected by qualitative and quantitative PCR in patients at diagnosis as well as in clinical remission. Using Light Cycler technology, we analyzed 50 samples of 13 patients who were positive for AML1/ETO transcript at diagnosis by use of qualitative RT-PCR. In all study patients, positive results by qualitative RT-PCR were in agreement with the results obtained by Light Cycler technology. By comparison of the two methods we established the cut-off value for aml1/eto transcript:G-6-PDH ratio of 0.27, while the same ratio ranged from 0.30-2.35 at diagnosis. Additionally, six patients with t(8;21) AML were studied by quantitative RT-PCR at different time intervals (1-16 months) after therapy initiation. We observed a constant decrease in aml1/eto transcript:G-6-PDH ratio from the time of diagnosis (range 1.0-2.35) to below 0.30 at 1 to 3 months of therapy initiation. We conclude that quantification of residual disease with Real Time RT-PCR is a reliable and sensitive method to monitor the dynamics of the malignant clone disappearance.

E-mail: rzadro@mef.hr

P1-9

ZNAČI LI NIZAK BROJ TROMBOCITA UVIJEK I TROMBOCITOPENIJU?

Bernt T., Kralik S., Mayer V., Suchanek E.

Klinika za ženske bolesti i porode, KBC "Zagreb", Zavod za kliničku biokemiju i biologiju reprodukcije, Zagreb

Učestalost trombocitopenije u trudnoći kreće se od 4% do 8% i predstavlja značajan problem i za trudnicu i za fetus. Terapiju treba započeti što ranije, ali je prije potrebno isključiti pseudotrombocitopeniju (PTCP) kao laboratorijski artefakt. PTCP je najčešće posljedica agregacije Tr pod utjecajem antikoagulacijske otopine EDTA, a agregacija se stajanjem pojačava. U radu je prikazana 27-godišnja trećerotkinja (2 zdravo rođene djece) koja je primljena u Kliniku u 34. tjednu trudnoće zbog izrazito niskog broja Tr, neupadljive anamneze i bez kliničkih znakova krvarenja. Neposredno nakon vađenja krvi (37 °C) dobivene su vrijednosti Tr $19 \times 10^9/L$ (Cell Dyn 3200, Abbott, K3 EDTA 7,5% BD). Određivanjem broja Tr u istom uzorku krvi 1 sat nakon vađenja (sobna temperatura) uočen je skok vrijednosti Tr ($115 \times 10^9/L$), a 2 sata nakon vađenja $134 \times 10^9/L$. Slične vrijednosti dobivene su i s Na-citratom kao antikoagulansom. Mikroskopskom analizom razmaza bojenih MGG odmah nakon vađenja, te 1 i 2 sata nakon vađenja uočena je prisutnost većeg broja agregata Tr u prvom uzorku. U histogramima raspodjele veličine Tr ustanovljene su značajne razlike između I. brojanja te II. i III. brojanja. Promjene histograma I. brojanja ukazuju na velik broj agregata. U nama dostupnoj literaturi nismo za opisani slučaj našli slične podatke. Broj i veličina agregata se stajanjem smanjuju. Protočnom citometrijom u uzorku s EDTA i Na-citratom nađena je povišena količina protutijela IgG i IgM vezanih za trombocite. Međutim, testom antitrombocitnih protutijela ne može se razlučiti radi li se o pseudotrombocitopeniji ili moguće o pravim autprotutijelima. Zanimljivo je da je u ove trudnice uočen nizak broj Tr u uzorcima krvi brojanim odmah nakon vađenja (37 °C), koji se je stajanjem povećavao. U dostupnoj literaturi (CC i Medline) nismo našli slične podatke. Iako su optimalne temperature na kojima se događa agregacija Tr pod utjecajem EDTA ispod 37 °C i pojačava se stajanjem, u ove trudnice je situacija bila upravo obrnuta. U takvim slučajevima preporuča se pažljiva analiza krvnih razmaza i histograma Tr, kao antikoagulans treba rabiti amonijev oksalat, a Tr brojiti u Burkerovoj komorici.

P1-9

DOES A LOW PLATELET COUNT ALWAYS IMPLY THROMBOCYTOPENIA?

T. Bernt, S. Kralik, V. Mayer, E. Suchanek

Department of Clinical Chemistry and Reproduction Biology, University Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Zagreb University Hospital Center, Zagreb

The prevalence of thrombocytopenia in pregnancy is between 4% and 8%, and is a serious problem for both the pregnant woman and the fetus. Treatment should be initiated as early as possible. To avoid misdiagnosis, it is necessary to recognize pseudothrombocytopenia (PTCP) as a possible laboratory artifact prior to therapy initiation. The most common reason for this artifact is in vitro platelet clumping in blood samples collected with EDTA as anticoagulant. The clumping activity increases several hours from blood collection. A 27-year-old pregnant woman in the 34th week of third pregnancy (two healthy children) with a very low platelet count, and without any disorder or signs of bleeding is presented. Immediately upon blood collection (37 °C), the platelet count was $19 \times 10^9/L$ (Cell Dyn 3200, Abbott, K3 EDTA 7.5% BD). In the blood sample, the platelet count was $115 \times 10^9/L$ at one hour and $134 \times 10^9/L$ at two hours of blood collection (room temperature). Similar values were observed in the blood sample collected with citrate as anticoagulant. Numerous platelet clumps were verified by microscopic analysis of MGG stained blood smears prepared from EDTA and citrate-anticoagulated blood in the sample analyzed immediately upon blood collection. The occurrence of a characteristic histogram pattern indicated the presence of massive platelet clumping in the blood sample analyzed immediately upon blood collection. The histogram pattern of the blood sample at two hours of collection showed no platelet clumps. No similar data were found in the available literature. In EDTA-blood specimen and citrate-anticoagulated blood specimen, the presence of IgG and IgM antiplatelet antibodies was detected by flow cytometry. It is not possible to determine whether there is a PTCP or some other type of thrombocytopenia by testing antiplatelet antibodies. In this pregnant woman, platelet count was very low in both EDTA- and citrate-anticoagulant blood immediately upon blood sampling. Blood smear prepared from this specimen demonstrated clumping. However, platelet count increased progressively over time in both specimens, and there was no clumping. Although the clumping activity is greater at a tem-

P1-10

**SADRŽAJ HEMOGLOBINA U
RETICULOCITIMA - CHR: PARAMETAR ZA
PROCJENU NEDOSTATKA ŽELJEZA U
BOLESNIKA LIJEČENIH
HEMODIJALIZOM**

Perović E.¹, Sambunjak J.¹, Klarić D.², Valčić A.¹

¹ Odjel za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, ² Odjel za unutarnje bolesti; Opća bolnica Zadar, Zadar

Bolesnici liječeni hemodijalizom su osobito podložni nedostatku željeza. Prvotni razlog tomu je gubitak krvi tijekom dijalize, nadalje učestala su okultna krvarenja iz gastrointestinalnog trakta (GIT), a ometena je i apsorpcija željeza u GIT-u. Uza sideropeniju uporabom rekombinantnog humanog eritropoetina (rHu-EPO) javlja se funkcionalni nedostatak željeza. Uobičajene pretrage za određivanje statusa željeza su: serumski feritin, % zasićenja transferina, a u novije vrijeme se određuje koncentracija topljivog receptora transferina (sTfr). Nedostatak određivanja feritina jest to što je on reaktant akutne faze upale, pa je često lažno povišen (dijagnostička osjetljivost 88%, a specifičnost samo 63%). Postotak zasićenja transferina ima dijagnostičku osjetljivost 81%, a specifičnost 63%. sTfr je bolji pokazatelj statusa željeza, ali određivanje nije dovoljno standardizirano. Određivanje sadržaja hemoglobina u retikulocitima (CHR) je idealno za procjenu nedostatka željeza u bolesnika liječenih hemodijalizom, jer izravno mjeri željezo na razini prekursora eritrocita. Kako su oni prisutni u cirkulaciji samo oko 24 sata pretraga predstavlja trenutni prikaz statusa željeza. Jedino pretraga koja se odnosi na retikulocite može biti visoko osjetljiva i specifična za dijagnozu nedostatka željeza. U 115 bolesnika liječenih hemodijalizom određeni su: %Rtc ($\chi=1,78$; $SD=0,76$) i CHR ($\chi=32,70$; $SD=2,45$) na hematološkom analizatoru Advia 120 (Bayer Diagnostic, Tarrytown, NY, SAD). CHR <30 pg imalo je 23 (20%) bolesnika, što vrijednost CHR <30 pg čini točnim, vrlo osjetljivim i specifičnim pokazateljem nedostatka že-

perature below 37 °C, and is also stronger a few hours of blood collection, in this case it was just opposite. We found no such data in the available literature. To avoid severe misinterpretation in such patients, blood smears as well as platelet histograms should be analyzed. Blood must be collected in ammonium oxalate and platelets counted in Burker chamber.

P1-10

**RETICULOCYTE HEMOGLOBIN CONTENT
- CHR: A PARAMETER IN THE
EVALUATION OF IRON DEFICIENCY IN
HEMODIALYSIS PATIENTS**

E. Perović¹, J. Sambunjak¹, D. Klarić², A. Valčić¹

¹ Department of Laboratory Diagnosis, ² Department of Medicine, Zadar General Hospital, Zadar

Hemodialysis patients are particularly prone to iron deficiency. The primary reason for this is the loss of blood during dialysis treatment along with the loss through occult gastrointestinal bleeding, and even dietary iron absorption is reduced. Besides iron deficiency, functional iron deficiency is often present because of the treatment with recombinant human erythropoietin (rHu-EPO). The commonly used tests for iron status assessment are: serum ferritin, % of transferrin saturation, and recently soluble transferrin receptor (sTfr). The shortcoming of ferritin determination refers to its potent activity as an acute phase reactant, thus being often falsely elevated (diagnostic sensitivity and specificity is 88% and 63%, respectively). Transferrin saturation has a diagnostic sensitivity and specificity of 81% and 63%, respectively. sTfr is a better marker of iron status, however, yet not adequately standardized. Reticulocyte hemoglobin content (CHR) is an ideal test for iron deficiency in hemodialysis patients because it is a direct measure of iron at the level of erythrocyte precursors. They exist in the circulation for approximately only one day, thus providing a 'snapshot' of iron status. Only a test that evaluates reticulocytes can be highly sensitive and specific for the diagnosis of iron deficiency. % Rtc ($\chi=1.78$; $SD=0.76$) and CHR ($\chi=32.70$; $SD=2.45$) were determined in 115 hemodialysis patients on an Advia 120 hematology analyzer (Bayer Diagnostic, Tarrytown, NY, USA). CHR <30 pg is an accurate, very sensitive and specific measure of iron deficiency. When assessment of CHR is included in clinical protocols for the treatment of anemia in chronic renal failure patients,

ljeza. Kada se određivanje CHr uključi u kliničke smjernice liječenja anemije u bolesnika s kroničnim zatajenjem bubrega, dobiti će se bolji uvid u status željeza te će se znatno smanjiti ukupni troškovi liječenja ovih bolesnika.

E-mail: e_perovic@inet.hr

it will provide a better insight into the iron status and will reduce the overall cost of patient care.

E-mail: e_perovic@inet.hr

P2

Bolesti jetre *Liver diseases*

P2-1

DIJAGNOSTIČKA VRIJEDNOST ODREĐIVANJA TROPONINA I U BOLESNIKA S AKUTNIM KOLECISTITISOM

Jagić V.¹, Babić Ž.², Lazić J.¹, Rumenjak V.¹, Marušić M.²

¹ Zavod za medicinsko laboratorijsku dijagnostiku ² Klinika za unutarnje bolesti, Opća bolnica "Sveti Duh", Zagreb

Dijagnostička vrijednost povećane koncentracije srčanog troponina I. (cTnI) potvrđena je i dokazana u dijagnostici akutnog infarkta miokarda, u otkrivanju oštećenja miokarda u nestabilnoj angini pectoris te u perioperacijskom oštećenju miokarda, kao i u kontuziji srca. Međutim, određivanje koncentracije cTnI pokazalo se korisnim dijagnostičkim pokazateljem i u nekim drugim kliničkim situacijama. Cilj ovoga rada bio je dijagnostička procjena korisnosti određivanja koncentracije cTnI kod bolesnika s akutnimolecistitisom. Ispitivanje je obuhvatilo 15 bolesnika (6 muškaraca i 9 žena) starosti 28- 80 godina. Kod svih bolesnika je na osnovi kliničkih, laboratorijskih i ultrazvučnih nalaza postavljena dijagnoza akutnogolecistitisa uzrokovanog kolelitijazom. Akutno koronarno zbivanje isključeno je na osnovi anamnestičkih podataka, nalaza EKG i srčanih biljega. Na osnovi kliničkih i laboratorijskih parametara isključena je i dijagnoza akutnog pankreatitisa. Koncentracija cTnI određivana je imunofluorometrijskom metodom (Dimension, Dade Behring). Referentna vrijednost za cTnI bila je do 0,05 µg/L, a vrijednosti 0,6-1,5 µg/L smatrane su kao sumnja na akutni infarkt miokarda. U skupini bolesnika (n=5) kod kojih je izmjerena debljina stijenke >5 mm vrijednosti cTnI bile su 0,15-0,25 µg/L (srednja vrijednost 0,21 µg/L, SD 0,04 µg/L). Ostali bolesnici (n=10) imali su vrijednosti cTnI do 0,05

P2-1

DIAGNOSTIC VALUE OF TROPONIN-I IN PATIENTS WITH ACUTE CHOLECYSTITIS

V. Jagić¹, Ž. Babić², J. Lazić¹, V. Rumenjak¹, M. Marušić²

¹ Institute of Medical Laboratory Diagnosis, ² University Department of Medicine, Sveti Duh General Hospital, Zagreb

Diagnostic value of the increased concentration of cardiac troponin I (cTnI) has been proved in the diagnosis of acute myocardial infarction, in detection of myocardial lesion in unstable angina pectoris, in perioperative myocardial lesion as well as in myocardial contusion. However, determination of cTnI concentration has proved to be a useful diagnostic marker also in some other clinical situations. The aim of the study was to assess the diagnostic value of cTnI concentration determination in patients with acute cholecystitis. The study included 15 patients (6 men and 9 women) aged 28-80 yrs. In all patients, the diagnosis of acute cholecystitis due to cholelithiasis was based on clinical, laboratory and ultrasound findings. Acute coronary disease was excluded on the basis of history data, ECG findings and cardiac markers. The diagnosis of acute pancreatitis was also excluded on the basis of clinical and laboratory parameters. The concentration of cTnI was determined by the immunofluorometric method (Dimension, Dade Boehring). Reference value of cTnI was set at 0.05 µg/L, and values of 0.6-1.5 µg/L were considered suspect of acute myocardial infarction. In the group of patients (n=5) with gallbladder wall thickness of >5 mm, cTnI values were 0.15-0.25 µg/L (mean 0.21 µg/L, SD 0.04 µg/L). In other patients (n=10) cTnI values were up to 0.05 µg/L and myocardial wall thickness <5 mm. Only one patient had cTnI val-

$\mu\text{g/L}$ i debljinu stijenke <5 mm. Samo jedan od ovih bolesnika imao je vrijednosti cTnI $0,1 \mu\text{g/L}$. Povećane vrijednosti cTnI $>0,05 \mu\text{g/L}$ kod bolesnika s akutnim kolecistitisom mogu ukazivati na zadebljanje stijenke žučnog mjehura, ali i biti znakom oštećenja miokarda zbog žestine akutnog oblika kolecistitisa, hemodinamskih promjena i hipoksije miokarda.

E-mail: vlatko.rumenjak@zg.tel.hr

ues of $0.1 \mu\text{g/L}$. The increased cTnI values $>0.05 \mu\text{g/L}$ in patients with acute cholecystitis could point to gallbladder wall thickening, but could also be a sign of myocardial lesion due to the aggressive acute form of cholecystitis, hemodynamic changes and myocardial hypoxia.

E-mail: vlatko.rumenjak@zg.tel.hr

P2-2

ODREĐIVANJE MAGNEZIJA U KRONIČNIH ALKOHOLIČARA

Ruljančić N.¹, Rumenjak V.²

¹ Psihijatrijska bolnica Jankomir, Medicinsko-biokemijski laboratorij; ² Zavod za medicinsko-laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Opća bolnica "Sveti Duh", Zagreb

Magnezij je drugi po zastupljenosti kation u stanici. Kofaktor je u više od 325 staničnih enzima. Malnutricija, nedostatak fosfata i vitamina D, acidoza/alkaloza, gastrointestinalni gubitak i pojačano izlučivanje magnezija putem bubrega su alkoholom izazvani patofiziološki procesi koji utječu na koncentraciju magnezija. Cilj rada bio je odrediti koncentraciju ukupnog i fiziološki aktivnog ioniziranog magnezija u plazmi bolesnika s kroničnim alkoholizmom. U hepariniziranoj plazmi 33 ispitanika s dijagnosticiranim kroničnim alkoholizmom koncentracija ukupnog magnezija je određivana kolorimetrijski (metoda kalmagit, referentni raspon $0,60-1,11$ mmol/l), a koncentracija ioniziranog magnezija potencijometrijski ion-selektivnim elektrodama (Nova Biomedical Ultra State Profile C, referentni raspon $0,53-0,67$ mmol/l). Kod svih ispitanika su se izmjerene koncentracije ukupnog magnezija kretale od $0,59$ do $1,11$ mmol/l (prosječna vrijednost $0,85$ mmol/l), a koncentracije ioniziranog magnezija od $0,40$ do $0,63$ mmol/l (prosječna vrijednost $0,50$ mmol/l). Snižene vrijednosti ukupnog magnezija ($<0,60$ mmol/l) su zabilježene kod $6,06\%$ ispitanika, dok ih je $60,60\%$ imalo snižene vrijednosti ioniziranog magnezija ($<0,53$ mmol/l). Prema dobivenim rezultatima zapažene su snižene vrijednosti u koncentraciji ioniziranog magnezija u kroničnih alkoholičara, ali su za određivanje statusa magnezija potrebna daljnja ispitivanja.

E-mail: dorian10@net.hr

P2-2

DETERMINATION OF MAGNESIUM IN CHRONIC ALCOHOLICS

N. Ruljančić¹, V. Rumenjak²

¹ Laboratory of Medical Biochemistry, Jankomir Psychiatric Hospital; ² Institute of Medical Laboratory Diagnosis, Sveti Duh General Hospital, Zagreb

Magnesium (Mg) is the second most abundant cation in the cells. It is a cofactor in more than 325 cell enzymes. Malnutrition, phosphate and vitamin D deficiencies, acidosis/alkalosis, gastrointestinal loss and urinary Mg wastage are all alcohol induced pathophysiological processes which have some effect on the magnesium concentration. The aim of the study was to determine the concentration of total blood magnesium and physiologically active form, ionized magnesium in the plasma of patients with chronic alcoholism. In heparinized plasma of 33 patients with diagnosed chronic alcoholism, the concentration of total blood magnesium was determined by spectroscopy (calmagit method, reference range $0.60-1.11$ mmol/l) and of ionized magnesium by use of ion-selective electrodes (Nova Biomedical Ultra State Profile C, reference range $0.53-0.67$ mmol/l). In all patients, the concentration of total blood magnesium ranged from 0.58 to 1.11 mmol/l (mean 0.85 mmol/l) and of ionized magnesium from 0.40 to 0.63 mmol/l (mean 0.50 mmol/l). Lower blood levels of total blood magnesium (<0.60 mmol/l) were recorded in 6.06% of patients; in 60.60% of patients the levels of ionized magnesium were lower than 0.53 mmol/l. Thus, the measured levels showed lower concentration of ionized magnesium in chronic alcoholics, however, additional studies are needed to determine the magnesium status in this patient population.

E-mail: dorian10@net.hr

P2-3**REZULTATI TESTIRANJA TRUDNICA I NOVIH DAVATELJA KRVI NA BILJEGE HEPATITISA B I SIFILISA**

Mihaljević I., Lovrić M., Strahija-Tomić K., Balića M., Jukić I.

Hrvatski zavod za transfuzijsku medicinu, Zagreb

Prenatalna skrb uključuje ispitivanje krvi trudnica na biljege spolno prenosivih bolesti, i to sifilisa i hepatitisa B, a sukladno nalazima imunoprofilaksu novorođene djece. Na području grada Zagreba sustavno ispitivanje trudnica na HBsAg provodi se posljednje tri godine. Svrha rada bila je ispitati proširenost spolno prenosivih bolesti hepatitisa B i sifilisa u trudnica grada Zagreba i okolice i usporediti ih s rezultatima istih ispitivanja u novih davatelja krvi muškaraca u dobi od 18-20 godina i žena s područja Republike Hrvatske kao primjera spolno najaktivnije populacije. Skupina A: trudnice testirane na HBsAg i anti *Treponema (T.) pallidum* od 1. siječnja 2000. do 31. prosinca 2002. u Hrvatskom zavodu za transfuzijsku medicinu (HZTM); skupina B: novi davatelji krvi, mladi muškarci koji su krv prvi puta dali u istom razdoblju; skupina C: žene koje su dale krv prvi puta u istom razdoblju. Svi uzorci krvi ispitani su HBsAg EIA testom osjetljivosti >0,2 ng/mL krvi, Ortho Test System 3 i Murex HBsAg V3 GE36 i EIA testom za *T. pallidum* protutijela Trepanostika -TP, Biomerieux (Organon) ili ICE Syphilis Abbott (Murex). Reaktivnost je potvrđivana testom drugog proizvođača, ostalim HBV biljezima, a u sifilis testu RPR i TPHA testom. Tijekom tri godine ispitano je 16.280 trudnica, 20.315 novih davatelja muškaraca između 18 i 25 godina starosti i 5.461 žena novih davatelja krvi. Učestalost HBsAg pozitivnih po skupinama bila je 0,54%, 0,43% i 0,36%. Tako je 95% HBsAg pozitivnih u skupini B i 100% u skupinama A i C pokazivalo anti HBe reaktivnost uz izostanak biljega akutne infekcije anti HBcIgM. Učestalost protutijela na *T. pallidum* bila je niska, u skupini trudnica 0,024%, u muških novih davatelja krvi 0,004%, a u ženskih 0,018%. Učestalost HBV u svim trima skupinama ispitanika kretala se oko 0,4% i nije pokazala tendenciju pada, što bi moglo predstavljati minimalnu učestalost HBV postignutu prije učinka nedavno uvedenog obveznog cijepljenja mlađih adolescenata. Nositeljstvo obilježava anti HBe reaktivnost, što znatno smanjuje mogućnost prijenosa s majke na dijete. Sifilis mjeren reaktivnošću EIA anti TP testa nije proširen među

P2-3**SYPHILIS AND HEPATITIS B MARKER SCREENING OF PREGNANT WOMEN AND FIRST TIME BLOOD DONORS IN THE ZAGREB AREA**

I. Mihaljević, M. Lovrić, K. Strahija-Tomić, M. Balića, I. Jukić

Croatian Institute of Transfusion Medicine, Zagreb

Prenatal care includes prepartal maternal blood screening for markers of some sexually transmitted diseases, i.e. syphilis and hepatitis B, and subsequent neonatal immunoprophylaxis according to the findings thus obtained. In the Zagreb area, prepartal maternal screening for HBsAg has been performed for the last three years. The aim of the study was to determine the rate of hepatitis B and syphilis in pregnant women from the City of Zagreb and its surroundings, and to compare it with the results of the respective nation-wide testing performed in first-time male and female blood donors aged 18-20 as a population of highest sexual activity. Group A: pregnant women tested at Croatian Institute of Transfusion Medicine (CITM) for HBsAg and anti Treponema (T.) pallidum from January 1, 2000 till December 31, 2002; group B: male first-time blood donors aged 18-25 presenting during the same period; and group C: female first-time blood donors presenting during the same period. Blood samples were tested by HbsAg EIA, sensitivity >0.2 ng/ml blood, Ortho Test System 3, Murex HBsAg V3 GE36, and EIA for T. pallidum Trepanostika-TP Biomerieux (Organon) or ICE Syphilis Abbott (Murex). Reactivity was confirmed by a test from a different manufacturer, other HBV markers, and by RPR and TPHA test for syphilis testing. During the study period, 16 280 pregnant women, 20 315 male first-time blood donors aged 18-25 and 5 461 female first-time blood donors were tested. The overall HBsAg prevalence was 0.54% in group A, 0.43% in group B, and 0.36% in group C. So, 95% of HBsAg positive subjects in group B and 100% in groups A and C had anti Hbe positive HBV profile with negative anti HBcIgM. The prevalence of anti T. pallidum (anti TP) was low in all three study groups (0.024%, 0.004 % and 0.018%, respectively). The prevalence of HBV in all three groups was ~ 0.4%, showing no declining tendency, probably representing the minimal HBV prevalence reached before the possible effect of recently introduced compulsory vaccination of young adolescents. The carrier state was found to be character-

spolno aktivnom populacijom i ima učestalost od 0,014%.

E-mail: ivanka.mihaljevic@hztm.hinet.hr

ized by anti HBe reactivity, thus greatly reducing the possibility of maternal transmission to the child. As assessed by EIA anti TP test, syphilis was not found to be widely spread among the sexually active population, showing a prevalence of 0.014%.

E-mail: ivanka.mihaljevic@hztm.hinet.hr

P2-4

RAZINE ENDOTELINA (1-21) U RAZLIČITIM STUPNJEVIMA ALKOHOLNE CIROZE JETRE

Antoljak N.¹, Peran N.², Vrkić N.¹, Begonja A.¹, Topić E.¹, Duvnjak M.³

¹ Klinički zavod za kemiju, KB "Sestre milosrdnice", Zagreb, ² Opća bolnica Šibenik, Šibenik, ³ Klinika za gastroenterologiju i hepatologiju, KB "Sestre milosrdnice", Zagreb

Endotelin (ET) je protein sastavljen od 21 aminokiseline, a ima snažan vazokonstriksijski učinak. Nastaje i otpušta se iz endotelijskih stanica u obliku preproendotelina, pri čemu nastaje međuproizvod, veliki endotelin. Ciroza jetre je bolest kod koje nastaju ascites i portalna hipertenzija praćena promjenom sistemne i regionalne hemodinamike. Povišene razine ET nađene su u plazmi bolesnika s alkoholnom cirozom jetre. Cilj rada bio je usporediti razine ET(1-21) u bolesnika s različitim stupnjevima alkoholne ciroze jetre. ET(1-21) je mjereno u plazmi bolesnika pomoću enzimskog imunotesta (Biomedica, Graz, Austrija) s pragom mjerljivosti od 0,05 pmol/L. U studiju je bilo uključeno 60 bolesnika s dokazanom alkoholnom cirozom jetre i 86 zdravih ispitanika odgovarajuće dobi i spola. Statistička analiza napravljena je pomoću kompjutorskog programa Sigmastat i Excel. Razine ET(1-21) bile su značajno više u bolesnika (0,55, raspon 0-6,19 pmol/L) nego u zdravih ispitanika (0,12, raspon 0-1,67 pmol/L, $p < 0,001$). Bolesnici s ascitesom i/ili varikozitetima jednjaka su imali više vrijednosti nego bolesnici bez tih promjena. Samo u podskupini bolesnika s težim stupnjem bolesti nađene su više vrijednosti endotelina u odnosu na zdrave ispitanike ili ostale bolesnike. Negativna korelacija nađena je između ET(1-21) i serumskih albumina, protrombinskog vremena i natrija ($r = -0,36$, $r = -0,37$, $r = -0,33$), a pozitivna s gama-globulinima ($r = 0,44$, $p < 0,05$). Klinička važnost ET(1-21) mjerena površinom ispod krivulje ROC bila je visoka ($A = 0,72$, $p < 0,05$). Endotelin može biti koristan biljeg nastalih vaskularnih promjena u bolesnika s alkoholnom cirozom jetre.

E-mail: natasa.antoljak@zg.htnet.hr

P2-4

ENDOTHELIN (1-21) LEVELS IN VARIOUS DEGREES OF ALCOHOLIC LIVER CIRRHOSIS

N. Antoljak¹, N. Peran², N. Vrkić¹, A. Begonja¹, E. Topić¹, M. Duvnjak³

¹ Clinical Institute of Chemistry, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Zagreb, ² Šibenik General Hospital, Šibenik, ³ University Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Zagreb

Endothelin (ET) is a potent vasoconstrictor peptide, made up of 21 amino acids. It is produced and released from endothelial cells in the form of preproendothelin whereby an intermediate big-endothelin is formed. Liver cirrhosis is accompanied by the onset of ascites, portal hypertension and changes in systemic and regional hemodynamics. Increased ET levels related to impaired systemic circulation have been reported in liver cirrhosis patients. The aim of the study was to compare ET(1-21) levels in patients with various degrees of alcoholic liver cirrhosis. ET(1-21) was measured in plasma by ELISA test (Biomedica, Graz, Austria) with a detectable limit of 0.05 pmol/L. Sixty proven alcoholic liver cirrhosis patients and 86 healthy volunteers matched for sex and age were included in the study. Statistical analysis was done by Sigmastat and Excel computer program. ET(1-21) levels were significantly higher in patients (0.55, range 0-6.19) than in healthy control group (0.12, range 0-1.67 pmol/L, $p < 0.001$). Patients with ascites and esophageal varices had higher values than those without them. Only patients with the most severe grade of liver disease had higher ET values as compared to other subgroups and healthy volunteers. There were negative correlations between ET(1-21) and serum albumins, prothrombin time and sodium ($r = -0.36$, $r = -0.37$, $r = -0.33$, respectively), and positive correlation with gamma-globulins ($r = 0.44$, $p < 0.05$). Clinical accuracy of ET(1-21) is high ($P = 0.72$, $p < 0.05$), so it might be a useful marker of vascular changes in these patients.

E-mail: natasa.antoljak@zg.htnet.hr

P2-5

**SADRŽAJ ZASIĆENIH I NEZASIĆENIH
MASNIH KISELINA U TKIVU
REGENERIRAJUĆE JETRE MIŠEVA
NAKON DJELOMIČNE HEPATEKTOMIJE**

Giacometti J.¹, Tota M.¹, Ćuk M.², Radosevic-Stasic B.²

¹ Zavod za kemiju i biokemiju, ² Zavod za fiziologiju i imunologiju, Medicinski fakultet, Rijeka, Hrvatska

Oštećenje jetre ili djelomična hepatektomija (pHx) potiče brz rast preostalog jetrenog tkiva, koji uključuje promjene genske ekspresije i izlučivanja određenih čimbenika rasta, kao i tipične strukturne promjene. Posebnu ulogu u tim procesima imaju zasićene (SFA) i nezasićene (UFA) masne kiseline koje kontroliraju procese proliferacije i apoptoze, kao i funkciju limfatičnih stanica odgovornih za lučenje brojnih citokina i cjelokupni imuno nadzor. Čini se da pritom mononezasićene kiseline (MUFA) održavanjem normalne fluidnosti staničnih membrana umanjuju štetan učinak polinezasićenih masnih kiselina (PUFA) koje potiču lipidnu peroksidaciju. No, dok neke od n-6 PUFA stimuliraju lučenje proupalnih citokina TNF α , IL-6 i reaktivnih kisikovih radikala, neke od n-3 PUFA mogu imati suprotan učinak. Usto, neki kemijski peroksidizirajući induktori mogu potaknuti i proliferaciju hepatocita aktiviranjem NF-kappaB u Kupfferovim stanicama i stimulacijom stvaranja TNF α , ali regulacijski mehanizmi su još uvijek nedovoljno poznati. Nastojeći istražiti neke aspekte ovih zbivanja, primjenom plinske kromatografije ispitivali smo tkivne sadržaje SFA, MUFA i PUFA (n-3 i n-6) u regenerirajućoj jetri miševa od 2. do 21. dana nakon pHx. Rezultati su pokazali da se sastav FA u tkivu jetre izrazito mijenja nakon pHx. Postotak SFA se značajno smanjio (C18:0 nakon 24 h, a C16:0 nakon 48 h). Istodobno, nakon 24 h značajno je porastao postotak C18:1n-9 (oleinska kiselina, OA) i C18:3n-3 (alfa-linolenska kiselina), a smanjio se postotak C20:4n-6 (arahidonska kiselina, AA) i C22:6 (dokozaheksaenska kiselina, DHA), ukazujući na to da u regenerirajućoj jetri početno opadaju aktivnosti desaturaza delta6 i delta5. Sadržaj AA se do sedmog p.o. dana normalizirao, no više vrijednosti OA i niže vrijednosti DHA su trajale i 7. p.o. dana, naglašavajući da bi i promjena međusobnih odnosa MUFA i n-3 i n-6 PUFA mogla imati značajnu ulogu u aktiviranju i zaustavljanju brzog rasta jetre nakon pHx.

E-mail: cedo@mamed.medri.hr

P2-5

**GROWTH-ASSOCIATED CHANGES IN
FATTY ACID COMPOSITION IN MURINE
REGENERATING LIVER AFTER PARTIAL
HEPATECTOMY**

J. Giacometti¹, M. Tota¹, M. Ćuk², B. Radosevic-Stasic²

¹ Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, ² Department of Physiology and Immunology, School of Medicine, University of Rijeka, Rijeka, Croatia

Injury or removal of liver tissue leads to fast liver growth, involving changes in gene expression, growth factor production and morphological structure. Unsaturated fatty acids, which are controlling proliferation and apoptosis as well as the lymphatic functions responsible for cytokine production and maintenance of immune surveillance, might be important biological mediators in these events. Monounsaturated fatty acids (MUFA) providing an adequate fluidity to the biological membranes seem to diminish the hazard of lipid peroxidation which affects polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA). Some n-6 compounds can increase formation of the proinflammatory cytokines TNF α and interleukin-6, and of reactive oxygen species, while some n-3 PUFA oppose these effects. It seems that chemical peroxisome proliferators also increase hepatocyte proliferation by the mechanisms involving activation of nuclear factor-kappaB and production of TNF α by Kupffer cells, however, the mechanisms are still being investigated. To elucidate these events, we estimated by gas chromatography tissue levels of saturated fatty acids (SFA), MUFA and PUFA (n-3 and n-6) in the regenerating mice liver from second until 21st day after partial hepatectomy (pHx). The data showed that hepatic FA composition was markedly affected by pHx. The proportion of SFA significantly decreased (C18:0 at 24 h and C16:0 at 48 h). Simultaneously, at 24 h, the proportion of C18:1n-9 (oleic acid, OA) and C18:3n-3 (alpha-linolenic acid) markedly increased, while the proportion of C20:4n-6 (arachidonic acid, AA) and C22:6 (docosahexaenoic acid, DHA) decreased, suggesting the activity of delta6 and delta5 desaturases to be initially impaired in the regenerating liver. The AA content recovered on day 7 p.o., while the higher level of OA and low levels of DHA persisted until day 7 p. o., emphasizing the role of the interrelationship between MUFA, n-3 and n-6 polyunsaturated fatty acids for the initiation and inhibition of liver regeneration.

E-mail: cedo@mamed.medri.hr

P3

Bolesti kardiovaskularnog sustava i dijagnostika hitnih stanja

Cardiovascular diseases and emergency diagnosis

P3-1

PRAĆENJE UPALNOG ODGOVORA NAKON AORTOKORONARNOG PREMOŠTAVANJA OVISNO O PRIMJENI IZVANTJELESNOG KRVOTOKA

Brkić K.¹, Sutlić Ž.¹, Biočina B.¹, Rudež I.¹, Unić D.¹,
Barić D.¹, Šprajc N.²

¹ Odjel za kardijalnu kirurgiju, ² Zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Klinička bolnica "Dubrava", Zagreb

Primjena izvantjelesnog krvotoka (*cardiopulmonary bypass*, CPB) kod kardiokirurških operacija potiče razvoj sustavnog upalnog odgovora organizma. Pritom dolazi do aktiviranja različitih proteinskih sustava plazme i različitih stanica. U svrhu praćenja toga odgovora do danas su se rabili različiti upalni biljezi: citokini, kemokini, komplement, proteini akutne faze, prokalcitonin i neopterin, ali još uvijek ne postoji dovoljno osjetljiv i specifičan biljeg. Cilj studije bio je pratiti kinetiku izlučivanja upalnih biljega koji tvore jezgru upalnog odgovora (interleukin-6, komplement C3 i C4, neopterin i CRP) tijekom sedmodnevnog poslijeoperacijskog razdoblja. Ispitanici su bili podijeljeni u dvije skupine: skupina CABG (n=35) i skupina OPCAB (n=45) ovisno o tome jesu li bili podvrgnuti operaciji revascularizacije miokarda uz uporabu CPB ili bez. Uzorci seruma sakupljeni su prema slijedećem rasporedu: ujutro dan prije operacije (T1), 6 (T2), 12 (T3) i 24 (T4) sata nakon završetka operacije, te trećeg (T5), petog (T6) i sedmog dana (T7) nakon operacije. IL-6 i neopterin određeni su metodom ELISA, a C3, C4 i CRP turbidimetrijskom metodom na analizatoru Olympus AU600. Skupina CABG pokazala je značajno više vrijednosti neopterina u točkama T2 (p<0.001), T3 (p<0.001), T4 (p=0.001) i T6 (p=0.003), te IL-6 u točki T7 (p=0.015), dok je skupina OPCAB pokazala značajno povišenje u točki T3 za C3 (p=0.008) i C4 (p). Kinetika CRP nije se razlikovala između skupina. Kinetika neopterina upravo ukazuje na razliku utjecaja primjene CPB na organizam, dok se kinetika C3, C4 i IL-6 razlikuje samo u nekim točkama praćenja. Ova se pojava može objasniti interindividualnim razlikama u odgovoru kako na samu operaciju (skupina OPCAB) tako i na utjecaj CPB (skupina CABG). Stoga je potrebno ispitati interindividu-

P3-1

MONITORING INFLAMMATORY RESPONSE AFTER AORTOCORONARY BYPASS DEPENDING ON THE USE OF CARDIOPULMONARY BYPASS

K. Brkić¹, Ž. Sutlić¹, B. Biočina¹, I. Rudež¹, D. Unić¹,
D. Barić¹, N. Šprajc²

¹ Department of Cardiac Surgery, ² Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Dubrava University Hospital, Zagreb

The use of cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB) in cardiac surgery induces a state of systemic inflammatory response during which different plasma proteins and blood cells are activated. For the purpose of monitoring this response, various inflammatory markers have been used to date, e.g., cytokines, chemokines, complement, acute phase proteins, procalcitonin and neopterin, however, none of them sensitive and specific enough. The aim of the study was to monitor the kinetics of inflammatory markers which are the core of inflammatory response (interleukin-6, complement C3 and C4, neopterin and CRP) during a seven-day postoperative period. Two groups of subjects were included: CABG (n=35) and OPCAB (n=45), depending on the use of CPB during arterial revascularization. Serum samples were collected as follows: in the morning on the day before the surgery (T1), at 6 (T2), 12 (T3) and 24 (T4) hours postoperatively, and on day 3 (T5), 5 (T6) and 7 (T7) postoperatively. IL-6 and neopterin were measured by ELISA method, and C3, C4 and CRP by turbidimetric method on an Olympus AU600 autoanalyzer. CABG group showed significantly higher neopterin levels at T2 (p<0.001), T3 (p<0.001), T4 (p=0.001) and T6 (p=0.003), and IL-6 levels at T7 (p=0.015). OPCAB group showed significantly higher levels of C3 and C4 at T3 (p<0.001 and p=0.008, respectively). CRP kinetics did not differ between the groups. Neopterin kinetics directly pointed to different CPB effects on the body, whereas C3, C4 and IL-6 kinetics differed only at some time points. This could be explained by interindividual differences in the response to both surgical trauma (OPCAB group) and CPB (CABG group). Therefore, the effects of interindividual differences on the release of inflammatory markers should be examined to better

alne razlike u mehanizmima otpuštanja upalnih biljega kako bi se razumjeli procesi koji se odvijaju u organizmu tijekom kardiokirurške operacije.

E-mail: kbrkic@kdb.hr

understand the process going on during cardiothoracic surgery.

E-mail: kbrkic@kdb.hr

P3-2

BILJEZI PROTEINURIJE KOD KARDIOLOŠKIH BOLESNIKA S PREMOSNICAMA ARTERIJSKIH GRAFTOVA

Matišić D.¹, Bilić K.¹, Rogić J.¹, Čvorišćec D.¹, Gašparović H.², Jelić I.²

¹ Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku i ² Klinika za kardiokirurgiju, Klinički bolnički centar "Zagreb", Zagreb

Za vrijeme presađivanja premosnica arterijskim graftovima bolesnici su priključeni na ekstrakorporalnu cirkulaciju. Tijekom takvog zahvata rad bubrega je oslabljen, a za očekivati su i oštećenja pojedinih bubrežnih struktura. Bolesnici su nakon zahvata podvrgnuti terapiji verapamilom, koji se redovito rabi u kardijalnoj kirurgiji u svrhu liječenja supraventrikularnih aritmija te kao moćno sredstvo za prevenciju spazma premosnica arterijskim graftovima. Bolesnici s postojećom bubrežnom disfunkcijom te bolesnici alergični na verapamil nisu uzimani u obradu. U svrhu praćenja bubrežne funkcije, kod 38 bolesnika kojima su ugrađene premosnice arterijskim graftovima određivani su u drugoj jutarnjoj mokraći albumin kao pokazatelj oštećenja glomerularne bazalne membrane, te alfa-1-mikroglobulin kao pokazatelj oštećenja proksimalnih tubula. Istodobno je određen i kreatinin u mokraći. Uzorci su uzimani prijeoperacijski te potom prvog, trećeg i petog dana poslije operacije. Kako su u obradu uzimani bolesnici bez postojeće bubrežne disfunkcije, u prijeoperacijskim uzorcima su u većine bolesnika nađene vrijednosti albumina i alfa-1-mikroglobulina u referentnom rasponu. Prvoga dana poslije operacije kod većine bolesnika nađene su značajne promjene u izlučivanju albumina i/ili alfa-1-mikroglobulina, dok se trećeg i petog dana nakon operacija vrijednosti albumina i alfa-1-mikroglobulina vraćaju u referentni raspon. Rezultati pokazuju da su albumin i alfa-1-mikroglobulin biljezi kojima se može pratiti rano oštećenje bubrega kod bolesnika s premosnicama arterijskih graftova.

E-mail: dmatistic@kbc-zagreb.hr

P3-2

MARKERS OF PROTEINURIA IN CARDIOLOGIC PATIENTS WITH ARTERIAL GRAFT BYPASS

D. Matišić¹, K. Bilić¹, J. Rogić¹, D. Čvorišćec¹, H. Gašparović², I. Jelić²

¹ Institute of Clinical Laboratory Diagnosis, and ² University Department of Cardiac Surgery, Zagreb University Hospital Center, Zagreb

During arterial bypass grafting, patients are connected to extracorporeal circulation. Renal activity is diminished during such a surgical procedure, and damages to some renal structures may be expected. After the procedure, patients are subjected to therapy with verapamil which is regularly used in cardiac surgery for treatment of supraventricular arrhythmias and as a potent medication to prevent bypass spasms. Patients with existent renal dysfunction and patients allergic to verapamil were not included in the study. In order to monitor renal function in 38 patients with arterial bypass grafting, albumin was determined in the second morning urine sample as an indicator of glomerular basal membrane damage, and alpha-1-microglobulin as an indicator of proximal tubular damage. Also, creatinine in urine was determined. The samples were taken preoperatively, and on days 1, 3, and 5 after the surgical procedure. As only patients without pre-existent renal dysfunction were monitored, albumin and alpha-1-microglobulin values were in most patients within the reference range. On day 1 following the surgery, significant changes were found in albumin and/or alpha-1-microglobulin secretion in most patients, while albumin and alpha-1-microglobulin regained reference range values on days 3 and 5. Our results demonstrated that albumin and alpha-1-microglobulin are markers that could be used to monitor early renal lesions in patients undergoing arterial bypass grafting.

E-mail: dmatistic@kbc-zagreb.hr

P3-3

KONCENTRACIJE ENDOTELINA-1 KOD BOLESNIKA S INFARKTOM MIOKARDA TIJEKOM FIBRINOLITIČKE TERAPIJE

Rumenjak V.¹, Jug M.², Popović M.⁴, Goldner V.⁴, Brkljačić V.³

¹ Zavod za medicinsko laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Opća bolnica "Sveti duh"; ² Klinika za kardiovaskularne bolesti; ³ Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Klinički bolnički centar "Zagreb"; ⁴ Medicinski fakultet, Zagreb

Endotelin-1 jedan je od najsnažnijih dosad poznatih vazokonstriktora. Danas su poznata tri izomerna oblika: endotelin-1, endotelin-2 i endotelin-3, od kojih endotelin-1 ima najsnažniji vazokonstriktorski učinak. U raznim studijama pokazalo se da su vrijednosti endotelina-1 povišene u akutnom infarktu miokarda. Cilj rada bio je ispitati promjene u vrijednosti endotelina-1 kod bolesnika s infarktom miokarda koji su podvrgnuti fibrinolitičkoj terapiji. Ispitivanje je obuhvatilo 78 bolesnika (30 žena, 48 muškaraca, srednja dob 62 godine) s klinički potvrđenim infarktom miokarda. Fibrinolitička terapija primijenjena je kod 62 bolesnika, a kod drugih su postojale kontraindikacije. Kontrolnu skupinu činili su bolesnici na programu kronične dijalize i bolesnici s kardiovaskularnim bolestima, ali bez infarkta miokarda. Endotelin-1 određivan je enzim imuno analizom na čvrstom nosaču (R&D Systems, SAD), a CKMB maseni i mioglobin enzim imuno analizom (Dade-Behring, Austrija). Koncentracije endotelina praćene su tijekom 72 sata od prijma u bolnicu. Uspješnost fibrinolitičke terapije procjenjivana je na temelju normalizacije ST spojnice u EKG-u, vidljivog isplavlivanja enzima i na temelju kliničke slike. Na osnovi ovih kriterija fibrinolitička terapija bila je uspješna u 39, a neuspješna u 23 bolesnika. Koncentracije endotelina tijekom fibrinolitičke terapije pokazale su slično kretanje kao i tradicionalni biljezi (CKMB maseni i mioglobin). Bolesnici kod kojih su izmjerene vrijednosti endotelina $>2,5$ SD od srednje vrijednosti za cijelu skupinu imali su veću učinkovitost fibrinolitičke terapije. Rezultati ovoga ispitivanja pokazali su da praćenje koncentracije endotelina-1 tijekom fibrinolitičke terapije kod bolesnika s akutnim infarktom miokarda može biti dodatni biljeg u procjeni veličine oštećenja miokarda, kao i u procjeni uspješnosti terapije.

E-mail: vlatko.rumenjak@zg.tel.hr

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ENDOTHELIN-1 LEVELS DURING FIBRINOLYTIC THERAPY IN PATIENTS WITH MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION

V. Rumenjak¹, M. Jug², M. Popović⁴, V. Goldner⁴, V. Brkljačić³

¹ Institute of Medical Laboratory Diagnosis, Sveti Duh General Hospital; ² University Department of Cardiovascular Diseases; ³ Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb University Hospital Center; ⁴ School of Medicine, Zagreb

Endothelin-1 is one of the most potent vasoconstrictors currently known. Today, three isomeric types are known: endothelin-1, endothelin-2 and endothelin-3, of which endothelin-1 has the strongest vasoconstrictive effect. Various studies showed elevated endothelin-1 levels in acute myocardial infarction. The aim of the study was to investigate changes in endothelin-1 levels in patients with myocardial infarction subjected to fibrinolytic therapy. The study included 78 patients (30 females and 48 males, mean age 62 years) with clinically proven myocardial infarction. Fibrinolytic therapy was administered to 62 patients, while in others contraindications were present. Control group consisted of patients on chronic dialysis and those with cardiovascular diseases but without myocardial infarction. Endothelin-1 was determined by enzyme immunoassay on solid carrier (R&D Systems, USA), and mass CKMB and myoglobin by enzyme immunoassay (Dade-Behring, Austria). Endothelin levels were monitored during 72 hours of hospital admission. The success of fibrinolytic therapy was estimated on the basis of ST segment normalization in ECG, observed enzyme washout, and clinical presentation. On the basis of these criteria, fibrinolytic therapy was successful in 39 and unsuccessful in 23 patients. Endothelin levels during fibrinolytic therapy showed similar trends to those of conventional markers (mass CKMB and myoglobin). In patients with endothelin levels >2.5 SD of mean value for the whole group, the efficacy of fibrinolytic therapy was higher. The results of this study showed that monitoring of endothelin-1 levels during fibrinolytic therapy in patients with acute myocardial infarction could be an additional marker in the assessment of the extent of myocardial damage, and in the evaluation of therapy success.

E-mail: vlatko.rumenjak@zg.tel.hr

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ENDOTELIN I ČINITELJ RASTA JETRE U BOLESNIKA S KORONARNOM BOLESTI SRCA

Antoljak N.¹, Vrkić N.¹, Begonja A.¹, Nikolić-Heitzler V.², Bulj N.²

¹ Klinički zavod za kemiju, ² Odjel za kardiologiju, KB "Sestre milordnice", Zagreb

Činitelj rasta jetre (HGF) je citokin uključen u regeneraciju tkiva, angiogenezu i nastanak kolateralala. Otkriven je kao protein koji potiče rast hepatocita, no ima učinak i na druga tkiva. Endotelin (ET) je protein sačinjen od 21 aminokiseline s važnim fiziološkim i patofiziološkim djelovanjem u nastanku zatajenja srca. Najvažnija je periferna vazokonstrikcija i poticanje miocita i fibroblasta. Cilj rada je bio ispitati mogu li vrijednosti HGF i ET u plazmi bolesnika biti od koristi u dijagnozi akutnog infarkta miokarda. ET i HGF su mjereni u plazmi 42 zdrava ispitanika i 31 bolesnika s akutnim infarktomiokarda prilikom hitnog prijma u bolnicu. Uključeni su u studiju prema standardnim biokemijskim i kliničkim kriterijima. Razine ET i HGF mjerene su enzimimunološkim testom (Biomedica, Austria, odnosno R&D, SAD). Statistička analiza učinjena je kompjutorskim programom Sigmastat. Značajnost razlike između skupina ispitanika testirana je Mann-Whitneyevim testom, a klinička valjanost analizom ROC. Razine HGF bile su više u gotovo svih bolesnika nego u zdravih ispitanika: 12,446 (1,007-12,858) ng/mL u odnosu na 0,854 (0,517-1,347) ng/mL, $p < 0,001$. Razine ET bile su također više u bolesnika: 0,72 (0,05-8,5) pmol/L u odnosu na 0,37 (0,05-1,6) pmol/L, $p < 0,001$. Prema analizi ROC, HGF je odličan biljeg akutnog infarkta miokarda, površina ispod krivulje $A=0,94$, $p < 0,001$. Najbolja prijelomna vrijednost bila je 1,47 ng/mL. Klinička valjanost endotelina bila je nešto slabija, $A=0,7$, $p < 0,01$, a prijelomna vrijednost 0,6 pmol/L. Zaključujemo da su vrijednosti HGF bolji pokazatelj akutnog infarkta miokarda nego vrijednosti endotelina.

