

# ARTICLE REVIEW

## **NEUROTROPIC AND AUTOIMMUNE ACTIVITY OF THE BLOOD SERUM IN PATIENTS WITH OLD AGE PSYCHOSES AND SCHIZOPHRENIA.**

**Soltseva, E. I., Kushner, S. G.**  
**J. of Neuropathology and Psychiatry**  
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The authors have found that the serum of schizophrenic patients is specifically neurotropic and contains antibodies to the human brain. They describe their methods in determining the neurogenic activity of the serum and refer to their previous work (Soltseva, J. of Neuropath, and Psychiatry 1971, No. 5, pp. 704-711. Koliaskina, G. I., and Kushner, S. C, i.b.i.d., 1969, No. 11, pp. 1679-1682).

The authors feel that the above-mentioned findings are not specific for schizophrenia, as

they can be present in other non-schizophrenic psychosis—in particular Pick's and Alzheimer's presenile psychosis. In both schizophrenia and Alzheimer's and Pick's disease the brain cells possibly are previously damaged by the disease which in turn brings about the autoimmune reaction to the brain. The authors find an indirect proof in the work of D. B. Losovsky on the change of the composition of the isoferments lactate dehydrogenase in both schizophrenia and Pick's disease. There is, however, a considerable dissension in the literature concerning the extent of structural changes of the brain tissue in schizophrenia.

No correlation exists between the neurotropic and autoimmune activity in the schizophrenic serum. It seems to point to the fact that the nature of the neurotropic factor in schizophrenia differs from that of the presenile psychoses.

**-Dr. Nina Toll**