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No Association Between NIDD and Kidd

Hodge et al.[1] reported linkage between insulin-dependent diabetes (IDD) and Kidd (erythrocyte antigens). We have found an association of IDD with Kidd antigen Jk^b.[2] These findings seem to confirm genetic heterogeneity of IDD. We and others[3] have also found some evidence for a possible genetic relationship between IDD and non-insulin-dependent diabetes (NIDD). Since HLA is not the common genetic denominator of such possible relationship, we deemed it of interest to study Kidd in NIDD. As part of the University of Minnesota Diabetes Genetic Study, we studied Kidd in 52 NIDD patients. The relative risk for our population versus normals[4] for any one Kidd type is not significant (Table 1). One would expect in a sample of this size to be able to detect a significant difference ($P < 0.05$) with 80% power if there were an actual difference of 30% or more. Thus, Kidd does not seem to be a marker for NIDD.

TABLE 1
Kidd phenotype frequencies and relative risks in NIDD patients and controls

Population	Kidd phenotype a+ b−	a+ b+	a− b+
NIDD	15 (29%)	27 (52%)	10 (19%)
Control	28%	49%	23%
Relative risk	1.04	1.12	0.79

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