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VOLUME 15

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## Determination of the Compound Biological Effectiveness (CBE) Factors based on the *ISHIYAMA-IMAHORI* Deterministic Parsing Model with the Dynamic PET Technique

By Shintaro Ishiyama, Yoshio Imahori, Jun Itami & Hanna Koivunoro

*University of Helsinki, Finland*

**Abstract- Purpose:** In defining the biological effects of the  $^{10}\text{B}(n,\alpha)^7\text{Li}$  neutron capture reaction, we have proposed a deterministic parsing model (*ISHIYAMA-IMAHORI* model) to determine the Compound Biological Effectiveness (CBE) factor in Borono-Phenyl-Alanine (BPA)-mediated Boron Neutron Capture Therapy (BNCT). In present paper, we the case of application to actual patient data, which is founded on this model for tissues and tumor.

**Method:** To determine the CBE factor, we demonstrate a specific method of how the application of derived the following new calculation formula founded on the deterministic parsing model with three constants,  $CBE_0$ ,  $F$ ,  $n$  and the eigen value  $N_{th}/N_{max}$ .

**Keywords:** boron neutron capture therapy, compound biological effectiveness, borono-phenyl-alanine, tumor,  $^{10}\text{B}(n,\alpha)^7\text{Li}$ , sigmoid function.

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DETERMINATION OF THE COMPOUND BIOLOGICAL EFFECTIVENESS CBE FACTORS BASED ON THE ISHIYAMA-IMAHORI DETERMINISTIC PARSING MODEL WITH THE DYNAMIC PET TECHNIQUE

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# Determination of the Compound Biological Effectiveness (CBE) Factors based on the ISHIYAMA-IMAHORI Deterministic Parsing Model with the Dynamic PET Technique

Shintaro Ishiyama <sup>α</sup>, Yoshio Imahori <sup>σ</sup>, Jun Itami <sup>ρ</sup> & Hanna Koivunoro <sup>ω</sup>

**Abstract- Purpose:** In defining the biological effects of the  $^{10}\text{B}(n,\alpha)^7\text{Li}$  neutron capture reaction, we have proposed a deterministic parsing model (ISHIYAMA-IMAHORI model) to determine the Compound Biological Effectiveness (CBE) factor in Borono-Phenyl-Alanine (BPA)-mediated Boron Neutron Capture Therapy (BNCT). In present paper, we

demonstrate a specific method of how the application of the case of application to actual patient data, which is founded on this model for tissues and tumor.

**Method:** To determine the CBE factor, we derived the following new calculation formula founded on the deterministic parsing model with three constants,  $CBE_0$ ,  $F$ ,  $n$  and the eigen value  $N_{th}/N_{max}$ .

$$CBE = CBE_0 + \frac{F}{2} \left( 1 - \left( \frac{N_{th}}{N_{max}} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} \right) \left\{ 2 - \left( \frac{N_{th}}{N_{max}} \right)^{\frac{2}{n}} + \left( \frac{N_{th}}{N_{max}} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} \right\} \quad 0 < \frac{N_{th}}{N_{max}} < 1 \quad (1)$$

Where,  $N_{th}$  and  $N_{max}$  are the threshold value of boron concentration of  $N$  and saturation boron density and  $CBE_0$ ,  $F$  and  $n$  are given as 0.5, 8 and 3, respectively. In order to determine  $N_{th}$  and  $N_{max}$  in the formula, sigmoid logistic function was employed for  $^{10}\text{B}$  concentration data,  $D_b(t)$  obtained by dynamic PET technique.

$$D_b(t) = \frac{A}{(1 + e^{-a(t-t_0)})} \quad (2)$$

Where,  $A$ ,  $a$  and  $t_0$  are constants

**Results and Conclusion:** From the application of sigmoid function to dynamic PET data, it is concluded that the  $N_{th}$  and  $N_{max}$  for tissue and tumor are identified with the parameter constants in the sigmoid function in eq.(2) as;

$$N_{th} = D_b \text{ at } t = 0 \text{ and } N_{max} = A \quad (3)$$

And the calculated CBE factor values obtained from eq. (1), with  $N_{th}/N_{max}$ .

**Keywords:** boron neutron capture therapy, compound biological effectiveness, borono-phenyl-alanine, tumor,  $^{10}\text{B}(n,\alpha)^7\text{Li}$ , sigmoid function.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Many types of pilot innovative accelerator-based neutron source for neutron capture therapy with lithium target were designed [1][2][3] and many inventions for the progressive power run-up were reported [4][5]. In Japan, implemented deployment of accelerator-driven neutron source for Boron Neutron Capture Therapy (BNCT) is accomplished in 2014 in National Cancer Center, of which system was designed with the production of neutrons via threshold  $^7\text{Li}(p, n)^7\text{Be}$  reaction at 25kW proton beam with energy of 2.5 MeV, which was designed to dovetail the narrow peak band resonance of lithium target and started its installation at middle of 2013. This BNCT device is expected to offer the potential for achieving the objects of which any treatment capable of sterilizing the primary tumor locally will result in a high probability of cure.

BNCT is a targeted radio-therapeutic modality used for the treatment of brain tumors and melanoma and a bimodal approach to cancer therapy. Before BNCT, Boron-10( $^{10}\text{B}$ )-enriched compounds are used to deliver  $^{10}\text{B}$  to tumors. Once tumor uptake of a given boron delivery agent relative to the surrounding normal tissues and blood has been maximized and then irradiation with low-energy neutron takes place. An alternative boron delivery agent, p-boronophenylalanine (BPA) instead of administration of the boron delivery agent borocaptate sodium (BSH), is being used

together with mode deeply penetrating epidermal neutron beam [6]. BNCT was extensively reviewed in two recent articles [7][8] and the targeting effectiveness of BNCT is dependent upon the preferential delivery of  $^{10}\text{B}$  to the primary tumor and its metastatic spread.

In defining the biological effects of the  $^{10}\text{B}(p,\alpha)^7\text{Li}$  neutron capture reaction relative to photons, the term compound biological effectiveness (CBE) factor was used as an alternative to RBE. Calculation of the CBE factor is similar to that of the RBE factor [9]. Equating the X-ray ED50 dose with a BNC dose (beam + BSH) that gives the same end point of a 50% incident of ulceration produces the following equation:

The CBE factor =  $[(X\text{-rayED}50) - (\text{thermal beam component of } ED_{50} \times RBE)] / ^{10}\text{B}(p,\alpha)^7\text{Li component of } ED_{50}$ .

The CBE factors concerning to tumor, skin lung, liver [10][11], heart [12] and oral mucosal tissues [13] were reported and prospect of actually using BNCT for the patients has been developing under the right circumstances. However, there is no theoretical unified explanation of the CBE factors for normal tissues and tumor, despite significance of high precision of the CBE factor evaluation is requested for the patients.

Recently, the authors proposed deterministic parsing model of CBE factors (ISHIYAMA-IMAHORI model) and applied to human tumor brain cases and derived good results dovetailed with empirical facts[14][15].

The purpose of the present investigation was to demonstrate the unified methodology for the evaluation of the CBE factors for normal tissues and tumor in BNCT.

## II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

### a) $^{10}\text{B}$ concentration measurement of BPA by dynamic PET technique

A brain tumor patient (grade IV) was given low dose (approximately  $\sim 100 \mu\text{g/g}$ ) of intravenous radioactively-labeled  $^{18}\text{F}$ -BPA before BNCT and diagnosed cancer by Positron-Emission-Tomography (PET) [16]. To obtain  $^{10}\text{B}$  concentration in a body,  $^{18}\text{F}$ -BPA was administrated to the patient by intravenous drip injection and PET inspection was performed in every 20 minutes to measure a change in  $^{10}\text{B}$  concentrations in tumor, normal and blood of the patient, respectively.

### b) Mathematical analysis model for the $^{10}\text{B}$ concentration data

After  $^{10}\text{BPA}$  administration, boron atoms are ingested into the cell model consisted of endoplasm and cell nucleus and Imahori [17] reported the kinetic analysis for brain tumor patients by using three-compartment rate constant ( $K_1$ ,  $k_2$  and  $k_3$ ) (Figure 1).

This model implied that the body injected  $^{10}\text{BPA}$  begins to rapidly up-taken into cancer cell group at the injection initial and eventually suppressed increase with increasing  $^{10}\text{BPA}$ -containing population.

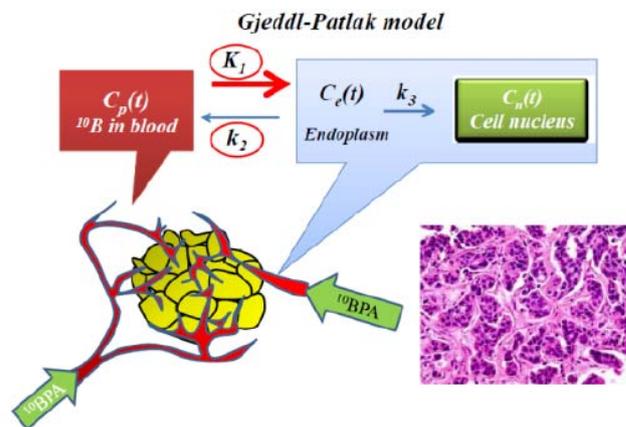


Figure 1: Gjeddl-Patlak model using three-compartment rate constanta ( $k_1$ ,  $k_2$  and  $k_3$ )

As a function that can better represent this phenomenon, the sigmoid function are frequently applied as natural population increasing model. Accordingly, logistic function based on the sigmoid function was employed to analyze dynamic PET data. The logistic function in present study was defined as:

$$D_b(t) = \frac{A}{(1 + e^{-a(t-t_0)})} \quad (1)$$

Where  $D_{bnormal}$  and  $D_{btumor}$  are  $^{10}\text{B}$  concentrations in tumor, normal tissues and time-dependent function. A, a and  $t_0$  in eq. (1) are constants, respectively.

