ABSENCE OF PLASMA CELLS FROM BONE MARROW AND LYMPH NODES FOLLOWING ANTIGENIC STIMULATION IN PATIENTS WITH A GAMMA GLOBULINEMIA (1, 2)

By ROBERT A. GOOD, Ph. D., M. D. (3).

Much current argument focusses on the site of antibody production in animals and man. Evidence has been presented purporting to show that antibodies and gamma globulin are formed in reticuloendothelial cells, lymphocytes and plasma cells. The data of EHRICH, MOESCHLIN and COONS seem to be sufficiently direct to establish that plasma cells are one of the cellular sources of antibody production in experimental animals.

In spite of these studies many still doubt the relationship between plasma cell proliferation on the one hand and antibody or gamma globulin production on the other. Clinical, pathological and hematological studies in humans provide evidence linking plasma cell formation to the elaboration of gamma globulin and to the synthesis of antibody. Almost all of the data presented has been correlative and has supported a positive relationship.

Of value in establishing or rejecting the directness of the relationship between antibody and gamma globulin synthesis and plasma cell proliferation would be a study of the hematopoietic tissues in a disease characterized by a deficiency of antidoby and gamma globulin. This opportunity now exists and the observations on the activity of the

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