

Simplification of the method of determining total iron-binding capacity of the serum (TIBC) for a routine laboratory test kit

N. NAKAZAWA, K. MAKI, K. NITTA and H. OGAWA

Daiichi Radioisotope Laboratories, Ltd., Tokyo

H. SAITO

Radioisotope Laboratory and Department of Radiology, Nagoya University

School of Medicine, Nagoya

Purpose

Attempt was made to simplify the method of Saito for the determination of TIBC. Since ascorbic acid solution used in Saito's method for the separation of serum iron from transferrin was unstable at room temperature, we investigated various acids to replace ascorbic acid.

Material and Method

Hydrochloric acid, acetic acid and citric acid were tested. Resins such as Amberlite CG-120 and CG-400 were also tested in combination with these acids. The sera of normal subjects and patients with various diseases were used for the fundamental investigation of the method, and also for the determination of TIBC. Conditions of elimination of serum iron, those of incubation of iron-free serum with radioactive iron solution, and those of elimination of unbound iron ion after incubation were investigated.

Results

Although hydrochloric acid and acetic acid were not suitable, citric acid was available for the determination of TIBC instead of ascorbic acid.

Addition of 1 ml of 0.6% citric acid solution was sufficient to separate serum iron from 1 ml of serum.

Amberlite CG-400 resin powder removed more than 97% of serum iron in 15 minutes rotation with citric acid.

By the precedent addition of sodium bicarbonate solution to radioactive iron solution, the procedure of neutralization of citric acid serum mixture solution was omitted.

Free iron ion in the serum solution unbound to transferrin was removed by a resin strip by rotating it for 90 minutes just like the case of determining unsaturated iron-binding capacity of the serum (UIBC), and centrifugation was not needed.

We have obtained the satisfactory results in determining TIBC of normals and patients by the improved method as compared with the TIBC of the same sera by colorimetry and immunodiffusion (micro Ouchterlony) method. Serum iron values as obtained by subtracting UIBC from TIBC radioiron method each coincided with the values by colorimetry.

In vitro measurement of globulin synthesizing capacity of lymphocytes using ^{75}Se -selenomethionine

M. HASEGAWA, H. YOSHIOKA and I. IWASAKI

Second Department of Internal Medicine, Okayama University

Medical School, Okayama

Stimulation of lymphocytes has been observed as increases in synthesis of DNA, RNA and globulin in the presence of phytohemagglutinin

(PHA). Globulin synthesizing capacity of human peripheral lymphocytes has been measured in terms of the incorporation of ^{75}Se -eleno-