NEW SEROLOGICAL REACTIONS IN SYPHILIS


M. E. Hadida, and M. Allinne and J. Orfila

This is a summary of a study which was published, in full, in another magazine.

The Nelson test remains the most reliable serological criterion of syphilis but its application is a rather delicate matter. It appeared worthwhile to compare it to the reactions to the lipidic antigens; the complement fixation reactions to the treponemic antigens, both pathogenic and nonpathogenic; the immunofluorescence reaction, and to evaluate the sensitivity and respective specificity of these various reactions.

Techniques Used. For the Nelson test we used the method of Nelson and Mayer, slightly simplified by Durel et al. For the reactions to the lipidic antigens, we took recourse to the complement fixation reaction of Kolmer and to the flocculation reaction of Kline. For the complement fixation reaction to the antigen of Reiter we used 3 preparations: one raw [coarse] suspension of treponemic bodies in phenol-treated water at 3% (pallignon); one glycerine-treated suspension of treponemas which had been washed and then lysed by the action of ultra-sound ...[page 661 missing in photostat]... complement fixation reactions using the cardiolipidic antigens or the Reiter antigens, for the tracking and control of syphilis treatment; the Nelson test continues to be necessary in judging the disputed cases.