ETHNIC DIFFERENCES IN BLOOD COAGULATION DURING PREGNANCY.
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A comparison has been performed of blood coagulation and fibrinolytic changes during the third trimester of pregnancy in a group of white Caucasian women in Manchester, UK, with a matched group of non-white women in Salvador, Brazil. The same standardised reagents and methods were used for all tests at both centres. Results show some highly significant differences between the two populations. Fibrinogen and factor VII levels were significantly higher and fibrinolytic activity was significantly lower in the Manchester women. These findings may provide a basis for the clinical impression that haemorrhage at delivery is relatively common in Salvador whereas post partum thrombosis is extremely rare.

HEMOSTATIC VARIABLES IN A GROUP OF TRAFFIC POLICEMEN.

A study of various haemostasis parameters in a group of twenty-two traffic policemen working under special conditions, i.e. in locations of heavy traffic (5 hours shifts in the centre of Athens) is presented. These normal subjects (aged 22-39) are subjected to physical and psychological stress and to the effect of increased air pollution. Pretests were conducted before the beginning of the shift (6 a.m.) and postests were conducted at the end of the shift (12 noon).


Results: Significant decrease of Fibrinogen, ELT and AT III, significant increase in APTT, FDP. Increase in PF4 levels. The results are indicative of the occurrence of an activation of the fibrinolytic mechanism after the shift with signs of consumption of certain coagulation factors. There is an adverse effect on the hemostatic balance of traffic policemen during their service.