OPHTHALMOLOGIC STATUS IN CHILDREN EXPOSED IN UTERO 胎内被爆児の眼科調査

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胎 被 爆 児 眼 查 内 0

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OPHTHALMOLOGIC STATUS IN CHILDREN EXPOSED IN UTERO

胎内被爆児の眼科調査

NAGASAKI 長 崎

INTRODUCTION

Rats exposed in utero to ionizing radiation develop eye deformities. ¹ It has also been reported that the incidence of segmental heterochromia of the iris is increased among children exposed in utero and that the rates are higher the earlier irradiation occurs before the 8th month of gestation. ^{2,3}

Since March 1961, in annual examinations for the Study of Children Exposed In Utero (PE 86) at ABCC in Hiroshima, abnormal discloration of the iris was reported in 8 of 428 subjects who were in utero at the time of the atomic bomb (ATB). 4 However, recent examinations demonstrated that the changes noted were not sufficient to justify diagnosis as segmental iris heterochromia. In annual examinations beginning August 1961 in Nagasaki, no case of heterochromia iridis was found among 218 children who were in utero ATB. However, many cases showed nevi or pigmented spots of the iris. Persistent pupillary membrane, and persistent hyaloid artery were also frequently found in these subjects. In view of animal experiments, minor ophthalmic malformations which are likely to be ignored or overlooked on the general physical examination could be very important symptoms for children exposed in utero.

From the results of ophthalmic examinations of atomic bomb survivors, it is apparent that the frequency and severity of lenticular opacities caused by atomic bomb radiation are proportional to distance from the hypocenter and shielding ATB.^{5,6} Also, opacities of the posterior subcapsular region are significantly more common in those within 1400 m from the hypocenter.⁷ Thus, it is of considerable interest to examine whether the frequency of lenticular opacities might increase in the children exposed in utero.

緒言

胎内で電離放射線照射を受けたネズミの眼に奇形が発生する.1 分節状虹彩異色症の発生が胎内で放射線を受けたこどもに増加することが認められている。そしてその発生頻度は妊娠8か月前に、より早い時期に放射線照射を受けたものに、より多く発生するようであると報告されている. 2 , 3

広島の ABCC で実施した1961年3月以降の胎内被爆児集団 (PE 86)の年次検診の際に、胎内被爆児集団の 428 名中 8 名に異常な虹彩異色が認められた.4 しかし最近の検査によりいずれも分節状虹彩異色症とみなされないことが判明した. 長崎においても1961年8月から実施した年次検診時に胎内被爆児集団の 218 名中に分節状虹彩異色症は認められなかった. しかしながら虹彩に色素母斑や異色斑がみられ、また瞳孔膜遺残あるいは硝子体動脈遺残などが多数例にみられた. 一般検診時において無視されたり、見落とされたりするような非常にわずかな眼の奇形でも、動物実験の結果から胎内被爆児にとって重要な身体的症状と考えられる.

原爆被爆生存者に対する数次の眼科調査の結果から,原 爆放射線による水晶体混濁の頻度および程度は被爆距離 と遮蔽度に相関があるようであった.5,6 水晶体の後嚢 膜下の混濁は原爆の中心地から1400m未満のものに多く 出現しており,7 胎内被爆児に水晶体混濁の頻度が増加 しているかどうか検査することは非常に興味ある調査で ある. In 1954, the ABCC pediatrics survey revealed a greater prevalence of visual disability among children within 1800 m from the hypocenter ATB as compared with those beyond 1800 m. 8

The study of adolescents exposed in utero revealed that the females in the 1st trimester of gestation ATB whose mothers were exposed within 2000 m from the hypocenter and experienced acute radiation syndrome had poorer visual acuity than the comparable children of asymptomatic mothers. ⁹

In the PE 86 annual physical examinations at 18 years of age, from August 1963 through March 1964 in Nagasaki, eyes were examined in detail to determine whether any difference exists between the group who were in utero within 2000 m from the hypocenter and selected comparison groups with regard to segmental heterochromia of the iris, minor ophthalmic malformations, visual disability, lenticular opacities and general ophthalmic status.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

The PE 86 study sample is comprised of three comparison groups, based on the distance of the mothers from the hypocenter ATB, and defined as within 2000 m group (Group I); 3000-4999 m group (Group II); and not-in-city group (Group III). Children at all stages of gestation ATB were included in this sample. 10,11

About 76% (266 cases) of the total sample (348 cases) were examined for this study(Table 1). The not-examined subjects appear to be randomly distributed throughout the different exposure groups. For Group I, the distribution of subjects by trimester of gestation is shown in Table 2.

