

Human histocompatibility testing by T cell-mediated lympholysis. A European CML-standard technique. Report from the Third European CML Workshop, Marseille 1979.

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# Human Histocompatibility Testing by T Cell-Mediated Lympholysis: A European Standard CML Technique

Report from the European CML Study Group

Λn

The Third European CML Workshop

Centre D'Immunologie INSERM-CNRS Marseille, December 1979

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The HLA-A, B, C and DR antigenic determinants of the human major histocompatibility system have been defined by antibody mediated cytotoxicity assays using highly selected alloantisera obtained from multiparous women, immunized human volunteers, or allotransplanted patients Using many sera which have been collated through the international histocompatibility workshops (e.g. Histocompatibility Testing 1977) it has been possible to define 60 distinct specificities genetically coded by the HLA-A, B, C and DR loci

The concept of histocompatibility-typing with cells ("cellology") was first introduced by scientists working with the Mixed Lymphocyte Culture (MLC) technique (Bradley et al 1972, Mempel et al 1973) With this technique, the HLA—Dw determinants and the HLA—D locus were established (Histocompatibility Testing 1975)

Subsequently the use of in viti generated cytotoxic T-lymphocytes for histocompatibility typing was propose and initiated by serveral, separate groun (e.g. Mawas et al. 1973, 1974, Kristenso et al 1974) Both products of the HLA-B, C (e g Grunnet et al 1975, 1976) as the D/DR loci (Albrechtsen et al 197 Feighery & Statsny 1979, Johnson 198 may be recognized by cytotoxic lymph cytes, but it is not yet clear whether t actual determinants recognized by cyt toxic T lymphocytes are identical to the recognized by antibody, as had be assumed from early CML-studies (review by Eisvoogel et al 1973) Thus, a colla orative effort to examine the relationsh between the determinants defined serology and cellology was initiated 1978) The 1977 (Kristensen investigations performed locally and t data obtained from CML-Workshop



(Goulmy et al 1976, 1977, Kristensen & Grunnet 1975, Kristensen et al 1976, Kristensen 1978, Schendel et al 1977, 1978a, Bradley et al 1978) suggested that cytotoxic T lymphocytes recognize antigen differently than do available, highly selected HLA antisera, or in fact may recognize products under different genetic control In order to investigate these models on an international basis, two further European CML-Workshops were initiated with the aim of standardizing the CML-technique before proper immunogenetic investigations were undertaken The results of CML-Workshop II have been published previously (Bradley et al 1980) This report, covering CML-Workshop III, presents the European Standardized CMLtechnique for histocompatibility typing It contains detailed technical descriptions as well as procedures for data-analysis and criteria for assignment of positive and negative responses

Recently it has become possible to propagate and clone cytotoxic T-cells (Bonnard et al 1978, Schendel et al 1978b, 1980, Charmot et al 1980, Malissen et al 1979, 1980, Goulmy et al 1980) These techniques — much like monoclonal antibodies — may allow fine structural analysis of target cell properties both on genetic and biochemical levels, adding to our understanding of the HLA-system Consequently, aspects of these techniques were included in Workshop III and will be employed in future CML-Workshops

### Goals of Workshop III

Based on the results of European CML-Workshop II (Bradley et al 1980) a partially standardized protocol was developed, utilizing not only similar procedures but also common sources of basic

reagents The purpose in establishing such a protocol for Workshop III was to test (1) the same genetic combinations with com mon reagents and techniques to assess if more uniform results among the participating laboratories could be obtained, (2) to compare this standard technique with two variations, i.e. generation of CTL in microtiter plates with direct addition of target cells and carboxyfluorescein-diacetate labeling of target cells, (3) to compare various methods of data analysis, (4) to test various CTL expansion techniques, including, specific restimulation in 2° restimulation with pokeweed MLC, mitogen (PWM), and expansion with conditioned medium containing TCGF (T-cell growth factor)

#### Methods

1 – The Standardized European CML (SE CML) technique

A detailed account of the technique is given in Table 1, which also includes indications of minor discrepancies performed according to local beliefs or necessities

The standard technique was utilized by the Aarhus, Leiden-1, Marseille and Munich laboratories

2 — Generation of CTLs in microtiter plates with direct addition of target cells

This technique, performed by Oslo, has been published in detail elsewhere (Hirschberg et al. 1977)

Briefly, MLC combinations were established in triplicates in round-bottomed microculture plates on day zero of culturing A four fold titration of effector cells was used ( $1 \times 10^5 - 1.25 \times 10^4$  cells/well), number of stimulator cells always being half of the number of effectors



Table 1 Luropean standardized CML technique

| SEPARATION OF PBL (Aarhus)            | Comments   |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Anticoagulant                         | Heparin Sodim Novo without preservative final concentrations 25 IU/ml  | definibrated blood (OS)  |
| Dilution of blood                     | 10 ml blood diluted with 10 ml TC-199 are divided between two glass tubes (100 $\times$ 15/17 mm)  | Approx 70 ml diluted blood over 25 ml Ficoll (MA)  |
| gradient solution                     | About 4 ml lymphoprep (Nygaard & Co, Oslo) are, through a long needle, placed below the diluted blood  |  |
| temp                                  | All reagents, except the blood, are at 4°C before gradient centrifugation at room temperature  | Room temperature for all reagents (MA)   |
| speed                                 | 1,000 g  |  |
| time                                  | 20 min   |  |
| washing procedure                     | After harvest of MNC from 10 ml blood into a conical 10 ml Plastic tube (NUNC N $^\circ$ 1060), the cells are washed $\times$ 2 (500 g 10 min) in 10 ml TC-199 with 40 IU heparin per ml added   |  |
| FREEZING PROCEDURE                    | $10 \times 10^6$ MNC are pelleted and resuspended in 0 5 ml (4°C) cooled serum pool. Just before freezing 0 5 ml of a cooled mixture of 20% DMSO (Merck, cat. n° 2950) in RPMI is added by pipette a little faster than "drop by drop". After gentle but quick resuspension, the 1 ml suspension is placed into polypropylene tubes (Cat. n° 1076, Nunc, Roskilde, DK). These tubes are immediately placed in an uncovered rack in a $-80^{\circ}$ C deepfreezer. After 1 h or for convenience next day, the tubes are transferred to the final storage in the vapour phase of a nitrogen freezer ( $-190^{\circ}$ C) (Ref. Jørgensen & Lamm 1974) | Freezing is done in medium + 20% plasma or serum + 10% DMSO (OS-Ma) and in one step—cells are resuspended in freezing medium and distributed in 1 ml ampoules (Ma) |
| PREPARATION OF SERUM POOL<br>(Aarhus) | 4 male donors, blood group AB, donated 500 ml whole blood Immediately after coagulation at $4^{\circ}C$ the bottles were centrifuged, and serum harvested and pooled, prior to   | Plasma from heparinized blood from $\sim 10$ male donors may be used after inactivation at $56^{\circ}\mathrm{C}$  |

| PREPARATION OF SERUM POOL (Aarhus)           |   | Comments  |
|--|---|---|
|  | separation into six aliquots of 200 ml. The serum was inactivated at 56°C for 30 min and kept frozen at $-20^{\circ} \rm C$   |   |
| SHIPPING PROCEDURES<br>(Aarhus)              | The frozen tubes were placed in $\sim 12$ kg of dry ice Packing was performed immediately before shipments. The cells were planned to arrive in the local center during the next 12–36 h  |   |
| THAWING TECHNIQUE<br>(Aarhus)                | The tubes are placed in a test tube rack, and thawing is performed rapidly in a $37^{\circ}$ C waterbath, when the last ice crystal is observed the suspension is transferred to a conical plastic tube (NUNC 1030) containing 5 ml cooled TC-199 (4°C), and the cells are immediately centrifuged at 200 g for 10 min. This is followed by one wash in 5 ml TC-199 with spinning at 200 g for 5 min (room temperature). After resuspension in 25% SeRPMI the cells are ready for use | Ma uses TC-199 plus heparin to prevent cell aggregation and 0s uses DNAse for same purpose Only one wash for Ma, Lei 1, Lei 2, Ma, Lei 1, Lei 2 and 0s dilute the contents of ampules slowly to prevent osmotic shock                         |
| CULTURES FOR THE<br>STIMULATION OF<br>1° CTL |   |   |
| medium                                       | RPMI 1640 (Gibco) with, L-glutamine, Penicillin 100 U/ml, Streptomycin 100 $\mu$ g/ml 20% pooled serum from standardized source   |   |
| Culture vessel                               | 50 ml culture flask/standing upright  | Round bottomed culture plates — On day 0 cultures are set up in triplicates, with varying amounts of responder and stimulator cells (0s) — For few cells $\simeq 2 \times 10^6$ , cultures in glass tubes (Ar) or in 2 ml Cluster plates (Ma) |
| volume                                       | up to 20 ml flask, when volume is less than 5 ml the cells are cultured in Costar marco-well plates with 2 ml volume  |   |