E-mail: natasa.antoljak@zg.htnet.hr

P3-4

ENDOTHELIN AND HEPATOCYTE GROWTH FACTOR IN PATIENTS WITH CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

N. Antoljak¹, N. Vrkić¹, A. Begonja¹, V. Nikolić-Heitzler², N. Bulj²

¹ Clinical Institute of Chemistry, ² Department of Cardiology, Sestre milordnice University Hospital, Zagreb

Hepatocyte growth factor (HGF) is a cytokine involved in tissue regeneration, angiogenesis and lateral vessel growth. It was firstly recognized as a molecule that stimulates hepatocyte proliferation, but it is now known to be a cytokine with numerous functions. Endothelin (ET) is a 21-amino acid peptide that has potent physiologic and pathophysiologic effects involved in the development of heart failure. These include effects on arterial smooth muscle cells that cause intense peripheral vasoconstriction and stimulation of cardiac myocytes and fibroblasts. The purpose of the study was to explore whether HGF and ET values could be used in the diagnosis of myocardial infarction. ET and HGF were measured in plasma of 42 healthy volunteers and 31 acute myocardial infarction patients immediately upon admission to our hospital. They were included in the study according to clinical and standard biochemical criteria. HGF and ET1-21 levels were measured by ELISA test (R&D, USA, and Biomedica, Austria, respectively). Statistical analysis was made by Sigmastat computer program. Differences between groups were tested by Mann-Whitney test and clinical accuracy by ROC analysis. The HGF levels were elevated in almost all patients compared to healthy group: 12.446 (1.007-12.858) ng/mL vs. 0.854 (0.517-1.347) ng/mL, $p < 0.001$. Endothelin levels were also higher in the patient group: 0.72 (0.05-8.5) pmol/L vs. 0.37 (0.05-1.6) pmol/L, $p < 0.001$. ROC analysis showed HGF to be an excellent marker of myocardial infarction with area under curve $A=0.94$, $p < 0.001$. The best cut-off value was 1.47 ng/mL. The clinical accuracy for endothelin was $A=0.7$, $p < 0.01$ and best cut-off value 0.6 pmol/L. So, we concluded that HGF values could prove more useful than ET values in the detection of acute myocardial infarction patients.

E-mail: natasa.antoljak@zg.htnet.hr

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**SRČANI NATRIJURETSKI PEPTIDI
(ANP, BNP) KAO INDIKATORI FUNKCIJE
DESNE I LIJEVE KLIJETKE**

Žigman M.¹, Lukinac Lj.¹, Balenović A.¹, Planinc D.²,
Kusić Z.¹

¹ Klinika za onkologiju i nuklearnu medicinu, ² Klinika za unutarnje bolesti, Klinička bolnica "Sestre milosrdnice", Zagreb

Cilj rada bio je usporediti koncentracije cirkulirajućih ANP i BNP u skupinama zdravih ispitanika i kardioloških bolesnika. Unutar skupine kardioloških bolesnika analizirali smo vrijednosti ANP i BNP s obzirom na stupanj poremećaja funkcije kako lijeve tako i desne klijetke. Razina ANP i BNP određivana je metodama IRMA tvrtke CIS bio International (SHIONORIA ANP i SHIONORIA BNP, Francuska). Srčana bolest dijagnosticirana je kliničkom kardiološkom obradom, a hemodinamski pokazatelji funkcije klijetka određivani su scintigrafski radionuklidnom ventrikulografijom u mirovanju pomoću ^{99m}Tc-pirofosfatom obilježenih eritrocita. Uspoređene su vrijednosti ANP i BNP u serumu 64 zdrava ispitanika (skupina A) i 186 kardioloških bolesnika koji su bili podijeljeni u tri skupine (B,C,D) s obzirom na stupanj oštećenja lijeve i/ili desne klijetke: skupina B (n=75) globalna istisna frakcija (GEF) desno i lijevo >40%; skupina C (n=70) GEF lijeve klijetke <30%, a GEF desne >40%; i skupina D (n=41) GEF <30% desno i lijevo. Medijan vrijednosti ANP (pg/mL) i BNP (pg/mL) prema skupinama: skupina A* 6,7 i 3,1; skupina B** 98,5 i 71; skupina C** 390 i 194,2; skupina D** 1250 i 680. *p<0,01 A vs. (B, C, D); **p<0,01 B vs. C, C vs. D, B vs. D. Značajno više vrijednosti natrijuretskih peptida nađene su u srčanih bolesnika u odnosu na zdravu populaciju, što je posljedica remodeliranja srčanih klijetka i slabljenja funkcije srca. Dobiveni rezultati upućuju na mogućnost neinvazivnog ispitivanja funkcije lijeve i desne klijetke na osnovi serumskog određivanja razine ANP i BNP, što bi bilo osobito važno za srčane bolesnike kod kojih se planira transplantacija srca.

E-mail: drneli@hotmail.com

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**ATRIAL NATRIURETIC PEPTIDE (ANP)
AND BRAIN NATRIURETIC PEPTIDE
(BNP) AS INDICATORS OF LEFT AND
RIGHT VENTRICULAR FUNCTION**

M. Žigman¹, Lj. Lukinac¹, A. Balenović¹, D. Planinc²,
Z. Kusić¹

¹ University Department of Oncology and Nuclear Medicine,
² University Department of Medicine, Sestre milosrdnice
University Hospital, Zagreb

The aim of the study was to compare the levels of ANP and BNP determined in healthy population and patients with cardiovascular disease, and to assess the difference in ANP and BNP concentrations between the patients with left and right ventricular disorders. The concentrations of ANP and BNP were determined by IRMA kits SHIONORIA ANP and SHIONORIA BNP, CIS bio International, France (as part of the joint project). Heart failure was diagnosed by clinical examination and hemodynamic functions were evaluated by radionuclide ventriculography at rest with ^{99m}Tc-pyrophosphate labeled erythrocytes. Serum values of ANP and BNP in the group of 64 healthy subjects (group A) were compared with the values of 186 cardiologic patients divided into three groups (B, C and D) according to the grade of heart failure (left and/or right ventricle): group B (n=75) had global ejection fraction (GEF) left and right >40%; group C (n=70) with GEF left <30% and right 40%; and group D (n=41) with GEF left and right <30%. Median values of ANP (pg/mL) and BNP (pg/mL) according to groups: group A 6.7 and 3.1; group B** 98.5 and 71; group C** 390 and 194.2; group D** 1250 and 680. *p<0.01 A vs. (B, C, D); **p<0.01 B vs. C, C vs. D, B vs. D. ANP and BNP were significantly higher in cardiologic patients than in healthy subjects. The results suggested the measurement of basal ANP and BNP to be a noninvasive parameter for evaluation of the left and right ventricular function in patients with various forms of heart failure, especially in those scheduled for heart transplantation.*

E-mail: drneli@hotmail.com

P3-6**ODREĐIVANJE TROPONINA I. NAKON
OPERACIJSKE UGRADNJE SRČANIH
PREMOSNICA**

Fressl G., Rogić D., Belina D., Fuček M.

Zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Klinički bolnički
centar "Zagreb", Zagreb

Imunokemijsko određivanje troponina I. (TnI) nakon operacijske ugradnje srčanih premosnica (tzv. *bypass* operacije) u posljednje se vrijeme automatski uključuje u poslijeoperacijski panel pretraga tijekom boravka bolesnika u jedinici intenzivne skrbi. S obzirom na to da razina TnI u serumu izravno korelira s opsegom srčanog oštećenja, određivanje ovoga parametra u navedenom kontekstu ima potencijalno značajnu prediktivnu vrijednost. Pojedinačne studije ukazuju na činjenicu da dinamika poslijeoperacijskog porasta (vrijeme postizanja vršne koncentracije TnI), kao i vrijeme potrebno za povratak do normalne razine predstavljaju značajne prediktore dugoročnog ishoda. U svrhu racionalizacije primjene ove pretrage cilj ovoga rada bio je utvrditi optimalne vremenske razmake poslijeoperacijskog mjerenja TnI. U tu svrhu je TnI mjereno kod 24 bolesnika podvgnutih *bypass* operaciji u različitim vremenskim točkama, i to između 15 i 120 sati nakon operacije (fluoroimunokemijska metoda, instrument i reagensi tvrtke Dade). U 87% bolesnika vršna koncentracija TnI dosegnuta je u razdoblju između 15 i 24 sata poslijeoperacijski. U 75% došlo je do značajnog smanjenja koncentracije TnI nakon 30 do 72 sata. Poslijeoperacijski tijek u svih bolesnika s navedenom dinamikom bio je uredan. Sukladno ovim rezultatima, a s obzirom na vrijeme poluživota TnI u serumu, preporučujemo poslijeoperacijsko uzimanje krvi za ovu pretragu u dvjema vremenskim točkama, i to 24 te 72 sata nakon operacijskog zahvata. Ako je koncentracija u drugoj točki značajno niža, a klinički tijek uredan, nije potrebno daljnje određivanje TnI.

E-mail: gordana.fressl@zg.htnet.hr**P3-6****CARDIAC TROPONIN I DETERMINATION
AFTER CORONARY ARTERY BYPASS
SURGERY**

G. Fressl, D. Rogić, D. Belina, M. Fuček

Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb
University Hospital Center, Zagreb

Immunochemical determination of cardiac troponin I (cTnI) after coronary artery bypass surgery has lately been included among the tests regularly performed postoperatively during the patient's stay in intensive care unit. As cTnI concentration is in direct correlation with the extent of cardiac damage, the determination of this parameter in these conditions has a potentially significant predictive value. Individual studies have demonstrated that the dynamics of postoperative cTnI elevation (the period needed to reach peak cTnI concentration) and the time needed to regain normal concentration are important predictors of longterm outcome. To rationalize the use of this test, the aim of this study was to determine optimal intervals for postoperative measurement of cTnI. cTnI was therefore determined in 24 patients undergoing bypass surgery at various time points, i.e. 15 and 120 hours after the surgery (fluoroimmunochemical method, instrument and reagents by the Dade Company). The peak cTnI concentration was reached postoperatively in 87% patients during the period of 15-24 hours. In 75% of patients, cTnI concentration was significantly decreased after 30-72 hours. Postoperative course was normal in all patients with the abovementioned dynamics. According to these results and considering the half-life of serum cTnI, we recommend postoperative blood sampling for this test at two time points, i.e. at 24 and 72 hours postoperatively. If the concentration is significantly lower at the 2nd time point and the clinical course is normal, further TnI determination is not necessary.

E-mail: gordana.fressl@zg.htnet.hr

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POLIMORFIZMI GENA ZA CETP U BOLESNIKA S KORONARNOM BOLEŠĆU SRCA (ZAGREBAČKA KOHORTA)

Ferenčak G.¹, Gršković B.¹, Cheng S.², Skodlar J.³, Šesto M.³, Stavljenić-Rukavina A.¹

¹ Klinički bolnički centar "Zagreb" i Medicinski fakultet, Zagreb, ² Roche Molecular Systems, Inc., ³ Specijalna bolnica za vaskularnu kirurgiju i kardiologiju "Magdalena", Krapinske Toplice

Koncentracija HDL-kolesterola negativno korelira s rizikom od koronarne bolesti srca (KBS). Kolesterol-ester transfer protein (CETP) ima središnju ulogu u metabolizmu ovog lipoproteina i stoga bi mogao utjecati na povećanu sklonost aterosklerozi. Cilj istraživanja bio je odrediti utječu li C(-629)A, I405V ili D442G varijante CETP gena na rizik od KBS. Na temelju rezultata angiografije ispitanici su podijeljeni u KBS (n=479) i kontrolnu skupinu (n=200). Genotipizacija je provedena multipleks PCR-om nakon kojeg je slijedilo otkrivanje umnoženih alela pomoću linearno položene imobilizirane sljedno-specifične sonda na najlonskim trakama. Svi su genotipovi bili u Hardy-Weinbergovoj ravnoteži. Relativni rizici za pojedine genotipove izračunati su logističkom regresijom nakon korekcije po dobi, spolu, logaritmiranim vrijednostima triglicerida, ukupnom i HDL-kolesterolu, lipoproteinu (a), fibrinogenu, te prisutnosti dijabetesa, hipertenzije i pušenja. VV genotip CETP gena bio je povezan s povećanim rizikom obolijevanja od KBS (OR 2,32, 95% CI 1,07-5,04, p=0,035). CETP C(-629)A varijanta nije povezana s KBS. Samo je jedan ispitanik iz KBS skupine bio nositelj varijante D442G. Multivarijatna analiza uz dob, spol, dijabetes, hipertenziju i pušenje kao kovarijate nije pokazala značajan utjecaj varijante I405V na serumske koncentracije lipida. Međutim, AA genotip u promotoru povezan je s višim koncentracijama HDL-kolesterola, njegovih subfrakcija i apolipoproteina A I (p<0,001). Zaključeno je da nosioci VV genotipa imaju značajno povećan rizik obolijevanja od KBS u hrvatskoj populaciji, a AA genotip utječe na koncentracije HDL-kolesterola i apolipoproteina A I.

E-mail: gferen@mef.hr

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POLYMORPHISMS OF CETP GENE IN PATIENTS WITH CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE (ZAGREB COHORT)

G. Ferenčak¹, B. Gršković¹, S. Cheng², J. Skodlar³, M. Šesto³, A. Stavljenić-Rukavina¹

¹ Zagreb University Hospital Center and School of Medicine, Zagreb, ² Roche Molecular Systems, Inc., ³ Magdalena Special Hospital for Cardiovascular Surgery and Cardiology, Krapinske Toplice

HDL-cholesterol concentration is inversely related to the risk of coronary artery disease (CAD). Cholesteryl ester transfer protein (CETP) has a central role in the metabolism of this lipoprotein and might alter the susceptibility to atherosclerosis. The aim of our study was to determine whether C(-629)A, I405V or D442G variants of the CETP gene have an impact on the risk of developing CAD. Based on angiography results, the patients were divided into CAD (n=479) and control (n=200) groups. Genotyping was performed by multi-target PCR followed by detection of amplified alleles with linear arrays of immobilized sequence-specific probes on nylon membrane strips. All the genotypes were in Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium. Odds ratios (OR) for the genotypes were calculated by logistic regression after adjusting for age, sex, log (triglyceride), total and HDL-cholesterol, lipoprotein (a), fibrinogen, diabetes, hypertension and smoking. The VV genotype of the CETP gene was associated with an increased risk of developing CAD (OR 2.32, 95% CI 1.07-5.04, p=0.035). CETP C(-629)A variant was not associated with CAD. Only one patient with D442G variant was found in the CAD group. Multivariate analysis with age, sex, diabetes, hypertension and smoking as covariates did not show any significant effect of I405V variant on serum concentrations of lipids. However, AA genotype in the promotor was associated with higher concentrations of HDL-cholesterol, its subfractions and apolipoprotein A I (p<0.001). We conclude that the VV genotype carriers are at a significant risk of developing CAD in the Croatian population, and AA genotype is a determinant of HDL-cholesterol and apolipoprotein A I levels.

E-mail: gferen@mef.hr

P3-8**UTJECAJ POLIMORFIZAMA U GENU ZA LIPOPROTEIN-LIPAZU NA KORONARNU BOLEST SRCA I PLAZMATSKE LIPIDE U ZAGREBAČKOJ KOHORTI**

Pašalić D.¹, Ferenčak G.², Gršković B.², Cheng S.³, Fijal B.³, Šesto M.⁴, Skodlar J.A.⁴, Stavljenić-Rukavina A.²

¹ Zavod za kemiju i biokemiju, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu; ² Klinički bolnički centar "Zagreb", Zagreb; ³ Roche Molecular Systems, Inc.; ⁴ Specijalna bolnica za kardiovaskularnu kirurgiju i kardiokirurgiju "Magdalena", Krapinske Toplice

Ispitali smo povezanost između polimorfizama u genu za lipoprotein-lipazu (LPL) (-93T/G, D)N, N291S i S447X), koronarne bolesti srca (KBS) i koncentracije lipida. Uključeni su hrvatski ispitanici s (n=479) i bez (n=200) angiografijom potvrđene KBS. Polimorfizam N291S bio je značajno povezan s KBS (OR: 0,36; p: 0,048). HDL2-kolesterol i vrijednosti apolipoproteina A I bile su značajno više u nenasitela -93T/G i D9N polimorfizama u skupini KBS (p: 0.017 i 0.028). Genska varijanta N291S nije značajno utjecala na vrijednosti lipida ni u jednoj od skupina. Niži trigliceridi i viši HDL2-kolesterol u kontrolnoj skupini bili su povezani s mutacijom S447X (p: 0.043 i 0.056). Zaključujemo da bi promjena u genu za lipoprotein-lipazu mogla utjecati na vrijednosti lipida i doprinosti riziku obolijevanja od KBS.

E-mail: dmikacic@mef.hr

P3-8**EFFECT OF LIPOPROTEIN LIPASE GENE POLYMORPHISMS ON CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE AND PLASMA LIPIDS IN ZAGREB COHORT**

D. Pašalić¹, G. Ferenčak², B. Gršković², S. Cheng³, B. Fijal³, M. Šesto⁴, J.A. Skodlar⁴, A. Stavljenić-Rukavina²

¹ Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Zagreb University School of Medicine, Zagreb

² Zagreb University Hospital Center, Zagreb

³ Roche Molecular Systems Inc.

⁴ Magdalena Special Hospital for Cardiovascular Surgery and Cardiology, Krapinske Toplice

We investigated the relationship between lipoprotein lipase (LPL) gene polymorphisms (-93 T/G, D9N, N291S, and S447X), coronary artery disease (CAD) and lipid traits. We examined Croatian patients with (n=497) and without (n=200) angiographically confirmed CAD. The N291S polymorphism was significantly associated with CAD (OR: 0.36; p: 0.048). HDL2-cholesterol and apolipoprotein A I levels were significantly higher in non-carriers of the -93T/G and D9N polymorphisms in the CAD group (p: 0.017 and 0.028, respectively). The N291S genetic variant did not show any significant difference between carriers and non-carriers in either study group for any of the lipids. Lower triglyceride and higher HDL2-cholesterol levels in the control group were associated with carriers of the S447X mutation (p: 0.043 and 0.056, respectively). We conclude that modification in the lipoprotein lipase gene might influence lipid levels and confer the risk of CAD.

E-mail: dmikacic@mef.hr

P3-9**POLIMORFIZMI GENA PON1 I PON2 U BOLESNIKA S KORONARNOM BOLEŠĆU SRCA (ZAGREBAČKA KOHORTA)**

Ferenčak G.¹, Gršković B.¹, Cheng S.², Skodlar J.³, Šesto M.³, Stavljenić-Rukavina A.¹

¹ Klinički bolnički centar "Zagreb" i Medicinski fakultet, Zagreb, ² Roche Molecular Systems Inc., ³ Specijalna bolnica za kardiovaskularnu kirurgiju i kardiologiju "Magdalena", Krapinske Toplice

Paraoksonaza (PON) je enzim vezan za HDL, a svoj antioksidantni učinak ostvaruje uklanjanjem proizvoda lipidne peroksidacije. Otkriveno je nekoliko polimorfničkih lokusa u genima PON1

P3-9**POLYMORPHISMS OF PON1 AND PON2 GENES IN PATIENTS WITH CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE (ZAGREB COHORT)**

G. Ferenčak¹, B. Gršković¹, S. Cheng², J. Skodlar³, M. Šesto³, A. Stavljenić-Rukavina¹

¹ Zagreb University Hospital Center and School of Medicine, Zagreb, ² Roche Molecular Systems Inc., ³ Magdalena Special Hospital for Cardiovascular Surgery and Cardiology, Krapinske Toplice

Paraoxonase (PON) is a high density lipoprotein-linked enzyme which exerts its antioxidant effect by removing lipid peroxidation products. Several polymorphic loci have been identified in

(M55L i R192Q) i PON2 (S311C). Cilj istraživanja bio je utvrditi imaju li navedene genske varijante utjecaja na rizik od koronarne bolesti srca (KBS). Na temelju rezultata angiografije ispitanici su podijeljeni u skupinu KBS (n=479) i kontrolnu skupinu (n=200). Genotipizacija je provedena multipleks PCR-om, nakon koje je slijedilo otkrivanje umnoženih alela pomoću linearno položanih imobiliziranih sljedno-specifičnih sonda na najlonskim trakama. Svi su genotipovi bili u Hardy-Weinbergovoj ravnoteži. Relativni rizici za pojedine genotipove izračunati su logističkom regresijom nakon korekcije prema dobi, spolu, logaritmiranim vrijednostima triglicerida, ukupnom i HDL-kolesterolu, lipoproteinu (a), fibrinogenu, te prisutnosti dijabetesa, hipertenzije i pušenja. Genotip LL gena PON1 povezan je s povećanim rizikom od KBS (OR 1,92, 95% CI 1,12-3,33, p=0,017), dok preostala dva polimorfna mjesta nisu povezana s KBS. Multivarijatna analiza uz dob, spol, dijabetes, hipertenziju i pušenje kao kovarijate nije pokazala značajan utjecaj analiziranih lokusa na serumske koncentracije ukupnog, HDL-, LDL-kolesterola, triglicerida, lipoproteina (a), apolipoproteina A I, B i E. Zaključeno je kako genotip LL značajno doprinosi riziku od KBS u hrvatskoj populaciji.

E-mail: gferen@mef.hr

PON1 (M55L and R192Q) and PON2 (S311C) genes. The aim of our case-control study was to determine whether these genetic variants had an impact on the risk of developing coronary artery disease (CAD). Based on angiography results, the patients were divided into CAD (n=479) and control (n=200) groups. Genotyping was performed by multi-target PCR followed by detection of amplified alleles with linear arrays of immobilized sequence-specific probes on nylon membrane strips. All the genotypes were in Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium. Odds ratios (OR) for the genotypes were calculated by logistic regression after adjusting for age, sex, log (triglyceride), total and HDL-cholesterol, lipoprotein (a), fibrinogen, diabetes, hypertension and smoking. The LL genotype of the PON1 gene was associated with an increased risk of developing CAD (OR 1.92, 95% CI 1.12-3.33, p=0.017), whereas the other two polymorphic sites did not show significant association with CAD. Multivariate analysis with age, sex, diabetes, hypertension and smoking as covariates did not show significant effect of any of the three polymorphic loci tested on serum concentrations of total, HDL-, LDL-cholesterol, triglycerides, lipoprotein (a), apolipoproteins AI, B and E. In conclusion, the LL genotype confers a significant risk of developing CAD in the Croatian population.

E-mail: gferen@mef.hr

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POVEZANOST POLIMORFIZAMA U GENIMA KOJI KODIRAJU KOAGULACIJSKE I ČIMBENIKE FIBRINOLIZE S KORONARNOM BOLEŠĆU SRCA

Coen D.¹, Ferenčak G.¹, Gršković B.¹, Cheng S.², Šesto M.³, Skodlar J.³, Stavljenić-Rukavina A.¹

¹ KBC "Zagreb", Zagreb, ² Roche Molecular Systems Inc.,

³ Specijalna bolnica za kardiovaskularnu kirurgiju i kardiologiju "Magdalena", Krapinske Toplice

Koronarna bolest srca (KBS) je multifaktorska bolest uvjetovana genskim i čimbenicima okoline. Budući da aktivacija koagulacije igra ključnu ulogu u stvaranju tromba, genske mutacije proteina uključenih u koagulaciju i fibrinolizu mogu imati ulogu u patogenezi KBS. Cilj je istraživanja bio utvrditi postoji li povezanost između genskih čimbenika za koje se pretpostavlja da su povezani s povećanom sklonošću trombozi s rizikom od KBS: polimorfizmi 4G/5G i G11053T u PAI-1 genu, G-455A u genu za fibrino-

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ASSOCIATION OF COAGULATION AND FIBRINOLYSIS GENE POLYMORPHISMS WITH CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

D. Coen¹, G. Ferenčak¹, B. Gršković¹, S. Cheng², M. Šesto³, J. Skodlar³, A. Stavljenić-Rukavina¹

¹ Zagreb University Hospital Center, Zagreb, ² Roche Molecular Systems Inc., ³ Magdalena Special Hospital for Cardiovascular Surgery and Cardiology, Krapinske Toplice

Coronary artery disease (CAD) is a multifactorial disease influenced by both genetic and environmental determinants. Since coagulation activation plays a key role in thrombus formation, genetic mutations of the proteins involved in coagulation and fibrinolysis may have a role in the pathogenesis of CAD. The aim of the study was to investigate the association between the risk of CAD and genetic factors thought to be associated with an increased tendency to thrombosis: polymorphisms 4G/5G and G11053T of PAI-1 gene, G-455A of fibrinogen gene, G10976A and -323 0/10-bp of factor VII gene, G1691A of factor

gen, G10976A i -323 0/10-bp u genu za faktor VII, G1691A u genu za faktor V i G20210A u genu za protrombin. Analizirane su DNK 479 bolesnika s angiografski dokazanom KBS (>50% stenoze u bar jednoj koronarnoj arteriji) i 200 kontrolnih osoba bez KBS (<10% stenoze). Polimorfizmi su genotipizirani multilokusnim linearnim blotom za genske kandidate za kardiovaskularne bolesti (Roche Molecular Systems Inc, SAD). Nakon korekcije s obzirom na ostale rizične čimbenike dobiveni su slijedeći relativni rizici i 95%-tni intervali pouzdanosti (dominantni i recesivni modeli): PAI-1 4G/5G i 11053 TT (OR 1,24 i 0,84, 95% CI 0,84 do 1,83 i 0,56 do 1,25), fibrinogen -455AA (OR 1,05, 95% CI 0,75 do 1,50), faktor VII 10976AA i -32310/10-bp (OR 0,58 i 0,59, 95% CI 0,11 do 2,97 i 0,15 do 2,25). Zaključeno je kako istraživani polimorfizmi nisu povezani s rizikom od KBS u proučavanoj populaciji.

E-mail: desiree.coen1@zg.htnet.hr

V gene, and G20210A of prothrombin gene. We performed a case-control study evaluating 479 patients with angiographically documented CAD (>50% stenosis of at least one coronary artery) and 200 controls without CAD (<10% stenosis). The polymorphisms were genotyped using a multilocus genotyping assay for candidate markers of cardiovascular disease risk (Roche Molecular Systems Inc, USA). After adjustment for other risk factors, the following odds ratios (OR) and confidence intervals (95% CI) were obtained (dominant and recessive models): PAI-1 4G/5G and 11053 TT (OR 1.24 and 0.84, 95% CI 0.84 to 1.83 and 0.56 to 1.25, respectively), fibrinogen -455AA (OR 1.05, 95% CI 0.75 to 1.50), factor VII 10976AA and -32310/10-bp (OR 0.58 and 0.59, 95% CI 0.11 to 2.97 and 0.15 to 2.25, respectively). In conclusion, the studied polymorphisms were not associated with CAD in this cohort.

E-mail: desiree.coen1@zg.htnet.hr

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BILJEZI FIBRINOLIZE ZA VRIJEME OPERACIJE REVASKULARIZACIJE MIOKARDA

Živković M.¹, Brkić K.², Nikić N.³, Hašperger D.¹, Romić Ž.¹

¹ Zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, ² Odjel za kardijalnu kirurgiju, ³ Odjel za anesteziju, reanimaciju i intenzivnu skrb, Klinička bolnica "Dubrava", Zagreb

Revaskularizacija miokarda najčešća je kardiokirurška operacija izvođena danas u svijetu. Tradicionalno se izvodi uz primjenu izvantjelesnog krvotoka. Prolaz krvi preko površina nepokrivenih endotelom izaziva poremećaj koagulacije, komplementa i fibrinolitičkog sustava, tzv. sustavni upalni odgovor. Suvremene kirurške tehnike omogućuju izvođenje revaskularizacije miokarda i bez primjene izvantjelesnog krvotoka, a o pogodnosti bolesnika za taj način izvođenja odlučuje operater temeljem obilježja same bolesti. Cilj studije bio je praćenjem biljega fibrinolize PAI-1, plazminogena i D-dimera utvrditi razliku u aktivnosti fibrinolize za vrijeme izvođenja revaskularizacije miokarda s obzirom na način izvođenja. Provedeno je prospektivno ispitivanje u 28 bolesnika koji su programski operirani zbog koronarne bolesti srca u KB "Dubrava" tijekom ožujka i travnja 2003. godine. Od toga je 14 bolesnika operirano uz primjenu izvantjelesnog krvotoka (CABG), a drugih 14 bez njega (OPCAB). Svi su primili istu vrstu anestezije, iste vazoaktivne lijekove, te je primijenjen isti hemodinamski

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FIBRINOLYTIC MARKERS DURING ARTERIAL REVASCULARIZATION

M. Živković¹, K. Brkić², N. Nikić³, D. Hašperger¹, Ž. Romić¹

¹ Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, ² Department of Cardiac Surgery, ³ Department of Anesthesiology, Resuscitation and Intensive Care, Dubrava University Hospital, Zagreb

Arterial revascularization is the most common cardiothoracic surgery performed in the world. Traditionally, it is performed using extracorporeal circulation. The blood passage across nonphysiological surfaces causes disorders of coagulation, complement and fibrinolytic system, known as whole body inflammatory response. Modern surgical techniques can provide myocardial revascularization also without using extracorporeal circulation. The objective of the study was to determine the difference in fibrinolytic activity by monitoring the fibrinolytic markers PAI-1, plasminogen and D-dimer during myocardial revascularization depending on the way it is performed. The prospective study of 28 patients who underwent cardiac surgery for coronary heart disease was performed during March and April 2003. Fourteen patients underwent surgery with extracorporeal circulation (CABG), and the other 14 without it (OPCAB). They all received the same type of anesthesia, the same vasoactive drugs, and the same hemodynamic supervision was used. Antifibrinolytics were not used. Plasma samples were collected in four phases of the proce-

nadzor. Antifibrinolitici nisu primijenjeni. Plazma je uzorkovana u četiri faze operacije, te slijedećeg jutra. Aktivnost PAI-1 i koncentracija plazminogena određene su kromogenom metodom na analizatoru BCT (Behring Coagulation Timer), a koncentracija D-dimera aglutinacijskom metodom na analizatoru STA Compact (Roche/Boehringer Mannheim). Aktivnost PAI-1, koncentracije plazminogena i D-dimera pokazale su znatno veće promjene u skupini CABG. Aktivnost PAI-1 i koncentracija D-dimera naglo su rasle za vrijeme primjene izvantjelesnog krvotoka, a potrošnja plazminogena bila je ubrzana. Slijedećega jutra vrijednosti parametara izjednačene su u obje skupine. Dakle, aktivnost fibrinolize veća je u skupini CABG. Sustavni upalni odgovor uzrok je jačoj fibrinolizi u skupini CABG, dok je fibrinoliza u skupini OPCAB normalan fiziološki odgovor organizma na sam operacijski zahvat.

E-mail: kbrkic@kdb.hr

... and on the next morning. PAI-1 activity and plasminogen concentration were determined using chromogenic method on a BCT analyzer, and D-dimer concentration was determined using agglutination method on an STA Compact analyzer. PAI-1 activity, plasminogen and D-dimer concentrations showed significantly greater changes in the CABG group. PAI-1 activity and D-dimer concentration were increased during the use of extracorporeal circulation, while plasminogen consumption was accelerated. On the next morning, the values of fibrinolytic markers were leveled in the two groups. Accordingly, fibrinolytic activity was more pronounced in the CABG group. The whole body inflammatory response was the cause of stronger fibrinolysis in the CABG group, while fibrinolysis in the OPCAB group was the normal physiological response to the operative procedure per se.

E-mail: kbrkic@kdb.hr

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PROFIL LIPIDA I FENOTIPOVI APO H U ISPITANIKAMA S DISLIPIDEMIJAMA KOJI ISKAZUJU RAZLIČITU DISTRIBUCIJU VELIČINA LDL ČESTICA

Trbojević-Čepe M., Vogrinc Ž., Zrinski-Topić R., Stavljenić-Rukavina A.

Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku Medicinskog fakulteta Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Klinički bolnički centar "Zagreb", Zagreb

Povećana koncentracija ukupnog i LDL kolesterola nije znakovit nalaz u većine osoba s koronarnim bolestima. Ukazano je na izrazito aterogeniji učinak malih, gustih LDL čestica. Mehanizam kojim se one stvaraju još nije razjašnjen. Oko 40% beta2-glukoproteina I u plazmi je vezano za lipoproteine, što je dovelo do njegova označavanja kao apolipoproteina H. Uloga Apo H u metabolizmu lipida je zasad nejasna, premda on djeluje na uklanjanje triglicerida iz krvi štakora i aktivira lipoprotein-lipazu. Studije s izoelektričnim fokusiranjem otkrile su da je to heterogena molekula s pet glavnih izoforma. ApoH2 je najčešći alel u svim do danas ispitanim rasama, a slijede ApoH3 i ApoH1. Cilj ovoga rada bio je ispitati mogućnost da na promjenu veličine LDL čestice također utječe i strukturni polimorfizam ApoH. Stoga smo ispitali učestalost pojedinih alela u osoba koje su imale različitu distribuciju veličina LDL čestica: s pretežitom velikim LDL česticama ('profil' A), srednjim ('profil' I) i malim

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LIPID PROFILE AND APO H PHENOTYPES IN DISLIPIDEMIC SUBJECTS SHOWING DIFFERENT LDL PARTICLE SIZE DISTRIBUTION

M. Trbojević-Čepe, Ž. Vogrinc, R. Zrinski-Topić, A. Stavljenić-Rukavina

Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb University Hospital Center, Zagreb

Elevated total and LDL cholesterol is not characteristic of most individuals who suffer from coronary artery disease. It has already been shown that the presence of small, dense LDL particles is particularly atherogenic. The mechanism(s) responsible for their production remain unclear. Approximately 40% of the plasma beta2-glycoprotein I is associated with lipoproteins, which has led to its designation as apolipoprotein H. The role of apo H in lipid metabolism is still uncertain, although it affects triglyceride clearance in the rat and is reported to be the activator of lipoprotein lipase. Isoelectric focusing studies have revealed apoH to be a heterogeneous molecule with five major isoforms. The ApoH2 is the most common allele, followed by ApoH3 and ApoH1, in all racial groups examined to date. The aim of this study was to evaluate the possibility that the alterations in LDL particle size are also influenced by structural polymorphism of Apo H. Thus, we determined the frequency distributions of the three apo H alleles in subjects char-

('profil' B). Skupina od 138 dobrovoljnih davalaca krvi s normalnom koncentracijom lipida u krvi i normalnom distribucijom veličina LDL čestica ('profil' A) izabrani su kao kontrolna skupina za ispitivanje polimorfizma ApoH u našoj populaciji. Učestalost ApoH alela je ispitana kod 386 osoba s različitim dislipidemijama koje su kasnije klasificirane i po pretežitom 'profilu' veličina LDL čestica: A (n=127), I (n=111) i B (n=148). Distribucija LDL čestica određena je metodom gradijentne elektroforeze u poliakrilamidnom gelu, koja je razvijena u našem laboratoriju. Fenotipovi ApoH su određeni metodom izoelektričnog fokusiranja i imunoblota. Čimbenici koji su povezani sa smanjenjem veličine LDL čestica su povećana koncentracija triglicerida u krvi i smanjena koncentracija HDL kolesterola. Povećana koncentracija kolesterola u krvi udružena s niskom koncentracijom triglicerida dovodi do stvaranja velikih čestica LDL. Nije nađena statistički značajna razlika u učestalosti pojedinih alela ApoH između kontrolne skupine i osoba s dislipidemijama koje iskazuju različitu distribuciju veličina LDL čestica.

E-mail: dcvor@kbc-zagreb.hr

acterized by different LDL particle size distributions: with predominant large LDL subclasses (pattern A), intermediate (I), and small dense LDL particles (pattern B). A group of 138 healthy blood donors with normal lipid profile and normal distribution of LDL particle size (LDL pattern A) were selected as a control group for the evaluation of apo H polymorphism in our population. The frequency distributions of the three Apo H alleles were demonstrated in 386 subjects with various dyslipidemias that were later classified also according to the predominant LDL pattern: A (n=127), I (n=111) and B (n=148). LDL size phenotyping was performed by non-denaturing gradient polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis developed in our laboratory. ApoH phenotypes were determined by isoelectric focusing followed by immunoblotting. The factors associated with the decreased LDL size were elevated triglycerides and decreased HDL cholesterol. Increased plasma cholesterol accompanied by the low level of triglycerides produce large LDL particles. We did not find a significant difference between the distribution of apo H phenotypes in control individuals and dyslipidemic subjects showing different distribution of LDL particle size.

E-mail: dcvor@kbc-zagreb.hr

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RAZINA HOMOCISTEINA PLAZME U BOLESNIKA NA HEMODIJALIZI

Škovraga S., Garilović J., Včelik M.

Hematološko-biokemijski laboratorij, Opća županijska bolnica, Požega

Kardiovaskularne bolesti su glavni uzrok smrti u bolesnika na hemodijalizi. Hiperhomocisteinemia koja je vjerojatno uzrokovana poremećenim bubrežnim metabolizmom predstavlja jedan od čimbenika rizika za kardiovaskularne bolesti kod dijaliziranih bolesnika u zadnjem stadiju bubrežne bolesti. Cilj rada bio je odrediti i usporediti razinu homocisteina prije i nakon hemodijalize u bolesnika u zadnjem stadiju bubrežne bolesti. Analiziran je 21 uzorak EDTA-plazme bolesnika u zadnjem stadiju bubrežne bolesti (10 m, 11 ž) prije i nakon hemodijalize. Razina homocisteina je određivana na analizatoru IMX (Abbott) metodom fluorescentne imunopolarizacije (FPIA). Referentne vrijednosti homocisteina su od 5 do 15 $\mu\text{mol/l}$. Usporedno su određene koncentracije ureje, kreatinina, alkalne fosfataze i magnezija u se-

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TOTAL PLASMA HOMOCYSTEINE LEVELS IN PATIENTS WITH END-STAGE RENAL DISEASE

S. Škovraga, J. Garilović, M. Včelik

Laboratory of Hematology and Biochemistry, County General Hospital, Požega

Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of morbidity and mortality in patients with end stage renal disease. Elevated total plasma homocysteine, which is probably due to impaired renal metabolism, is among the most common cardiovascular risk factors in patients with chronic renal failure. The aim of the study was to determine and compare total homocysteine levels in patients with end stage renal disease before and after hemodialysis. EDTA samples were collected from 21 patients (10 M, 11 F) before and after hemodialysis. Plasma homocysteine levels were measured by automated fluorescence polarization immunoassay (FPIA) on an IMX analyzer (Abbott). The reference range for homocysteine is 5-15 $\mu\text{mol/l}$. The levels of urea, creatinine, alkaline

rumu svih bolesnika prije i nakon hemodijalize, kao i koncentracije kolesterola, HDL-kolesterola, LDL-kolesterola i triglicerida u serumu prije hemodijalize. Razina homocisteina prije hemodijalize kretala se od 16,09 do 38,74 $\mu\text{mol/l}$ (srednja vrijednost 30,22 $\mu\text{mol/l}$), a nakon hemodijalize od 10,46 do 25,68 $\mu\text{mol/l}$ (srednja vrijednost 17,94 $\mu\text{mol/l}$). Dakle, nakon hemodijalize nastupa značajan, prosječno 41%-tni pad razine homocisteina u plazmi bolesnika u odnosu na razinu homocisteina prije hemodijalize.

E-mail: velko-valentin.skorvaga@po.htnet.hr

phosphatase and magnesium were measured in sera of all patients before and after hemodialysis, and those of serum total cholesterol, HDL cholesterol, LDL cholesterol and triglycerides before hemodialysis. The mean measured plasma homocysteine level was 30.22 (range 16.09-38.74) $\mu\text{mol/l}$ before, and 17.94 (range 10.46-25.68) $\mu\text{mol/l}$ after hemodialysis. Thus, elevated plasma homocysteine levels were observed in all patients with end stage renal disease before hemodialysis. A significant 41% mean reduction in plasma homocysteine levels was observed after as compared to the predialysis homocysteine levels.

E-mail: velko-valentin.skorvaga@po.htnet.hr

P3-14

PRIKAZ SRČANIH PARAMETARA U RANOJ DIJAGNOZI AKUTNOG INFARKTA MIOKARDA

Hrabrić S., Čuka-Husnjak S., Dvornik Š.

Zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Klinički bolnički centar "Rijeka", Rijeka

Srčani biokemijski parametri su vrlo značajni za rano dijagnosticiranje akutnog infarkta miokarda (AIM), o čemu najčešće ovisi tijek i ishod bolesti. Određivanje srčanih parametara treba biti osjetljivije i specifičnije kako bi se u što kraćem razdoblju potvrdio AIM. Cilj ove studije je bio prikazati kompatibilnost između 3 raspoloživa troponinska testa, kao i ostalih srčanih parametara (CK, CKMB mass i MYO) u ranoj dijagnozi AIM-a. U studiju je bilo uključeno 37 bolesnika (13 ž i 24 m), od kojih je 6 primljeno preko hitne službe, a 31 ispitanik je bio smješten u Koronarnu jedinicu KBC "Rijeka". Koncentracija troponina T (cTnT) u serumu ispitanika mjerena je na analizatoru Elecsys 1010 (kemiluminiscentna metoda), koncentracija troponina I (cTnI) je mjerena na analizatorima Axsym-Abbott (MEIA) i Dade Behring Dimension RxL (imunoreakcija s monoklonskim protutijelima). Serumaska koncentracija CK, CKMB mass i MYO je bila određena na analizatoru Dimension RxL. Rezultati su pokazali da su vrijednosti srčanih parametara u bolesnika bili povišeni: CK (65%), CKMB mass (59%), cTnI (65%), MYO (49%) i cTnT (57%). Usporedbom troponina na različitim analizatorima dobivena je visoka korelacija i statistička značajnost ($r^2=0,9704$, $p<0,05$) kod određivanja na Axsymu, niža korelacija ($r^2=0,8905$) određivanjem na Elecsysu 1010 u odnosu na tro-

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CARDIAC MARKERS IN THE EARLY DIAGNOSIS OF ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION

S. Hrabrić, S. Čuka-Husnjak, Š. Dvornik

Department of Laboratory Diagnosis, Rijeka University Hospital Center, Rijeka

Cardiac markers are very important in the early diagnosis of acute myocardial infarction (AMI) as well as in the prediction of the disease outcome. The measurement of cardiac markers has to be highly sensitive and specific in order to confirm AMI as early as possible. The aim of this study was to compare three commercially available troponin tests and other cardiac markers (CK, CKMB mass and MYO) in the early diagnosis of AMI. Thirty-seven patients were included in the study (13 F and 24 M), 6 of them from the Emergency Service, and 31 from the Coronary Unit. Elecsys 1010 analyzer (chemiluminescence method) was used to test troponin T (cTnT) serum levels, while troponin I (cTnI) levels were measured on Axsym-Abbott (MEIA) and Dade Behring Dimension RxL (immunoassay with specific monoclonal antibody) analyzers. CK, CKMB mass and MYO were measured on a Dimension RxL analyzer. Results showed increased levels of cardiac markers in AMI patients: CK (65%), CKMB mass (59%), cTnI (65%), MYO (49%) and cTnT (57%). Comparison of the cTnI test performed on Dimension RxL with that on Axsym yielded a high and statistically significant correlation ($r^2=0.9704$, $p<0.05$), which was lower on comparison to Elecsys 1010 ($r^2=0.8905$). There was a good correlation between CK and cTnI ($r^2=0.8094$, $p<0.05$) on the Dimension RxL

ponine mjerene na analizatoru Dimension RxL. Dobra korelacija nađena je između CK i cTnI ($r^2=0,8094$, $p<0,05$) na analizatoru Dimension. Rezultati ove studije pokazali su visoku osjetljivost određivanja cTnI (65%) na analizatoru Dimension RxL u odnosu na ostale srčane parametre kod postavljanja rane dijagnoze AIM. cTnI je najbolji pokazatelj AIM i najduže ostaje povišen u serumu, za razliku od mioglobina koji se za kratko vrijeme vraća na normalnu vrijednost. Rezultati su pokazali dobru korelaciju troponina koji su određeni na trima različitim analizatorima.

E-mail: snjezana.hrabric@kvarner.net

analyzer. These results indicated a higher sensitivity of cTnI (65%) on the Dimension RxL analyzer relative to other cardiac markers in the early diagnosis of AMI. Thus, cTnI is a better indicator of AMI that remains elevated in the serum for a longer period of time, while myoglobin returns to normal values very fast. All commercially available troponin tests showed good correlation.

E-mail: snjezana.hrabric@kvarner.net

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KONCENTRACIJA C-REAKTIVNOG PROTEINA U LIKVORU TIJEKOM AKUTNOG INFEKTIVNOG MENINGITISA

Suljević E., Jadrić R.

Institut za kliničku kemiju i biokemiju, Medicinski fakultet,
Sarajevo, BiH

Niska osjetljivost i specifičnost tradicionalnih laboratorijskih pretraga postale su nedostatne za točno dijagnosticiranje i početak odgovarajućeg liječenja u bolesnika s bakterijskim meningitisom. C-reaktivni protein (CRP) mogao bi biti korisna dodatna pretraga za brzu dijagnozu bakterijskog meningitisa. Ispitali smo učinkovitost određivanja CRP u likvoru tijekom akutnog bakterijskog meningitisa. CRP smo analizirali osjetljivim imunoturbidimetrijskim testom na analizatoru Dimension RXL (Dade Behring). Koncentracije CRP u likvoru i diferencijalna bijela krvna slika (BKS) mjerene su u 20 bolesnika (dob 1-50 godina) s akutnim bakterijskim meningitisom, te u kontrolnoj skupini od 25 osoba bez infekcije i upale. Povišene razine CRP nađene su u 94% bolesnika s bakterijskim meningitisom. Srednja vrijednost razine CRP bila je 0,25 (raspon 0,10-0,55) mg/L u kontrolnoj skupini i 21,4 (raspon 10,2-100) mg/L u skupini bolesnika s bakterijskim meningitisom. Manja no raznolika povišenja zapažena su u bolesnika s akutnim virusnim meningitisom. Osjetljiv test za CRP u likvoru bio bi vrijedna dodatna pretraga konvencionalnim pretragama kod akutnog bakterijskog meningitisa.

E-mail: rjadric@smartnet.ba

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C-REACTIVE PROTEIN CONCENTRATION IN CEREBROSPINAL FLUID DURING ACUTE BACTERIAL MENINGITIS

E. Suljević, R. Jadrić

Institute of Clinical Chemistry and Biochemistry, School of
Medicine, University of Sarajevo, Sarajevo, Bosnia &
Herzegovina

The low sensitivity and specificity of traditional laboratory tests have become insufficient for the accurate diagnosis and initiation of appropriate treatment in patients with bacterial meningitis. C-reactive protein (CRP) may be a useful supplement for the rapid diagnosis of bacterial meningitis. We investigated the effectiveness of CRP determination in cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) during acute bacterial meningitis. CRP was analyzed by a sensitive immunoturbidimetric assay on a Dimension RXL analyzer (Dade Behring). CSF concentrations of CRP and differential white blood cell count (WCC) were measured in 20 patients (age range, 1-50 years) presenting with acute bacterial meningitis, and in a control group of 25 individuals free from infection and inflammation. Elevated levels of CRP were found in 94% of patients with bacterial meningitis. The mean CRP level was 0.25 (range 0.10-0.55) mg/L in the control group and 21.4 (range 10.2-100) mg/L in the group of patients with bacterial meningitis. Smaller but variable elevations were observed in patients with acute viral meningitis. A sensitive assay for CRP in CSF would be a useful adjunct to conventional studies in acute bacterial meningitis.

E-mail: rjadric@smartnet.ba

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**LIPIDNI STATUS SKUPINE RADNO
SPOSOBNIH ISPITANIKA**Mirjanić-Azarić B.¹, Đerić M.², Popović M.¹, Saničanin Z.³¹ JZU Dom zdravlja, Banja Luka, BiH; ² Klinički centar, Novi Sad, Srbija i Crna Gora; ³ Medicinski fakultet, Banja Luka, BiH

Hiperlipoproteinemije predstavljaju jedan od najznačajnijih rizičnih čimbenika za nastanak koronarne bolesti srca. Cilj istraživanja bio je procijeniti zastupljenost hiperlipoproteinemija kako bi se uvidjelo je li potrebno pristupiti prevenciji hiperlipoproteinemija kod nas. Ispitano je 250 radnika na redovnom sistematskom pregledu. Koncentracija ukupnog kolesterola i triglicerida određivana je enzimskom metodom (CHOD-PAP, GPO-PAP) na biokemijskom analizatoru Hitachi 902, a HDL-kolesterol u supernatantu poslije precipitacije drugih lipoproteina fosfo-volframat-magnezij reagensom. LDL-kolesterol određivan je računskim putem po formuli Friedvalda i suradnika. Utvrđeno je da je ukupni kolesterol granično povišen kod 44,04% muškaraca i 44,68% žena, a visoko rizične vrijednosti imalo je 43,12% muškaraca i 39,01% žena. Trigliceridi su bili granično povišeni kod 22,02% muškaraca i 19,15% žena, a visokorizične vrijednosti imalo je 37,61% muškaraca i 9,93% žena. HDL-kolesterol je bio granično snižen kod 55,96% muškaraca i 41,84% žena, dok je 5,50% muškaraca i 1,42% žena imalo visokorizične vrijednosti. LDL-kolesterol je bio granično povišen kod 31,96% muškaraca i 21,43% žena, dok je visokorizične vrijednosti imalo 43,30% muškaraca i 42,14% žena. Hiperlipoproteinemija je zabilježena kod 62,8% ispitanika. Zabrinjavajuće visoka učestalost poremećaja metabolizma lipida i lipoproteina ukazuje na potrebu uključivanja analiza prve etape stepenaste laboratorijske dijagnostike u rutinske pretrage u okviru sistematskih pregleda radnika. Neophodna je i edukacija cjelokupnog stanovništva u primjeni mjera za sprečavanje hiperlipoproteinemija.

