

Platelet's Problem in Echinodermata

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ABSTRACT

Many T.E.M studies have been undergone in the sea star *Asterias rubens* axial organ. We discriminated sea star T and B lymphocytes. On the other hand, these studies were incomplete; they revealed, to day, structures which strongly recall blood platelets of Vertebrates.

INTRODUCTION

In invertebrates and in Asterids particularly, we say now that immunity is characterized by physiological mechanisms mediated by various types of cells, especially, lymphocytes (Ref.1)

Other types of structures exist in Asterids we have studied.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Animals

Asterias rubens, as a model was studied

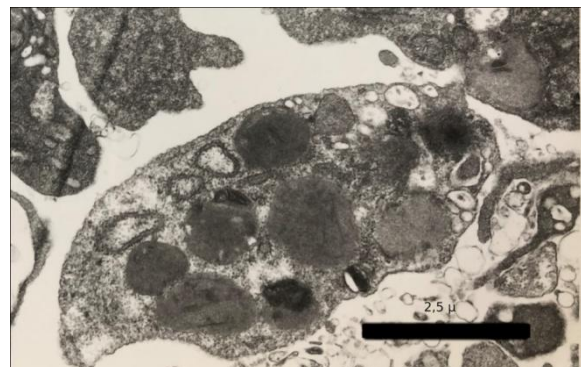
Methods

T.E.M methods were the same as those used in a previous work (Ref.2)

RESULTS

We find a new structure which resemble to a blood platelet.

It is about 5 μ in length. It includes many mitochondriae and « azurophile granulations » which are typical of human blood platelets



CONCLUSION

It is obvious that this observation must be completed by genomic studies: we envisage to look for genes implicated in the «thromboxane initiation » (Thromboxane A synthetase, Thromboxane A2 receptor genes)

Nevertheless we can say that this structure seems to be a platelet and so reveals the high degree of sophistication of Asterids from a point of view of evolution.

REFERENCES

- [1] Leclerc M, (2012) *Amer.J.Immunol* ; 8(4) 196-199
- [2] Anteonis A (1985) *Cell Biol . Int. Rep. ;* 9(7) 663-670

Citation: Michel Leclerc, "Platelet's Problem in Echinodermata", *International Journal of Research Studies in Medical and Health Sciences*. 2019; 4(2): 31-31.

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