| Table | 1 | (Contd.) |  |
|-------|---|----------|--|

| CULTURES FOR THE STIMULATION OF 1° CTL                         | ON  | Comments   |
|--|---|--|
| cell concentration   | Responding cells : $1 \times 10^6$ /ml<br>Stimulating cells : $1 \times 10^6$ /ml   |  |
| culture ratios   | 1 RC : 1 SC <sub>x</sub>  |  |
| inactivation of SC   | 2000 rads, x-irradiation  | $\gamma$ -irradiation for Ar, Lei 1, Lei 2, Ma, Os.  |
| incubation conditions  | 38°C, 6% CO <sub>2</sub> , well-humidified incubator, minimal opening of incubator during the culture time.   | $37^{\circ}$ C, $5\%$ CO $_{2}$ for Ar, Lei 1, Lei 2, Ma, Os.  |
| culture duration   | 144 h.  |  |
| CULTURES FOR THE PRIMING<br>OF CTL FOR USE IN 2° CML<br>ASSAYS | The same circumstances as for the generation of primary CTLs, but the time of culture was 10 days.  | No need for changing medium (Ma).  |
| FREEZING PROTOCOL FOR<br>PRIMED CTL                            | At day 10 a minimum of five 20 ml identical cultures were pooled and frozen in a number of $8-10 \times 10^6$ cells per tube (c.f. freezing procedure, vide supra). |  |
| CULTURES FOR THE<br>RESTIMULATION OF<br>SPECIFIC 2° CTL        |   |  |
| medium   | same as for 1° CTL  |  |
| culture vessel   | Cluster macro-well plates with 2 ml capacity  | Alternative choices:  – 50 ml culture flasks standing upright (Ar – Ma).  – round bottomed microplates (0s). |
| volume   | 1-2 ml/well   | 14 to 20 ml of medium in flasks (Ar.Ma).   |
| cell concentration   | Responding cells : $1 \times 10^6$ /ml<br>Stimulating cells : $1 \times 10^6$ /ml   |  |

Table 1 (Contd.)

| CULTURES FOR THE<br>RESTIMULATION OF<br>SPECIFIC 2° CTL        |   | Comments                                 |
|--|---|--|
| inactivation of SC   | 2000 rads for 1° cultures   | γ-irradiation (Ar. Lei 1, Lei 2, Ma, 0s) |
| incubation conditions  | same as for 1° cultures   |  |
| culture duration.  | 120 h   |  |
| CULTURES FOR RESTIMULATION OF CTL WITH POKEWEED MITOGEN medium | RPMI 1640 + Antibiotics + 10% pooled plasma   | ,<br>25% pooled serum (Ar).              |
| culture vessel   | 50 ml culture flasks – Standing upright   | Glass tubes (Ar).                        |
| volume   | 10 to 20 ml   | 5 ml (Ar).                               |
| cell concentration   | $1 \times 10^6$ ml  | $3 \times 10^6$ C/5 ml (Ar).             |
| PWM source   | GIBCO   |  |
| preparation  | Lyophylised – reconstituted in 10 ml sterile distilled water – no filtration – store at $4^{\circ}$ C.  |  |
| concentration  | 1% final  |  |
| feeder layer   | Autologous to the responding cells $-2 \times 10^6$ cells $-$ irradiated 4000 rads.                     |  |
| incubation conditions  | $37^{\circ}\text{C} - 5\% \text{ CO}_2$ – well-humidified incubator.                                    |  |
| culture duration   | 96 to 120 h   |  |
| additional comments  | Feeder layer is not absolutely necessary but cell yields are much higher when adding this feeder layer. |  |



|  | Table 1 (Contd)  |   |
|--|--|---|
| CULTURFS FOR PHA<br>STIMULATION OF CML<br>FARGET CLLLS |  | Comments  |
| medium   | same as above  |   |
| culture vessel   | 50 ml culture flasks/standing upright  | 15 ml tubes, 4 ml total volume, $5 \times 10^5$ cells/ml for 0s   |
| volume   | 5-10 ml  |   |
| cell concentration                                     | $1 \times 10^6$ /ml  |   |
| PHA source   | Difco PHA-m 0528-57  |   |
| preparation  | Stock suspended in 5 ml RPMI, dilution of this 5 ml with 45 ml medium, filtration through 0 2 $\mu$ storage at $-20^{\circ}$ C   |   |
| culture concentration                                  | 1 ml of the diluted PHA to 9 ml of medium = $1\%$ of original s stock  | stock   |
| incubation   | same as above  |   |
| culture duration                                       | 72 h   | After 56 h, 8 ml supernate is replaced by 8 ml fresh medium, to prevent aggregation of targets at the day of the assay (Lei 2). |
| CML ASSAY  |  |   |
| Preparation of CTL                                     |  |   |
| harvesting from flasks                                 | Flasks are gently shaken — cells are transferred to conical 50 ml glass centrifuge tubes, tubes are centrifuged at $350 \times g$ for 8 min and resuspended in fresh culture medium (2 ml combination) |   |
| medium   | Same as for 1° and 2° cultures   |   |

# Table 1 (Contd)

| CML ASSAY Preparation of CTL |  | Comments   |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| counting procedure           | 100 µl of the cell suspension added to 100 µl of trypan blue Live dead cell ratio determined cell concentration determined on basis of living cells only   |  |
| assay plate                  | V bottomed microtiter plates   | Microtest plates (Terasakı type) (Lei 2)   |
| distribution of CTL          | 100 $\mu$ l of the starting suspension distributed to the plates, allowing duplicate well for each target (Note 5 target cells $\times$ 2 replicates $\times$ 100 $\mu$ l per replicate = 1 ml of CTL suspension)                        | 10 µl of starting suspension are distributed to the plates allowing triplicate wells for each target with Hamilton syringe A drop is formed at the needle tip and    |
|                              | After the first concentration is distributed 1 ml of culture medium is added to the remaining cell suspension giving a new volume of 2 ml. The distribution is repeated as above. A series of six dilutions is distributed to the plates | applied by touching the edge of the well<br>Controls are heat treated effector cells<br>incubated 15 min in 46°C water bath<br>Controls are handled as above (Lei 2) |
|                              | with this sequential distribution and dilution pattern   | Volume is 200 μl (Lei 2)   |
| incubation                   | As soon as the CTL have been distributed to the plates<br>they are immediately placed in an incubator until the  | The CTLs are placed at room temperature until the targets are added (Ar)   |
|                              | target cells can be added  | After distribution of the CTLs the trays are spun at $150 \times g$ for 2 min and read in the automatic fluorometer (Lei 2)  |
| Preparation of target cells  |  |  |
| harvesting                   | Flasks are gently shaken and cells transfered to 15 ml round bottomed plastic centrifuge tubes which are centrifuged at 350 $\times$ g for 8 min   |  |
| resuspension                 | Supernatant fluid is decanted and a small volume of about $200 \mu l$ is allowed to run back into the tube-cell pellet is broken up and resuspended in this volume by scraping the tube across the top of a test tube rack               |  |



| Table | 1 | (Contd) |
|-------|---|---------|
|       |   |         |

| Preparation of target cells |   | Comments  |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| labeling                    | $250\mu\text{C}_1$ of Na $_2$ Cr $^{51}$ 04 in a volume of $100\mu\text{l}$ is added to each target sample  | <ul> <li>18 h before harvesting target cells (0s)</li> <li>Targets are washed twice with Hanks</li> <li>The cells are labeled by resuspending in</li> <li>1 ml of a fresh carboxyfluoresceindiacetate solution in RPMI (final concentration 40 µg/ml) Lei 2)</li> </ul>   |
| incubation                  | Tubes are placed in a beaker containing water with a temperature of $38^{\circ}$ C and placed in a $38^{\circ}$ C, $6\%$ CO <sub>2</sub> incubator  | Water bath 37°C (Ar, Lei 1, Lei 2, Ma)  |
| incubation time             | 1 h and 30 min, with shaking at 30 min intervals  | 15 min with shaking after 7 min (Lei 2)   |
| washing procedures          | 3 ml of RPMI with antibiotics and 5% pooled serum is added to each tube. This is then layered over a tube containing 5 ml of Lymphoprep ficoll solution. This gradient is centrifuged at 400 $g$ for 20 min. The interface layer is removed and resuspended in 5 ml of the washing medium. Cells are centrifuged at 350 $\times$ $g$ for 8 min. This washing is perfored 2 times. | <ul> <li>No lymphoprep gradient, but 2 to 3 washes with medium (without plasma or serum) (0s Ma)</li> <li>10 ml of RPMI is added and the cells are centrifuged at 350 × g for 10 min After decantation of the supernate the targets are resuspended in 1 ml RPMI (without serum) (Lei 2)</li> </ul>                                       |
| distribution                | Cells are counted as for CTL and suspended at 1 $\times$ 10 $^{5}$ /ml, 100 $\mu$ l of this suspension is added to each well of the microtiter plate  | Viability counting is done as for CTL and cells are suspended at $8 \times 10^5$ /ml $5 \mu$ l of this suspension is added to wells of the microtest plate (Terasaki type). The tray is spun at $350 \times g$ for $5  \text{min}$ after which the wells are flooded with medium. After decanting the medium, effectors are added (Lei 2) |
|                             | Plates containing both CTL, and target cells are incubated first him population conditions identical to those described   | Before incubation the plates are centrifuged $50 g$ , $5 mm$ (Ar, Ma), $150 g$ ,  |