E-mail: zsanicanin@urc.bl.ac.yu

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**LIPID STATUS IN A GROUP OF
SUBJECTS CAPABLE OF WORK**B. Mirjanić-Azarić¹, M. Đerić², M. Popović¹, Z. Saničanin³¹ JZU Health Center, Banja Luka, Bosnia & Herzegovina; ² Clinical Center, Novi Sad, Serbia & Montenegro; ³ School of Medicine, Banja Luka, Bosnia & Herzegovina

Hyperlipoproteinemias are one of the major risk factors for coronary heart disease. The aim of the study was to determine the rate of hyperlipoproteinemias in order to estimate the need of taking preventive measures for hyperlipoproteinemias in our country. A group of 250 workers were examined at regular systematic check-up. Concentrations of total cholesterol and triglycerides were determined by the enzymatic colorimetric method (CHOD-PAP, GPO-PAP) on a Hitachi 902 analyzer, and HDL-cholesterol was determined in the supernatant upon precipitation of other lipoproteins, with the addition of phosphotungstic acid and MgCl₂. LDL-cholesterol was calculated according to the formula of Friedvald and coworkers. Borderline elevation of total cholesterol was found in 44.04% of male and 44.68% of female, and high risk values were recorded in 43.12% of male and 39.01% of female subjects. Borderline elevation of triglycerides was recorded in 22.02% of male and 19.15% of female subjects, whereas high risk values were recorded in 37.61% of male and 9.93% of female subjects. Borderline decrease in HDL-cholesterol was observed in 55.96% of male and 41.84% of female subjects, whereas 5.50% of male and 1.42% of female subjects showed high risk values. Borderline elevation of LDL-cholesterol was recorded in 31.96% of male and 21.43% of female subjects, whereas high risk values were found in 43.30% of male and 42.14% of female subjects. Hyperlipoproteinemia was recorded in 62.8% of study subjects. The prevalence of lipid metabolism disorders was alarmingly high, pointing to the need of adding these tests in the first-step procedures of graduated laboratory diagnosis as routine tests on regular systematic check-ups. Proper education of the population at large in the measures of hyperlipoproteinemia prevention is warranted.

E-mail: zsanicanin@urc.bl.ac.yu

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**UTJECAJ VALSARTANA NA AKTIVNOST
Na⁺/K⁺-ATPaze U KORI BUBREGA
ŠTAKORA**

Knežević A., Samaržija I.

Zavod za farmakologiju, Farmaceutsko-biokemijski fakultet
Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb

U skupini antihipertenzivnih lijekova koji djeluju na renin-angiotenzinski sustav nalaze se inhibitori konvertaze angiotenzina (ACE-inhibitori) i antagonisti angiotenzinskih receptora (AT₁-blokatori). AT₁-receptori za angiotenzin II. smješteni su u bubregu unutar tubularnog i vaskularnog sustava, i to u proksimalnim tubulima (luminalna i bazolateralna membrana), distalnim tubulima i sabirnim kanalicima te aferentnim i eferentnim arteriolama glomerula. Prisutna raspodjela AT₁-receptora ukazuje na fiziološko značenje angiotenzina II. u regulaciji ravnoteže tekućine i elektrolita, naročito Na⁺ i bikarbonata, zatim glomerularne filtracije te kortikalne i medularne mikrocirkulacije (bubrežne hemodinamike). Cilj ovoga rada bio je utvrditi utjecaj valsartana (AT₁-blokatora) na aktivnost Na⁺/K⁺-ATPaze, membranskog enzima značajnog za održavanje membranskog potencijala i staničnog volumena. Aktivnost enzima se određivala u izoliranim membranskim vezikulama kore bubrega štakora u kojoj su najviše zastupljeni proksimalni i distalni tubuli. Mjeru enzimatske aktivnosti je predstavljao oslobođeni anorganski fosfor koji se određivao spektrofotometrijski. Postupci izolacije membrana su uslijedili 1 sat nakon i.p. primjene lijeka odnosno fiziološke otopine. Pod kontrolnim uvjetima aktivnost enzima u kori je iznosila 28,5±7,6 μmol P_i/mg proteina/h (n=6). Pod utjecajem valsartana (160 mg/100g tjelesne mase) aktivnost enzima se u prosjeku povećala za 29% i iznosila je 37,8±6,1 μmol P_i/mg proteina/h. Iz navedenoga se može zaključiti da valsartan nakon jednokratne primjene povećava aktivnost Na⁺/K⁺-ATPaze. Taj porast aktivnosti enzima je vjerojatno nastao kao posljedica neposredne inhibicije AT₁-receptora preko kojih se provodi regulacija Na⁺/H⁺ izmjene u luminalnoj membrani i Na⁺/HCO₃⁻ kotransporta u bazolateralnoj membrani proksimalnih tubula. Stoga povećanje aktivnosti Na⁺/K⁺-ATPaze može biti kompenzacijska reakcija u svrhu održavanja ravnoteže elektrolita u organizmu. Za očekivati je da bi dugotrajna primjena AT₁-blokatora mogla izazvati složenije odgovore na razini membranskih transportnih sustava i posljedično aktivnost pumpe.

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**EFFECT OF VALSARTAN ON Na⁺/K⁺-
ATPase ACTIVITY IN THE RAT RENAL
CORTEX**

A. Knežević, I. Samaržija

Department of Pharmacology, Zagreb University School of
Pharmacy and Biochemistry, Zagreb

The angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors (ACE-inhibitors) and angiotensin II receptor antagonists (AT₁-antagonists) belong to the antihypertensive class of drugs which act on the renin-angiotensin system. The intrarenal AT₁-receptors are mostly located within the tubular and vascular systems which include proximal tubules (luminal and basolateral membrane), distal tubule and collecting ducts as well as glomerular afferent and efferent arterioles. The present distribution of AT₁-receptors stresses the physiologic importance of angiotensin II in the regulation of glomerular filtration, cortical and medullary microcirculation in addition to maintaining balance of body fluids and electrolytes, especially sodium and bicarbonate. The aim of this study was to investigate the effect of valsartan (AT₁-antagonist) on Na⁺/K⁺-ATPase activity. Na⁺/K⁺-ATPase is a membrane bound enzyme which regulates cell potential and volume. The enzyme activity was measured on isolated rat cortical membrane vesicles which were enriched in proximal and distal tubular cells. The released inorganic phosphorus represented the measure of Na⁺/K⁺-ATPase activity. The preparation of membrane vesicles proceeded for 1 hour after i.p. application of valsartan (160 mg/100 g body mass) or saline. The enzyme control activity was 28.5±7.6 μmol P_i/mg protein/h (n=6). Under the influence of valsartan the enzyme activity increased by 29%, to a value of 37.8±6.1 μmol P_i/mg protein/h. In order to maintain the electrolyte balance, the increase of enzyme activity might have been a compensatory reaction to the reduced Na⁺ reabsorption due to the inhibition of AT₁-receptors at the luminal membrane (regulation of Na⁺/H⁺ exchange) and basolateral membrane (regulation of Na⁺/HCO₃⁻ cotransport). It appears that longterm use of AT₁-antagonists could elicit more complex responses of the membrane transport systems and consequently the pump activity.

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Bolesti koštanog i vezivnog sustava
Bone and connective tissue diseases

P4-1

**PROMJENA BAZNIH VRIJEDNOSTI
BIOKEMIJSKIH BILJEGA KOŠTANE
PREGRADNJE OSTEOKALCINA
I BETA-CROSSLAPSA**
Rako I.¹, Bulatović G.¹, Bašić-Marković N.²¹ Medicinsko-biokemijski laboratorij, Poliklinika "Medico",
Rijeka, ² Ordinacija opće medicine, Rijeka

Više bazne vrijednosti osteokalcina i *beta-crosslapsa* značajno su povezane s bržim gubitkom koštane mase u menopauzi. Žene s visokim vrijednostima ovih biljega gube tijekom četiri godine 2 do 6 puta više koštane mase nego one s normalnim vrijednostima. Prednost određivanja koštanih biljega je u tome što nas obavještavaju o metaboličnoj aktivnosti koštanoga tkiva, dok densitometrijski nalaz daje uvid u trenutnu koštanu strukturu i masu. Cilj ovoga rada bio je dokazati da su bazne vrijednosti biljega koštane pregradnje, kao i njihov porast nakon osam mjeseci, u prosjeku viši kod žena u menopauzi. Praćena je promjena koncentracije PTH prilikom promjene koncentracije koštanih biljega, te korelacija osteokalcina i *beta-crosslapsa*. Koncentracija osteokalcina i *beta-crosslapsa* određivala se imunokemijskom metodom elektrokemiluminiscencije u serumu 33 žene u premenopauzi i 19 žena u menopauzi bez terapije. Prosječne bazne vrijednosti osteokalcina i *beta-crosslapsa* kod žena u premenopauzi bile su niže od vrijednosti istih kod žena u menopauzi. Prosječna koncentracija PTH također je bila niža kod žena u premenopauzi, a rasla je s porastom koncentracije koštanih biljega pregradnje. Nije dokazan značajniji porast koncentracije koštanih biljega u skupini žena u menopauzi u razdoblju od osam mjeseci. Koeficijenti korelacije osteokalcina i *beta-crosslapsa* u objema skupinama ($r_1=0,621$; $r_2=0,837$) pokazali su značajnu i vrlo visoku međusobnu povezanost ovih dvaju biokemijskih biljega koštane pregradnje. Više bazne vrijednosti osteokalcina i *beta-crosslapsa* kod žena u menopauzi, kao i njihov porast nakon osam mjeseci kod velikog broja žena (naročito *beta-crosslapsa* u 71,4%), ukazuju na važnost njihovog određivanja u menopauzi, jer nas obavještavaju o pojačanoj koštanoj pregradnji u toj životnoj dobi. Dokazani porast koncentracije PTH u menopauzi

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**CHANGES IN THE BASELINE LEVELS OF
OSTEOCALCIN AND BETA-CROSSLAPS,
BIOCHEMICAL MARKERS OF BONE
TURNOVER**
I. Rako¹, G. Bulatović¹, N. Bašić-Marković²¹ Laboratory of Medical Biochemistry, Medico Polyclinic,
Rijeka, ² Ordinacija opće medicine, Rijeka

Higher baseline levels of osteocalcin and *beta-crosslaps* are significantly associated with a higher rate of bone loss in the menopause. Over a 4-year period, women with higher levels of these markers have a rate of bone loss 2- to 6-fold that in women with normal levels. Determination of these bone turnover markers is highly useful for providing information on the bone metabolic activity, whereas densitometry just provides an insight into the bone mass status at the time of measurement. The aim of the study was to demonstrate that baseline levels of bone turnover markers and their increase after eight months were on an average higher in menopausal women. The concentration of PTH was monitored in parallel with changes in the bone turnover markers, as well as correlation between osteocalcin and *beta-crosslaps*. Serum concentrations of osteocalcin and *beta-crosslaps* were determined in 33 premenopausal and 19 menopausal women (no therapy) by electrochemiluminescence immunoassay. The mean baseline values of osteocalcin and *beta-crosslaps* in premenopausal women were lower than the respective values in menopausal women. The mean concentration of PTH was also lower in premenopausal women and increased with the rising concentration of bone turnover markers. There was no significant rise in the concentration of bone turnover markers in menopausal women after eight months. The parametric correlation tests revealed significant positive correlations between osteocalcin and *beta-crosslaps* in both groups of women. Higher baseline levels of osteocalcin and *beta-crosslaps* in menopausal women, and their increase after eight months in the majority of women (especially of *beta-crosslaps* in 71.4%), suggest the importance of their determination in menopause because they provide information on the increasing bone turnover in this age. The demonstrated in-

može se povezati s postupnim opadanjem koncentracije kalcija u serumu, što u kombinaciji s visokim vrijednostima *beta-crosslapsa* kod žena u menopauzi može značiti opasnost od osteoporoze ili njen početak. U takvim slučajevima preporuča se napraviti denzitometriju kako bi se potvrdio brži gubitak koštane mase što ga predviđaju koštani biljezi pregradnje.

E-mail: ivana_rako@yahoo.com

crease in PTH concentration in menopause may be associated with gradual decrease of serum calcium concentration which, in combination with elevated levels of beta-crosslaps in menopausal women, could imply the risk of osteoporosis or even onset of the process. In these cases, densitometry is recommended to confirm precipitated bone loss predicted by bone turnover markers.

E-mail: ivana_rako@yahoo.com

P4-2

VRIJEDNOSTI KOŠTANIH BILJEGA OSTEOKALCINA I BETA-CROSSLAPS U PLAZMI KOD ŽENA OD 35-55 GODINA NA PODRUČJU SPLITA

Zlodre S.

Poliklinika za urologiju i citologiju sa specijalističkim medicinsko-biokemijskim laboratorijem "Analiza", Split

Osteoporoza je heterogeni poremećaj definiran kao stanje smanjene koštane mase po jedinici volumena s normalnim odnosom minerala i matriksa. To je bolest koja danas u svijetu ima epidemijske razmjere. Biokemijske pretrage se rabe kod dijagnosticiranja bolesti kao dopuna denzitometriji, pomoć pri odlučivanju o terapijskom postupku, predviđanju rizika budućih prijeloma i praćenju terapije. S obzirom na to da je kost rezultat procesa neprestanog izgrađivanja i razgrađivanja u kojem sudjeluju brojni čimbenici, jedna skupina biokemijskih pretraga ukazuje na stupanj izgradnje, a druga razgradnje kosti. Osteocalcin je protein koji sintetiziraju osteoblasti, pa se njegove koncentracije u serumu smatraju biljekom stvaranja kosti. Naziv beta-CrossLaps ili beta CTx označava poprečno vezano mjesto oktapeptida C-terminalnog telopeptida kolagena tipa I koji sadrži isoaspartil (beta-aspartil) peptidnu vezu u njenom L-entantiomernom obliku. Razgradnjom kolagena nastaju razgradni proizvodi koji dospijevaju u cirkulaciju. Neki od njih sadrže izomeriziranu skupinu beta-CrossLaps i pokazatelj su stupnja razgradnje kosti. Oba parametra pokazuju visoku dijagnostičku specifičnost i osjetljivost kao biljezi koštane pregradnje. Cilj studije bio je utvrditi mogućnost upotrebe ovih biljega kao neinvazivne metode za ispitivanja u procjeni rizika nastanka osteoporoze. Analizirano je 40 plazma pripremljenih s K2EDTA kao antiokoagulansom, nasumce odabranih ženskih osoba u dobi od 35-55 godina na području Splita, koje nisu imale nikakve osteoporotske komplikacije.

P4-2

PLASMA CONCENTRATIONS OF BONE MARKERS OSTEOCALCIN AND BETA-CROSSLAPS IN WOMEN AGED 35-55 FROM THE SPLIT AREA

S. Zlodre

Laboratory of Medical Biochemistry, Analiza Polyclinic of Urology and Cytology, Split

Osteoporosis is a heterogeneous dysfunction defined as a state of decreased bone mass per volume unit with normal mineral and matrix ratio. Today, the disease has acquired epidemic proportions worldwide. Biochemical tests are used in addition to densitometry to diagnose the disease, to help in making therapeutic decisions, to predict the risk of future fractures, and in therapy monitoring. Since bone is the result of a constant process of formation and resorption called bone remodeling, which includes numerous different factors, a group of tests reflect the degree of bone formation and others the degree of bone resorption. Osteocalcin is a protein synthesized by osteoblasts, so its concentrations are considered a marker of bone formation. Beta-CrossLaps or beta-CTx is the name of the crosslinked octapeptide of C-terminal telopeptide collagen type I, which contains isoaspartyl (beta-aspartyl) peptide bond in its L-enantiomeric form. During the collagen type I breakdown, degradation products reach the circulation. Some of them contain the isomerized beta-CrossLaps bond and indicate the degree of bone degradation. Both parameters show high diagnostic specificity and sensitivity as markers of bone remodeling. The aim of the study was to evaluate the use of these markers as a noninvasive method to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Forty plasma specimens prepared with K2EDTA as anticoagulant, obtained from randomly selected women free from osteoporosis discomforts, aged 35-55, from the Split area were tested. Osteocalcin and beta-CrossLaps concen-

Koncentraciju osteokalcina i beta-CrossLapsa određivali smo testovima tvrtke Roche Diagnostics: Osteocalcin kat. broj 2 149 133; beta-CrossLaps kat. broj 1972308 na aparatu Elecsys 1010, sendvič imunokemijskom metodom elektrokemiluminiscencije. Koncentracija osteokalcina u referentnom rasponu (11-43 ng/mL) nađena je u 92,5%, a takva koncentracija beta-CrossLapsa (<0,573 pg/mL) u 95,0% uzoraka. Povećane koncentracije osteokalcina nađene su u 3 (7.5%) uzorka, a snižene ni u jednom uzorku. Povećane koncentracije beta-CrossLapsa nađene su u 5 (12.5%) uzoraka. Dobiveni rezultati ukazuju na potrebu određivanja navedenih koštanih biljega uz denzitometriju. Preporuka bi bila praćenje vrijednosti parametara tijekom određenog razdoblja.

E-mail: analiza@chrono.hr

trations were determined by use of Roche Diagnostics tests, Osteocalcin cat. number 2149133 and Beta-CrossLaps, cat. number 1972308. Analyses were performed on an Elecsys 1010 instrument by the sandwich immunoassay electrochemiluminescent technique. Osteocalcin concentrations within the reference range (11-43 ng/mL) were found in 92.5%, and beta-CrossLaps within the reference range (<0.573 ng/mL) in 87.5% of the samples. Osteocalcin concentrations above and below the reference range were found in 3 (7.5%) and none of the samples, respectively. Beta-CrossLaps concentrations above the reference range were found in 5 (12.5%) samples. Study results pointed to the necessity of determining specific bone markers in addition to densitometry. It is recommended to follow up the values of these parameters over a longer period of time.

E-mail: analiza@chrono.hr

P4-3

PROTUTIJELA NA OKSIDIRANI LDL U SISTEMSKOM LUPUSU I REUMATOIDNOM ARTRITISU

Beljan B.¹, Matica J.¹, Bilić-Zulle L.^{1,2}, Fišić E.¹, Dvornik Š.¹

¹ KBC Rijeka, ² Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Rijeci, Rijeka

Oksidirani LDL stvara se uslijed djelovanja slobodnih radikala na LDL, pričem nastaju imunogeni epitopi koji mogu uzrokovati stvaranje protutijela na oksidirani LDL (oLAB). Povišene vrijednosti oLAB nalaze se kod bolesnika s kardiovaskularnim bolestima, dijabetesom, sistemskim eritematoznim lupusom (SLE), preeklampsijom i hipertireozom. Snižene vrijednosti nalaze se kod akutnog infarkta miokarda, ishemijskog moždanog udara i akutne septikemije. Cilj rada bio je odrediti koncentraciju oLAB u serumu ispitanika sa SLE i reumatoidnim artritisom (RA), te ih usporediti s koncentracijama u kontrolnoj skupini. Koncentracija oLAB određena je u serumu 29 ispitanika sa SLE (4 muškarca, 25 žena), 26 ispitanika s RA (3 muškarca, 23 žene) i 28 ispitanika iz kontrolne skupine (3 muškarca, 26 žena) heterogenom enzimimunokemijskom metodom s reagencijama tvrtke Biomedica GmbH (Biomedica Gruppe, Beč, Austrija). Procjena izmjerenih vrijednosti učinjena je prema preporučenim referentnim vrijednostima proizvođača: 94-315 mU/ml. Izmjerene vrijednosti oLAB između skupina uspoređene su Kruskal-Wallisovim testom. Zaključivanja su izvedena za

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ANTIBODIES AGAINST OXIDIZED LDL IN SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS AND RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

B. Beljan¹, J. Matica¹, L. Bilić-Zulle^{1,2}, E. Fišić¹, S. Dvornik¹

¹ Rijeka University Hospital Center, Rijeka, ² Rijeka University School of Medicine, Rijeka

Oxidized LDL is generated by the action of free radicals and results in the formation of modified epitopes which are immunogenic. In consequence, antibodies against oxidized LDL (oLAB) are generated. Elevated oLAB concentrations are found in sera of patients with cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), preeclampsia and hyperthyroidism. Reduced oLAB concentrations are found in acute myocardial infarction, ischemic stroke and acute septicemia. The aim of study was to evaluate serum oLAB levels in patients with SLE and rheumatoid arthritis (RA), and to compare them with the levels in healthy subjects. oLAB values were measured in sera of 29 subjects with SLE (4 male and 25 female), 26 subjects with RA (3 male and 23 female), and 28 control subjects (3 male and 26 female). Quantitative determination of oLAB was performed using the Biomedica GmbH (Biomedica Gruppe, Vienna, Austria) enzyme immunoassay kit. The reference range of 94-315 mU/ml recommended by the manufacturer was used in the study. The values determined in the three groups were compared using Kruskal-

razinu značajnosti $p < 0,05$. U skupini ispitanika sa SLE medijan i raspon izmjerenih vrijednosti bio je 409 mU/ml (16-3149); s RA 327 mU/ml (62-3967) i u kontrolnoj skupini 295 mU/ml (8-2767). Kod 14% ispitanika sa SLE, 11% s RA i 18% iz kontrolne skupine izmjerene su snižene vrijednosti oLAB; kod 24% ispitanika sa SLE, 39% s RA i 36% iz kontrolne skupine izmjerene su normalne vrijednosti, a kod 62% ispitanika sa SLE, 50% s RA i 46% iz kontrolne skupine izmjerene su povišene vrijednosti oLAB. Kruskal-Wallisovim testom nije pronađena statistički značajna razlika među skupinama ispitanika ($p=0,451$). Izmjereni rezultati ne ukazuju na postojanje značenja određivanja protutijela na oksidirani LDL u dijagnostici SLE i RA. Za potvrdu dijagnostičke vrijednosti oLAB potrebna su daljnja istraživanja.

E-mail: jasminka.matica@ri.htnet.hr

Wallis test. Statistical significance was set at $p < 0.05$. The median and range of oLAB were 409 (16-3149) mU/ml in SLE, 327 (62-3967) mU/ml in RA, and 295 (8-2767) mU/ml in control subjects. Relative to the reference range, decreased oLAB concentration was recorded in 14% of SLE, 11% of RA and 18% of control subjects; normal oLAB concentration was recorded in 24% of SLE, 39% of RA and 36% of control subjects; and elevated oLAB concentration was found in 62% of SLE, 50% of RA and 46% of control subjects. Kruskal-Wallis test yielded no statistically significant difference in oLAB concentrations among the three groups of subjects ($p=0.451$). Our results showed serum oLAB values to be of no diagnostic value in the assessment of patients with SLE and RA as compared with healthy subjects. Additional studies are recommended.

E-mail: jasminka.matica@ri.htnet.hr

P4-4

IMUNOLOŠKI STATUS KOD BOLESNIKA SA SISTEMSKIM ERITEMATOZNIM LUPUSOM

Peran N., Meniga D., Reškov Ž., Pamuković-Jaram D.

Biokemijsko-hematološki laboratorij, Opća bolnica Šibenik, Šibenik

Sistemska eritematski lupus (SLE) je kronična upalna autoimuna bolest nepoznate etiologije kod koje tjelesni imunološki sustav koji normalno štiti tijelo od bolesti počinje napadati vlastita tkiva. Cilj ovoga rada je bio odrediti neke imunološke parametre kod bolesnika sa SLE: protutijela protiv jezgre (ANA), protutijela protiv dvolančane DNA (anti-dsDNA), lupus antikoagulant (LAC) protutijela protiv negativno nabijenih fosfolipida ili kompleksa fosfolipida s proteinima, cirkulirajuće imunokomplekse (CIC), komponente komplemenata C3 i C4. Ispitano je 22 bolesnika sa SLE i kontrolna skupina od 20 zdravih ispitanika. ANA su određena metodom indirektno imunofluorescencije na stanicama Hep-2 (BioSystems). Anti-dsDNA su određena metodom indirektno imunofluorescencije na hemoflagelatu *Crithidia luciliae* (Biosystems). LAC je određen vremenom dRVV (BCT, Dade Behring). CIC je određen nefelometrijski, a C3 i C4 turbidimetrijski (Dade Behring). Pozitivan ANA test, titar veći od 1:40 imalo je 95% bolesnika sa SLE, ali je i 15% zdravih ispitanika imalo pozitivan ovaj test, titar 1:40; 75% bolesnika sa SLE imalo je anti-dsDNA,

P4-4

IMMUNE STATUS IN PATIENTS WITH SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS

N. Peran, D. Meniga, Ž. Reškov, D. Pamuković-Jaram

Laboratory of Biochemistry and Hematology, Šibenik General Hospital, Šibenik

Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) is a chronic inflammatory autoimmune disease of unknown etiology, in which the body's immune system, which normally protects the body from disease, starts to attack its own tissues. The aim of this study was to determine some immunologic parameters in patients with SLE: antibodies against cell nucleus (ANA), antibodies against double-stranded DNA (anti-dsDNA), lupus anticoagulant (LAC) antibodies against negatively charged phospholipids or phospholipid complexes with proteins, circulating immune complexes (CIC), and complements C3 and C4. The study included 22 SLE patients and a control group of 20 healthy subjects. ANA were determined by immunofluorescence assay on Hep-2 cells (BioSystems), anti-dsDNA by immunofluorescence assay using *Crithidia luciliae* hemoflagellate (Biosystems), LAC by dRVV time (BCT, Dade Behring), CIC by nephelometric technique, and C3 and C4 by turbidimetric assay (Dade Behring). Positive ANA test, titer $>1:40$ was recorded in 95% of patients with SLE, and in 15% of healthy subjects with a titer 1:40; 75% of SLE patients and none of control subjects had positive

dok niti jedan zdravi ispitanik nije imao ova protutijela; 40% bolesnika sa SLE imalo je LAC, dok je u 23% bolesnika bila prisutna venska ili arterijska tromboza. Niti jedan zdravi ispitanik nije imao ova protutijela; CIC su bili prisutni kod 90% bolesnika sa SLE, ali i kod 10% zdravih ispitanika; C3 i C4 su bili sniženi kod 90% bolesnika sa SLE. ANA test ima veliku osjetljivost, ali ne i specifičnost za dijagnozu SLE. Anti-dsDNA test je visoko specifičan za SLE. Prisutnost LAC povećava rizik od tromboembolijskih bolesti. CIC su prisutni u serumu većine bolesnika sa SLE, ali nisu specifični za SLE. Potrošnja komplementa je značajno povećana u SLE, što izaziva sniženje serumskog komplementa.

E-mail: mb-npera@hdmb.hr

anti-dsDNA; 40% of SLE patients had positive LAC; 23% of SLE patients and none of control subjects had venous or arterial thrombosis; CIC were present in 90% of SLE patients, but also in 10% of healthy individuals. C3 and C4 were low in 90% of SLE patients. ANA test was found to be of high sensitivity but inadequate specificity for the diagnosis of SLE. Anti-dsDNA test is highly specific for SLE. The presence of LAC increases the risk of thromboembolism. CIC are present in serum of most SLE patients but are not specific for SLE. Serum complement is decreased due to the significantly increased complement consumption in SLE.

E-mail: mb-npera@hdmb.hr

P4-5

IZOENZIMI ALKALNE FOSFATAZE U BENIGNOJ TRANZITORNOJ HIPERFOSFATAZEMIJI

Milanović-Stipković B., Jurčić Z., Topić E., Žaja-Franulović O.

Klinički zavod za kemiju, Klinička bolnica "Sestre milosrdnice", Zagreb

Tranzitorna hiperfosfatazemija je rijedak poremećaj izrazitog povišenja ukupne aktivnosti alkalne fosfataze. Javlja se najčešće u dječjoj dobi. Nema specifičnih simptoma i otkriva se slučajno. U razdoblju od travnja 2001. do studenoga 2002. godine otkriveno je sedmero djece s izrazito visokom aktivnošću alkalne fosfataze u serumu. U petero djece pronađeno je i pridruženo povećanje aktivnosti 5-nukleotidaze. Prosječna dob djece je bila 12,9 (raspon 7-21) mjeseci. Razlog hospitalizacije bio je različit: infekcija respiracijskog trakta, enteropatija, anemija i prijeoperacijske pretrage. Na osnovi laboratorijskih nalaza i kliničkog pregleda isključena je bolest jetre ili metabolička bolest kostiju. Alkalna fosfataza određivana je metodom IFCC-a reagensijama tvrtke Olympus na automatskom analizatoru AU 600 Olympus. Izoenzimi AP određivani su na agaroznom gelu Isopal Plus - Beckman. Radi boljeg razdvajanja koštanog i jetrenog izoenzima primijenjena je temperaturna denaturacija na 56 °C/10 minuta i obrada neuraminidazom. Ukupne aktivnosti alkalne fosfataze u ispitivane djece bile su prosječno 3665 (raspon 1628-5469) IU/L. Razdvajanjem izoenzima dokazano je da porastu ukupne aktivnosti uglavnom doprinosi koštani izoenzim.

P4-5

ALKALINE PHOSPHATASE ISOENZYMES IN BENIGN TRANSITORY HYPERPHOSPHATASEMIA

B. Milanović-Stipković, Z. Jurčić, E. Topić, O. Žaja-Franulović

Clinical Institute of Chemistry, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Zagreb

Transitory hyperphosphatasemia is a rare disorder characterized by a marked increase in total alkaline phosphatase (AP) activity. It usually occurs in childhood, has no specific symptoms, and is detected by accident. From April 2001 till November 2002, seven children (mean age 12.9, range 7-21 months) with extremely high serum AP activity were seen. An associated increase in the 5-nucleotidase activity was detected in five children. They were hospitalized for various reasons like respiratory infection, enteropathy, anemia and preoperative screening. Based on laboratory findings, radiologic and clinical examination, hepatic disease and metabolic bone disease were excluded. AP was determined by the IFCC method using Olympus reagents on an AU 600 Olympus autoanalyzer. AP isoenzymes were determined on Beckman Isopal Plus agarose gel. Temperature denaturation at 56 °C/10 min and neuraminidase treatment were used for better separation of the bone and hepatic isoenzymes. The pooled mean AP activity in the study children was 3665 (range 1628-5469) IU/L. Isoenzyme separation demonstrated the bone isoenzyme to predominantly contribute to the total AP activity increase. Five children also

Petero djece imalo je također i lagani porast jetrenog izoenzima. Do normalizacije aktivnosti alkalne fosfataze došlo je spontano u prosjeku za 5,1 (raspon 1,5-9) mjeseci. Pravodobnim prepoznavanjem ovoga biokemijskog fenomena moguće je izbjeći zamke pogrešne dijagnoze i nepotrebnih pretraga.

E-mail: branka_ms@hotmail.com

showed a mild hepatic isoenzyme elevation. The AP activity normalized spontaneously in a mean of 5.1 (range 1.5-9) months. Timely recognition of this biochemical phenomenon can help avoid the traps of false diagnosis and unnecessary testing.

E-mail: branka_ms@hotmail.com

P5 Endokrinološke bolesti *Endocrine diseases*

P5-1

METODA ODREĐIVANJA KATEKOLAMINA U MOKRAĆI POMOĆU TEKUĆINSKE KROMATOGRAFIJE VISOKOG RAZLUČIVANJA UZ FLUORESCENTNI DETEKTOR

Petek-Tarnik I., Petek M.

Endokrinološki laboratorij, Klinička bolnica "Sestre
milosrdnice", Zagreb

Katekolamini (adrenalin, noradrenalin i dopamin) imaju važnu ulogu u živčanom sustavu i u regulaciji krvnog tlaka. Njihovo je određivanje vrlo važno u dijagnosticiranju i praćenju simpatoadrenalnih tumora, primjerice, feokromocitoma i neuroblastoma. Cilj rada je bio poboljšati metodu određivanja katekolamina u mokraći. Opisana je metoda kojom se u kratkom vremenu istodobno određuju adrenalin, noradrenalin i dopamin pomoću tekućinske kromatografije visokog razlučivanja uz fluorescentni detektor. Da bismo uzorak pripremili za nanošenje na kolonu rabili smo metodu Antona i Sayrea, koju smo prilagodili količini uzorka. Odvajanje smo provodili na koloni Sephasil peptide C18 (250x4.6x5 mm), uz mobilnu fazu koju su činili fosfatni pufer s dodatkom oktansulfonske kiseline i acetonitril u omjeru 93 : 7 v/v, pri pH 3,05. Rezultate dobivene novom metodom usporedili smo s rezultatima metode tekućinske kromatografije uz elektrokemijski detektor, koja je već prije postavljena u našem laboratoriju. Ispitali smo uzorke 200 mokraća, a rezultati su se vrlo dobro slagali, što je potvrđeno koeficijentom korelacije od 0,9879. Normalne vrijednosti adrenalina (10,9-65,5 nmol/dU), noradrenalina (32,5-271,9 nmol/dU) i dopamina (<2500 nmol/dU) nisu se razlikovale usporedbom s dosadašnjom metodom.

P5-1

DETERMINATION OF URINARY CATECHOLAMINES BY HIGH PERFORMANCE LIQUID CHROMATOGRAPHY WITH FLUORESCENCE DETECTION

I. Petek-Tarnik, M. Petek

Laboratory of Endocrinology, Sestre milosrdnice University
Hospital, Zagreb

Catecholamines (epinephrine, norepinephrine and dopamine) play an important role in the central nervous system and in the regulation of blood pressure. The determination of urinary catecholamines is essential for the diagnosis and monitoring of sympathoadrenal tumors such as pheochromocytomas and neuroblastomas. The aim of the study was to improve the method used for determination of urinary catecholamines. The HPLC method for fast simultaneous determination of epinephrine, norepinephrine and dopamine in 24-h urine with fluorescence detection is described. A modified micro version of Anton and Sayre was used for sample preparation. The separation was performed on a Sephasil peptide C18 column (250x4.6x5 mm) using mobile phase containing phosphate buffer with octanesulfonic acid and acetonitrile (93:7 v/v, pH 3.05). The new method was compared to the HPLC-EC method previously established at our laboratory. A total of 200 urine samples were examined. The results were in good agreement. Correlation coefficient was 0.9879. Normal values of epinephrine (10.9-65.5 nmol/dU), norepinephrine (32.5-271.9 nmol/dU) and dopamine (<2500 nmol/dU) did not differ from those obtained by the comparative method. Sample preparation is simple and quick, requiring no expensive reagents or equipment,

Uvođenjem nove metode zaključili smo da je priprema uzorka brza, a sam sustav viskotlačne tekućinske kromatografije ne traži skupe otopine, što metodu čini pogodnom za laboratorijsku rutinu.

E-mail: petektarnik@net.hr

which makes the method suitable for laboratory routine.

E-mail: petektarnik@net.hr

P5-2

EVALUACIJA METODA PRETRAŽIVANJA MIKROALBUMINURIJE

Vučić-Lovrenčić M., Božičević S., Ljubić S., Božek T., Mesić R., Ročić B., Metelko Ž.

Sveučilišna klinika "Vuk Vrhovac", Zagreb

Mikroalbuminurija (izlučivanje albumina >30 mg/24 h) u oboljelih od šećerne bolesti prethodi dijabetičnoj nefropatiji i čimbenik je rizika za razvitak kardiovaskularnih bolesti. U ovom istraživanju procjenjivane su dvije metode pretraživanja mikroalbuminurije u drugoj jutarnjoj mokraći: kvantitativno određivanje albuminsko-kreatininskog omjera (A/K; imunokemijska metoda, Bayer Diagnostics, Tarrytown, SAD, alkalni pikrat, Trace Scientific, Melbourne, Australija; autoanalizator Olympus AU600, Tokio, Japan) i semikvantitativno određivanje albuminurije pomoću reagens-trake (Micral II, Roche Diagnostics, Mannheim, Njemačka). U istraživanje su bili uključeni bolesnici (n=128, M/Ž=59/69, dob 37-74 god.) s tipom 2 šećerne bolesti, koji su došli na redovnu godišnju dijabetološku kontrolu. Dan prije dolaska na kontrolu bolesnici su prema strukturiranim uputama skupili 24-satnu mokraću za kvantitativno određivanje albuminurije (imunokemijska metoda, Bayer Diagnostics, Tarrytown, SAD; autoanalizator Olympus AU600, Tokio, Japan), što je ujedno bila metoda usporedbe ('zlatni standard') za obje testirane metode pretraživanja. Izračunata je dijagnostička specifičnost, osjetljivost te pozitivna i negativna prediktivna vrijednost za obje metode pretraživanja mikroalbuminurije. Specifičnost, osjetljivost, pozitivna prediktivna vrijednost, negativna prediktivna vrijednost: A/K 87%, 93%, 95%, 83%; Micral II 72%, 93%, 88%, 83%. Rezultati upućuju na dobru dijagnostičku pouzdanost metoda za pretraživanje mikroalbuminurije, pri čemu kvantitativno izmjereni albuminsko/kreatininski omjer ima višu specifičnost u odnosu na reagens-traku (87% vs. 72%), dok je osjetljivost metoda jednaka (93%). Obje metode podjednako su korisne u pretraživanju mikroalbuminurije i mogu pouzdano identificirati bolesnike kod kojih je potrebno

P5-2

EVALUATION OF SCREENING METHODS FOR MICROALBUMINURIA

M. Vučić-Lovrenčić, S. Božičević, S. Ljubić, T. Božek, R. Mesić, B. Ročić, Ž. Metelko

Vuk Vrhovac University Clinic for Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases, Zagreb

Microalbuminuria (albumin excretion >30 mg/24 h) in diabetic patients precedes diabetic nephropathy and represents a risk factor for cardiovascular disease. In this study we evaluated two screening methods for microalbuminuria using second morning urine samples: quantitative determination of albumin/creatinine ratio (ACR; immunochemical method, Bayer Diagnostics, Tarrytown, USA, and alkaline picrate method, Trace Scientific, Melbourne, Australia, respectively; Olympus AU600 autoanalyzer, Olympus Optical Co., Tokyo, Japan), and semiquantitative determination of albuminuria using reagent-strip (Micral II, Roche Diagnostics, Mannheim, Germany). The study included type 2 diabetic patients (n=128, M/F=59/69, age 37-74 years) who attended the University Clinic for their regular yearly assessment. On the day before assessment, the patients collected 24-hour urine according to structured instructions for quantitative determination of albuminuria (immunochemical method, Bayer Diagnostics, Tarrytown, USA; Olympus AU600 autoanalyzer, Olympus Optical Co., Tokyo, Japan), which was used as a 'gold standard', i.e. comparison reference method for both screening methods studied. Diagnostic specificity, sensitivity, and positive and negative predictive values were calculated for both screening methods for microalbuminuria. Specificity, sensitivity, positive predictive value and negative predictive value: ACR 87%, 93%, 95% and 83%; and Micral II 72%, 93%, 88% and 83%, respectively. The results indicated a fair diagnostic reliability of the two microalbuminuria screening methods, with higher specificity of the quantitatively determined albumin/creatinine ratio when compared to test-strip (87% vs. 72%), whereas sensitivity of the methods was the same. Both methods proved to be

učiniti kvantitativnu analizu izlučivanja albumina.

E-mail: marijana.vucic@idb.hr

equally useful in the screening for microalbuminuria, and could reliably identify the patients in need of quantitative assessment of the albumin excretion rate.

E-mail: marijana.vucic@idb.hr

P5-3

UČINAK PROTEINA IZ URTICAE FOLIUM - LISTA KOPRIVE NA KONCENTRACIJU GLUKOZE U KRVI NOD MIŠEVA

Petlevski R.¹, Hadžija M.², Slijepčević M.², Juretić D.¹

¹ Zavod za medicinsku biokemiju i hematologiju, Farmaceutsko-biokemijski fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu,

² Zavod za molekularnu medicinu, Institut "Ruđer Bošković", Zagreb

Za više od 1000 biljnih vrsta opisan je hipoglikemijski učinak, ali za manji broj njih je i znanstveno potvrđen. Svjetska zdravstvena organizacija preporučila je daljnja istraživanja u tom području. Cilj ovoga istraživanja bio je ispitati hipoglikemijski učinak proteina male molekularne mase (3-15 kDa) izoliranih iz lista koprive na životinjskom modelu šećerne bolesti. Proteini su izolirani iz liofiliziranog macerata droge metodom gel filtracije na koloni Sephadex G-25. Eluirane frakcije s kolone koje su pokazale maksimum apsorbancije na valnoj dužini od 280 nm (frakcije broj 9, 10 i 11) su pulirane, dijalizirane preko noći, liofilizirane i čuvane na -20 °C do analize. Šećerna bolest je u NOD miševa inducirana i.v. injekcijom aloksan monohidrata (75 mg/kg t.j.t.). Dijabetični NOD miševi zatim su podijeljeni u dvije skupine. Jedna skupina NOD miševa tretirana je i.v. sterilnom otopinom PBS-a (0,33 mL/mišu) (n=6), a druga izoliranim proteinima iz *Urticae folium* - lista koprive u koncentraciji od 1,6 mg /mišu u 0,33 mL sterilnog PBS-a (n=3). Koncentracija glukoze u krvi u ovim dvjema skupinama životinja određena je metodom glukoza oksidaza-peroksidaza (GOD-PAP) nakon 10, 30, 60 i 240 min od početka tretmana. Proteini male molekularne mase (3-15 kDa) izolirani iz *Urticae folium* - lista koprive pokazali su značajan hipoglikemijski učinak tijekom cijelog trajanja tretmana. U usporedbi s dijabetičnim NOD miševima tretiranim samo sterilnom otopinom PBS-a (kontrolna skupina) ispitani hipoglikemijski učinak iznosio je 32,3% u 10. minuti; 34,1% u 30. minuti; 30,6% u 60. minuti, te 30,9% u 240. minuti od trenutka primjene u odnosu na kontrolnu krivulju. Dokazani hipoglikemijski učinak važan je za smanjenje post-

P5-3

EFFECT OF URTICAE FOLIUM - NETTLE LEAF DERIVED PROTEIN ON BLOOD GLUCOSE IN NOD MICE

R. Petlevski¹, M. Hadžija², M. Slijepčević², D. Juretić¹

¹ Department of Medical Biochemistry and Hematology, Zagreb University School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry,

² Department of Molecular Medicine, Rudjer Bošković Institute, Zagreb

The aim of the study was to investigate the hypoglycemic effect of low molecular mass (3-15 kDa) protein isolated from the drug Urticae folium - nettle leaf (Urtica dioica L. - Urticaceae) on an animal model of diabetes mellitus. More than 1000 plant species have been reported to exert hypoglycemic effects, but few of them have been investigated. The World Health Organization has recommended additional studies in the field. Protein was isolated from the lyophilized macerate of the drug by the method of gel filtration on a Sephadex G-25 column. The eluted fractions from the column showing maximal absorbance at a wavelength of 280 nm were pooled (Nos. 9,10 and 11), dialyzed overnight, lyophilized and stored at -20 °C until analysis. Diabetes was induced in NOD mice by i.v. injection of alloxan monohydrate (75 mg/kg body mass). Diabetic NOD mice were divided into two groups of mice treated i.v. with sterile PBS solution (0.33 mL/mouse) (n=6) and with nettle leaf-derived protein at a concentration of 1.6 mg protein/mouse in 0.33 mL sterile PBS (n=3). The concentration of blood glucose in the two groups of animals was determined by the method of glucose oxidase-peroxidase (GOD-PAP) at 10, 30, 60 and 240 min from the treatment. The low molecular mass protein isolated from nettle leaf showed a significant hypoglycemic effect throughout the treatment period. In comparison with diabetic NOD mice treated with sterile PBS solution alone, the hypoglycemic effect recorded in the other group of diabetic NOD mice was 32.3% in 10th minute; 34.1% in 30th minute; 30.6% in 60th minute and 30.9% in 240th minute from the beginning of treatment. This hypoglycemic effect is important for the reduction of postprandial hyperglycemia,

prandijalne hiperglikemije koja ima važnu ulogu u nastanku makrovaskularnih komplikacija u šećernoj bolesti.

E-mail: rpetlevski@pharma.hr

which plays a major role in the development of macrovascular complications of diabetes mellitus.

E-mail: rpetlevski@pharma.hr

P5-4

AKTIVNOST GLUTATION PEROKSIDAZE I KONCENTRACIJA SELENIJA U HIPERTIREOZNIH BOLESNICA

Mayer Lj.¹, Romić Ž.¹, Škreb F.¹, Bačić-Vrca V.¹, Čepelak I.², Žanić-Grubišić T.²

¹ Zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Klinička bolnica "Dubrava", ² Farmaceutsko-biokemijski fakultet, Zagreb

Hipertireoza je kao hipermetabolično stanje praćena povećanim iskorištenjem kisika, povećanim stvaranjem reaktivnih spojeva kisika i posljedično promjenama u aktivnosti antioksidativnih enzima. Glutation peroksidaza (GPX) svoj antioksidativni učinak temelji na kataliziranju hidrolize vodikovog i organskih hidroperoksida. U strukturi aktivnog centra svake od četiri podjedinice ovoga enzima nalazi se atom selenija uklopljen u selenocistein. Cilj ovoga istraživanja bio je odrediti ovisnost aktivnosti GPX i koncentracije selenija o primjeni terapije, odnosno duljini trajanja bolesti, te ispitivanje povezanosti njihove aktivnosti, odnosno koncentracije u različitim vrstama uzoraka. U istraživanje je uključeno 70 žena: 14 s novodijagnosticiranom Grave-sovom bolešću (skupina A), 28 s hipertireozom na terapiji (skupina B) i 28 zdravih žena (kontrolna skupina). Skupinu B dodatno smo raščlanili na dvije podskupine s obzirom na aktivnost TSH. Aktivnost GPX mjerena je u uzorku pune krvi, a selenij u serumu pomoću AAS. Aktivnost GPX je u svim ispitivanim skupinama bila statistički značajno smanjena u odnosu na vrijednosti izmjerene u kontrolnoj skupini. Smanjenje je bilo najizraženije u skupini A (približno 21%), dok je u skupini B bilo manje (11%). Izmjerena koncentracija selenija nije se statistički značajno razlikovala ni u jednoj skupini bolesnica u odnosu na kontrolnu. Smanjenje aktivnosti GPX u hipertireozi još je jedna potvrda o postojanju oksidacijskoga stresa u hipertireozi. Njegov intenzitet varira, ovisan je o duljini trajanja bolesti i primjeni terapije. Selenij, iako kofaktor GPX, ne prati dinamiku enzima. S obzirom na različitu raspodjelu selenija u serumu i stanicama opravdano bi bilo u slijedećim istraživanjima koncentraciju selenija mjeriti u stanicama (eritro-

P5-4

ACTIVITY OF GLUTATHIONE PEROXIDASE AND SELENIUM CONCENTRATION IN HYPERTHYROID WOMEN

Lj. Mayer¹, Ž. Romić¹, F. Škreb¹, V. Bačić-Vrca¹, I. Čepelak², T. Žanić-Grubišić²

¹ Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Dubrava University Hospital, ² School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, Zagreb

Hyperthyroidism as a hypermetabolic state is accompanied by an increased oxygen utilization, increased production of reactive oxygen species, and consequently by changes in the activities of antioxidant enzymes. The antioxidative effect of glutathione peroxidase (GPX) is based on catalyzing hydrolysis of hydrogen and organic peroxides into less active forms. In the structure of the active site of GPX selenium is incorporated in the form of selenocysteine. The aim of this study was to determine dependence of GPX activity and selenium concentration on the use of therapy and duration of the disease. Seventy women were included in the study: 14 with newly diagnosed Graves' disease without therapy (group A); 28 hyperthyroid women on therapy (group B); and 28 healthy women (control group). Group B was additionally divided into two subgroups according to TSH activity. The activity of GPX was measured in whole blood, and selenium in serum. The activity of GPX was statistically significantly lower in all patient groups as compared with control group. The decrease was most pronounced in group A (approximately 21%), and less pronounced in group B (approximately 11%). The concentration of selenium showed no statistically significant differences in any patient group as compared with control group. The decrease in GPX activity in hyperthyroid patients is another confirmation of the existence of oxidative stress in this disease. The intensity of oxidative stress varies depending on the disease duration and use of therapy. Selenium, although a cofactor of GPX, does not follow the dynamics of the enzyme. Considering variable serum and cellular selenium distribution, additional studies appear justified to measure selenium concentration in cells that

citima, leukocitima, čak i trombocitima) koje vjerodostojnije opisuju status selenija u organizmu, manje su osjetljive na dnevne varijacije i čak koreliraju s aktivnošću selenoenzima.

E-mail: lmayer@kdb.hr

more accurately reflect the status of selenium (less sensitive to daily variations) and even correlate with the activity of selenoenzymes.

