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NELLE ARTERIOPATIE PERIFERICHE**

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IL PROFILO LIPOPROTEICO, VALUTATO MEDIANTE NEFELOMETRIA, NELLE ARTERIOPATIE PERIFERICHE

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Lipoprotein profile estimated by nephelometry in peripheral arterial disease. — In 58 males mean age 51.5, with peripheral arterial disease, serum cholesterol and triglycerides and nephelometric lipoprotein pattern, according to Stone and Thorp, were evaluated.

As comparison 68 healthy controls of the same age range have been studied.

In patients with peripheral arterial disease mean serum triglycerides were significantly higher than in controls (182 ± 16 mg/100 ml and $121 \pm 4,1$ mg/100 ml respectively; $P < 0.001$). Also the mean value of M particles (Sf 20-400) had the same behaviour ($178 \pm 18,6$ mg/100 ml versus $111 \pm 4,8$ mg/100 ml; $P < 0.001$).

Mean serum cholesterol and mean value of S particles (Sf 0-20) were not significantly different in the two groups.

In the 58 patients with peripheral arterial disease the abnormal nephelometric patterns were 21 (36,2 %) with the following distribution: two with increased S particles, three with an increase of SM particles, two of ML particles and only one with abnormal SML pattern. The prevalence of M patterns in hyperlipidemic patients with peripheral artery disease was quite elevated, since about 62 % (13 out of 21) of the abnormal nephelometric patterns showed an increase of M particles.

These findings suggest the usefulness of measuring serum triglycerides and very low density lipoproteins as an index of atherosclerotic disease. Since nephelometric determination of serum lipoprotein is simple and unexpensive, it may be currently used in all screening procedure for hyperlipidaemias.

PAROLE CHIAVE: Aterogenesi, terapia della filtrazione.

KEY WORDS: Atherogenesis, filtration concept.

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