SUMMARY

Mice were injected with large doses of vitamin A for 8, 15 and 22 days.

The testis of treated animals was compared with that of normal ones and the seminiferous epithelial cycle was noticed.

It was found that animals kept for 22 days on hyper-vitamin A treatment showed a significant damage in the process of spermatogenesis and appeared devoid of sperms.

The stratum malpighii of epidermis of treated animals was thinner while its horny layer was thicker.

Sebaceous glands appeared much less active.

The collagenous fibers were increased, reticular fibres were coarser while elestic fibers were much reduced.

It was concluded that excessive vitamin A acts on the pineal which inhibits the pituitary. The latter either directly or indirectly through the adrenal cortex reduces the level of testosterone resulting in reduced anabolic processes. One of these processes are supposed to be the formation of microtubules of both mitotic and meiotic spindles.

Low rate of cell division can be accused of being the cause of most of the changes taking place in the testis and the skin.