E-mail: lmayer@kdb.hr

P6

Neurodegenerativne bolesti *Neurodegenerative diseases*

P6-1

POLIMORFIZAM GLUTATION S-TRANSFERAZE P1 I RIZIK OD ALZHEIMEROVE BOLESTI

Žuntar I.¹, Kalanj-Bognar S.², Topić E.³, Štefanović M.³, Petlevski R.¹, Demarin V.⁴, Maleš Ž.¹

¹ Farmaceutsko-biokemijski fakultet, ² Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, ³ Klinički zavod za kemiju i ⁴ Klinika za neurologiju, KB "Sestre milosrdnice", Zagreb

Alzheimerova bolest (AD, engl. *Alzheimer's disease*) je neurodegenerativna bolest nepoznatog uzroka. Središnji živčani sustav izrazito je osjetljiv na oštećenja izazvana različitim kemijskim tvarima (neurotoksinima), pri čemu razina oštećenja uvelike ovisi o genetskoj osnovi učinkovitosti enzimskog sustava detoksifikacije. Glutathion transferaze (GSTe) su višestruka genetska obitelj II. faze enzimske detoksifikacije i štite stanične makromolekule od citotoksina i karcinogena. Klasa pi GST (GSTP1) je najrasprostranjeniji nehepatični enzim. Cilj istraživanja bio je odrediti genetsku raspodjelu polimorfizma A313G petog eksona gena GSTP1 u zdravih ispitanika iz Hrvatske i ispitivanje moguće povezanosti polimorfizma s AD. Genotip A313G gena GSTP1 određen je metodom PCR-RFLP u kontrolnoj skupini zdravih ispitanika (n=180) i skupini ispitanika s AD (n=40). Klinička dijagnoza AD potvrđena je nalazima neuropsiholoških, laboratorijskih i radioloških (komputerizirana tomografija) pretraga. Učestalost polimorfizma gena GSTP1 u zdravih hrvatskih ispitanika slična je literaturnim podacima za druge populacije. Analiza je pokazala prisutnost utvrđeno homozigotnog, mutiranog (GG) genotipa u 20% ispitanika s AD i 8% zdravih ispitanika. Heterozigotni (AG) genotip zabilježen je u 25% AD i 46% zdravih ispitanika. Zdravi (AA) genotip bio je utvrđen kod 55% AD i 46% zdravih ispitanika. Razlika u raspodjeli polimorfizma petog eksona gena

P6-1

GLUTATHIONE S-TRANSFERASE P1 POLYMORPHISM AND RISK OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

I. Žuntar¹, S. Kalanj-Bognar², E. Topić³, M. Štefanović³, R. Petlevski¹, V. Demarin⁴, Ž. Maleš¹

¹ School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, ² School of Medicine, University of Zagreb, ³ Clinical Institute of Chemistry and ⁴ University Department of Neurology, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Zagreb

Alzheimer's disease (AD) is a neurodegenerative disorder of unknown etiology. Many chemicals can affect the nervous system and some of them require metabolic activation to induce their toxic effects, so that genetic polymorphisms that encode for defective forms of the detoxifying enzymes can further increase the risk of effects from exposure to neurotoxicants. Glutathione transferases (GSTs) are a multiple gene family of phase II enzymes that catalyze detoxifying endogenous reactions with glutathione and protect cellular macromolecules from damage caused by cytotoxic and carcinogenic agents. The pi class of GST (GSTP1) is known as the most ubiquitous and prevalent of the GST isoenzymes in nonhepatic tissues. The aim of the study was to determine the genotype distribution for the GSTP1 A313G exon 5 polymorphism in Croatian healthy subjects and to investigate the association between GSTP1 polymorphism and AD. The A313G GSTP1 genotypes were determined by PCR-RFLP method in samples of healthy controls (n=180) and AD patients (n=40). Clinical diagnosis of AD was confirmed through a battery of neuropsychological and laboratory tests and radiology (computerized tomography) studies. The frequency of GSTP1 polymorphism in the Croatian healthy subjects was in the range reported for other populations. Analysis showed 20% of homozygous mutant (GG) genotype in AD patients and 8% in controls,

GSTP1 između skupine ispitanika s AD i kontrolne skupine bila je statistički značajna ($p=0,019$). Također je nađeno statistički značajano povećanje rizika od AD u ispitanika s homozigotnim, mutiranim (GG) genotipom (OD=2,964, CI=1,149-7,646). Naši preliminarni rezultati upućuju na moguću povezanost polimorfizma A313G petog eksona gena GSTP1 s AD.

E-mail: izuntar@pharma.hr

25% of heterozygous (AG) genotype in AD patients and 46% in controls, while wild type (AA) genotype was detected in 55% of AD patients and 46% of controls. There was a statistically significant difference between AD patients and controls in the distribution of the GSTP1 exon 5 polymorphism ($p=0.019$). Additionally, there was a statistically significant increase in AD (OD=2.964, CI=1.149-7.646) for homozygous mutant (GG) genotype. Our preliminary results demonstrate that the GSTP1 A313G exon 5 polymorphism is associated with the risk of AD.

E-mail: izuntar@pharma.hr

P6-2

HITOTRIOZIDAZA U PRAĆENJU ENZIMSKE ZAMJENSKE TERAPIJE GAUCHEROVE BOLESTI U HRVATSKOJ

Maradin M.¹, Fumić K.¹, Mrsić M.²

¹ Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, ² Klinika za hematologiju, Klinički bolnički centar "Zagreb", Zagreb

Gaucherova bolest je najučestalija lizosomska bolest nakupljanja uzrokovana smanjenom katalitičnom koncentracijom beta-glukozidaze, zbog čega dolazi do nakupljanja glukocerebrozida u lizosomima makrofaga. Kod simptomatskih bolesnika s Gaucherovom bolešću zamijećen je izrazit porast katalitične aktivnosti serumske hitotriozidaze (100-5.000 puta), ljudskog analoga hitinaze, podrijetlom iz aktiviranih makrofaga. Manje značajno povećanje aktivnosti nađeno je kod još nekih drugih lizosomskih te različitih granulomatoznih imunoloških ili zaraznih bolesti. Stoga se povišena aktivnost hitotriozidaze u serumu smatra specifičnom za Gaucherovu bolest i služi u praćenju učinkovitosti liječenja. U ovom su radu izneseni prvi podaci o promjenama aktivnosti hitotriozidaze tijekom enzimske zamjenske terapije bolesnika s Gaucherovom bolešću u Hrvatskoj. Do danas je dijagnosticirano ukupno 7 bolesnika u dobi od 24-32 godine. Petoro bolesnika prima i.v. Ceradase (1200 IU svaki drugi tjedan) u razdoblju od 6-24 mjeseca. Aktivnost hitotriozidaze u serumu mjerena je uz sintetski supstrat 4-MUF-beta-D-N,N',N''-triacetil hitotriozid. U prvih 12 mjeseci liječenja zamijećen je pad katalitične aktivnosti hitotriozidaze za 14%-66% od početne vrijednosti. Aktivnost hitotriozidaze se može smatrati najboljim biokemijskim parametrom koji korelira s općim stanjem bolesnika.

E-mail: Ksenija.Fumic@zg.htnet.hr

P6-2

CHITOTRIOSIDASE IN MONITORING ENZYME REPLACEMENT THERAPY FOR GAUCHER'S DISEASE IN CROATIA

M. Maradin¹, K. Fumić¹, M. MRSIĆ²

¹ Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, ² University Department of Hematology, Zagreb University Hospital Center, Zagreb

Gaucher's disease is the most common lysosomal storage disease caused by decreased catalytic concentration of β -glucosidase that results in glucocerebroside accumulation in macrophage lysosomes. A pronounced increase (100- to 5000-fold) in the catalytic activity of serum chitotriosidase, a human analog of chitinase originating from activated macrophages, was observed in symptomatic patients with Gaucher's disease. A less significant increase in this activity has been recorded in some other lysosomal and various granulomatous immunologic or infectious diseases. Elevated chitotriosidase activity is therefore considered specific for Gaucher's disease and is used to monitor therapy efficacy. We present initial data on changes in chitotriosidase activity during enzyme replacement therapy in Croatian patients with Gaucher's disease. A total of 7 patients aged 24-32 years were diagnosed. Five patients were administered i.v. Ceradase (1200 IU every other week) for a period of 6-24 months. Serum chitotriosidase activity was determined using a synthetic substrate 4-MUF-beta-D-N,N',N''-triacetyl chitotriosidase. A decrease in the catalytic activity of chitotriosidase by 14%-66% of its initial value was observed during the first 12 months of therapy. Chitotriosidase activity can be considered the best biochemical parameter that is in correlation with the general status of the patient.

E-mail: Ksenija.Fumic@zg.htnet.hr

P7

Procjena analitičkih tehnika i metoda
Evaluation of analytical techniques and methods

P7-1

**POUZDANOST ODREĐIVANJA
 PROTROMBINSKOG VREMENA I
 AKTIVIRANOG PARCIJALNOG
 TROMBOPLASTINSKOG VREMENA NA
 COAGUCHEK PRO DM**

Coen D., Miloš M., Zadro R.

Klinički bolnički centar "Zagreb", Klinički zavod za
 laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Zagreb

CoaguChek Pro DM je prijenosni koagulacijski monitor koji omogućava određivanje protrombinskog vremena (PV), aktiviranog tromboplastinskog vremena (APTV) i aktiviranog vremena zgrušavanja u punoj kapilarnoj ili venskoj krvi. Cilj studije bio je utvrditi pouzdanost rezultata PV-a i APTV-a dobivenih na CoaguChek Pro DM usporedbom s rezultatima standardnih laboratorijskih metoda. Ukupno je obrađeno 54 ispitanika (19 na oralnoj antikoagulacijskoj terapiji, 5 na kontinuiranoj infuziji visokomolekularnim heparinom, 5 s cirozom jetre te 25 zdravih dobrovoljaca). Kod svih ispitanika istodobno su uzeti uzorci pune kapilarne krvi za određivanje na CoaguChek Pro DM (Roche Diagnostics, Njemačka) te venske krvi s citratom kao antikoagulanom za određivanje u koagulacijskom laboratoriju. Za određivanje PV-a i APTV-a u punoj krvi rabljene su odgovarajuće jednokratne CoaguChek Pro APTT i PTN (zečji tromboplastin, ISI=2,0) test-kazete. Mjerenje PV-a i APTV-a u koagulacijskom laboratoriju izvršeno je na analizatoru BCS (Dade Behring, Njemačka) uz uporabu Innovina (ISI=0,92) odnosno Actina FS. U zdravih ispitanika dobiveni referentni raspon za APTV (23,7-43,9 s) na CoaguChek-u podudarao se s rasponom deklariranim od proizvođača (20,2-40,8 s), dok je referentni raspon standardne laboratorijske metode iznosio 24,0-33,0 s. Unatoč dobroj korelaciji ($r=0,885$) rezultata APTV-a između metoda, vrijednosti izmjerene na CoaguChek-u su u pravilu bile više, a razlike su bile veće kod viših APTV-a. Srednja razlika između INR-a dobivenih na CoaguChek-u i standardnom laboratorijskom metodom iznosila je 0,22 (raspon: -0,51-1,13). U 16/19 (80,9%) slučajeva vrijednosti INR-a nisu se razlikovale više od 0,5. Iako je nađena dobra korelacija ($r=0,935$), vrijednosti INR-a su se podudarale s objema metodama samo u području INR=1,0-2,0. Kod ispitanika s

P7-1

**RELIABILITY OF PROTHROMBIN AND
 ACTIVATED PARTIAL THROMBOPLASTIN
 TIME ON COAGUCHEK PRO DM**

D. Coen, M. Miloš, R. Zadro

Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb
 University Hospital Center, Zagreb

The CoaguChek Pro DM (Roche Diagnostics, Germany) is a bedside coagulation monitor for the measurement of prothrombin time (PT), activated partial thromboplastin time (aPTT) and activated clotting time in fresh capillary or venous whole blood. The aim of the study was to evaluate the reliability of PT and aPTT results obtained on CoaguChek by comparing them with standard laboratory methods. A total of 54 patients were included in the study (19 receiving oral anticoagulant therapy, 5 on unfractionated heparin therapy, 5 with liver cirrhosis, and 25 healthy volunteers). Capillary whole blood samples were obtained by fingerprick simultaneously to citrated venous blood collection. Whole blood PT and aPTT were determined by using appropriate CoaguChek Pro APTT and PTN (rabbit brain thromboplastin, ISI=2.0) test cartridges. Laboratory PT (Innovin, ISI=0.92) and aPTT (Actin FS) were performed on a BCS (Dade Behring, Germany) coagulation analyzer. The obtained reference interval for CoaguChek aPTT in healthy subjects (23.7-43.9 s) was close to that stated by the manufacturer (20.2-40.8 s), as compared to the laboratory reference interval (24.0-33.0 s). Despite good correlation ($r=0.885$) for aPTT, there was an important dispersion of values and a trend towards longer clotting times with CoaguChek, with increasing difference with more prolonged aPTTs. The mean difference between CoaguChek and laboratory INR was 0.22 (range: -0.51-1.13). In 16/19 (80.9%) cases INR values differed by less than 0.5. Although good correlation ($r=0.935$) was obtained between INR results with the two methods, comparable values were observed only in the INR range 1.0-2.0. In the patients who achieved the targeted level of anticoagulation as determined by standard laboratory method, higher INR values were always obtained with CoaguChek; they were in 2 cases outside the therapeutic range and thus may have erroneously indicated the need of anticoagulant

vrijednostima INR-a u terapijskom području (INR=2,0-3,5) određenima standardnom laboratorijskom metodom dobiveni su viši rezultati na CoaguChek-u, koji su u 2 slučaja bili iznad terapijskog područja, što bi moglo uputiti na pogrešnu izmjenu doze lijeka. Zbog značajnih razlika u rezultatima dobivenima objema metodama potrebno je ustanoviti razloge neslaganja prije uporabe CoaguChek Pro DM u različitim kliničkim slučajevima.

E-mail: rzadro@mef.hr

dose change. As substantial differences were obtained between CoaguChek and standard laboratory methods, the reason for the discrepancy should be further investigated before the use of CoaguChek in various clinical situations.

E-mail: rzadro@mef.hr

P7-2

NEUSKLAĐENOSTI REZULTATA KEMIJSKE ANALIZE MOKRAĆE TEST TRAKOM U VANJSKOJ PROCJENI RADA MEDICINSKO-BIOKEMIJSKIH LABORATORIJA

Sikirica M.¹, Juretić D.², Flegar-Meštrić Z.¹

¹ Zavod za kliničku kemiju, Klinička bolnica "Merkur",

² Farmaceutsko-biokemijski fakultet, Zagreb

Kemijska analiza mokraće test trakama se od 1997. godine provodi kao dio analize mokraće u nacionalnom programu vanjske procjene kakvoće rada medicinsko-biokemijskih laboratorija u Hrvatskoj. Svrha programa, uz procjenu kakvoće mjerenja, je i trajna edukacija kako bi se doprinijelo što većoj primjeni standardizirane, preporučene metode rutinske analize mokraće. Program se temelji na kemijskoj analizi sintetski dobivene mokraće test trakama očitavane vizualno ili na čitaču mokraćnih test traka. Dvadesetpet (15%) medicinsko-biokemijskih laboratorija očitavanje izvodi na čitaču mokraćnih test traka, pa se rezultati dobiveni uporabom 10 vrsta test traka različitih proizvođača izražavaju pojedinačno po parametru, semikvantitativno u SI jedinicama (mmol/L) ili kvalitativno u arbitrarnim jedinicama (0/neg; 1/+; 2/++; 3/+++; 4/++++). Prema evaluaciji test traka Urine Reagent Strips, MDA Evaluation Report, 98, 65, dobiveni rezultati su objedinjeni u koncentracijske raspone (najniža i najviša koncentracija) za svaki ispitivani parametar svih test traka. Dobiveni rezultati pokazuju preklapanja gdje iste pozitivne kategorije različitih test traka korespondiraju s različitim koncentracijama mjerenog parametra. Ova preklapanja rezultata su posljedica različitih koncentracija reaktanata (za iste parametre), zbog čega je i podjela rastućih koncentracija (ordinalna skala) u klase različita. Radi unapre-

P7-2

INCONSISTENCY OF THE RESULTS OF URINALYSIS USING MULTIPROPERTY STRIPS IN THE EXTERNAL QUALITY ASSESSMENT

M. Sikirica¹, D. Juretić², Z. Flegar-Meštrić¹

¹ Institute of Clinical Chemistry, Merkur University Hospital, ² School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, Zagreb

Urinalysis using multiproperty strips has been performed as part of urinalysis within the national program of External Quality Assessment for medical biochemistry laboratories in Croatia since 1997. Apart from the measurement quality assessment, the aim of the program is continuous education to contribute to the use of standardized, recommended method of routine urinalysis to the largest possible extent. The program is based on chemical analysis of synthetically produced urine with dipsticks read visually or on a reading device. In 25 (15%) medical biochemistry laboratories the reading is done on reading devices, thus the results obtained by using 10 types of multiproperty strips of various manufacturers are expressed individually for each parameter, semiquantitatively in SI units (mmol/L) or qualitatively in arbitrary units (0/neg; 1/+; 2/++; 3/+++; 4/++++). According to the Urine Reagent Strips, MDA Evaluation Report, 98, 65, the obtained results are united in concentration ranges (lowest and highest concentration values) for each parameter investigated in all strips. The obtained results show overlapping where the same positive categories of various strips correspond with various concentrations of the parameter measured. This overlapping of the results is due to various reactant concentrations (for the same parameters), thus rendering the classification of ascending concentrations (ordinal scale) variable as well. Aiming at promoting good laboratory prac-

divanja dobre laboratorijske prakse, ove neusklađenosti rezultata ukazuju na potrebu standardizacije koncentracija reaktanata za iste analitičke postupke.

E-mail: mb-zsift@inet.hr

tice, this inconsistency in the results indicates the need of standardization of reactant concentrations for the same analytical procedures.

E-mail: mb-zsift@inet.hr

P7-3

UTJECAJ AUTOMATIZIRANOG POSTUPKA ODREĐIVANJA NA REZULTATE PROTROMBINSKOG VREMENA PV-INR U PROGRAMU VANJSKE PROCJENE RADA MEDICINSKO-BIOKEMIJSKIH LABORATORIJA

Povjerenstvo za vanjsku procjenu kakvoće rada medicinsko-biokemijskih laboratorija Hrvatskog društva medicinskih biokemičara:

Parag G.¹, Juretić D.², Flegar-Meštrić Z.¹

¹ Klinička bolnica "Mercur", Zavod za kliničku kemiju, Zagreb, ² Farmaceutsko-biokemijski fakultet, Zagreb

Uspješnost medicinsko-biokemijskih laboratorija u određivanju protrombinskog vremena PV-INR iz rezultata vanjske procjene kakvoće rada procijenjena je za svaki pojedini laboratorij u razdoblju prije i nakon uvođenja automatiziranog postupka na koagulometru. Primjenom odgovarajuće statističke obrade rezultati su izraženi kao postotak odstupanja od ciljne vrijednosti i kao indeks standardne devijacije, prema kojemu je medicinsko-biokemijski laboratorij klasificiran kao odličan, vrlo dobar, dobar, zadovoljavajući i loš. U prvom pregledu vanjske procjene kakvoće rada iz koagulacije koja je započela 1995. godine sudjelovala su 103 laboratorija, od kojih su 53 (52%) rabila ručnu tehniku za izvođenje testa. Rezultati PV-INR su pokazali visok interlaboratorijski koeficijent varijacije (KV=17,9%) i nizak postotak zadovoljavajućih rezultata (33%). Nezadovoljavajući ishod rezultata djelomice je bio uzrokovan i uporabom niskoosjetljivih reagensa (ISI >1,5). Automatizirani postupak određivanja na koagulometru uveden je do 2002.g. u 89% medicinsko-biokemijskih laboratorija. Pregled rezultata kroz vanjsku procjenu kakvoće rada nakon uvođenja nove tehnologije uz primjenu visokoosjetljivih reagensa pokazuje sniženje KV (7,2%) i tendenciju porasta zadovoljavajućih rezultata (80%). Međutim, i primjena ručnog postupka određivanja uz uporabu visokoosjetljivih reagensa rezultira kontinuiranom kvalitetom rezultata (15% medicinsko-biokemijskih laboratorija). Uvođenje automatizacije uz uporabu os-

P7-3

EFFECT OF AUTOMATED COAGULOMETER DETERMINATION ON PROTHROMBIN TIME PT-INR RESULTS IN MEDICAL BIOCHEMISTRY LABORATORY EXTERNAL QUALITY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Commission on External Quality Assessment of Medical Biochemistry Laboratories of the Croatian Society of Medical Biochemists:

G. Parag¹, D. Juretić², Z. Flegar-Meštrić¹

¹ Institute of Clinical Chemistry, Merkur University Hospital, Zagreb, ² School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, Zagreb

The performance of medical biochemistry laboratories was assessed by PT-INR determination during a period before and after the introduction of automated coagulometers. According to the standard deviation index, registered laboratories are classified as excellent, very good, good, sufficient and poor. A total of 103 laboratories participated in the first survey in 1994, 52% of them using manual technique. The interlaboratory coefficient of variation was quite high (CV=17.9) and only 33% showed satisfactory performance. At that time, a great number of laboratories used reagents with low sensitivity (ISI >1.5). In 2002, 89% of laboratories used automatic coagulometers. The introduction of automatic coagulometers and use of high specific reagents showed 80% satisfactory performance and CV 7.2. Although 15% of participating laboratories still used manual technique along with the use of high-sensitive reagents, their results were very good. The introduction of automatic coagulometers and use of high-sensitive reagents improved standardization in PT-INR determination, and resulted in satisfactory performance and very successful laboratory classification.

E-mail: mb-zsift@inet.hr

jetljivijih reagensa doprinjelo je provođenju standardizacije u određivanju protrombinskog vremena, poboljšanju kakvoće ishoda testa i uspješnosti medicinsko-biokemijskog laboratorija.

E-mail: mb-zsift@inet.hr

P7-4**ANALITIČKA PROCJENA ANALIZATORA ZA ODREĐIVANJE KONCENTRACIJE Na, K, Cl, Ca²⁺ I pH U SERUMU I PUNOJ KRVI**

Milardović S.¹, Rumenjak V.²

¹ Fakultet kemijskog inženjerstva i tehnologije; ² Zavod za medicinsko laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Opća bolnica "Sveti Duh", Zagreb

Mjerenje koncentracije elektrolita jedno je od najčešćih određivanja kako u medicinsko biokemijskim laboratorijima, tako i u određivanjima uz bolesnika. Razvijeni su brojni analizatori na osnovi ionsko selektivnih elektroda. U ovom radu prikazan je analizator za određivanje natrija, kalija, klorida, ioniziranog kalcija i pH u punoj krvi i serumu, razvijen u suradnji Zavoda za opću i anorgansku kemiju Fakulteta kemijskog inženjerstva i tehnologije i Zavoda za medicinsko laboratorijsku dijagnostiku Opće bolnice "Sveti Duh" kao tehnološki projekt Ministarstva znanosti i tehnologije (TP-01-0125-03). Analizator je konstruiran kao samostalan uređaj s automatskom kalibracijom, a mjerna ćelija konstruirana je kao višestruki senzor za istodobno mjerenje koncentracije (aktivnosti) svih pet iona. Konstrukcija ovoga višestrukog senzora je izvorni rad i pod zaštitom je patenta. Višestruki senzor ne zahtijeva održavanje i u cijelosti se zamjenjuje nakon 1000 uzoraka (serum ili puna krv). Analitička procjena analizatora učinjena je prema propisima ECCLS (1986.) i pokazala je dobre rezultate. Postignuti rezultati pokazali su da je ovaj analizator prikladan kao zamjena za plameni fotometar, tim više što se njime može mjeriti i koncentracija Ca²⁺.

E-mail: vlatko.rumenjak@zg.htnet.hr

P7-4**ANALYTICAL ASSESSMENT OF THE ANALYZER FOR DETERMINATION OF SODIUM, POTASSIUM, CHLORIDE, Ca²⁺ CONCENTRATIONS AND pH IN SERUM AND WHOLE BLOOD**

S. Milardović¹, V. Rumenjak²

¹ Zagreb University School of Chemical Engineering and Technology; ² Institute of Medical Laboratory Diagnosis, Sveti Duh General Hospital, Zagreb

Measurement of electrolyte concentrations is becoming one of the fundamental analyses in medical biochemistry laboratories as well as in point-of-care testing. There are many analyzers based on ion selective electrodes. We describe an analyzer for the measurement of the concentration (activity) of sodium, potassium, chloride, Ca²⁺ and pH in serum and whole blood. The analyzer has been developed in collaboration between Department of General and Inorganic Chemistry, School of Chemical Engineering and Technology, University of Zagreb, and Department of Medical Laboratory Diagnosis, Sveti Duh General Hospital, as part of the Croatian Ministry of Science and Technology project (TP-01-0125-03). The analyzer is made as an automatic device with self-calibration, the measuring cell being a multisensor for simultaneous measurement of the concentration (activity) of five ions. The measurement cell is under patent pending. The multisensor requires no maintenance but is replaced after 1000 samples (serum or whole blood). Analytical assessment of the analyzer was done according to ECCLS (1986) rules, and it showed good results for all parameters. It is concluded that this analyzer could replace flame photometers in medical biochemistry laboratories.

E-mail: vlatko.rumenjak@zg.htnet.hr

P7-5**IZRADA NACIONALNOG STANDARDA ZA HEPATITIS B POVRŠINSKI ANTIGEN (HBsAg)**Glavaš K.¹, Mihaljević I.²¹ Pliva d.d., Istraživanje; ² Hrvatski zavod za transfuzijsku medicinu, Zagreb

Širenje hepatitisa B predstavlja sve veći zdravstveni problem kod nas i u svijetu. Testiranje krvi davatelja smatra se jednom od boljih mjera prevencije širenja ove bolesti. Iz tog razloga smo pokušali napraviti naš nacionalni standard za HBsAg (0.5 IU/l) po uzoru na britanski, te ispitati njegovu stabilnost kroz četiri mjeseca i ponovljivost. Pritom smo rabili Međunarodni standard za HBsAg (SZO) i serume dobivene iz plazma dobrovoljnih davatelja krvi pozitivnih na HBsAg. Nakon spajanja seruma u jedan jedinstveni HBsAg smo otkrivali enzimsko-imunološkim testovima: HBsAg ELISA test System 3, Ortho Clin. Diagnostic i HBsAg Version 3 GE34/36, Murex. Usporedba baždarnih krivulja Međunarodnog standarda i našega nacionalnog standarda pokazala je da se niske koncentracije HBsAg (0-1 IU/l) mogu uspoređivati, ali bi trebalo napraviti veća razrjeđenja. Rezultati dobiveni usporedbom baždarne krivulje našega standarda s krivuljama Virusne kontrole kvalitete (viral quality control, VQC) pokazali su da je naš standard dovoljno osjetljiv da bi bio primjenjiv u kontroli testiranja na HBsAg (*sample/cut off*, S/CO, vrijednost 0,5 IU/l u Ortho testu bila je između 1:32 i 1:64 VQC razrjeđenja, a osjetljivost Ortho testa je bila 1:128). Srednja vrijednost S/CO mjerena tijekom četiri mjeseca testom Murex bila je 9,68±4,7, što je dokazalo stabilnost našega standarda uz dodatak konzervansa Na-azida. Ponovljivost testa Murex mjerena uporabom ovoga standarda bila je zadovoljavajuća s obzirom na to da su se vrijednosti 46 od ukupno 48 uzoraka nalazile unutar raspona S/CO od 4,9-6,1.

E-mail: kristina.glavas@pliva.hr**P7-5****DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL HEPATITIS B SURFACE ANTIGEN (HBsAg) STANDARD**K. Glavaš¹, I. Mihaljević²¹ Pliva Co.; ² Croatian Institute of Transfusion Medicine, Zagreb

*The spread of hepatitis B presents a huge health problem in Croatia and worldwide. Donor blood testing is considered to be a good measure in the spread prevention. Therefore, we tried to develop a national HBsAg standard (0.5 IU/l) based on the British National HBsAg Standard. We also tried to assess its four-month stability and reproducibility. For this purpose, we used WHO International HBsAg Standard and sera converted from HBsAg positive donor plasma. Upon pooling of the sera, HBsAg were detected by the HBsAg ELISA test System 3, Ortho Clin. Diagnostic and HBsAg Version 3 GE34/36, Murex Enzyme Immunoassays. Comparison of the WHO standard curve with our pool standard curve revealed that low HBsAg levels (0-1 IU/l) were comparable, however, we had to make higher dilutions. Results obtained by comparison of our standard curve with the viral quality control (VQC) curves indicated our standard to be sensitive enough to be used as a HBsAg testing control (*sample/cut off* (S/CO) value of 0.5 IU/l in Ortho test was between 1:32 and 1:64 VQC dilutions, and Ortho test sensitivity was 1:128). The mean S/CO value measured by Murex test during the four-month period was 9.68±4.7, providing evidence for our standard stability with Na-azide as a preservative. The reproducibility of Murex test using this standard was satisfactory, as 46 of 48 samples fell within the S/CO range of 4.9-6.1.*

E-mail: kristina.glavas@pliva.hr**P7-6****USPOREDBA TRIJU RAZLIČITIH TESTOVA ZA CRP U SERUMU**

Marević S., Sokolić B., Neumann I., Petres B.

Klinika za infektivne bolesti "Dr. Fran Mihaljević", Zagreb

C-reaktivni protein (CRP) je protein akutne faze koji se sintetizira u jetri pod kontrolom interleukina-6. CRP je danas nezaobilazna pretra-

P7-6**COMPARISON OF THREE SERUM CRP ASSAYS**

S. Marević, B. Sokolić, I. Neumann, B. Petres

Dr. Fran Mihaljević University Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Zagreb

C-reactive protein (CRP) is an acute phase protein synthesized in the liver under the control of interleukin-6 (IL-6). Today, CRP is an impor-

ga u dijagnostici, terapiji i praćenju akutnih i kroničnih bakterijskih infekcija te autoimunih i malignih bolesti. Na tržištu su danas dostupni različiti imunokemijski testovi za kvantitativno određivanje koncentracije CRP-a. Cilj ove studije bio je usporediti vrijednost triju testova za određivanje CRP-a u serumu od tri različita proizvođača: Olympus, Randox i Orion Diagnostica. Koncentracije CRP-a odredili smo u serumu nasumice odabranih bolesnika (N=69) Klinike za infektivne bolesti "Dr. Fran Mihaljević". Sva tri testa temelje se na imunoturbidimetrijskom određivanju CRP-a, a ispitivanje je provedeno na biokemijskom analizatoru Olympus AU400. Dobiveni rezultati obrađeni su linearnom regresijom, izračunati su koeficijenti korelacije, a statistička značajnost testirana je sparenim Wilcoxon testom na razini značajnosti $p < 0,05$. Koeficijenti korelacije i jednadžbe regresije iznosili su za: Olympus vs. Orion $r = 0,9879$, ($y = 0,9363x + 1,5164$); Orion vs. Randox $r = 0,9934$ ($y = 1,2413x - 6,8303$) i Randox vs. Olympus $r = 0,9850$ ($y = 0,747x + 7,1306$). Nije nađena statistički značajna razlika između testova Olympus i Orion ($p = 0,0543$) te Orion i Randox ($p = 0,0752$), ali je postojala statistički značajna razlika između testova Olympus i Randox ($p = 0,0308$). Nepreciznost za sva tri testa bila je ispod CV 10%. Linearnom regresijom i korelacijom nađena je visoka povezanost između svih triju testova za CRP ($r > 0,98$). Statistički značajna razlika postojala je samo između testova Olympus i Randox, ali se ne smatra klinički značajnom. Sva tri testa pokazala su ujednačenu kvalitetu reagensa.

E-mail: sanjamarevic@inet.hr

tant analyte for the diagnosis, therapy and follow up of acute and chronic bacterial infections as well as of autoimmune and malignant diseases. Currently there are many commercially available immunochemistry assays for quantitative determination of CRP. The aim of the study was to compare the value of three assays for CRP determination in serum, manufactured by Olympus, Randox and Orion Diagnostica. CRP concentrations were measured in serum of randomly selected patients (N=69) from Dr. Fran Mihaljević University Hospital for Infectious Diseases. All three assays are based on immunoturbidimetry, and were performed on an Olympus AU400 biochemistry analyzer. Results were statistically analyzed by linear regression analysis, correlation coefficients were calculated, and statistical significance was tested by paired Wilcoxon test ($p < 0.05$). The correlation coefficients and linear regression lines were: Olympus vs. Orion $r = 0.9879$ ($y = 0.9363x + 1.5164$); Orion vs. Randox $r = 0.9934$ ($y = 1.2413x - 6.8303$); and Randox vs. Olympus $r = 0.9850$ ($y = 0.747x + 7.1306$). There was no statistically significant difference between Olympus and Orion ($p = 0.0543$), and Orion and Randox ($p = 0.0752$), however, it was found between Olympus and Randox ($p = 0.0308$). The imprecision for all three assays was below CV 10%. Accordingly, linear regression analysis and correlation coefficients showed a high correlation between all three CRP assays ($r > 0.98$). There was a statistically significant difference between Olympus and Randox, however, the difference was not clinically relevant. All three assays showed practically the same quality of reagents.

E-mail: sanjamarevic@inet.hr

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UTJECAJ FIBRINOGENA I LUPUS ANTIKOAGULANATA NA PROCJENU AKTIVNOSTI ANTIKOAGULANTNOG PUTA PROTEINA C DADE BEHRINGOVIM PROC GLOBAL TESTOM

Pauković-Sekulić B., Salamunić I., Galetović A., Bilopavlović N.

Odjel za medicinsko laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Klinička bolnica "Split", Split

Sustav proteina C (PC) je važan mehanizam u regulaciji koagulantne aktivnosti. Poremećaji povećavaju rizik za vensku trombozu. ProC Global test omogućuje procjenu globalne antikoagulantne aktivnosti PC i poremećaja u nasljednim

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EFFECT OF FIBRINOGEN AND LUPUS ANTICOAGULANTS ON EVALUATION OF THE ACTIVITY OF PROTEIN C ANTICOAGULANT PATHWAY BY DADE BEHRING PROC GLOBAL TEST

B. Pauković-Sekulić, I. Salamunić, A. Galetović, N. Bilopavlović

Department of Medical Laboratory Diagnosis, Split University Hospital, Split

Protein C (PC) system is an important mechanism in the regulation of coagulant activity. The related disorders increase the risk of venous thrombosis. ProC Global test enables evaluation of the global antikoagulant activity of PC and dis-

(APC rezistencija, nedostatak PC i PS) i stečenim (visoka koncentracija fibrinogena, visoka vrijednost FV, FVIII, lupus koagulant (LA-a)) koagulacijskim poremećajima. Cilj ispitivanja je bio odrediti utjecaj povišenih koncentracija fibrinogena >3,5 g/l i lupus antikoagulant (LA) >1,3 na normalizirani omjer (NR) ProC Global testa kod 101 bolesnika (59 Ž i 42 M) s idiopatskom trombozom. NR, NR FV Leiden (FVL), fibrinogen i LA određeni su koagulacijskom metodom testovima tvrtke Dade Behring na instrumentu Behring Coagulation Timer (BCT). Za NR kao *cut off* uzeta je vrijednost 0,8, a za NR FVL 0,9. NR<0,8 (raspon 0,61- 0,93) dobiven je kod 67,6% bolesnika s fibrinogenom >3,5 g/l i 46,4% bolesnika (raspon 0,64-0,96) s LA >1,3. NR FVL <0,9 imao je jedan bolesnik s normalnom koncentracijom fibrinogena i normalnim LA, jedan bolesnik s koncentracijom fibrinogena >3,5 g/l i dvoje bolesnika s LA >1,3. Rezultati pokazuju da povišene vrijednosti fibrinogena i LA-a smanjuju NR i treba ih uzeti u obzir kod procjene rezultata ProC Global testa. Poremećene vrijednosti su posljedica hiperaktivnosti prokoagulantnog sustava kod visokih koncentracija fibrinogena i interferencije heterogene skupine protutijela koja čine LA s aktivnostima PC ovisnim o fosfolipidima.

E-mail: branka.paukovic-sekulic@st.htnet.hr

orders in hereditary (APC resistance, deficiency of PC and PS) and acquired (high concentration of fibrinogen, high value of FV, FVIII, LA) coagulation disorders. The aim of the study was to investigate the effect of increased concentrations of fibrinogen >3.5 g/l and lupus anticoagulant (LA) >1.3 on normalized ratio (NR) of ProC Global test in 101 patients (59 F and 42 M) with idiopathic thrombosis. NR, NR FV Leiden (FVL), fibrinogen and lupus anticoagulant were determined by the coagulation method using Dade Behring tests on a Behring Coagulation Timer (BCT). A NR value of 0.8 and NR FVL value of 0.9 were taken as cut off values. NR <0.8 (range 0.61-0.93) was recorded in 67.6% of patients with fibrinogen >3.5 g/l and 46.4% of patients (range 0.64-0.96) with LA >1.3. Only one patient with normal fibrinogen concentration and normal LA, one patient with fibrinogen concentration >3.5 g/l and two patients with LA >1.3 had NR <0.9. Study results showed the increased values of fibrinogen and LA to decrease NR, and that it should be taken in account when evaluating the results of ProC Global test. The abnormal values are the consequence of hyperactivity of the procoagulant system at high fibrinogen concentrations and interference of the heterogeneous group of LA constituting antibodies with the phospholipid dependent PC activities.

E-mail: branka.paukovic-sekulic@st.htnet.hr

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PROCJENA REAGENSA TVRTKE PLIVA ZA ODREĐIVANJE KALCIJA, FOSFORA I MAGNEZIJA

Županić D., Vlašić-Tanasković J.

Medicinsko biokemijski laboratorij, Opća bolnica Pula, Pula

Hormonska regulacija metabolizma kalcija, fosfora i magnezija je međusobno povezana. Kalcij se u krvnom serumu javlja kao difuzibilni i nedifuzibilni, fosfor kao anorganski i organski, a 3/4 magnezija vezano je u obliku apatita, dok se ostatak nalazi u ioniziranom obliku. Odgovorni su za mnogobrojne vitalne funkcije organizma, te stoga zauzimaju vrlo važno mjesto u laboratorijskoj dijagnostici. Cilj studije bio je procijeniti Plivine reagense za određivanje kalcija, fosfora i magnezija, njihovu usporedivost s reagensima koji se već rabe u našem laboratoriju, te primjenjivost za rad na automatskim analizatorima serije Hitachi 717. Metode za određivanje kalcija,

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EVALUATION OF PLIVA REAGENTS FOR DETERMINATION OF CALCIUM, PHOSPHORUS AND MAGNESIUM

D. Županić, J. Vlašić-Tanasković

Medical Biochemistry Laboratory, Pula General Hospital, Pula

Hormone regulation of the calcium (Ca), phosphorus (P) and magnesium (Mg) metabolism is inter-related. Ca is present in serum in diffusible and undiffusible forms, P as organic and inorganic, and 3/4 of Mg are bound to hydroxyapatite whereas the rest is found in ionized form. They are responsible for many vital functions and thus have an important role in laboratory diagnosis. The aim of the study was to evaluate Pliva reagents for Ca, P and Mg determination, and to assess their comparability with the reagents used at our laboratory and their applicability for work on Hitachi 717 autoanalyzers. Methods for determining Ca, P and Mg were applied to the

fosfora i magnezija postavljene su prema propisu proizvođača reagensa i prilagođene radu na automatskom analizatoru Hitachi 717. Procjena reagensa obuhvatila je određivanje nepreciznosti unutar dana, iz dana u dan, netočnosti, te usporedbu s reagensima tvrtka Big Blue i Roche. Nepreciznost unutar dana određena je višekratnim mjerenjem (30x) odabranih parametara u uzorcima komercijalnog referentnog seruma, a iz dana u dan u uzorcima kontrolnih seruma s deklariranim vrijednostima u normalnom i patološkom području. Ispitivanje netočnosti provedeno je na 30 uzoraka seruma bolesnika. Svi rezultati mjerenja obrađeni su u programu za statistiku Excel. Dobiveni rezultati pokazali su niske koeficijente varijacije za nepreciznost unutar dana (KVCa = 4,04%, KVP = 4,96%, KVMg = 1,65%), te iz dana u dan (KVCaNOR = 3,08%, KVCaPAT = 3,25%, KVPNOR = 7,33%, KVPPAT = 3,99%, KVMgNOR = 5,95%, KVMgPAT = 3,54%). Podudarnost rezultata dobivenih uporabom reagensa tvrtka Pliva, Big Blue, Roche i vlastitih reagensa za AAS izražena je koeficijentom korelacije ($r_{Ca} = 0,991$, $r_P = 0,992$ i $r_{Mg} = 0,962$). Visoka ponovljivost rezultata, stupanj točnosti i podudarnost s drugim reagensima čine Plivine reagenze za mjerenje kalcija, fosfora i magnezija prihvatljivim za svakodnevno laboratorijsko određivanje.
E-mail: jelena.vlasic@pu.htnet.hr

analyzer using manufacturer's instructions and slightly adjusted for use on a Hitachi 717 autanalyzer. Reagent evaluation included determination of within-day and between-day imprecision, inaccuracy, and comparison with Big Blue and Roche reagents. Within-day imprecision was determined by multiple measurements (30x) of chosen parameters in commercial reference sera, and between-day imprecision in control serum samples with declared values of normal and pathologic range. Studies of inaccuracy were performed by use of 30 patient samples. All results were statistically tested. Study results showed low variation coefficient for within-day imprecision (CVCa=4.04%, CVP=4.96%, CVMg=1.65%) and between-day imprecision (CVCaNOR = 3.08%, CVCaPAT = 3.25%, CVPNOR = 7.33%, CVPPAT = 3.99%, CVMgNOR = 5.95%, CVMgPAT = 3.54%). Comparison of the results obtained by use of Big Blue, Roche and own (for AAS) reagents was expressed by the coefficient of correlation ($r_{Ca}=0.991$, $r_P=0.992$ and $r_{Mg}=0.962$). It is concluded that the use of Pliva reagents for Ca, P and Mg determination yielded highly reproducible results of high accuracy and compliance with other reagents, making them acceptable for daily use in clinical laboratories.

E-mail: jelena.vlasic@pu.htnet.hr

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PROCJENA LASERSKOG HEMATOLOŠKOG ANALIZATORA CELL DYN 3700 SL

Suljević E., Fazlić M., Ćorić J.

Klinički centar Univerziteta u Sarajevu, Institut za kliničku hemiju i biohemiju, Sarajevo, BiH

Istraživanje parametara krvne slike je u programu svih zdravstvenih laboratorija. Hematološke pretrage danas se isključivo rade na hematološkim analizatorima. Automatizacija hematoloških laboratorija je posljedica velikog broja zahtjeva za pretragama, pravodobnog izdavanja nalaza i mogućnosti primjene suvremenih tehnologija. U ovom radu izvedena je procjena hematološkog analizatora Cell Dyn 3700 SL (Abbott). Ispitana je pouzdanost rezultata u 219 uzoraka krvi s K3EDTA pomoću parametara preciznosti, točnosti, osjetljivosti i specifičnosti, utjecaj prenošenja uzoraka i korelacija s analizatorom MAXM Retti (Coulter). Ispitani su hematološki parametri: leukociti (WBC), neutro-

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EVALUATION OF THE CELL DYN 3700 SL HEMATOLOGY ANALYZER

E. Suljević, M. Fazlić, J. Ćorić

Institute of Clinical Chemistry and Biochemistry, Sarajevo University Hospital Center, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

A study of blood count parameters is included in the program of all medical laboratories. Today, all hematology tests are exclusively performed on hematology analyzers. Automation of hematology laboratories is the result of the great number of requests for these tests, timely reporting of findings, and possibility of using sophisticated techniques. In this study, evaluation of the Cell Dyn 3700 SL laser hematology analyzer (Abbott) was performed. Reliability of the results obtained in 219 K3EDTA blood samples was assessed by use of the following parameters: precision, accuracy, sensitivity and specificity, effect of sample transfer, and correlation with MAXM Retti, Coulter. The following parameters were tested: white blood count (WBC), neutrophils (NEU), lympho-

filni leukociti (NEU), limfociti (LYM), monociti (MONO), eozinofilni leukociti (EOS), bazofilni leukociti (BASO), eritrociti (RBC), hemoglobin (HGB), hematokrit (HCT), srednji volumen eritrocita (MCV), srednji sadržaj hemoglobina u eritrocitima (MCH), srednja koncentracija hemoglobina u eritrocitima (MCHC) i trombociti (PLT). Rezultati su pokazali da preciznost analizatora zadovoljava reproducibilnost za parametre WBC, RBC, HGB, HCT, MCV, MCH, MCHC i PLT (KV=0,13 za MCV do 3,62 za trombocite). Vrijednosti koeficijenta korelacije (r) usporedbe dvaju analizatora su bili zadovoljavajući osim kod MCHC ($r=0,64$), što je u skladu s literaturnim podacima. Točnost diferencijalne krvne slike ispitana je na hematološkom analizatoru i mikroskopskom metodom. Rezultati koeficijenta korelacije granulocita i limfocita bili su zadovoljavajući ($r=0,97$), što se ne odnosi na monocite ($r=0,86$). Podaci postotaka prenošenja uzoraka su manji od 1%. Parametri osjetljivosti i specifičnosti zadovoljavaju analitičke kriterije. Potvrđeno je da je laserski hematološki analizator Cell Dyn 3700 SL pouzdan hematološki analizator za određivanje krvne slike. Analizator se sa svojim programom diferencijalne krvne slike može upotrijebiti za istraživanje i razdvajanje normalnih pa i patoloških krvnih slika, uz dopunu mikroskopske metode kojom se potvrđuju distribucijske ili morfološke promjene leukocita.

E-mail: muamers@bih.net.ba

cytes (LYM), monocytes (MONO), eosinophils (EOS), basophils (BASO), red blood cells (RBC), hemoglobin (HGB), hematocrit (HCT), mean corpuscular volume (MCV), mean corpuscular hemoglobin (MCHC) and platelets (PLT). The results confirmed the analyzer precision to fulfill the reproducibility for the following parameters: WBC, RBC, HGB, MCV, MCH, MCHC and PLT (CV=0.13 for MCV through 3.62 for PLT). Correlation coefficient values (r) obtained throughout the comparison of the two analyzers were satisfactory except for MCHC ($r=0.64$), which is in accordance with literature data. The accuracy of leukocyte differentiation was tested on hematology analyzer and by the method of microscopic differentiation. Correlation coefficients for granulocytes and lymphocytes were satisfactory ($r=0.97$), which did not hold for monocytes ($r=0.86$). Percentage data on sample transfer were below 1%. The sensitivity and specificity parameters met the analytical criteria. Accordingly, reliability of the Cell Dyn 3700 SL hematology analyzer for blood count determination was confirmed. The analyzer and its program for differential white blood count can be used for research and separation of normal and pathologic blood counts with the addition of microscopic methods confirming the distribution or morphologic changes of leukocytes.

E-mail: muamers@bih.net.ba

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ANALITIČKA PROCJENA ANALIZATORA OLYMPUS AU2700

Juriček J.¹, Brkić K.², Šprajc N.¹, Romić Ž.¹

¹ Zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, ² Odjel za kardijalnu kirurgiju, Klinička bolnica "Dubrava", Zagreb

Cilj je prikazati analitičku procjenu biokemijskog analizatora Olympus AU2700, koja je provedena prema preporukama Europskog odbora za kliničko-laboratorijske standarde (ECCLS). Ispitivani su glukoza, ureja, kreatinin, ukupni proteini, albumini, ukupni kalcij, urati, kolesterol, trigliceridi, LDH, CK, GGT, K, Na, Cl, C3, C4, feritin i transferin. Procjena je obuhvatila nepreciznost iz dana u dan, nepreciznost unutar serije, netočnost i usporedna određivanja Olympusom AU600. Nepreciznost iz dana u dan određivana je u triplikatu u kontrolnim serumima Level 1, Level 2 i skupnom serumu. Nepreciznost unutar serije određivana je u 30 uzastopnih mjerenja u

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ANALYTICAL EVALUATION OF OLYMPUS AU2700 ANALYZER

J. Juriček¹, K. Brkić², N. Šprajc¹, Ž. Romić¹

¹ Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, ² Department of Cardiac Surgery, Dubrava University Hospital, Zagreb

The objective is to present analytical evaluation of the Olympus AU2700 clinical chemistry analyzer; performed according to the European Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards (ECCLS) guidelines. The following analytes were tested: glucose, urea, creatinine, total proteins, albumins, calcium, uric acid, cholesterol, triglycerides, LDH, CK, GGT, K, Na, Cl, C3, C4, ferritin and transferrin. The evaluation consisted of determination of between-day imprecision, within-run imprecision, inaccuracy and correlation with Olympus AU600. Between-day imprecision was determined in control sera Level 1, Level 2 and pool sera. Within-run imprecision was deter-

kontrolnim serumima Level 1, Level 2, te skupnom serumu. Netočnost mjerenja prikazana je kao postotak odstupanja (R%) srednje izmjerenih vrijednosti od srednje deklariranih vrijednosti kontrolnih seruma. Usporedba analizatora provedena je pomoću 50 uzoraka u različitim koncentracijskim područjima. Analitičkom procjenom analizatora Olympus AU2700 dobivena je niska nepreciznost iz dana u dan i unutar serije (KV zadovoljavajući), prihvatljiva netočnost za sve analite (R zadovoljavajući) i visok stupanj korelacije s Olympusom AU600 (zadovoljavajući koeficijenti korelacije od 0,9630 do 0,9996). Provedena analitička procjena pokazala je da je Olympus AU2700 pouzdan biokemijski analizator koji osigurava brz i siguran rad uz uporabu minimalnih količina uzoraka i reagensa, što mu osigurava mjesto u svakom medicinsko-biokemijskom laboratoriju.

E-mail: jjuricek@kbd.hr

mined in 30 consecutive measurements in control sera Level 1, Level 2 and pool sera. Inaccuracy was shown as a percentage of deviation from control serum mean values. Comparison of the analyzers was performed using 50 samples in various concentration ranges. Low between-day and within-run imprecision (satisfactory CV%), and acceptable inaccuracy for all analytes (satisfactory R%) as well as a high rate of correlation with Olympus AU600 were found for Olympus AU2700 (satisfactory coefficient of correlation). Analytical evaluation showed the Olympus AU2700 to be a reliable biochemistry analyzer, which ensures rapid and safe work using minimal quantities of samples and reagents, thus being suitable for routine medical biochemistry laboratory.