All examinations were made on or near the subject's birthday. The regular annual examination included medical history, physical examination, anthropometric measurements, routine laboratory tests on blood, urine, stool and radiologic examination of the chest and wrist.

The ophthalmic examination was performed as follows: First, the visual acuity was tested by reading a Snellen eye chart at a distance of 20 feet (6.1 m) with each eye alternately covered. Next, one of the authors (SK) made an ophthalmologic examination of all subjects with a Welch Allen hand ophthalmoscope during the physical examination. Finally, the abnormalities of the eye found by the former examiner were reviewed by another examiner (TF) with ophthalmoscope and slit-lamp biomicroscope to confirm the diagnosis.

1954年のABCCにおける小児科調査によると、爆心地から1800m未満のこどもには1800m以遠で被爆したこどもに比べて視力障害率がより大であった.8

胎内被爆児の思春期調査で,2000m未満で被爆し,妊娠前期にあって,急性放射線症候群のあった母親から生まれた女児は,急性放射線症候群のなかった母親の女児よりも視力が有意に劣っていた.9

長崎において18歳時の PE 86 に対して1963年8月から 1964年3月までの間に実施された年次診察時に,爆心から2000m未満で胎内で被爆した群と,その適切な対照群との間に分節状虹彩異色症,軽度の眼の奇形,視力障害,水晶体混濁および眼の全般的な状態について差があるかどうか眼の精密検査を行なった.

資料および方法

PE 86 の調査対象の標本は3つの比較群からなり、それは原爆時における母親の爆心地からの距離によって、次のように分けられている。すなわち、爆心から2000 m未満群(第Ⅰ群)、爆心から3000 - 4999 mで被爆した群(第Ⅰ群)、および原爆当時長崎市に在住していなかった群(第Ⅲ群)である。原爆時に、あらゆる妊娠期間中にあったこどもたちがこの調査の対象標本に含まれている.10,11

全標本(348名)の約76%(266名)がこの調査のための検査を受けた(表1). 検査を受けなかった対象者は各被爆群別に均等であるようであった. 表 2 は第 I 群の妊娠期別分布を示している.

年次診察はABCCにおいて,調査対象者の誕生日に近い日に実施した.診察は病歴聴取,全身検査,人体計測,血液,尿,便の臨床検査,胸部および手根関節レントゲン検査を含んでいた.

眼科検査は次のように実施した.最初に、視力測定はスネレンの視力表を20フィート(6.1 m)の所から一眼ずつ眼をおおって看読させて測定した.12 次に著者の1名(河本)が診察時に Welch Allen 式の手持検眼鏡で全対象者の眼科検査を行なった.最後に前著者によって発見された眼の異常を他の著者(藤野)が診断を確定するために検眼鏡および細隙灯生体顕微鏡によって再検査した.

TABLE 1 IN UTERO SAMPLE, NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE PERSONS EXAMINED BY SEX AND COMPARISON GROUP

表 1 胎内被爆児の調査標本数および眼科調査受診率:性・比較群別

Sex		(Froup I 第 I 群 <2000 m			oup II 第 II 群 3000-4999 m		Group III 第Ⅲ群 Not-in-city 市内にいなかった者		
性		Sample 標本数	Examined 検査数	%	Sample 標本数	Examined 検査数	%	Sample 標本数	Examined 検査数	%
Male	男	54	42	77.8	71	57	80.2	60	44	73.3
Female	女	48	39	81.2	61	46	75.5	54	38	70.3
Total	計	102	81	79.4	132	103	78.7	114	82	71.9

TABLE 2 GROUP I TRIMESTER COMPONENTS BY SEX 表 2 第 I 群の調査数:性・妊娠期別

Se	x	Total		Tr	imester	妊娠期		
性		全調査数	1st i	前期	2nd	中期	3rd	後期
Male	男	42		19		15		8
Female	女	39		11		13		15

RESULTS

Visual Disability (Abnormality of Refraction, Mainly Myopia) Visual acuity of 20/70 or less in one or both eyes was defined as visual disability. The cases with visual disability probably due to corneal opacities, lenticular or retinal disease, congenital nystagmus, generalized systemic disease, and temporal loss of visual acuity were excluded from this analysis.

