Detection of Haemophilia Carriers in Italy

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Factor VIII activity (VIII:C) and factor VIII antigen (VIII:Ag) were measured in 50 obligatory carriers of haemophilia A in 50 normal women. Linear discriminant analysis by means of a computer was carried out to discriminate between the 2 populations. On the basis of these data, 130 suspected carriers were also studied. Judging from our study, linear discriminant analysis seems to be more realistic than frequency distribution analysis of VIII:Ag/VIII:C ratio.

Factor IX activity (IX:C) and factor IX antigen (IX:Ag) as well as factor VIII, pro-thrombin time, Normotest and Thrombotest were determined in 37 haemophiliacs B from 26 kindreds, in 30 carriers of haemophilia B and in 40 healthy subjects. In 15 obligatory carriers from 9 kindreds, in which haemophiliacs did not exhibit IX:Ag in excess of IX:C, IX:C was parallel with IX:Ag, but in 4 from 4 kindreds, in which haemophiliacs exhibit excess of IX:Ag, there was a discrepancy between IX:C and IX:Ag. The obligatory carriers from 6 kindreds, in which haemophiliacs did not have IX:Ag in excess of IX:C, showed that the anomaly M is not a sign of genetic variability of haemophilia B.