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Title : (CAPITAL LETTERS)
THE STUDIES ON BINDING BETWEEN HBsAg AND POLYMERISED HUMAN
SERUM ALBUMIN BY ELISA TECHNIQUE.

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Abstract

The exact mechanism of hepatitis-B viral entry into hepatocytes is still an unsolved problem. Recently, polymerised human serum albumin (pHSA) was reported to bind with both HBsAg as well as hepatocyte membrane and thus facilitate HBV entry into cell by acting as 'linker'. However, a detailed study to confirm this hypothesis has not been performed. The present investigation was planned to develop a simple ELISA method for evaluating the binding between HBsAg and pHSA in the sera samples from different HBV infections. pHSA was prepared by the standard biochemical techniques. Using 96 wells microtitre plate as the solid phase and commercial anti-HBs-HRPO as conjugate, ELISA test was performed in HBsAg positive sera, both with and without HBeAg, from acute viral hepatitis (42), fulminant hepatitis (12), cirrhosis (8), chronic active hepatitis (5) and healthy HBV-carriers (31). The binding activity was detected in 80 per cent of HBeAg positive patients, 71 per cent HBeAg negative patients and 58.3 per cent anti-HBe positive patients. Further, the binding was significantly high in HBsAg/IgM complex positive sera as compared to complex negative sera ($p < .001$). These results contradict the earlier findings that pHSA-binding is present only in HBeAg positive sera.

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