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409\104 ANTIMALIGNIN ANTIBODY (AMAS) ELEVATION DETECTS PERSISTENT OR RECURRENT BREAST
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AIM: To determine if the concentration of antimalignin antibody in serum (AMAS) detects persistent or recurrent breast cancer as distinct from remission. **METHODS:** Blind quantitative immunoadsorption of AMAS against immobilized malignin peptide: Normal AMAS = 0-134, Elevated >134 ug/ml. Repeated specimens from 82 post-surgery breast cancer patients were sent to two independent laboratories by 68 clinicians. These specimens were received at random among serum specimens from 172 patients with non-tumor breast disorders, 238 with pathologically benign breast tumors, 379 with malignant breast tumors, 386 in remission from breast cancer from 1 to 30 yrs, 600 other malignancies, and 3,078 normal controls. **RESULTS:** Of the 386 in remission, there was one 'false positive' AMAS. Of the 82 post-surgery breast cancer patients with repeated AMAS tests over a 2 yr. period, 67/82 were judged by their clinicians to be in remission; all 67 had repeated normal AMAS tests. 15/82 patients had clinical evidence of persistent or recurrent breast cancer: all of these 15 had elevated AMAS. **CONCLUSIONS:** Elevation of AMAS concentration detects persistent or recurrent breast cancer. **REFERENCES:** Lancet 1991;337:977; Cancer Detect Prev 1994;18(1):65-78; NCI Tumor Marker Conference: Cell Biochem 1994;19:172-185 **KEYWORDS:** AMAS, antimalignin, antibody, recurrence, breast cancer