

A cross-sectional study of IgG antibody titres to antigen PPD-298 of M. tuberculosis in patients of pulmonary tuberculosis during the course of treatment.

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A cross-sectional study of IgG antibody titres to antigen PPD-298 of M.tuberculosis in patients of pulmonary tuberculosis during the course of treatment.

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Abstract:

In this study, 25 healthy controls, 25 freshly diagnosed and untreated cases of active pulmonary tuberculosis (Group I) and 100 patients of pulmonary tuberculosis on chemotherapy (Group II) at various intervals, i.e., 12-14 weeks (Subgroup IIa); 24-28 weeks (Subgroup IIb); 48-52 weeks (Subgroup IIc and at completion of treatment (Subgroup IId) were studied for IgG (gamma chain specific) reaction to antigen PPD-298, by ELISA technique, to see the effect, if any, of chemotherapy on antibody titres. All the patients of group II were treated with SHT for the first three months followed by HT for the next one year. From the diagnostic point of view, the test had a sensitivity of 99 percent and specificity of 84 percent. The mean absorbance values in various subgroups of Group II were less as compared to Group I, the difference being statistically significant only in Subgroup IIb. Effective chemotherapy appears to reduce the titre of anti-tubercular antibodies but not in a uniform or predictable manner to enable the test being used to monitor the progress of treatment. All (except one) of the patients had absorbance values (antibody titres) higher than the used cut off titre while most (21 out of 25) of the controls, irrespective of their Mantoux status, had values less than the cutoff point.

Keywords:

Serodiagnosis/MT; Tuberculosis, Pulmonary/DT; IgG/BL; Cross-Sectional Studies; Tuberculosis, Pulmonary/IM; Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay/MT; Antigen-Antibody Reactions; Sensitivity and Specificity; Disease Notification

References

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