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RADIOIODINATED PEANUT AGGLUTININ: A POTENTIAL
NEW TUMOR SEEKING AGENT (PART 1).

K. Yokoyama, N. Watanabe, S. Kawabata, K. Mukai
M. Ohguchi, T. Michigishi, T. Aburano, N. Tonami
and K. Hisada. Kanazawa University, Kanazawa.

Peanut agglutinin (PNA), one of plant lectins, binds preferentially to the immunodominant group of Thomsen-Friedenreich (T) antigen, which is in reactive form on some human adenocarcinomas.

The lectin was labeled with I-125 by chloramine-T method and Iodogen method. The biological activity of PNA was determined by a preserved hemagglutination titer with a photometer.

Biodistribution study was performed. 2×10^6 Lewis lung cancer cells are inoculated subcutaneously to C57 BL/6 mice. The group of mice were sacrificed at 12, 24, 48, and 72 hours after caudal IV injection of I-125 PNA.

1. The biological activity of PNA after radiolabeling was decreased to 50.7% by chloramine-T method. On the other hand, 87.9% the activity was preserved by Iodogen method. These results suggest that Iodogen method is preferable labeling procedure because of its little damage to the biological activity of PNA.
2. I-125 PNA labeled by Iodogen was more rapidly cleared from the liver, spleen, bone, muscle, and blood than that by chloramine-T.
3. Radioiodinated PNA showed a rapid clearance from blood, and good tumor localization. Tumor to Muscle ratio: 3.8 (at 48h.)
Tumor to blood ratio : 2.0 (at 72h.)

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NEW TUMOR SEEKING AGENT (PART 2).

K. Yokoyama, N. Watanabe, S. Kawabata, K. Mukai
M. Ohguchi, T. Michigishi, T. Aburano, N. Tonami
and K. Hisada. Kanazawa University, Kanazawa.

The Thomsen-Friedenreich (T) antigen, β -D-galactosyl-(1 $\rightarrow$ 3)- α -N-acetyl-D-galactosamine, is exposed in reactive form on adenocarcinomas of human breast, gastrointestinal and respiratory tract. On the contrary, the antigen is in the cryptic form masked by N-acetyl neuramic acid in healthy tissues. Peanut lectin (PNA) has a strong binding affinity for the T antigen. We investigated the potential of radioiodinated PNA as a tumor localizing agent in animal model system.

The lectin was labeled with I-131 by Iodogen (1,3,4,6-Tetrachloro-3 α ,6 α -diphenylglycouril) method to yield a specific activity of 1 mCi/mg PNA. There was no significant difference of biological activity of PNA between before and after labeling.

Lewis lung cancer, B-16 melanotic melanoma, Yoshida sarcoma, Hepatoma AH 109A, and Ehrlich ascites tumor were used as animal tumor models. An abscess induced by Turpentine oil was used as a benign model.

These animals received a caudal IV injection of 100 μ Ci of I-131 PNA. Serial scintigraphic images were obtained at 6, 24, 48, and 72 hours following the I-131 PNA injections.

The tumor tissue was clearly visualized as a function of time. Because of the low background activity subtraction technique was unnecessary.