## III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

### a) Dynamic PET measurement for normal tissues and tumor

Typical changes in  $^{10}\text{B}$  concentration in normal tissue, tumor and blood are illustrated in the figure by  $^{10}\text{BPA}$  administration by intravenous and drip injection methods (Figure 2).

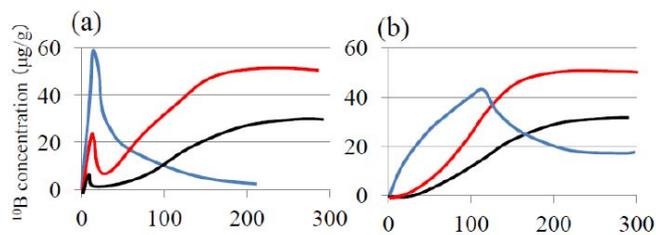


Figure 2 : Typical change in <sup>10</sup>B concentration in tumor, normal tissues and blood measured by Dynamic PET technique with <sup>10</sup>BPA administration by (a) Intravenous injection and (b) Drip injection methods

Sudden increase and peak in <sup>10</sup>B concentration in blood, normal tissue and tissue were found just before intravenous injection of BPA administration. Whereas, the changes in <sup>10</sup>BPA concentration after drip injection show modest slow changes in <sup>10</sup>B concentration in normal tissues, tumor and blood, respectively (Figure 3).

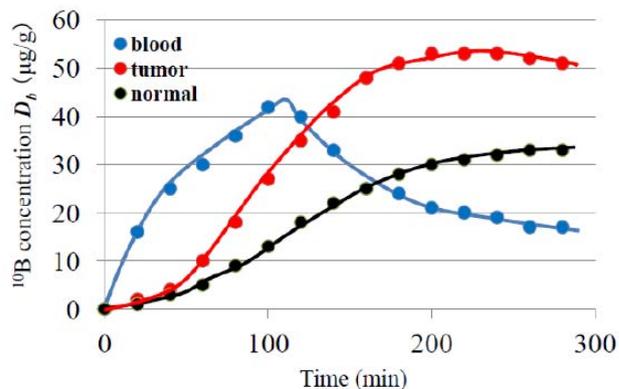


Figure 3 : Change in <sup>10</sup>B concentration in blood, tumor and normal tissue measured by Dynamic PET technique

These typical changes after <sup>10</sup>BPA administration indicate compatibility to define saturation boron concentration,  $N_{max}$  and threshold of boron density,  $N_{th}$  for the determination of CBE factors by ISHIYAMA-IMAHORI model [14][15] as below:

$$CBE = CBE_0 + \frac{F}{2} \left( 1 - \left( \frac{N_{th}}{N_{max}} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} \right) \left\{ 2 - \left( \frac{N_{th}}{N_{max}} \right)^{\frac{2}{n}} + \left( \frac{N_{th}}{N_{max}} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} \right\} \quad 0 < \frac{N_{th}}{N_{max}} < 1 \quad (2)$$

and this is because that we chose drip injection in present study.

As for a typical change in <sup>10</sup>B concentration in blood, tumor and normal tissue of a brain tumor patient

(Grade IV), logistic function in eq. (1) was applied to these data. Compatibility of the function to normal tissue and tumor are provided in the figures (Figure 4 and 5).

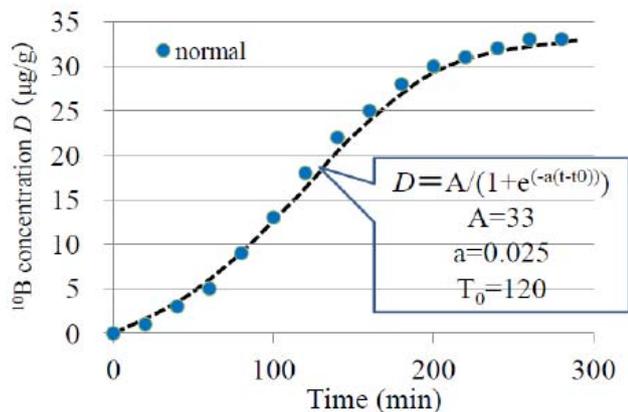


Figure 4 : A change in <sup>10</sup>B concentration in normal tissue measured by dynamic PET technique and logistic function

From these results, it is clear that very good data fitting curves of the logistic function to dynamic PET data were observed and each constant in eq. (1) are obtained in the tumor and normal tissue. These results are listed in the table (Table 1).

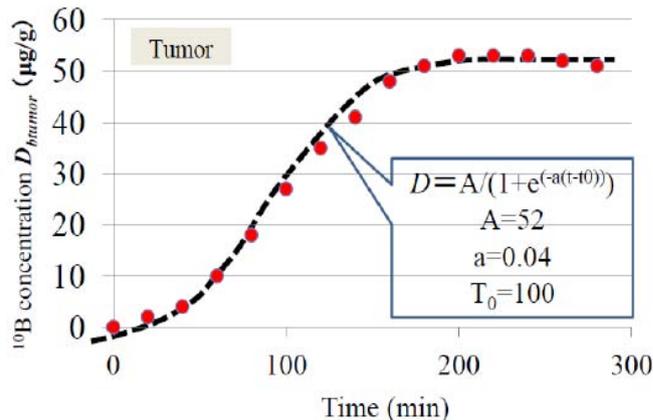


Figure 5 : A change in <sup>10</sup>B concentration in tumor measured by dynamic PET technique and logistic function

Table 1 : Constants in eq. (1) logistic function obtained for tumor and normal tissue

	A	a	t <sub>0</sub>
Tumor	52	0.04	100
Normal	33	0.025	120

$$D = A / (1 + e^{-a(t-t_0)})$$

Table 2 : The Values of N<sub>th</sub> and N<sub>max</sub> defined by eq. (3) for tumor and normal tissue

	N <sub>th</sub>	N <sub>max</sub>	N <sub>th</sub> /N <sub>max</sub>
Tumor	0.935	52	55.62
Normal	1.565	33	21.09

$$N_{th} = D \text{ at } t=0$$

$$N_{max} = A$$

b) Determination of the CBE factor depend on boron dose level

To obtained threshold and saturation density of boron, N<sub>th</sub> and N<sub>max</sub> in tumor and normal tissue from eq.(1), we defined N<sub>th</sub> and N<sub>max</sub> as follows:

$$N_{th} = D_b \text{ at } t = 0 \text{ and } N_{max} = A \quad (3)$$

These values of N<sub>th</sub>, N<sub>max</sub> and N<sub>th</sub>/N<sub>max</sub> for normal tissue and tumor are listed in the table (Table 2).

From these results, The CBE factors for normal tissue and tumor in a brain tumor patient were calculated by eq. (2) and these results are given in the table 3 (Table 3).

Table 3 : The Values of N<sub>th</sub>/N<sub>max</sub> and CBE factor defined by eq. (2) for tumor and normal tissue

	N <sub>th</sub> /N <sub>max</sub>	CBE
Tumor	0.018	5.43
Normal	0.047	4.35

c) Application of the calculation method and its clinical significance

The charm of the BNCT treatment is that again and again for the same patients and their affected area is capable of irradiation treatment. Therefore, the

$$CBE = CBE_0 + \frac{F}{2} \left( 1 - \left( \frac{N_{th}}{N_{max}} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} \right) \left\{ 2 - \left( \frac{N_{th}}{N_{max}} \right)^{\frac{2}{n}} + \left( \frac{N_{th}}{N_{max}} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} \right\} \quad 0 < \frac{N_{th}}{N_{max}} < 1$$

And N<sub>th</sub>/N<sub>max</sub> is obtained by the flowing logistic function

$$D_b(t) = \frac{A}{(1 + e^{-a(t-t_0)})}$$

Where B<sub>b</sub> is <sup>10</sup>B concentration in tumor and normal tissue, and A, a and t<sub>0</sub> are constants.

### REFERENCES RÉFÉRENCES REFERENCIAS

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cure of intractable cancer in a short time by BNCT treatment is not a dream. However, BNCT treatment at this stage is time-consuming due to the following reasons. Normally, cancer patients are given low doses of intravenous radioactively-labelled 18F-BPA before BNCT and diagnosed cancer by Positron-Emission-Tomography (PET). Physicians developed a treatment plan by BNCT based on PET diagnosis and then after administrates high dose of BPA to the patients.

So practical value of present research is that the diagnosis and treatment cycle can be achieved at the same time shorten with high accuracy.

Present research results, ie by 18F-BPA drip injection administration and dynamic PET measurement method, ISHIYAMA-IMAHORI model immediately provides a high-precision CBE factor and BNCT treatment for a kind of cancer and its severity in patients individual.

### IV. CONCLUSIONS

ISHIYAMA -IMAHORI model below immediately provides a high-precision CBE factor and BNCT treatment for a kind of cancer and its severity in patients individual by 18F-BPA drip injection administration and dynamic PET measurement method

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## Participation of T, B and NKT Lymphocytes and CD1 Molecule in the Infection by *Entamoeba histolytica* in Mice

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**Abstract-** Studies have shown that CD1 double negative mice (CD1d<sup>-/-</sup>) develop larger liver abscesses due to their inability to present amebic antigens to NK T lymphocytes. Therefore, we conducted flow cytometry studies to determine the frequency of NK T, CD4<sup>+</sup> T, CD8<sup>+</sup> T and B lymphocytes in mice with amebic colitis. The frequency of NK T, CD8<sup>+</sup> T and B lymphocytes was reduced in the MLN of mice in the CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> groups compared to the CTRL-WT and Eh-WT groups. There was also a significant decrease in the frequency of B lymphocytes in the spleens of the animals in the Eh-WT group when compared with the CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup>, Eh- CD1<sup>-/-</sup> and CTRL-WT groups. The results of the flow cytometry analysis highlight the importance of NK T lymphocytes in the immune response of mice to amebic intestinal infection and the importance of CD1 molecules in the activation of T and B lymphocytes.

