

Enzyme linked protein-A: an ELISA for detection of IgG antibodies against Mycobacterium tuberculosis in intestinal tuberculosis.

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Abstract

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Abstract

Enzyme linked protein-A has been used to develop an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) to detect circulating IgG antibodies to Mycobacterium tuberculosis. The specific binding of protein-A to IgG fractions through Fc receptors, makes the test more specific for detection of total IgG antibodies. The ELISA system has been used for detection of circulating antibodies to M. tuberculosis H37Ra in 22 patients with histologically proven intestinal tuberculosis and 88 healthy controls, in addition to 7 diseased controls. The ELISA has been found to be a sensitive test as it was positive in all 22 patients with intestinal tuberculosis. Its specificity was 85% in Indian controls and 97% in Norwegian controls. The test is easy to perform and may be recommended for the serological diagnosis of intestinal tuberculosis.