E-mail: jjuricek@kbd.hr

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USPOREDBA BRZINE SEDIMENTACIJE ERITROCITA ODREĐENE POMOĆU AUTOMATIZIRANOG SUSTAVA SEDITAINER I BD VACUTAINERA

Matica J., Bilić-Zulle L., Beljan B., Fišić E., Dvornik Š.
Klinički bolnički centar "Rijeka", Rijeka

Automatizirani sustav Seditainer (Becton Dickinson) rabi varijaciju standardne Westergrenove tehnike za određivanje brzine sedimentacije eritrocita. Isti je antikoagulans (3,8% otopina natrijevog citrata), kao i omjer krvi i antikoagulansa. Glavne razlike su u visini stupca krvi (Seditainer 82 mm, Westergren 200 mm) te u položaju epruvete tijekom očitavanja (Seditainer nagib od 20° prema okomici, Westergren okomit položaj). Sustav Seditainer očitavanje provodi pomoću video kamere u razmacima od 5 minuta te izračunava udaljenost između vrha stupca krvi i dodirne površine između plazme i stanica. Odnos između brzine sedimentacije dobivene pomoću sustava Seditainer nije linearan u usporedbi s Westergrenovom metodom, stoga nakon višestrukog mjerenja tijekom 20 minuta sustav matematički prilagođava vrijednosti prema Westergrenovoj metodi. Cilj rada bio je usporediti brzinu sedimentacije eritrocita određene pomoću automatiziranog sustava Seditainer s brzinom sedimentacije eritrocita u BD vakutainerima za određivanje brzine sedimentacije eri-

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COMPARISON OF ERYTHROCYTE SEDIMENTATION RATE USING SEDITAINER AUTOMATED SYSTEM AND BD VACUTAINERS

J. Matica, L. Bilić-Zulle, B. Beljan, E. Fišić, Š. Dvornik
Rijeka University Hospital Center, Rijeka

Seditainer automated system (Becton Dickinson) uses a variation of the standard Westergren technique for determination of erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR). The anticoagulant (3.8% sodium citrate) as well as the blood to anticoagulant ratio are the same. The major differences are in the blood column height (Seditainer 82 mm, Westergren 200 mm) and tube positioning during the reading (Seditainer inclination at 20° from the vertical, and Westergren vertical). The Seditainer automated system uses a video camera that scans the racks in the instrument at 5-min intervals. The system calculates the distance between the blood zero level and plasma/cell interface. The ESR recorded in Seditainer tube was not linear when compared with Westergren method. After multiple determinations during 20-min reading period, the system mathematically adjusted the values according to Westergren method. The aim of the study was to compare the ESR obtained by Seditainer automated system with that obtained by BD vacutainers. ESR was determined in 179 subjects by use of Seditainer

trocita. Brzina sedimentacije eritrocita određena je kod 179 ispitanika pomoću automatiziranog sustava Seditainer (1,8 ml) i modificiranom Westergrenovom metodom u BD vakutainerima (Becton Dickinson, 1,6 ml). Međusobni odnos izmjerenih vrijednosti ispitan je korelacijom, a njihova povezanost izražena je jednadžbom pravca Passing i Bablok regresije. Passing i Bablok regresijom dobiven je visok koeficijent korelacije između ovih dviju metoda ($r=0,96$). Odsječak pravca regresije na osi y iznosi -1,57, a nagib pravca 0,91 za vrijednosti automatiziranog sustava Seditainer kao zavisne varijable. Prednost automatiziranog sustava Seditainer je u brzini izvođenja analize (20 minuta), a visoka podudarnost sa standardnom metodom čini ga pogodnim za uporabu u rutinskom laboratorijskom radu.

E-mail: jasminka.matica@ri.htnet.hr

system (1.8 ml) and BD vacutainers (Becton Dickinson, 1.6 ml). The relationship between the two methods was calculated using correlation and Passing and Bablok regression. Correlation coefficient between the two methods was $r=0.96$. According to Passing and Bablok regression equation: intercept=-1.57 and slope=0.90 for Seditainer automated system as a dependent variable. High correlation with the standard method and short time of analysis (20 minutes) make the Seditainer automated system suitable for use in laboratory routine.

E-mail: jasminka.matica@ri.htnet.hr

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ODREĐIVANJE AKTIVNOSTI LAKTAT DEHIDROGENAZE - NAŠA ISKUSTVA I ODLUKA O METODI IZBORA

Leniček-Krleža J., Ćurić D., Tadić I., Brkić K., Žižić V., Nakić M.

Klinika za dječje bolesti, Zagreb

Za određivanje aktivnosti laktat dehidrogenaze (LDH) danas se gotovo isključivo rabi metoda kontinuiranog mjerenja pod optimiranim uvjetima. Različitost dobivenih rezultata posljedica je uporabe različitih supstrata i pufera. Naša su iskustva pokazala da različiti proizvođači test reagensija koje primjenjuju različite tipove reakcija nemaju dobro obrađen i prilagođen raspon referentnih vrijednosti, uz istodobno neprihvatljivo odstupanje u vanjskoj i gotovo idealno u unutarnjoj procjeni kontrole kvalitete. Naš je cilj bio ispitati i uvesti onu metodu koja će zadovoljiti sva tri kriterija: u praksi primjenjiv i dobro razrađen referentni raspon, te dobru unutarnju i vanjsku kontrolu kvalitete. U analizu je uključeno 125 slučajno odabranih seruma neovisno o dobi i 50 uzoraka komercijalnog kontrolnog seruma prilagođenog proizvođaču reagensa. Tipovi reakcija koje smo ispitivali rabile su: piruvat kao supstrat i TRIS pufer (A), laktat kao supstrat i AMP pufer (B), te piruvat kao supstrat i fosfatni pufer (C). Sva određivanja su učinjena na istom analizatoru uz propisane uvjete komercijalnih test reagensija različitih proizvođača. Rezultati ispitivanja pokazali su slijedeće: aktivnosti LDH

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DETERMINATION OF LACTATE DEHYDROGENASE ACTIVITY - OUR EXPERIENCE AND DECISION ON THE METHOD OF CHOICE

J. Leniček-Krleža, D. Ćurić, I. Tadić, K. Brkić, V. Žižić, M. Nakić

Zagreb Children's Hospital, Zagreb

The method of continuous measurement under optimal conditions is now almost exclusively used for determination of lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) activity. Variability in the results obtained is due to the use of different substrates and buffer. Our experience shows that various manufacturers of test reagents using various types of reaction lack well developed and adjusted range of reference values, along with unacceptable deviation on external quality control assessment and nearly ideal agreement on internal quality control assessment. Therefore, the aim of the study was to identify and introduce the method that would meet the following criteria: well defined reference range applicable in practice, and good internal and external quality control. A total of 125 randomly selected sera irrespective of age and 50 commercial control serum samples adjusted to the reagent manufacturer's requirements were analyzed. The reaction types tested utilized: pyruvate as substrate and TRIS buffer (A), lactate as substrate and AMP buffer (B), and pyruvate as substrate and phosphate buffer (C). All determinations were performed on the same analyzer

istoga uzorka određene tipom reakcije B bile su najniže, a tip reakcije A imao je dvostruko više vrijednosti. Vrijednosti mjerene tipom reakcije C nalazile su se između ovih dviju vrijednosti. Ponudeni rasponi referentnih vrijednosti od proizvođača za svaki pojedini tip reakcije ne zadržavaju taj odnos. Korelacijom ovih triju tipova reakcije dobili smo slijedeće koeficijente korelacije: 0,976 za reakcije B i C; 0,986 za reakcije A i C; i 0,957 za reakcije A i B. Kontrolni serumi što ih preporučuje proizvođač rabljeni su za svaki tip reakcije i nalazili su se uz minimalna odstupanja u sredini dozvoljenog raspona. Vanjskom procjenom kvalitete kroz godinu dana aktivnosti LDH nalazile su se izvan dozvoljenog odstupanja mjerene tipom reakcije B. Naše iskustvo pokazalo je da su u praksi najprihvatljivije vrijednosti dobivene tipom reakcije C uz korekciju i utvrđivanje vlastitih referentnih vrijednosti za pojedine dobne skupine, a ispravnost naše odluke pokazati će slijedeća vanjska kontrola kvalitete.

E-mail: Jasna.Lenicek-Krleza@zg.htnet.hr

with due care of the required conditions for commercial test reagents from different manufacturers. Study results showed the LDH activity in the same sample to be lowest when determined by type B reaction and two-fold that when determined by type A reaction, whereas the values obtained by type C reaction were in-between these two. The ranges of reference values provided by the manufacturers for each individual type of reaction did not maintain this relationship. Correlation of the three types of reaction yielded the following correlation coefficients: 0.976 for reaction types B and C; 0.986 for reaction types A and C; and 0.957 for reaction types A and B. Control sera recommended by the manufacturer were used for each type of reaction and were in the middle of the allowed range, with only minimal deviations. External quality assessment over a one-year period showed the values of LDH activity to be beyond the allowed deviation when determined by type B reaction. Our experience suggested the values obtained by use of type C reaction to be most acceptable in practice, with due correction and setting of own reference values for particular age groups. The next external quality control will determine the validity of our decision.

E-mail: Jasna.Lenicek-Krleza@zg.htnet.hr

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UTJECAJ RAZLIČITIH METODA PROCJENE REAKCIJSKE KRIVULJE NA REZULTATE AKTIVIRANOG PARCIJALNOG TROMBOPLASTINSKOG VREMENA

Miloš M., Coen D., Zadro R.

Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Klinički bolnički centar "Zagreb", Zagreb

Suvremeni optički koagulometri omogućuju praćenje cjelokupnog tijeka procesa stvaranja ugruška mjerenjem promjena u apsorpciji ili transmisiji, te bilježenjem tih promjena u obliku reakcijske krivulje. Postoji više metoda evaluacije reakcijske krivulje, koje u različitim točkama krivulje bilježe vrijeme zgrušavanja. Zbog toga se u istom uzorku na istom koagulometru različitim metodama evaluacije mogu dobiti različiti rezultati. Cilj rada bio je usporediti rezultate aktiviranog parcijalnog tromboplastinskog vremena (APTV-a) dobivene trima različitim metodama procjene reakcijske krivulje. U 104 uzorka plazme određen je APTV (Actin FS, Dade Behring) pomoću triju metoda procjene reakcij-

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IMPACT OF DIFFERENT EVALUATION MODES FOR THE DETECTION OF CLOTTING TIMES ON aPTT RESULTS

M. Miloš, D. Coen, R. Zadro

Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb
University Hospital Center, Zagreb

Modern photo-optical coagulometers collect optical data throughout the course of clot formation by monitoring changes in light absorbance or transmittance. By using different evaluation modes, they offer the possibility to measure clotting time at different points of clot formation. Accordingly, different results for the same assay may be obtained even on the same analyzer. The aim of the study was to compare activated partial thromboplastin time (aPTT) results obtained with 3 different evaluation modes. aPTT was measured (Actin FS, Dade Behring) in 104 plasma samples using the fixed absorbance, drifting baseline and point of inflexion evaluation modes on 2 Dade Behring coagulation analyzers (BCS and BCT). Discrepant aPTT results were recorded in all study samples, being always pro-

ske krivulje: zadane promjene apsorbancije (*fixed absorbance*), pomaka osnovne linije (*drifting baseline*) i točke infleksije (*point of inflexion*) na 2 koagulacijska analizatora (BCS i BCT, Dade Behring). U svim uzorcima dobiveni su viši rezultati metodom evaluacije krivulje pomoću metode točke infleksije (srednja vrijednost: 39,4 s; raspon: 20,5-99,1 s) u odnosu na rezultate dobivene metodama pomaka osnovne linije (srednja vrijednost: 33,3 s; raspon: 20,2-78,5 s) i zadane promjene apsorbancije (srednja vrijednost: 31,2 s; raspon: 19,0-80,8 s). Tijekom istraživanja u 2 različite situacije zabilježeni su netočni rezultati koji se mogu uočiti samo uvidom u reakcijsku krivulju. Prvo, kod 4 normalna uzorka dobivene su izrazito kratke vrijednosti APTV-a metodom zadane promjene apsorbancije. Drugo, u 5 uzoraka uopće nije zabilježen ugrušak metodom pomaka osnovne linije usprkos normalnim reakcijskim krivuljama. U svim ovim slučajevima druge dvije metode evaluacije dale su ispravan rezultat. Zaključeno je kako razlike u dobivenim rezultatima ukazuju na potrebu uspostavljanja referentnih vrijednosti specifičnih i za metodu procjene reakcijske krivulje. Da bi se dobio točan rezultat, predlažemo pregled reakcijske krivulje svih sumnjivih rezultata i, ako je potrebno, ponavljanje mjerenja drugom metodom procjene.
E-mail: rzadro@mef.hr

longed with the point of inflexion evaluation mode (mean 39.4 s, range 20.5-99.1 s) as compared with the results obtained by the drifting baseline (mean 33.3 s, range 20.0-78.5 s) or fixed absorbance (mean 31.2 s, range 19.0-80.8 s) evaluation mode. During the study, inaccurate results which were identified by visual inspection of the reaction curves were observed on two occasions. Firstly, extremely short aPTT results were obtained in 4 normal samples by fixed absorbance. Secondly, despite normal reaction curves in 5 samples, no clot result was measured by the drifting evaluation mode. In all these cases, the remaining two evaluation modes yielded correct results. It is concluded that differences between the results obtained by different evaluation modes implicate the need to establish not only reagent-coagulometer specific but also evaluation mode-specific reference intervals. According to our experience, only visual analysis of the reaction curve provides complete information on the entire clotting process. In order to obtain correct results, we suggest confirmation of all suspected values by inspection of the reaction curve and, if needed, repeated testing with other evaluation modes.

E-mail: rzadro@mef.hr

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PROCJENA UČINKOVITOSTI HEMATOLOŠKIH BROJAČA BAYER ADVIA 120 I ABBOTT CELL-DYN (MODELI 3200 I 4000) U ODREĐIVANJU PETODJELNE DIFERENCIJALNE KRVNE SLIKE

Juričević M., Alpeza I., Zadro R.

Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku Medicinskog fakulteta Sveučilišta u Zagrebu i KBC "Zagreb", Zagreb

Uz točno brojanje krvnih stanica, svrha suvremenog hematološkog brojača je i smanjenje potrebe ručnog diferenciranja leukocita mikroskopiranjem obojenih krvnih razmaza. Cilj rada bio je procijeniti učinkovitost triju različitih hematoloških brojača i usporediti dobivene rezultate s rezultatima za diferencijalnu krvnu sliku dobivenim mikroskopiranjem. Analiza diferencijalne krvne slike izvedena je na 150 slučajno odabranih uzoraka krvi bolničkih ispitanika istodobno na tri hematološka analizatora: Bayer Advia 120, Abbott Cell-Dyn (modeli 3200 i 4000) i ručnom metodom diferenciranja pod mikrosko-

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EFFICACY ASSESSMENT OF DIFFERENTIAL BLOOD COUNT ON BAYER ADVIA 120 AND ABBOTT CELL- DYN HEMATOLOGY ANALYZERS (MODELS 3200 AND 4000)

M. Juričević, I. Alpeza, R. Zadro

Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb
University Hospital Center, Zagreb

Besides precise blood cell count, a modern hematology instrument should eliminate the need of technical review and microscopy on differential blood analysis. The aim of the study was to evaluate the differential performance of three hematology instruments and compare it with manual differential count. Analysis of differential blood count was performed on 150 inpatient randomized blood samples on three blood counters: Bayer Advia 120, and Abbott Cell Dyn 4000 and 3200, along with manual differentiation. For comparison with the method of microscopy, true table analysis was carried out for each instru-

pom. Prema kriterijima što ih je predložio NCCLS (dokument H20-A) za procjenjivanje učinkovitosti određivanja petodjelne diferencijalne krvne slike (nesegmentirani >7%, nezreli granulociti >3%, blasti >3%, varijabilni limfociti >7%) izrađena je tablica točnosti za svaki pojedini instrument u usporedbi s mikroskopskom metodom. Dobiveni su slijedeći rezultati za Advia 120, Cell-Dyn 4000 i 3200: osjetljivost (%) 96,9; 88,0 i 89,4; specifičnost (%) 67,0; 58,3 i 83,3; učinkovitost (%) 60,1; 61,4 i 84,9. Uključivanjem pregleda grafičkog prikaza kao dodatnog kriterija u procjeni diferencijalne krvne slike dobivena je jednako dobra osjetljivost (%): 98,4; 98,5 i 96,7, ali značajno niže vrijednosti za specifičnost (%): 18,2; 29,4 i 38,0 i učinkovitost (%): 51,6; 67,3 i 61,4. U zaključku, dobivena je visoka osjetljivost procjene petodjelne diferencijalne krvne slike zbog tehnološke usavršenosti svih triju instrumenata, a različite vrijednosti specifičnosti i učinkovitosti su rezultat postavljenih kriterija pojave signala u svakom pojedinom instrumentu. Utjecaj takve procjene dobivanja petodjelne diferencijalne krvne slike daje zadovoljavajuću učinkovitost uporabe instrumenata u rutinskom radu. Nasuprot tome, visoka osjetljivost grafičkog prikaza diferencijalne krvne slike rezultat je visokog postotka lažno pozitivnih procjena, što ima za posljedicu potrebu za provjerom rezultata pod mikroskopom, a to znači smanjenje ručnog diferenciranja na 30%.

E-mail: rzadro@mef.hr

ment according to the criteria proposed by NCCLS. The results obtained on Advia 120, Cell Dyn 4000 and Cell Dyn 3200 were as follows (%): sensitivity: 96.9, 88.0 and 89.4; specificity: 67.0, 58.3 and 83.3; and efficacy: 60.1, 61.4 and 84.9, respectively. Inclusion of an overview of scatterplot patterns as an additional criterion in differential blood count assessment yielded equally acceptable sensitivity values: 98.4, 98.5 and 96.7, but significantly lower values for specificity: 18.2, 29.4 and 38.0, and efficacy: 51.6, 67.3 and 61.4, respectively. In conclusion, high sensitivity of differential blood count assessment was obtained due to technologic sophistication of the instruments, whereas different values of specificity and efficacy were the result of different criteria determining the occurrence of signal in each instrument. The consequence of high sensitivity and low specificity of the scatterplot pattern is the need of microscopy verification of the results thus obtained.

E-mail: rzadro@mef.hr

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SEDIMENTACIJA ERITROCITA: USPOREDBA SUSTAVA ESR (ERYTHROCYTE SEDIMENTATION RATE) S REFERENTNOM WESTERGRENOM METODOM

Kunović B., Nimac A.

Medicinsko-biokemijski laboratorij, Zagreb

Mjerenje brzine sedimentacije eritrocita u krvi je jednostavna rutinska metoda koja se je dosad izvodila Westergrenovom metodom kao referentnom, no uvođenjem automatiziranih analizatora ova je pretraga postala brža i jednostavnija. Prikazati ćemo naše rezultate koje smo dobili na analizatoru VES-MATIC 20 u usporedbi s našom dotada rutinskom, Westergrenovom metodom jednokratnim sustavima Greiner. Na analizatoru VES MATIC 20 postupak je potpuno

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ERYTHROCYTE SEDIMENTATION: COMPARISON OF ERYTHROCYTE SEDIMENTATION RATE (ESR) SYSTEM AND WESTEREGREN REFERENCE METHOD

B. Kunović, A. Nimac

Laboratory of Medical Biochemistry, Zagreb

The measurement of the erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR) in blood is a simple routine method to date performed by use of Westergren reference method, however, the introduction of autoanalyzers has made the test more rapid and simpler. Results obtained on the VES-MATIC 20 analyzer were compared with the formerly routine Westergren method using disposable Greiner system. Using the VES MATIC 20 analyzer, the procedure is completely standardized and auto-

standardiziran i automatiziran, a istodobno je skraćeno i vrijeme pretrage. Za 25 minuta dobiju se rezultati za 20 uzoraka, što odgovara mjerenju od jednog sata Westergrenovom metodom. Uz to, smanjena je i količina krvi potrebna za pretragu, što je povoljno za bolesnika. Temeljem dobivenih rezultata i njihovom statističkom obradom zaključujemo da je mjerenje brzine sedimentacije pomoću analizatora VES-MATIC 20 standardizirano, točnije, brže i s manjim volumenom krvi, a time povoljnije za bolesnika.

E-mail: branka.kunovic@zg.htnet.hr

mated, and the test time is shortened. Results for 20 samples are obtained in 25 minutes, corresponding to 1-hour measurement by Westergren method. Also, a smaller amount of blood is required, which is favorable for the patient. The results obtained in the study and their statistical processing indicated the ESR measurement on VES-MATIC 20 analyzer to be a standardized, more accurate and faster procedure requiring lesser blood volume, thus being preferable for the patient.

E-mail: branka.kunovic@zg.htnet.hr

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USPOREDBA KONCENTRACIJA LAKTATA IZMEĐU UZORAKA KAPILARNE KRVI, VENSKE PUNE KRVI I VENSKE PLAZME UZETIH U MIROVANJU

Čepić K.¹, Šupe-Domić D.¹, Dujmov I.¹, Tocilj J.²

¹ Odjel za medicinsko laboratorijsku dijagnostiku,

² Odjel za plućne bolesti, Klinička bolnica "Split", Split

Laktat predstavlja vezu između aerobnog i anaerobnog metabolizma. Koncentracija laktata u krvi ovisna je o sintezi u mišićnim stanicama i eritrocitima te o metabolizmu u jetri. Koncentracija laktata se obično određuje iz venske plazme. Cilj ovoga istraživanja bio je vidjeti postoje li razlike između koncentracije laktata u kapilarnoj krvi, venskoj punoj krvi i venskoj plazmi. Koncentracija laktata u uzorku je određivana enzimskom metodom. Uzorci su uzeti od 40 zdravih žena (starosti 18-34 godine) za vrijeme mirovanja. Razlike između koncentracije laktata u kapilarnoj krvi (srednja vrijednost $1,83 \pm 0,37$ nmol/l) i venskoj plazmi (srednja vrijednost $1,56 \pm 0,43$ nmol/l) te razlike između koncentracije laktata u venskoj punoj krvi (srednja vrijednost $1,86 \pm 0,28$ nmol/l) i venskoj plazmi (srednja vrijednost $1,56 \pm 0,43$ nmol/l) bile su statistički značajne ($p < 0,01$). Korelacija između koncentracije laktata u venskoj punoj krvi i venskoj plazmi bila je linearna i pozitivna (0,62). Statistička analiza rezultata pokazala je da razlika između koncentracije laktata u kapilarnoj krvi i venskoj punoj krvi nije statistički značajna. Ovi rezultati upućuju na to da se praćenje koncentracije laktata treba uvijek provoditi iz uzorka uzetog na isti način. Ova je studija dala zanimljive rezultate koje bi trebalo potvrditi na većem broju ispitanika.

E-mail: ana.cepic@puls.hr

P7-16

DIFFERENCES IN LACTATE CONCENTRATION AMONG CAPILLARY BLOOD, VENOUS WHOLE BLOOD AND VENOUS PLASMA SAMPLED AT REST

K. Čepić¹, D. Šupe-Domić¹, I. Dujmov¹, J. Tocilj²

¹ Department of Medical Laboratory Diagnosis,

² Department of Pulmonology, Split University Hospital, Split

Lactate makes the link between aerobic and anaerobic metabolism. The concentration of lactate in the blood is dependent on the rate of its production in muscle cells and erythrocytes and the rate of metabolism in the liver. Venous plasma is the most suitable sample for routine lactate determination. Differences among capillary blood, venous whole blood and venous plasma lactate concentrations (LC) were compared. Enzymatic method was used for the measurement of LC in samples obtained from 40 healthy women (age 18-34) at rest. The differences between capillary blood and venous plasma LC were statistically significant ($p < 0.01$), and so were those between venous whole blood and venous plasma LC ($p < 0.01$; linear positive correlation 0.62). However, there was no significant difference between capillary blood and venous whole blood LC. These results indicate that blood lactate measurements and monitoring should always be performed in the same sample (capillary blood or venous whole blood or venous plasma). This study suggests the need of additional studies in a larger sample.

E-mail: ana.cepic@puls.hr

P7-17

PROVJERA METODE ZA ODREĐIVANJE KONCENTRACIJE PROOKSIDATIVNIH TVARI

Sokolić I., Rumenjak V., Dravinski Ž., Milardović S.

Opća bolnica "Sveti Duh", Zavod za medicinsko-laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Zagreb

Oksidativni status odražava ravnotežu između antioksidativne obrane organizma i oksidansa u organizmu. Poremećaj ove ravnoteže (nedovoljan unos antioksidansa ili pojačano stvaranje oksidansa) dovodi do stanja organizma nazvanog oksidativni stres koji se usko povezuje s degenerativnim i patološkim procesima u organizmu, bilo da se o njemu govori kao o uzroku ili posljedici patološkog stanja. Ključni preduvjet procjene oksidativnog statusa organizma je mogućnost pouzdanog mjerenja koncentracije prooksidativnih tvari koje su ishodište kaskadne reakcije kojom nastaju oštećenja proteina, lipida, DNK i ostalih staničnih elemenata. Cilj ovoga rada bila je procjena metode za mjerenje koncentracije prooksidativnih tvari te određivanje koncentracije biljega oksidativnog statusa kod zdravih osoba. Procjenjivana je metoda određivanja koncentracije prooksidativnih tvari u serumu temeljena na Fentonovoj reakciji. U reakciji po Fentonu Fe^{2+} u prisutnosti hidroperoksida i lipoperoksida stvara hidroksil radikal koji mijenja boju kromogena, u ovom slučaju N,N-dimetil-p-fenilen-diamina (DMPD). Intenzitet obojenja proporcionalan je koncentraciji peroksida u uzorku i mjeri se fotometrijski. Kalibracija je izvedena pomoću terc-butyl-peroksida, a rezultat izražen u $\mu\text{mol/l}$. Metoda je ispitana na uzorku seruma 98 zdravih muškaraca u dobi od 25-55 godina starosti. Ponovljivost mjerena iz dana u dan daje SD 0,031 $\mu\text{mol/l}$ i CV 8%. Procjena osjetljivosti metode dala je granicu od 30 $\mu\text{mol/l}$, a metoda se pokazala linearnom do 700 $\mu\text{mol/l}$. Točnost metode ispitana testom iskorištenja (recovery) iznosila je 122%. Prooksidativne tvari u serumu ispitanika kretale su se u rasponu koncentracija od 43-474 $\mu\text{mol/l}$. Ispitana metoda određivanja koncentracije prooksidativnih tvari pokazala je dobre rezultate, što čini temelj za daljnja istraživanja oksidativnog statusa bolesnika.

E-mail: ivicasokolic@yahoo.com

P7-17

EVALUATION OF THE METHOD FOR DETERMINATION OF PROOXIDATIVE SPECIES CONCENTRATIONS

I. Sokolić, V. Rumenjak, Ž. Dravinski, S. Milardović

Institute of Medical Laboratory Diagnosis, Sveti Duh General Hospital, Zagreb

Oxidative status is a balance between the concentration of oxidants and antioxidative defense mechanisms in the body. Disturbance of this balance may be caused by excessive oxidant production or by a decrease in the antioxidant capacity, which results in a condition known as oxidative stress. Oxidative stress is closely related to almost every pathologic and degenerative process, either as the cause or direct consequence. A key to accurate assessment of prooxidative status is reliable measurement of prooxidative species concentrations. The aim of the study was to evaluate the method of prooxidative species determination based on Fenton reaction. In the presence of lipoperoxides and hydrogen peroxide, Fe^{2+} produces hydroperoxyl radical, which turns N,N-dimethyl-p-phenylenediamine (DMPD) into fairly long lived colored radical cation. The intensity of color is proportional to the prooxidative species concentration in the sample, and is measured photometrically. Calibration was performed with tert-butyl-peroxide, and results were expressed in $\mu\text{mol/l}$. The measurement was performed in plasma samples obtained from 98 healthy men aged 25-55. Day-to-day reproducibility yielded SD 0.031 $\mu\text{mol/l}$ and CV 8%. The limit of sensitivity was 30 $\mu\text{mol/l}$. The method is linear to up to 700 $\mu\text{mol/l}$. Recovery test yielded sensitivity of 122%. The prooxidative species concentration in serum was 43-474 $\mu\text{mol/l}$. The method for determination of prooxidative species concentration showed good results and warrants additional investigations of oxidative status in both healthy population and pathologic cases.

E-mail: ivicasokolic@yahoo.com

P8

Laboratorijski informatički sustavi *Laboratory information systems*

P8-1

LABORATORIJSKI INFORMACIJSKI SUSTAV U IZGRADNJI

Plasaj T.¹, Lukinac Lj.², Nöthig-Hus D.², Kusić Z.²

¹ Odjel za informatičku obradu podataka, ² Klinika za onkologiju i nuklearnu medicinu, KB "Sestre milosrdnice", Zagreb

Laboratorijski informacijski sustav (LIS) uveden je u Odsjeku za dijagnostiku bolesti štitnjače Klinike za onkologiju i nuklearnu medicinu KB "Sestre milosrdnice" još 1989. godine. Postojeći LIS napisan je u DOS-u, ali je prilagođen za rad u okruženju MS Windows. Sastoji se iz dva osnovna dijela koji se nadopunjuju i koji su još uvijek u fazi izgradnje. Prvi dio (PROGRAM 1.) omogućuje upis osnovnih podataka bolesnika, odabir terapije (lijek, doza) i pretraga koje treba izvršiti, upis vrijednosti rezultata izvršenih pretraga, a omogućuje i upit o svim upisanim ispitanicima (ispis svih posjeta s rezultatima izvršenih pretraga), pisanje radnih lista i naljepnica te izdavanje nalaza. Unutar PROGRAMA 1. postoji podprogram POSEBNI PARAMETRI kojim je moguće dopuniti podatke o određenom ispitaniku (lipemični serum, steroidi, hepatitis C, trudnoća/tromjesečje). Drugi dio (PROGRAM 2.) daje različite vrste izvještaja o napravljenim pretragama, npr. rezultate odabranih skupina ispitanika (abecednim redom ili po vremenskom redosljedu) prema napomeni (ordinarius, dijaliza), vrstama pretraga te izboru, npr. samo povišenih vrijednosti tiroksina (HT4), ispis rezultata svih posjeta za određenog bolesnika, kao i statističku obradu (referentne vrijednosti, godišnji broj bolesnika s hipertireozom - ispis po mjesecima). Poseban dio odnosi se na dijagnostički modul (Neuronska mreža/Assistant algoritam) koji na temelju laboratorijskog algoritma predlaže hipotetsku kliničku dijagnozu. Privremenu datoteku izabranih podataka moguće je obraditi u Excelu (MS Office), što omogućuje daljnju obradu u nekom drugom statističkom programu, npr. Med Calc. Baza podataka sadrži ukupno 328 883 zapisa o rezultatima 28 pretraga za 63 140 ispitanika (123 658 posjeta). Ovaj LIS, putem kojega je rad u laboratoriju znatno unaprijeđen, i dalje je otvoren za dopunu novim parametrima.

E-mail: llukinac@kbsm.hr

P8-1

LABORATORY INFORMATION SYSTEM UNDER DEVELOPMENT

T. Plasaj¹, Lj. Lukinac², D. Nöthig-Hus², Z. Kusić²

¹ Department of Data Processing, ² University Department of Oncology and Nuclear Medicine, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Zagreb

At the University Department Oncology and Nuclear Medicine, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital in Zagreb the first Laboratory Information System (LIS) was installed in 1989 and since then it has undergone constant improvement. Basically, it was designed for the DOS environment but it was also adapted for use in MS Windows. This LIS consists of two interconnected parts, PROGRAM 1 and PROGRAM 2. PROGRAM 1 allows the following: input of patient data, therapy data, test results, patient information (date of visits, results, therapy, special comments), printing of worksheets, labels and patient reports. A special subprogram (SPECIFIC PARAMETERS) additionally describes the types of serum (lipemia, hepatitis C), taking of the steroids or presence of pregnancy. PROGRAM 2 gives output data, e.g., selected reports by names or dates of specific test results, selection of patients by certain comments (pregnancy/trimesters, hyperthyroid patients or patients diagnosed as thyroid cancer patients), or selection of patients according to type of therapy, diagnosis or increased/decreased test results. In addition, statistical analysis of data can be done (reference ranges, total number of patients with increased TSH level per month). A special part is a diagnostic module (Neuron Net/Assistant algorithm), which can provide a hypothetical clinical diagnosis, e.g., hypothyroidism, on the basis of test results. The temporarily selected database could be also processed by Excel (MS Office) and other statistical programs such as Med Calc. The database contains a total of 328 883 data (63 140 patients, 123 658 visits) for 28 different tests. This LIS is still open for further graduation with other useful parameters.

E-mail: llukinac@kbsm.hr

P8-2

**DOSTAVA NALAZA ELEKTRONIČKOM
POŠTOM VANJSKIM KORISNICIMA
KLINIČKOG LABORATORIJA**Brkić K.¹, Vitunjski-Englert B.², Lovreček J.²,
Petrovečki M.^{2,3}¹ Odjel za kardijalnu kirurgiju, ² Zavod za laboratorijsku
dijagnostiku, KB "Dubrava", Zagreb; ³ Katedra za
informatiku, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Rijeci, Rijeka

Uporaba elektroničke pošte jednostavan je, brz i rasprostranjen način priopćavanja danas, pa je stoga logična činjenica da je elektronička pošta pronašla primjenu i u medicini. Tehnologiju elektroničke pošte moguće je primijeniti u komunikaciji između liječnika i bolesnika, liječnika i laboratorija, te između laboratorija i njihovih korisnika. Cilj studije bio je procijeniti glavne postavke za brzu i pouzdanu dostavu laboratorijskih nalaza elektroničkom poštom vanjskim korisnicima laboratorija, te uvesti ovu uslugu u svakodnevni rutinski rad Zavoda za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku Kliničke bolnice "Dubrava". Istraživanje je provedeno od travnja 2002. do ožujka 2003. godine. Obuhvaćene su dvije skupine ispitanika: skupina A (n=161) kojima su rezultati laboratorijskih pretraga poslani pomoću elektroničke pošte i skupina B (n=568) koji su rabili usluge laboratorija tijekom jednog nasumce odabranog mjeseca, kako bi se ispitale značajke (dob, spol, vrst osiguranja) prosječne populacije koja dolazi u laboratorij. Za oblikovanje elektroničke inačice laboratorijskog nalaza u zaštićeni pdf-oblik primijenjena je programska potpora Acrobat Reader tvrtke Adobe™. Tijekom jedne godine usluge laboratorija rabilo je 8786 vanjskih korisnika, a ukupno je elektroničkom poštom poslan 161 (1.8%) laboratorijski nalaz. Skupina A bila je statistički značajno mlađa od skupine B (medijani 38 i 59 godina; p<0,001). Skupina A imala je 74% radno osiguranih osoba, za razliku od skupine B gdje je 56% ispitanika spadalo u ovu kategoriju osiguranja (p<0,001). Zaključeno je kako je razrađeni sustav dostave rezultata laboratorijskih pretraga pomoću elektroničke pošte jednostavan i pouzdan, a omogućuje bržu i ekonomski povoljniju uslugu korisnicima laboratorija. Svaki laboratorij može vrlo jednostavno ovu dopunsku uslugu uklopiti u izbor svojih usluga, čak i pomoću tek jednog računala koje ima pristup na Internet.

E-mail: kbrkic@kdb.hr

P8-2

**DELIVERING CLINICAL LABORATORY
RESULTS BY E-MAIL TO OUTPATIENT
USERS**K. Brkić¹, B. Vitunjski-Englert², J. Lovreček², M.
Petrovečki^{2,3}¹ Department of Cardiac Surgery, ² Institute of Laboratory
Diagnosis, Dubrava University Hospital, Zagreb;
³ Computerization Department, Rijeka University School of
Medicine, Rijeka

Since using e-mail communication is a simple, fast and frequently accessible feature, it is understandable that it has now found application also in health industry. E-mail technology can be applied to communication between physicians and patients, physicians and laboratory, and laboratory and their consumers. The aim of the study was to evaluate the main propositions for fast and reliable delivery of laboratory results by e-mail to all outpatient users and to apply it in daily practice at the Department of Laboratory Diagnosis, Dubrava University Hospital. The study was carried out from April 2002 till March 2003. There were two groups of subjects: group A (n=161) to whom laboratory results were sent by e-mail, and group B (n=161) who used laboratory services through one randomly selected month, with the purpose to describe the average population (age, sex and health insurance) usually attending the laboratory. Acrobat Reader Adobe™ was used to prepare a safe electronic version of laboratory report. During the one-year period, there were 8786 outpatient users and 161 (1.8%) laboratory results were sent using e-mail. Group A was significantly younger than group B (median 38 and 59 years, respectively) (p<0.001). In group A, 74% of subjects were employed, in contrast to 56% in group B (p<0.001). The elaborated system for laboratory result delivery by e-mail is simple and reliable, offering faster and less expensive service to laboratory consumers. Any clinical laboratory could incorporate this additional service into their package of services, even with only one computer with Internet access.

E-mail: kbrkic@kdb.hr

P8-3

STRUKTURA I PRETPOSTAVKE ELEKTRONIČKOG POSLOVANJA U KLINIČKOM LABORATORIJU

Šrenger V., Rogić D., Stavljenić-Rukavina A.

Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku Medicinskog fakulteta Sveučilišta u Zagrebu i Kliničkog bolničkog centra "Zagreb", Zagreb

Uporaba Interneta i elektroničkog poslovanja kliničkom laboratoriju donose kudikamo veću interaktivnost, povezanost i brzinu u usporedbi s tradicionalnim, ali znače i radikalnu promjenu. Elektroničko poslovanje prije svega je organizacijsko, a tek potom tehnološko pitanje. Organizacija poslovanja mora biti utemeljena na informacijskoj tehnologiji (IT). Međutim, djelokrug IT-a u kliničkom laboratoriju nije samo automatizacija postojećih procesa rada i prikupljanje informacija, nego rješavanje problema, pružanje usluga te integracija svih procesa rada. Klinički laboratorij primjenom interaktivnog elektroničkog poslovanja postaje virtualna organizacija (mrežna organizacija). Da bi se to postiglo, treba provesti slijedeće: informatizaciju svih internih procesa, reinženjering poslovanja, poslovanje usmjereno prema krajnjim korisnicima usluga, te potpunu integraciju elektroničkog poslovanja prema bolnici u cjelini. Elektroničko se poslovanje dugo vremena temeljilo na konceptu EDI (Electronic Data Interchange), no danas se rabi Internet (Web i e-pošta) kao komunikacijska infrastruktura poslovanja i povezivanja svih sudionika u procesu rada. Tradicionalni programi su više usmjereni ka poboljšanju unutarne učinkovitosti i internih poslovnih procesa, dok rješenja koja rabi Internet nude jeftinije i brže povezivanje s većim brojem sudionika poslovnoga procesa. Razmjena važnih informacija događa se u realnom vremenu. Danas se mogu rabiti i već gotovi poslovni operativni sustavi za planiranje resursa poduzeća (ERP Systems - Enterprise Resource Planning Systems). Jedan od njih je i SAP (System, Applications and Products in Data Processing), najrašireniji svjetski sustav ERP. SAP je program koji sadrži integrirani skup informacijskih rješenja za stvaranje integriranog poslovnog informacijskog sustava, a mogao bi se primijeniti i kao osnova laboratorijskog informacijskog sustava.

E-mail: vsrenger@kbc-zagreb.hr

P8-3

ARRANGEMENT AND CONDITIONS OF ELECTRONIC BUSINESS IN CLINICAL LABORATORY

V. Šrenger, D. Rogić, A. Stavljenić-Rukavina

Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb
University Hospital Center, Zagreb

The use of Internet and electronic business in the clinical laboratory brings along immensely increased interactivity, interconnection and rapidity compared to traditional operations, but also implicates radical change. Electronic business is primarily organizational, and only then a technologic issue. Organization of business operations must be based on information technology (IT). However, the scope of IT in clinical laboratory involves not only the automation of currently applied work processes and gathering of information but also solving problems, provision of services, and integration of all work processes. By the application of interactive electronic business, clinical laboratory becomes a virtual organization (network organization). To achieve this model, the following tasks should be implemented: computerization of all internal processes, re-engineering of operations, operations oriented towards service end-users, and complete integration of electronic operations directed towards the hospital as a whole. Electronic business used to be based for a long period on the EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) concept that has currently been superseded by Internet (Web and e-mail) as a communication infrastructure in operations and integration of all participants in the work process. Traditional software is being increasingly oriented towards improving internal efficacy and internal processes, while solutions that utilize Internet offer inexpensive and rapid connection to a large number of participants in the business process. Exchange of important information takes place in real time. Presently, completed business operational systems can be used to plan company resources (ERP Systems - Enterprise Resource Planning Systems). SAP (System, Applications and Products in Data Processing), which is one of them, is the most widespread ERP system worldwide. SAP is a software containing an integrated set of informatic solutions for setting up of integrated business information system that could also be applied as a basis for laboratory information system.

E-mail: vsrenger@kbc-zagreb.hr

P8-4

**LABORATORIJSKI INFORMATIČKI
SUSTAV**

Štefanović M.¹, Topić E.¹, Tešija A.¹, Vukelić N.¹,
Polenus S.², Marković I.², Šimić G.A.², Polenus A.²

¹ Klinički zavod za kemiju, KB "Sestre milosrdnice",
² Samson informatika d.o.o., Zagreb

Suradnjom stručnjaka Zavoda i tvrtke Samson informatika razvijen je informatički programski paket koji je omogućio informatizaciju laboratorija, uspostavu mrežnog sustava unutar laboratorija, elektroničku vezu između administrativnog i analitičkog rada laboratorija, povezivanje laboratorijskih i kliničkih odjela za elektronički prijenos podataka te prijenos podataka u obračunsku službu bolnice. Ovaj laboratorijski informatički sustav (LIS) je višestruko osiguran pri kontroli upisa, rada analizatora i ispisa nalaza te pohrani podataka. Biološki uzorak bolesnika nakon ulaska u laboratorij dobiva naljepnicu s bar kodom, tj. magnetskim zapisom koji nosi u sebi sve relevantne podatke o bolesniku, kao i o zahtjevu za laboratorijskom obradom. Uzorak s bar kodom distribuira se na radilišta laboratorija i uključuje u analitičke sustave koji automatski izrađuju analize zapisane u bar kodu. Završen nalaz se nakon autorizacije od strane laboratorijskog stručnjaka elektronički šalje na kliničke odjele. Veza između LIS i kliničkih odjela ostvarena je putem optičkog mrežnog sustava na razini bolnice. Na kliničkim odjelima bolnice dodatni informatički program nazvan Preglednik nalaza omogućava uvid u nalaz bolesnika koji je upravo završen, kao i pregled prijašnjih nalaza istoga bolesnika. Na tom Pregledniku lako se može ući u Katalog pretraga koji sadrži sažet pregled svih laboratorijskih pretraga koje se mogu izraditi u Zavodu tijekom redovitog radnog vremena, odnosno za potrebe hitnih bolesnika tijekom 24 sata, te pružiti liječniku podatak o kliničkoj značajnosti kao i o cijeni pretrage. Program također daje uvid u poslovanje i procjenu kvalitete rada Zavoda, a zapis u datoteci ostaje trajan tijekom vremena predviđenog zakonom. LIS je tako pripremljen da se jednostavno može uklopiti u bolnički informatički sustav. Uz LIS unutar bolnice, Zavod putem elektroničke pošte (kbsm.kzk@post.htnet.hr) ostvaruje izravnu komunikaciju između stručnjaka Zavoda i pučanstva odgovarajući na sve pojedinačne upite.

P8-4

LABORATORY INFORMATION SYSTEMS

M. Štefanović¹, E. Topić¹, A. Tešija¹, N. Vukelić¹, S. Polenus², I. Marković², G.A. Šimić², A. Polenus²

¹ Clinical Institute of Chemistry, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, ² Samson informatika Co., Zagreb

A computer program package has been developed by collaboration of Institute professionals and Samson informatika Co., which has enabled laboratory computerization, establishment of the network system within the laboratory, electronic connection between the administrative and analytical laboratory activities, connection of laboratory and clinical departments to the electronic data transfer, and data transfer to the Hospital accounting department. This Laboratory Information System (LIS) has been provided with multiple protection through control of data entry, analyzer performance, report printing, and data storage. On entering the laboratory, the patient's biological sample is allocated a bar code, i.e. magnetic record containing all relevant data on the patient and test requests. The sample provided with the bar code is distributed to the laboratory work sites and included in analytical systems for the tests stated in the bar code to be automatically performed. Upon authorization by the responsible laboratory professional, the complete finding is electronically forwarded to clinical departments. The connection between LIS and clinical departments is realized through the fiberoptic network system at the Hospital level. At clinical departments of the Hospital, an additional software entitled Laboratory Finding Browser allows for an insight into the current patient's findings as well as in his/her previous findings. The Browser allows for access to the Test Catalog, which provides a brief survey of all laboratory tests available at the Institute during office hours or 24 hours for emergency cases, also informing the physician on the clinical relevance and cost of a particular test. The program also offers information on the Institute business issues and performance quality assessment, the records being stored for a time period warranted by legal provisions. LIS has been so designed as to be easily incorporated in the Hospital computer system. In addition to in-house LIS, the Institute has developed direct communication between Institute professionals and the population at large, answering all individual queries by e-mail (kbsm.kzk@post.htnet.hr).

P9
Razno
Miscellanea

P9-1

POLIMORFIZAM
METILENTETRAHIDROFOLAT
REDUKTAZE KAO ČIMBENIK RIZIKA ZA
RAK GLAVE I VRATA

Begonja A., Topić E., Štefanović M., Šimundić A.M.

Klinički zavod za kemiju, Klinička bolnica "Sestre milosrdnice", Zagreb

Metilentetrahidrofolat reduktaza (MTHFR) katalizira konverziju 5, 10-metilentetrahidrofolata, koji se rabi u sintezi purina i timidilata, u 5-metiltetrahidrofolat, koji je neophodan za sintezu metionina. Učestali genetski polimorfizam C677T MTHFR-a (uzrokuje promjenu alanina u valin u 225. kodonu) smanjuje aktivnost enzima MTHFR, čime se povisuje razina 5, 10-metilentetrahidrofolata. Ovo može štititi stanice od pogrešne inkorporacije uridilata, te oštećenja DNK zbog povećane raspoloživosti timidilata. Cilj ovoga rada bio je ispitati polimorfizam MTHFR kao genetski čimbenik rizika za rak glave i vrata. Mogući utjecaj polimorfizma MTHFR C677T ispitivan je u studiji parova u koju je bilo uključeno 120 zdravih ispitanika, te 82 bolesnika s rakom glave i vrata. Polimorfizam MTHFR utvrđen je pomoću PCR-RFLP. U skupini bolesnika muškog spola nađena je značajno manja frekvencija T alela (27,4% u skupini bolesnika naprama 34,6% u kontrolnoj skupini, $p=0,007$) s dva puta manjim rizikom za rak glave i vrata (OR = 0,52, 95% CI=0,32-0,80). Kod heterozigotnih nositelja genotipa 677CT (28,6% među bolesnicima naprama 59,3% među kontrolama) utvrđen je 3,5 puta manji rizik za rak glave i vrata (OR = 0,28, 95% CI=0,14-0,54, $p<0,001$) u usporedbi s genotipovima CC i TT. Frekvencije genotipova zadovoljavale su Hardy-Weinbergovu ravnotežu u objema skupinama. Daljnja ispitivanja na većem broju ispitanika neophodna su za procjenu polimorfizma MTHFR kao čimbenika rizika za nastanak raka glave i vrata.

E-mail: antonija.begonja@zd.htnet.hr

P9-1

METHYLENETETRAHYDROFOLATE
REDUCTASE POLYMORPHISM AND RISK
OF HEAD AND NECK CANCER

A. Begonja, E. Topić, M. Štefanović, A.M. Šimundić

Clinical Institute of Chemistry, Sestre milosrdnice
University Hospital, Zagreb

Methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase (MTHFR) catalyzes the conversion of 5, 10-methylenetetrahydrofolate, utilized for purine and thymidylate synthesis, to 5-methyltetrahydrofolate, necessary for methionine synthesis. A common C677T polymorphism in MTHFR gene (converts an alanine to a valine in codone 225) reduces the activity of the MTHFR enzyme and increases the levels of 5, 10-methylenetetrahydrofolate. This may protect cells from DNA damage due to uridylate misincorporation because of the availability of thymidylate. The aim of this study was to investigate MTHFR polymorphism as a genetic risk factor for head and neck cancer. The possible influence of the MTHFR C677T polymorphism was studied in a case-control study of 120 healthy subjects and 82 patients with head and neck cancer. MTHFR genotypes were determined by PCR-RFLP. A significant decrease of T allele was observed in the male subgroup (27.4% in cases vs. 34.6% in controls, $p=0.007$) with a 2-fold reduction in the risk of head and neck cancer (OR=0.52, 95% CI=0.32-0.80). Men with heterozygous 677CT genotype (28.6% in cases vs. 59.3% in controls) had a 3.5-fold decreased risk of head and neck cancer (OR=0.28, 95% CI = 0.14-0.54, $p<0.001$) compared to CC and TT genotypes. Genotype frequencies were in Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium in both groups. Further studies in a larger number of subjects are needed to investigate the role of MTHFR C677T polymorphism as a cancer risk factor.

E-mail: antonija.begonja@zd.htnet.hr

P9-2

**LABORATORIJSKI POKAZATELJI U
INFEKCIJI NEMATODOM *TRICHINELLA
SPIRALIS***

Šimek S., Pirija M., Honović L.