**Keywords:** amebic colitis, *Entamoeba histolytica*, natural killer T lymphocytes.

**GJMR-F Classification :** NLMC Code: WC 524



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# Participation of T, B and NKT Lymphocytes and CD1 Molecule in the Infection by *Entamoeba histolytica* in Mice

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**Abstract-** Studies have shown that CD1 double negative mice (CD1d<sup>-/-</sup>) develop larger liver abscesses due to their inability to present amebic antigens to NK T lymphocytes. Therefore, we conducted flow cytometry studies to determine the frequency of NK T, CD4<sup>+</sup> T, CD8<sup>+</sup> T and B lymphocytes in mice with amebic colitis. The frequency of NK T, CD8<sup>+</sup> T and B lymphocytes was reduced in the MLN of mice in the CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> groups compared to the CTRL-WT and Eh-WT groups. There was also a significant decrease in the frequency of B lymphocytes in the spleens of the animals in the Eh-WT group when compared with the CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup>, Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> and CTRL-WT groups. The results of the flow cytometry analysis highlight the importance of NK T lymphocytes in the immune response of mice to amebic intestinal infection and the importance of CD1 molecules in the activation of T and B lymphocytes.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

*Entamoeba histolytica* is a protozoan of the genus *Entamoeba* and the causative agent of amoebiasis, a disease that produces approximately 50 million cases of two major clinical syndromes worldwide per year, amoebic colitis and amoebic liver abscess [1,2]. Amoebiasis is the most serious protozoiasis that affects the human intestine and comes only after malaria in deaths resulting from parasitic diseases [3]. The estimated mortality rate of this disease is approximately 100,000 deaths per year, and the majority of deaths occurs as a result of severe complications associated with invasive intestinal or extra-intestinal disease [1].

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*Entamoeba histolytica* exhibits a complex glycoconjugate anchored by glycosylphosphatidylinositol (GPI), a lipopeptidophosphoglycan (LPPG) of *E. histolytica* (EhLPPG) on its surface; this has also been observed in other protozoa. Differences in the quantity and antigenicity of EhLPPGs in pathogenic and non-pathogenic amoebae have indicated that this glycoconjugate is associated with the pathogenicity of *E. histolytica* [4,5]. EhLPPG is involved in the immune response against *E. histolytica* infection by the activation of natural killer T lymphocytes (NK T) [6].

Some authors have demonstrated that NK T cells constitute an important barrier to the development of amoebic liver abscesses in their initial stages [6]. They found that CD1 deficient mice (CD1d<sup>-/-</sup>) develop larger liver abscesses due to their inability to present antigens derived from amebic lipopeptidophosphoglycan to NK T lymphocytes. The results obtained by our group reinforce the idea that CD1 molecules are involved in the resistance of mice with experimentally induced amoebic colitis to *Entamoeba histolytica* trophozoites, possibly due to the presentation of antigens to invariant natural killer T (iNK T) lymphocytes and the stimulation of MUC-2 production [7]. Likewise, the reduction in activated NK T lymphocyte populations in CD1d-deficient mice results in an increased susceptibility of the mice to *Toxoplasma gondii* infection [8].

NK T lymphocytes appear to be related to both types of secondary immune responses, Th1 and Th2, due to their ability to initiate the production of large quantities of IFN-γ and IL-4 [6,9,10]. Due to the rapid-onset of the effector functions of iNK T lymphocytes after their activation, it has been described their participation in a wide variety of immune reactions, from the response against pathogens and neoplastic cells to autoimmune mechanisms [11,12].

The production of IFN-γ by iNK T lymphocytes activated with EhLPPG can initiate a Th1-type adaptive response, which is able to increase the secretion of IFN-γ and contribute to an increase in the efficiency of the immune response against *E. histolytica*; this reduces the number of trophozoites and the expansion of amebic abscesses [6]. Recent studies have suggested that

CD1d and *i*NK T lymphocytes are involved in controlling bacterial colonization in the gastrointestinal tract of mice. Intestinal colonization by both Gram-negative and Gram-positive bacteria has been shown to be higher in CD1d-deficient mice. In the same study, the authors observed that NK T lymphocytes were able to stimulate Paneth cells, which also express CD1d, to secrete antimicrobial peptides [13]. Thus, mice deficient in NK T lymphocytes, especially *i*NK T lymphocytes, have an increased susceptibility to infections [14,15].

Amoebiasis is one of the most important parasitic diseases affecting the world's population, making the understanding of the mechanisms and events related to its pathogenicity increasingly necessary. The present study demonstrated the importance of NK T lymphocytes via the identification and proliferation of these lymphocytes using flow cytometry in the spleen and mesenteric lymph nodes in an experimental model of *E. histolytica*-induced colitis.

## II. METHODS

### a) Animals

In total, 32 female mice approximately 70 days old were used in this experiment, including 16 C57BL/6 *wild-type* (WT) (8 Eh-WT infected and 8 CTRL-WT controls) and 16 C57BL/6CD1<sup>-/-</sup> mice (8 Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> infected and 8 CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> controls). The animals were obtained from the vivarium at the Institute of Biological Sciences (Instituto de Ciências Biológicas -ICB) of the UFMG and the vivarium at FIOCRUZ/Belo Horizonte. The C57BL/6CD1<sup>-/-</sup> mice were kindly provided by Professor Ricardo Tostes Gazzinelli. All procedures involving animals were conducted according to the guidelines of the Ethics Committee in Animal Experimentation (CETEA/UFMG) (266/2008).

### b) Culture and inoculation of trophozoites

The EGG axenic strain of *E. histolytica*, which was isolated in 1988 in the Amoebiasis Laboratory of the Department of Parasitology of the ICB-UFMG from a patient with dysenteric colitis and amebic liver abscesses, was used for this study. A serological analysis via ELISA and zymodeme and PCR analyses were all positive for *E. histolytica* [16,17]. Trophozoites were thawed in a water bath and maintained in Pavlova medium at 37°C; they were subcultured every three days. Sixteen mice (8 Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> and 8 Eh-WT) divided into subgroups of 4 animals each were anaesthetized with a 2% xylazine (10 mg/kg) and 5% ketamine (150 mg/kg) solution. Subsequently, an approximately 2-cm horizontal incision in the abdomen was performed, and 10<sup>6</sup> trophozoites in 0.1 mL of YI-S-32 culture medium were inoculated intracecally. The sixteen control mice (8 CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> and 8 CTRL-WT) were also divided into groups of 4 animals each and intracecally inoculated with sterile YI-S-32 culture medium.

### c) Preparation of cellular suspensions of the spleen and mesenteric lymph nodes (MLN)

The animals were sacrificed 48 hours post-infection via cervical dislocation under general anesthesia with a 2% xylazine (10 mg/kg) and 5% ketamine (150 mg/kg) solution prior to removing the spleen and MLN. The spleen cell suspensions were washed with water and 10x PBS to remove red blood cells via hemolysis. After the washes, the spleen and MLN cell suspensions were maintained in a RPMI complete medium to count the viable cells using a Neubauer chamber and erythrocin as a marker of cell viability. The concentrations of each suspension were then standardized to 5 x 10<sup>6</sup> cells/mL.

### d) Flow cytometry analysis

Following isolation of cells from the spleen and MLN, the cells were resuspended in PBS (pH 7.2) containing 0.2% fetal bovine serum and 0.1% sodium azide at a concentration of 2 x 10<sup>7</sup> cells/mL. Then, 25 µL of the cell suspension was added to a 96-well U bottom plate and incubated for 30 minutes at 4°C with 10 µL of a solution of phenotypic anti-marker monoclonal antibodies, including CD3, NK1.1, CD4, CD8, CD19 and CD69 (PharMingem, San Diego, CA, USA), diluted in PBS and conjugated with the fluorochromes phycoerythrin (PE), fluorescein (FITC) and CyChrome (Cy). The plates were subsequently centrifuged for 10 minutes at 1200 rpm and 4°C, and the supernatant was discarded by rapid inversion. The pellet was then washed twice with PBS-azide. The pellet was resuspended in 200 µL of the fixative Mac Facs Fix. The suspensions were stored at 4°C and protected from light until data were acquired using a three color FACScan (Becton Dickinson, Mountain View, California, USA). IgG2a-FITC and IgG2b-PE antibodies were used as negative controls for cells incubated with immunoglobulins of the same isotype used in the labeled antibody. The samples were analyzed using the program Cell Quest. During acquisition, 30,000 events were collected for analysis. The identification of the cell populations of interest and the determination of the percentage of cellular populations and subpopulations were performed using a computer system coupled to the flow cytometer.

### e) Statistical analyses

The program Prism 5.0 was used to perform the statistical analyses. One-way ANOVA followed by the Tukey test, as a post-test, were used when analyzing more than two groups, and the unpaired t-test was used when comparing two groups. A Gaussian distribution was assumed for all groups when they were subjected to the Shapiro-Wilk test for normality. The results were expressed as means ± SEM, and differences were considered significant at p ≤ 0.05.

