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MAGE-1 cDNA ISOLATION FROM TESTIS WITH RT PCR
(Gondo Mastuti et al.)

EFFECT OF FISH OIL ON BLOOD CHOLESTEROL LEVEL IN RATS FED WITH HYPERCHOLESTEROLEMIC DIET
(Tantiana)

CYTOLOGIC EXAMINATION USING SWAB METHOD TO EVALUATE RADIOLOGIC OUTCOME IN NASOPHARYNGEAL CARCINOMA PATIENTS POST-RADIOThERAPY
(Octendong, Hoetomo, Widodo Ano Kentojo)

ROLE OF ANTERIOR DECOMPRESSION IN CERVICAL SPONDYLOYSIS MYELOPATHY: A REPORT OF 64 CASES
(Abdul Hafid Bejarmal)

CORRELATION BETWEEN NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF PREGNANT MOTHERS AND ATERM BIRTHWEIGHT IN DR SOETOMO HOSPITAL SURABAYA, 1992
(Marsianto)

PERSISTENT IMPAIRMENT OF CEREBRAL CORTICES DUE TO PROTEIN-ENERGY MALNUTRITION (PEM). Anatomical, Histological, and Physiological Perspectives
(Viskasari P Kalanjati)

ROLE OF SERUM NEURON SPECIFIC ENOLASE (NSE) TO DIFFERENTIATE ISCHEMIC STROKE FROM HEMORRHAGIC STROKE AND ITS CORRELATION WITH BRAIN DAMAGE VOLUME
(Dwi Lily Lukas, Endang Retnowati, Saiful Islam)

THE EFFECT OF LOW LEVEL LASER THERAPY IN CARPAL TUNNEL SYNDROME PATIENTS
(Baya Santoso, Reini Hendrastuti Masduchi, Imam Subadi, Swain Jen)

METABOLIC SYNDROME IN PATIENTS WITH MITOCHONDRIAL DIABETES MELLITUS
(Agung Pranoto)

DECREASED HUMAN MILK IMMUNITY IN DOUBLE LIFE MOTHERS
(AA Subiyanto)

CONGENITAL MUSCULAR TORTICOLLIS WITH SHORTENING OF RIGHT STERNOCLEIDOMASTOID MUSCLE. A CASE REPORT
(Djohangah Marzokie, Ferdinand)

EFFECT OF ACANTHUS ILICIFOLIUS L EXTRACT ON THE REDUCTION OF TNF-ALPHA EXPRESSION IN WISTAR STRAIN RATTUS NORVEGICUS
(I Ketut Sudana, Elyana S Asnor)

Review Article and Clinical Experience:
GRAVES' DISEASE AND THYROID STORM
ATD Therapy, Formulas TS - 41608, CS - 7.3.7
(Askendar Tjokroprawiro)

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Folia Medica Indonesiana  Vol. 43  No. 4  Page 195-275  Surabaya  Oct-Dec 2007  ISSN 0303-7932
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>MAGE-1 cDNA ISOLATION FROM TESTIS WITH RT PCR</td>
<td>195 - 200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>EFFECT OF FISH OIL ON BLOOD CHOLESTEROL LEVEL IN RATS FED WITH HYPERCHOLESTEROLEMIC DIET</td>
<td>201 - 203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>CYTOLOGIC EXAMINATION USING SWAB METHOD TO EVALUATE RADIOLOGIC OUTCOME IN NASOPHARYNGEAL CARCINOMA PATIENTS POST-RADIOTHERAPY</td>
<td>204 - 209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>ROLE OF ANTERIOR DECOMPRESSION IN CERVICAL SPONDYLOSIS MYELOPATHY: A REPORT OF 64 CASES</td>
<td>210 - 216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>CORRELATION BETWEEN NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF PREGNANT MOTHERS AND ATERM BIRTHWEIGHT IN DR SOETOMO HOSPITAL SURABAYA, 1992</td>
<td>217 - 225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>PERSISTENT IMPAIRMENT OF CEREBRAL CORTICES DUE TO PROTEIN-ENERGY MALNUTRITION (PEM) Anatomical, Histological, and Physiological Perspectives</td>
<td>226 - 229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>ROLE OF SERUM NEURON SPECIFIC ENOLASE (NSE) TO DIFFERENTIATE ISCHEMIC STROKE FROM HEMORRHAGIC STROKE AND ITS CORRELATION WITH BRAIN DAMAGE VOLUME</td>
<td>230 - 234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>THE EFFECT OF LOW LEVEL LASER THERAPY IN CARPAL TUNNEL SYNDROME PATIENTS</td>
<td>235 - 245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>METABOLIC SYNDROME IN PATIENTS WITH MITOCHONDRIAL DIABETES MELLITUS</td>
<td>246 - 254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>DECREASED HUMAN MILK IMMUNITY IN DOUBLE LIFE MOTHERS</td>
<td>255 - 259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>CONGENITAL MUSCULAR TORTICOLLIS WITH SHORTENING OF RIGHT STERNOCLEIDOMASTOID MUSCLE. A CASE REPORT</td>
<td>260 - 264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>EFFECT OF ACANTHUS ILICIFOLIUS L EXTRACT ON THE REDUCTION OF TNF-Î± EXPRESSİON İN WİSTAR STRAIN RATTUS NORVEGİCUS</td>
<td>265 - 267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Review Article and Clinical Experience: GRAVESâ€™ DISEASE AND THYROID STORM ATD Therapy, Formulas TS â€“ 41668, CS â€“ 7.3.7</td>
<td>268 - 275</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CYTOLOGIC EXAMINATION USING SWAB METHOD TO EVALUATE RADILOGIC OUTCOME IN NASOPHARYNGEAL CARCINOMA PATIENTS POST-RADIOThERAPY

Abstract

Blind biopsy is still a standard procedure for the evaluation of NPC patients after radiotherapy in Oncology Clinic at ENT Department, Dr Soetomo Hospital. There is a problem in this procedure for patients because blind biopsy method could make bleeding and pain. The swab method was conducted by scraping nasopharyngeal area. This method has minimal injury, bleeding and painless. The result was quicker, cheaper as compared to blind biopsy. Swab method had been reported as having low accuracy as compared to blind biopsy to diagnose NPC. The purpose of this study was to analyze of different results of swab method and blind biopsy in patients of NPC after radiotherapy. The diagnostic test study was done by cross sectional comparative design. The population was NPC patients who had total dose of radiotherapy in Radiotherapy Installation, Dr Soetomo Hospital. The samples were taken by consecutive sampling to incoming patients at Oncology Clinic, ENT Department, Dr. Soetomo Hospital during the period of January to May 2005. There were 40 samples to study. The results of cytology and histopathology of the swab method and the blind biopsy in seven patients had a result of positive swab and positive biopsy. Two patients had a result of positive swab and negative biopsy. Three patients had a result of negative swab and positive biopsy. Twenty-eight patients had a result of negative swab and negative biopsy. Statistical analysis of the results with McNemar’s test was \( p = 1.000 \). This means that there was no significant difference \( (p > 0.05) \) between the results of swab method and blind biopsy. The swab method had the sensitivity of 70%, the specificity of 93.3%, the positive predictive value was 77.8%, the negative predictive value was 90.3%, and the accuracy was 87.5%. The conclusion of this study was that the swab method can be a substitution of blind biopsy to evaluate NPC patients after radiotherapy.

Keyword : Nasopharyngeal, carcinoma, post, radiotherapy, swab, blind, biopsy,