

Nonerythropoietic Component of Early Labelled Bilirubin in Patients with Cirrhosis

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Nonerythropoietic component of early labelled bilirubin was studied in patients with cirrhosis about plasma and bile, after intravenous injection of 2.5 μ Ci of α -aminolevulinic acid.

(1) The features of appearance of labelled bilirubin in both serum and bile in patients with cirrhosis showed two peaks, as compared with one peak in normal subjects.

(2) The more the cirrhosis advanced, and the liver was reduced in size, the more the second peak came out later.

(3) In cirrhotic group with large sized liver scintigram, the mean cumulative radioactivity of 1 ml plasma in 4 hours was so large as 167.5 c.p.m./cc X hrs., and peak activity in the bile

was also high as compared with the medium sized or extremely reduced sized cirrhosis.

(4) In cirrhotic group with extremely small sized liver scintigram, the mean cumulative radioactivity of plasma in 4 hours was so small as to 86.5 c.p.m./cc X hrs., and that was just 1/2 of the large sized cirrhotic group, and 2/3 of the medium sized group. Also the peak activity in the bile in this group was the lowest of all groups examined.

(5) The above mentioned fact may suggest that in human almost all nonerythropoietic component of early bilirubin will be produced in the liver and that it may consist of two subcomponent.

Studies on Lymphodynamics in the Liver Utilizing Radioactive Human Serum Albumin

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We have reported that radioactivity of RISA introduced into the hepatic parenchyma can be used as an index of lymphodynamics of the liver.

In the present investigation, the hepatic clearance of RISA was analysed in various hepatic diseases, 30–40 μ Ci of RISA was percutaneously injected into the hepatic parenchyma in a volume of 0.1 ml. Radioactivity of the injected area was measured by a scintillation counter with NaI crystal during the 48 hours after the injection. The disappearance curve in various hepatic diseases was plotted on semilogarithmic paper.

The radioactivity diminished rapidly during 3 hours after the injection and then gradually

decreased.

In this study, the T-1/2 of the second phase was used as an index of lymphodynamics of the liver. The cases studied were chr. hepatitis (7 cases), hepatic cirrhosis (5 cases) and normal liver (8 cases).

In general, the T-1/2 of chr. hepatic diseases was delayed compared to that of the normal cases.

In chronic hepatitis, half time was 24 hours (mean).

In liver cirrhosis, half time was 33 hours (mean). In normal cases was 14 hours (mean).

A close correlation was recognized between

the rate of half time and the effective hepatic blood flow (KL) in various hepatic diseases.

The results were as follows.

1. Radioactivity of RISA introduced into hepatic parenchyma, can be used as an index of lymphodynamics of the liver.

2. The rate of clearance in the cases chr. hepatic diseases was elongated compared with that of the normal cases.

3. The lymph flow of the liver had close correlation with the effective hepatic blood flow.