# Table 1 (Contd.)

| CML-ASSAY-CONTINUED        |   | Comments   |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| harvesting of supernatants | $100\mu l$ aliquots are removed from each well after the plates are centrifuged at 450 $	imes$ $g$ for 5 min.   | After incubation the trays are centrifuged at $450 \times g$ for 5 min and flooded with phosphate buffer saline. After gentle shaking to wash away released carboxy-fluorescein the saline is decanted and the trays are read in the automatic fluorometer (Lei 2).  |
| counting                   | Samples are counted for 1 min in a Nuclear Chicago Counter.   | Commericial filter system harvester (0s, Lei 1).   |
| Spontaneous release        | Target cells are incubated in the microtiter plaes in wells containing only culture medium containing 20% serum with no CTL.  | 1  |
| maximum release            | 1 ml of the final target cell suspension is added to a centrifuge tube containing 1 ml of a 5% Triton-X detergent solution (New England Nuclear). These tubes are centrifuged at $450 \times g$ for 10 min and $100 \mu$ l aliquots (x3) are counted. | Zaponine detergent may be used. It makes no difference with Triton X (Lei 1, Ma).  |
| additional comments        |   | The automated fluorometer (Lei 2). Inverted epi-illuminated fluorescent microscope (Leitz) equipped with an automated stage driven by stepping motor (Leitz) and a photomultiplier (Zeiss) encased in a black plastic box with counter balanced door. Digital equipment Corporation PDP 8/E computer (4K memory), high speed paper tape reader and puncher and a teleprint 303 writer. Light source is 60 W tungesten lamp mounted outside microscope box and fed from a stabilized power supply. Filters: standard FITc filter micror combination with 6 mm BG 38 filters in excitation light path. Objective is a 6.3 × Neoflur. |

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| DATA ANALYSIS   |   | Comments  |
|---|---|---|
| raw data  | cpm of duplicates recorded  | Fluorometer readings before and after incubation are recorded. The value of each individual well (i.e. = percentage fluorescence) in the final reading is divided by the value of the pre-reading in the corresponding well. This ratio expressed as a percentage is used for calculation of % CML. (Let 2)   |
| utilization of dilution data                            |   |   |
| linear regression analysis r values slope determination |   |   |
| calculation of % CML                                    | mean ER- mean SR  | mean test   |
|   | mean MR- mean SR  | $\left(1 - \frac{\text{mean test}}{\text{mean control}}\right) \times 100 \text{ (Le } 2)$  |
| lytic unit size   |   |   |
| lytic units recovered/culture                           |   |   |
| assignment of responses                                 | r <sup>2</sup> greater than or equal to 0 90 (based on regression analysis) From this line the value of greater than or equal to 5% CML at a CTL Target Cell of 30 1 (Mu) | From dose response curves starting with an effector target ratio 50 100 1  Positive A minimum of two observations on the curve above 10%  Negative All observations on the curve are less than 10%  Intermediary Curves with only one observation above 10% (Ar)  Specific 51 Cr release percentage \$ 10% = neg, 11-15% weakly pos, 16-40% pos \$ 41% strongly pos (Lei 1)  Specific release percentage \$ 10% = neg, 11-15% weakly pos 16-40% pos |

After a 6 day sensitization period, the supertant in each well was aspirated, with a specially designed aspiration unit (Skatron A/S, Lierbyen, Norway) to a fixed level with 01 ml remaining in each well 2 x 10<sup>3</sup> 51 Cr-labeled target cells (see workshop) were added to the cultures, the force of the let resuspending the cell pellet at the bottom of the well The plates were incubated for an additional 6h and the supernatants collected using a Skatron multiple supernatant collection system (Skatron A/S, Lierbyen, Norway) The effector to target cell ratios were assessed from the number of effector cells added to each well on day 0 and the number of targets (2 × 103) added on day 6 (E/T usually 50/1 - 625/1), % cytotoxicity was calculated as in the workshop, using (targets + supplespontaneous release mented medium) and maximum release (targets + 5% Triton X) harvested as above after 6 h of incubation

# 3 - Carboxyfluorescein labeling of target cells

This technique was performed by Leiden 2 Details on target cell labeling have been published elsewhere (Bruning et al. 1980)

Briefly, target cells were labeled by incubation in a  $37^{\circ}$ C waterbath for 15 min in a carboxyfluorescein-diacetate solution in RPMI (final concentration  $40\,\mu\text{g/ml}$ ) After washing with RPMI-serum, 4000 target cells were added to the wells of Terasaki type microtest plates and fixed to the bottom by centrifugation Effectors were added and the fluorescence per well read in an automated microfluorometer After a 4h incubation the released carboxyfluorescein was removed by washing and fluorescence of the remaining targets determined in the fluorometer From the difference of fluorescence between

test and control wells the degree of cyto toxicity could be calculated

All other procedures were performed using the SE CML (Table 1)

# Common Reagents used in Workshop III

- 1 PBL Unsensitized PBL from four selected blood donors (1, 2, 3, 4) were collected, frozen and shipped from Aarhus The donors had been fully HLA-A, B, C, D/DR and red cell antigen phenotyped and were selected in such a way that CTLs raised among them, in a checkerboard fashion, would yield cytolysis both explicable and inexplicable from our present knowledge of HLA (Kristensen et al 1974, 1976) Kristensen & Grunnet 1975) These cells were also those tested during CML-Workshop II (Bradley et al 1980)
- 2 Primed PBL (1/2x, 1/3x, 1/4x, 4/1x 4/2x, 4/3x) Cells primed *m vitro* in the Aarhus laboratory, according to the standard technique (Table 1), for 10 days were frozen and shipped to the other centers
- 3 Human serum Pooled AB serum was prepared from four male blood donors, screened as negative for lymphocytotoxic and red cell antibodies (A gift from Aarhus)
- 4 *PHA M* A common batch produced by Difco Co (0528–57) was used by all centers
- 5 Radioisotope <sup>51</sup>Cr as Na<sub>2</sub> <sup>51</sup>CrO<sub>4</sub> (500 mC<sub>1</sub>/mg Cr, 5 mC<sub>1</sub>/ml) from the same production date was provided as a gift by Amersham (Amersham Co, England)

6 Culture medium RPMI 1640 (Gibco Co) supplemented with L-glutamine from the same production lot was provided as a gift from Grand Island Biological Company (in France, Flobio, S A)

Format of CML Workshop III

The format of the practical part of the Workshop is given in Table 2 PBL were collected in Aarhus and shipped on dry ice as either unprimed or primed (10 days) cells Primary cultures were established on day 0 followed by secondary cultures on day 1 Secondary cultures were restimulated either specifically (e.g.  $1/2x \leftarrow 2x$ ) or unspecifically by PWM Target cell cultures were established on day 3 and stimulated with PHA Cytotoxicity was measured on day 6 using the same target cell cultures for both 1° and 2° CTLs

For practical reasons, growth with conditioned media was initiated with the remaining CTL on day 6, hence requiring CML testing on different target cell cultures

#### Results

### I General Experiences

The adoption of these techniques by the participating laboratories required changes for each group, although these were variable from laboratory to laboratory, and such changes led to individual experiences and difficulties in the III European CML Workshop

The following outlines the general assessment of the collaborating groups concerning their experiences with the standard protocol

A Recovery of cells after thawing of shipped standard reagents

1 Unprimed cells No standard technique

was designated for the thawing of fr cells Despite variations in techni however, uniformly high recoveries cells with high viabilities were found b groups (Table 3) It was felt by the var groups that the method of cryopreserva used in Aarhus was excellent and that ment was not detrimental to t reagents

2 Primed cells In contrast to the such with the unprimed cells, all groups, ex Aarhus, had relatively low recoveries viability in the shipment of primed of that might be overcome, in future te of 2° CML, by performing the 1 sensitizations in local centers rather thone laboratory providing cells. An altotive possibility to be considered variation in the local procedures determining recovery and viability cryopreserved cells.

