J. De Bersaques and M.L. Geerts

Lactate Dehydrogenase Isoenzymes in Basal Cell Epitheliomas

Lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) can be separated electrophoretically into five isoenzymes, composed of two types of subunits, H and M, grouped four by four. In the epidermis the fractions LDH 4 and especially LDH 5 preponderate and the subunits M are 15-20 times more numerous than the subunits H. Such a distribution is seldom found in basal cell tumours; mostly the percentages of LDH 1 and LDH 2 are higher than in the epidermis of the same patient. In some tumours the fraction LDH 1 is predominant, and the subunits H may be up to seven times more numerous than the subunits M.

Where the distribution is the same as in the epidermis, the tumours are histologically Pagetoid epitheliomas or strongly differentiated basal cell tumours with connections with the epidermis or the hair follicles. The tumours of the other extreme group are nodular ones with large and a few small lobes, showing cylindromatous degeneration.

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Epidemiological Study on Viral Warts in Butchers

The frequent occurrence of viral warts on the hands of people working in butcher’s shops is a well-known fact [Bosse, K. und Christophers, E.: Hautarzt 75: 80, 1964. Λ.π.υ., J.Z.: Arch. Derm. Syph. 100: ITS, 1969] but on this subject not one epidemiological study has been carried out yet. In the present study the prevalence of viral warts on the hands of the butchers of two large meat factories and of a slaughterhouse was investigated. 128 (23.8%) of the 536 examined subjects were affected; 93 of these had palmar warts and 56 dorsal ones.

For the purpose of comparison a same epidemiological study was performed in two factories where contact with meat is excluded. These two factories are part of the same industrial area as one of the meat factories. The prevalence of viral warts was here 10.2% (19 subjects out of 185); 8 had palmar warts and 13 dorsal ones.

The difference between the prevalence percentages in the meat factories and the reference factories is significant. A few hypotheses which could explain this high frequency are discussed.

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Lichen sclerosus et atrophicus. An Electron-Microscopic Study

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G. Speelman

Leishmaniasis cutis

Will be published in Tiidschrift voor Geneeskunde.
Subacute Migrating Nodular Hypodermitis of Vilanova and Pinol
Will be published in Hautarzt.