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The clinical significance of detection of the anti-endothelial cell antibodies in sera from children with Kawasaki disease

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Objective: To explore the clinical significance of serous anti-endothelial cell antibodies (AECA) in Kawasaki disease (KD) in aspects of early diagnostic value and humoral immunologic condition.

Methods: Serous AECA-IgG were determined in 58 samples with KD at acute stage as well as 43 samples including 23 with ordinary febricity and 20 healthy children as control groups. Concentrations of immunoglobulin G (IgG), IgA, IgM, compliment 3 (C3) and C4 were compared among AECA-IgG groups and control groups.

Results: AECA-IgG positive rate in KD group was significantly higher than ordinary febricity group (39.7% vs. 17.4%, $P=0.055$) and health group (39.7% vs. 5.0%, $P<0.01$). There was a significant difference for the concentrations of IgG, IgA, IgM, C3 and C4 in AECA-IgG positive group compared with ordinary febricity group and health group ($P<0.05$). Such difference was also found in AECA-IgG negative group except the concentration of C4 while there was no statistical difference between AECA-IgG positive group and AECA-IgG negative group ($P>0.05$).

Conclusion: Based on relatively high positive rate for IgG AECA in children with KD. There is limited early diagnostic value for serous AECA detection. Children with KD have evident humoral immunologic derangement, in which humoral immunity mediated by IgA may play an important role.

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