

A biochemical study on hidden 19S IgM rheumatoid factor and the disease activity of Egyptian patients with seronegative juvenile rheumatoid arthritis.

Thesis

Submitted by

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(M.Sc. Biochemistry, 1989)

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I am grateful to professor **Dr.TAHANY M. MAHAREM**, Professor of Biochemistry, Faculty of Science, Ain Shams University for encouragement and valuable help.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude and deep appreciation to professor **Dr. FATHY TAMARA**, Professor of General Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, who has given me the opportunity to perform this study. I am very grateful for encouragement and valuable guidance.

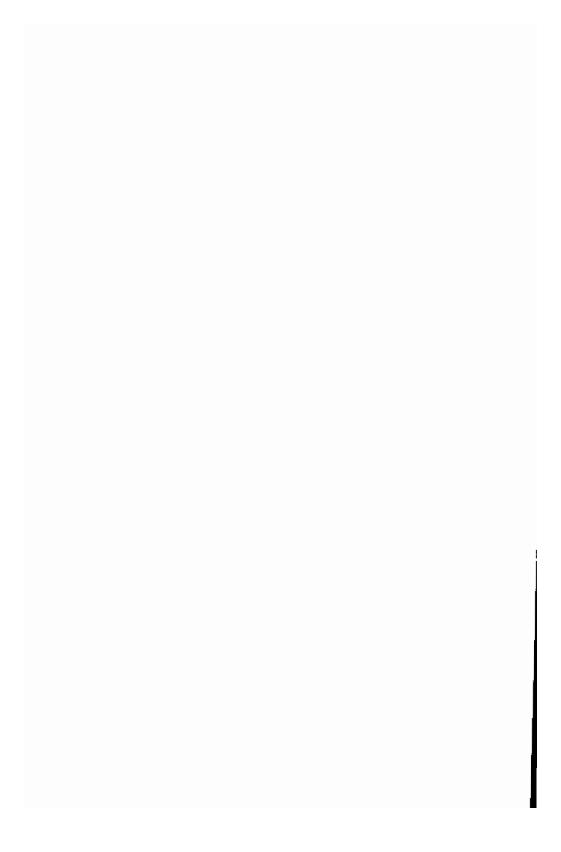
I am deeply indebted to **Dr. AMINA MOHAMMED**, Lecturer of Biochemistry, Faculty of Science, Ain Shams University, for her guidance and generous help.

Last but not least I appreciat and thank **Dr. MOHAMMED A. M. MAKLOUF**, for revising the clinical aspect of the work and for his generous help.

M. Khaled

CONTENTS

	Page
Abstract	i
List of abbreviations	iii
List of Figures	iv
List of Tables	vi
Aim of the work	ix
1) Introduction	1
Rheumatoid factors	1
Rheumatoid arthritis	12
Juvenile rheumatoid arthritis	13
Acute phase proteins	18
Interleukin-1	23
Prostaglandins	26
The synovial fluid	28
II) Subjects and Methods	34
Routine investigations	36
Immunologic studies on rheumatoid factor	44
The assay of circulating immune complexes	53
Immunologic tests for some mediators of inflammation	56
Statistical analysis	64
III) Results	66
IV) Discussion	96
V) References	104
English and Arabic summary	



ABSTRACT

Mohammed Khaled Mohammed. A biochemical study on hidden 19S IgM rheumatoid factor and the disease activity of Egyptian patients with seronegative juvenile rheumatoid arthritis. Unpublished Doctor of Philosophy dissertation, Ain Shams University, Faculty of science, Biochemistry department, 1996.

In the present study the hidden rheumatoid factor was separated from the sera of seronegative juvenile rheumatoid arthritis patients by two methods (NaCl dissociation and ion-exchange chromatography) and its titer was correlated with serum circulating immune complexes and disease activity.

