EVALUATION OF CLINICAL USEFULNESS IN MEASURING SERUM FREE T3 CONCENTRATION.


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Serum concentrations of free thyroid hormones are important indicators of thyroid status. By using an Amerlex radioimmunoassay kit, we have examined serum levels of triiodothyronine (T3) in patients with thyroid diseases. All 35 thyrotoxic patients showed values over 6.04 pg/ml, whereas mean±s.d. of 35 hypothyroid patients was 1.50±0.66, with 3 cases overlapping the reference values (2.48±5.40) obtained as mean±2s.d. of 31 healthy controls. 4 subjects with TBG deficiency showed normal or high-normal values. Pregnant females tended to have decreased free T3 levels as gestations went on. In patients with Graves' disease on anti-thyroid drugs, some had normal total T3 but increased free T3 concentrations. Their serum TBG levels were found to be low compared to those of patients with both normal total and free T3, suggesting that the former were still slightly hyperthyroid. In hypothyroid patients, those after radio-active iodine therapy for Graves' disease had lower free T3 levels than patients with untreated Hashimoto's thyroiditis. This may reflect the difference in pathophysiology of hypothyroidism in these two groups. Thus, measurement of serum free T3 seemed to be useful in thyroid practice.

THE IMPROVEMENT OF STANDARD CURVE BY A DOUBLE ANTIBODY RADIOPHOISUSSAY FOR CE. M. Inoue. Okayama Clinical Laboratory (RI). Okayama.

Recently, carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA) is generally measured as tumour markers. There are three methods by Z-gell, solid phase, and double antibody radioimmunoassay for CEA. The method of solid phase is said to be good about precision. Eiken's kit for CEA (Eiken ICL) by double antibody is easily used and it's sensitivity is as good as the method by solid phase. Standard curve (Logistic curve) of Eiken's kit is stable but height of it tends towards low a little. We attempted the improvement of standard curve to expect rise of precision and sensitivity.

Standard curve [I] B = \frac{B}{P} (three quarters of I-125 CEA) × 100 Tracer

We carried out the fundamental investigations about five standard curves.

(Reducibility of within assay and between assay, Dilution, Recovery, Condition of incubation)

Standard curve[II] is better than the standard curve[I] in reducibility and sensi- tivity. This results effective bound is included in random error about Eiken's kit.

FLUORESCENCE POLARIZATION IMMUNOASSAY OF THYROID AND THYROXINE BINDING SITES AND ITS CLINICAL SIGNIFICANCE.

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Fluorescence polarization immunoassay (FPIA) measures tracer-antbody binding directly by using certain properties of the fluorescent dye, fluorescein. We determined the serum levels of T4 and the T3-binding sites in the serum using the TDX system-A (an automatic analyzer for FPIA). TDX-T4 levels were 8.7±1.3 µg/dl (mean±SD, n=50) in normal controls, 19.7±3.9 (n=26) in untreated hypothyroidism, 3.9±1.9 (n=6) in untreated hypothyroidism and 12.4±1.7 (n=33) in normal pregnant women. TDX-T3 take values, which indicate the T3 binding sites in the serum, were 0.99±0.10, 0.75±0.10, 1.02±0.13, 1.47±0.20, respectively. TDX-FT3 (TDX-T4/TDX-T3) up take were 8.7±1.8, 26.6±6.9, 3.7±1.8 and 8.5±0.9, respectively. Coefficient correlation between TDX-T4 and T3-RIA and between the TDX-T3-up take and TBG-RIA were 0.95 (n=160) and 0.90 (n=160), respectively. These results suggest that FPIA of T4 and T3-binding sites reflects various thyroid states clinically as well as RIA.

BASIC AND CLINICAL EVALUATION OF NEW a2-MICROGLOBULIN RIA KIT USING SECOND ANTIBODY ADSORBED SEPHAROSE.

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a2-microglobulin (a2-m) is a small protein with molecular weight of 11800. a2-m is widely used in human body such as serum, urine, saliva, liquor and milk. It is reported that the measurement of a2-m is useful for the diagnosis of patients with renal failure, autoimmune and malignant neoplasm. Solid phase RIA kit using antibody adsorbed sephadex is widely used for a2-m measurement at present. Recently, new a2-m RIA kit using second antibody adsorbed sepharose was developed and we performed basic and clinical evaluation of the kit.

The assay procedure of this kit is very simple, namely, serum sample is required only 50 µl, and sample dilution is unnecessary. In addition, in spite of adopting second antibody method, the only one incubation, 45 min at room temp., is required.

a2-m values obtained by this kit showed good correlation with those by current kit. In clinical studies, mean value of 40 healthy donors was 1.22±0.19 µg/ml and its range was 0.8 - 1.6 µg/ml. a2-m values in 29 patients with renal failure showed correlation with serum creatinine and BUN statistically. These results indicate that the measurement of a2-m value by this kit is available for clinical use.