

Serum transforming growth factor beta 1 (TGF-beta 1), total serum immunoglobulin A (IgA) and immunoglobulin E (IgE) in smokers and the effect of smoking cessation

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This investigation, which is a part of a larger ongoing study, has focused on determining total serum IgA, IgE together with transforming growth factor beta 1 (TGF-beta 1), which has a possible link-up with controlling IgE transcription and production by B lymphocytes. Study groups included a group of active cigarette smokers, a group who quitted this habit, and normal life-long non smokers. The results showed that total serum IgE, IgA and TGF-beta 1 levels in active smokers were all high and a statistically significant difference was reached only in the first parameter. Quitting smoking was accompanied by tendency for normalization of these parameters. A significant direct correlation between IgE and TGF-beta1 was established in normal non smokers and in ex-smokers, but not in active smokers. This last finding possibly incriminate factors other than TGF-beta 1 in control of IgE production by B lymphocyte in smokers