Abstracts

Reports of Research


The compound is "a-di-(p-ethoxyphenyl)-β-phenyl bromoethylene. In ovariectomized mice it has an oral threshold similar to that of estradiol and much higher than that of stilbestrol. It differs from these compounds in that its action is much more prolonged. The long duration appears to depend upon storage in the fat of the body. It has been used with some success in the treatment of menopausal symptoms. The effects of this compound in 3 cases of carcinoma of the prostate are described in detail. The author concludes that D.B.E. is a substance of great theoretical interest, but in some respects it is inferior to the other synthetic estrogens. It is doubtful whether the advantage of weekly administration over administration 3 times a day is sufficient to warrant the general introduction of another of these biologically active agents. —E. L. K.


An elaborate tabulation of the results of the Aschheim-Zondek test in over 300 cases recorded in the literature is presented. The results in mouse units per liter may be summarized as follows. (1) Cases of seminoma gave an average level well below 1,000; 75% were below 500 and only 25% were below 100. (2) Cases of chorionepithelioma, adenocarcinoma, carcinoma, malignant teratomas of all types gave values of 1,000 to 50,000, and 1 to 3 million in extreme cases. —E. L. K.


A steroid "E," which acts as an estrogen in immature female rats and as an androgen in immature male rats, and which increases the volume of the spleen to 2 or 3 times normal size, has been found in cancerous tissues, blood, and urine of rats and human patients with malignant tumors. A reaction for the diagnosis of cancer, based on detection of this steroid, has proved its worth in 1,000 patients. Tests were positive in all instances of cancer, even in the presence of many early and cutaneous lesions. —M. H. P.


Two cases are presented in which tests of the urine for chorionic gonadotropin indicated that chorionic tissue was present in the primary tumor. Such tissue was not identified in sections from various portions of the tumors removed at operation, but in both cases metastases developed which were found on postmortem examination to consist of choriocarcinoma. —J. G. K.

It is reported that attempts to treat epitheliosis and breast carcinoma by means of so-called specific antiserum produced against tumor or homologous normal tissue have failed.—A. C.


After a review of the experimental work performed mainly on mice and to a lesser extent on rats, the clinical and hematological aspects of leukemia in human pathology are studied. The authors do not believe in the virus origin of leukemia, since it is impossible to transmit the disease in animals without the use of living cells. As is known, leukemias are provoked by many physical or chemical agents. The possibility of mutation-provoking factors is discussed.—R. J.


When chrysene is injected interperitoneally in arachis oil, the 3-methoxy derivative appears in the feces. The 2-position is the most reactive in mono-substitution.—E. L. K.


The iron content of the blood serum was found to be increased to over 200% in 18 of 25 patients with acute hepatitis, and in 1 of 5 with cirrhosis of the liver, but in only 1 of 12 with obstructive jaundice due to cancer, and in none of 7 with cholelithiasis. Application of the determination to supplementary differential diagnosis is suggested.—M. H. P.


Some observations on the carcinogenic action of cholesterol derivatives, a diet excluding animal fats and restricting cholesterol containing foods is recommended for combating cancer. Vegetable oils, sufficient vitamins, and easily digested proteins are recommended, and the limitation of carbohydrates is suggested.—M. H. P.


The agglutination of blood platelets from plasma that has stood at 42° C. for 3 hours and then treated with HCl, has been found to be above normal in afebrile diseases which have increased sedimentation rates. These include cancer involving various organs and also lymphogranulomatosis. However, there was no parallelism between agglutination and sedimentation rate.—M. H. P.


The mammary tumors in rats are most frequently adenobromomas. Their sarcomatous transformation is relatively frequent, but their transformation into glandular epithelomas is exceptional. In the case described, such a transformation was observed. Successive transplants to other rats showed a progressive modification of the histological picture toward the fusiform sarcomatoid type. The possibility of a metamorphosis of epithelomatosus cells to a sarcomatoid type cell is suggested.—R. J.


This technic of transplantation was used in the study of the mechanism of action of chemical carcinogenesis, and also to study the behavior of tissue grafts in the process of becoming cancerous. Preliminary results seem to indicate that (1) autotransplants of such tissues have
The diagnostic value of Roffo's neutral red and splenic smears has been confirmed by clinical tests in over 90% of patients with cancer. The reaction is positive from very early stages of the disease, becomes negative within 1 month after complete surgical extirpation of the growth, and becomes negative more slowly after radiotherapy. When the Roffo reaction does not change after treatment, this indicates that the treatment has not modified the course of the disease.—M. H. P.

**Clinical and Pathological Reports**

**Diagnosis**


The diagnostic value of Roffo's neutral red and splenic hyperplasia reactions has been confirmed by clinical tests.

The neutral red reaction, performed on the blood serum *in vitro*, gave over 90% correct positive results in several thousand patients with cancer of the alimentary tract, oral cavity, skin, urogenital organs, breast, lung, mediastinum, thyroid, parathyroid, or bone, or with leukemia, lymphosarcoma, or lymphogranuloma. The splenic hyperplasia reaction, observed in rats injected with blood serum from cancer patients, gave results for 25 patients with...
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