# B Determination of recovery and viability of cells

- 1 Trypan blue or eosin dye exclusion was felt by most groups that utilization such dyes which are excluded by vicells is a useful criterion for assessment actual cell recovery, but that it is not accurate assessment of functional recovering only a subpopulation of viable may be involved in the lytic process.
- 2 Phase contrast microscopy An altern mean of distinguishing live from dead is their examination by phase con microscopy Again, this may be an acci means for assessment of viability cannot be used to ascertain the recover functional capacity
- 3 Lytic unit assessment of functi activity based on linear regression ana



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Table 2
FORMAT OF CML WORKSHOP III

|  |                               | Day 0 | Day 1 | Day 3  | Day 6             | Day 17  | Day 20           |  |   |
|--|-------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|-------------------|---------|------------------|--|---|
| PREPARATION<br>OF CELLS<br>FOR<br>AARHUS<br>SHIPMENT | All<br>Labs<br>Aa<br>Ma<br>Ma | 1°ML  |       | TC/PHA | -CML <sup>†</sup> | -ТС/РНА | CML <sup>§</sup> | Submission of data to Marseille  Central analysis Marseille/Aarhus | Third European CML<br>Workshop meeting<br>Marseille |

<sup>\*</sup>Unsensitized PBL were thawed and primary (1°) MLC combinations were established on day 0. Primed cells, received from Aarhus, were thawed and restimulated in secondary (2°) MLC cultures on day 1. Target cell (TC) ampules were thawed on day 3 and stimulated with PHA. Cytotoxic from 1° and 2° CML were tested on day 6 in the 51 Cr-cell-mediated lympholysis (MCL) assay.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup>The laboratories of Aarhus and Marseille thawed additional aliquots of primed cells which were restimulated with pokeweed mitogen (PWM) and tested in CML on day 6.

<sup>§</sup> The laboratories of Marseille and Munich initiated cytotoxic cells obtained from 1° and 2° MLC with conditioned medium (CM) containing T cell growth factor. These cells were expanded in culture for 14 days and tested in CML with target cells prepared 72 h in advance

Table 3a
Recovery of cells after thawing of shipped standard reagents (a) Unprimed cells

|                       |                 |     | - · · · · ·       |       | * * * * * |      |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----|-------------------|-------|-----------|------|
|                       | Donor<br>Number | Ar  | Le <sub>1</sub> 1 | Lei 2 | Ma        | Mu   |
| % Viable              | 1               |     |                   |       |           | 94   |
|                       | 2               | N D | > 90%             | > 90% | > 95%     | 93 5 |
|                       | 3               |     |                   |       |           | 93   |
|                       | 4               |     |                   |       |           | 93   |
| Recovery <sup>†</sup> | 1               | 7 3 | 70                | 68    | 9 1       | 6 1  |
|                       | 2               | 9 5 | 8 0               | 68    | 6 3       | 8 0  |
|                       | 3               | 8.2 | 8 2               | 8 0   | 8 3       | 80   |
|                       | 4               | 79  | 6 4               | 7 3   | 8 2       | 68   |

N D. Not done

<sup>†</sup>The concentration per frozen vial was  $\simeq 10 \times 10^6$  cells in 1 ml. Results are expressed as the avnumber  $\times$  10<sup>-6</sup> of cells recovered per thawed vial

of CML activity prior to and following cryopreservation. Recovery of functional activity in cryopreserved samples can be defined by comparing the lytic unit for CTL samples prior to and following cryopreservation

# C Recovery of cells after MLC sensitization in the local laboratories

1 1° MLC sensitization The starting concentration of responding and stimulating cells was stipulated in the standard protocol, but culture vessels to be utilized were left to individual judgment after determination of cell recovery from the cryopreserved reagents This led then to variation in the standard technique, with some laboratories culturing between 5 and  $10 \times 10^6$ responding cells in upright standing culture flasks, with others culturing at 1 × 10<sup>6</sup> responding cells per well of a Cluster macrotiter culture plate (Costar), and still others using a combination of these two vessels. In terms of final recovery after the 6-day sensitization period, however, the results were remarkably uniform (Table 4a). Cell recovery from Oslo could not be determined because

of their variation from the stan technique.

- 2. 2° MLC sensitization In spite of the recoveries of primed cells from the c preserved ampules, all groups observed percentage yields after specific rest lation (Table 4b)
- 3. Pokeweed mitogen restimulation primed cytotoxic cells As an alternative restimulation of primed cytotoxic with specific γ-irradiated stimulating several laboratories received addit numbers of primed cells for restimul with PWM. Two variations in this protection were used by Aarhus and Marseille first used PWM at 1% final concentration with stimulation for 4 days (Mawas (1975). Marseille used 1% PWM with addition of autologous, γ-irradiated st lating cells (Charmot et al. 1980). In cases high yields of cytotoxic cells functional activity were recovered.
- 4 Expansion of CTL by growth in presence of Conditioned Medium (Preliminary results were also obtained



Y

Table 3b (b) Primed cells

| CML         |    | Ar               |                 |      | Lei 1 |      |      | Lei 2 |      |    | Ma  |      |    | Mu  |      |    | Os  |      |
|-------------|----|------------------|-----------------|------|-------|------|------|-------|------|----|-----|------|----|-----|------|----|-----|------|
| COMBINATION | %V | Rec              | %Rec            | %V   | Rec   | %Rec | %V   | Rec   | %Rec | %V | Rec | %Rec | %V | Rec | %Rec | %V | Rec | %Rec |
| 1/2x        | 1  | 4.9 <sup>2</sup> | 54 <sup>3</sup> | Poor | 1.3   | 14   | Poor | 2.9   | 32   | 80 | 3.2 | 36   | 75 | 2.1 | 21   | 22 | 2.5 | 28   |
| 1/3x        |    | 6.4              | 64              |      | 0.9   | 9    |      | 3.1   | 31   | 15 | 7   | 7    | 73 | 2.1 | 22   | 20 | 2.3 | 23   |
| 1/4x        |    | 5.2              | 52              |      | 1.7   | 17   |      | 2.4   | 24   | 50 | 2.4 | 24   | 85 | 1.9 | 20   | 20 | 2.1 | 21   |
| 4/1x        |    | 5.3              | 59              |      | 3.6   | 40   |      | 5.1   | 57   | 80 | 4.4 | 49   | 88 | 2.6 | 26   | 26 | 2.6 | 29   |
| 4/2x        |    | 4.6              | 58              |      | 2.7   | 34   |      | 4.7   | 59   | 80 | 2.9 | 36   | 82 | 1.8 | 18   | 34 | 2.6 | 33   |
| 4/3x        |    | 5.2              | 61              |      | 2.7   | 32   |      | 3.7   | 44   | 80 | 3.9 | 46   | 83 | 2.0 | 20   | 27 | 1.5 | 18   |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Viability not assessed with vital dye exclusion.

<sup>2</sup> Results expressed as number of cells  $(10^{-6})$ .

<sup>3</sup> Calculated on the basis of the number of cultured small lymphocytes frozen in Aarhus  $(8-10 \times 10^6)$ .



Table 4a Recovery of cells after MLC sensitization in local laboratories (a) Primary MLR

| TEST        |    | Ar    | *************************************** |      | Le <sub>1</sub> 1 |       |      | Le <sub>1</sub> 2 |                    |      | Ma   |        |    | Mu   |      | Os        |
|-------------|----|-------|---|------|-------------------|-------|------|-------------------|--------------------|------|------|--------|----|------|------|-----------|
| COMBINATION | %V | Rec   | %Rec                                    | %V   | Rec               | %Rec  | %V   | Rec               | %Rec               | %V   | Rec  | %Rec   | %V | Rec  | %Rec | Os        |
| 1/2x        | NT | 18 O¹ | 180²                                    | good | 25 4              | 254   | good | 19 2              | 148                | > 90 | 20 0 | 167    | 92 | 198  | 264  | NO DATA 3 |
| 1/3x        |    | 20 3  | 203                                     |      | 169               | 169   | _    | 139               | 126                |      | 198  | 165    | 95 | 17 1 | 228  |           |
| 1/4x        |    | 21 1  | 211                                     |      | 136               | 136   |      | 20 3              | 185                |      | 376  | 313    | 90 | 20 7 | 276  |           |
| 4/1x        |    | 159   | 159                                     |      | 136               | 136   |      | 13 7              | 125                |      | 190  | 158    | 77 | 138  | 184  |           |
| 4/2x        |    | 148   | 148                                     |      | 126               | 126   |      | 10 1              | 101                |      | 152  | 127    | 73 | 137  | 144  |           |
| 4/3x        |    | 156   | 156                                     |      | 93                | 93    |      | 11 5              | 105                |      | 124  | 103    | 74 | 133  | 140  |           |
|             |    | (Fl   | ask)                                    |      | (Fl               | lask) |      | •                 | sk and<br>cluster) |      | (Ch  | uster) |    |      |      |           |

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  Results expressed as number of cells ( $\times$  10  $^{6}$ )  $^{2}$  Based on the initial number of responder cells = 100%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Due to a different technique

NT = not tested

Table 4b Secondary MLR

| TEST        |    | Ar    |      |       | Lei 1 |       |    | Lei 2 |       |    | Ma  |      |    | Mu     |      | Os       |
|-------------|----|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|----|-------|-------|----|-----|------|----|--------|------|----------|
| COMBINATION | %V | Rec   | %Rec | %V    | Rec   | %Rec  | %V | Rec   | %Rec  | %V | Rec | %Rec | %V | Rec    | %Rec |          |
| 1/2x        | NT | 21.61 | 309² | Many  | 2.4   | 185   |    | 9.1   | 314   |    | NT³ |      | 64 | 7.6    | 362  | NO DATA4 |
| 1/3x        |    | 27.8  | 397  | dead  | 2.0   | 222   |    | 10,3  | 332   |    |     |      | 75 | 9.5    | 452  | 9        |
| 1/4x        |    | 23.1  | 330  | cells | 3.0   | 176   |    | 10.2  | 425   |    |     |      | 70 | 9.6    | 500  |          |
| 4/1x        |    | 27.8  | 397  |       | 5.6   | 156   | 8. | 8.2   | 161   |    |     |      | 29 | 2.6    | 100  |          |
| 4/2x        |    | 26.1  | 373  |       | 11.6  | 430   |    | 10.5  | 223   |    |     |      | 69 | 9.1    | 500  |          |
| 4/3x        |    | 33.8  | 483  |       | 14.5  | 537   |    | 9.3   | 251   |    |     |      | 72 | 5.2    | 260  |          |
|             |    | (Fla  | sk)  |       | (Clu  | ster) |    | (Clu  | ster) |    |     |      |    | (Flask | :)   |          |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Number of cells.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Based on the input of responder cells = 100%. <sup>3</sup> Marseille used PWM expansion only. <sup>4</sup> Different technique.



