

*Case report*

**Specific antigen and antibody to *Mycobacterium leprae* in the cryoprecipitate of a patient with Lucio phenomenon**

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**Summary.** Using a sensitive and specific enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) assay we showed that the cryoglobulins of a patient with Lucio phenomenon contain phenolic glycolipid I antigen and a specific antibody.

**Introduction**

Circulating immune complexes using the C1q binding assay, the Raji cell test, the solid phase conglutinin, and the presence of cryoglobulins have been found frequently in patients with leprosy [1–3]. The major clinical manifestations of immune complex-mediated disease in leprosy patients are erythema nodosum leprosum and Lucio phenomenon [4]. In this report we demonstrate that the cryoglobulins of a patient with Lucio phenomenon contain a specific antigen of *Mycobacterium leprae* and antibodies to it.