As shown in Table 3, the prevalence of visual disability was higher in females than in males, but the differences were not significant. The prevalence of visual disability of both sexes combined was higher in Group III than in Group I, but the difference between the two groups was not significant ($\chi^2 = 1.367$, p=0.30-0.20). Of 71 subjects with visual disability, 9 showed unilateral visual disability. Of these, five were in Group III, three were in Group I, and one was in Group II.

As shown in Table 4, of 61 subjects who were within $1800\,\mathrm{m}$ from the hypocenter, $14~(22.9\,\%)$ showed visual disability; of 20 subjects between $1801\text{-}2000\,\mathrm{m}$, visual disability was seen in 5 cases (25.0%). No significant difference was noted in the prevalence between both distance groups (χ^2 =0.013, p=0.95-0.90). Table 5 also shows the prevalence of visual disability in the two

結 果

視力障害(屈折異常,主として近視) 一眼または両眼の 屈折異常により視力が20/70,またはそれ以下を視力障 害とした.この視力障害のうち,角膜混濁,水晶体ある いは網膜疾患,先天性眼振,全身疾患,および一過性眼 精疲労によると思われるものは除外した.

 $1800 \,\mathrm{m}$ 未満の胎内被爆児61名中に表 $4\,\mathrm{o}$ ように14名 (22.9%) に視力障害がみられ、 $1801-2000 \,\mathrm{m}$ までの胎内被爆児20名中、 $5\,\mathrm{A}(25.0\%)$ に視力障害がみられた。この両距離群の間には有意差がなかった $(\chi^2=0.013\,\mathrm{p}=0.95-0.90)$.表 $5\,\mathrm{t}(1400 \,\mathrm{m}$ 未満群と、 $1401-2000 \,\mathrm{m}$ 群と

TABLE 3 NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF SUBJECTS WITH OPHTHALMOLOGIC ABNORMALITIES OF ONE OR BOTH EYES, BY SEX AND COMPARISON GROUP

表3 一眼または両眼に異常のある被検者数および頻度: 性・比較群別

Comparison Group 比較群	Sex 性		Examined 検査総数	Vis Disal 視力		or Nevi	ed Spots of Iris 異色斑	lary Me	nt Pupil- embrane 膜遺残	loid A	nt Hya- Artery 助脈遺残		cular cities 混濁
JC #X 11T			17. JEL 166 8X	Number	数 %	Number	数 %	Number	数 %	Number	数 %	Number	数 %
Group I	Male	男	42	9	21.4	7	16.7	5	11.9	5	11.9	6	14.3
第Ⅰ群	Female	女	39	10	25.6	7	17.9	4	10.3	2	5.1	6	15.4
	Total	計	81	19	23.5	14	17.3	9	11.1	7	8.6	12	14.8
Group II	Male	男	57	11	19.3	9	15.8	8	14.0	5	8.8	9	15.8
第Ⅱ群	Female	女	46	14	30.4	6	13.0	4	8.7	3	6.5	5	10.8
	Total	計	103	25	24.3	15	14.6	12	11.7	8	7.8	14	13.6
Group III	Male	男	44	14	31.8	6	13.6	1	2.3	3	6.8	2	4.5
第Ⅲ群	Female	女	38	13	34.2	6	15.8	0	0.0	1	2.6	4	10.5
	Total	計	82	27	32.9	12	14.6	1	1.2	4	4.8	6	7.3
Significance	Test		I/II	0.0	02	0.0	89	0.0	14	0.00	03	0.00	005
有意性検定	× 2		I/III	1.3	67	0.0	62	5.30	02*	0.4	17	1.63	31
	χ 2		II/III	1.2	91	0.0	38	6.09	90**	0.24	12	1.27	70

^{*} Significant 0.01<p<0.05 有意

TABLE 4 NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF GROUP I SUBJECTS WITH VISUAL DISABILITY, BY DISTANCE FROM HYPOCENTER

表 4 第 Ⅰ 群の視力障害者数および率: 爆心地からの距離別

Distance m	m Total Visual	Visual Disability	視力障害	
距離	計	Number 数	%	
< 1800	61	14	22.9	
1801-2000	20	5	25.0	
Total 総数	81	19	23.5	

TABLE 5 NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF GROUP I SUBJECTS WITH OPHTHALMOLOGIC ABNORMALITIES OF ONE OR BOTH EYES BY DISTANCE FROM HYPOCENTER