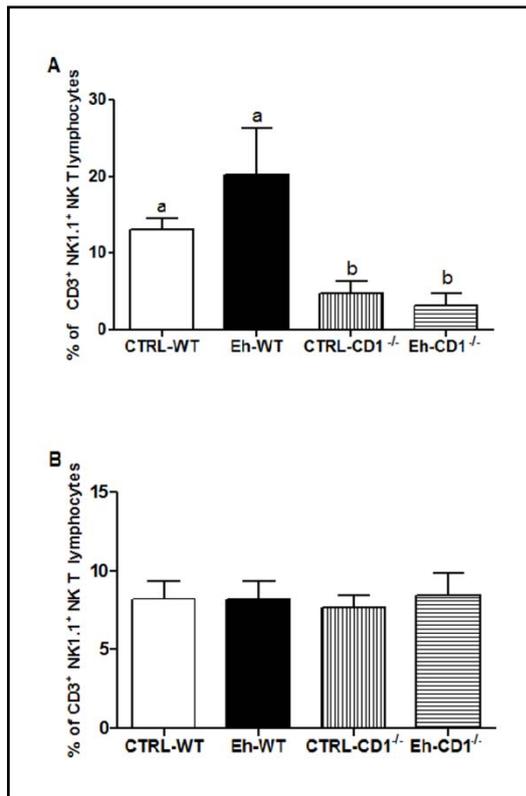
### III. RESULTS

The experimental model used in this study allowed for a phenotypic analysis by flow cytometry of NK T, CD4<sup>+</sup> T, CD8<sup>+</sup> T and B lymphocytes in the spleen and MLN. They were also used to define the cell frequency profiles of wild-type and CD1-deficient mice in response to *E. histolytica* infection.

At 48 hours post-infection, spleens and mesenteric lymph nodes were collected to determine the frequency of NK T, CD4<sup>+</sup> T, CD8<sup>+</sup> T and B lymphocytes by flow cytometry in the CTRL-WT, Eh-WT, CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> mice.

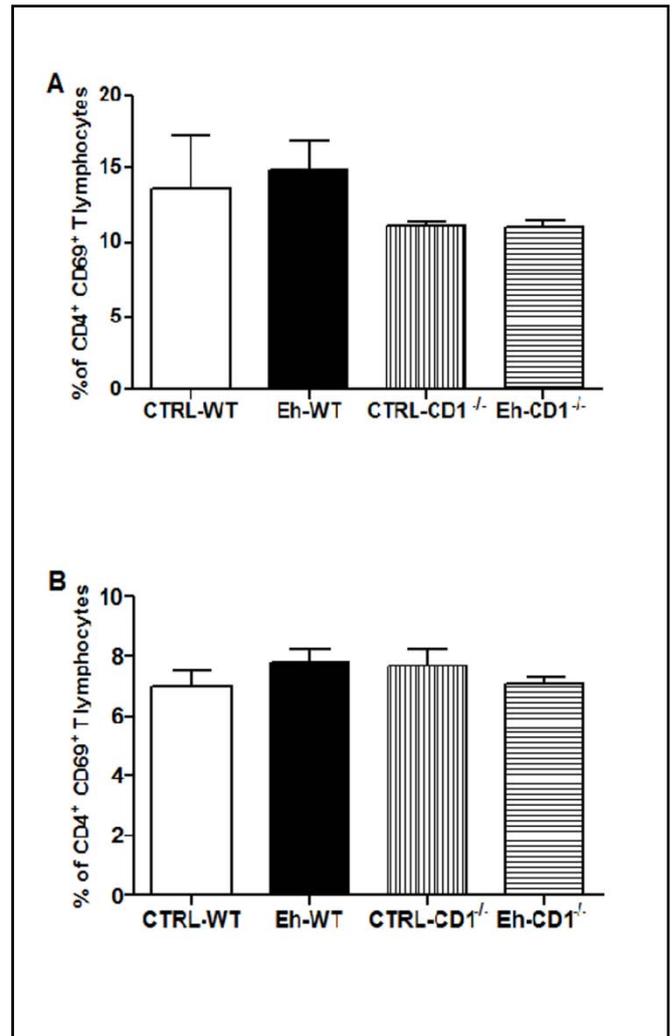
The frequency of CD3<sup>+</sup> NK1.1<sup>+</sup> NK T lymphocytes was significantly reduced in the MLN of mice in the CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> (4.76 ± 1.59%) and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> (3.19 ± 1.57%) groups compared to the Eh-WT (20.24 ± 6.09%) and CTRL-WT (13.00 ± 1.45%) groups (p < 0.05) (Figure 1A). This reduction was expected, as CD1 molecules are required for the activation and proliferation of NK T lymphocytes.

In the spleen, there was no significant difference in the frequency of NK T lymphocytes for the CTRL-WT (8.18 ± 1.12%), Eh-WT (8.16 ± 1.16%) CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> (7.60 ± 0.8563%) and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> (8.46 ± 1.39%) groups (Figure 1B).



**Figure 1 :** Frequency of CD3<sup>+</sup> NK1.1<sup>+</sup> NK T lymphocytes in the mesenteric lymph nodes (A) and in the spleen (B) of C57BL/6 WT and C57BL/6 CD1<sup>-/-</sup> controls and infected mice with *Entamoeba histolytica*. Data are shown as means ± SEM, n =8, p<0.05.

There was also no significant difference in the frequency of CD4<sup>+</sup> CD69<sup>+</sup> T lymphocytes in the MLN among the CTRL-WT (13.68 ± 3.57%), Eh-WT (14.84 ± 2.0%), CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> (11.08 ± 0.27%) and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> (11.05 ± 0.39%) groups (Figure 2A). The frequency of CD4<sup>+</sup> CD69<sup>+</sup> T lymphocytes in the spleen also did not vary significantly among the CTRL-WT (6.97 ± 0.54%), Eh-WT (7.78 ± 0.45%), CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> (7.66 ± 0.57%) and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> (7.08 ± 0.39%) groups (Figure 2B).

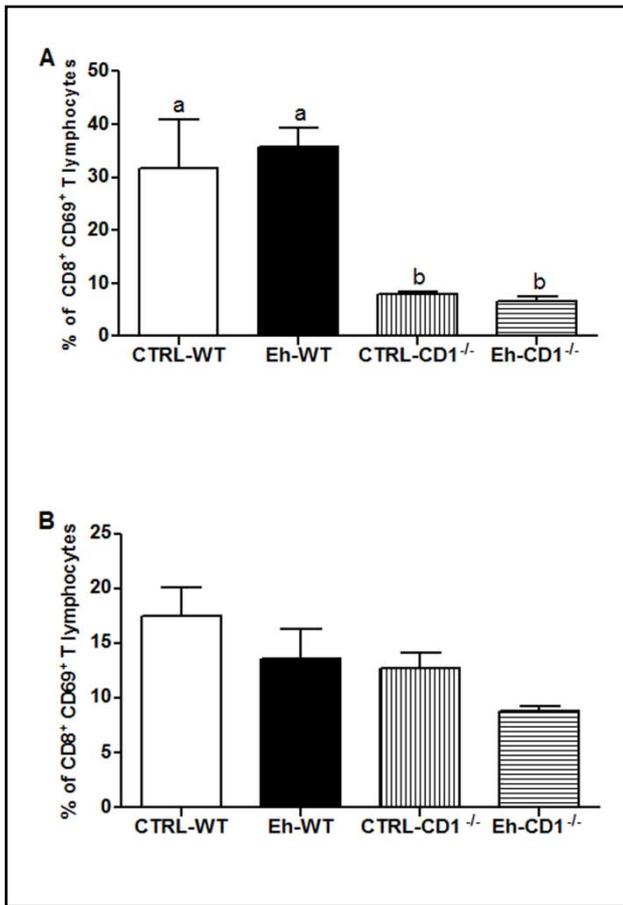


**Figure 2 :** Frequency of CD4<sup>+</sup> CD69<sup>+</sup> T lymphocytes in the mesenteric lymph nodes (A) and in the spleen (B) of C57BL/6 WT e C57BL/6 CD1<sup>-/-</sup> controls and infected mice with *Entamoeba histolytica*. Data are shown as means ± SEM, n =8, p<0.05.

A significant reduction was observed in the frequency of CD8<sup>+</sup> CD69<sup>+</sup> T lymphocytes in the MLN of the CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> (7.99 ± 0.43%) and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> (6.74 ± 0.84%) groups compared to the CTRL-WT (31.64 ± 9.29%) and Eh-WT (35.68 ± 3.71%) groups (p < 0.05) (Figure 3A).

In the spleen, there was no significant difference in the frequency of CD8<sup>+</sup> CD69<sup>+</sup> T lymphocytes for the CTRL-WT (17.50 ± 2.54%), Eh-WT (13.57 ± 2.71%),

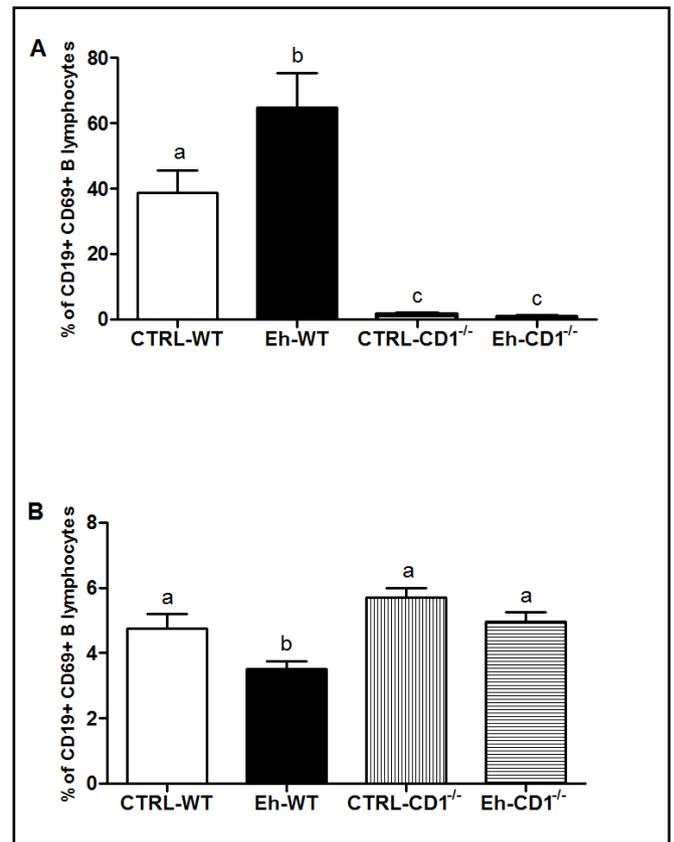
CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> (12.68 ± 1.48%) and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> (8.78 ± 0.47%) groups (Figure 3B).



