

Neural Cell Adhesion Molecule in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Patients

Israa Abduljabbar Jaloob ALJANABY¹, Hutham Mahmood Yousif AL-LABBAN², Thualfakar Hayder HASAN³, Mohammed Jaafar AL-ANSSARI⁴, Ahmed Abduljabbar Jaloob ALJANABY^{5*}

¹ Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Kufa, Iraq

² Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, University of Kufa, Iraq

³ College of Medical and Health Techniques, University of AL-Kafeel, Al-Najaf, Iraq

⁴ Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, University of Kufa, Iraq

SUMMARY. This study comprised a total of 53 patients with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection and 30 healthy persons. Neural Cell Adhesion Molecule (NCAM) serum concentration was measured using an ELISA. The findings demonstrated that, in comparison to patients infected with non-MDR *M. tuberculosis* and healthy persons, patients infected with Multidrug resistant (MDR) *M. tuberculosis* had significantly higher blood concentrations of NCAM. These findings showed that NCAM is crucial for amplifying and controlling humoral immunity in *M. tuberculosis* duo patients by working in synergy with B-cell natural killer cells.

RESUMEN. Este estudio comprendió un total de 53 pacientes con infección por *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* y 30 personas sanas. La concentración en suero de la molécula de adhesión de células neurales (NCAM) se midió usando un ELISA. Los hallazgos demostraron que, en comparación con los pacientes infectados con *M. tuberculosis* no MDR y las personas sanas, los pacientes infectados con *M. tuberculosis* resistente a múltiples fármacos (MDR) tenían concentraciones de NCAM en sangre significativamente más altas. Estos hallazgos mostraron que la NCAM es crucial para amplificar y controlar la inmunidad humoral en pacientes con dúo de *M. tuberculosis* al trabajar en sinergia con las células asesinas naturales de células B.

KEY WORDS: multi-drug resistance, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, NCAM.

* Author to whom correspondence should be addressed. E-mail: ahmedaj.aljanabi@uokufa.edu.iq