表5 一眼または両眼に異常のある第 I 群被検者数および頻度: 爆心地からの距離別

Distance 距離 m	Examined 検査総数	Visu Disabi 視力障	lity	Pigmente or Nevi 虹彩異	of Iris	Persister lary Me 瞳孔服		Persiste loid Ai 硝子体動	rtery	Lentic Opac 水晶体	ities
P)- F8		Number	数 %	Number *	t %	Number	数 %	Number	数 %	Number	数 %
< 1400	24	5	20.8	4	16.7	4	16.7	2	8.3	5	20.8
1401-2000	57	14	24.6	10	17.5	5	8.8	5	8.8	7	12.3
Total 計	81	19		14		9		7		12	
	χ 2	0.	006	0.0)53	0	.417	0.	.136	0.	417
Significance Test	df		1		1		1		1		1
有意性検定	p	0.95	-0.90	0.90-	0.80	0.70	0-0.50	0.80	0-0.70	0.70	-0.50
Significance	有意差	N	o なし	No	なし	N	lo なし	N	lo なし	N	oなし

^{**} Highly significant p≤0.01 きわめて有意

groups within $1400 \,\mathrm{m}$ and between $1401\text{-}2000 \,\mathrm{m}$ from the hypocenter. Again, there is no significant difference in the prevalence between both groups ($\chi^2 = 0.006, \, \mathrm{p} = 0.95 - 0.90$).

Table 6 shows the prevalence of visual disability in Group I, by trimester of pregnancy ATB. No significant difference was found between the 1st and 3rd trimester of pregnancy ($\chi^2 = 0.541$, p=0.50-0.30).

Visual Acuity Table 7a shows the mean visual acuity as recorded for the least effective eye. Although the mean visual acuity of Group III in both sexes was less than that of other groups, no significant differences were noted among comparison groups. The mean visual acuity was less in females of each group than in males, but no significant difference was noted.

As shown in Table 7b, there was evidence of a significant difference in the mean visual acuity of both sexes combined between the 1st trimester component and the 3rd trimester component in Group I (t=2.54, df=51, p=0.02-0.01). In Group I, however, for the mean visual acuity of both sexes combined, no significant difference was noted between those within and beyond $1800\,\mathrm{m}$ nor between those within and beyond $1400\,\mathrm{m}$.

Heterochromic Spots (Pigmented Spots or Nevi of the Iris) Hyperchromic spots and nevi of the iris as illustrated in Figure 1 were noted in one or both eyes, but no case could be considered segmental iris heterochromia. The size, shape, color and number of the pigmented spots or nevi of the iris were not part of the present study.

One girl in Group I had hypochromic pigmentation of one part of the iris, but this could not be defined as definite segmental iris heterochromia (Figure 1).

As shown in Table 3, of 41 subjects with heterochromic spots in the iris, 8 had bilateral involvement and of these 4 were in Group I. There appeared to be no significant difference in the prevalence of heterochromic spots of the iris between sexes. Although abnormal spots were found more frequently in Group I than in Group III, the difference was not significant ($\chi^2 = 0.062$, p=0.80-0.70).

As shown in Table 5 and 6, prevalence in Group I did not differ by distance from the hypocenter or by trimester of pregnancy ATB.

Persistent Pupillary Membrane and Persistent Hyaloid Artery Persistent pupillary membrane and persistent hyaloid artery were seen unilaterally or bilaterally and were of various shapes but the majority were as described の間の視力障害率を示しているが、両群間には有意差がなかった($X^2 = 0.006$, p = 0.95 - 0.90).

表 6 は第 I 群中の妊娠期別による視力障害率を示しているが,第 1 妊娠期 (前期) 群と,第 3 妊娠期 (後期) 群との間には有意差がなかった ($\chi^2=0.541$, p=0.50-0.30).

視力 表7(a)は視力の弱い方の眼の平均視力を示している。第Ⅲ群の男女とも平均視力が他の群よりも劣っていたが、有意差は認められなかった。各群とも女児の平均視力の方が男児よりも劣っていたが差は認められなかった。

表 7 (b) に示すように,第 I 群のうち妊娠前期群の男女合わせた場合の平均視力と妊娠後期群の平均視力との間に有意差があった(t=2.54, df=51,p=0.02-0.01). しかし第 I 群において1800 m未満群と1801-2000 m群との間にもまた1400 m未満群とそれ以遠の群との間には平均視力に有意差がそれぞれに認められなかった.

