T AND B LYMPHOCYTES EXPRESSION STATUS OF OPTIC NEURITIS IN CHINA

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Objective: To explore immunological pathogenesis of optic neuritis in China.
Methods: The expression of the T cell subsets (CD3+, CD4+Th, CD8+Ts) and B cells in peripheral blood mononuclear cells of patients with optic neuritis (ON) were examined by Flow Cytometer and then compared with those of patients with non- inflammatory nervous system disease (NINSD).
Results: Totally 116 cases of ON were included, including 81 female and 35 male patients, with a mean age of 39.2±12.1 yrs. The control group had 50 cases of NINSD patients including 22 female and 28 male, with a mean age of 63.9±15.3 yrs. The values of CD3+T(68.1%±9.9%) and CD4+Th(38.4%±10.0%) in ON group were significantly lower than those of NISD patients (CD3+=73.0%±6.0%, CD4+Th=49.2%±8.9%)(P=0.001, P=0.0004), while the CD8+Ts(26.2%±8.2%) in ON group were statistically higher than those of NISD patients(CD8+Ts =22.2%±6.8%)(P=0.003). B cells in ON group(19.4%±8.7%) was statistically higher in ON group than in that of NINSD group(14.5%±5.0%) (P=0.0002).
Conclusion: Decreased CD3+T and CD4+T, together with a increased CD8+T, suggested that the cellular immunity was depressed, while the statistically elevated B Cell suggested a increased humoral immunity process in optic neuritis patients in China.