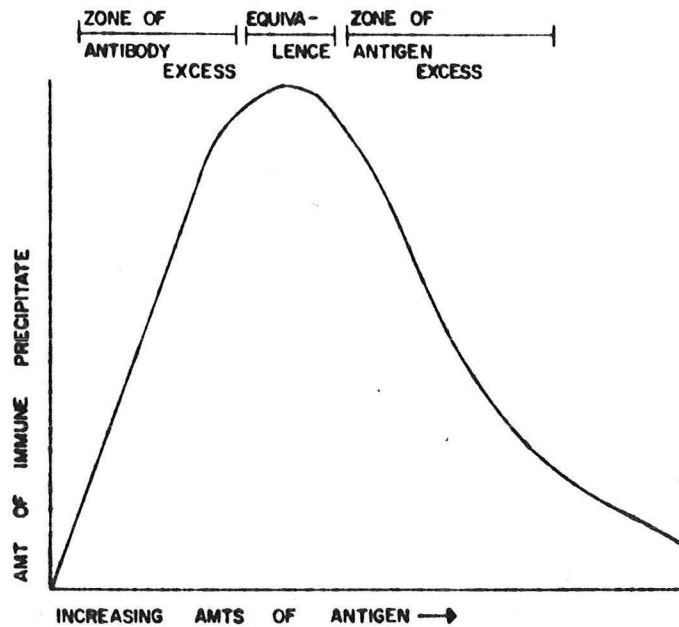


IMMUNE COMPLEX DISEASE

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Fig. 1.—Antigen-antibody precipitin curve. This curve is produced by weighing the precipitate formed when increasing amounts of antigen are added to a number of tubes, each containing a constant volume of antiserum. The zone of maximal precipitate formation is called the zone of equivalence. Soluble immune complexes are not found in significant quantity in the zone of antibody excess, but may be present in supernatants from the zone of equivalence or in higher concentrations in supernatants from the zone of antigen excess.



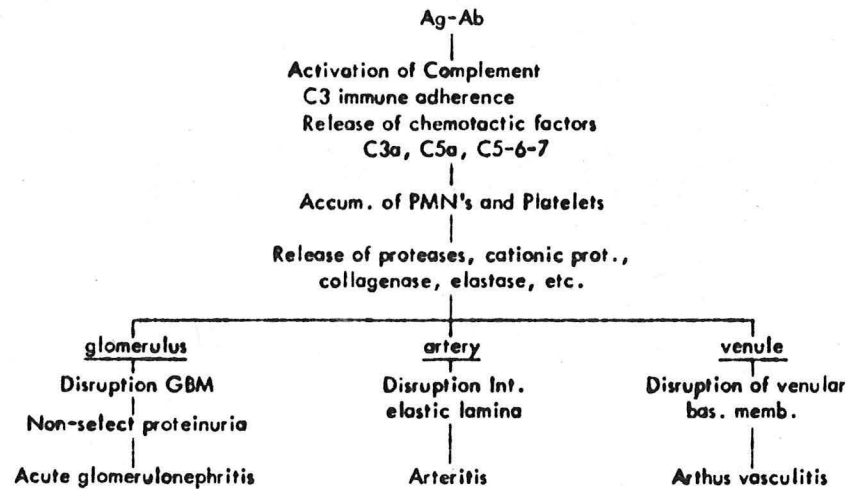
(55)

Table I Main Clinical Features of Immune Complex Disease

Fever	
Generalized lymphadenopathy	
Hypertension	- Glomerulonephritis
Albuminuria	
Oliguria	
Haematuria	
Oedema	
Maculopapular rash	- Cutaneous vasculitis
Leg ulcers	
Purpura	
Raynaud's phenomenon	
Arthritis	
Hepatitis	
Myositis and myocarditis	
Generalized urticaria	

(15)

Fig. 2. Summary of events taking place in immunological injury of tissues in which complement and neutrophils play an essential role.