虹彩異色斑(虹彩の斑点または色素母斑) 図1に示すような虹彩内に Hyperchromic な斑点あるいは色素母斑が一眼あるいは両眼に認められた. しかし分節状虹彩異色斑と思われるような症例はなかった. これらの虹彩の色素斑点や,色素母斑の大きさ,形状,色調および個数はこの際問題にしなかった.

第 I 群の女児1名に虹彩の一部に Hypochromic な色素斑があった。しかしこれは確実な分節状虹彩異色症ではなかった (図 1).

表3に示すように41名に虹彩異色斑が認められ、そのうち8名のみに両眼に認められた。この8名中4名は第I群に属していた。男女間には虹彩異色斑の頻度に有意差がなかった。第I群に比べて第I群により多く異常斑が認められたが有意差はなかった($X^2=0.062$, p=0.80-0.70)。

表5,6に示すように,第1群の虹彩異色斑の頻度は爆心地からの距離別あるいは妊娠期別による差がなかった.

瞳孔膜遺残および硝子体動脈遺残 一眼または両眼にみられた瞳孔膜遺残および硝子体動脈遺残はいろいろな形状をしていたが、大部分のものは図1に示すようなもの

in Figure 1. Even mild cases showing a group of iris pigment deposits on the anterior surface of the lens were included as persistent pupillary membrane.

Cases with persistent hyaloid artery and persistent pupillary membrane were reexamined by slit-lamp biomicroscope. The prevalence of these abnormalities is shown in Table 3. No case of persistent pupillary membrane was found among females in Group III.

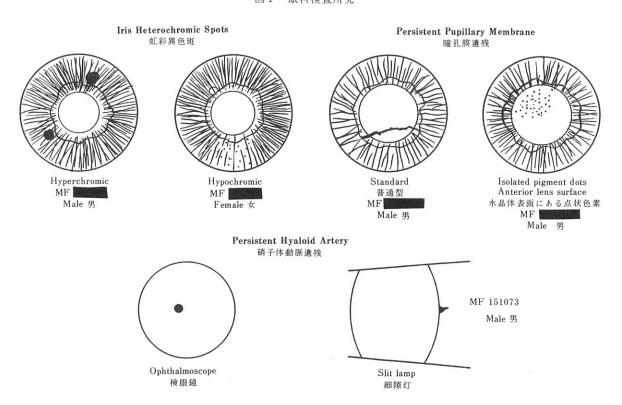
Of 41 subjects with these persistent abnormalities, only 7 were affected by either one in both eyes.

であった. 水晶体の前表面に点状に虹彩色素粒が沈着したような軽度なものでも瞳孔膜潰残とした.

硝子体動脈遺残および瞳孔膜遺残の症例はすべて細隙灯生体顕微鏡で再検査された。これらの異常の頻度は表3に示した。瞳孔膜遺残は第Ⅲ群の女児には全然みられなかった。

41名の瞳孔膜遺残または硝子体動脈遺残が認められたが、両眼にこれらの異常が認められたのは41名中7名にすぎなかった。

FIGURE 1 ILLUSTRATION OF OPHTHALMOLOGIC FINDINGS 図 1 眼科検査所見



No difference was found in the prevalences of these deformities between sexes. The prevalence of these abnormalities in Groups I and II is higher than in Group III. A difference considered to be significant was found in the prevalence of persistent pupillary membrane between Group I and Group III (χ^2 =5.312, p=0.05-0.02). A highly significant difference also was noted between Group II and Group III (χ^2 =6.904, p<0.01). However, no difference was found in the prevalence of persistent hyaloid artery between Group I and Group III (χ^2 =0.417, p=0.70-0.50)and between Group II and Group III(χ^2 =0.242, p=0.70-0.50).

これらの異常の頻度には性別による差異はなかった.これらの異常の頻度は第 I 群,第 \blacksquare 群が第 \blacksquare 群よりも高かった.瞳孔膜遺残の頻度は第 I 群と第 \blacksquare 群との間に有意差があった($X^2=5.312$, p=0.05-0.02).また,第 \blacksquare 群と第 \blacksquare 群との間にもきわめて有意な差が認められた($X^2=6.904$,p<0.01).しかし硝子体動脈遺残の頻度については,第 I 群と第 \blacksquare 群との間に($X^2=0.417$,y=0.70-0.50)また第 \blacksquare 群と第 \blacksquare 群との間に($X^2=0.242$,y=0.70-0.50)どちらにも,有意差は認められなかった.