Medicinsko biokemijski laboratorij, Opća bolnica Pula, Pula

Trihinelozna je bolest uzrokovana nematodom *Trichinella spiralis*. Najvažniju etiološku ulogu za razvoj trihineloze u čovjeka ima trihinelozno svinjsko meso (osobito šunka i kobasice) koje je nedovoljno sušeno, smrznuto ili pečeno. Bolest se obično javlja sporadično ili u manjim epidemijama. Jedna takva epidemija javila se u dijelu stanovništva srednje i sjeverne Istre (okolica Poreča, Pazina i Buzeta) u listopadu 2002. godine. Velika raznolikost simptoma u početku bolesti (gastrointestinalni simptomi, bol u mišićima, edemi u licu, klonulost...) bolest čine lako zamjenjivom, te je prije svega nužna točna anamneza uz hematološke, biokemijske i serološke pretrage. U razdoblju od 15. listopada do 5. studenoga 2002. godine na Odjel za infektivne bolesti OB Pula zaprimljeno je 54 bolesnika, od kojih za 46 (19 Ž i 27 M) postoje potpuni klinički podaci o zarazi trihinelom. Bolesnici su bili prosječne dobi od 40 godina, a u bolnici su zadržani u prosjeku 15 dana. Nakon prijma u bolnicu svim bolesnicima je određena KKS (hematološki brojač Cell Dyn 3500) i neki od biokemijskih parametara (CK, LDH, AST, ALT, GGT, ureja, KREAT-biokemijski analizator Hitachi 717). Nakon prijma u bolnicu 26 (56,52%) bolesnika je imalo leukocitozu ($L_{sv}=15,4 \times 10^9/L$). Vrijednosti eozinofila kod svih su bolesnika bile višestruko povišene ($Eos_{sv}=27,07\%$). Povišene vrijednosti pokazale su i slijedeći biokemijski parametri: $CK_{sv}=454 U/l$, $AST_{sv}=45 U/l$, $ALT_{sv}=47 U/l$ te $LDH_{sv}=646 U/l$. Primjenom terapije (Vermox) i poboljšavanja općeg zdravstvenog stanja vrijednosti leukocita i eozinofila su se snizile ($L_{sv}=9,59 \times 10^9/L$, $Eos_{sv}=16,67\%$). Dobiveni laboratorijski nalazi pokazali su dobru korelaciju vrijednosti eozinofila i kreatin kinaze ($r=0,903$). Zaključeno je kako točni anamnestički podaci uz DKS u kojoj se osobito ističe eozinofilija, te povišene vrijednosti CK predstavljaju pouzdane laboratorijske pokazatelje infekcije nematodom *Trichinella spiralis*, osobito u drugoj, tkivnoj fazi bolesti.

E-mail: jelena.vlasic@pu.htnet.hr

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**LABORATORY PARAMETERS IN
TRICHINELLA SPIRALIS INFECTION**

S. Šimek, M. Pirija, L. Honović

Laboratory of Medical Biochemistry, Pula General Hospital,
Pula

*Trichinosis is a disease caused by the nematode *Trichinella spiralis*. The most important etiologic factor for the development of trichinosis is infected and inadequately prepared pork (especially ham and sausages). The disease usually occurs sporadically or in smaller epidemics. Such an epidemic struck a part of the population in central and north Istria (Poreč, Pazin and Buzet) in October 2002. At the beginning of the disease variable symptoms (gastrointestinal, muscle pain, facial edema, collapse) make trichinosis easily mistaken for some other diseases. For these reasons it is necessary to take thorough history and perform accurate hematologic, biochemical and serologic testing. During the period from October 15 till November 15, 2002, 54 patients were admitted to the Department of Infectious Diseases, Pula General Hospital, 46 (19F and 27 M) of them with complete clinical data indicating trichinella infection. The mean age of patients was 40 years, and their mean hospital stay 15 days. On admission to the hospital, complete blood count (CBC; Cell Dyn 3500) and some biochemical tests (Hitachi 717) were performed in all patients. Initial tests showed 26 patients to have leukocytosis ($L_{av}=15.4 \times 10^9/L$). The values of eosinophils were significantly increased in all patients ($Eos_{av}=27.07\%$). Other biochemical parameters were also increased ($CK_{av}=454 U/l$, $AST_{av}=45 U/l$, $ALT_{av}=47 U/l$ and $LDH_{av}=646 U/l$). Upon therapy initiation (Vermox) and improvement of the patient general health condition, the values of leukocytes and eosinophils decreased ($L_{av}=9.59 \times 10^9/L$ and $Eos_{av}=16.67\%$). Laboratory results showed good correlation between the values of CK and eosinophils ($r=0.903$). Accordingly, thorough history data together with leukocyte differentials, particularly eosinophilia and increased values of CK, present reliable tools for diagnosing infection with *Trichinella spiralis*.*

E-mail: jelena.vlasic@pu.htnet.hr

P9-3**KLORIRANI UGLJIKOVODICI U
MAJČINOM MLIJEKU NA PODRUČJU
PRIMORSKO-GORANSKE ŽUPANIJE**

Kekić M., Živković A., Međugorac B.

Zavod za javno zdravstvo Primorsko-goranske županije,
Rijeka

Majčino mlijeko je zbog svog jedinstvenog sastava optimalan izbor prehrane za novorođenče. Nažalost, majčino mlijeko sadrži i mnoge onečišćivače, među kojima su organoklorirani pesticidi, poliklorirani bifenili (PCB) i njihovi kongeneri. Najvažniji razlog za njihovu analizu je lipofilna narav ovih spojeva, zbog koje su oni prisutni u tkivima i tekućinama bogatim mastima. Uzorci majčinog mlijeka sakupljeni su u KBC Rijeka, Klinika za ginekologiju i porodiljstvo, tijekom 2001. godine. Uzorci majčinog mlijeka sakupljeni su u sterilne posudice u količini od 40-50 ml. Za određivanje kloriranih pesticida, polikloriranih bifenila i njihovih kongenera primijenjena je metoda plinske kromatografije (AOAC 970.52). Radni uvjeti: Tk 185 °C, 1 min; 5 °C/min - 230 °C, 15 min; Ti 250 °C i Td 350 °C; plin nositelj bio je dušik, 3,5 ml/min; "make-up" plin dušik, 24 ml/min, splitless. Količina uzorka ubačena u kromatograf bila je 1 µl. Za kromatografiranje je upotrebljena kolona RTxR-35, 30 m, 0,32 mm ID, 0,25 µm df Restek. Za identifikaciju i kvantifikaciju rabljeni su izvorni standardi: Standard Pesticide MIX AB-Restek PCB congener standard #1 i kit Aroclors, Supelco. DDT i njegovi metaboliti, kao i većina drugih organokloriranih pesticida nađeni su u 75% analiziranih uzoraka (p,p'-DDE prosječno 78,7 ng/g mliječne masti i p,p'-DDT prosječno 26,7 ng/g mliječne masti). PCB su identificirani u svim analiziranim uzorcima (prosječno 369 ng/g mliječne masti). Značajna korelacija je nađena između majčine dobi i količine DDT-a i PCB-a. Temeljem eksperimentalnih rezultata zaključujemo da postoji trend opadanja koncentracije organokloriranih pesticida, dok razine PCB-a ostaju nepromijenjene.

P9-3**HUMAN MILK AND ORGANOCHLORINE
HYDROCARBONS IN THE PRIMORSKO-
GORANSKA COUNTY**

M. Kekić, A. Živković, B. Međugorac

Public Health Institute of the Primorsko-Goranska County,
Rijeka

Human milk is the best food for a newborn for its unique composition. Unfortunately, human milk contains many harmful compounds such as organochlorine pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) and their congeners. The most important reason for their analysis in human milk is the lipophilic character of these compounds that makes them present in highest concentrations in tissues and liquids rich in fat. Human milk samples were manually collected into sterilized bottles at a quantity of 40-50 ml. The AOAC 970.52 method was used to determine organochlorine hydrocarbons on a Varian 3400 CX gas chromatograph equipped with 63Ni ECD. Operating conditions were: Tc 185 °C for 1 min, 5 °C - 230 °C, 15 min, Ti 250 °C and Td 350 °C. The carrier gas was nitrogen, 3.5 ml/min, and make-up gas nitrogen 24 ml/min. The splitless injection mode was used. The injected volume was 1 µl and the column was RTxR-35, 30 m 0.32 mm ID, 0.25 µm df, Restek. The standards Pesticide MIX AB-Restek, PCB congener standard #1 and Kit Aroclor from Supelco were used. DDT isomers were detected as major chlorine pesticides in 75% of all samples (p,p'-DDE average 78.7 ng/g milk fat and p,p'-DDT average 26.7 ng/g milk fat). PCBs were detected in all samples (average 369 ng/g milk fat) as well as PCB congener 138 (average 34.6 ng/g milk fat). Significant correlations were found between maternal age and DDT and PCBs. It is concluded that there is a decreasing trend in the content of organochlorine pesticides, while PCBs remain unchanged.

P9-4**UČINAK AKTIVNOSTI LIPOPROTEIN
LIPAZE U SERUMU NA HDL I LDL**

Qujeq D., Fariver A.

Babol University of Medical Sciences, Babol, Iran

Lipoprotein lipaza je enzim s aktivnošću gliceril ester hidrolaze, koji se nalazi na endotelnoj

P9-4**EFFECTS OF SERUM LIPOPROTEIN
LIPASE ACTIVITY ON HDL AND LDL**

D. Qujeq, A. Fariver

Babol University of Medical Sciences, Babol, Iran

Lipoprotein lipase is an enzyme with glyceryl ester hydrolase activity, which is located on the

površini izvanjetrenih kapilara. Ovaj se enzim pomoću heparina otpušta u krvotok, gdje se može mjeriti njegova aktivnost. Njegova fiziološka funkcija je hidroliza hilomikrona i VLDL triglicerida, koji se prenose u tkivo kao slobodne masne kiseline. Smatra se kako je niska razina kolesterola lipoproteina visoke gustoće snažan neovisni rizični čimbenik u razvoju koronarne bolesti srca. Lipoprotein lipaza utječe na metabolizam lipoproteina niske gustoće i lipoproteina visoke gustoće. Samo je nekoliko izvješća o važnosti lipoprotein lipaze u serumu. U ovom smo radu ispitivali odnos između aktivnosti lipoprotein lipaze u serumu i koncentracija lipoproteina. Mužjaci štakora Sprague-Dawley (280-330 g) držani su u prostoriji s ograničenim pristupom u kontroliranim uvjetima temperature (23 ± 5 °C) i ciklusa svjetla/tame (12:12 h). Životinje su imale pristup hrani za glodavce i vodi *ad libitum*. Uzorci venske periferne krvi (2 ml) uzimani su između 8 i 13 sati, ostavljeni 30 min da se zgrušaju na sobnoj temperaturi, odmah su centrifugirani na 2500 o/min kroz 5 min, te je serum odvojen i pohranjen bez odlaganja na -20 °C do analize lipoproteina u serumu. Lipoprotein lipaza i koncentracija lipoproteina u serumu određene su enzimatski homogenom metodom. Rezultati su pokazali srednju vrijednost aktivnosti lipoprotein lipaze u serumu od $36,58 \pm 7,29$ $\mu\text{mol/ml/min}$. Također je aktivnost lipoprotein lipaze u serumu pokazala pozitivnu korelaciju s lipoproteinima visoke gustoće ($r=0,62$) te negativnu korelaciju s lipoproteinima niske gustoće ($r=-0,39$). Naši rezultati ukazuju na to da bi aktivnost lipoprotein lipaze mogla biti čimbenikom promjena u metabolizmu lipoproteina.

E-mail: dqujeq@hotmail.com

endothelial surface of extrahepatic capillaries. The enzyme is released into the circulation by heparin, where its activity can be determined. Its physiological function is the hydrolysis of chylomicrons and VLDL triglycerides, which are transported into the tissue as free fatty acids. A low level of serum high-density lipoprotein cholesterol is considered to be a potent independent risk factor in the development of coronary heart disease. Lipoprotein lipase affects low-density lipoprotein and high-density lipoprotein metabolism. There are only few reports on the importance of lipoprotein lipase in serum. In this work we investigated the relationship between serum lipoprotein lipase activity and lipoprotein concentrations. Male Sprague-Dawley rats (280-330 g) were housed in a restricted-access room with controlled temperature (23 ± 5 °C) and light-dark cycles (12:12 h). Standard rodent food and tap water were provided ad libitum. Venous peripheral blood samples (2 ml) were obtained from animals. The samples were obtained between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m., and allowed to clot at room temperature for 30 min, were immediately centrifuged at 2500 xg for 5 min, and the serum was removed and stored without delay at -20 °C until analysis of serum lipoproteins. Serum lipoprotein lipase and lipoprotein concentrations were determined enzymatically by the homogeneous method. The results showed the mean serum lipoprotein lipase activity to be 36.58 ± 7.29 $\mu\text{mol/ml/min}$. Also, serum lipoprotein lipase activity correlated positively with high-density lipoprotein ($r=0.62$) and inversely with low-density lipoprotein ($r=-0.39$). Our results suggest that lipoprotein lipase activity may be a factor in the modulation of lipoprotein metabolism.

E-mail: dqujeq@hotmail.com

P9-5

ANTIKARDIOLIPINSKA PROTUTIJELA KAO ČIMBENIK RIZIKA U TRUDNOĆI

Posavec Lj., Košec V., Stančić V., Gačina P., Koprčina M., Raić B., Petek M.

Klinička bolnica "Sestre milosrdnice", Endokrinološki laboratorij Interne klinike, Zagreb

Cilj rada bio je na temelju ishoda trudnoća i uz primijenjenu terapiju ispitati utjecaj antikardiolipinskih protutijela (ACL) kao čimbenika rizika u trudnoći. Skupini od 35 trudnica koje su prethodno imale dva spontana pobačaja izmjerena je koncentracija antikardiolipinskih protuti-

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ANTICARDIOLIPIN ANTIBODY AS A RISK FACTOR IN PREGNANCY

Lj. Posavec, V. Košec, V. Stančić, P. Gačina, M. Koprčina, B. Raić, M. Petek

Laboratory of Endocrinology, University Department of Medicine, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Zagreb

The aim of the study was to analyze pregnancy outcome in a sample of women with elevated levels of anticardiolipin antibodies (ACL) and to assess therapeutic efficacy. The concentration of ACL (IgG- and IgM-ACL) was determined by ELISA in a group of 35 pregnant women with two

jela (IgG i IgM) enzimimunološkom metodom. Osam (22,8%) trudnica imalo je pozitivne obje frakcije imunoglobulina, deset (28,6%) ih je imalo pozitivna samo IgG-ACL, a 22 (62,8%) samo IgM-ACL. Sve trudnice s pozitivnim ACL (n=23) podvrgnute su antiagregacijskoj terapiji s niskim dozama (oko 80 mg Andola na dan). Dvjesto trudnicama dijagnosticiran je antifosfolipidni sindrom i trudnoće su završile spontanom pobačajem. Prijevremeni porod uslijedio je kod dvije trudnice, dok su ostale trudnoće završile sretno terminskim porodom. Iz dobivenih rezultata može se zaključiti da postojanje ACL povećava rizik od spontanog pobačaja ako se pojavljuju u prvom trimestru trudnoće i u većoj koncentraciji. Zbog toga bi ženama s višestrukim spontanom pobačajem trebalo ACL određivati kao test probira. Optimalnim terapijskim protokolom koji uključuje antiagregacijsku terapiju u niskim dozama ili u kombinaciji sa supkutanom heparinom značajno se poboljšava uspješnost završetka trudnoće.

E-mail: miposave@inet.hr

consecutive spontaneous abortions. Eight (22.8%) women were positive for both Ig fractions, 10 (28.6%) were only IgG-ACL positive, and 22 (62.8%) were only IgM-ACL positive. All women with positive ACL (n=23) were allocated to therapy with low dose aspirin (80 mg daily). The antiphospholipid syndrome was diagnosed in two cases and these pregnancies ended in spontaneous abortion. Two women had preterm delivery, and other pregnancies had normal outcome. Thus, ACL appears to increase the risk of abortion when present in the first trimester and at high concentrations. Optimal therapeutic protocol with low dose of aspirin alone or with subcutaneous heparin significantly improves the chance of successful pregnancy outcome in patients with ACL.

E-mail: miposave@inet.hr

P9-6

ANTIOKSIDACIJSKI KAPACITET SERUMA U ODNOSU NA BIOKEMIJSKE PARAMETRE

Salamunić I., Katalinić V., Miloš M.

Klinička bolnica "Split", Odjel za kliničku laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Split

Aerobni organizmi su tijekom evolucije razvili složen sustav zaštite kao protutežu mogućem štetnom djelovanju oksidacijskih procesa. Slobodni radikali reagiraju i s makromolekulama (lipidi), a različite kemijske promjene mogu biti uzrokom funkcijskog oštećenja stanica, tkiva i organa. Cilj rada bio je odrediti antioksidacijski kapacitet seruma (FRAP-feric reducing ability/antioxidant capacity); količinu produkata lipidne oksidacije (TBARS-thiobarbituric acid reactive species); količinu hidroperoksida (FOX-2-ferrous oxidation in xylenol orange) kod "naizgled" zdravih muškaraca u odnosu na biokemijske parametre aspartat aminotransferazu (AST), alanin aminotransferazu (ALT), gama glutamil transferazu (GGT), bilirubin, glukozu, kolesterol i trigliceride. Od 166 uzoraka seruma "naizgled" zdravih muškaraca (skupina A) njih 25% (n=42) su imali sve biokemijske parametre unutar referentnog raspona (skupina B). U skupini A dobili smo značajnu korelaciju za FRAP (779,4-

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PARALLEL INVESTIGATION OF SERUM ANTIOXIDANT POWER AND BIOCHEMICAL PARAMETERS

I. Salamunić, V. Katalinić, M. Miloš

Department of Clinical Laboratory Diagnosis, Split University Hospital, Split

The potentially harmful reactive oxygen species are being constantly produced during normal aerobic metabolism and are safely removed by a variety of biological antioxidants. The antioxidant power of serum and amount of lipid oxidation products were determined in sera of 166 apparently healthy males. Serum antioxidant capacity was determined as ferric reducing ability/antioxidant capacity (FRAP assay). The formation of lipid oxidation products was evaluated as thiobarbituric acid reactive species serum test (TBARS). The ferrous oxidation in xylenol orange (FOX-2) assay was used for the measurement of total serum hydroperoxides. The following biochemical parameters were determined: AST, ALT, GGT, bilirubin, glucose, cholesterol, triglycerides and hemoglobin. Group A included 166 sera, whereas group B was a subgroup of group A and included only sera with biochemical parameters within the reference limits (n=42). There was no significant correlation between TBARS and bio-

1409,9 $\mu\text{mol/L}$) i bilirubin (1,7-48,9 $\mu\text{mol/L}$), $p=0,024$; FRAP i hemoglobin (119-172 g/L), $p=0,0318$; FRAP i glukozu (4,3-8,5 mmol/L), $p=0,0241$; FRAP i trigliceride (0,35-13,59 mmol/L), $p=0,0091$. U skupini B dobili smo značajnu korelaciju za FRAP (779-1313 $\mu\text{mol/L}$) i bilirubin, $p=0,013$. Za TBARS u skupini A (1,178 \pm 0,32 $\mu\text{mol/L}$) i skupini B (1,26 \pm 0,287 $\mu\text{mol/L}$) nismo dobili značajnu korelaciju s biokemijskim parametrima. U skupinama A i B za razinu hidroperoksida (FOX-2 1,90-6,94 $\mu\text{mol/L}$) nismo dobili značajnu korelaciju s biokemijskim parametrima. Rezultati ukazuju na povezanost antioksidacijskog kapaciteta i biokemijskih parametara koji djeluju kao antioksidansi u serumu.

E-mail: s_ilza@yahoo.com

chemical parameters in either of the study groups. In group B, there was a significant correlation between FRAP and bilirubin. Study results pointed to the association of serum antioxidant capacity and biochemical parameters acting as serum antioxidants.

E-mail: s_ilza@yahoo.com

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PROCJENA ZRELOSTI PLUĆA FETUSA ODREĐIVANJEM BROJA LAMELARNIH ČESTICA U AMNIJSKOJ TEKUĆINI

Kralik S., Mayer V., Bernt T., Suchanek E.

Zavod za kliničku biokemiju i biologiju reprodukcije, Klinika za ženske bolesti i porode, KBC "Zagreb", Zagreb

Lamelarne čestice proizvodi tip II. alveolarnih stanica u povećanim količinama s napredovanjem trudnoće. Sastoje se gotovo isključivo od fosfolipida i predstavljaju skladišta surfaktanta. Određivanje broja lamelarnih čestica daje objektivnu procjenu količine surfaktanta u amnijskoj tekućini. Kako je promjer lamelarnih čestica između 1 i 5 μm , njihov se broj može odrediti pomoću trombocitnog kanala u gotovo svakom hematološkom brojaču stanica. Cilj rada bio je usporediti rezultate dobivene brojanjem lamelarnih čestica s drugim biokemijskim pokazateljima zrelosti fetalnih pluća u amnijskoj tekućini koji se rutinski određuju u našem Zavodu: omjerom lecitin/sfingomijelin (L/S) i fosfatidil glicerol (PG). U 378 amnijskih tekućina dobivenih amniocentezom u trudnica od 18. do 42. tjedna trudnoće određeni su L/S, PG i broj lamelarnih čestica. L/S i PG su određivani metodom tankoslojne kromatografije fosfolipida. Broj lamelarnih čestica određen je brojanjem trombocita iz 50 μl svježih, necentrifugiranih amnijskih tekućina pomoću hematološkog brojača "ABX-Micros". Biokemijsku zrelost pluća fetusa definirali smo kao zreli L/S ili PG, a nezrelost kao nezreli L/S i PG. Broj lamelarnih čestica manji od 15000 bio je 100% specifičan za biokemijsku nezrelost fetalnih pluća (osjetljivost 89%, pozitivna prediktivna

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ASSESSMENT OF FETAL LUNG MATURITY BY AMNIOTIC FLUID LAMELLAR BODY COUNTS

S. Kralik, V. Mayer, T. Bernt, E. Suchanek

Department of Clinical Biochemistry and Reproduction Biology, University Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Zagreb University Hospital Center, Zagreb

Lamellar bodies are produced by type II alveolar cells in increasing quantities as gestation advances. They are composed almost entirely of phospholipids and represent a storage form of surfactant. Quantification of lamellar bodies produces an objective estimate of the quantity of surfactant in amniotic fluid (AF). Because lamellar body diameter is between 1 and 5 μm , lamellar body count can be determined using platelet channel of a commercial cell counter. The aim of the study was to compare lamellar body count with the lecithin/sphingomyelin ratio (L/S) and phosphatidylglycerol (PG) analysis in testing fetal lung maturity. Lamellar body count, L/S and PG were assessed in 378 amniotic fluid samples obtained by amniocentesis from pregnant women from 18th to 42nd week of pregnancy. L/S and PG were determined by thin layer chromatography of phospholipids. An ABX-Micros hematology analyzer was used to determine lamellar body counts. A lamellar body count of less than 15000 was 100% specific for biochemical lung immaturity (sensitivity 89%, positive predictive value (PPV) 100%, negative predictive value (NPV) 99%). A lamellar body count of greater than 50000 was 100% specific for biochemical lung maturity with a sensitivity of 96%, PPV of 100%

vrijednost (PPV) 100%, negativna prediktivna vrijednost (NPV) 99%). Broj lamelarnih čestica veći od 50000 bio je 100% specifičan za biokemijsku zrelost fetalnih pluća (osjetljivost 96%, PPV 100%, NPV 60%). Metoda određivanja broja lamelarnih čestica u svrhu procjene zrelosti fetalnih pluća pokazala se pouzdanom, brzom i jeftinom, pa se može preporučiti kao test probira nakon kojega bi se radila tankoslojna kromatografija fosfolipida samo ako je broj ovih čestica veći od 15000, a manji od 50000.

E-mail: sasa.kralik-oguc@zg.htnet.hr

and NPV of 60%. Lamellar body count was found to be a rapid, simple and universally available method with excellent specificity and good sensitivity. It could serve as an extremely cost-effective screening test for fetal lung maturity

E-mail: sasa.kralik-oguc@zg.htnet.hr

P9-8

PROBIR NA NOVU AMINOKISELINSKU DEHIDROGENAZU IZ IRANSKOGA TLA KAO IZVORA MIKROORGANIZAMA

Omidinia E.¹, Khathami S.¹, Omumi A.R.², Mirzahosieni H.¹, Thaherkhani H.³, Samadi A.⁴

¹ Biochem. Dept. Pasteur Institute of Iran, ² Biotech. Dept. Pasteur Institute of Iran, ³ Parasitology Dept., Medical Faculty, Hamadan University and Medical Sciences, Hamadan, Iran, ⁴ Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, Kirksville, USA

Provedeno je ispitivanje radi pronalazjenja nove aminokiselinske dehidrogenaze iz iranskoga tla kao izvora mikroorganizama. Primijenjene su različite podloge uz dodatak L-metionina, L-fenilalanina, L-lizina ili L-triptofana. Ukupno je 684 sojeva izolirano iz 400 uzoraka tla; 37 od ovih proizvođača imalo je aktivnost o NAD ovisne aminokiselinske dehidrogenaze. Izolirani su proizvođači fenilalanina i glutamat dehidrogenaze te identificirani kao *Bacillus* sp. odnosno *Delfecia acidovorance*. Nedavno je izolirana bakterija uz primjenu neutralne podloge koja je sadržavala L-metionin. Razina proizvodnje enzima kod opisanih sojeva kretala se od 40 do 60 U/L. Također je ispitivana uloga specijalne (*baffled*) posude, koja se pokazala vrlo djelotvornom u proizvodnji enzima.

E-mail: Eskandar@institute.pasteur.ac.ir

P9-8

SCREENING FOR NEW AMINO ACID DEHYDROGENASE FROM IRANIAN SOIL AS A SOURCE OF MICROORGANISMS

E. Omidinia¹, S. Khathami¹, A.R. Omumi², H. Mirzahosieni¹, H. Thaherkhani³, A. Samadi⁴

¹ Biochem. Dept. Pasteur Institute of Iran, ² Biotech. Dept. Pasteur Institute of Iran, ³ Parasitology Dept., Medical Faculty, Hamadan University and Medical Sciences, Hamadan, Iran, ⁴ Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, Kirksville, USA

A study was done to find a new amino acid dehydrogenase from Iranian soil as a source of microorganisms. Various media were used with a supplement of either L-methionine, L-phenylalanine, L-lysine, or L-tryptophan. A total of 684 strains were isolated from 400 soil samples; 37 of these producers were found to have an activity of NAD-dependent amino acid dehydrogenase. The producers of phenylalanine and glutamate dehydrogenase were isolated and identified as *Bacillus* sp. and *Delfecia acidovorance*, respectively. Recently, a bacterium was isolated using a neutral medium containing L-methionine. The level of enzyme production by the reported strains ranged from 40 to 60 U/L. Also, the role of baffled flask was studied, and we found it very effective in enzyme production.

E-mail: Eskandar@institute.pasteur.ac.ir

P9-9**ODREĐIVANJE KONCENTRACIJE TROMBOPOETINA I IL-6 U DJECE S REAKTIVNOM TROMBOCITOZOM U TIJEKU PNEUMONIJE**

Dodig S.¹, Raos M.¹, Kovač K.¹, Nogalo B.¹, Benko B.², Glojnarčić I.³, Čepelak I.⁴

¹ Specijalna bolnica za bolesti dišnog sustava djece i mladeži, ² Imunološki zavod, ³ Pliva d.d., ⁴ Farmaceutsko-biokemijski fakultet, Zagreb

Trombocitoza može biti primarna - klonalna ili sekundarna - reaktivna kao posljedica brojnih upalnih bolesti, nekih imunoloških, hematoloških i zloćudnih bolesti te kao posljedica primjene nekih lijekova. Osnovna proizvodnja trombocita ovisna je o koncentraciji trombopoetina (TPO). Ovim smo radom željeli ispitati zašto se samo u neke djece u tijeku pneumonije pojavljuje trombocitoza. Ispitano je 68 djece s pneumonijom: 17 bolesnika s normalnim brojem trombocita i 51 bolesnik s povećanim brojem trombocita. Laboratorijska obrada uključivala je određivanje sedimentacije eritrocita, broja leukocita i trombocita, koncentracije hemoglobina, C-reaktivnog proteina (CRP), interleukina 6 (IL-6) i TPO. Bolesnici s normalnim brojem trombocita i normalnom koncentracijom TPO imali su statistički značajno ubranu sedimentaciju eritrocita i povećanu koncentraciju CRP-a te umjereno, ali ne statistički značajno, povećanu koncentraciju IL-6. Djeca s trombocitozom imala su statistički značajno povećan broj leukocita, povećanu koncentraciju TPO, dok je koncentracija CRP-a i IL-6 bila povećana u nekih bolesnika. U djece s reaktivnom trombocitozom postojala je anemija. Reaktivna trombocitoza očitovala se u tijeku pneumonije uglavnom u djece s anemijom.

E-mail: slavica.dodig@zg.htnet.hr

P9-9**THROMBOPOIETIN AND IL-6 IN CHILDREN WITH THROMBOCYTOSIS DURING PNEUMONIA**

S. Dodig¹, M. Raos¹, K. Kovač¹, B. Nogalo¹, B. Benko², I. Glojnarčić³, I. Čepelak⁴

¹ Special Hospital for Respiratory Diseases in Children and Adolescents, ² Institute of Immunology, ³ Pliva Co., ⁴ School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, Zagreb

Thrombocytosis can occur as clonal thrombocytosis or reactive thrombocytosis during chronic inflammatory or infectious disorder, iron-deficiency anemia, acute blood loss, hemolytic state and due to some drug administration. The baseline platelet production is dependent on thrombopoietin (TPO). The aim of the study was to find out why thrombocytosis occurs only in some children with pneumonia. Sixty-eight children with pneumonia were included in the study. Blood samples of 17 patients with normal platelet count and 51 from patients with thrombocytosis were used for TPO, interleukin (IL-6), C-reactive protein (CRP), erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR) and complete blood count determination. CRP and ESR were increased in patients with normal platelet count. TPO and leukocyte count were increased, and hemoglobin was decreased in patients with thrombocytosis. Reactive thrombocytosis during pneumonia was found to mainly occur in children with anemia.

E-mail: slavica.dodig@zg.htnet.hr

P9-10**PRAĆENJE RAZINE CIKLOSPORINA (2 SATA NAKON PRIMLJENE DOZE) U BOLESNIKA S TRANSPLANTIRANIM BUBREGOM**

Hrabrić S., Čuka Husnjak S., Dvornik Š., Orlić P.

Klinički bolnički centar "Rijeka", Rijeka

Neoral je mikroemulzijski pripravak ciklosporina (CsA) koji se rabi za održavanje imunosupresije nakon transplantacije bubrega. Praćenje koncentracije CsA 2 sata nakon primljene

P9-10**MONITORING RENAL TRANSPLANT PATIENTS BY MEASUREMENT OF 2-HOUR POST DOSE CYCLOSPORINE LEVELS**

S. Hrabrić, S. Čuka Husnjak, Š. Dvornik, P. Orlić

Rijeka University Hospital Center, Rijeka

Neoral is a cyclosporine (CsA) microemulsion which has been used to maintain immunosuppression after renal transplantation. Monitoring cyclosporine (CsA) concentrations 2 hour after

doze (C2) je nova metoda za procjenu apsorpcije i metabolizma CsA u pojedinog bolesnika. Niska razina CsA može rezultirati akutnim odbacivanjem transplantata, a visoka razina nefrotoksičnošću. Cilj studije je bio ustanoviti je li praćenje razine C2 bolji pokazatelj u održavanju transplantata od dosadašnjeg načina praćenjem početne razine C0. Razina CsA mjerena je u punoj krvi (EDTA) 17 bolesnika s transplantiranim bubregom (88 uzoraka) u razdoblju od prosinca 2001. do travnja 2003. godine. Koncentracija CsA određena je na analizatoru Dimension RxL (Dade Behring) imunokemijskom tehnikom s monoklonskim protutijelima specifičnim za CsA bez prethodne obrade uzorka. Rezultati su podijeljeni u tri skupine prema proteklom vremenu od transplantacije: prvi mjesec, drugi mjesec, treći i više mjeseci nakon transplantacije. U prvoj skupini srednja vrijednost \pm SD C0 je bila 292 ± 148 ng/ml, u drugoj 244 ± 144 ng/ml i u trećoj 206 ± 64 ng/ml. Srednja vrijednost \pm SD C2 kod bolesnika u prvom mjesecu nakon transplantacije je bila 1364 ± 547 (min 466, max 2563) ng/ml; u drugom mjesecu C2 je bila 1191 ± 661 (min 272, max 2954) ng/ml; i nakon više od tri mjeseca C2 je bila 1228 ± 417 (min 681, max 1997) ng/ml. Srednja vrijednost \pm SD kreatinina u prvoj skupini je bila 135 ± 45 μ mol/L, u drugoj skupini 162 ± 82 μ mol/L i u trećoj 110 ± 36 μ mol/L. Zabilježena je epizoda odbacivanja u dvoje bolesnika (12%) devetoga i dvadesetosemoga dana nakon transplantacije. Praćenje razine C2 u krvi bolesnika s transplantiranim bubregom je bolji pokazatelj održavanja transplantata od praćenja razine C0, a istodobno se prati terapijski učinak kako ne bi nastupilo toksično djelovanje lijeka zbog previsoke doze.

E-mail: snjezana.hrabric@kvarner.net

drug administration (C2) is a novel method for evaluation of CsA absorption and metabolism in individual patients. The aim of the study was to assess whether 2-hour post-dose monitoring (C2) is superior to pre-dosage monitoring (C0) of CsA in renal transplant recipients (RTRs). The level of cyclosporine was determined in EDTA samples (whole blood) in 17 RTRs (88 samples) from December 2001 till April 2003. CsA concentration was determined on an RxL Dimension analyzer (Dade Behring) using the immunoassay method with specific monoclonal antibody without manual sample pretreatment. Results were divided into three groups according to the time elapsed from transplantation: one month, two months, and three or more months post-transplantation. The mean \pm SD C0 was 292 ± 148 , 244 ± 144 and 206 ± 64 ng/ml in the one-month, 2-month and ≥ 3 -month post-transplantation group, respectively. The respective mean \pm SD C2 was 1364 ± 547 (min 466, max 2563), 1191 ± 661 (min 272, max 2954) and 1228 ± 417 (min 681, max 1997) ng/ml. The mean \pm SD creatinine was 135 ± 45 , 162 ± 82 and 110 ± 36 μ mol/L in the one-month, 2-month and ≥ 3 -month post-transplantation group, respectively. Two (12%) patients experienced rejection crisis on day 9 and 28 from kidney transplantation. Monitoring of C2 level in RTRs is a better indicator of transplant maintenance than monitoring of C0 level, whereas CsA concentration is useful in assessing drug toxicity due to high dosage.

E-mail: snjezana.hrabric@kvarner.net

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BIOKEMIJSKI I HEMATOLOŠKI PARAMETRI U BOLESNIKA S HEMORAGIJSKOM VRUĆICOM S BUBREŽNIM SINDROMOM

Skorvaga S., Garilović J., Včelik M.

OŽB Požega, Hematološko-biokemijski laboratorij, Požega

Obrađeni su nalazi 31 bolesnika (21 muškarac, 10 žena) u dobi od 18 do 60 godina, koji su liječeni na Infektivnom odjelu OŽB Požega u razdoblju od 25. ožujka do 10. prosinca 2002. godine. Svi su bolesnici imali pozitivne serološke nalaze (Puumala virus 27 i Dobrava virus 4).

P9-11

BIOCHEMISTRY AND HEMATOLOGY PARAMETERS IN PATIENTS WITH HEMORRHAGIC FEVER WITH RENAL SYNDROME

S. Skorvaga, J. Garilović, M. Včelik

Laboratory of Hematology and Biochemistry, County General Hospital, Požega

Laboratory findings from 31 patients (21 M and 10 F) aged 18-60 years, treated at the Department of Infectious Diseases, County General Hospital in Požega from March 25 till December 10, 2002, were analyzed. All patients had positive se-

Obradeni bolesnici imali su blag (n=9), srednje težak (n=17) i težak (n=5) klinički oblik bolesti. Bolesnici su bili hospitalizirani 5-19 dana (prosjeak 11 dana), a u bolnicu su se javili između 1. i 10. dana bolesti. Analize su rađene na hematološkom analizatoru Cell Dyn 3500 (Abbott), te biokemijskom analizatoru Alcyon 300 (Abbott), Vitros 250 (Ortho Clinical Diagnostics). Prema vrijednostima trombocita, ureje i kreatinina bolest smo podijelili u 4 stadija. U prvom stadiju bolesti koji traje 1-2 dana svi laboratorijski nalazi bili su u okviru referentnih vrijednosti. U drugom stadiju bolesti koji traje 3-7 dana počele su padati vrijednosti trombocita i kretale su se od 38 do $136 \times 10^9/L$ (r.v. $140-440 \times 10^9/L$). Vrijednosti leukocita kretale su se od $2,00$ do $14,1 \times 10^9/L$ (r.v. $5,00-10,00 \times 10^9/L$) uz izraženu neutrofiliju. Vrijednosti ureje i kreatinina bile su u okviru referentnih vrijednosti. Kod svih bolesnika bila je prisutna proteinurija. U trećem stadiju bolesti koji traje 4-9 dana vrijednosti trombocita vratile su se na normalu, a porasle su vrijednosti ureje od $2,01$ do $15,06$ mmol/L (r.v. $2,5-6,3$ mmol/L) i kreatinina od $61,9$ do 558 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ (r.v. \check{Z} : $44,0-97,0$ $\mu\text{mol/L}$, M: $53,0-106$ $\mu\text{mol/L}$). Proteinurija je još uvijek bila prisutna. U četvrtom stadiju bolesti laboratorijski su se nalazi vraćali na normalu. Vrijednosti SE 1 h kretale su se od 4 do 86 (r.v. \check{Z} : do 12 , M: do 5). Vrijednosti CRP-a kretale su se od $9,3$ do 284 (r.v. do $10,00$ mg/L). Dakle, odstupanje vrijednosti trombocita, ureje i kreatinina od referentnih vrijednosti korelira sa stadijem bolesti.

E-mail: jasna.garilovic@po.htnet.hr

rologic test (Puumala virus in 27 and Dobrava virus in 4 patients). According to symptoms, the patients were divided into 3 groups: benign (n=9), moderate (n=17) and severe (n=5) form of the disease. The length of hospitalization was 5-19 (mean 11) days. Measurements were made in patient sera on a Cell Dyn 3500 (Abbott) counter, Alcyon 300 (Abbott) and Vitros 250 (Ortho Clinical Diagnostics) clinical chemistry analyzer. According to serum levels of platelets (PLT), blood urea nitrogen (BUN) and creatinine, the disease was classified into four stages. In the first stage, which lasted for 1-2 days, all parameters were within the reference range. In the second stage, which lasted for 3-7 days, the values of PLT decreased to $38-136 \times 10^9/L$ (reference range $140-440 \times 10^9/L$), the values of white blood cells (WBC) were $2.00-14.1 \times 10^9/L$ (r.r. $5.00-10.00 \times 10^9/L$), and there was a marked increase in granulocytes. Serum values of BUN and creatinine were within the reference range, while proteinuria persisted in all patients. In the third stage of the disease, which lasted for 4-9 days, serum values of PLT returned to the reference range, while the values of BUN and creatinine increased, ranging from 2.01 to 15.06 mmol/L (r.r. $2.5-6.3$ mmol/L) and from 61.9 to 558 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ (r.r. F: $44.0-97.0$ $\mu\text{mol/L}$, M: $53.0-106$ $\mu\text{mol/L}$). Patients still had proteinuria. In the fourth stage, all parameters returned to the reference range. The values 1-h ESR were $4-86$ (r.r. F: <12 , M: <5), and those of CRP ranged from 9.3 to 284 (r.r. <10.00 mg/L). It is concluded that deviations in the values of PLT, BUN and creatinine from reference ranges follow the disease stages.

E-mail: jasna.garilovic@po.htnet.hr

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UTVRĐIVANJE SPOLA DJETETA IZ KRVI MAJKE U RANOJ TRUDNOĆI

Wagner J.¹, Habek D.², Lauc G.¹

¹ Medicinski fakultet Osijek, DNK laboratorij, ² Klinička bolnica Osijek, Odjel za ginekologiju i porodiljstvo, Osijek

Današnja prenatalna dijagnostika zasniva se na metodama poput amniocenteze i biopsije kordonskih resica. Obje metode su zbog svoje invazivnosti povezane s rizikom pojave različitih komplikacija kako kod fetusa, tako i kod majke. Zbog toga se u medicinskoj genetici već dulje vrijeme nastoje razviti sigurnije metode prenatalne dijagnostike. Svrha ove studije bilo je dokazivanje fetalne DNK te utvrđivanje spola fe-

P9-12

ANALYSIS OF FETAL GENDER FROM MATERNAL PLASMA IN EARLY PREGNANCY

J. Wagner¹, D. Habek², G. Lauc¹

¹ DNA Laboratory, School of Medicine, ² Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Osijek University Hospital, Osijek

At present, prenatal diagnosis requires sampling of fetal cells by invasive procedures such as amniocentesis and chorionic villus sampling. These invasive procedures, however, present low but definite risks for both the fetus and the mother. To avoid this potential risk, it is a long-sought goal of medical genetics to develop safer methods for prenatal diagnosis. The purpose of

tusa iz krvne plazme majke. Metoda kojom bi se prenatalno utvrđivao spol djeteta mogla bi se primjenjivati kao preliminarni test koji bi prethodio invazivnim metodama poput amniocenteze i biopsije korionskih resica. Test bi osobito bio koristan kod fetusa za koje postoji vjerojatnost X-vezanog recesivnog nasljeđivanja. Slobodna fetalna DNK i DNK majke izolirana je iz krvne plazme majke primjenom QIAamp DNA Mini kitta. Očeva DNK izolirana je iz FTA papirića chelex ekstrakcijom. Amplifikacija mikrosatelitnih sekvenca (kratka uzastopna ponavljanja) izvršena je multipleks lančanom reakcijom polimeraze, a fragmenti su razdvojeni kapilarnom elektroforezom. Dokazana je prisutnost fetalne DNK u krvnoj plazmi majke. Spol djeteta utvrđen je analizom amelogeninskog lokusa, preostali amplificirani fetalni aleli služili su kao kontrola uspješnosti umnažanja fetalne DNK. Zaključeno je kako se neinvazivno utvrđivanje spola fetusa može primijeniti u svrhu izbjegavanja invazivnih prenatalnih dijagnostičkih metoda (poput amniocenteze i biopsije korionskih resica) u slučajevima X-vezanog recesivnog nasljeđivanja. Ako se na ovaj način utvrdi da je fetus ženskog spola, tada primjena invazivnih prenatalnih dijagnostičkih metoda nije potrebna.

E-mail: jaswag@vip.hr

this study was to detect circulating fetal DNA in maternal plasma and to determine fetal gender. The method for diagnosing fetal gender can be used as a pre-test to determine whether invasive prenatal diagnosis such as amniocentesis and chorionic villus sampling should be performed on a fetus having a risk of X-linked recessive inheritance. Cell-free DNA was isolated from maternal plasma using the QIAamp DNA Mini Kit. We used multiplex fluorescent PCR amplification of short tandem repeats to detect maternal and fetal alleles in the maternal plasma samples. Paternal DNA was isolated from FTA cards using the Chelex extraction and amplified by multiplex fluorescent PCR in order to determine fetus-specific alleles in the maternal plasma samples. Using this method we were able to determine fetus specific alleles in the maternal plasma samples. Fetal gender was determined by analysis of the amelogenin locus, while other amplified loci served as a control of successful amplification of fetal DNA. Accordingly, the noninvasive prenatal diagnosis of fetal gender can be used instead of invasive prenatal diagnostic methods such as amniocentesis and chorionic villus sampling in cases of X-linked recessive inheritance. If the fetus has a risk of X-linked recessive inheritance and is found to be female, the use of invasive prenatal diagnosis and associated risks can be avoided.

E-mail: jaswag@vip.hr

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DIJAGNOSTIČKO ZNAČENJE ODREĐIVANJA MORFOLOGIJE ERITROCITA U MOKRAĆI FAZNO KONTRASTNIM MIKROSKOPOM

Kronja-Negro J.¹, Nakić D.², Valčić A.¹

¹ Odjel za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, ² Odsjek za nefrologiju i hemodijalizu Odjela za interne bolesti Opće bolnice Zadar, Zadar

Određivanje morfologije eritrocita u mokraći vrijedan je dijagnostički postupak pri klasifikaciji podrijetla hematurije, te za rano praćenje bolesnika s izoliranom mikroskopskom hematurijom nepoznate etiologije. Prema današnjim kriterijima smatra se da je hematurija 'ne-glomerularnog' podrijetla ako prevladavaju (>80%) izomorfni eritrociti; 'glomerularnog' podrijetla u prisutnosti >80% dismorfni eritrocita ili najmanje 5% akantocita (G1 stanica); te 'miješana' ako su oba tipa eritrocita prisutna u približno istom omjeru. Cilj studije bio je odrediti dijagnostičko značenje ove pretrage u diferencijalnoj dijagno-

P9-13

DIAGNOSTIC ROLE OF URINARY ERYTHROCYTE MORPHOLOGY DETERMINATION BY PHASE-CONTRAST MICROSCOPY

J. Kronja-Negro¹, D. Nakić², A. Valčić¹

¹ Department of Laboratory Diagnosis, ² Division of Nephrology and Hemodialysis, Department of Medicine, Zadar General Hospital, Zadar

The analysis of urinary erythrocyte morphology is a useful and reliable method for the early work-up and follow-up of patients with isolated microscopic hematuria of unknown origin. It is also a valuable diagnostic procedure for determination of the origin of hematuria. Today, hematuria is classified as 'glomerular' if there are more than 80% of dysmorphic erythrocytes, and as 'non-glomerular' if more than 80% of isomorphic erythrocytes or at least 5% of all erythrocytes are acanthocytes (G1 cells). Hematuria is defined as 'mixed' when the two types of cells are present in a roughly equal percentage. Acanthocytes are a

stici glomerularnih bolesti. U razdoblju od 4. listopada 2002. do 4. lipnja 2003. godine obrađene su 92 mokraće ambulantnih i odjelnih nefroloških bolesnika. Kao uzorak isključivo se radio svjež, srednji mlaz prve jutarnje mokraće. Morfologija eritrocita ocjenjuje se fazno kontrastnim mikroskopom u dvije glavne kategorije: izomorfnu i dismorfnu. Preporuka je da se prvo traže akantociti kao podtip dismornih eritrocita specifičnog prstenastog oblika s jednom ili više vezikula, prisutnost kojih strogo indicira hematuriju glomerularnog podrijetla. Važno je uočiti i ostale elemente koji mogu biti dijagnostički indikativni. Prema prethodno navedenim kriterijima glomerularna hematurija pronađena je u 45% ispitanika, dok se kod ostalih mogla dijagnosticirati miješana hematurija s prevlašću dismornih eritrocita. Kod samo jednog ispitanika s potvrđenom dijagnozom hemolitičko-uremijskog sindroma utvrđena je postglomerularna hematurija. Ispitanici kod kojih je pronađena glomerularna hematurija procijenjeni su ili će se procjenjivati drugim dijagnostičkim postupcima na prisutnost glomerularne bolesti. Zlatni standard za utvrđivanje glomerularne bolesti je nalaz biopsije bubrega, koji je ujedno jedini relevantan pokazatelj dijagnostičkog značenja određivanja morfologije mokraćnih eritrocita. Biopsijom bubrega koja je dosad napravljena kod 33% bolesnika s laboratorijskim nalazima glomerularne hematurije potvrđena je glomerularna bolest i postavljena dijagnoza. Određivanje morfologije mokraćnih eritrocita fazno kontrastnim mikroskopom je neinvazivna, jeftina, jednostavna i pouzdana metoda u dijagnostici glomerularnih bolesti.

E-mail: jasminka.kronja@zd.htnet.hr

subtype of dysmorphic erythrocytes. The aim of the study was to assess diagnostic significance of the method in the differential diagnosis of glomerular diseases. From October 4, 2002 till June 4, 2003, 92 urine samples of nephrologic patients were analyzed. The first morning mid-stream urine was examined within 1 h from collection. Erythrocyte morphology was evaluated by phase-contrast microscopy. Using the above criteria, hematuria of glomerular origin was found in 45% of study patients, whereas others had mixed hematuria with a predominance of dysmorphic erythrocytes. Only one patient with a confirmed diagnosis of hemolytic-uremic syndrome had hematuria of a nonglomerular origin. The patients with hematuria of glomerular origin have already been or will be evaluated by other diagnostic procedures for the presence of glomerular disease. Kidney biopsy is the gold standard to verify the presence of glomerular disease, and the only relevant indicator for the diagnostic significance of urinary erythrocyte morphology determination. To date, kidney biopsy was done in 33% of patients with laboratory findings of hematuria of glomerular origin. The presence of glomerular disease was confirmed and the diagnosis established. Determination of urinary erythrocyte morphology by phase-contrast microscopy is a simple, noninvasive, inexpensive and reliable method in the diagnosis of glomerular disease.

E-mail: jasminka.kronja@zd.htnet.hr

P9-14

KLIRENSI KREATININA (IZRAČUNATI I PROCIJENJENI) - USPOREDBA REZULTATA

Predovan G., Baljak N., Kronja-Negro J., Valčić A.

Opća bolnica Zadar, Odjel za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Zadar

Određivanje klirensa kreatinina jedna je od rutinskih laboratorijskih pretraga pri obradi osteoporoze. U posljednje vrijeme u našem se laboratoriju znatno povećao broj zahtjeva za tu pretragu. Kako se radi o pretežito starijoj ženskoj populaciji, sakupljanje 24-h mokraće je ponekad velik problem, pa je naša zamisao bila usporediti rezultate izračunatih klirensa s rezultatima pro-

P9-14

CREATININE CLEARANCES (CALCULATED AND ESTIMATED) - RESULT COMPARISON

G. Predovan, N. Baljak, J. Kronja-Negro, Valčić A.

Department of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zadar General Hospital, Zadar

Determination of creatinine clearance is one of the routine laboratory tests in osteoporosis. Recently, the number of requests for this test in our laboratory has considerably increased. Since our catchment population are mainly elderly females, the 24-hour urine collection may present a great problem. Therefore, our idea was to compare the results of calculated clearances with the results of

cijenjenih klirensa uz koje smo računali i indeks tjelesne mase. Pretpostavili smo da bi se u slučaju normalnih vrijednosti kreatinina u serumu i normalne diureze ovi rezultati mogli podudarati, pa bismo mogli predložiti da se u slučajevima kada se klirens traži samo radi obrade za osteoporozu ne skuplja 24-h mokraća. Drugi je cilj bio napraviti obradu naših rezultata za klirens kreatinina prema godinama i spolu, te usporediti dobivene rezultate s vrijednostima po Thomasu. U obradu smo uzele potencijalno zdrave osobe: 121 ženu u dobi od 20-79 godina i 60 muškaraca u dobi od 16-80 godina. Klirens kreatinina smo određivali na uređajima tvrtke Olympus i s njihovim izvornim reagensima. Primijenili smo metodu Jaffe kinetike (kolor test). Naš referentni raspon bio je do 106 $\mu\text{mol/l}$. Rezultati u skupini žena: jako dobro podudaranje u donjim granicama između izračunatog i procijenjenog klirensa, dok su gornje vrijednosti bile više kod izračunatih klirensa. Naši rezultati izračunatih klirensa kreatinina slažu se s rezultatima po Thomasu prema donjoj vrijednosti, dok su gornje vrijednosti bile izrazito više. Rezultati u skupini muškaraca: također dobro podudaranje u donjim vrijednostima, osim za raspon od 30-50 godina (procijenjeni klirensi veći). Gornje vrijednosti bile su više kod izračunatih klirensa. Slabije slaganje s rezultatima po Thomasu; donje vrijednosti bile su više, osim za raspon od 50-59 godina. Gornje vrijednosti bile su visoke. Stoga smatramo da kod potencijalno zdravih osoba procijenjeni klirens može zamijeniti izračunati klirens kreatinina. Iako je pomoću indeksa tjelesne mase potvrđeno da naši ispitanici imaju prekomjernu tjelesnu težinu, podudarnost rezultata nije bila upitna. Na osnovi dobivenih rezultata odrediti ćemo vlastite referentne vrijednosti za klirens kreatinina.

