## SUMMARY & CONCLUSION

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Diarrheal diseases continue to be the principle health proplem among children living in the developing world, a proportion of diarrheal episodes may persist for prolonged periods of time, inducing not only deleterious effects on nutrional status but also high mortality.

The aim of this work is to study the role of "T-cell" in pathogenesis of persistent diarrhea, this study was carried out in Benha University Hospital Pediatric out patient clinic during Septemper 1992 to July 1993.

This study was included twinty five infants surffering from persistent diarrhea, twinty five suffering from acute diarrhea and ten healthy children as control.

All studied children were subjected to the followings:

- 1) Full history taking (NB): all must be BCG vaccinated.
- 2) Full clinical examination (NB): any source of parentral infection to be excluded.
- 3) Tuberclin testing.

4) Laboratory investigations including, total leukocytic, total lymphocytic count, mitogen stimulation with P.H.A. and E-rossette test.

From our study we can conclude the followings:

- 1) Skin test (tuberclin) alone is not accurate in acessing
  "T" cell function especialy in young age and diseased
  children.
- 2) E.rosette and transformation tests are more specific in acessing "T" cell function.
- 3) Impaired "T" cell function has a role in persistence of diarrhea especially in young age and malnourished children.

## Recommendations:

- 1) Further investigations must be done to detect "T" cell function by using more advanced techniques as monoclonal antibodies.
- 2) To detect the factors that affect "T" cell function and causes of persistent diarrhea.
- 3) Administration of thymosin factor to help "T" cell function in termination of diarrheal attack.