TABLE 6 NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF GROUP I SUBJECTS WITH OPHTHALMOLOGIC ABNORMALITIES OF ONE OR BOTH EYES BY TRIMESTER OF PREGNANCY

表 6 一眼または両眼に異常のある第 [群被検者数および頻度: 妊娠期別

Trimest 妊娠期	R-731	Examined 検査総数		Visual Disability 視力障害		Pigmented Spots or Nevi of Iris 虹彩異色斑		Persistent Pupil- lary Membrane 瞳孔膜遺残		Persistent Hya- loid Artery 硝子体動脈遺残		Lenticular Opacities 水晶体混濁	
			Number	数 %	Number	数 %	Number 数	%	Number	数 %	Number	数 %	
1st	前期	30	9	30.0	7	23.3	5	16.7	2	6.7	4	12.3	
2nd	中期	28	6	21.4	4	14.3	2	7.1	3	10.7	2	7.1	
3rd	後期	23	4	17.4	3	13.0	2	8.7	2	8.7	6	26.1	
Total	計	81	19		14		9		7		12		
ignificanc	e Test	1/2 前	17中 0	0.019	(0.121	0.5	03	0	.163	0.	117	
育意性 検定	: χ²	1/3 弟	1/後 ().541	(.354	0.1	94	0	.061	0.	676	
	χ -	2/3	1/後 (0.00004	(0.047	0.1	01	0	.062	2.	144	

TABLE 7 MEAN VISUAL ACUITY

表7 平均視力

			egory 区分	Subjects 検査数	Mean Visual Acuity 平均視力	Standard Deviation 標準偏差
١.	Sex and Comparison Group	Male 男	I	42	20/42.7	60.8
	性・比較群別		II	57	20/39.9	49.4
			III	44	20/54.5	64.4
		Female 女	I	39	20/49.3	62.1
			II	46	20/53.1	61.4
			III	38	20/57.7	67.1
	Group I by Trimester and	Trimester	1st 初期	30	20/62.3	75.2
	Distance from Hypocenter	妊娠期	2nd 中期	28	20/39.1	50.2
	第1群における妊娠期・ 爆心地からの距離別にみ		3rd 後期	23	20/23.0	15.2
	た結果	Distance	< 1800	61	20/42.6	58.5
		距離 m	1801-2000	20	20/43.7	57.5
			< 1400	24	20/44.1	62.3
			1401-2000	57	20/43.1	55.8

TABLE 8 NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF SUBJECTS WITH LENTICULAR CHANGES BY COMPARISON GROUP

表8 水晶体混濁のある被検者数および頻度: 比較群別

Comparison Group 比較群	Total 検査数	Posterior Su Opacitio 後囊膜下	es	Cortical 皮多	Total 計	
		Number 数	%	Number	数 %	
I	81	9(5)	11.1	4 †	4.9	12
II	103	8(5)	7.8	7(1)	6.8	14
III	82	3(3)	3.7	3	3.7	6
Significance Test	I/II	0.272			0.032	
有意性検定	I/III	3.571	Suggestive ⊼ (0.05 <p≤0.1< td=""><td>(碳的差異 (0)</td><td>0.00027</td><td></td></p≤0.1<>	(碳的差異 (0)	0.00027	
χ 2	II/III	0.741			0.372	

Parentheses, cases with posterior subcapsular vacuole.

⁽⁾は後嚢膜下に空胞を同時に有する症例数を示す

[†] One case with posterior subcapsular polychromatic sheen.

¹例は後嚢膜下に多色性光彩が認められた.

TABLE 9 OTHER CONGENITAL OPHTHALMOLOGIC ABNORMALITIES, BY COMPARISON GROUP

表 9 その他眼の先天性異常: 比較群別

Comparison Group	Total	Nystagmu	s 眼振	Strabismus 斜視		
比較群	検査総数	Number 数	%	Number 数	%	
I	81	1	1.2	2	2.5	
II	103	1	1.0	0	0	
III	82	0	0	1	1.2	
Significance Test	I/II	0.297		0.787		
有意性検定	I/III	0.0000	37	0.00011		
χ 2	II/III	0.013		0.013		

In Group I, no significant difference was found in the prevalence of these abnormalities by distance from the hypocenter or trimester of pregnancy (Tables 5 and 6).

