Abstracts

Infections in Surgery, the Intensive Care Unit, including Patients with Burns

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Peculiar Processing of Glucagon in the Intestines of Septic Stressed Patients
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Background & Objectives: The kinetics of glucagon in septic, stressed patients has not been investigated as thoroughly as that of insulin, despite its significant influence on energy metabolism.

Method: In this study, the authors investigated the kinetics of glucagon and glucagon related peptides assessed by radioimmunoassay and gel filtration chromatography in 20 patients with acute abdominal disorders with sepsis underwent abdominal surgeries (group S), and discuss the glucagon processes and the correlation of the glucagon kinetics and energy metabolisms in these septic and surgically stressed status. 10 normal subjects were also enrolled as the control group (group C).

Results: After surgeries, serum pancreatic glucagon significantly increased compared to that of group C. In 19 of 20 patients in group S, the peculiar glicentin-like peptide (GLLP: MW around 8000) other than pancreatic glucagon was estimated in gel filtration chromatography which was absolutely not seen in group C and was presumed to had been generated from the glucagon precursor in the intestine in a quite different glucagon processes.

Conclusions: In conclusion, the kinetics and the processing of glucagon in most of patients with sepsis was quite different from those of normal subjects. The peculiar mode of processing of glucagon observed in the patients probably occurred in the intestine, generating peculiar glicentin-like peptides, which might reflect other changes in the endocrine system.

Inflammatory Response during SIRS, Sepsis and Septic Shock: Prognostic Parameter in Patients of ICU

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Background & Objectives: Sepsis is a serious disease with a high mortality rate. A spectrum of changes in immune response appears in the social problem, in terms of morbidity and long term disability, throughout the world. Changes in lymphocyte count and injury of skin are important immunopathological symptoms after a burn accident. Our aim is the study of peripheral blood lymphocyte subsets; CD3 (T cells), CD4 (T helper), CD8 (T cytotoxic) on different days of burn patients.

Methods: 67 male subjects aged between 18 and 60 years with major burn injury were studied. Whole blood samples were collected (three and seven days post burn accident). The samples were first stained with appropriate monoclonal antibodies and then lyzed using DAKO lyzing solutions. Partec flow cytometry system and reagents, as recommended by manufacturers, DAKO (company products), triple color was used. All results were analyzed by using the SPSS program.

Results: The range and distribution of T cell subsets (CD3, CD4, CD8) of burned patients at seven and three days after the burn accident, were with mean percentages significant (P < 0.05). There was also a significant correlation between age groups and cause of burns (P < 0.05). All results were compared with controls.

Conclusion: This study indicates that significant changes of lymphocyte subset counts, in different patients with percentage of burn, could be important role in immunosuppressive and development of sepsis. Cell and cytokine therapy should be a consideration in the evaluation of the immune status and may be a way to complete a more specific treatment in burn injuries.

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The Role of T-cell Subsets in Burns Patients
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Introduction: In all societies, burn continues to constitute a medical, psychological, economic and