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Vaccines for human viral diseases as well as for oncogenic non viral antigens

The Variola major, the virus that causes the smallpox, lethal virus in the 30% of the cases, was eraticated in 1979 in the human species, thanks to a capillary vaccination on global scale. Recently the World Health Organization declared that India and Southeast Asia are polio-free, really a great achievement since the vaccine for polio, an infectious desease that can cause paralisis, was certificated safe and useful only 60 years ago. Last year over 800 million doses of combination vaccines are going to be used to vaccinate Chinese children whereas more than 20 million children worldwide do not receive one or more important vaccinations that would protect them from at least one preventable disease. Research is badly needed to develop strategies to communicate the importance of vaccinations to uncertain parents. The 2008 San Diego measles outbreack costed over 10.000 dollars for each infection in comparisons to the total cost to contain the outbreack (approximately 124.000 dollars). Even if there are rare cases of vaccine damage, the research to facilitate vaccination must be done to prevent diseases. The vaccine for HBV virus, responsible for epatitis B infection, is able to prevent 50% of all liver cancers. Human Papilloma Viruses (HPV) have been correlated with the cervical cancer (genotypes 16 and 18 particularly oncogenic in humans): the USA Food and Drug Administration in 2006 released the first vaccine against HPV. Long years of research where required for busting the new system to fight cancer. Research is going to obtain the complete sequence by proteomics approaches, in order to achieve adequate antigen preparations that might be used to generate assays for a specific anticancer vaccine. Finally, the ability of the immune system to recognize a tumor-associated antigen, thus enabling development of a vaccine approach for therapeutic application, represents a main target of this field of research.

Biography

Giulio Tarro graduated from Medicine School, Naples University (1962). Research Associate, Division of Virology and Cancer Research, Children's Hospital (1965-1968), Assistant Professor of Research Pediatrics, College Medicine (1968-1969), Cincinnati University, Ohio. Oncological Virology Professor, Naples University (1972-1985). Chief Division Virology (1973-2003), Head Department Diagnostic Laboratories, (2003-2006). D. Cotugno Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Naples; Emeritus, 2006 -. Since 2007 Chairman Committee of Biotechnologies and VirusSphere, World Academy Biomedical Technologies, UNESCO, Adjunct Professor Department Biology, Temple University, College of Science and Technology, Philadelphia, recipient of the Sbarro Health Research Organization lifetime achievement award (2010). His researches have been concerned with the characterization of specific virus-induced tumour antigens, which were the "finger-prints" left behind in human cancer. Achievements include patents in field; discovery of Respiratory Syncytial Virus in infant deaths in Naples and of tumor liberated protein as a tumor associated antigen, 55 kilodalton protein over-expressed in lung tumors and other epithelial adenocarcinomas.

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