(7)

Table 2. Potentially Injurious Constituents of PMN

Acid phosphatase
Lysozyme
Collagenase
Aryl sulfatases
Acid lipase
Endogenous pyrogen
Basic proteins
Mast cell-active
Permeability-inducing, independent of mast cells
Elastase
Neutral protease
Acid protease (cathepsins)
Fibrinolysin
Procoagulant
Tissue factor
Precipitation of fibrin monomers and antiheparin effect by basic proteins
Mononuclear cell chemotactic factor
Oxidizing substances
Superoxides, singlet oxygen, hydrogen peroxide

(7)

TABLE 3. MANIFESTATIONS OF CRYOGLOBULINEMIA

Weakness
Purpura (dependent)
Arthralgias
Raynaud's phenomenon
Acrocyanosis (occ. peripheral gangrene)
Livido reticularis
Cold urticaria
Cutaneous vasculitis with ulceration
Visual disturbances and retinal hemorrhages
Mucosal bleeding tendency
Cerebral thrombosis
Lymphadenopathy
Hepatosplenomegaly
Renal disease (proliferative glomerulonephritis,
 nephrotic syndrome, renal tubular acidosis)
None

(44)

TABLE 4. SOME DISORDERS ASSOCIATED
 WITH CRYOGLOBULINEMIA

Myeloma and macroglobulinemia
Diffuse lymphoma and chronic lymphocytic
 leukemia
Connective tissue diseases
 Systemic lupus erythematosus
 Polyarteritides nodosa
 Sjögren's syndrome
 Rheumatoid arthritis
 Juvenile rheumatoid arthritis
 Ankylosing spondylitis
 Lyme arthritis
Renal disease (glomerulonephritis, nephrotic
 syndrome, renal tubular acidosis)
Cirrhosis & chronic active hepatitis
Sarcoidosis
Purpura-arthralgia syndrome
Infections
 Infectious mononucleosis
 Bacterial endocarditis
 Leprosy
 Cytomegalovirus
 Syphilis
 Hepatitis B
 Malaria
Status post-intestinal bypass surgery for obesity

(44)

TABLE 5. SOME RECENTLY DEVELOPED ASSAYS FOR IMMUNE COMPLEXES

Assay	Property of Complex Required	Potential Interfering Substances*	Approximate Sensitivity (AHG $\mu\text{g./ml.}$) [†]
Raji cell ²	C3b, d bound; Ig present	Antibodies reactive with Raji cells	10
Clq polyethylene glycol (PEG) ¹³	Binds free Clq; insoluble in 2.5% PEG	Polyanions	10
Clq-solid phase ^{14, 15}	Binds free Clq; Ig present ¹⁴	Polyanions	4
Clq-deviation ¹⁶	Binds free Clq	Polyanions	4
Monoclonal rheumatoid factor (RF) ^{17, 17}	IgG Fc reactive with RF	RF	0.5-15
Polyclonal RF ¹⁸	IgG Fc reactive with RF	RF	1-10
Platelet aggregation ¹⁹	IgG Fc reactive with platelets	Platelet antibodies; RF	4
Macrophage uptake ²⁰	IgG Fc reactive with macrophages	RF; others	20-30

*All tests will detect Ig artifactually aggregated by improper storage. The Raji test seems rather insensitive to this phenomenon, perhaps because active complement components must also be present in the serum. The Clq-PEG test may be less sensitive to polyanions because macromolecular complexes are detected.

[†]The sensitivity is highly dependent on the nature of the complexes and is given as a very rough approximation in equivalent concentrations of heat aggregated IgG (AHG).

(6)

Table 6. Antigen non-specific methods for the detection of soluble immune complexes based on the biological properties of the complexes

Biological activity measured	Reactants used in the test
1. Reactivity with receptors on free molecules	
(a) Interaction with complement	
Complement and Clq deviation tests	
Measurement of anticomplementary activity	Fresh serum complement, sensitised sheep red cells
Clq deviation test	¹²⁵ I-Clq, sensitised sheep red cells (or IgG-coated particles)
Inhibition of latex agglutination by Clq	Purified Clq, IgG-coated latex particles
Direct measurement of Clq-immune complex interaction	
Clq agarose precipitation test	Purified Clq
Clq binding test	¹²⁵ I-Clq, polyethylene glycol
Solid-phase Clq binding test	Clq-coated polystyrene tubes, ¹²⁵ I-anti-globulin or enzyme-linked antiglobulin is used in a second step
(b) Interaction with rheumatoid factor (RF)	
RF agarose precipitation test	Monoclonal RF
Radioassay using insolubilised monoclonal RF	Monoclonal RF coupled to microcrystalline cellulose, ¹²⁵ I-IgG aggregates
Radioisotope assay using soluble polyclonal RF	Polyclonal RF, ¹²⁵ I-IgG aggregates, purified carrier human IgM, sheep antiserum anti-human IgM
Inhibition of latex agglutination by RF	Polyclonal RF, IgG-coated latex particles
2. Reactivity with cellular receptors	
(a) Interaction with Fc receptors on cells	
Platelet aggregation test	Human blood platelets
Inhibition of antibody-dependent cell-mediated cytotoxicity	Human blood lymphocytes, ⁵¹ Cr-labelled sensitised Chang liver cells
Radioassay using macrophages	Guinea-pig peritoneal exudate cells, ¹²⁵ I-aggregates
(b) Interaction with complement receptors on cells	
Raji cell radioimmune assay	Cultured lymphoblastoid (Raji) cells, ¹²⁵ I-antiglobulin
Inhibition of complement-dependent lymphocyte rosette formation	Lymphocytes from human adenoid, complement-coated sheep red cells

