

be beneficial by interfering with this process of allergy. That this interference is of too little importance to modify the vascular pathology is apparent. By implication, the overlying process of allergy is unimportant and the underlying focus of infection at present reputed to be of streptococcal origin, is very important. In turn, the results of cultures of blood and joints become of great importance—a state of the question now many years old.

From these considerations it seems possible to draw the following conclusions: 1. Sodium salicylate suppresses the allergic dermal reactions of rabbits to filtrates of hemolytic streptococcus. This effect is most definite when sodium salicylate is given before the focus of infection has developed. 2. There is no relation between the presence or absence of this dermal reactivity and the character of the vascular pathology.

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Plasma Protein, Erythrocyte Sedimentability and Serum Lability in Blood of Normal and Tuberculous Rabbits.

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Sedimentation of the corpuscles of heparinized blood was determined by noting the extent of fall in glass tubes with an inside diameter of 4 mm. and height of 100 mm. during an interval of 1 hour. The tubes were centrifuged to insure complete sedimentation and the sedimentation index computed as the ratio between the sedimentation observed in 1 hour and the possible maximum extent of sedimentation.

Precipitability of serum protein was determined by adding various amounts of aluminum sulphate, as contained in a unit volume of 1 cc. to 0.2 cc. of unheated blood serum in small tubes. Serum and reagent were mixed and set aside at room temperature for 1½ hours. A heavy flocculent precipitate that settled out, leaving a clear supernatant fluid, was recorded as a positive reaction.

Maximal, minimal and average values for these blood properties as observed in the arterial blood of 20 normal male rabbits, with similar values for total protein, fibrin, globulin and albumin as contained in the plasma are listed in Table I.

TABLE I. 20 Normal Male Rabbits. (Arterial Blood.)

	Max.	Min.	Ave.
Weight kgs.	3.9	2.3	2.91
Plasma—100 cc.			
Tot. Prot. gm.	8.00	5.11	6.77
Fibrin gm.	0.23	0.66	0.42
Globulin gm.	3.35	1.51	2.56
Albumin gm.	4.60	3.04	3.77
Prot. Quot.	2.7	1.0	1.51
Sedimentation Index	0.17	0.02	0.06
Incidence of minimal precipitation of serum protein with alum. sulph. %	0.01-0.05 0.06 0.07 0.08	(animals) 0 9 9 2	

Departures from the limits of the normal range in these blood properties were noted upon monthly blood examinations subsequent to experimental tuberculous infection in normal and allergic rabbits. Of 5 animals inoculated (subcutem) with human-type tubercle bacilli 2 exhibited a slight and transitory increase in plasma fibrin. In none of the animals was there observed an acceleration in erythrocyte sedimentation or an increase in serum precipitability.

No change was observed in total protein or in distribution of the various plasma fractions in 11 animals inoculated (intraperitoneally) with bovine-type tubercle bacilli. Increase in erythrocyte sedimentability occurred in 3 animals. Lability of the serum was increased in 3 animals. These increases were not of great magnitude, transient and were co-existent in 1 animal.

To determine the effect on these blood properties of bovine-type infection in animals with residual foci of tuberculous infection (*i. e.*, animals in a state of allergic irritability) 5 rabbits were inoculated (subcutem) with human-type tubercle bacilli and 6 weeks later re-inoculated (intraperitoneally) with bovine-type organisms. Subsequent blood examinations in this group of rabbits revealed no change in the distribution of plasma proteins and an incidence of increase in blood sedimentability and serum precipitability similar to that observed in the group of animals infected primarily with the bovine-type organisms.