STUDIES ON ROTAVIRUS INFECTION IN INFANTILE DIARRHEA

INTRODUCTION :

Human rotavirus has been established as a major cause of acute gastroenteritis in infants and young children **(Konno et al., 1977).** However, detailed virological and serological studies have been hampered by difficulties in propagation of human rotavirus in cell culture system **(Homes, 1979).**

In 1980, the Wa strain, human rotavirus type 2 was adapted to grow efficiently in primary African green monkey kidney cell culture often 11 passages in new born gnotobiotic piglets **(Wyatt et al., 1980).**

Successful in vitro cultivation systems for human rotavirus, without passages in animals, were reported by **Sato et al., (1981)** and it was suggested that most of the human rotavirus strains detected in stools could be cultivated in cell cultures.

Further studies by **Toyoko et al., (1982)** has proved the isolation of rotavirus subgroups, and cultured in cell culture of MA 104.

Heath et al., (1986) reported that most rotavirus strains may be grown in cell culture. However, the procedure is tedious and is restricted to the research laboratory.