DETECTION OF MYCOBACTERIUM LEPRAE DNA IN BLOOD OF THE SUBCLINICAL LEPROSY
(Cita Rosita Sigit Prakoeswa, Indropo Agusni, Shinzo Izumi)

CORRELATION BETWEEN MUTANT p53 PROTEIN EXPRESSION AND HISTOPATHOLOGICAL GRADING
IN ASTROCYTOMA PATIENTS
(Joni Wahyuadi, Agus Chairul Anab)

HISTOPATHOLOGICAL FEATURE OF THE TUMOR OF CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM
AT AIRLANGGA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, DR SOETOMO HOSPITAL, SURABAYA, IN 2001-2003
(Etty Hary Kusumastuti, Suparman, Suhartono Taat Putra)

EXERCISE DIASTOLIC BLOOD PRESSURE AS AN INDICATOR OF ENDOTHELIAL FUNCTION
AMONG SUBJECTS WITH NORMAL AND LOW ANKLE-BRACHIAL INDEX
(Prihati Pujowaskito, J Nugroho, Djoko Soemantri)

EFFECT OF ARTIFICIAL UNILATERAL URETER TOTAL OBSTRUCTION ON SERUM CYSTATIN-C LEVELS
IN ORYCTALAGUS CUNICULUS
(Hariyono, Soetojo, Doddy M Soebadi, Endang Retnowati, Widodo JP)

THE DETERMINATION ANTIPYRINE ON PLASMA BY SPECTROPHOTOMETER ULTRA VIOLET-VISIBLE
(Nuraini Farida, Bambang Hermanto, Lazuardi M)

LUMBAR MICRODISCECTOMY: TECHNIQUE, ADVANTAGES AND OUTCOMES.
SURABAYA EXPERIENCE ON 83 PATIENTS
(Abdul Hafid Bajamal)

Case Report:
SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT OF STEVENS JOHNSON SYNDROME -TOXIC EPIDERMAL NECROSIS
WITH INTRAVENOUS IMMUNOGLOBULIN
(Bony Pramono, Afnanto Harsono)

Review Article:
HYSTEROSALPINGOGRAPHY AS A DIAGNOSTIC TEST OF FEMALE INFERTILITY
(Arsana Wiyasa)

Review Article: HEART RATE VARIABILITY
A Remarkable Tool to Assess Sympathovagal Balance
(Muhammad Ridwan, Steve E Selig)

Review Article and Clinical Experience:
HYPERTENSION IN DIABETIC NEPHROPATHY
The Five “Satan Circles”, DHA-LICOAR, the Roles of Valsartan
(Askandar Tjokroprawiro)
## Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Detection of Mycobacterium Leprae DNA in Blood of the Subclinical Leprosy</td>
<td>64 - 67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Correlation between Mutant p53 Protein Expression and Histopathological Grading in Astrocytoma Patients</strong></td>
<td>68 - 74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Histopathological Feature of the Tumor of Central Nervous System at Airlangga University School of Medicine, Dr Soetomo Hospital, Surabaya, in 2001-2003</td>
<td>75 - 77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Exercise Diastolic Blood Pressure as an Indicator of Endothelial Function among Subjects with Normal and Low Ankle-Brachial Index</td>
<td>78 - 86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Effect of Artificial Unilateral Ureter Total Obstructon on Serum Cystatin-C Levels in Oryctalagus Cuniculus</td>
<td>87 - 92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>The Determination Antipyrine on Plasma by Spectrophotometer Ultra Violet-Visible</td>
<td>93 - 98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Lumbar Microdiscectomy: Technique, Advantages and Outcomes. Surabaya Experience on 83 Patients</td>
<td>99 - 104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Case Report: Successful Treatment of Stevens Johnson Syndrome-Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis with Intravenous Immunoglobulin</td>
<td>105 - 112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Review Article: Hysterosalpingography as a Diagnostic Test of Female Infertility</td>
<td>113 - 117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Review Article: Heart Rate Variability. A Remarkable Tool to Assess Sympathovagal Balance</td>
<td>118 - 123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Review Article and Clinical Experience: Hypertension in Diabetic Nephropathy. The Five â€œSatan Circlesâ€, DHA-LiCOAR, the Roles of Valsartan</td>
<td>124 - 128</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Correlation between Mutant p53 Protein Expression and Histopathological Grading in Astrocytoma Patients

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Abstract

Mutation of p53 gene plays an important role in astrocytoma carcinogenesis. The mutation process results in p53 mutant which fails to stop the tumor's cellular proliferation or apoptotic process resulting new cells with persistent genetic mutation. p53 mutant expression detected by immunohistochemistry staining shows the biological behavior of tumor cell. Some authors found that p53 protein expression relates to histopathological grading which affects the prognosis. However, some studies showed different results. These findings invite debatable subject around p53 mutant and histopathological grading. The objective of this study was to prove the correlation between p53 mutant protein expression with histopathologic grading in astrocytoma patients. This was an analytic cross-sectional study using immunohistochemical staining for p53 mutant expression, conducted from January to August 2005. Data were analyzed to find the relation between WHO histopathological grading, age, and sex, and p53 protein expression. The confidence interval was α = .05. The results found that 33 astrocytoma patients were operated, with age range from 4 to 62 years old, averagely 30.91 years old. Most patients aged between 31-40 years old., predominantly male (male: female = 60.6% : 39.4%). Histopathological diagnosis mostly was diffuse astrocytoma (WHO grade II) found in 48.5% cases, pilocytic astrocytoma (WHO grade III) 30.3%, and Glioblastoma multiforme 6.1%. Mild expression of p53 was found in WHO grade I. Mild expression of p53 increased to 14 (42.4%) in WHO grade II and 2 patients had severe degree. Percentage of patients of WHO grade III showed severe grade of expression increasing to 6 patients (18.2%). In WHO grade IV group, there was 1 patient (3.0%) with severe expression and 1 patient with very severe expression. Statistical analysis using Spearman correlation test showed that there was a correlation between p53 mutant expression with increasing histopathological grading of astrocytoma, p=.001 (p<.0001) with correlation coefficient 0.736. In conclusion, there is positive correlation between p53 mutant protein expression and histopathological grading (p<.0001; correlation coefficient 0.736), as well as age (p<0.05; correlation coefficient 0.434)

Keyword : Astrocytoma, p53, mutant, expression, histopathological, grading, immunohistochemistry,

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