The diagnostic significance of a detection of toxoplasmosis-societal IgA-antibodies in sera of HIV-infected persons and AIDS-patients

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Due to a heavily delayed and weakened answer of the humoral immune system in most cases the laboratory diagnosis of toxoplasmosis may be difficult in HIV infected persons. Only a combination of different techniques for direct as well as indirect detection of the parasite or its metabolic products or its DNA leads to satisfying diagnostic results. In a screening investigation the question should be answered retrospectively whether the detection of specific IgA antibodies is of any diagnostic significance for a discovery of an acute toxoplasmosis in HIV positive persons.

Within a period of 15 months 748 HIV infected persons (0 age: 36.6 y; ca. 35 % AIDS) were continuously (0 211 days) supervised by different techniques for the development of an acute toxoplasmosis; 262 sera were investigated for their content of specific IgA antibodies by a catching antibody-ELISA (ETI-TOXOK-A; Sorin, Saluggia, 1). Out of the 415 (56%) with positive toxoplasma infected patients 68 (18,3%) developed an acute infection, 13 primary infections and 28 reactivations of these acute cases with altogether at least 19 pulmonary and 17 cerebral infections could be followed up serologically.

In sera of persons without or with latent infections IgA resis gave negative results, whereas specific IgA antibodies usually in low titres were found in about 60% of the sera of patients with acute infections. The typical course of the illness in reactivated infections clearly differs from that in primary infections, surprisingly there is no difference within the various clinical forms of toxoplasmosis. We could not find any correlation to a IgM production or to any other serological parameter did we detect any extremely high "unspecific" titre as known in G or M. The positive predictive value of the IgA detection seems to be rather high, yet the sensitivity is low and in cases of primary infections the immune response is delayed.

Thus, a detection of specific IgA antibodies may represent a useful tool for an acquisition of additional information in laboratory diagnosis of toxoplasmosis in HIV infected persons.

Keywords: toxoplasmosis, IgA, HIV-infection, AIDS

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Comparison of different Babesia canis isolates in ELISA and immunoblot

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Different Babesia canis isolates from Hungary, France, Egypt and South Africa were compared in EUSA and Immunoblot. Antigens were prepared from merozoites of each isolate. Antisera from dogs infected with the different Babesia canis isolates from Hungary, France, Egypt and South Africa were tested against the respective antigens. Sera showed clearly higher titers when the Hungarian antigen was used. The other three antigens reacted less sensitive against homologous and heterologous Babesia anisera. Sera with 10 tw of titles were likely to be false negative.

SDS-Fages were made from the antigens "Hungary" and "Egypt" and blotted with antisera of the isolates from France. The same antigen showed variations of the bands when blotted with sera from different dogs. Variations also occurred when the immunoblot was made with sera from the respective antigens.

Keywords: Babesia canis, Babesia anisera, Lipid

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Investigation on the expression of Anopheles sarphytoide.

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The proteins and their epitopes used by this parasite to determine these parasites infected and uninfected method and quality analyzer.