Lenticular Opacity (Including Vacuoles) Of the lens opacities and vacuoles found unilaterally and bilaterally by ophthalmoscopic examination, those lenticular opacities due to trauma, secondary cataract, senile changes and generalized disease were excluded from the analysis. Lens opacities were reviewed by slit-lamp biomicroscopy, but the size, number, and characteristics were not considered in this study. Bilateral lenticular opacities were noted in only 6 of 30 cases. As shown in Table 3, no difference in the prevalence of lenticular opacities was found between two distance groups (Groups I and II), however, the prevalence of lens opacities is higher in Group I than in Group III($\chi^2 = 1.631$, p = 0.30 - 0.20).

As Table 5 shows, in Group I lenticular opacities were more frequently noted in children who were within 1400 m than among those between 1401-2000 m. However, the difference was not significant. As shown in Table 6, although the observed prevalence of lenticular opacities was higher in the 3rd trimester group than in the other two trimester groups, tests against the groups individually show that the differences are not statistically significant.

The lenticular opacities were classified according to the part of the lens as shown in Table 8. The posterior subcapsular opacities were more often seen in children among Group I than in Group III, and a suggestive but not significant difference was found between these two groups ($\chi^2=3.571$ p=0.10-0.05). All lenticular vacuoles appeared in the posterior subcapsular area. There was no significant difference in the prevalence of lenticular cortical opacities between Group I and the other groups.

Other Congenital Ophthalmologic Abnormalities As shown in Table 9, one case of congenital nystagmus was

第 I 群におけるこれらの異常の頻度には爆心地からの距離別および妊娠 期別による差が認められなかった (表 5 および 6).

表 5 に示すように第 I 群において水晶体混濁は1401 - 2000 m群よりも1400 m 未満群の方に多く認められた. しかし両群の間には有意差がなかった. 表 6 に示すように, 妊娠後期群の水晶体混濁の頻度が他の妊娠期群よりも高かったが, 有意差は認められなかった.

水晶体混濁は表8に示すように、水晶体の部位に応じて区分された.後嚢膜下の混濁が第Ⅲ群よりも第I群にしばしば認められた.両群の間には示唆的な差異があったが有意ではなかった($X^2=3.571$ 、p=0.10-0.05).水晶体空胞はすべて後嚢膜下付近に出現していた.第I群にみられた水晶体皮質混濁の頻度は他の群との間に有意差を認めなかった.

その他の眼の先天性異常 表9に示すように第Ⅰ群の 1名に先天性の眼振が認められ、第Ⅱ群にも1名認めら noted in Group I, and one in Group II. The mother of the patient in Group I also had nystagmus. In Group I, two cases had strabismus, but one case had cerebral palsy. No case was noted in Group II. There was no difference in the prevalence of these congenital abnormalities between the three comparison groups.

DISCUSSION

In Japan the national average prevalence of visual disability (myopia) among high school students (16-18 years old) is 32.8% in males and 34.4% in females. ¹³ In the present study also, visual disability was more frequent among females. However, the prevalence in Group I and Group II is lower than the national average, and only the prevalence in Group III is similar to the national average.

In the 1954 study, the prevalence of visual disability was significantly higher in 16-19 year-old subjects who were within 1800 m from the hypocenter than in persons of the same age who were beyond 1800 m. In the present study, no such difference was observed between these two distance groupings, however, the subjects of study were different. Those in the former study were 7-10 years old ATB while those in the present study were in utero.

The prevalence of visual disability was greater in this study than in the 1958-59 survey. However, as in the previous survey there is no evidence of significant difference in visual disability and mean visual acuity between the comparison groups. Also, as in the previous survey, 9 in Group I the mean visual acuity of both sexes combined in the 1st trimester component was significantly poorer than that of the third trimester component because the mean visual acuity (20/200) of the females who were in the 1st trimester of gestation and whose mothers had acute radiation symptoms was significantly less than that (20/48.9) of females whose mother had no such symptoms (t=3.27, df=29, p=0.01-0.001).

Segmental iris heterochromia was not found among Group I. This is consistent with the report that children exposed in utero to radiation do not have increased frequency of heterochromia iridis. However, the number of subjects in the present study was insufficient for a definitive conclusion.

In Nagasaki, the fetal, neonatal, and infant death rates were significantly elevated among those who were exposed in utero. ¹⁴ This is one factor limiting the number who might have developed segmentary discoloration of the iris. The many subjects available in Hiroshima offer better opportunity for resolving this problem.

