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SOURCE Meditsinskiy Rabotnik, No 59 (1283), p 4, columns 5, 6

NEW USSR WORK ON ISOLATION OF SPECIFIC PROTEIN OF MALIGNANT TUMORS

The personnel of the Laboratory of Immunochemistry [Institute of Experimental Medicine, Academy of Medical Sciences USSR], the head of which is Prof V. S. Gostev, is engaged at present in work on the separation of various fractions of the protein of human tumor tissue and the isolation of the specific protein of cancer tumors in a purified state.

Research in this field became possible after Scientific Associate A. K. Saakov had obtained a reagent for cancer tissue in the form of the so-called monospecific anticancer serum which reacts with cancer proteins exclusively and does not react in the slightest degree with normal proteins.

Successful work on this subject is being carried out by V. I. Sachkov, Candidate of Medical Sciences. He obtained from human tumor tissue a protein fraction which is 20 times more active toward anticancer serum than the initial extract from the same tissue. Sachkov achieved this result by salting out with ammonium sulfate solutions of different concentrations the protein fractions contained in an extract of tumor tissue. He modified the usual procedure of salting out by immersing in the beaker containing the extract of tumor tissue a rotating cellophane cup filled with a saturated ammonium sulfate solution. The proteins which are gradually precipitated as the concentration of ammonium sulfate increases in the beaker represent different fractions of human protein tissue. Each of these fractions is investigated chemically in a precise manner. The fraction which has the strongest capacity for combining with the monospecific anticancer serum contains the greatest amount of specific cancer protein.

At present, the workers at the laboratory are attempting to isolate the cancer protein in a pure state to subject it to further study.

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