The simple, cheap and routine NaCl dissociation method yields similar hidden rheumatoid factor titers as the ion-exchange chromatography method. Also hidden rheumatoid factor titers correlated significantly with disease activity as indicated from the following observations.

The erythrocyte sedimentation rate, C3 , C4, circulating immune complexes, and interleukin 1β were significantly increased in hidden rheumatoid factor positive patients when compared to the hidden rheumatoid factor negative patients and normal subjects.

The C-reactive protein was positive in almost all the hidden rheumatoid factor positive patients and to lesser extent in hidden rheumatoid factor negative ones.

The synovial fluid of hidden rheumatoid factor positive patients was more severely inflammed than in the hidden rheumatoid factor negative ones as observed from the marked increase in the levels of total leucocyte count, polymorphonuclear%, total protein, and acid phosphatase activity and the more detectable decrease in glucose level.

In conclusion, hidden rheumatoid factors were shown to be present in 60% of seronegative juvenile rheumatoid arthritis patients and the presence of hidden rheumatoid factor correlated with disease activity which may prove to be a valuable tool for the serologic diagnosis of juvenile rheumatoid arthritis and a mean of following disease activity.

The separation of hidden rheumatoid factor by NaCl dissociation method provides a simple, cheap, and accurate method suitable for most medical laboratories.

Key words:

Juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, Rheumatoid factors, Hidden rheumatoid factors, Acute phase proteins, Synovial fluid.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ANA Antinuclear antibody

APF Antiperinuclear factor

C3 The 3rd complement component

C4 The 4th complement component.

CIC Circulating immune complexes.

CRP C-reactive protein

EDTA Ethylenediamine

ELISA Enzyme linked Immunoabsorbent Assay.

ESR Erythrocyte sedimentation rate.

HEP-2 Human epithelial cell-2.

HRF Hidden rheumatoid factor.

hsp Heat shock protein

IL-1 Interleukin-1

JRA Juvenile rheumatoid arthritis.

LFT Latex fixation test.

PLM Polymorphonuclear leucocyte

PGs Prostaglandins.

RA Rheumatoid arthritis.

RCRI Rheumatoid factor cross reactive idiotype.

RF Rheumatoid factor

RW Rose-Waaler test.

TLC Total leucoycte count.

LIST OF FIGURES

******	Page
Fig. (i): Polypeptide chain structure of human IgM (From Schrohenloher & Koopman : Arthritis and Allied Conditions. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia, 1993)	n 2
Fig.(ii): Interaction of IgM rheumatoid factor with monomeric and aggregated IgG (From Carson, Arthritis and Allied Conditions, Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia, 1993)	S
Fig. (iii): Cyclooxygenase pathway of arachidonic acid metabolism (From, Zurier, Text Book of Rheumatology Saunders Co., 1993).	
Fig. (iv): The latex test (From Dieppe et al. : Rheumatological Medicine.New York, Churchill Livingstone, 1985).	44
Fig. (v): standard curve of IL-1β	58
Fig. (vi): standard curve of PGE 2	6]
Fig. (vii): standard curve of C3	63
Fig. (viii): standard curve of C4	63
Fig. (1): Scatterplot comparing hidden rheumatoid factor (HRF) titers determined by RW in the IgM containing fraction obtained after serum separation by ion exchange chromatography and in serum samples after immune complex dissociation by NaCl (Table 3). The line drawn parallel to the correlation line represents ± I tube dilution around the correlation line.	g e