**Figure 3 :** Frequency of CD8<sup>+</sup> CD69<sup>+</sup> T lymphocytes in the mesenteric lymph nodes (A) and in the spleen (B) of C57BL/6 WT e C57BL/6 CD1<sup>-/-</sup> controls and infected mice with *Entamoeba histolytica*. Data are shown as means ± SEM, n =8, p<0.05.

The MLN of the animals in the CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> (1.55 ± 0.25%) and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> (0.87 ± 0.11%) groups showed a significant reduction in the frequency of CD19<sup>+</sup> CD69<sup>+</sup> B lymphocytes compared to the CTRL-WT (38.70 ± 6.97%) and Eh-WT (64.88 ± 10.46%) groups (p <0.05). There was also a significant increase in the frequency of CD19<sup>+</sup> CD69<sup>+</sup> B lymphocytes in the MLN of the Eh-WT group (64.88 ± 10.46%) compared to the CTRL-WT group (38.70 ± 6.97%) (p < 0.05) (Figure 4A).

The frequency of CD19<sup>+</sup> CD69<sup>+</sup> B lymphocytes in the spleen of animals in the Eh-WT group (3.52 ± 0.23%) was lower than in the CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> (7.60 ± 0.85%), Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> (8.46 ± 1.39%) and CTRL-WT (4.74 ± 0.44%) groups (p < 0.05) (Figure 4B).



**Figure 4 :** Frequency of CD19<sup>+</sup> CD69<sup>+</sup> B lymphocytes in the mesenteric lymph nodes (A) and in the spleen (B) of C57BL/6 WT e C57BL/6 CD1<sup>-/-</sup> controls and infected mice with *Entamoeba histolytica*. Data are shown as means ± SEM, n =8, p<0.05.

#### IV. DISCUSSION

The aim of this study was to analyze, using flow cytometry, the frequency of NK T, CD4<sup>+</sup> T, CD8<sup>+</sup> T and B lymphocytes in the spleens and MLN of wild-type mice (C57BL/6 WT) and mice genetically deficient for CD1d molecules (C57BL/6CD1<sup>-/-</sup>) in response to *E. histolytica* infection. It is important to note that, to date, this is the only study that has used flow cytometry to analyze NK T lymphocytes and their involvement in amebic colitis.

In previous study, we demonstrated that CD1-deficient mice (CD1<sup>-/-</sup>), which consequently have a lower number of NK T lymphocytes, are more susceptible to amebic infection and to the development of cecal lesions. Furthermore, we found that a decrease in the production of the mucin MUC-2 in C57BL/6CD1<sup>-/-</sup> mice is associated with a reduction in the number of NK T lymphocytes and to the appearance of more severe cecal lesions [7].

The frequency of CD3<sup>+</sup> NK1.1<sup>+</sup> NK T lymphocytes in MLN was significantly lower in mice from the CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> groups compared to the Eh-WT and CTRL-WT groups. NK T lymphocytes are activated directly through the recognition of glycolipidic

antigens by CD1 molecules [12]. Thus, this reduction in the CD3<sup>+</sup> NK1.1<sup>+</sup> NK T lymphocytes in the MLN of the C57BL/6CD1<sup>-/-</sup> mice was expected because CD1 molecules are required for the activation and proliferation of *i*NK T lymphocytes. This analysis confirmed that C57BL/6CD1<sup>-/-</sup> mice actually have a reduced frequency of NK T lymphocytes relative to wild-type mice, making them appropriate for our study.

The significant increase in CD3<sup>+</sup> NK1.1<sup>+</sup> NK T lymphocytes in the MLN of the animals of the Eh-WT group indicated that these lymphocytes play a major role in the immune response to amebic trophozoites. In a previous study, we found that the mice in the Eh-WT group had fewer trophozoites and less intense cecal lesions than the Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> group [7].

The higher frequency of NK1.1<sup>+</sup> lymphocytes in the submucosa and lamina propria of the mice in the Eh-WT group, combined with the smaller numbers of trophozoites observed in these mice compared to the control mice, suggest that these lymphocytes may act in the immune response to amebic intestinal infection. This hypothesis is strengthened by the observation that the mice in the Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> group had reduced numbers of NK1.1<sup>+</sup> lymphocytes, elevated tissue parasitism and more severe lesions [7].

The results of other studies are consistent with our findings and have shown that NK1.1<sup>+</sup> lymphocytes are an important barrier against the development of amebic liver abscesses in their early stages [6]. These authors reported that CD1-deficient mice developed larger liver abscesses due to their inability to present antigens derived from amebic lipopeptidophosphoglycan to NK T lymphocytes. Likewise, the reduction in the activated NK T lymphocyte population in CD1d-deficient mice resulted in an increased susceptibility to *Toxoplasma gondii* infection [8]. To verify whether NK T lymphocytes secrete IFN- $\gamma$  following EhLPPG stimulation, lymphocytes were removed from CD1d<sup>-/-</sup> and  $\alpha$ 18<sup>-/-</sup> mice deficient in *i*NK T lymphocytes or in all NK T lymphocyte subpopulations and cultured with antigen presenting cells (APCs) stimulated by EhLPPG. The authors observed a great reduction in IFN- $\gamma$  secretion in CD1d<sup>-/-</sup> and  $\alpha$ 18<sup>-/-</sup> mice, indicating that *i*NK T lymphocytes are an important source of IFN- $\gamma$  when exposed to EhLPPG. IFN- $\gamma$  production by EhLPPG-activated *i*NK T lymphocytes may initiate a Th1-type adaptive response that is able to amplify the secretion of IFN- $\gamma$  and increase the efficiency of the immune response to *E. histolytica*, thus reducing the number of trophozoites and the expansion of amebic abscesses [6]. Previous research has also shown that NK T lymphocytes are important in controlling bacterial colonization of the gastrointestinal tract of C57BL/6 mice [13]. In that study, the authors showed that intestinal colonization by both Gram-negative and Gram-positive bacteria was higher in C57BL/6CD1<sup>-/-</sup> mice.

In our study, no significant difference in the frequency of CD4<sup>+</sup> CD69<sup>+</sup> T lymphocytes in the MLN was observed among the CTRL-WT, Eh-WT, CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> groups. The frequency of CD4<sup>+</sup> CD69<sup>+</sup> T lymphocytes in the spleen also did not vary significantly among the CTRL-WT, Eh-WT, CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> groups. However, in the MLN of the animals in the CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> groups, there was a lower frequency of CD8<sup>+</sup> CD69<sup>+</sup> T lymphocytes compared to the CTRL-WT and Eh-WT groups. This reduction may have occurred because of the deficiency in activated NK T cells. CD1d-deficient NK T cells produce a variety of cytokines when activated, and the absence of these cells can lead to a decrease in the proliferation of CD8<sup>+</sup> CD69<sup>+</sup> T cells. Some authors have observed that in the mesenteric, inguinal, axillary and cervical lymph nodes and spleens of  $\alpha$ 18<sup>-/-</sup> and CD1d<sup>-/-</sup> mice, the activation of NK T cells mediated by  $\alpha$ -galactosylceramide increases the homeostatic proliferation of CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells but not CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells [18]. In our study, no significant difference in the frequency of CD4<sup>+</sup> CD69<sup>+</sup> lymphocytes in the MLN or spleen was observed among the CTRL-WT, Eh-WT, CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> groups. The increase in the homeostatic proliferation of CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells has been shown to be related to the production of IL-4 by activated NK T cells. Thus, IL-4 acts directly on CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells to induce their proliferation [18]. However, with respect to the cytotoxic T lymphocytes, studies by other authors have shown that there is a lack of these cells in mice with amebic colitis or liver abscesses. The immunohistochemical characterization of CD8<sup>+</sup> and CD4<sup>+</sup> T lymphocytes in humans with amebic colitis did not find significant numbers of these cells or contact between these cells and trophozoites in either lesioned regions or intact areas of the intestinal tract [19].

Some authors propose that the main immune mechanisms used in intestinal *E. histolytica* infections occur during the first days following infection and are mediated by innate immunity, which is independent of T lymphocytes [20]. We did not find significant differences in the frequencies of CD8<sup>+</sup> CD69<sup>+</sup> T cells in the spleens of mice in the CTRL-WT, Eh-WT, CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> groups. However, the results showed a trend toward a reduction in the frequency of CD69<sup>+</sup> CD8<sup>+</sup> T lymphocytes in the spleens of the CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> groups compared to the CTRL-WT and Eh-WT groups.

