CHROMOSOMAL BREAKAGE SEEN IN THE PATIENTS WITH VIRAL DISEASES

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Incidence of the chromosomal breakage seen in the patients who had the history of viral infection were studied. The purpose of this study is to try to know how long do such patients continue to show the chromosomal aberration induced by viral agents.

The metaphase of the cultured peripheral lymphocytes of the patients who had history of such diseases as measles, mumps, infectious hepatitis, Japanese encephalitis and myeloneuropathy (SMON) were examined.

The chromosomal aberrations observed in the patients who had measles and mumps 8 days after the onset of disease, were 14-32 % in incidence, which were higher than 6 % in control group. It was 4 % in patients with infectious hepatitis 6 months after the onset of jaundice. The five patients who were in post Japanese encephalitis, showed 21.4 %, 15 and 26 months afterwards. One women who suffered from SMON revealed 3 % in incidence of aberration one month after the onset of disease. Most of aberrations observed were of chromatid type and chromosome type aberrations were noticed in the patients who had history of infectious hepatitis and SMON.

A NEW ENDEMIC AREA OF SCRUB TYPHUS IN MAN IN OITA PREFECTURE

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Since the end of the war, endemic areas of new type scrub typhus were found in Tokyo, Chiba, Kanagawa, Shizuoka, Mie, Kyoto, Kagawa, Kochi, Oita and

Miyazaki Prefectures besides the well-known endemic areas of classical scrub typhus, Akita, Yamagata and Niigata Prefectures (Tamiya, 1962) corresponding to the fact that rickettsia-positive rodents were distributed at scattered areas all over Japan except the northern part of Hokkaido on the bases of the country-wide survey on rickettsia-positive rodents by the study group headed by Dr. Tamiya. At Oita Prefecture rickettsia-positive rodents were trapped at 7 areas in 1956 (Tamiya) and a scrub typhus patient was reported by Fujimoto et al. in 1962 highly probably infected at the Hijudai area.

According to the answers to the questionnaires on scrub typhus, which were distributed to 1,092 members of the Oita Prefectural Medical Association, 3 suspected scrub typhus cases were found at the Takeda area. One was a farmer, 61-year old male, and the other was 31-year old female who fell in the disease with a high fever and rashes in November, 1967 and recovered dramatically with chloramphenicol treatment. The scar of eschar was still recognized 1 year and 8 months after the onset of the disease at the right side of groin and the right axilla respectively. The CF test on their sera was positive a year and 8 months after the onset of illness for the Karp antigen but negative for Kato and Gilliam antigens or for murine and epidemic typhus antigens. Thus they were diagnosed serologically as a Karp type scrub typhus. Another reported case was a 70-year old male who got the disease with high fever and rashes on March 5, 1969. He might not be a scrub typhus because no eschar was recognized and chloramphenicol treatment did not give so curative effect and the CFT did not give any conclusion because of the anticomplementary activity of the serum.

By the way the rodents trapped at the Takeda areas on October 17-18, 1969 were found rickettsia-positive and *L. pallidum* collected from those host animals were found rickettsia-positive as well.

In conclusion Takeda area, Oita Prefecture was found newly endemic with Karp type of scrub typhus where at least 2 human cases were found in November, 1967, and the rickettsia-positive rodents and *L. pallidum* were confirmed to be distributed in October, 1969.