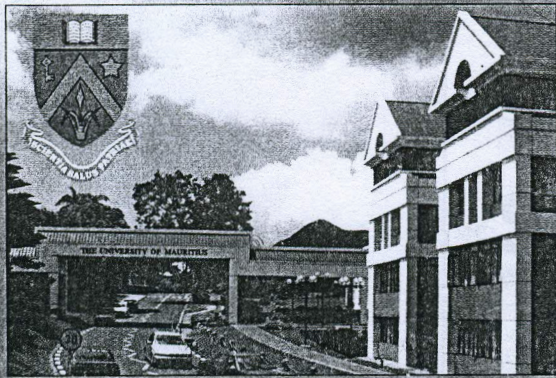


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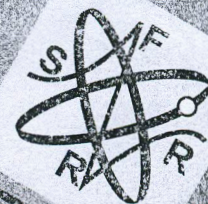
Nutritional Antioxidants

Oxidative Stress and the
Environment

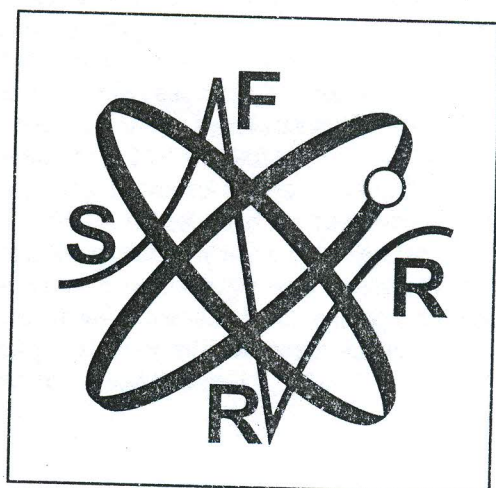
HIV Infection and the
Interventions

Economics of Plants and
Biologically Active Natural Products

Parasitic Infections and
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PROTECTIVE ROLE OF VITAMIN E AND COENZYME Q10 ON ANTIOXIDANT DEFENSE SYSTEM IN THE BLOOD OF RATS TREATED WITH CADMIUM

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The aim of our study was to investigate the activities of copper zinc containing superoxide dismutase (CuZn SOD), catalase (CAT), glutathione peroxidase (GSH-Px), glutathione-S-transferase (GST) and glutathione reductase (GR), as well as ascorbic acid (AsA), vitamin E (Vit E) and lipide peroxide (LP) concentrations in the blood of make two months old *Eistar albino* rats. The animals were divided as follows: (1) untreated controls (C); (3) rats treated with 20 IU/kg/dose of Vit E and 15 mg/kg/dose of coenzyme Q10 (CoQ10), i.m., every fifth day during 15 days (Vit E+CoQ10) and (4) animals pretreated with Vit E and CoQ10 in above mentioned amounts during 15 days and then treated with 14 mg/day/kg blm. of Cd during next 15 days (Cd+Vit E+CoQ10). Each group consisted of seven animals. All obtained results were compared in respect to the control animals. Cadmium induced a significant increase of GST activity, as well as Vit E concentration in the plasma. In Vit E+CoQ10 treated animals the activities of GSH-Px and GR in erythrocytes were significantly decreased, whereas plasma AsA and Vit E concentrations were markedly elevated. In Cd+Vit E+CoQ10 treated rates erythrocyte GSH-Px and GR activities, as well as plasma Vit E concentration were significantly increased, while plasma AsA concentration was significantly decreased. In all examined groups of animals LP concentration in the whole blood was significantly decreased. The obtained results show that Cd in the dosages administered influenced antioxidant defense system in the blood of rats and the protective role of Vit E and CoQ10 against Cd toxicity was also observed.

POSTER 25

CONJUNCTIVAL MUCOEPIDERMOID CARCINOMA IN A MAURITIAN MAN LIVING WITH HIV INFECTION

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We report the first case of conjunctival mucoepidermoid carcinoma associated with HIV infection in Mauritius. A 43 years old male patient heterosexual, repentant heroin addict, cured from a pulmonary tuberculosis in 1998 and with a chronic alcohol and cigarette intoxication was presumably infected with HIV 1 since 1998. Immunovirological parameters were stable till April 1999 with a CD4 of 447/ml and a viral load of 36,300 copies/ml. An opaque grey white pterygium like lesion at the nasal aspect of the left eye appeared in late 1997 and grew rapidly. In October 1998 a biopsy revealed the presence of a well differentiated squamous cell carcinoma proliferating up to the limbus. The lesion was excised easily with a 2 mm conjunctival safety margin. No recurrence has been noted since. The disease represents another model of multifactorial cacinogenesis with the interactions of ultraviolet light, HIV, Herpes papilloma virus and other factors. Our case bears no evident relationship with homosexuality, advanced immunosuppression. There is a notion of intravenous drug abuse.