CD1d molecules are constitutively expressed in dendritic cells, B lymphocytes and macrophages in both humans and mice, although the levels of expression may vary among cell types [21]. The quantitative analysis of lymphocytes showed a significant reduction in the frequency of B lymphocytes (CD19<sup>+</sup> CD69<sup>+</sup>) in the MLN of animals in the CTRL-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> and Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> groups compared to the CTRL-WT and Eh-WT groups. It is possible that this reduction in recently activated B lymphocytes in the MLN is related to the scarcity of

activated *i*NK T lymphocytes in CD1-deficient mice. The MLN drain directly into the lymph of the cecal mucosa, where there are many *i*NK T lymphocytes. Some authors have shown that the *in vivo* activation of murine *i*NK T lymphocytes with  $\alpha$ -galactosylceramide induces the production of IL-4 by these lymphocytes and leads to the expression of activation markers, such as CD69, B7-2 and I-A<sup>b</sup> in B lymphocytes [22]. In humans, the *in vitro* activation of NK T lymphocytes with  $\alpha$ -galactosylceramide induces the production of IL-4 and IL-13, which stimulate B lymphocyte proliferation and the total production of IgG1 and IgM antibodies [23].

When we compared the number of recently activated B lymphocytes in the MLN of mice in the Eh-WT group to that of mice in the CTRL-WT group, we observed a significant increase in these lymphocytes in the *E. histolytica* infected mice. In addition to participating in antigen presentation via MHC and CD1d, B lymphocytes also act in the immunity to *E. histolytica* through the production of IgA and IgG. The humoral response to *E. histolytica* in mice with amebic colitis may act both locally and systemically depending on the level of intestinal and extra-intestinal invasion caused by the protozoan [24]. The significant increase in the number of recently activated B lymphocytes in the MLN of the Eh-WT group suggests the activation of humoral immunity and its likely participation in the resistance against trophozoites, although the time of infection in this study did not allow for a more detailed analysis. The ability of MLN to drain directly into the lymph from the intestine, where the inflammatory focus is located, could also aid in the delivery of antigens and the activation of B lymphocytes.

In contrast to our observations in the MLN, there was a reduction in the frequency of recently activated B lymphocytes in the spleens of the animals in the Eh-WT group compared to those in the CTRL CD1<sup>-/-</sup>, Eh-CD1<sup>-/-</sup> and CTRL-WT groups. B lymphocytes appear to participate in immunity to *E. histolytica*. Thus, the recruitment of recently activated B lymphocytes from the spleen to the MLN or other organs, where these cells would have increased exposure to antigens from the site of inflammation and would be activated to produce IgA and IgG, may be occurring. This migration would explain the reduction in the frequency of these cells in the spleen.

## V. CONCLUSIONS

Combined with the pathological study that we performed previously, the results of this flow cytometry analysis reinforce the importance of NK T lymphocytes in immunity against intestinal amebic infection and of CD1 molecules in the activation of T and B lymphocytes. The direct involvement of these cells in experimental amebic colitis still requires further study.

## Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

## VI. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## Usefulness of an Initial Single Intravenous Immunoglobulin Therapy for Kawasaki Disease

By Toshimasa Nakada

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**Abstract-** Kawasaki disease is an acute systemic vasculitis of unknown cause that affects mainly infants and children. Coronary artery lesions (CAL) are one of the most important complications of this disease. An appropriate therapy during acute phase of Kawasaki disease to prevent large CAL has not been established. Recent studies disclosed that aspirin and flurbiprofen appeared to have a negative impact on the suppressive effects of initial intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) therapy on CAL development in the acute phase of Kawasaki disease and that an initial single IVIG therapy with delayed administration of anti-inflammatory drugs might be useful for prevention of large CAL. Furthermore, recent study disclosed that variable factors including IVIG resistance, responsiveness, and relapse of disease were associated with CAL complications and that an initial single IVIG therapy may be useful for the prevention of large CAL caused by different factors of Kawasaki disease.

**Keywords:** *kawasaki disease, intravenous immuno-globulin therapy, coronary artery lesions, aspirin, flurbiprofen.*

**GJMR-F Classification :** *NLMC Code: WO 285*



*Strictly as per the compliance and regulations of:*



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**Keywords:** kawasaki disease, intravenous immunoglobulin therapy, coronary artery lesions, aspirin, flurbiprofen.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Kawasaki disease is an acute systemic vasculitis of unknown cause that affects mainly infants and children<sup>1</sup>. Coronary artery lesions (CAL) are one of the most important complications of this disease. During the acute phase (before day 30 from disease onset), coronary artery aneurysms develop. During the convalescent phase (after day 30), large aneurysms develop into subsequent stenosis and these stenotic lesions cause myocardial ischemia and even death. On the other hand, small aneurysms regress without leaving stenotic lesions. Long-term follow-up studies have shown that a maximum CAL size >5 mm was a statistically significant predictive risk factor for myocardial ischemia, and that all CAL≤5 mm in size regressed to normal size<sup>2</sup>. Another study reported that the threshold diameter for acute phase CAL that developed into subsequent stenosis was 6.0 mm<sup>3</sup>. Therefore, the prevention of CAL of >5 mm may be an important goal in the acute treatment of Kawasaki disease to prevent coronary artery stenosis in later stages of the disease<sup>4</sup>.

Treatment with intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) therapy reduces the occurrence of CAL caused by Kawasaki disease<sup>5,6</sup>. The current standard therapy during the acute phase of Kawasaki disease is

2g/kg/day IVIG therapy<sup>7</sup>. Combination regimens of IVIG and other drugs including steroids and infliximab have been tried as the initial therapy for patients with Kawasaki disease<sup>8,9</sup>. However, the treatment for the prevention of large CAL has not been established, and not enough studies have been performed with regard to initial IVIG monotherapy in spite of the safety and effectiveness of this therapy<sup>4,10</sup>.

## II. ASPIRIN'S ROLE IN THE TREATMENT OF THE ACUTE PHASE OF KAWASAKI DISEASE

Currently, the standard therapy for pediatric patients with Kawasaki disease is the combination of IVIG and aspirin. Platelets are activated during the acute phase of Kawasaki disease, which provides biological plausibility for antiplatelet therapy in these patients<sup>11</sup>. However, the role and impact of anti-inflammatory drugs (ADs), including high or medium-dose aspirin on IVIG therapy during the acute phase of Kawasaki disease remain unclear. Previous study highlighted insufficient evidence for the addition of aspirin to IVIG therapy regarding suppression of CAL caused by Kawasaki disease<sup>12</sup>.

Two studies have shown that ADs may be unnecessary in the acute phase of Kawasaki disease<sup>13,14</sup>. Another two studies disclosed that the prevalence of CAL differed between patients who received initial IVIG therapy without ADs and those who received concomitant ADs with initial IVIG<sup>15,16</sup>. In one of these studies<sup>15</sup>, the regimen of IVIG was 400 mg/kg day over 5 days, which is not standard at present. Current initial IVIG protocol for Kawasaki disease is 2g/kg/day. Recent two studies using 2g/kg/day initial IVIG therapy showed that the prevalence of CAL was lower in the patients received initial IVIG therapy without concomitant ADs compared to those with concomitant ADs (Table 1). These studies showed that an initial IVIG therapy without concomitant ADs may be useful for suppression of CAL caused by Kawasaki disease.

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**Table 1 :** Comparison of the prevalence of coronary artery lesions between the patients who received 2g/kg/day initial IVIG therapy with and without concomitant ADs administration

Studies	patients without concomitant ADs	patients with concomitant ADs	P
Study A	1.5 % ( 2/134 ) ( n = 134 )	12.1 % ( 8/66 ) ( n = 66 )	0.003
Study B	3.9% ( 2/51 ) ( n = 51 )	7.8% ( 10/129 ) ( n = 129 )	0.514

IVIG: intravenous immunoglobulin, ADs: anti-inflammatory drugs (Aspirin or Flurbiprofen)

Study A: Clinical Medicine Research 2015;4:127-131

Study B: Korean Circulation Journal 2013;43:182-186

### III. EFFECTS OF ADS ON INTRAVENOUS IMMUNOGLOBULIN THERAPY IN THE ACUTE PHASE OF KAWASAKI DISEASE

Recent study disclosed that aspirin and flurbiprofen appeared to have a negative impact on the suppressive effects of initial IVIG therapy on CAL development in the acute phase of Kawasaki disease<sup>17</sup>.

It was previously reported that ADs, including aspirin, affected the immunological function of T-cells<sup>18,19,20</sup>. A recent study suggested that the pathway comprising T-cells may play a role in the mechanism of action of IVIG<sup>21,22</sup>. Furthermore, a recent immunological study highlighted that T cell activation in the early and middle stages was involved in the mechanism underlying cardiovascular injury in Kawasaki disease<sup>23</sup>. These findings suggest that ADs can alter the effects of IVIG on Kawasaki disease.

### IV. AN INITIAL SINGLE IVIG THERAPY WITH DELAYED ADMINISTRATION OF ADS FOR PREVENTION OF LARGE CAL CAUSED BY KAWASAKI DISEASE

Recent study showed a usefulness of an initial single IVIG therapy with delayed administration of ADs (aspirin or flurbiprofen) for prevention of large CAL caused by Kawasaki disease<sup>4</sup>. In this study, all 132 patients received 2g/kg/day initial IVIG therapy. 74 patients received aspirin and 58 patients received flurbiprofen after completion of initial IVIG infusion. Initial IVIG therapy resistance occurred in 31 of 132 patients (23%), and 10 patients (8%) received additional IVIG. One patient received urastatin and one patient received plasma exchange as third-line therapy. Before the 30<sup>th</sup> day, the prevalence of CAL was 2% (2/132); after 30 days, it was 1% (1/132). The maximal internal CAL diameters were 4.8mm (Z score = 6.3) among all patients.

