

INTRODUCTION AND AIM OF THE WORK

Schistosomiasis with or without viral hepatitis is forming an important endosporadic disease in Egypt El-Akkad, (1973) and Ayad (1974).

The association of viral hepatitis with schistosomal hepatosplenomegaly was first observed by Souidan(1951). This later was confirmed by Atte et al., (1977).

Schistosomiasis is now considered as an immunological disease and cell mediated immunity is actually involved in the interaction of hepatosplenomegaly associated with the infection.

Monoclonal antibodies are available to identify and enumerate T- lymphocytes and their subsets as its helper inducer and suppressor cytotoxic cell function (Reinherz and Schlossman (1980a) Fre et al., (1982).

The prime object of this work is to investigate the specific role of T-lymphocytes involved in cell mediated immunity in pure schistosomal, acute viral hepatitis in liver cirrhosis. This is going to be performed by utelization of highly sensitive immunofluorescence technique using most recently developed monoclonal antibodies to identify the T-lymphocyte and its subpopulation.