



10TH

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON AUTOIMMUNITY

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PROGRAM BOOK

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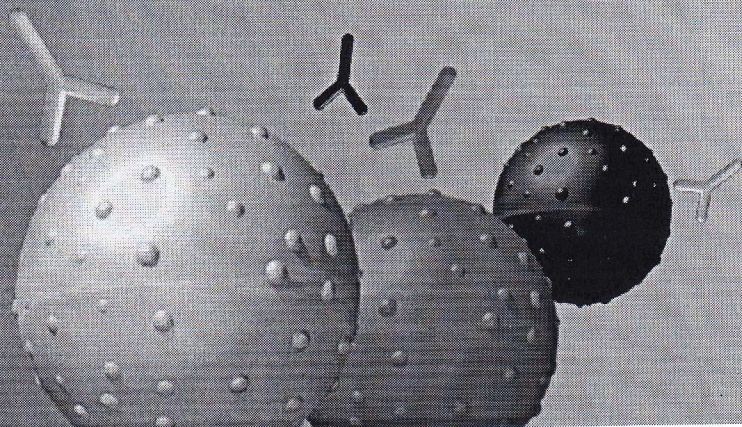


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Abstract: 607

CYTOKINE PRODUCTION IN PERIPHERAL BLOOD CELLS OF PATIENTS WITH MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

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Background/Objectives. Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a chronic autoimmune disease of the central nervous system. The aim of this study was to analyze cytokine profile in patients with MS and to compare it with those in healthy subjects. **Design/Method:** The study group included 10 patients with MS and 20 healthy controls. Cytokine levels were determined in supernatants obtained from phytohemagglutinin (PHA)-stimulated whole blood cultures *in vitro*. The concentrations of selected cytokines: interferon gamma (IFN-gamma), interleukin 2 (IL-2), interleukin 4 (IL-4), interleukin 5 (IL-5), interleukin 6 (IL-6), interleukin 10 (IL-10), interleukin 13 (IL-13) and interleukin 17 (IL-17A) were measured using multiplex cytokine detection systems for Human Th1/Th2/Th9/Th17/Th22. **Results:** Mean production of IFN-gamma, IL-2, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6 and IL-17A tended to be higher in patients with MS than in controls, but statistically significant difference was obtained only for IL-13 (575 ± 519 vs 145 ± 158 , $p = 0.045$) and IL-10 (1372 ± 1685 vs 247 ± 220 , $p = 0.043$). **Conclusions:** *In vitro* stimulated peripheral blood cells of patients with MS produce more pro-inflammatory (especially T-helper 2) cytokines and anti-inflammatory cytokine IL-10 than healthy controls. The lack of significant differences in production of several cytokines between MS patients and controls might be the consequence of the small sample size and high individual variations within the groups.