E-mail: Gorana.Predovan@zadar.net

estimated clearances, coupled with body mass index (BMI) calculation. We assumed that, in case of normal creatinine values in serum and normal diuresis, those results might match. This would then allow us to suggest that, in cases when the clearance is only requested for osteoporosis analysis, the 24-hour urine collection may not be necessary at all. The second aim was to analyze the mentioned creatinine clearances according to age and sex, and to compare the results obtained with Thomas values. About 180 potentially healthy subjects were included in the study: 121 women aged 20-79 and 60 men aged 16-80. Creatinine clearance was analyzed on Olympus analyzers using original Olympus reagents. The Jaffe kinetic color test was used, reference range up to 106 $\mu\text{mol/l}$. Women: very good matching at lower limits between the calculated and estimated clearance, whereas calculated clearances showed higher upper limits than estimated clearances. Our results of calculated clearance matched Thomas' lower values, while upper values were significantly higher. Men: good matching also observed for lower values, except for the 30-50 age range (estimated clearances were higher). Upper values were higher in calculated clearances. There was poorer matching with Thomas' results, lower values were slightly higher, except for the 50-59 age range. Upper values were high. We suggest that estimated clearance could replace calculated creatinine clearance in potentially healthy subjects. Although our patients were overweight, the match of results was unquestionable. Based on the results obtained, we will determine our own reference values for creatinine clearance.

E-mail: Gorana.Predovan@zadar.net

P9-15

POREMEĆAJ METABOLIZMA GLUKOZE KOD TERAPIJE ATIPIČNIM ANTIPSIHOTICIMA

Dundović S.¹, Fijačko M.², Pavela J.², Šerić V.², Cetina N.²

¹ Medicinsko biokemijski laboratorij, OŽB Našice, Našice
² Odjel za medicinsku biokemiju, KB Osijek, Osijek

Atipični antipsihotici olanzapin i risperdon rabe se u liječenju shizofrenije kao nova generacija antipsihotika. Unatoč njihovom dobrom terapijskom učinku kod duže primjene ovih lijekova

P9-15

IMPAIRED GLUCOSE METABOLISM ASSOCIATED WITH ATYPICAL ANTIPSYCHOTIC DRUGS

S. Dundović¹, M. Fijačko², J. Pavela², V. Šerić², N. Cetina²

¹ Laboratory of Medical Biochemistry, County General Hospital, Našice, ² Department of Medical Biochemistry, Osijek University Hospital, Osijek

Olanzapine and risperdone are atypical antipsychotic medications used in the treatment of schizophrenia. Treatment with antipsychotic

može doći do poremećaja u metabolizmu glukoze. Ispitivanje je provedeno u skupini bolesnika koji su primali olanzapin (n=17) i risperdon (n=18) te kontrolnoj skupini (n=15). Proveden je OGT test (prema preporuci SZO), te su određene koncentracije glukoze (enzimsko određivanje s heksokinazom, Olympus); inzulina (ELISA, Mercadone); C-peptida (ELISA, Mercadone) u određenim vremenskim razmacima (0, 60, 120, 180 min). U 54% bolesnika utvrđena je oštećena tolerancija glukoze (koncentracija glukoze bila je natašte <6,6 mmol/L, a nakon 120 minuta od 7,7 do 11,0 mmol/L). Oštećena tolerancija glukoze utvrđena je u 59% bolesnika koji su primali olanzapin i u 50% bolesnika koji su primali risperdon. U 97% bolesnika koncentracija inzulina i C-peptida porasla je 4-6 puta nakon opterećenja glukozom. Rezultati ukazuju na to da se kod primjene olanzapina i risperdona u liječenju shizofrenije kao komplikacija može razviti hiperglikemija koja nadalje može dovesti do dijabetične ketoacidoze i dijabetes melitusa. Da bi spriječili ove komplikacije preporuča se raditi probir na dijabetes melitus u određenim vremenskim razmacima.

E-mail: kresimir.dundovic@nasicecement.hr

drugs can be associated with impaired glucose metabolism. Schizophrenic patients treated with olanzapine (n=17) or risperdone (n=19) and 15 healthy control subjects were included in the study. We evaluated OGTT (according to WHO recommendations); glucose concentration was quantified by the hexokinase method (enzymatic UV test, Olympus); insulin and C-peptide concentrations were quantified by ELISA (Mercadone) at specific time intervals (0, 60, 120 and 180 min). Impaired glucose metabolism was confirmed in 54% of patients (fasting plasma glucose <6.6 mmol/L, 2-h OGTT plasma glucose 7.7-11.0 mmol/L). Impaired glucose tolerance was verified in 59% of patients treated with olanzapine and 50% of patients treated with risperdone. In 97% of patients treated with atypical antipsychotics, the concentrations of insulin and C-peptide increased 4- to 6-fold after OGTT. Atypical antipsychotics can produce a number of side effects such as hyperglycemia and glucose intolerance that may potentially lead to the development of diabetic ketoacidosis and diabetes mellitus. We propose that patients taking atypical antipsychotic drugs be screened for diabetes mellitus every few months.

E-mail: kresimir.dundovic@nasicecement.hr

P9-16

KVALITATIVNA ANALIZA AMINOKISELINA NEKIH SVOJTA RODA *HYPERICUM* TANKOSLOJNOM KROMATOGRAFIJOM

Maleš Ž.¹, Bilušić-Vundać V.¹, Plazibat M.²,
Hazler-Pilepić K.¹, Kos N.¹

¹ Zavod za farmaceutsku botaniku Farmaceutsko-biokemijskog fakulteta, ² Botanički zavod Prirodoslovno-matematičkog fakulteta Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb

Hypericum (H.) L. - pljuskavica, biljni je rod iz porodice *Hypericaceae* zastupljen u hrvatskoj flori s manje od dvadeset svojta od kojih su u ovom radu istraživane slijedeće: *H. hirsutum L.*, *H. montanum L.* i *H. perforatum L.* *H. hirsutum* - čupavodlakava pljuskavica je trajnica do 100 cm visoka, cijela gusto obrasla kratkim dlakama. U Hrvatskoj raste na bazičnim, svježim tlima od brdskih do pretplaninskih položaja. *H. montanum* - gorska pljuskavica je rijetko dlakava trajnica, nešto niža od prethodne, a nalazimo ju na sličnim staništima. *H. perforatum* - rupičasta pljuskavica je trajnica s podankom koja naraste do 90 cm visine. Na širokom prostoru areala vrste opisane su razne podvrste, varijacije i forme

P9-16

QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS OF AMINO ACIDS IN SOME TAXA OF THE GENUS *HYPERICUM* BY THIN-LAYER CHROMATOGRAPHY

Ž. Maleš¹, V. Bilušić-Vundać¹, M. Plazibat², K. Hazler-Pilepić¹, N. Kos¹

¹ Department of Pharmaceutical Botany, School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, ² Institute of Botany, School of Science, University of Zagreb, Zagreb

Hypericum L. - St. John's wort, is a genus belonging to the family *Hypericaceae*, which comprises less than twenty taxa in the Croatian flora, of which the following were investigated: *H. hirsutum L.*, *H. montanum L.* and *H. perforatum L.* *H. hirsutum* - hairy St. John's wort is an erect, pubescent perennial up to 100 cm high. In Croatia it grows on basic, fresh soils from the mountainous to the subalpine zone. *H. montanum* - mountain St. John's wort is an erect, slightly pubescent perennial, somewhat shorter than the previous one, which occurs on similar habitats. *H. perforatum* - common or perforate St. John's wort is an erect, glabrous rhizomatous perennial up to 90 cm high. Throughout the large

od kojih u Hrvatskoj rastu: *H. perforatum* subsp. *angustifolium* (DC) Gaudin (uskolisna rupičasta pljuskavica), *H. perforatum* L. subsp. *perforatum* (širokolisna rupičasta pljuskavica) i *H. perforatum* subsp. *veronense* (Schrank) Fröhlich (sitnolisna rupičasta pljuskavica). Rupičasta pljuskavica dolazi na različitim staništima, od morske razine do pretplaninskog područja, s tim da je tipična podvrsta češća u kontinentalnim krajevima, a ostale dvije u primorskom dijelu Hrvatske. Nadzemni dijelovi širokolisne rupičaste pljuskavice sadrže čitav niz biološki aktivnih sastavnica: flavonoide, procijanidine, hipericine, eterično ulje i trijeslovine. Ljekovitosti vrsta roda *Hypericum*, a poglavito vrste *H. perforatum*, pridaje se veliko značenje, osobito kao biljnom anti-depresivu. Cilj ovoga rada bio je utvrditi prisutnost aminokiselina u nadzemnim dijelovima čupavodlakave (*H. hirsutum*), gorske (*H. montanum*) i triju podvrsta rupičaste pljuskavice (*H. perforatum*) skupljenim u različitim područjima Hrvatske. Tankoslojna kromatografija istraživanih uzoraka provedena je na celulozi F, u dvjema smjesama otapala: n-butanol-aceton-ledena octena kiselina-voda (35:35:10:20 V/V/V/V) i n-butanol-ledena octena kiselina-voda (40:10:10 V/V/V). Otkrivanje odijeljenih aminokiselina provedeno je nakon prskanja kromatograma reagensom ninhidrin. Nadzemni dijelovi istraživanih svojta sadržavali su slijedeće aminokiseline: leucin, izoleucin, fenilalanin, valin, triptofan, metionin, gama-aminomaslačnu kiselinu, tirozin, prolin, alanin, treonin, glicin, serin, arginin, histidin i ornitin. Aminokiselinski sastav je ovisio o biljnoj svojti i nalazištu.

E-mail: vjerab_2000@yahoo.com

geographical range of distribution a number of subspecies, varieties and forms have been recognized, the following occurring in Croatia: H. perforatum subsp. angustifolium (DC) Gaudin, H. perforatum L. subsp. perforatum and H. perforatum subsp. veronense (Schrank) Fröhlich. Perforate St. John's wort grows across different habitats from the sea level to the subalpine belt, but in Croatia the typical subspecies is more frequent in the inland, and the others in the littoral areas of the country. Chemical studies of the aerial parts of H. perforatum subsp. perforatum indicated a number of biologically active substances: flavonoids, procyanidins, hypericins, essential oil and tannins. This plant is widely used in Europe for its antidepressive effects as an alternative to medical synthetic drugs. This study investigated the presence of amino acids in the aerial parts of H. hirsutum, H. montanum and three subspecies of H. perforatum collected at different localities in Croatia. Thin-layer chromatography of the investigated samples was performed on cellulose F using two solvent systems: n-butanol-acetone-glacial acetic acid-water (35:35:10:20 V/V/V/V) and n-butanol-glacial acetic acid-water (40:10:10 V/V/V). Detection of separated amino acids was carried out by the ninhydrin reagent. The aerial parts of the investigated species contained the following amino acids: leucine, isoleucine, phenylalanine, valine, tryptophan, methionine, gamma-aminobutyric acid, tyrosine, proline, alanine, threonine, glycine, serine, arginine, histidine and ornithine. The composition of amino acids was dependent on the investigated taxa and locality.

E-mail: vjerab_2000@yahoo.com

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CMVpp65 ANTIGENEMIJA U ODNOSU NA SEROLOŠKI CMV STATUS PRIMATELJA TRANSPLANTATA BUBREGA

Aralica M.¹, Orlić P.², Dvornik Š.¹

¹ Zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, ² Interna klinika, Klinički bolnički centar "Rijeka", Rijeka

Infekcija CMV (citomegalovirusom) najčešća je infekcija koja se javlja u prvim mjesecima nakon transplantacije organa. CMV status primatelja ima značajnu ulogu u njejoj pojavnosti. Naša retrospektivna studija imala je za cilj utvrditi povezanost između serološkog CMV statusa primatelja i pozitivnog testa antigenemije CMVpp65 u prva tri tjedna nakon transplantaci-

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CMVpp65 ANTIGENEMIA ASSAY AND CMV SEROLOGY IN KIDNEY TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS

M. Aralica¹, P. Orlić², Š. Dvornik¹

¹ Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, ² University Department of Medicine, Rijeka University Hospital Center, Rijeka

Cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection is the most common infection in the first months after organ transplantation. CMV status of the donor and recipient is an important factor in the incidence of infection. This retrospective study was undertaken to determine the relationship between CMV recipient serology and positive result of CMVpp65 antigenemia assay (CMVpp65) in the first three

je bubrega. Prijeoperacijski CMV status primatelja utvrđen je određivanjem CMV IgG i IgM MEIA i imunoturbidimetrijskom metodom. Imunocitokemijski test antigenemija CMVpp65 (CMVpp65) izvodili smo jedanput na tjedan poslijeoperacijski kroz prva tri tjedna. CMVpp65 je pozitivan ako se u sedimentu leukocita izoliranih iz krvi (2,0 G/L) nađe jedna pozitivna stanica. Od ukupno 11 bolesnika 9 ih je bilo CMV IgG+/IgM-, a samo 2 su bila CMV IgG+/IgM+. U skupini IgG+/IgM- bolesnika 15 rezultata na CMVpp65 je bilo pozitivno, a 12 negativno. U prvom tjednu pozitivna su bila 4 bolesnika (jedan je imao >100 pozitivnih stanica na 2,0 G/L), u drugom također, s najviše 4 pozitivne stanice u pripravku, dok je u zadnjem tjednu bilo 6 pozitivnih bolesnika s najviše 2 pozitivne stanice na 2,0 G/L. Zaključeno je kako je test antigenemije CMVpp65 koristan u ranom otkrivanju infekcije CMV kod bolesnika s transplantiranim bubregom. Treba ga rabiti i za praćenje tijeka CMV infekcije u prvim tjednima nakon transplantacije neovisno o serološkom statusu bolesnika.

E-mail: merica.aralica@ri.htnet.hr

weeks after kidney transplantation. CMV serology of recipients was preoperatively performed for IgG and IgM by MEIA and immunoturbidimetric assay. We performed immunocytochemical CMVpp65 once a week in the first three weeks postoperatively. Even one antigen positive leukocyte in a cell spin preparation (CSP) with 2.0 G/L leukocytes confirms positive test result. Eleven patients, mean age 46.6±11.2 (M:F=5:6) were followed up. Immunosuppression included antilymphocyte antibody as induction therapy and mycophenolate mofetil, cyclosporine and prednisolone. Nine of the 11 patients had IgG+/IgM-CMV serology and only 2 patients had IgG+/IgM+. In IgG+/IgM- combination CMVpp65 were positive in 15 and negative in 12 cases. In the first week of testing we observed 4 positive cases (one of them had >100 antigen positive leukocytes in CSP), the same were found in the second week of testing but this time the maximal number of positive leukocytes was 4. In the last week of testing 6 cases were positive but the maximal number of positive leukocyte was 2. In the IgG+/IgM+ combination, one of two patients had 75 antigen positive leukocytes in CSP in the first week of testing, the number of positive cells was 10 in the second week, to finally become negative at the end of the study period. Accordingly, CMVpp65 was found to be useful in the early detection of CMV infection in the first weeks after transplantation, irrespective of the recipient's CMV serology.

E-mail: merica.aralica@ri.htnet.hr

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RASPODJELA PREOSJETLJIVOSTI NA ARTROPODE KOD STANOVNIŠTVA ZAGREBAČKE ŽUPANIJE

Cigula-Kurajica V., Popović-Grle S., Zovko V., Buneta L.

Medicinsko-biokemijski laboratorij, Klinika za plućne bolesti "Jordanovac", Zagreb,

Glavni alergenski sastojci kućne prašine nastali su od artropoda. Najvažniji izvor alergena u kućnoj prašini su kućne grinje, poput *Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus* i *Dermatophagoides farinae*. Drugi važan inhalacijski alergen u kućnoj prašini, iako manje raširen, jest žohar, *Blatella germanica*. Alergijski rinitis najuobičajeniji je oblik preosjetljivosti na inhalacijske alergene i lokaliziran je u mukozi nosa i konjunktivi, dok je alergijska astma lokalizirana u bronhima. U raz-

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DISTRIBUTION OF HYPERSENSITIVITY TO ARTHROPODS IN THE ZAGREB COUNTY POPULATION

V. Cigula-Kurajica, S. Popović-Grle, V. Zovko, L. Buneta

Laboratory of Medical Biochemistry, Jordanovac University Hospital for Lung Diseases, Zagreb

*The principal allergenic components of house dust are of arthropod origin. The most important house dust allergenic source are house dust mites, such as *Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus* and *Dermatophagoides farinae*. The other important aeroallergen in house dust, although less spread, is cockroach, *Blatella germanica*. Allergic rhinitis is the most common form of hypersensitivity to inhalatory allergens. It is localized at nasal mucosa and conjunctiva, whereas allergic asthma is*

doblju od 1. veljače 2002. do 1. lipnja 2003. proučavana je senzibilizacija bolesnika s respiracijskim alergijama na inhalacijske alergene zatvorenih prostora: *Blatella germanica*, *Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus* i *Dermatophagoides farinae*. Analizirani su podaci 55 bolesnika obrađenih u ambulanti ili na 2. bolničkom odjelu. Postavljene dijagnoze bile su rinitis, astma, te rinitis i astma, dok je manji broj bolesnika imao druge dijagnoze. Specifična IgE protutijela određivana su u serumu dobivenom iz venske krvi. Mjerenja su provedena po metodi FEIA na uređaju UniCAP 100E (Pharmacia, Švedska). Cilj studije bilo je istraživanje raspodjele preosjetljivosti na artropode: *Blatella germanica*, *Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus* i *Dermatophagoides farinae* kod stanovništva s respiracijskim alergijskim poremećajima na području Zagrebačke županije. U skupini od 55 testiranih osoba s dijagnozama rinitisa (11%), astme (36%), rinitisa i astme (36%), odnosno ukupno s astmom (72%) samo je 7/55 bolesnika imalo reakciju na alergen *Blatella germanica* (klasa 1-3). Istodobno su 22 ispitanika pokazala preosjetljivost na *Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus*, a 23 na *Dermatophagoides farinae*. Kod svih 7 ispitanika s uočnom senzibilizacijom na *Blatella germanica* (vrijednosti između 0,36 i 17,0 kUA/l - klasa 1-3) bila je povišena i vrijednost specifičnih IgE protutijela na *Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus* i *Dermatophagoides farinae* (vrijednosti između 0,36 i 100 kUA/l - klasa 1-6) uz izrazito povišen ukupni IgE. Rezultati istraživanja pokazuju da u populaciji bolesnika s alergijama dišnog sustava postoji podjednaka preosjetljivost na *Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus* i *Dermatophagoides farinae*. Preosjetljivost na *Blatella germanica* manje je izražena, čemu je vjerojatan razlog manja izloženost ovom alergenu.

E-mail: stankok@fkit.hr

an allergy manifestation localized in the bronchi. During the period from February 1, 2002 till June 1, 2003, the sensitization of patients with respiratory allergies to house aeroallergens Blatella germanica, Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus and Dermatophagoides farinae was studied. The data collected from 55 patients treated as outpatients or inpatients were analyzed. The patients had the diagnoses of rhinitis, asthma or both, whereas other diagnoses were recorded in a few cases. Specific IgE antibodies were determined in serum obtained from venous blood. The measurements were performed by the FEIA method on an UniCAP 100E device (Pharmacia, Sweden). The aim of this study was to assess the distribution of hypersensitivity to the arthropods Blatella germanica, Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus and Dermatophagoides farinae in patients with respiratory allergic disorders living in the Zagreb county. In the group of 55 study patients with the diagnoses of rhinitis (11%), asthma (36%), rhinitis and asthma (36%), i.e. total asthma (72%), only 7/55 patients showed reaction to the Blatella germanica allergen (class 1 to 3). At the same time, 22 patients were hypersensitive to Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus and 23 patients to Dermatophagoides farinae. All 7 patients with hypersensitivity to Blatella germanica (range 0.36-17.0 kUA/l - class 1-3) showed increased values of specific IgE to Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus and Dermatophagoides farinae (range 0.36-100 kUA/l - class 1-6) with a marked increase in total IgE. Study results showed the patients with respiratory allergies to be comparably sensitive to Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus and Dermatophagoides farinae. The hypersensitivity to Blatella germanica appears to be less pronounced, probably due to lower exposure.

E-mail: stankok@fkit.hr

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ODREĐIVANJE IgE U SERUMU DJECE S ASTMOM I POLENOZOM

Dodig S., Brajković M., Živčić J., Raos M., Kovač K., Nogalo B.

Specijalna bolnica za bolesti dišnog sustava djece i mladeži, Zagreb

U dijagnostici alergijskih bolesti se uz *in vitro* postupke primjenjuje i određivanje serumske koncentracije ukupnih i specifičnih IgE. Cilj studije bio je odrediti koncentraciju ukupnih i speci-

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SERUM IgE IN CHILDREN WITH ASTHMA AND POLLINOSIS

S. Dodig, M. Brajković, J. Živčić, M. Raos, K. Kovač, B. Nogalo

Special Hospital for Respiratory Diseases in Children and Adolescents, Zagreb

Besides *in vitro* tests, determination of total and allergen-specific IgE in serum concentrations is used in the diagnosis of allergic diseases. The aim of the study was to determine the possible

fičnih IgE u serumu djece s astmom i polenozom, te utvrditi postoji li razlika u koncentraciji IgE u serumu djece s monosenzibilizacijom odnosno polisenzibilizacijom na inhalacijske alergene. U astmatičara s polisenzibilizacijom koncentracija ukupnoga IgE bila je veća nego u djece s monosenzibilizacijom. Pokretač astme je alergen grinje iz kućne prašine, *Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus* (Der p). Koncentracija specifičnih IgE veća je na alergen grinje, Der p, od koncentracije specifičnih IgE na alergene peluda. U djece s polenozom sezona peludacije utječe na koncentraciju ukupnih i specifičnih IgE. Preosjetljivost na višestruke alergene podrazumijeva i veće koncentracije IgE u serumu. U djece s polenozom treba imati u vidu vrijeme uzimanja krvi, budući da je u vrijeme peludacije veća koncentracija alergena u zraku, pa time i veći alergenski poticaj organizma na sintezu specifičnih IgE.

E-mail: slavica.dodig@zg.htnet.hr

*difference between total and specific IgE in serum concentration in children with monosensitization or polysensitization to inhalant allergens. The concentration of total serum IgE was greater in asthmatic children with polysensitization. The trigger for asthma was house dust mite, *Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus* (Der p). The concentration of specific IgE to Der p was greater than the concentration of specific IgE to pollen allergens. Pollination season was found to influence total and specific IgE concentration in children with pollinosis. Thus, children with hypersensitivity to multiple allergens will have higher serum concentration of IgE than children with monosensitization, as pollination (more allergens in the air) implies greater stimulation of the body for specific IgE synthesis.*

E-mail: slavica.dodig@zg.htnet.hr

P9-20

UČINAK DEKSAMETAZONA, AZITROMICINA I KLARITROMICINA NA KONCENTRACIJU SERUMSKOG AMILOID A PROTEINA U EKSPERIMENTALNOM MODELU UPALE NA BALB/C MIŠEVIMA

Glojnarčić I., Eraković V., Parnham M.J.

Pliva, Istraživački institut, Zagreb

Serumski amiloid A (SAA) je protein akutne faze koji se sintetizira u jetri pod utjecajem citokina. Cilj studije bio je ispitati učinak makrolidnih antibiotika azitromicina i klaritromicina na koncentraciju SAA tijekom akutne upale, te ga usporediti s učinkom deksametazona. U ženki miševa soja BALB/c izazvana je upala supkutanim injiciranjem 2% otopine srebrnog nitrata. Deksametazon je injiciran intraperitonealno u dozama od 5, 10, 20 i 30 mg/kg, 1 sat nakon srebrnog nitrata. Makrolidi (20, 40 i 80 mg/kg) su aplicirani oralno u 0,5% karboksimetil celulozi svakih 12 sati (klaritromicin) ili jednom na dan tijekom 3 dana (azitromicin), počevši 1 sat ili 24 sata prije injiciranja srebrnog nitrata. Koncentracije SAA (ELISA, Tridelta, Irska) u serumu određivane su prije početka pokusa, te 6, 12, 24, 48 i 72 sata nakon injekcije srebrnog nitrata. Srednja vrijednost koncentracija SAA (maksimum 24 h nakon srebrnog nitrata) bila je statistički značajno niža ($p < 0,05$) nakon primjene deksametazona (kod svih doza u usporedbi s ota-

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INHIBITION OF SERUM AMYLOID A PROTEIN RELEASE BY DEXAMETHASONE, AZITHROMYCIN AND CLARITHROMYCIN DURING EXPERIMENTAL INFLAMMATION IN BALB/c MICE

I. Glojnarčić, V. Eraković, M.J. Parnham

Pliva, Research Division, Zagreb

SAA, an acute phase protein, is produced primarily by the liver in response to cytokines. We tested the macrolide antibiotics azithromycin and clarithromycin versus dexamethasone for their capacity to inhibit SAA release in response to an inflammatory agent. A sterile inflammation was induced in female BALB/c mice with 2% silver nitrate, s.c. Dexamethasone, 5, 10, 20 or 30 mg/kg, was given i.p. 1 h later. Macrolides (20, 40 or 80 mg/kg) were given orally in 0.5% carboxymethylcellulose, every 12 h (clarithromycin) or once daily for 3 days (azithromycin), starting 1 or 24 h before silver nitrate injection. SAA levels (ELISA, Tridelta, Ireland) in blood were assayed before, 6, 12, 24, 48 and 72 h after silver nitrate injection (baseline). Mean SAA levels (max. 24 h) were significantly inhibited ($p < 0.05$) by dexamethasone at 24 h (all doses vs. vehicle) and 48 h (5 mg/kg) after baseline; by clarithromycin at 24 h (80 mg/kg vs. vehicle) and 48 h (40 and 80 mg/kg) after baseline; and by azithromycin at 12 h

palom) te nakon 48 sati u dozi od 5 mg/kg. Primjenom klaritromicina dobivene su značajno niže srednje vrijednosti SAA od vrijednosti primjenom otapala i to 24 sata (doza od 80 mg/kg) i 48 sati (doze od 40 i 80 mg/kg) nakon injekcije srebrnog nitrata. Primjenom azitromicina izmjerene su značajno niže srednje koncentracije SAA u odnosu na otapalo i to 12 sati nakon injekcije srebrnog nitrata za doze 20 i 40 mg/kg. Zaključujemo da je SAA pogodan biokemijski biljeg za *in vivo* testiranje spojeva s potencijalnom protuupalnom aktivnošću.

E-mail: ines.glojnaric@pliva.hr

(20 and 40 mg/kg vs. vehicle) after baseline. In conclusion, SAA seems to be a valuable marker for the *in vivo* testing of compounds with potential anti-inflammatory activity.

E-mail: ines.glojnaric@pliva.hr

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ANALIZA AKTIVNOSTI LEKTINA KOJI VEŽE MANOZU U HUMANOM SERUMU

Šupraha-Goreta S., Flögel M., Lauc G.

Farmaceutsko-biokemijski fakultet, Zavod za biokemiju i molekularnu biologiju, Zagreb

S ciljem poboljšanja metoda za određivanje lektinske aktivnosti u kompleksnom biološkom uzorku, posljednjih nekoliko godina u našem laboratoriju razvijamo novu tehniku nazvanu glikoprobama (Glycobiology 10:357, 2000). Glikoprobe se sastoje od oligosaharidnog liganda, fotoreaktivnog umreživača i digoksinskog kraja koji omogućuje direktnu analizu lektinske aktivnosti u kompleksnim biološkim uzorcima. Lektin koji veže manozu (MBL) je lektin tipa C s tipičnom topljivom kolektinskom strukturom. Djeluje kao molekula koja prepoznaje i može vezati različite šećerne strukture na površinama mikroorganizama. Njegova sposobnost aktiviranja komplementa čini ga ključnom komponentom u prvoj crti obrane, kao i u nekim patološkim procesima. Kako bi se mogla analizirati aktivnost MBL u humanom serumu sintetizirali smo specifičnu glikoprobnu koja sadrži Manosa9-N-Acetilgalaktosamin2 (Man9) glikan kao ligand. Rabeći Man9-glikoprobnu izmjerili smo aktivnost MBL u 30 uzoraka seruma osoba oboljelih od reumatoidnog artritisa i 25 uzoraka seruma zdravih kontrola. Važno je napomenuti da je ovo prvi primjer otkrivanja lektinske aktivnosti, a ne samo ukupne količine MBL lektina. Pronađena je vrlo velika biološka varijabilnost MBL aktivnosti u obje proučavane skupine, no nije pronađena značajnija statistička razlika između skupina. Ovaj rezultat ne podupire hipotezu da vezanje MBL na degalaktosilirane oligosaharide na IgG doprinosi patologiji reumatoidnog artritisa.

E-mail: sandras@pharma.hr

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ANALYSIS OF MANNOSE BINDING LECTIN ACTIVITY IN HUMAN SERA

S. Šupraha-Goreta, M. Flögel, G. Lauc

Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, Zagreb

Aiming to improve the tools for lectin analysis, we have recently developed a new class of complex neoglycoconjugates named Glycoprobes (Glycobiology 10:357, 2000). Glycoprobes consist of an oligosaccharide ligand, photoreactive cross-linker and a digoxin tag, and enable direct analysis of lectin activity in complex biological samples. Mannose-binding lectin (MBL) is a C-type lectin with a typical soluble collectin structure. It functions as a pattern recognition molecule that binds repeating sugar arrays on many microbial surfaces. Its ability to activate complement response makes it an important player in the first line of defense, as well as in some pathological processes. To be able to analyze MBL activity in human serum we synthesized a specific glycoprobe containing mannose9-N-acetylgalactosamine2 (Man9) glycan as a ligand. Using Man9-glycoprobe we assayed MBL activity in 30 sera of patients with rheumatoid arthritis and 25 sera of matching healthy controls. It is important to note that this was the first example where activity, and not the simple presence of MBL protein was assayed. Very large biological variability of MBL activity was found to exist in both study groups, while there appeared to be no significant difference between the groups. This result does not support the hypothesis that binding of MBL to degalactosylated oligosaccharides on IgG contributes to the pathology of rheumatoid arthritis.

E-mail: sandras@pharma.hr

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**PRAĆENJE LIJEČENJA AFEKTIVNIH
POREMEĆAJA LITIJEM**Samošćanec K.¹, Papić-Futač D.¹, Topić E.¹, Potkonjak J.², Thaller V.²¹ Klinički zavod za kemiju, ² Klinika za psihijatriju i
Klinička bolnica "Sestre milosrdnice", Zagreb

Litij poznat kao 'stabilizator raspoloženja' pokazao se lijekom izbora u prevenciji i liječenju bolesnika s bipolarnim poremećajem. Kontinuirana kontrola serumske razine litija je neophodna zbog njegove uske terapijske širine (0,5-1,2 mmol/l) i značajnih nuspojava u terapijskom području. Na Klinici za psihijatriju KB "Sestre milosrdnice" u dvogodišnjem razdoblju liječeno je litijem 190 bolesnika (110 žena i 80 muškaraca) i to dozama od 300, 600 i 900 mg na dan. Koncentracija litija mjerena je natašte kolorimetrijskom metodom koja se temelji na vezanju litija iz uzorka s azo bojom 6-dodecil-6-(2'-hidro-ksi-5'-(2'-4'-dinitrofenilazo) benzil-13,13-dimetil-1,4,6,11-tetraoksaciklotetradekanom (Vitros Li slides, Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, a Johnson-Johnson company, analizator Kodak Ektachem 250). U žena koje su primale 300 mg litija (n=13) srednja serumska razina bila je 0,28 (0,20-0,59) mmol/l, uz dozu od 600 mg (n=45) bila je 0,58 (0,25-1,17) mmol/l, a uz dozu od 900 mg (n=52) 0,68 (0,24-1,17) mmol/l. U muškaraca niti jedan bolesnik nije primao dozu od 300 mg, dok je uz dozu od 600 mg (n=32) srednja serumska razina lijeka iznosila 0,51 (0,25-0,99) mmol/l, a uz dozu od 900 mg (n=46) bila je 0,64 (0,2-1,48) mmol/l. Dvoje bolesnika nije uzimalo terapiju. Kao što se vidi, vrlo je velika raspršenost serumskih koncentracija, što potvrđuje preporuku kontinuiranog praćenja koliko zbog značajnih nuspojava u terapijskom rasponu, toliko radi kontrole redovitog uzimanja terapije.

E-mail: ksenijasam@hotmail.com

P9-22

**THERAPEUTIC MONITORING OF
LITHIUM IN THE TREATMENT OF
AFFECTIVE DISORDERS**K. Samošćanec¹, D. Papić-Futač¹, E. Topić¹, J. Potkonjak², V. Thaller²¹ Clinical Institute of Chemistry, ² University Department of
Psychiatry and Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital,
Zagreb

Lithium known as a mood stabilizer has shown to be therapy of choice in the prevention and treatment of patients with bipolar disorder. Continuous monitoring of lithium level in serum is needed for its narrow therapeutic range (0.5-1.2 mmol/l) and serious side effects associated with therapeutic range. During a two-year period, 190 patients (110 F and 80 M) were treated at the University Department of Psychiatry, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, with daily lithium doses of 300, 600 or 900 mg. Fasting lithium concentration was measured by the colorimetric method based on sample lithium binding to the azo dye 6-dodecyl-6-(2'-hydroxy-5'-(2'-4'-dinitrophenylazo) benzyl-13.13-dimethyl-1,4,6,11-tetraoxacyclotetradecane (Vitros Li slides, Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, a Johnson-Johnson company, Kodak Ektachem 250 analyzer). In female patients receiving 300 mg of lithium (n=13), the mean serum level of lithium was 0.28 (0.20-0.59) mmol/l, in those on 600 mg (n=45) it was 0.58 (0.25-1.17) mmol/l, and in those on 900 mg (n=52) it was 0.68 (0.24-1.17) mmol/l. In the group of male patients, none of the patients received the dose of 300 mg of lithium, whereas in those receiving 600 mg (n=32) the mean serum level of lithium was 0.51 (0.25-0.99) mmol/l, and in those on 900 mg (n=46) it was 0.64 (0.2-1.48) mmol/l. Two patients did not take their therapy at all. Accordingly, serum concentrations of lithium show great dispersion, thus supporting the recommendation for continuous therapeutic monitoring for both major side effects associated with lithium therapeutic range and as a control of patient's compliance with the therapeutic regimen prescribed.

E-mail: ksenijasam@hotmail.com

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**ANIONI PROCIJEP I
HIPOALBUMINEMIJA U BOLESNIKA
JEDINICE INTENZIVNOG LIJEČENJA**

Pavić M., Milevoj L., Hreljac M., Bronić A.

Klinika za traumatologiju, Zagreb

Anionski procijep (*anion gap*, AG) definira se kao razlika koncentracija neizmjenjenih aniona i neizmjenjenih kationa u serumu. AG je izračunat pomoću slijedećeg izraza: $[Na+K] - [Cl + HCO_3]$. Kod fiziološkog pH svi su serumski proteini prisutni u anionskom obliku, te uravnotežuju udio natrijevog pozitivnog naboja. Albumin je serumski protein prisutan u najvećoj koncentraciji, sadrži relativno veliku gustoću naboja te se pokazalo da mu je udio u fiziološkom AG oko 75%. Cilj ispitivanja bio je procijeniti odnos hipoalbuminemije i vrijednosti AG, te istražiti korelaciju između razine hipoalbuminemije i AG u bolesnika jedinice intenzivnog liječenja. Određivali smo koncentracije elektrolita i albumina u serumu u skupini od 58 bolesnika jedinice intenzivnog liječenja i 21 zdravog davatelja (ukupno 555 mjerenja). U uzorcima smo određivali natrij, kalij i kloride indirektnom ISE tehnikom na analizatoru Dimension ES. Koncentracije albumina određivali smo metodom bromkrezol zelenila na sustavu Kodak Ektachem DT II. Uzorci kapilarne krvi analizirani su pomoću acidobaznog analizatora IL1306. AG smo izračunali na temelju gore navedenog matematičkog izraza. U skupini zdravih davatelja srednja vrijednost AG bila je 16 mmol/L, a srednja vrijednost koncentracije albumina 43 g/L. Izrazita hipoalbuminemija (srednja vrijednost 26 g/L) bila je znakovita za skupinu bolesnika i oni su pokazali statistički značajno niži AG (srednja vrijednost 8 mmol/L) u odnosu na kontrolnu skupinu ispitanika. Naši su rezultati potvrdili kako bolesnici s hipoalbuminemijom imaju statistički značajno niže vrijednosti AG u odnosu na kontrolnu skupinu, iako nije nađena korelacija između pojedinačnih koncentracija albumina i sniženog AG u bolesnika jedinice intenzivnog liječenja ($r=0,26$, $p<0,05$).

E-mail: trauma-zg@zg.htnet.hr

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**ANION GAP AND HYPOALBUMINEMIA IN
CRITICALLY ILL PATIENTS**

M. Pavić, L. Milevoj, M. Hreljac, A. Bronić

University Hospital of Traumatology, Zagreb

Anion gap (AG) is defined as the difference between the concentration of unmeasured anions and unmeasured cations in serum. AG was calculated as $[Na+K] - [Cl + HCO_3]$. At normal pH all serum proteins are anions and thereby counterbalance the portion of sodium positive charge. Albumin, the most abundant serum protein, contains a relatively high charge density and consequently has been shown to be responsible for approximately 75% of the normal AG. The aim of the study was to assess the relationship between hypoalbuminemia and AG, and to correlate the degree of hypoalbuminemia with the value of AG in critically ill patients. Serum electrolyte and albumin concentrations were determined in a group of 58 critically ill patients and 21 healthy volunteers (a total of 555 measurements). Samples were analyzed for sodium, potassium and chloride by the indirect ISE method on a Dimension ES. Albumin concentration was estimated by the bromocresol green method on a Kodak Ektachem DT II System. Capillary blood samples were analyzed on an IL1306 blood gas analyzer. AG was calculated using the above equation. Study results showed the mean value of AG to be 16 mmol/L and mean albumin 43 g/L in the control group of healthy donors. Marked hypoalbuminemia (mean 26 g/L) was common in critically ill patients and they had a significantly lower AG (mean 8 mmol/L) compared to the control group. Study results confirmed the group of patients with hypoalbuminemia to have a lower AG than control subjects, although there was no significant correlation between individual albumin concentrations and decreased AG in the critically ill patients ($r=0.26$, $p<0.05$).

E-mail: trauma-zg@zg.htnet.hr

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**DIJAGNOSTIČKA VRIJEDNOST
MIJELOPEROKSIDAZA
ANTINEUTROFILNIH
CITOPLAZMATSKIH PROTUTIJELA U
DIJAGNOZI BRZO PROGRESIVNOG
GLOMERULONEFRITISA**

Fijačko M., Pavela J., Cetina N.

Klinička bolnica Osijek, Osijek

Mijeloperoksidaza antineutrofilna citoplazmatska protutijela (MPO-ANCA) važan su dodatak serološkom probiru bolesnika s brzo progresivnim glomerulonefritsom (BPGN). Mada se MPO-ANCA nalazi marginalno dodaju dijagnozi pauci-immuno bubrežnog vaskulitisa, koja se temelji na biopsiji bubrega, oni mogu navesti na ranu dijagnozu. MPO-ANCA nalazi sugeriraju dijagnozu u većine bolesnika s idiopatskim (*pauci-immune*) BPGN i bubrežnim vaskulitisom, i podupiru dijagnozu u bolesnika s visokim vrijednostima MPO-ANCA. Ovaj je podatak važan stoga što u ovih bolesnika naglo propada funkcija bubrega, a reagiraju na ranu terapiju. Prikazujemo troje bolesnika koji su zaprimljeni s kliničkim i laboratorijskim nalazima BPGN.

E-mail: fjacko.mirjana@kbo.hr

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**DIAGNOSTIC VALUE OF
MYELOPEROXIDASE ANTINEUTROPHIL
CYTOPLASMIC ANTIBODY TESTING IN
THE DIAGNOSIS OF RAPIDLY
PROGRESSIVE GLOMERULONEPHRITIS**

M. Fijačko, J. Pavela, N. Cetina

Osijek University Hospital, Osijek

Myeloperoxidase antineutrophil cytoplasmic antibody (MPO-ANCA) tests are an important adjunct to serologic screening of patients with rapidly progressive glomerulonephritis (RPGN). Although MPO-ANCA results add marginally to the diagnosis of pauci-immune renal vasculitis made on the basis of information from renal biopsy, they may lead to an early diagnosis. MPO-ANCA results may suggest the diagnosis in most patients with idiopathic (pauci-immune) RPGN and renal vasculitis, and strongly support the diagnosis in patients with high MPO-ANCA levels. This information is important because these patients experience rapid deterioration of renal function but will respond to early therapy. We report on three patients who presented with the clinical and laboratory findings of RPGN.

E-mail: fjacko.mirjana@kbo.hr

P9-25

**UTJECAJ SPOLA, DOBI I TERAPIJE
ORALNIM ANTIKOAGULANSIMA NA
RAZINU ANTIGENA SLOBODNOG
PROTEINA S**

Radić M.¹, Coen D.², Leniček-Krleža J.³, Zadro R.²

¹ Farmaceutsko-biokemijski fakultet, ² Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, ³ Klinika za dječje bolesti, KBC "Zagreb", Zagreb

Protein S (PS) je o vitaminu K ovisan glikoprotein koji se nalazi u plazmi u dva oblika: 40% je slobodni protein S, a 60% je vezano na C4b-vezivni protein. Samo slobodni protein S je funkcionalno aktivan i sudjeluje kao kofaktor aktiviranog proteina C u reakciji inaktiviranja aktiviranih faktora zgrušavanja V. i VIII. Određivanje koncentracije antigena slobodnog PS (PS:Ag) ključno je za dijagnozu nasljednog nedostatka PS, koji je rizični čimbenik za nastanak venske tromboze. Uz to, na razinu slobodnog PS:Ag utječu mnogobrojni fiziološki i patološki čimbenici, između ostalog i terapija oralnim antiokoagulansima (OAT). Cilj studije bio je utvrditi

P9-25

**IMPACT OF SEX, AGE AND ORAL
ANTICOAGULANT THERAPY ON THE
FREE PROTEIN S LEVEL**

M. Radić¹, D. Coen², J. Leniček-Krleža³, R. Zadro²

¹ School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, ² Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, ³ University Department of Pediatrics, Zagreb University Hospital Center, Zagreb

Protein S (PS) is a vitamin K-dependent glycoprotein that circulates in plasma in two forms: 40% in a free form and 60% conjugated to the C4b-binding protein. Only free PS is functionally active as a cofactor of activated protein C in the inactivation of coagulation factors Va and VIIIa. Quantitative determination of free PS antigen (PS:Ag) is essential for the diagnosis of PS deficiency that is a well-established risk factor for venous thrombosis. However, free PS:Ag levels are affected by various physiologic and pathologic factors including oral anticoagulant therapy (OAT). The aim of the study was to determine the effects of sex, age and OAT on the level of free PS:Ag. Free PS:Ag was measured by using in-

postoji li utjecaj spola, dobi i stupnja OAT na razinu slobodnog PS:Ag. Koncentracija slobodnog PS:Ag određena je vlastitom enzimimunoke-mijskom metodom uporabom specifičnih protu-tijela na humani PS (Dako, Danska) nakon pret-hodnog taloženja citratne plazme s polietilen-glikolom 6000. Za određivanje referentnog ra-spona analizirane su plazme 46 zdravih odraslih dobrovoljaca (18 žena i 28 muškaraca) i 33 djece (dob: 3-17 godina). Nadalje je koncentracija slo-bodnog PS:Ag određena i u plazmama 92 bole-snika na OAT kojima je prethodno određeno pro-trombinsko vrijeme. Srednja vrijednost koncen-tracije slobodnog PS:Ag u djece je iznosila 97,2%, a referentni raspon 68,2-136,2%, s tim da nije bilo statistički značajne razlike u vrijednostima između djevojčica i dječaka. Za razliku od toga, dobivena je značajna razlika ($p < 0,05$) u koncen-tracijama slobodnog PS:Ag u muškaraca u od-nosu na žene (srednja vrijednost: 116,8% odnosno 92,8%), pa su stoga utvrđeni zasebni referentni rasponi za muškarce (77,3-158,0%) i za žene (64,0-111,2%). U skupini bolesnika na OAT (INR=0,81-8,91) koncentracije slobodnog PS:Ag iznosile su od 12,8% do 115,4% (srednja vrijed-nost: 53,9%). Za terapijsko područje OAT (INR=2,0-3,5) srednja vrijednost koncentracije slobod-nog PS:Ag iznosila je 49,0% (raspon: 27,2-73,3%). Zaključeno je kako spol ima značajan utjecaj na koncentracije slobodnog PS:Ag u zdravoj odrasloj populaciji. Vrijednosti u muškaraca su više za približno 26% u odnosu na one u žena.

E-mail: rzadro@mef.hr

house ELISA with specific antibodies to human PS (Dako, Denmark) in the supernatant of plasma after precipitation with PEG 6000. Plasma samples from 46 healthy adult volunteers (18 women, 28 men) and 33 healthy children, age 3-17 years, were tested to establish reference ranges. Additionally, free PS:Ag was measured in plasma samples obtained from 92 patients receiving OAT. The mean level of free PS:Ag in children was 97.2% with a reference range of 68.2-136.2% and no significant difference between boys and girls. Since a significant difference ($p < 0.05$) was obtained in free PS:Ag levels between men and women (mean 116.8% and 92.8%, respectively), sex specific reference ranges were determined (men: 77.3-158%, women: 64.0-111.2%). In the group of patients on OAT with INR values from 0.81 to 8.91, the levels of free PS:Ag ranged from 12.8% to 115.4% (mean 53.9%). For the therapeutic range (INR=2.0-3.5), the obtained mean level of free PS:Ag was 49.0% (range: 27.2-73.3%). Accordingly, sex has an important impact on free PS:Ag level only in adult population, resulting in approximately 26% higher values in men than in women.

E-mail: rzadro@mef.hr

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OTKRIVANJE FETALNOG RHESUS STATUSA I SPOLA POMOĆU BEZSTANIČNE FETALNE DNK U MAJČINOJ PLAZMI

Atamaniuk J., Karimi A., Müller M.M.

Kaiser Franz Josef Hospital, Institute for Laboratory Diagnosis, Beč, Austrija

Rizik od teške hemolitične bolesti fetusa i novorođenčeta zbog nepodudarnosti Rhesus D javlja se u otprilike 15% trudnoća. Uz to, trudnoće s muškim Rh D pozitivnim fetusima zahvaćene su težom hemolitičnom bolešću novorođenčeta i smrtnost je tri puta viša nego kod ženskih Rh D pozitivnih fetusa. Cilj ove studije bio je procijeniti neinvazivnu prenatalnu metodu identificiranja fetalnog Rh D statusa i spola u Rh D negativnih trudnica. Bezstanična plazmatska DNK izolirana je u 20 uzoraka majčine plazme, 600 μ l

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DETECTION OF FETAL RHESUS-STATUS AND SEX BY USING CELL FREE FETAL DNA IN MATERNAL PLASMA

J. Atamaniuk, A. Karimi, M.M. Müller

Kaiser Franz Josef Hospital, Institute for Laboratory Diagnosis, Vienna, Austria

The risk of severe hemolytic disease of the fetus and newborn due to Rhesus D incompatibility occurs in approximately 15% of pregnancies. In addition, pregnancies with male Rh D positive fetuses are more severely affected by hemolytic disease of the newborn. They have a three-fold mortality recorded in female Rh D positive fetuses. The aim of this study was to evaluate a noninvasive prenatal method to identify fetal Rh D status and sex in Rh D negative pregnant women. Cell free plasma DNA was isolated from 20 maternal plasma samples, 600 μ l plasma, and

plazme, 2 μ l je uporabljeno kao templat za reakciju PCR. PCR je primijenjena za dokazivanje Rh D, SRY i beta globina kao referentnog gena. Gestacijska dob bila je od 10. do 38. tjedna. Ispitana su tri uzorka iz prvog trimestra, 8 uzoraka iz drugog trimestra, te 9 uzoraka iz trećeg trimestra. Usporedba rezultata dobivenih pomoću PCR i serološkom dijagnostikom nakon porođaja pokazala je da su Rh D značajke sukladno utvrđene u 19 od 20 uzoraka. Lažno negativan rezultat zabilježen je za jedan uzorak iz prvog trimestra, možda zbog niske razine DNK fetalne plazme. Šesnaestoro novorođenčadi bilo je Rh D pozitivno, a četvero Rh D negativno. Spol fetusa točno je određen u svim uzorcima. Naši podaci pokazuju kako je naša metoda PCR uz primjenu majčine krvi prikladna za određivanje spola i Rh D fetusa počevši od drugog trimestra.