Table 4c
PWM expansion of primed cells

| TEST        |    | Ar    |       |    | Lei 1 |      |    | Lei 2 |      |        | Ma       |        |    | Mu†    |      |    | Os  |      |
|-------------|----|-------|-------|----|-------|------|----|-------|------|--------|----------|--------|----|--------|------|----|-----|------|
| COMBINATION | NT | Rec   | %Rec  | %V | Rec   | %Rec | %V | Rec   | %Rec | %V     | Rec      | %Rec   | %V | Rec    | %Rec | %V | Rec | %Rec |
| 1/2x        | %V | 2.5   | 83    |    | NT    |      |    | NT    |      | > 90   | 13.0     | 406    | 80 | 4.3    | 204  |    | NT  |      |
| 1/3x        |    | 3.2   | 107   |    |       |      |    |       |      |        | 9.0      | 1286   | 60 | 2.9    | 138  |    |     |      |
| 1/4x        |    | 3.0   | 100   |    |       |      |    |       |      |        | 13.0     | 542    | 32 | 2.6    | 137  |    |     |      |
| 4/1x        |    | 3.8   | 127   |    |       |      |    |       |      |        | 19.4     | 441    | 50 | 1.3    | 50   |    |     |      |
| 4/2x        |    | 3.4   | 113   |    |       |      |    |       |      |        | 12.6     | 434    | 58 | 5.3    | 294  |    |     |      |
| 4/3x        |    | 3.4   | 113   |    |       |      |    |       |      |        | 23.4     | 600    | 21 | 1.4    | 70   |    |     |      |
|             |    | Flas  | k     |    |       |      |    |       |      |        | Flask    |        |    | Flask  | ζ    |    |     |      |
|             | No | autol | ogous |    |       |      |    |       |      | a      | utologo  | ous    | no | autolo | gous |    |     |      |
|             |    | feed  | er    |    |       |      |    |       |      |        | feeder   | •      |    | feede  | r    |    |     |      |
|             |    |       |       |    |       |      |    |       |      | (-irra | diated 3 | 3500R) |    |        |      |    |     |      |

Same legend as in (a) and (b). †Cultures infected.

two laboratories testing the method of continued growth of CTL and their expansion by T cell growth factors present in conditioned medium. CTL obtained from both primary and secondary cultures MLC were tested after 14 days of culture in the presence of CM. CTL with very strong activity could be obtained although cytotoxic activity was not found in all combinations that were successfully expanded with TCGF (data not shown).

### D. Target cells

1. Ficoll flotation after 51 Cr labeling. According to the standard protocol, labeled target cell preparations were to be layered over ficoll to separate live from dead and clumped cells. It was felt that this technique might reduce the level of spontaneous release of 51 Cr. The experience in this Workshop was that this procedure consumes time, and apparently did not enhance the results. The laboratories uniformly reported presence of very few clumped or dead cells in the starting populations. It was noted by some groups, however, that according to individual experience this is a valuable approach when the starting populations contain considerable numbers of dead cells. Some laboratories noted that no cells passed through the ficoll interface and suggested that this may have been due to the PHA agglutination of the target cells. It was suggested that this problem might be overcome by first washing the target cells in medium before layering over ficoll gradients. It was questioned whether DNase would be beneficial for the reduction of spontaneous release values and the elimination of clumped cells In the experience of Aarhus this was not observed.

2. Triton X determination of maximum release of 51 Cr. According to the standard protocol, maximum release was determined by detergent lysis of target cells. Several laboratories had difficulty with this procedure, failing to obtain solutions of lysed target cells, instead they obtained colloidal suspensions. In discussion it was ascertained that this was due to the use of 100% Triton X instead of a 5% solution of Triton X in H<sub>2</sub>O. In most laboratories, very little variation between the values of maximum release as determined by Triton X detergent lysis and total cpm of 51 Cr was found on a per cell basis. Thus, it appears that MR values must not be determined and calculations can be based on total cpm. These results indicate that there is not an increament of 51 Cr counts that is nonreleasable from target cells, as has been suggested previously. This observation, however, may be dependent upon the method used for the determination of MR.

# E. Harvesting of supernatants from microtiter wells.

The utilization of V-bottomed plates in the standard protocol led to some difficulties by various groups regarding means for harvesting standard aliquots of supernatant. Some local methods utilized commercial filter systems for round-bottomed plates or testing in larger volumes allowing supernatants to be decanted after centrifugation. With the V-bottomed plates there was a dilemma regarding a suitable means of supernatant collection. Some groups noted harvesting by hand to be tedious and time consuming and potentially increasing spontaneous release. Leiden 1 successfully used the commercial filter systems in the V-bottomed plates while Marseille used a locally designed multiple harvester which has 961cc syringes set into a plexiglass



frame which could simultaneously harvest the samples of 0.1 ml/well of an entire plate

### F Alternative CML techniques

In addition to the standard protocol used by four participating groups, two additional approaches were tested with the same reagents and could be compared in Workshop III

1 Generation of CTL in microtiter plates As presented later in the section on data analysis, this approach led to variance in the results compared to those of the standard protocol. The technique did, however, reveal that quantitative evaluation of CML activity could be made with few numbers of starting cells. It was felt that development of this approach may be beneficial in the clinical situation when tests of young children, dialysed, transplanted, aplastic, or immunodeficient patients must be performed

2 Assessment of cytotoxic activity using carboxyfluorescein as a viability label The second technique tested in parallel with the standard protocol was that of utilizing the viability dye, carboxyfluorescein, instead of 51 Cr for the determination of destruction of target cells Basically, in this technique (Bruning et al 1980), target cells are labeled by incubation with the diacetate derivative which is taken up only by viable cells, after which the dye is liberated in the cell by intracellular hydrolysis. The target cells are fixed by centrifugation to the well bottom of Terasakı type microtest plates Effector cells are added to the targets and total well fluorescence is determined before the incubation period using an epi-illuminated fluorescence microscope with photomultiplier and a

stage driven by stepping motors assembly is controlled by a mini-com After incubation with CTLs for period the released dye is removed ai residual fluorescence is measured i automated fluorometer Loss of escence is then used as a measure of lysis of the target cells Comparable si city was found using this new tech (cf below) It was felt that great pot lies in the utilization of this approa the future if the equipment bec commercially available. It eliminate requirement for radioactive material automates the reading of results, red normal harvesting and counting times 1 to approximately 30 sec, for 60 san Comparison of quantitation and speci with the Workshop standard protoc presented later

### II Data Analysis

Data were submitted from each indivilaboratory in three forms (1) raw obtained with each CTL tested against different target cells at each of six diluit (Oslo, submitting on fewer dilutions) data calculated and expressed as repercentages according to formulas of individual laboratories listed in Table and (3) qualitative assignment of posand negative responses according to judgment

Joint analysis was performed in Mar and Aarhus and is outlined below

### A Preliminary calculations

1 All submitted data were graphic plotted to assess the (curvi)-linear relationship between the independent variable (E/T ratio) and the dependent one (relipercentages). For most positive connations an S-shaped curvi-linear relation was observed. A priori it is expected.



logarithmic transformation of the X-values (i e E/T ratios) should yield a linear relationship Consequently, to simplify subsequent regression analysis E/T ratios were transformed to log10. In most instances this changed a curvilinear relation ship into a linear one, at the same time increasing the proportion of variance of the dependent variable explained by the X-value (i e log10 E/T), and making the distribution of the deviations from the regression line fit the normal Assessment of data using square-root and reciprocal transformations both on X- and/or Y-axis values was unsuccessful

- 2 Based on data transformed according to (1),  $LU_{30}$  and release percentages at E/T ratio = 30 were extra- or intrapolated
- 3 For the analysis of variance, release percentages were Log<sub>10</sub> transformed