	page
Fig. (2): Erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR), total leucocyte count (TLC), C3 and C4 in normal subjects, HRF-ve and HRF+ve patients.	7 7
Fig (3): Correlation between HRF titers of HRF+ve patients as determined by RW in the IgM containing fraction obtained after ion-exchange chromatographic separation of serum samples (Table 3) and the level of their corresponding ESR values (Table 8).	80
Fig.(4): Correlation between HRF titers as determined by RW in the IgM containing fraction obtained after ion-exchange chromatographic separation of serum samples (Table 3) and their corresponding C3 level (Table 8).	81
Fig.(5): Correlation between HRF titers as determined by RW in the lgM containing fraction obtained after separation of serum samples by ion-exchange chromatography (Table 3) and their corresponding C4 level (Table 8).	82
Fig. (6): Circulating immune complexes (ClC), prostaglandin E2 (PGE2) and interleukin 1β (IL- 1β) in normal subjects, HRF-ve and HRF+ve patients.	87
Fig. (7): Correlation between HRF titers as determined by RW in the IgM containing fraction obtained after serum separation by ion-exchange chromatography (Table 3) and their corresponding CIC level (Table 14).	89
Fig. (8): Correlation between HRF titers as determined by RW in the IgM containing fraction after serum separation by ion-exchange chromatography (Table 3) and their corresponding IL-1β level (Table 14).	90

LIST OF TABLES

यों यों को की की की की की की की	Page
Table (1): Serum rheumatoid factor (RF) and hidden rheumatoid factor (HRF) in normal subjects.	66
Table (2): Age, sex, juvenile rheumatoid arthritis (JRA) onset types, serum Rheumatoid factor (RF) and hidden rheumatoid factor (HRF) in HRF - ve patients.	67
Table (3): Age, sex, juvenile rheumatoid arthritis (JRA) onset types, serum rheumatoid factor (RF) and hidden rheumatoid factor (HRF) in HRF + ve patients.	68
Table(4): The effect of incubation of the IgM fraction of HRF+ve samples with aggregated IgG (Inhibition test)	71
Table (5): Rheumatoid factor titer determined by Rose-Waaler test in serum positive samples before and after chromatographic separation and the effect of substituting the eluting solution by saline solution (dialysis).	72
Table (6): Erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR), total leucocyte count (TLC), C-reactive protein (CRP), and complement components (C3 and C4) in normal subjects.	73
Table (7): Erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR), total leucocyte count(TLC), C-reactive protein (CRP), and complement components (C3 and C4) in HRF - ve patients.	74
Table (8): Erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR), total leucocyte (TLC)count, C-reactive protein (CRP), and complement components (C3 and C4) in HRF +ve patients.	75

1	Page
Table (9): Statistical analysis pertained to Tables (6, 7, 8)	76
Table (10): Serum C-reactive protein (CRP) in normal subjects, HRF-ve and HRF+ve patients.	78
Table (11): Correlation between HRF titer and erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR), total leucocyte count (TLC) and complement components (C3 and C4) in HRF +ve patients.	79
Table (12): Serum circulating immune complexes (CIC), prostaglandin E2(PGE2) and interleukin 1 β (IL1 β) in normal subjects.	83
Table (13): Serum circulating immune complexes (CIC), prostaglandin E2(PGE2) and interleukin 1β ($1L1$ β) in HRF-ve patients.	84
Table (14): Serum circulating immune complexes (CIC), prostaglandin E2 (PGE2) and interleukin 1β (IL- 1β) in HRF +ve patients.	85
Table (15): Statistical analysis pertained to tables (12,13,14)	86
Table (16): Correlation between HRF titer and circulating immune complexes (CIC), prostaglandin E2 (PGE2) and interleukin 1β (IL 1β)in HRF+ve patients.	88
Table(17) : Total leucocyte count (TLC), and polymorphonuclear leucocyte percentage (PLM %) in the synovial fluid of HRF-ve and HRF+ve patients.	91

page

- **Table (18):** Mucin clot test in the synovial fluid of 92 HRF-ve and HRF+ve patients.
- **Table (19):** Serum and synovial fluid total protein in 93 HRF-ve and HRF+ve patients.
- **Talbe (20):** Serum and synovial fluid fasting glucose in 94 HRF-ve and HRF+ve patients.
- **Table (21):** Serum and synovial fluid acid phosphatase 95 activity (AP) in HRF- ve and HRF+ve patients.