

PECULIARITIES OF L-ARGININE-DEPENDENT SYNTHESIS OF NITRIC OXIDE IN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WITH TUBERCULOSIS OF RESPIRATORY ORGANS

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Summary

We conducted a biochemical study in order to evaluate the levels of L-citrulline, L-arginine and nitrites, which concentrations was proportional to serum nitric oxide content. It was demonstrated in 74 children and adolescents with tuberculosis in comparison with non-infected subjects, that the level of L-arginine was decreased, whereas the levels of L-citrulline and nitrites were increased. All these changes correlated with the extent of pulmonary process. The analysis of such the dynamics testifies to an activation of free radical processes under the influence of cytotoxic cells under conditions of tuberculosis infection.