#### B Main analysis

- 1. Analysis of Variance (Anova) was made based on (a) log<sub>10</sub> release percentages at E/T ratio 30/1, (b) LU<sub>30</sub> (Lytic units 1 e the number of effectors needed to obtain 30% target cell lysis) Anova was performed to identify the variance components and their interactions both within and among laboratories
- 2 Linear regression analysis of release percentages with varying log<sub>10</sub> E/T ratios were used to define the regression equations obtained by different laboratories when testing supposedly identical CTLs on identical targets

Using least square methods, straight lines were approximated and defined by the regression equation

Release  $\% = a + b \log_{10} E/T$ 

(where b = the regression coefficient = the derivative of the function, <math>a = the intercept

of the regression line with the Y axis = the release % at E/T = 0)

The statistical significance of b was ascertained using a t-test under the null hypothesis that b=0

- 3 Analysis of Covariance (Ancova) was used to compare the regression equations obtained within and among different laboratories using supposedly identical CTLs on identical targets
- 4 2 × 2 comparison analyses were used to compare qualitative assignments made locally and jointly

For basic references to the statistics used, cf Sokal & Rohlf (1969) and Bradley et al (1980)

For obvious reasons it is impossible to present all data and calculations performed in the joint analysis. The data given are thus summaries. A total set of data may be obtained from the group

Table 5
Comparison of target cell data W III

|           | 1*   | 2*   | 3 *  | 4*   | 5*   |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Aarhus    |      |      |      |      | •    |
| SR        | 1434 | 1945 | 1021 | 2690 | 971  |
| MR        | 5813 | 6385 | 4640 | 8137 | 4466 |
| Leiden 1  |      |      |      |      |      |
| SR        | 1356 | 1132 | 769  | 1146 | 1065 |
| MR        | 5534 | 6198 | 4516 | 4657 | 7169 |
| Marseille |      |      |      |      |      |
| SR        | 483  | 600  | 440  | 1118 | 613  |
| MR        | 6281 | 3944 | 4080 | 8393 | 6453 |
| Munich    |      |      |      |      |      |
| SR        | 582  | 323  | 173  | 789  | 235  |
| MR        | 3015 | 3580 | 2775 | 4176 | 2474 |
| Oslo      |      |      |      |      |      |
| SR        | 526  | 580  | 572  | 810  | 564  |
| MR        | 2359 | 2936 | 3662 | 4139 | 3371 |

SR = Spontaneous release cpm (mean of triplicates)

MR = Maximum release cpm (mean of triplicates)

### Results of Joint Analysis

### 1 Raw data - cpm

One of the major findings from Workshop II was that there were marked differences in the ways that different laboratories handled identical target cells, as opposed to their handling of effector cells Reasons for these differences might be the use of differential <sup>51</sup> Cr products, including different batches, labeling amounts and labeling procedures. In Workshop III these parameters were standardized and the results in terms of spontaneous release and maximum release cpm are given in Table 5.

When comparing the cpm among laboratories and targets considerable variance is observed. However, when the cpm concerning the duplicate targets (3 and 5) are compared within a given laboratory a high degree of reproducibility is found. Consequently, these findings may, at least partly, be attributed to differences between laboratories in the assessment of spontaneous and maximum releases, as well as harvesting and counting procedures (cf. Table 1)

### 2 Analysis of variance (Anova)

Both release percentages at E/T=30 and  $LU_{30}$  were subjected to Anova in which the following questions were asked (cf Table 6)

- (a) How big is the variance component at the different levels?
- (b) Was there a significant difference in the way in which different laboratories handled their effector cells?
- (c) Was there a significant difference in the way in which different laboratories handled their target cells?
- (d) Was there a significant difference in the way in which effector cells interact

with the targets? This of course was expected since it reflected the biole the CML

(e) Were any laboratories addin, tively more to the total variance as pared to others? This was evaluat reperforming the analysis following si we exclusion of individual laboratoric

From Table 6 (where the data log<sub>10</sub> release percentages are present can be seen that the major signi variance found with the Wor technique is that from the CTL and interaction, i.e. the biological varian CML In addition there is variance i way different laboratories treat target CTLs The latter (laboratory versus can be attributed mainly to one labor (Oslo), which used a different technique (cf Table 1 and above) ' variance by the laboratory and target action could be attributed to Leide which used the CF-technique, and Mars However, the "target cell prob disclosed itself in all centers, in as mu the variance components including target component were always the large

Due to the overall significance of interaction variance no main effect vari could be tested for statistical significa Anova-calculations performed with I yielded fully comparable variance c ponents and significance values furnished no new information (data shown) Comparing the overall vari components of Workshop III to the components obtained using local technic during Workshop II (Bradley et al 198 is, however, quite evident that much n variance has accumulated in the CTL target interaction group, pointing to more uniform and stable technique wh more clearly discloses the biolog interaction



Table 6

CML-Workshop III combined analysis — three-way analysis of variance. Log. 10-transformed release percentages

|                       |               | 1     | /ariance co | mponents (    | significance | :)    |       |
|-----------------------|---------------|-------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------|-------|
| Source of variation   | ALL           | -Ar   | -Lei 1      | -Lei 2        | -Ma          | -Mu   | -Os   |
| Laboratories          | 3.2%          | 1.6%  | 2.7%        | 3.5%          | 3.1%         | 2.0%  | 1.0%  |
|                       | ()            | ()    | ()          | ()            | ()           | ()    | (ns)  |
| CTLs                  | 2.4%          | 3.1%  | 2.5%        | 3.6%          | 2.7%         | 3.8%  | 2.8%  |
|                       | ()            | ()    | ()          | ()            | (—)          | ()    | (—)   |
| Targets               | 2.8%          | 2.7%  | 4.2%        | 3.6%          | 3.3%         | 2.2%  | 2.9%  |
|                       | ()            | ()    | ()          | ()            | ()           | ()    | ()    |
| LABS & CTLs           | 4.7%          | 6.2%  | 5.6%        | 3.1%          | 2.4%         | 4.7%  | 1.5%  |
|                       | ( <b>••</b> ) | (●●)  | (●●)        | ( <b>••</b> ) | ( <b>•</b> ) | (ee)  | (ns)  |
| LABS & Targets        | 8.0%          | 7.1%  | 7.2%        | 6.4%          | 6.1%         | 9.6%  | 3.3%  |
|                       | (●●)          | (●●)  | (00)        | ( <b>0</b> )  | (●)          | (●●)  | (●)   |
| CTLs & Targets        | 70.0%         | 69.4% | 70.4%       | 68.9%         | 72.3%        | 69.1% | 76.6% |
| <b>C -</b>            | (•••)         | (●●●) | (•••)       | (***)         | (***)        | (***) | (***) |
| LABS & CTLs & Targets | 8.5%          | 9.9%  | 7.4%        | 10.9%         | 11.3%        | 8.6%  | 11.9% |
|                       | ()            | ()    | ()          | ()            | (—)          | ()    | ()    |

<sup>• :</sup> P ≤ 5%

### 3. Analysis of covariance (Ancova)

This analysis was applied in order to compare the regression equations obtained both within and among laboratories when identical CTLs were tested against identical targets in etither 1° or 2° CML, i.e. whether the biology of the different tests was identical (The data from Oslo were excluded from this analysis).

The following analyses were made:

- (1) within laboratories on duplicate targets (3 and 5);
- (2) within laboratories in 1° and 2° CML;
- (3) among laboratories with regard to specific CTL-target combinations in either 1° or 2° CML.

The results were uniformly disappointing, showing differences significant at the 1% level.

Thus, even with standardized reagents

using a standardized technique, a single laboratory is not able to fully describe the biological interaction and hence the immunology of CML.

It is easy to speculate that during freezing and thawing, MLC incubation or target cell proliferation, not all active clones survive and proliferate equally, but rather that some clones are already lost from the lymphocyte population prior to culture in a stochastic fashion varying from laboratory to laboratory. Since, however, major specificities are maintained and almost uniform positive and negative assignments can be obtained (cf. below) important (high affinity?) clones must be selected actively during CTL sensitization whereas peripheral (low affinity?) clones undergo stochastic selection. During target-cell culture with PHA no active selection should occur leading to more variability (the target cell

<sup>•• :</sup> *P* ≤ 1%

 $P \leq .1\%$ 

ns: not significant

<sup>-:</sup> cannot be tested.

problem) These findings and speculations underline some of the difficulties which must be considered when CTLs are to be used as immunogenetic typing reagents

- 4 Joint analysis based on linear regression analysis and positive slope assignment
- (a) Basis for linear regression Plotting percent release versus dilutions of CTL gives an S-shaped curve When the dilution of CTL (E/T) is transformed to log10 value a straight line should be generated. Using least square methods, straight lines can be approximated for these values of X and release percentages for the values of Y. If these have a significantly positive slope, tested as described above, the information can be used to quantify the CML response. If too few dilutions are compared the possibility to assign a significant b value is decreased (cf. above)
- (b) Slope of the regression line may be used to assess the presence and subsequently the strength of a cytotoxic response. For positive CTLs it is expected that the slopes will be positive, however, some laboratories observed no (or negative) slopes, the basis of which is discussed below.
- (c) Combined assignment based solely on a significantly positive slope was then used to judge the data of all laboratories. The variations between the first local assignments and these new assignments were discussed and each laboratory detailed its own exceptions and the basis for original local assignment.
- 5 On the basis of these discussions the problems below were encountered
- (a) In some cases significance by positive slope may not be obtained if too few dilutions of CTL are tested. In the standard protocol for this experiment the use of six dilutions in duplicate was suggested.