Patients who received initial IVIG monotherapy with delayed administration of ADs may not receive a negative impact on the suppressive effects of ADs to IVIG therapy until the start time of ADs administration. However, patients who received initial IVIG therapy with

concomitant use of ADs may receive a negative impact of ADs during IVIG therapy. This difference may be a mechanism that the combination order of initial IVIG therapy with administration of ADs may lead to the prevention of large CAL.

### V. BACKGROUND FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE COMPLICATIONS OF CAL CAUSED BY KAWASAKI DISEASE

Recent study disclosed that variable factors including IVIG resistance, responsiveness, and relapse of disease were associated with CAL complications and that an initial single IVIG therapy may be useful for the prevention of large CAL caused by different factors of Kawasaki disease<sup>10</sup>.

Another study showed that a patient who had received initial IVIG and prednisolone combination therapy developed large CAL after relapse<sup>24</sup>. This demonstrated the difficulties associated with administration of appropriate additional therapy after initial therapy with steroids. A single IVIG therapy does not modify the clinical course of Kawasaki disease. This characteristic permits clinicians to easily manage the treatment progress and to provide additional therapies at appropriate times during the clinical course. With these advantages and reported outcomes of CAL, initial single IVIG therapy may be superior to combination treatment with initial IVIG therapy and steroids.

### VI. CONCLUSIONS

Aspirin and flurbiprofen appeared to have a negative impact on the suppressive effects of initial IVIG therapy on CAL development in the acute phase of Kawasaki disease. Patients who received initial IVIG monotherapy with delayed administration of these ADs may not receive a negative impact on the suppressive effects of ADs to IVIG therapy until the start time of ADs administration. Furthermore, a single IVIG therapy does not modify the clinical course of Kawasaki disease. This characteristic permits clinicians to easily manage the treatment progress and to provide additional therapies at appropriate times during the clinical course. An initial single IVIG therapy may be useful for the prevention of large CAL caused by different factors including IVIG-

resistance, -responsiveness, and relapse of Kawasaki disease.

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## Advantages and Challenges to using Telehealth Medicine

By Patrick O'Connell, RN

*Adelphi University, United States*

**Abstract- Objective:** Research was conducted to evaluate advantages and challenges to using telehealth medicine. Technology is discussed in relation to ease of healthcare provider use and client use. Ethical issues were evaluated for issues concerning safety and surveillance.

**Method:** Reviews of literature using nursing data base (ProQuest-Health and Medical Complete) with the term telehealth in nursing was used. Limits used to narrow the search were full text, peer reviewed, English language, human only and dates between 2011 and 2014.

**Results:** The literature search located 34 articles from ProQuest. A total of 7 articles that support advantages or disadvantages to using telehealth were used.

**Conclusion:** The articles had mixed result for advantages and challenges at the healthcare provider level and the patient level. Issues with weak signals, misinterpreted data, and patient reading errors were evaluated for safety issues. Several clients and caretakers failed to report results during studies hindering outcomes. Client satisfaction and quality of life were addressed to evaluate the client and family views of telehealth medicine.

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**GJMR-F Classification :** NLMC Code: WP 100



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**Keywords:** telehealth, nursing, healthcare, informatics, communication.

## I. INTRODUCTION

With populations aging world-wide and age-related chronic diseases increasing; there is an increased need for healthcare access (Wade, Shaw, and Cartwright, 2012). Health informatics has been growing in the healthcare industry since the 1950 and 1960's (Stenlund and Mines, 2012). Information can be gathered, stored, retrieved and shared by multiple disciplines as a way to improve quality and safety in patient care delivery. This article discusses factors that enhance or inhibit safe patient care delivery using telehealth technology. Healthcare providers will be evaluated to identify benefits and limitations to using information technology as a way to collaborate with other disciplines or clients. Ways to improve information delivery and clear up misunderstandings will be addressed to offer information clarity for both healthcare provider and client recipients.

As healthcare service needs are increasing, information technology is also increasing to meet the demand of global populations. Welfare technology (WT) was launched to improve healthcare access, reduce

financial burden, and conduct research (Hoffman, 2012). Ethical challenges concerning tracking, disease monitoring, surveillance and privacy will be discussed to identify risk/benefit outcomes using telehealth technology.

The purpose of this research is to evaluate data that supports advantages and challenges to using telehealth medicine. This information can be used by healthcare organizations to implement programs or change current practices in an effort to offer better healthcare delivery for global populations. Views of using technology information by healthcare providers and clients can be used to improve education needs or improve system design.

## II. ADVANTAGES TO USING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Telehealth medicine is growing constantly to offer healthcare world-wide. It is an avenue to assess, diagnose, plan, implement and evaluate data over time or distances. Education and communication can be valuable to clients without access to healthcare. Research can be obtained or shared to improve evidence based knowledge.

Hoffman (2012) conducted a study with 281 out of 1976 articles to evaluate advantages and ethical challenges to using information technology. His research revealed several positive results. Many identified that mobility technology can increase flexibility, agility, and movability. Internet based psychotherapy and telemedicine for home services resulted in reduced mortality, better medication compliance, and improved safety from falls or security issues. His research also identified that elderly clients welcome new technology and surveillance as it reduces fear and insecurities.

Having the remote capability to offer specialty care and access to rapid assessment and treatments can be an answer to a shortage of experts in underserved locations. Technology may benefit clients with sensory impairment, social isolation, and depression. The speed of healing processes using hospital services at home may be more effective and will promote dignity (Bonanno, Bramanti, Pirrotta, Spadero Bramanti and Lanzafame, 2013).

Stenlund and Mines (2012) suggested that videoconferencing along with telephone, facsimile, and e-mail is a great way to communicate. Video-

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conferencing allows communication over long distances while viewing and hearing each other. Using this technique addresses issues such as geographic barriers, weather concerns, access to healthcare providers, reduced stress, access to education, monitoring and travel time.

Watanabe, Fairchild, Pituskin, Borgersen, Hanson and Fassbender (2012) conducted a study using forty-four initial consultation clients and 28 follow-up visit clients using video conferencing. The result showed that most of the clients or caretakers expressed a high degree of satisfaction with various aspects of the virtual clinic. Only 6.8 percent indicated discomfort with telehealth equipment or format. Nineteen of 44 percent of physicians returned surveys and all of them agreed that their patients received an easy to use and valuable service that would be difficult to access by other means. Videoconferencing can be beneficial for oncology consultations, home hospice nursing visits, team meetings, and education for clients or healthcare providers.

Vinson, McCallum, Thornlow and Champagne (2011) were responsible for designing a pilot program for reorganizing their ambulatory clinic under hospital guidelines to enhance reimbursements. Strategies that were implemented to improve outcomes and reduce costs were telehealth nursing, telephone triage, and telephone nursing. A total of 136 of 344 patients consented to participate in this pilot study. The results revealed that 81.2 percent of the clients rated telehealth medicine as being high or very high in value and 88.1 percent of the clients stated that their needs were met. Only 1.1 percent of the calls were urgent. Hospital and clinic visits drastically decreased for situations such as prescription refills, test results, advice about medication, self-care questions, and after hour visits. Feedback from 75 percent of the providers revealed that only 55.6 percent of the providers refer their patients to telehealth however; those providers rate the service as high level of satisfaction. The cost of this service was made up by adjusting the clinic staffing cost. They used existing phone jacks, cable wires, and office space to reduce overall expenses for setting up the service. Multiple disciplines were set up with individual programs that were linked to one network so that information could be shared simultaneously.

### III. DISADVANTAGES TO USING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Although there are many advantages to using information technology, there are disadvantages and ethical issues as well. Watanabe, Fairchild, Pituskin, Borgersen, Hanson and Fassbender (2012) found that rural family physicians were not aware of the virtual clinic despite advertising over the fax, telephone, internet and media. Recommendations were delayed due to lack of

physician contact or unavailability. Appointments took more time to enter into the telehealth system than hand written. Several clients had to travel long distances to visit the telehealth site for pain management. This study lacked a control group and had a small number of participants. There was no follow-up data to compare. There was not a cost analysis for set-up, staff training, or impact on the healthcare system.

Wade, Shaw, and Cartwright (2012) conducted a study to identify reasons for failed readings of telehealth monitoring equipment on elderly people with chronic diseases. They identified that of 255 people, 112 people did not meet the criteria for participation and 50 were already using some form of telehealth system. Thirty-two clients lacked capacity and did not have care assistance to help them with their readings on a regular basis. The clients were given questions to answer daily. All caretakers were trained and observed in the use of the telehealth equipment. Of 43 participants, (56%) had caretakers, (39%) had orthopedic issues, (16%) had mobility impairment or falls, (10%) had cardiovascular issues, (10%) had neurology issues, (5%) had respiratory issues, (5%) had malignancy issues, (4%) had renal issues, (3%) had infection, and (8%) were other issues.

Of the 43 clients in this study, (100%) were required to take daily heart rate readings, (98%) were required to take daily blood pressures, (46%) required daily weight readings, and (42) required daily pulse oximetry readings. Results found that there was an overall (13%) failure rate. Weight failed (17%), blood pressure failed (15%), heart rate failed (14%), pulse oximetry failed (15%), and daily questions failed (6%). The finding suggested that inaccurate reading were about even with or without caretakers. The study did not elaborate whether the caretakers were family, friends, hired nurses, or companions. It also did not mention the age of the caretakers. Readings were recorded as both reported, but wrong and unreported. Caretakers did not document the reason for reading failure. Caretakers were left to their clinical judgement whether a client needed a follow-up appointment.

