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JUL 25 1951

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

OF

RESEARCH PROGRESS

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

January-June 1951

This is active current work now in progress. This is a month old & the Neurology Institute has now opened.
Dr Warren

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of human serum and plasma. Normally, a delicate and constant balance is maintained between these inhibitors, but in metabolic disturbances such as cancer profound changes occur. This furnishes data of practical importance in management of the cancer patient and may yield new information regarding the fundamental mechanisms involved in tumor growth. The general nature and many properties of these inhibitors have been investigated.

12. PURIFICATION OF THE RENNIN INHIBITOR - Philip M. West, M.D. Ph.D., B. R. Hill, Ph.D.

There are indications that the rennin inhibitor is of significance in the control of neoplastic invasion and growth activity, so a problem of major importance is the concentration and purification of a rennin inhibitor from a suitable source. A fraction has been prepared which is four times as active as normal plasma with respect to rennin inhibitor activity and contains no chymotrypsin inhibitor activity.

13. CHYMOTRYPSIN INHIBITOR - Philip M. West, M.D. Ph.D., B. R. Hill, Ph.D.

Urine which is four plus in albumin is an excellent source for the chymotrypsin inhibitor. The nature and properties of this inhibitor are being investigated.

14. UROPEPSIN INHIBITOR - Philip M. West, M.D., Ph.D., B. R. Hill, Ph.D.

There is an inhibitor in urine and in pepsin-digested plasma which will inhibit the milk clotting activity of rennin and acid-activated uropepsin. The general nature and properties of these inhibitors are in the process of investigation.

15. DEHYDROGENASE INHIBITOR - Philip M. West, M.D. Ph.D., B. R. Hill, Ph.D.

There is an inhibitor of lactate dehydrogenase present in the serum of cancer patients. A method has been devised for the quantitative estimation of this inhibitor.

16. DIAGNOSIS OF THYROID FUNCTION WITH RADIOIODINE - M. E. Morton, M.D. Ph.D., D. L. Cronin, M.D.

Diagnosis of thyroid function with doses of radioiodine as low as 1/10 microcurie is being carried out using the Sylvania GG-306 gamma counter. By measuring the slope of the thyroid uptake curve for 1/2 hour after intravenous dose of radioiodine a rapid means of measuring thyroid function is afforded.

17. MECHANISM OF FORMATION OF THYROXINE - M. E. Morton, M.D. Ph.D. Alvin Bloom, B.S.

Research studies involving the mechanism of formation of thyroxine

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are being carried out in vitro. In addition, the effects of thiocyanate, thyrotropin and the adrenal steroid hormones are being studied.

18. PHOSPHORUS METABOLISM OF THE THYROID GLAND - M. E. Morton, M.D. Ph.D., Joseph Schwartz, Ph.D.

The phosphorus metabolism of the thyroid gland is being studied in vitro. Separation of the phosphorus compounds into acid soluble, phospholipid, and protein are being carried out.

19. METHODS FOR THE MEASUREMENT OF I-127 ARE UNDER STUDY USING RADIOIODINE - M. E. Morton, M.D., Ph.D., Mary Stehly, B. S.

20. AUTORADIOGRAPHY - M. E. Morton, M.D., Ph.D., Mary Stehly, B. S.

Techniques of autoradiography which will minimize the leaching out of the radioactive material from the tissue are under investigation.

21. FORMATION AND DEGRADATION OF PROTEINS IN SERUM - M. E. Morton, M.D. Ph.D. Eugene Weiner, B.S., Mrs. Edith Doerffler.

The rates of formation and degradation of the different proteins in serum are being measured in a patient with multiple myeloma using S-35 labeled methionine.

22. A CLINICAL STUDY OF THE INTERRELATIONSHIP OF ACTH AND CORTISONE IN THYROID FUNCTION - M. E. Morton, M.D. Ph.D., Richard Peterson, M.D.

23. THE METABOLISM OF PYRIMIDINES IN DIABETES MELLITUS - M. E. Morton, M.D. Ph.D., Raymond Caren, M.D.

Labeled compounds are being synthesized for the study of the metabolism of pyrimidines in diabetes mellitus.

24. MEASURE OF NUTRITIONAL BLOOD FLOW - S. Rapaport, M.D., Albert Saul, B.S.

A comparative study has been made using as a measure of nutritional blood flow the clearance rates of subcutaneously and intramuscularly injected radiosodium and radioiodide, and using pneumoplethysmography as a reference.

25. RELATIVE CLEARANCE OF RADIOIODIDE AND RADIOPHOSPHATE - S. Rapaport, M.D., Albert Saul, B. S.

Double isotope techniques using radiosodium, radioiodide and radiophosphate are being applied as a means of determining the relative clearance of these substances from injected tissues. This may afford means of determining certain physical factors in capillary permeability. The mechanism of clearance has been formulated mathematically.

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