- (b) A positive slope may also fail reach significance when cytotoxic activity reaches a plateau with most of the dilutio or, in the case of Leiden 2, when cytotox activity decreases with the highest E ratios Similarly there may be a plateau the lowest level if the first dilutions do n exceed the detection level. This couthen cause false elimination of positic reactions.
- (c) Negative slopes were observed some combinations of CTL against th autologous target cells. The basis these observations was discussed. First, t might be due to a stabilizing effect increasing numbers of CTL on the spotaneous release of 51 Cr from the targells. This then leads to the dilemma the most suitable control for spontaneous release (i.e. AB<sub>x</sub> on A, unsensitized A A, AA<sub>x</sub> on A or, as was commonly ushere, A in medium alone). The latter 1 been conventionally adopted by m laboratories to save on reagents.
- (d) Alternatively, positive slopes may a be observed when the CTL is test with its autologous target cell. St activities should not automatically ignored or ascribed merely to technicartefacts. They may reflect recognition antigens of lymphocyte subpopulations perhaps of anti-idiotype responses.
- 6 Conclusion of the Joint Data Analysis Using Regression and Slope Data
- (a) Positive assignments cannot be m solely on the basis of significantly posit slopes. Not all reactions are transformed linearity by the logarithmic approa. Some difficulties may be solved by usin minimum number of E/T dilutions (grea or equal to five)
- (b) Since these approaches may not work



- is necessary to accept a release percentage value greater than or equal to 10% at any dilution as indicating a positive response. This perhaps can be more safely assumed if duplicate CTL cultures are also tested.
- (c) For combinations tested at very low dilutions showing a slope not significantly positive extrapolations should be made to E/T ratios = 50 A release percentage greater than or equal to 10% should then be considered positive
- (d) The observation of a positive slope cannot always be taken as a means of determination since immunologically negative controls may show significantly positive slopes (cf. 5 d)

# Workshop Criteria for Assignments and Exclusions

As a consequence of the above mentioned

experience and discussion the following criteria were accepted for the joint assignments and exclusions

- A Positive assignments were based on
- 1 Significantly positive slope of regression lines of release percentages on  $log_{10}\ E/T$ , and/or
- 2 Release percentage > 10% in any dilution tested. If a CTL was tested only at E/T dilutions below 50/1 extrapolation was performed. An extrapolated release percentage > 10% at E/T = 50/1 was then considered positive
- B Exclusions were based on
- 1 A positive assignment (cf above) on autologous targets (e g  $1/2x \rightarrow 1$ )
- 2 A negative assignment (cf above) on the specific target (e g  $1/2x \rightarrow 2$ )

Table 7

CML Workshop III – combined assignments

|         | TARGET !       | TARGET 2      | TARGET 3       | TARGET 4       | TARGET 5       |
|---------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| CTLs    | A L1 L2 Ma M O | A LI L2 ta NO | A L1 L2 Ma N O | A Ll L2 Ma M O | A LI L2 Ma M O |
| 1° 1/2x |                | + + + + + +   | + + + ++-      | + + ++         | + + + - + -    |
| 2° 1/2x | /              | + + + + + /   | + + + + + /    | + + + + + /    | + + + + + /    |
| 1° 1/3× | /              | + + + + + /   | + + + + + /    | + + + + + /    | + + + + + /    |
| 2° 1/3x | - //           | + / + + + /   | + / + ++/      | + / + + + /    | + / + + + /    |
| 1° 1/4x | - //           | + / + ++/     | + / + + + /    | + / + + + /    | + / + + + /    |
| 2° 1/4x | - /            | + / + +++     | + / + + + +    | + / + +++      | + / + + + -    |
| 1° 4/1× | + + + / + +    | - + + / + -   | /              | /              | /              |
| 2° 4/1x | + + + + / +    | - + - + / -   | / -            | / -            | / -            |
| 1° 4/2x | + + + - + +    | + + + + + +   |                |                |                |
| 2° 4/2x | / + + + + -    | / + + + + +   | /              | /              | /              |
| 1° 4/3x | - + - + + +    | + + + -       | + + + + + +    |                | + + + + + -    |
| 2° 4/3× | //             | / /           | + + / + + /    | //             | + + / ++/      |

<sup>+ =</sup> positive assignment

<sup>- =</sup> negative assignment

<sup>/ =</sup> excluded

Table 8a CML-Workshop III - 1 $^{\circ}$  CML 2  $\times$  2 analysis of combined assignments

|                | ++     | +-  | + |    | N  |
|----------------|--------|-----|---|----|----|
| Ar vs Lei 1    | 13     | 0   | 2 | 10 | 25 |
| Lei 2          | 17     | 0   | 2 | 11 | 30 |
| Ma             | 13     | 3   | 2 | 7  | 25 |
| Mu             | 16     | 0   | 3 | 11 | 30 |
| Os             | 5      | 4   | 1 | 10 | 20 |
| Lei 1 vs Lei 2 | 14     | 1   | 1 | 9  | 25 |
| Ma             | 10     | 3   | 1 | 6  | 20 |
| Mu             | 15     | 0   | 1 | 9  | 25 |
| Os             | 6      | 5   | 0 | 9  | 20 |
| Lei 2 vs Ma    | 14     | 3   | 1 | 7  | 20 |
| Mu             | 19     | 0   | 1 | 10 | 30 |
| Os             | 5      | 6   | 1 | 8  | 20 |
| Ma vs Mu       | 15     | 0   | 3 | 7  | 25 |
| Os             | 4      | 3   | 1 | 7  | 15 |
| Mu vs os       | 6      | 6   | 0 | 8  | 20 |
| Excluded CTLs  | s : Ar | : 1 |   |    |    |
|                | Lei 1  | : 3 |   |    |    |
|                | Lei 2  | : 1 |   |    |    |
|                | Ma     | · 1 |   |    |    |
|                | Mu     | : 1 |   |    |    |
|                | Os     | : 3 |   |    |    |

3. Direct indication from the laboratory in question (infection, not enough cells, technical failure, . . . ).

## 2 × 2 Table Analysis of Combined Assignments

Based on the assignment criteria outlined Above, all local assignments were reassessed leading to exclusion of some CTLs due to Appositive and/or negative control values, while others (locally excluded) were accepted into the analysis. The combined assignments are shown in Table 7.

Based on these assignments,  $2 \times 2$  tables were constructed as shown in Table 8.

The conclusions are as follows:

1. 1° CML: good correlations, with Munich showing the broadest assignment of positive values (Table 8).

- 2. 2° CML: very few discrepancies excelling with Oslo showing few positive reaction (Table 8b).
- 3. 1° versus 2° CML (Table 8c): excelle agreement. There may be a tendency obtain more positives in the 1° CM than 2°, except for Marseille.

Marseille as standard uses a  $2^{\circ}$  CM so may be better at this technique.

- 4. CFA versus <sup>51</sup> Cr : no major discre ancies with all other groups except Os in both 1° and 2° CML (Table 8d).
- 2 × 2 analysis of reactions of all CT against duplicate targets : excelle agreement (Table 8e).

Table 8b

CML-Workshop III  $-2^{\circ}$  CML  $2 \times 2$  analysts combined assignments

|                | ++    | +   | + |    |   |
|----------------|-------|-----|---|----|---|
| Ar vs Lei 1    | 7     | 0   | 1 | 7  | 1 |
| Lei 2          | 13    | 0   | 0 | 12 | 2 |
| Ma®            | 15    | 0   | 1 | 9  | 2 |
| Mu             | 14    | 0   | 0 | 6  | 2 |
| Os             | 4     | 1   | 0 | 5  | 1 |
| Lei 1 vs Lei 2 | 7     | 1   | 0 | 7  | 1 |
| Ma●            | 10    | 0   | 0 | 10 | 2 |
| Mu             | 8     | 0   | 0 | 7  |   |
| Os             | 2     | 2   | 0 | 6  |   |
| Lei 2 vs Ma●   | 15    | 0   | 1 | 9  |   |
| Mu             | 14    | 0   | 0 | 6  |   |
| Os             | 5     | 2   | 0 | 8  |   |
| Ma® vs Mu      | 16    | 0   | 0 | 9  | • |
| Os             | 5     | 3   | 0 | 7  |   |
| Mu vs Os       | 4     | 2   | 0 | 4  |   |
| Excluded CTLs  | : Ar  | : 1 |   |    |   |
|                | Lei 1 | . 3 |   |    |   |
|                | Lei 2 | . 1 |   |    |   |
|                | Ma    | : 1 |   |    |   |
|                | Mu    | : 1 |   |    |   |
|                | Os    | : 3 |   |    |   |

The result from Ma is not directly comparabas 2° CML was performed only using expansi of 1° CTLs with PWM and irradiated, autologo feeder cells. No specific restimulation v performed.



