

CYTOGENETIC MODIFICATIONS IN PERIPHERAL BLOOD LYMPHOCYTES FROM PATIENTS WITH ACUTE VIRAL HEPATITIS

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Lymphocytes of peripheral blood cultures taken from 130 patients with acute viral hepatitis of A, B and C types and from 20 healthy persons (utilized as controls) were cytogenetically investigated for presence of micronucleus and chromosomal aberrations. The cytogenetic analysis showed increases very significant of the frequency of micronucleated lymphocytes and chromosomal aberrations (gaps, breaks, acentric fragments, chromosomal exchanges and diffuse chromosomal anomalies including pulverizations, despiralizations and premature chromosomal condensations) and numerical aberrations (hyperdiploidies, hypodiploidies, polyploidies and endoreduplications) was not varied with the type of hepatitis (A, B or C) or with various factors such as age, sex, other recent viral infections, X-ray exposure, drug treatments, cigarette smoke. The individual results showed an important variability.