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INTRODUCTION AND OF THE WORK

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Rheumatic fever is a multisystem disease with various manifestations. A polymorphonuclear leukocytosis is a common finding during the active stage of the disease.

The aim of this work is to study the fourth step of the phagocytic process in polymorphonuclear leukocytes which is the intracellular killing, in cases of active rheumatic fever in order to throw some light on the changes that may occur in the functions of these cells and which may play a role in the pathogenesis and the susceptibility to this disease as was previously suggested by El-Ayouti 1977.

Studying of the intracellular killing in polymorphonuclear leukocytes is going to be carried out by assessing two parameters. Their peroxidase content and the lysozyme activity in these cells.