This study suggests that reading errors can have harsh negative consequences. It is dangerous because it provides false information to medical staff. Non-reporting withholds vital information necessary for practitioners to form a plan of care.

Ethical question that needs to be answered before implementing a telehealth program: Who will benefit? Is it more useful for the client, healthcare providers or the stakeholders? What is the end point? Will it reduce mortality or increase quality of life? Will it be cost effective? Who will be installing and monitoring the devices? How will consent be obtained? If these questions can be answered through studies, client/family satisfaction scores, physician surveys, etc.;

then a pilot program is ready to be implemented (Hoffman, 2012).

Hoffman (2012) suggests that implementing technology may be age discriminating by enhancing differences and inequalities. It is not fair to expect family members to learn new technology. This added burden may alter family ties. Monitoring and tracking devices may infringe on a person's right to privacy, autonomy, surveillances, and confidentiality.

#### IV. MAKING TECHNOLOGY MORE USER FRIENDLY

Hoffman (2012) suggests that subjective barriers can be overcome by installing devices such as labeling, mirror doors without knobs, coded door openers, etc. to enhance a person's right to dignity and privacy. Risk vs. benefit in relation to surveillance and privacy may be complicated. Surveillance of an elderly person with cognitive decline, a pacemaker/defibrillator, or diabetes mellitus may need surveillance for safety reasons.

Karim, Zulkifley, Mustafa, Sagap and Latar (2013) suggested that the natural presence of gesture, interaction, instructions, face expression, and voice helps explain meaning of a speech however; long distance communication loses clarity and signal strength which leads to misunderstandings and misinterpretations. Telepointer communication can be used to convey human gesture by pointer motion. Telepointers can be classified by low level such as a laser pointer or high level such as hand gestures, sketching, drawing or overlaying hands.

Telepointer technology allows the sender to point at exact areas being represented while simultaneously letting the observers see the same views. Telepointer provides coordinate information, creates a presence of self, and gains audience attention. This technology can be used for education, consultation, surgery, and many other needs.

Wade, Shaw, and Cartwright (2012) suggests that monitoring equipment for home use should be as easy as following a few simple prompts or pressing a button. Instructions to the care givers explaining the importance of reporting monitor results is necessary. Elderly clients can decompensate quickly without prompt attention by medically trained staff.

#### V. DISCUSSION

All of the articles showed evidence of advantages and disadvantages to using telehealth technology. The advantages clearly outweigh the challenges and ethical dilemmas. A majority of client's, caretakers, and physicians expressed satisfaction with telehealth technology. More needs to be studied about the ease of monitoring device use to improve reading

errors. Caretakers need more instruction about the importance of reporting monitor results.

Ethical issues need to be studied further to identify if elderly people with cognitive decline have the right to refuse telehealth monitoring equipment. Assessment of safety and security needs to be evaluated for people refusing care. Are there ways to keep an elderly person safe and secure while maintaining their right of dignity and privacy? Is surveillance and tracking intruding on a person's privacy if used as a safety measure?

Telehealth technology should be easy to use for the client and the provider. Before implementing new telehealth technology, questions need to be answered such as: Who will benefit? Is it more useful for the client, healthcare providers or the stakeholders? What is the end point? Will it reduce mortality or increase quality of life? Will it be cost effective? Who will be installing and monitoring the devices? How will consent be obtained?

Telepointer technology can help give clarity to a presentation, instructions, explanation, etc. Using low to high level telepointer technology can offer human gesture from pointer motion. Using the telepointer can resolve misunderstandings or misinterpretations.

This analysis is intended to support advantages and disadvantages to using telehealth medicine. This information can be used as guidance to make evidence based decisions before implementing a telehealth program.

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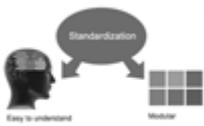
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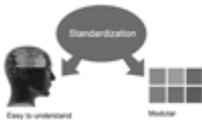


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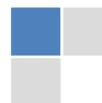
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Complete support for both authors and co-author is provided.

#### 4. MANUSCRIPT'S CATEGORY

Based on potential and nature, the manuscript can be categorized under the following heads:

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Review papers: These are concise, significant but helpful and decisive topics for young researchers.

Research articles: These are handled with small investigation and applications

Research letters: The letters are small and concise comments on previously published matters.

#### 5. STRUCTURE AND FORMAT OF MANUSCRIPT

The recommended size of original research paper is less than seven thousand words, review papers fewer than seven thousands words also. Preparation of research paper or how to write research paper, are major hurdle, while writing manuscript. The research articles and research letters should be fewer than three thousand words, the structure original research paper; sometime review paper should be as follows:

**Papers:** These are reports of significant research (typically less than 7000 words equivalent, including tables, figures, references), and comprise:

(a) Title should be relevant and commensurate with the theme of the paper.

(b) A brief Summary, "Abstract" (less than 150 words) containing the major results and conclusions.

(c) Up to ten keywords, that precisely identifies the paper's subject, purpose, and focus.

(d) An Introduction, giving necessary background excluding subheadings; objectives must be clearly declared.

(e) Resources and techniques with sufficient complete experimental details (wherever possible by reference) to permit repetition; sources of information must be given and numerical methods must be specified by reference, unless non-standard.

(f) Results should be presented concisely, by well-designed tables and/or figures; the same data may not be used in both; suitable statistical data should be given. All data must be obtained with attention to numerical detail in the planning stage. As reproduced design has been recognized to be important to experiments for a considerable time, the Editor has decided that any paper that appears not to have adequate numerical treatments of the data will be returned un-refereed;

(g) Discussion should cover the implications and consequences, not just recapitulating the results; conclusions should be summarizing.

(h) Brief Acknowledgements.

(i) References in the proper form.

Authors should very cautiously consider the preparation of papers to ensure that they communicate efficiently. Papers are much more likely to be accepted, if they are cautiously designed and laid out, contain few or no errors, are summarizing, and be conventional to the approach and instructions. They will in addition, be published with much less delays than those that require much technical and editorial correction.



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## Format

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- One should start brainstorming lists of possible keywords before even begin searching. Think about the most important concepts related to research work. Ask, "What words would a source have to include to be truly valuable in research paper?" Then consider synonyms for the important words.
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- One should avoid outdated words.

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*Acknowledgements: Please make these as concise as possible.*

#### References

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**26. Go for seminars:** Attend seminars if the topic is relevant to your research area. Utilize all your resources.



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**28. Make colleagues:** Always try to make colleagues. No matter how sharper or intelligent you are, if you make colleagues you can have several ideas, which will be helpful for your research.

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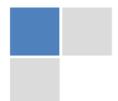
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- Significant conclusions or questions that track from the research(es)

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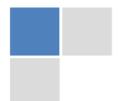
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The page length of this segment is set by the sum and types of data to be reported. Carry on to be to the point, by means of statistics and tables, if suitable, to present consequences most efficiently. You must obviously differentiate material that would usually be incorporated in a study editorial from any unprocessed data or additional appendix matter that would not be available. In fact, such matter should not be submitted at all except requested by the instructor.



## Content

- Sum up your conclusion in text and demonstrate them, if suitable, with figures and tables.
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- Do not present the similar data more than once.
- Manuscript should complement any figures or tables, not duplicate the identical information.
- Never confuse figures with tables - there is a difference.

### Approach

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### Figures and tables

- If you put figures and tables at the end of the details, make certain that they are visibly distinguished from any attach appendix materials, such as raw facts
- Despite of position, each figure must be numbered one after the other and complete with subtitle
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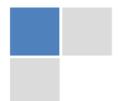
### Discussion:

The Discussion is expected the trickiest segment to write and describe. A lot of papers submitted for journal are discarded based on problems with the Discussion. There is no head of state for how long a argument should be. Position your understanding of the outcome visibly to lead the reviewer through your conclusions, and then finish the paper with a summing up of the implication of the study. The purpose here is to offer an understanding of your results and hold up for all of your conclusions, using facts from your research and generally accepted information, if suitable. The implication of result should be visibly described. Infer your data in the conversation in suitable depth. This means that when you clarify an observable fact you must explain mechanisms that may account for the observation. If your results vary from your prospect, make clear why that may have happened. If your results agree, then explain the theory that the proof supported. It is never suitable to just state that the data approved with prospect, and let it drop at that.

- Make a decision if each premise is supported, discarded, or if you cannot make a conclusion with assurance. Do not just dismiss a study or part of a study as "uncertain."
- Research papers are not acknowledged if the work is imperfect. Draw what conclusions you can based upon the results that you have, and take care of the study as a finished work
- You may propose future guidelines, such as how the experiment might be personalized to accomplish a new idea.
- Give details all of your remarks as much as possible, focus on mechanisms.
- Make a decision if the tentative design sufficiently addressed the theory, and whether or not it was correctly restricted.
- Try to present substitute explanations if sensible alternatives be present.
- One research will not counter an overall question, so maintain the large picture in mind, where do you go next? The best studies unlock new avenues of study. What questions remain?
- Recommendations for detailed papers will offer supplementary suggestions.

### Approach:

- When you refer to information, differentiate data generated by your own studies from available information
- Submit to work done by specific persons (including you) in past tense.
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<i>References</i>	Complete and correct format, well organized	Beside the point, Incomplete	Wrong format and structuring



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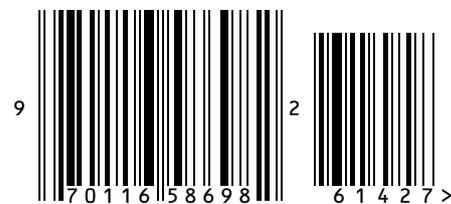
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