(5)

Table 7. Raji Cell Radioimmune Assay for Immune Complexes in Human Sera

Diagnosis	No. Cases	No. Cases Positive	% Positive	μ g AHG Equivalent/MI	
				Mean	Range
Serum hepatitis (with or without HB _s Ag)	34	18	52.9	65	(24-212)
Systemic Lupus Erythematosus	13	13	100	327	(24-1100)
Vasculitis	25	14	56	193	(25-1000)
SSPE	6	3	50	58	(24-100)
DHF	24	15	62	62	(25-225)
Malignancies	104	43	41	68	(20-383)
Hospitalized patients	60	5	8.3	39	(20-100)
Normal patients	120	4	3.3	21	(12-30)

(7)

Table 8. Generalizations About Glomerular Immunofluorescence in Common Histological Types of ICGN in Man

Histological Type	Glomerular Immunofluorescence
Proliferative GN	
Diffuse proliferative	Diffuse granular IgG, variable IgA, IgM, fibrin. C3 may predominate in poststreptococcal GN.
Diffuse proliferative with crescents	As above with striking fibrin deposits in crescents.
Focal proliferation	Focal granular IgG and C3, may be prominent IgA or IgM in segmental GBM and mesangial deposits. Fibrin variable.
Membranous GN	Diffuse heavy granular IgG and C3 with variable IgA, IgM, fibrin.
Membranoproliferative GN	
Subendothelial dense deposit type	Prominent granular C3, usually with IgG, IgM, variable IgA, fibrin.
Intramembranous dense deposit type	C3 in GBM, TBM, Bowman's capsule, without Ig.
Focal sclerosing GN	Granular IgG, IgM, C3 in sclerotic areas.
Chronic GN	Granular C3 may be prominent with or without IgG, IgA, IgM, fibrin.
GN of Systemic Disease	
SLE	Often striking granular IgG, IgA, IgM, C3 corresponding to histological findings with granular TBM and arteriolar deposits in 70%. Fibrin variable.
Henoch-Schönlein purpura	Granular IgG, IgM, C3, often prominent IgA and fibrin, especially in mesangium.

(45)

Table 9. Exogenous Antigens Involved in Human ICGN

Antigen	Clinical Condition
Pharmaceuticals	
Foreign serum, toxoids, drugs	Serum sickness
Infectious Agents	
Bacterial	
Nephritogenic streptococci	Poststreptococcal GN
<i>Staphylococcus albus</i> , <i>Corynebacterium bovis</i>	Infected atrioventricular shunts
<i>Enterococcus</i>	Bacterial endocarditis
<i>Salmonella typhosa</i>	Typhoid fever
<i>Treponema pallidum</i>	Syphilis
<i>Diplococcus pneumoniae</i>	Pneumonia
Parasitic	
<i>Plasmodium malariae</i> , <i>P. falciparum</i>	Malaria
<i>Schistosoma mansoni</i>	Schistosomiasis
<i>Toxoplasma gondii</i>	Toxoplasmosis
Viral	
Hepatitis B	Hepatitis
Oncornavirus-related antigen	Leukemia
Measles	Subacute sclerosing panencephalitis, SLE
Epstein-Barr virus	Burkitt's lymphoma

(45)

Table 10. Endogenous Antigens Involved in Human ICGN

Antigen	Clinical Condition
Nuclear antigens	SLE
Renal tubular brush border antigens	Membranous GN in Japan, sickle cell anemia, renal neoplasia
Thyroglobulin	Thyroiditis
Carcinoembryonic antigen	Colonic carcinoma
Tumor antigens	Neoplasms
Ig	Cryoglobulinemia

(45)

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