E-mail: johanna.atamaniuk@wienkav.at

2 μ l were used as template for PCR reaction. PCR was used to detect Rh D, SRY and beta globin as a reference gene. Gestational age was from 10th to 38th week. Three samples from the first, 8 samples from the second and 9 samples from the third trimester were tested. Comparison of the results obtained by PCR with serologic diagnosis after delivery showed that Rh D characteristics were determined concordantly in 19 of 20 samples. One sample from the first trimester tested false negative, possibly due to low levels of fetal plasma DNA. Sixteen newborns were Rh D positive and 4 were Rh D negative. The gender of the fetuses was correctly determined in all samples. Our data indicate that our PCR method using maternal blood is appropriate to determine the gender as well as Rh D of fetuses beginning with second trimester.

E-mail: johanna.atamaniuk@wienkav.at

ZR1
Farmakogenetika
Pharmacogenetics

ZR1-1

**FARMAKOGENETIKA: DIJAGNOSTIČKO
SREDSTVO U LABORATORIJSKOJ
MEDICINI**

Topić E.

Klinički zavod za kemiju, Klinička bolnica "Sestre
milosrdnice", Zagreb

Razlike u metabolizmu lijeka i odgovora na lijek između dviju osoba s istom dozom i istom tjelesnom težinom mogu biti izazvane prolaznim uzrocima, kao što su inhibicija i indukcija enzima, ili trajnim uzrocima, kao što su genetska mutacija, delecija ili amplifikacija gena. Frekvencija genetske promjene koja je veća od 1% u populaciji izražava se kao genetski polimorfizam. Farmakogenetski polimorfizmi se mogu očitovati na farmakokinetičkoj i farmakodinamičkoj razini. Farmakokinetička razina bavi se polimorfizmima gena zbog kojih dolazi do promjena koncentracija lijeka i njegovih metabolita na mjestima njihova molekularnog djelovanja (polimorfizmi enzima metabolizma lijekova, transporteri lijekova), dok se farmakodinamička razina bavi polimorfizmima gena povezanih s učinkom i mehanizmom djelovanja lijeka, a nevezani su s njegovom koncentracijom (receptori, ionski kanali). Veza između genetske predispozicije i učinkovitosti lijeka proučava farmakogenetika na temelju kojih ispitivanja se utvrđuje specifični fenotip. Na temelju sposobnosti metaboliziranja lijekova genetski se polimorfizam povezuje s tri vrste fenotipova. Fenotip ekstenzivnog metabolizma lijeka znakovit je za normalnu populaciju; fenotip slabog metabolizma udružen je s nakupljanjem specifičnih supstrata lijeka i tipično je autosomno recesivno svojstvo nastalo mutacijom i/ili delecijom obaju

ZR1-1

**PHARMACOGENETICS: A DIAGNOSTIC
TOOL IN LABORATORY MEDICINE**

E. Topić

Clinical Institute of Chemistry, Sestre milosrdnice
University Hospital, Zagreb

The variation in drug metabolism and drug response between two individuals of the same body weight and on the same drug dosage can be due to transient causes such as enzyme inhibition and induction, or to permanent causes such as genetic mutation, gene deletion or amplification. A genetic mutation occurring at a frequency of >1% in a population is designated as genetic polymorphism. Pharmacogenetic polymorphisms can manifest at the pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic levels. The pharmacokinetic level refers to gene polymorphisms that modify the concentration of a drug and its metabolites at the site of their molecular action (polymorphisms of drug-metabolizing enzymes, drug transporters), whereas the pharmacodynamic level refers to polymorphisms of the genes associated with the drug effect and mechanism of action unrelated to its concentration (receptors, ion channels). Pharmacogenetics investigates the relationship between genetic predisposition and drug efficacy, on the basis of which studies the specific phenotype is being defined. According to drug metabolizing ability, genetic polymorphism is associated with three phenotypes: extensive metabolizer phenotype characteristic of normal population; poor metabolizer phenotype associated with accumulation of specific drug substrates, a typically autosomal recessive trait generated by mutation and/or deletion of both alleles responsible for

alela odgovornih za fenotipsku ekspresiju; fenotip ultraekstenzivnog metabolizma rezultira povećanim metabolizmom lijeka i to je autosomno dominantno svojstvo koje proizlazi iz amplifikacije gena. Genetski polimorfizam transportera lijeka i receptora stvara pak osnovu za fenotip s polaganom i brzom apsorpcijom lijeka, odnosno lošu ili učinkovitu interakciju s receptorima. Pristup farmakogenetskog probira u predviđanju određenog fenotipa zasnovan je na identifikaciji alela koji pokazuju osjetljivost veću od 95%, a temelji se na PCR amplifikaciji i digestiji restrikcijskim endonukleazama pojedinačnog polimorfnog alela (*single nucleotide polymorphism*, SNP). Kao krajnji cilj istraživanja farmakogenetskih polimorfizama postavlja se izrada farmakogenetske osobne iskaznice za ostvarenje koje je neophodno bolje poznavanje mehanizama genskih predispozicija prema neželjenim reakcijama, razvoj tehnologija za mapiranje SNPova, razvoj jeftinijih metoda genotipizacije, te razrada etičkih kriterija koji trebaju osigurati gensku ravnopravnost.
E-mail: elizabeta.topic@zg.htnet.hr

phenotypic expression; and ultraextensive metabolizer phenotype associated with enhanced drug metabolism, occurring as an autosomal dominant trait resulting from gene amplification. Genetic polymorphism of drug transporters and receptors underlies a phenotype characterized by slow and fast drug absorption, respectively, i.e. poor or efficient interaction with receptors. The concept of pharmacogenetic screening in predicting particular phenotypes is based on identification of alleles showing >95% sensitivity by use of PCR amplification and restriction endonuclease digestion of single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP). The endpoint of the research in pharmacogene polymorphisms is development of personal pharmacogenetic card, which requires better understanding of the mechanisms of gene predisposition to undesired responses, development of technologies for SNP mapping, development of inexpensive genotyping techniques, and development of ethical criteria to ensure gene equity.
E-mail: elizabeta.topic@zg.htnet.hr

ZR1-2

**UTJECAJ GENOTIPA CITOKROMA P450
CYP2C9 NA OSJETLJIVOST PREMA
TERAPIJI VARFARINOM**

Grdić M.¹, Coen D.², Zadro R.²

¹ Farmaceutsko-biokemijski fakultet,

² Klinički zavod za lab. dijagn. Medicinskog fakulteta
Sveučilišta u Zagrebu i KBC "Zagreb", Zagreb

Varfarin je oralni antikoagulans koji se najčešće rabi u kliničkoj praksi za prevenciju i liječenje u bolesnika s tromboembolijskim poremećajima. Doza lijeka koja je potrebna za postizanje optimalnog terapijskog učinka razlikuje se u pojedinih bolesnika i do 120 puta. Jedan od mnogobrojnih čimbenika koji utječu na intraindividualnu varijabilnost u odgovoru na terapiju varfarinom je i genetski polimorfizam osnovnog enzima koji metabolizira varfarin, citokroma P450 CYP2C9 s varijantama CYP2C9*2 i CYP2C9*3 sa sniženom enzimskom aktivnošću u odnosu na divlji tip (CYP2C9*1). Utjecaj genotipa CYP2C9 na osjetljivost prema terapiji varfarinom je ispitan u 63 bolesnika. Za svakog je bolesnika izračunata tjedna doza (TD) varfarina i određeno protrombinsko vrijeme. Genotipizacija polimorfizama CYP2C9 je izvedena lančanom reakcijom polimeraze. Vrijednosti INR u terapijskom području (2,0-3,5) dobivene su u 30 bolesnika, a u

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**EFFECT OF CYTOCHROME
P450 CYP2C9 GENOTYPE ON WARFARIN
SENSITIVITY**

M. Grdić¹, D. Coen², R. Zadro²

¹ School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, University of Zagreb, and ² Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb University Hospital Center, Zagreb

Warfarin is an oral anticoagulant that is most commonly used for prevention and treatment in patients with thromboembolic disorders. The dosage required to achieve optimal therapeutic effect varies up to 120-fold between individual patients. Interindividual variability in response to warfarin therapy is attributed to a multitude of factors, including genetic polymorphism of the principal enzyme involved in warfarin metabolism, cytochrome P450 CYP2C9 with variant alleles CYP2C9*2 and CYP2C9*3. The effect of CYP2C9 genotype on warfarin sensitivity was studied in 63 warfarin-treated patients. In each patient the weekly dose of warfarin was recorded and prothrombin time was determined. Genotyping for CYP2C9*2 and CYP2C9*3 was performed by PCR RFLP. Therapeutic INR values (2.0-3.5) were achieved in 30 patients, whereas subtherapeutic INR values (1.5-2.0) were obtained in 19 patients. In 10 patients, the INR values were

subterapijskom području (1,5-2,0) u 19 bolesnika. U 10 bolesnika vrijednosti INR bile su <1,5, a >3,5 u 4 bolesnika. Učestalost genotipova CYP2C9 je iznosila: 66,7% za *1/*1, 20,6% za *1/*2, 11,1% za *1/*3 i 1,6% za *2/*3, a frekvencije alela *1, *2 i *3 bile su 0,83, 0,11 i 0,06. Za postizanje terapijskog učinka potrebne TD varfarina iznosile su 9,0-105,0 (medijan 33,4) mg, s tim da su se značajno razlikovale ($p < 0,05$) kod bolesnika s genotipom *1/*1 (medijan 40,5; raspon: 23,2-105,0 mg) u odnosu na bolesnike s genotipom *1/*2 (medijan 31,5; raspon 10,5-46,5 mg) i *1/*3 (medijan 23,6; raspon 9,0-63,0 mg). Za subterapijske vrijednosti INR medijani TD u bolesnika s genotipovima *1/*1, *1/*2 i *1/*3 iznosili su 40,5, 30,7 i 16,1 mg. U 9/10 bolesnika s vrijednostima INR <1,5 utvrđen je genotip *1/*1, a medijan TD varfarina iznosio je 26,2 mg. Analiza genotipa CYP2C9 može se upotrijebiti za predviđanje osjetljivosti na terapiju varfarinom s obzirom na to da je kod heterozigota s polimorfim alelima potrebna značajno manja doza za postizanje jednakog antikoagulacijskog učinka u odnosu na homozigote za divlji tip.

E-mail: rzadro@mef.hr

<1.5, while in 4 patients they were >3.5. The distribution of CYP2C9 genotypes was as follows: 66.7% for *1/*1, 20.6% for *1/*2, 11.1% for *1/*3 and 1.6% for *2/*3. Allele frequencies for *1, *2, and *3 were 0.83, 0.11 and 0.06, respectively. The weekly warfarin doses required to achieve therapeutic INR range (2.0-3.5) ranged between 9.0-105.0 mg (median:33.4 mg), and were significantly different ($p < 0.05$) in patients with wild type *1/*1 (median dose 40.5, range 23.2-105.0 mg) genotype as compared to patients with *1/*2 (median dose 31.5, range 10.5-46.5 mg) and *1/*3 genotype (median dose 23.6, range 9.0-63.0 mg). In patients with subtherapeutic INR values, the median weekly dose was 40.5 mg in patients with *1/*1 genotype, 30.7 mg in patients with *1/*2 genotype and 16.1 mg in patients with *1/*3 genotype. Nine of 10 patients with INR values <1.5 were homozygous for CYP2C9*1 allele, and the median weekly dose was 26.2 mg. As heterozygotes with polymorphic alleles require significantly lower doses to achieve the same anticoagulant effect as wild type homozygotes, the analysis of CYP2C9 genotype could predict warfarin sensitivity.

E-mail: rzadro@mef.hr

ZR1-3

FARMAKOGENETIKA U TERAPIJI EPILEPSIJE: VAŽNOST POLIMORFIZAMA CYP2C9, CYP2C19 I GENA MDR1 ZA INDIVIDUALIZACIJU TERAPIJE FENITOINOM

Božina N., Granić P., Lalić Z., Hajnšek S., Tramišak I., Stavljenić-Rukavina A.

Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Klinički bolnički centar "Zagreb", Zagreb

Farmakokinetički parametri antiepileptika fenitoina znatno variraju među bolesnicima. Fenitoin je supstrat citokroma P-450 enzima CYP2C9, CYP2C19 i transportnog P-glikoproteina kodiranog genom MDR1. Cilj rada bio je analizirati genske polimorfizme CYP2C9, CYP2C19 i MDR1 i odrediti njihov utjecaj na biološku raspoloživost fenitoina u 64 osobe; ustanoviti korelaciju koncentracija fenitoina i metabolički odnos fenitoina (FMR) prema glavnom metabolitu u plazmi 5-(4-hidroksifenil)-5-fenilhidantoin (p-HPPH) s polimorfizmom CYP2C9, CYP2C19 i gena MDR1. Metode PCR-RFLP su primijenjene za otkrivanje najčešćih alela: CYP2C9*1,*2,*3, CYP2C19*1,*2,*3; te za otkrivanje mutacije

ZR1-3

PHARMAKOGENETICS IN THERAPY OF EPILEPSY: ROLE OF CYP2C9, CYP2C19 AND MDR1 GENE POLYMORPHISMS IN PHENYTOIN THERAPY INDIVIDUALIZATION

N. Božina, P. Granić, Z. Lalić, S. Hajnšek, I. Tramišak, A. Stavljenić-Rukavina

Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb University Hospital Center, Zagreb

The anticonvulsant drug phenytoin (PHT) exhibits nonlinear pharmacokinetics with large interindividual variation. Phenytoin is a substrate of the cytochrome P-450 enzymes CYP2C9 and CYP2C19, and P-glycoprotein transporter, encoded by the MDR1 gene. The aim of the study was to examine the genetic polymorphisms of CYP2C9, CYP2C19 and MDR1, and their effects on the phenytoin bioavailability in 64 individuals, and to determine whether phenytoin concentrations and phenytoin metabolic ratios (PMR) to the major phenytoin metabolite (HPPH) correlate with these polymorphisms. The methods of PCR-RFLP were used for the most frequent alleles: CYP2C9*1,*2,*3, CYP2C19*1*2, *3, and C3435T

C3435T u genu MDR1. Vrijednosti koncentracija fenitoina i metabolita u plazmi 12 h nakon uzimanja 300 mg lijeka *per os* služile su za fenotipizaciju. Analiza fenitoina (FT) i metabolita (p-HPPH) provedena je metodom HPLC. Učestalost alela CYP2C9*1,*2,*3 bila je 0,76, 0,145 i 0,095, za CYP2C19*1,*2 iznosila je 0,85 i 0,15. Učestalost genotipova MDR1 bila je 0,281 za CC, 0,468 za CT i 0,25 za TT. Najviše koncentracije fenitoina zabilježene su u osoba s genotipom *1/*1, a najniže (statistički značajno različite, $p=0,046$) u osoba s genotipom *2/*2 i *3/*3. Metabolički odnosi u genotipu *1/*1 bili su statistički značajno različiti ($p=0,002$) prema *1/*2 ili *1/*3 genotipu i ($p=0,042$) prema *2/*2 ili *3/*3 genotipu. Metabolički odnosi u genotipu CC-MDR1 bili su statistički značajno različiti od genotipa TT ($p=0,043$). Polimorfizmi CYP2C9, CYP2C19 i MDR1 gena imaju utjecaj na bioraspodjeljivost fenitoina te stoga farmakogenetska analiza može biti korisna u individualizaciji terapije.

E-mail: cbi-zg@zg.htnet.hr

*mutations of MDR1 gene. The 12 h plasma concentrations after 300 mg oral dose of phenytoin were used for phenotyping. PHT and p-HPPH were analyzed by the HPLC method. The frequencies of CYP2C9*1,*2,*3 were 0.760, 0.145, and 0.095; and of CYP2C19*1,*2 they were 0.85 and 0.15, respectively. The frequencies of MDR1 genotypes were 0.281 for CC, 0.468 for CT, and 0.25 for TT. The highest phenytoin concentrations were recorded in individuals with *1/*1 genotype, and lowest ($p=0.046$) in individuals with *2/*2 i *3/*3 genotypes. PMR in *1/*1 genotype were different ($p=0.002$) to *1/*2 ili *1/*3 genotypes; ($p=0.042$) to *2/*2 or *3/*3 genotypes. PMR in *1/*1 genotypes were different ($p=0.002$) to *1/*2 or *1/*3 genotypes; ($p=0.004$) to *2/*2 or *3/*3 genotypes. PMR in CC-MDR1 genotype were different ($p=0.043$) to TT genotype. The CYP2C9, CYP2C19 and MDR1 gene polymorphisms were found to influence phenytoin bioavailability, thus pharmacogenetic studies could prove useful in therapy individualization.*

E-mail: cbi-zg@zg.htnet.hr

ZR1-4

GENSKI POLIMORFIZAM CYP2D6 U LIJEČENJU NEUROPSIHIJATRIJSKIH BOLESNIKA

Štefanović M.

Klinički zavod za kemiju, Klinička bolnica "Sestre milosrdnice", Zagreb

CYP2D6 je enzim koji metabolizira neke u mozgu prisutne endogene spojeve, a također i velik broj lijekova među kojima su antipsihotici i antiparkinsonici koji često izazivaju štetne nuspojave. Oslabljeni metabolički kapacitet enzima mogao bi biti povezan s povišenim rizikom prema duševnim i neurološkim bolestima te rizikom nastanka štetnih nuspojava pri njihovu liječenju. Prvi cilj istraživanja bio je metodom multipleks alel specifične lančane reakcije polimeraze (*polymerase chain reaction*, PCR) utvrditi može li se određivanjem nefunkcionalnih alela CYP2D6*3, *4, *6, *7, i *8 u bolesnika predvidjeti odgovor na liječenje i time utjecati na bolji i sigurniji odabir lijeka. Drugi cilj je bio usporediti 145 zdravih ispitanika s duševnim (shizofrenija, $n=73$; depresija, $n=36$) i neurološkim (Parkinsonova, PB; $n=41$; Alzheimerova bolest, AB; $n=35$) bolesnicima te ustanoviti postoji li u bolesnika s nefunkcionalnim enzimom povišena sklonost prema tim bolestima. Rezultati usporedbe duševnih bolesni-

ZR1-4

CYP2D6 GENETIC POLYMORPHISM IN TREATMENT OF NEUROPSYCHIATRIC PATIENTS

M. Štefanović

Clinical Institute of Chemistry, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Zagreb

*CYP2D6 enzyme metabolizes some brain circulating endogenous compounds as well as many drugs, antipsychotics and antiparkinsonics. Patients using these drugs often suffer from severe side effects. Decreased metabolic capacity could also be associated with an increased risk of psychoses and neurologic diseases, and also with a risk of serious side effects during treatment. The first aim of our study was to determine (by multiplex allele specific PCR) if testing for nonfunctional CYP2D6 alleles *3, *4, *6, *7 and *8 could predict patient's response to treatment, and thus lead to a more appropriate and safer choice of treatment. The second aim was to compare 145 healthy subjects with patients and to determine if those with nonfunctional enzyme were at an increased risk of disease development. We investigated psychotic (schizophrenia, $n=73$; depression, $n=36$) and neurologic (Parkinson's, PD; $n=41$; Alzheimer's disease, AD; $n=35$) patient groups. Comparison of psychotic patients with distinctive*

ka s izraženim nuspojavama na lijekove koje uzimaju (n=38) potvrdili su značajno povišenu učestalost *4 (relativni rizik, RR=2,6) i *6 (RR=5,3) nefunkcionalnih alela CYP2D6 u usporedbi s bolesnicima bez nuspojava (n=97). U skupini s nuspojavama nađeno je i znatno više *4/*4 genotipa i sporometabolizirajućeg fenotipa (RR=7,1). U bolesnika s PB razlika je za podskupinu s nuspojavama (n=28) prema podskupini bez nuspojava (n=28) bila manja i odnosila se samo na CYP2D6*4 alel (RR=4,4). Druga razina istraživanja potvrdila je za alel CYP2D6*4 povišen rizik prema shizofreniji (RR=2,5), a za potpuno neaktivni enzim (oba alela nefunkcionalna) relativni je rizik iznosio 5,0. U skupini depresija (n=36) nismo utvrdili povezanost s polimorfizmom CYP2D6. U podskupinama PB podijeljenim prema težini bolesti (ljestvice Hoehn i Yahr) utvrdili smo da su nosioci alela *4 skloniji razvitku težih oblika bolesti 2,7 puta. Homozigoti za neaktivne alele skloniji su pogoršanju bolesti čak 7,9 puta. Prema rezultatima za AB, RR za alel *4 iznosio je 3,7, dok homozigoti nisu pokazali razliku prema zdravim kontrolama. Ispitivanjem polimorfizma CYP2D6 moguće je predvidjeti odgovor bolesnika na liječenje. CYP2D6 se također može promatrati i kao jedan od čimbenika rizika za nastanak shizofrenije i PB, dok je njegova značajnost u nastanku AD manja.

E-mail: mstefan@kbsm.hr

*side effects (n=38) and those without them (n=97) confirmed a significantly higher frequency of CYP2D6*4 nonfunctional allele (relative risk, RR=2.6) and *6 (RR=5.3). The side effect group also had a significantly higher frequency of *4/*4 genotype as well as poor metabolizer phenotype (RR=7.1). The difference between the side effect subgroup (n=28) of PD patients and non-side effect subgroup (n=28) was lower and was related just to CYP2D6*4 allele (RR=4.4). The second study level confirmed an increased risk for persons with CYP2D6*4 allele to develop schizophrenia (RR=2.5). Persons with completely inactive enzyme were at an even greater risk (RR=5.0). In the group with depressions (n=36) we found no association with CYP2D6 polymorphism. In PD subgroups ranked according to the disease severity (Hoehn and Yahr staging), carriers of *4 allele were found to have a 2.7-fold risk of developing more severe forms of the disease. Homozygotes for inactive alleles were at a 7.9-fold risk to develop a more severe form of the disease. The results for AD showed RR for *4 allele to be 3.7, while homozygotes showed no difference from controls. It is possible to predict the patient's therapeutic response by CYP2D6 genotyping. CYP2D6 polymorphism may also be considered as one of the major risk factors in the development of schizophrenia and PD, whereas its role in AD development is less significant.*

E-mail: mstefan@kbsm.hr

ZR1-5

HOMOZIGOT CYP2C9*3 ALELA - PRIKAZ SLUČAJA BOLESNIKA NA TERAPIJI VARFARINOM

Samardžija M.¹, Topić E.², Štefanović M.²

¹ KB Osijek, Zavod za transfuzijsku medicinu, Osijek;

² KB "Sestre milosrdnice", Klinički zavod za kemiju, Zagreb

Uloga genske varijabilnosti u interindividuum odgovoru na lijekove predstavlja značajno područje znanstvenog interesa s mogućim važnim utjecajem na terapijski odgovor. CYP2C9 je odgovoran za metabolizam S-varfarina. Uz CYP2C9*1 alel (divlji tip) najčešće zastupljeni aleli u bijelaca su CYP2C9*2 i CYP2C9*3 koji u homozigotnom obliku dovode do stvaranja enzima niske aktivnosti (12%, odnosno manje od 5%) u odnosu na divlji tip. Cilj studije bio je ispitati utjecaj polimorfizma CYP2C9 na varijabilnost doze varfarina. U ispitivanje je bilo uključeno 358 ispitanika: 181 bolesnik na terapiji varfari-

ZR1-5

A HOMOZYGOTE FOR CYP2C9*3 ALLELIC VARIANT - CASE REPORT OF A PATIENT ON WARFARIN THERAPY

M. Samardžija¹, E. Topić², M. Štefanović²

¹ Department of Transfusion Medicine, Osijek University Hospital, Osijek; ² Clinical Institute of Chemistry, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Zagreb

*The role of genetic variability in interindividual responsiveness to drugs is an emerging area of interest with potentially important therapeutic consequences. CYP2C9 is responsible for the metabolism of S-warfarin. Besides its wild type allele CYP2C9*1, two common allelic variants are known in Caucasians, CYP2C9*2 and CYP2C9*3, which in homozygous state express enzymes of very low activity (only 12% and 5% of total wild type activity, respectively). The aim of the study was to evaluate the impact of CYP2C9 polymorphism on the variability of warfarin dose*

nom (Marivarin) dulje od mjesec dana (102 žene i 79 muškaraca, prosječna dob 60 godina, raspon 19-80 godina) i 177 dobrovoljnih davatelja krvi (61 žena i 116 muškaraca, prosječna dob 34,5 godina, raspon 18-65 godina) kao kontrolna skupina. Genotipizacija CYP2C9*1, *2 i *3 alela rađena je PCR-RFLP metodom primjenom restrikcijske endonukleaze Ava II, Nsi I i Kpn I. Učestalost alela CYP2C9*2 i CYP2C9*3 u kontrolnoj skupini iznosila je 12,4% odnosno 3,7%, a u skupini bolesnika 17,4% i 6,6% (nema statistički značajne razlike). U skupini bolesnika otkriven je jedan genotip CYP2C9*3/*3. Radilo se o 56-godišnjem muškarcu koji je hospitaliziran pod dg. *Insultus cerebrovascularis*, *Fibrillatio atriorum*, *Hypertensio arterialis*. Početna doza Marivarina iznosila je 4,0 mg (2,8 INR), optimalna doza 1,5 mg (1,83 INR), dužina uzimanja lijeka 8 mj., vrijeme postizanja terapijskog optimuma 60 dana. Dakle, bolesnik s rijetkim genotipom CYP2C9*3/*3 zahtijevao je vrlo nisku dozu varfarina i dugo vrijeme za postizanje terapijskog optimuma. Krvarenje je izbjegnuto pažljivim i čestim praćenjem PV-a, stoga bi određivanje genotipa CYP2C9 prije uvođenja terapije zasigurno imalo i ekonomsku opravdanost.

E-mail: samardzija.marina@kbo.hr

*requirements. A total of 358 subjects were included in the study. Patient group included 181 patients on warfarin (Marivarin) therapy (102 female and 79 male, mean age 60 years, range 19-80 years). All patients had been treated with warfarin therapy for more than a month. Control group included 177 unrelated healthy volunteers from the Croatian general population (61 female and 116 male, mean age 34.5 years, range 18-65 years). PCR-RFLP genotyping for CYP2C9*1, *2 and *3 alleles was performed by using Ava II, Nsi I and Kpn I restriction endonucleases. The frequency of CYP2C9*2 and CYP2C9*3 alleles in the control group was 12.4% and 3.7%, and in the patient group 17.4% and 6.6%, respectively (no statistically significant difference). In the patient group, however, one homozygous CYP2C9*3/*3 genotype was detected. A 56-year-old man was hospitalized under the diagnosis of Insultus cerebrovascularis, Fibrillatio atriorum, Hypertensio arterialis. Therapy was initiated with a 4.0 mg dose of Marivarin (2.8 INR), whereas optimal dose was 1.5 mg. (1.83 INR), duration of therapy 8 months, time of optimization therapy 60 days. The patient with rare CYP2C9*3/*3 genotype required a very low dose of warfarin and very long time for therapy optimization. There was no bleeding because of careful and often PT monitoring, so CYP2C9 genotyping prior to therapy initiation also appears to be cost effective.*

E-mail: samardzija.marina@kbo.hr

ZR2

Autoimune bolesti *Autoimmune diseases*

ZR2-1

LABORATORIJSKI STANDARDI U DIJAGNOSTICI I PRAĆENJU TERAPIJE AUTOIMUNIH BOLESTI

Malenica B.

Zavod za imunologiju, Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, KBC "Zagreb" i Referentni centar za kliničko-laboratorijsku imunodijagnostiku hematoloških i imunoloških bolesti Ministarstva zdravstva Republike Hrvatske, Zagreb

Laboratorijska dijagnostika autoimunih bolesti uključuje određivanje parametara opće laboratorijske dijagnostike i specifične imunodiagnostičke metode. Parametri osnovne laborato-

ZR2-1

LABORATORY STANDARDS IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND THERAPY MONITORING OF AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES

B. Malenica

Laboratory of Immunology, Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb University Hospital Center and Reference Center for Clinical Laboratory Immunodiagnosis of Hematologic and Immune Diseases of the Ministry of Health, Republic of Croatia, Zagreb

Laboratory diagnosis of autoimmune diseases includes parameters of both standard laboratory examinations and specific immunodiagnostic procedures. Standard laboratory examinations

rijske dijagnostike (SE, CRP, proupalni citokini) omogućuju razlikovanje upalnih od neupalnih, odnosno autoimunih od degenerativnih i para-reumatskih bolesti. Specifična imunodijagnostika uključuje dokazivanje specifičnih autoantitijela, imunih T-limfocita (citokina), poremećaja sustava komplementa, te određivanje haplotipa HLA. Unatoč navedenim mogućnostima laboratorijski imunodijagnostički standard u dijagnostici stanovite autoimune bolesti je dokaz specifičnih serumskih autoantitijela i njihovih ciljnih autoantigena. Prikazati ćemo algoritme dokazivanja antinuklearnih antitijela (ANA), antineutrofilnih citoplazmatskih antitijela (ANCA), te skupine autoantitijela koja obilježavaju autoimune bolesti jetre i crijeva. Istaknuti ćemo značkovita autoantitijela za pojedinu autoimunu bolest, povezanost razine (titar, količina) stanovitog autoantitijela s aktivnošću i raširenošću bolesti, te vrijednost stanovitog autoantitijela u kliničkoj kontroli bolesnika i procjeni djelotvornosti terapije. Nasuprot tome, određivanje citokina vrlo se selektivno rabi u rutinskoj laboratorijskoj imunodijagnostici autoimunih bolesti. Oni su važni u razumijevanju imunopatogeneze i pouzdan temelj za primjenu i kontrolu djelotvornosti specifične imunoterapije stanovite autoimune bolesti. Analiza sustava komplementa doprinosi dijagnostičkom postupku i kliničkom praćenju bolesnika s autoimunim bolestima uzrokovanim imunokompleksima.

E-mail: b_malenica@yahoo.com

(SE, CRP, proinflammatory cytokines) make distinctions between degenerative or pararheumatic and systemic autoimmune diseases. Specific immunodiagnostic procedures include detection of specific autoantibodies, immune T-lymphocytes (cytokines), complement function and HLA haplotype determination. Besides all these possibilities, laboratory standard in the immunodiagnosis of autoimmune diseases is the determination of specific serum autoantibodies and their target autoantigens. Detection algorithm of antinuclear antibodies (ANA), antineutrophil cytoplasmic autoantibodies (ANCA) and the group of autoantibodies which characterize liver and bowel autoimmune diseases is presented. Furthermore, autoantibodies which characterize each of the systemic rheumatic diseases, systemic vasculitides, and each of the liver and bowel autoimmune diseases are presented, and their correlation with clinical disease activity and treatment efficacy is discussed. On the other hand, laboratory determination of cytokines is very selective in routine immunodiagnosis. Firstly, their detection is obvious in planning and clinical monitoring of therapeutic efficacy of specific immunotherapy. Complement analysis helps us in the diagnostic procedure and clinical monitoring of patients with "immune complex" autoimmune diseases.

E-mail: b_malenica@yahoo.com

ZR2-2

NOVI BIOMARKERI U DIJAGNOSTICI I PRAĆENJU BOLESNIKA S REUMATOIDNIM ARTRITISOM

Tešija A.

Klinički zavod za kemiju, Klinička bolnica
"Sestre milosrdnice", Zagreb

Kliničke manifestacije koje prate reumatoidni artritis (RA) rezultat su destruktivnih procesa u zglobnoj hrskavici, sinovijalnom i koštanoj tkivu. U svrhu procjene težine bolesti u upotrebi su brojne standardizirane metode stupnjevanja na osnovi intenziteta boli i razine pokretljivosti. Laboratorijsko praćenje bolesnika s RA ograničeno je uglavnom samo na pokazatelje upalnog procesa, kao što su CRP ili SE, koji nisu specifični samo za procese u zglobovima i slabo koreliraju s oštećenjem hrskavice. Radiografska metoda još

ZR2-2

NEW BIOMARKERS IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND MONITORING OF PATIENTS WITH RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

A. Tešija

Clinical Institute of Chemistry, Sestre milosrdnice
University Hospital, Zagreb

Clinical manifestations of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) are the results of destructive processes in joint cartilage, synovial and bone tissues. To assess the severity of the disease, a number of standardized rating systems according to pain and mobility indices are in use. Laboratory monitoring of RA patients is still limited mainly to inflammation parameters such as CRP and ESR, which are not joint specific and correlate poorly with cartilage damage. Radiography is still a gold standard to assess joint damage in RA, although it al-

uvijek predstavlja zlatni standard za procjenu stupnja oštećenja zglobova u RA, iako ne omogućuje rano otkrivanje oštećenja niti je prikladna za praćenje uspješnosti terapije. Specifični i osjetljivi biokemijski markeri koji odražavaju poremećaje u metabolizmu hrskavičnog, sinovijalnog ili koštanog tkiva mogli bi imati presudnu ulogu u otkrivanju ranog oštećenja, procjeni rizika za razvoj izrazito destruktivnog oblika RA, a time i u odabiru terapije. Potencijalno vrijedni biokemijski markeri odnose se na molekule svih triju tkiva koja zahvaća destruktivni proces: hrskavice, sinovijuma i subhondralne kosti. Osnovne komponente izvanstaničnog matriksa zglobne hrskavice su kolagen tipa II. i proteoglikan agrekan, pa fragmenti ovih dvaju proteina predstavljaju potencijalne biokemijske biljege sinteze (hondroitin sulfat, propeptidi prokolagena tipa II.), odnosno razgradnje hrskavice (fragmenti proteinskog dijela agrekana, keratan sulfat, piridinolin, alfa lanci i telopeptidi kolagena tipa II.). Uz fragmente agrekana i kolagena, biljeg sinteze hrskavičnog tkiva je i protein YKL-40, odnosno COMP (*cartilage oligomeric matrix protein*), matriksne metaloproteinaze (MMP) i njihovi inhibitori (TIMP) kao biljezi razgradnje. Potencijalni biljezi aktivnosti sinovijalnog tkiva su fragmenti kolagena tipa I. i III., te nekolagenski proteini COMP, hijaluronat, MMP i TIMP. Konačno, pokazatelji koštane pregradnje su N i C propeptidi prokolagena tipa I., koštana ALP i osteokalcin za sintezu, odnosno deoksipiridinolin, piridinolin, N- i C- telopeptidi i BSP (*bone sialoprotein*) za razgradnju. Upotreba navedenih biljega još je uvijek ograničena nedovoljnim poznavanjem metabolizma i klirensa ovih molekula, kao i doprinosa ostalih tkiva njihovoj koncentraciji u sinovijalnoj tekućini, serumu i mokraći.

E-mail: andrea.tesija@zg.htnet.hr

lows neither early detection of joint tissue damage nor efficient monitoring of treatment. Specific and sensitive biochemical markers reflecting abnormalities in the metabolism of cartilage, synovial and bone tissues could have a major role in the detection of early damage and in identifying patients at a high risk of rapid destructive type of RA. Potentially valuable biomarkers include molecules of each of the three tissues affected by destructive processes: cartilage, synovium and subchondral bone. The main components of the extracellular matrix of articular cartilage are type II collagen and aggrecan, so that the fragments of these two proteins represent potential biomarkers of synthesis (chondroitin sulfate, type II procollagen propeptides) and degradation (core protein fragments, keratan sulfate, pyridinoline, alpha chains and telopeptides of type II collagen). Protein YKL-40 is also a marker of cartilage synthesis, whereas COMP (cartilage oligomeric matrix protein), matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs) and their inhibitors (TIMPs) are markers of cartilage degradation. Candidate markers of synovial tissue activity are fragments of type I and III collagen molecules and noncollagen proteins COMP, hyaluronate, MMPs and TIMPs. Finally, markers of bone turnover are type I procollagen N- and C-propeptides, bone ALP and osteocalcin for synthesis, and deoxypyridinoline, pyridinoline, N- and C-telopeptides and BSP (bone sialoprotein) for degradation. Use of these biomarkers is still limited by insufficient knowledge of the metabolism and clearance of these molecules as well as of the contribution of nonjoint tissues to their synovial fluid, serum and urine concentrations.

E-mail: andrea.tesija@zg.htnet.hr

ZR2-3

AUTOIMUNI ASPEKTI CELIJAKIJE I CROHNOVE BOLESTI U DJECE

Žižić V.¹, Brumen V.², Radalj Ž.³, Nakić M.¹

¹ Klinika za dječje bolesti Zagreb, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu ² Škola narodnog zdravlja "Andrija Štampar"; ³ Institut za medicinska istraživanja i medicinu rada, Zagreb

Celijakija je kronična imuno posredovana bolest tankog crijeva, klinički obilježena malapsorpcijom zbog trajnog nepodnošenja glutena. Crohnova bolest je kronična upalna bolest još

ZR2-3

AUTOIMMUNE ASPECTS OF CELIAC AND CROHN'S DISEASE IN CHILDREN

V. Žižić¹, V. Brumen², Ž. Radalj³, M. Nakić¹

¹ University Department of Pediatrics, Zagreb University Hospital Center; ² Andrija Štampar School of Public Health, ³ Institute of Medical Research and Occupational Medicine, Zagreb

Celiac disease is a chronic, immune-mediated disease, presented as malabsorption due to permanent gluten intolerance. Crohn's disease is a chronic inflammatory disease of as yet unknown

uvijek nerazjašnjene etiologije, koja najčešće zahvaća krajnji dio tankog crijeva, ali se može proširiti i na cijeli probavni sustav. Cilj rada je usporedno prikazati doseg seroloških testova u dijagnosticanju i kliničkom praćenju tijekom celijakije odnosno Crohnove bolesti. Preventivni i prediktivni dosezi testa na antiglijadinska protutijela razreda IGA [AGA-IgA] odnosno razreda IgG [AGA-IgG], testa na endomizijalna protutijela razreda IgA [EMA-IgA] i testa na protutijela razreda IgA na tkivnu transglutaminazu [tTG-IgA], koji se rabe u serodijagnostici celijakije, prikazani su pokazateljima osjetljivosti (O), specifičnosti (S) te pozitivne prediktivne vrijednosti (PPV). Usporedno se prikazuju pokazatelji testova koji se rabe u serodijagnostici Crohnove bolesti (test na antineutrofilna citoplazmatska protutijela [ANCA] i test na protutijela na *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* [ASCA]). Test AGA-IgA pokazuje vrlo zadovoljavajuće značajke: O=91%, S=92%, PPV=95%. Test AGA-IgG je izrazito osjetljiv (O=97%), no niskospecifičan test (S=74%), čime mu je umanjena i PPV (87%). Osobito su zadovoljavajuće značajke testa EMA-IgA (O=93%; S=96%; PPV=98%). Međutim, daleko najboljim pokazao se test tTG-IGA (O=96%, S=99%, PPV=99%). U oboljelih od Crohnove bolesti ovi su testovi mahom negativni (s iznimkom inače niskospecifičnog testa AGA-IgG kao općenitog pokazatelja upalnog crijevnog procesa). Stoga se rabi kombinacija testova ANCA/ASCA relativno niske osjetljivosti (O=68%), ali zato visoke specifičnosti (S=92%). Dakle, značajke seroloških testova koji se rabe u dijagnosticanju celijakije omogućuju njihovu primjenu u ranoj dijagnostici bolesti, praćenju njezina tijeka u razdoblju bezglutenske dijeta, određivanju najpogodnijeg časa za biopsiju, otkrivanju asimptomatskih oblika bolesti u klinički zdravih srodnika i osoba u kojih je celijakija pridružena a ne osnovna bolest, te u masovnim preventivnim pregledima opće populacije. Nedostatnost i nespecifičnost serodijagnostike Crohnove bolesti upućuje kliničare na to da uporište za dijagnozu ove bolesti traže u kliničkom očitovanju i kolonoskopskim nalazima bolesnika.

E-mail: kdb@kdb.hr

etiology, most commonly affecting terminal ileum, however, possibly spreading throughout the digestive system. The aim is to present in parallel the scope of serologic tests used in the diagnosis and clinical follow-up of celiac disease and Crohn's disease. The scope of tests for antigliadin class IgA and class IgG antibodies (AGA-IgA and AGA-Ig), antiendomysial class IgA antibodies (EMA-IgA) and tissue transglutaminase class IgA antibodies (tTG-IgA) used in the prevention and prediction of childhood celiac disease is presented by their sensitivity (S), specificity (Sp) and positive predictive value (PPV). The same parameters concerning serodiagnosis of Crohn's disease (antineutrophil cytoplasmic antibody (ANCA) and anti-Saccharomyces cerevisiae antibody test (ASCA) are given in parallel. The characteristics of AGA-IgA test showed it to be very satisfactory: S=91%, Sp=92%, PPV=95%. AGA-IgG test was found to be highly sensitive (S=97%), but of a low specificity (Sp=74%), the latter diminishing its PPV (87%). Especially satisfactory were the characteristics of EMA-IgA test (S=93%, Sp=96%, PPV=98%). However, tTG-IgA test turned out to be superior to all (S=96%, Sp=99%, PPV=99%). In patients suffering from Crohn's disease, the aforementioned tests were mostly negative (with the exception of otherwise low-specific AGA-IgG test, which generally indicates bowel inflammation). Therefore, a combination of ANCA/ASCA tests is used, which has a relatively low sensitivity (68%) but high specificity (92%). Accordingly, the characteristics of serologic tests used in the diagnosis of celiac disease allow for their use in the early diagnosis, follow-up during the period of gluten-free diet, assessment of optimal biopsy timing, identification of silent forms of the disease in clinically healthy relatives and in patients mainly suffering from some other disease, and in mass screening of the general population. As for Crohn's disease, due to the insufficiency and nonspecificity of the serodiagnosis, clinicians are forced to rely upon clinical presentation and colonoscopic findings.

E-mail: kdb@kdb.hr

ZR2-4

**DISTRIBUCIJA O APO H OVISNIH
AUTOPROTUTIJELA I APO H FENOTIPOVA
UNUTAR ODABRANE SKUPINE
ISPITANIKA KOJI ISKAZUJU LUPUS
ANTIKOAGULANS**

Vogrinc Ž., Trbojević-Čepe M., Coen D.,
Stavljenić-Rukavina A.

Klinički zavod za laboratorijsku dijagnostiku, Klinički
bolnički centar "Zagreb", Zagreb

Nađeno je da ApoH (beta 2-glukoprotein I) izgrađuju pet 'suchi' domena (I-V) te da postoji njegov genetski polimorfizam. Najčešća su tri alela (ApoH1, ApoH2, ApoH3) koji određuju pet fenotipova. ApoH je također ciljni antigen za određenu skupinu 'antifosfolipidnih' autoprotutijela. Neka o Apo H-ovisna protutijela također iskazuju i aktivnost lupus antikoagulansa (LAK). Studije ukazuju na to da je njihova prisutnost povezana s većim rizikom za razvoj tromboze, pobačaja i trombocitopenije. Cilj rada bio je ispitati mogućnost da su kod manje učestalih alela ApoH prisutne strukturne ili konformacijske promjene u 'o LAK-ovisnim' domenama, što može potaknuti stvaranje ovoga tipa o ApoH-ovisnog/LAK+ autoimunog odgovora. Izabrali smo ispitanike s produljenim APTT vremenom, potvrđenom LAK aktivnošću i bez dokazanih ili s u vrlo niskim titrovima prisutnim protutijelima na 'čisti' kardiolipin. Mnogi su ispitanici imali neke kliničke i serološke značajke sistemskog eritematoznog lupusa i visoku učestalost kliničkih simptoma antifosfolipidnog sindroma. Protutijela ovisna o ApoH dokazana su komercijalnim kompletom pretraga antikardiolipin/apoH ELISA. Fenotipovi ApoH dokazani su metodom izoelektičnog fokusiranja i imunoblota. Naši su rezultati pokazali da je 63,5% (47/74) naših izabranih ispitanika (LAK+) također imalo i protutijela na ApoH. Dokazana je visoka pozitivna korelacija između LAK aktivnosti i titrova protutijela na apoH. Međutim, ispitanici pozitivni na ApoH iskazali su različit koagulacijski profil; nađena je skupina s visokim aktivnostima LAK u odnosu na anti ApoH titrove (nelinearna korelacija, $r=0,874$) i skupina s niskim aktivnostima LAK (linearna korelacija, $r=0,929$). Raspravlja se o kliničkom značenju stvaranja takvih različitih tipova protutijela ApoH/LAC+. U ovom radu nije nađena statistički značajna razlika u učestalosti pojedinih fenotipova ApoH između kontrolne skupine i skupine osoba s o ApoH-ovisnim/LAK+ autoprotutijelima.

E-mail: dcvor@kbc-zagreb.hr

ZR2-4

**DISTRIBUTION OF APO H DEPENDENT
AUTOANTIBODIES AND APO H PHENO-
TYPES AMONG SELECTED SUBJECTS
SHOWING LUPUS ANTICOAGULANT
ACTIVITY**

Ž. Vogrinc, M. Trbojević-Čepe, D. Coen,
A. Stavljenić-Rukavina

Clinical Institute of Laboratory Diagnosis, Zagreb
University Hospital Center, Zagreb

It has been found that apo H (beta-2-glycoprotein I) is composed of five suchi domains (I-V) and its genetic polymorphism has been reported. Three common alleles (ApoH1, ApoH2, ApoH3) that determine five different phenotypes have also been reported. Apo H is also the target antigen for binding of certain 'antiphospholipid' antibodies. It has been reported that antibodies directed against domain III and domain IV also exert lupus anticoagulant activity (LAC). Studies indicate that autoantibodies with LAC activity are stronger risk factors for thrombosis, fetal loss and thrombocytopenia. The aim of our study was to evaluate the possibility that the presence of less frequent apoH phenotypes, i.e. alleles, may induce structural or conformational changes in these 'LAC-dependent' regions that may initiate apo H-dependent/LAC+ type of autoimmune response. We selected patients showing prolonged APTT, confirmed LAC activity and none or low titers of antibodies to 'pure' cardiolipin (n=74). Many of them had some clinical or serologic features of systemic lupus erythematosus and a high prevalence of clinical manifestations of antiphospholipid syndrome. Antibodies to apoH were determined by commercially available anticardiolipin/apoH ELISA kit. ApoH phenotypes were demonstrated by isoelectric focusing followed by immunoblotting. Our results showed 63.5% (47/74) of our selected patients (LAC+) to also have elevated apoH-dependent antibody titers. A strong positive correlation was observed. However, anti ApoH positive patients showed distinct coagulation profiles: a group with high LA potency according to anti ApoH titers (nonlinear correlation, $r=0.874$) and a group with low LA potency (linear correlation, $r=0.929$). Clinical significance of such distinct types of ApoH/LAC+ autoantibodies is discussed. We found no significant differences in the distribution of apoH phenotypes between control subjects (n=166) and patients with apoH-dependent/LAC+ autoantibodies.

E-mail: dcvor@kbc-zagreb.hr

IR

Procjena analitičkih tehnika i metoda
Evaluation of analytical techniques and methods

IR-2

**VENOSAFE - SIGURNOST BEZ
KOMPROMISA**

De Meyer I.

Terumo Europe

Posljednjega desetljeća svjedoci smo sve većih zahtjeva za sigurnijim vakuumskim epruvetama za uzimanje krvi koje se ne mogu razbiti. To je dovelo do usavršavanja i pojave na tržištu plastičnih vakuumskih epruveta. U tome je jedan od vodećih proizvođača bio Terumo Europe, koji je vakuumske epruvete od polietilenskog tereftalata (PET) uveo još prije desetak godina. Kako bi odgovorio na sve veće zahtjeve za standardizacijom u laboratorijskoj sredini te slijedom ustrajne potrage za rješenjima potpune sigurnosti, Terumo Europe je 2002. godine proizveo Venosafe, treću generaciju vakuumskih epruveta za uzimanje krvi. Ova nova epruveta PET nudi višestruke prednosti: ne propušta plin i jamči naznačeni volumen uzete krvi (omjer) kroz cijeli vijek trajanja; neće se razbiti ako padne na tvrdu površinu; otporna je na centrifugiranje pri velikim brzinama; težina joj je za oko 30% manja od težine iste takve staklene epruvete; potpuno će izgorjeti u uvjetima spaljivanja medicinskog otpada. Nadalje, primjena novog sigurnosnog zatvarača omogućava lagano ručno i automatsko otvaranje i dobro se uklapa u automatizirani laboratorij. Iako se u početku plastiku smatralo manje inertnom od stakla, brojne su studije dokazale da su plastične vakuumske epruvete prikladne kao pribor za prikupljanje krvi: nisu zapažene nikakve interferencije kod uobičajenih kliničko kemijskih određivanja, hormonskih analiza, terapijskog praćenja lijekova, određivanja krvne grupe i koagulacije. Vrijednost epruveta Venosafe ilustrirano

IR-2

**CLINICAL PERFORMANCE OF A NEW
VACUUM BLOOD SAMPLING TUBE:
VENOSAFE - SAFETY WITHOUT
COMPROMISE**

I. De Meyer

Terumo Europe

In the last decade, the demand for safer, virtually non-breakable evacuated tubes for blood collection has steadily increased. This trend resulted in the development and commercial marketing of plastic evacuated tubes. One of the leading companies was Terumo Europe introducing polyethylene terephthalate (PET) evacuated tubes as early as more than 10 years ago. In order to serve the increasing demand for standardization in laboratory setting and based on persistent search for ultimate safety solutions, in 2002 Terumo Europe introduced Venosafe, third generation of vacuum blood collection tubes. This new PET tube offers the following advantages: they are gas-tight and guarantee the indicated draw-volume (ratio) throughout their lifetime; do not break when dropped on a hard surface; resist centrifugation at high speed; weigh about 30% less than their glass counterparts; and are almost completely combustible under incineration conditions commonly used for medical waste. Furthermore, the use of a newly developed safety closure allows easy manual and automatic opening and fits very well into the automated laboratory. Although plastic was initially perceived as less inert than glass, a number of studies have proved that plastic evacuated tubes are suitable for use as blood collection devices: no interference was noticed for common clinical chemistry determinations, hormone analysis, therapeutic drug monitoring,

rati ćemo novijim ispitivanjima ovih epruveta s gelom, aktivatorom koagulacije, heparinom i citratnim otopinama.

E-mail: vesna.jozic@newport-medical.hr

blood group determination and coagulation. The validation of Venosafe tubes will be illustrated by recent studies on Venosafe tubes with gel, coagulation activator, heparin and citrate solutions.

E-mail: vesna.jozic@newport-medical.hr

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