Γable 8ι \* CML-Workshop III - 1° vs 2° CML 2 × 2 CML-Workshop III - duplicate targets (3 vs 5) analysis of combined assignments

|       |            | ++ | + - | ~+ |    | N   |
|-------|------------|----|-----|----|----|-----|
| Ar    | vs Ar      | 15 | 0   | 0  | 10 | 25  |
| Lei I | l vs Lei 1 | 10 | 1   | 0  | 9  | 20  |
| Lei 2 | 2 vs Lei 2 | 15 | 1   | 0  | 9  | 25  |
| Ma    | vs Ma      | 13 | 2   | 3  | 7  | 25  |
| Mu    | vs Mu      | 16 | 2   | 0  | 7  | 25  |
| Os    | vs Os      | 2  | 1   | 0  | 7  | 10  |
| T     | OTAL       | 71 | 7   | 3  | 49 | 130 |

6. Specific 2° restimulation versus PWM: (fair agreement). Data not shown since available only from Aarhus and Marseille.

## On the Specifications Detected by Workshop III CTLs

The cells circulated in this Workshop were identical to those circulated during Workshop II. An account of their total red and white cell phenotypes as defined by serology is given in the report from Workshop II (Bradley et al. 1980).

In terms of immunogenetic specificity

Table 8d CML-Workshop III - CFA vs 51 Cr targets 2 X 2 analysis of combined assignments

|       |       | + + | +  | + |    | N   |
|-------|-------|-----|----|---|----|-----|
| 1° CM | IL    |     |    |   |    |     |
| Lei 2 | vs Ar | 17  | 2  | 0 | 11 | 30  |
|       | Lei 1 | 14  | 1  | 1 | 9  | 25  |
|       | Ma    | 14  | 3  | 1 | 7  | 25  |
|       | Mu    | 19  | 0  | 1 | 10 | 30  |
|       | Os    | 5   | 6  | 1 | 8  | 20  |
| 2°CM  | L     |     |    |   |    |     |
| Lei 2 | vs Ar | 7   | 1  | 0 | 7  | 15  |
|       | Lei 1 | 7   | 0  | 1 | 7  | 15  |
|       | Ma    | 15  | 0  | 1 | 9  | 25  |
|       | Mu    | 14  | 0  | 0 | 6  | 20  |
|       | Os    | 5   | 2  | 0 | 8  | 15  |
| то    | TAL   | 117 | 15 | 6 | 82 | 220 |

Table 8e 2 × 2 analysis of combined assignments

|        | + + | + | -+ |    | N  |
|--------|-----|---|----|----|----|
| 1° CML |     |   |    |    |    |
| Ar     | 4   | 0 | 0  | 2  | 6  |
| Lei 1  | 3   | 0 | 0  | 2  | 5  |
| Lei 2  | 4   | 0 | 0  | 2  | 6  |
| Ma     | 3   | 1 | 0  | 1  | 5  |
| Mu     | 3   |   |    |    |    |
| Os     | 0   | 1 | 0  | 3  | 4  |
| 2° CML |     |   |    |    |    |
| Ar     | 4   | 0 | 0  | 1  | 5  |
| Lei 1  | 2   | 0 | 0  | 2  | 4  |
| Lei 2  | 3   | 0 | 0  | 2  | 5  |
| Mu     | 4   | 0 | 0  | 1  | 5  |
| Os     | 0   | 1 | 0  | 2  | 3  |
| TOTAL  | 36  | 3 | 0  | 22 | 60 |

the data of Workshop II were translated as follows:

- 1. Positive lysis was strongly correlated to sharing of HLA-A, B, C, DR serologically defined determinants between stimulator and target cells; however,
- 2. No lysis was observed in the presence of HLA-antigenic sharing between stimulator and target (five combinations).
- 3. Two combinations  $(4/1x \rightarrow 2)$  and  $4/2x \rightarrow 1$ ) gave positive CML in the absence of any known serologically defined antigen. This is in concordance with earlier findings (e.g. Kristensen et al. 1974).

In this Workshop III only the combinations from Workshop II 1/2x, 1/3x, 1/4x, 4/1x, 4/2x and 4/3x were repeated with the standard technique. The conclusions (1) and (3) above are clearly confirmed, while (2) is invalidated in as much as the one previously negative combination  $(1/3x \rightarrow 2)$  retested is uniformly positive with the Workshop III standard technique (cf. Table 7). The

Table 9
CTL detecting new specificities activity in CML Workshop III

| 1° CML of 4/1x and 4/2x with 1* and 2* |        |            |        |          |  |  |  |
|--|--------|------------|--------|----------|--|--|--|
| 4/1x                                   |        |            |        |          |  |  |  |
| Laboratory                             | b(1*)  | Slope (1*) | b(2*)  | Slope(2* |  |  |  |
| Aarhus                                 | 0.9600 | 9.15       | 0.68   | 3.30     |  |  |  |
| Leiden-1                               | 0.9600 | 17.02      | 0.9600 | 9.40     |  |  |  |
| Leidern-2                              | 0.9300 | 15.11      | 0.68   | 9.10     |  |  |  |
| Munich                                 | 0.89   | 10.57      | 0.9800 | 5.37     |  |  |  |
| Oslo                                   | 0.9800 | 19.51      | 0.93°° | 6.78     |  |  |  |
| 4/2x                                   |        |            |        |          |  |  |  |
| Laboratory                             | b(1*)  | Slope (2*) | b(2*)  | Slope (1 |  |  |  |
| Aarhus                                 | 0.90°  | 5.68       | 0.97°° | 5.81     |  |  |  |
| Leiden-1                               | 0.9600 | 11.67      | 0.9700 | 12.10    |  |  |  |
| Leiden-2                               | 0.9600 | 16.12      | 0.820  | 8.44     |  |  |  |
| Marseille                              | 0.9800 | 10.08      | 0.38   | 1.58     |  |  |  |
| Munich                                 | 0.9900 | 19.92      | 0.9700 | 13.34    |  |  |  |
| Oslo                                   | 0.9100 | 9.73       | 0.9200 | 5.52     |  |  |  |

 $<sup>\</sup>circ P \leqslant 5\%.$  $\circ \circ P \leqslant 1\%.$ 

Workshop III data on CTLs 4/1x and 4/2x possibly detecting new specificities are given in Table 9.

The conclusion, therefore, that CTLs primed in vitro recognize HLA-coded determinants, but that these may well be different from the serologically defined determinants is still very pertinent.

It must, however, not be forgotten that standardizing our individual techniques on the ability to produce identical assignments may counterselect for virtues of local techniques which would enable identification of marginal or weak effects such as e.g. "the target cell problems".

General Conclusions and Future Goals

1. There was excellent recovery and viability

- in all groups regarding the unprimed responding and stimulating cells and the CTL recovered after *in vitro* stimulation.
- 2. Improvements are needed at the level of 2° responses, including freezing of

primed cells, or alternatively doing this the local level.

- 3. All groups should aim to initiate stud of alternative means of stimulating CTL 2° reactions. This would include the to of PWM and special advice can be obtain from Marseille.
- 4. Hopefully, all groups will attempt make T-cell growth factor and try to gr CTL in such media. Samples for coparison will be shipped from Munich. Marseille to all other groups and the laboratories will help with special advice
- 5. Techniques for cloning of human alloactive T-cells are now available (e.g. Maliet al. 1980). Local techniques experience will be circulated and compalocally.
- 6. New information can be obtained f analyzing various target cell populati Aarhus has developed a uniform techn for making B cell blasts (Johnsen 19



and it should be initiated in all laboratories. The use of cultured T cells and other target cell types should be tested according to the interests of the individuals

7 Competitive inhibition using cold targets can be a means to overcome some of the difficulties that most groups encounter when using a panel of <sup>51</sup>Cr target cells Before the next Workshop, individual laboratories should experiment with this approach, e.g. using early and late PHA-blasts, EBV-cell-lines, T cell lines or platelets as cold competitors

8 In the standard technique it still appears that there is a "target cell problem" It was suggested that laboratories might try Tris or Hepes buffered medium for <sup>51</sup>Cr incubation and target cell washing It may be advisable to first distribute the CTL to the plates and return them to an incubator to readjust temperature and pH before adding the target cells

9 It is by now desired to expand the participation in the CML Workshops as long as the new participants are actively involved in the area of CML research and are willing to share their expertise on the same basis as the others

10 The immediate goal for CML-Workshop IV will be discussed within the group following local assessment of the questions raised above A preliminary decision has been made to place the next Workshop meeting in Leiden during September 1980

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