考察

高校生 (16-18歳) の視力障害 (近視) の日本全国平均は 男児32.8%, 女児34.4%である.¹³ 本調査においても女 児により多く視力障害がみられた. しかし第 Ⅰ 群と第 Ⅱ 群の視力障害頻度は全国平均よりも低く, 第 Ⅲ 群の頻度 のみが全国平均並みであった.

1954年の被爆児調査では16-19歳の1800 m未満の被爆群の視力障害の頻度は、1800 m以遠の被爆群に比べて有意に高かった.8 本調査においてはこのような有意差は2つの被爆距離群間にはなかった.しかし調査対象が異なっていた.今回の調査は胎内被爆児が対象であるが、前回の調査対象者は被爆時年齢が7-10歳であった.

1958-59年の調査時よりも本調査時の方が視力障害の頻度が増加しているが、前回の調査と同様、各比較群間に視力障害および平均視力について有意差がない。第 I 群において男女合計の妊娠前期群の平均視力が後期群に比べて有意に劣っている。これは前回の調査9と同様妊娠前期群の女児のうち、母親に急性放射線症候群のあった群の平均視力(20/200)は急性放射線症候群のなかった群の平均視力(20/48.9)よりも有意に劣っていたためである(t=3.27, df=29, p=0.01-0.001)。

分節状虹彩異色症が第 I 群にみられなかった.これは胎内で放射線を受けたこどもに必ずしも分節状虹彩異色症が多く出現するとはかぎらないといわれていることと一致する.3 しかし本調査の調査対象数がじゅうぶんでなかったうらみがある.

長崎では胎内で被爆した者の中に胎児、新生児および乳幼児死亡が有意に高いことが認められている. 14 このことが被爆により分節状虹彩異色症になる可能性のあった症例の数が制限された1つの要因となったのである. 広島においては調査対象も多いので、この問題を解明するのによい機会があるようである.

The prevalence of heterochromic spots or nevi of the iris in the present study (15%-17%) is markedly higher than in other studies in Japan (3.8%). This may be due to the difference in diagnostic criteria chosen for heterochromic spots or nevi of the iris.

Persistent pupillary membrane and persistent hyaloid artery were more frequently found in Group I and Group II than in Group III. These abnormalities are thought to be caused by the delay of absorption and disappearance of the fetal pupillary vascular membrane and hyaloid artery during the fetal period and it might be speculated that exposure to the atomic bomb is a parameter related to these effects. However, these abnormalities were noted at no greater frequency in Group I than in Group II who presumably would not have been affected by irradiation from the atomic bomb. In addition, among Group I, no difference is noted in the prevalence of these abnormalities by distance from hypocenter or trimester of pregnancy.

This suggests that the delay of absorption or disappearance was related to factors other than radiation; a possible cause being the effects of poor nutrition of the mothers who experienced the atomic bomb. At that time the food situation in Nagasaki was extremely unfavorable and the nutrition of mothers is considered to have been extraordinarily poor. This could have had considerable effect on the fetus causing delay of absorption and disappearance of the pupillary vascular membrane and hyaloid artery.

The hypothesis that development of minor ophthalmologic malformation was due to poor maternal nutrition would be consistent with the report that most cases of stillbirth, neonatal death and most children with congenital malformation are born of mothers whose nutrition was extraordinarily poor during pregnancy. ¹⁶ Animal experiments indicate that ophthalmologic malformation and other congenital deformities are caused by nutritional and vitamin deficiencies. ¹⁷

Lenticular opacities including small vacuoles were found more frequently in Group I and Group II than in Group III, but no significance was noted in the prevalence of lenticular opacities between these comparison groups. In Group I, it might be expected that lenticular opacities would be significantly increased in the group within 1400 m as with the radiation cataract study, but there was no difference between this group and those beyond 1401 m. Thus, it may be that fetal eye development also was affected more by the mother's unfavorable nutritional situation ATB than by any special effect of the atomic bomb. A conclusive study could only be made in Hiroshima where a larger study sample is available.

今回の調査において虹彩異色斑あるいは色素母斑の頻度 (15%-17%)は,今日までの日本の調査(3.8%)に比べて非常に高率である. 15 これはおそらく診断の基準が異なるためと考えられる.

瞳孔膜遺残,硝子体動脈遺残は第Ⅲ群よりも第Ⅰ,第Ⅱ群に多く認められた.これらの異常は胎生期の水晶体を包む血管膜および硝子体動脈の吸収,消失が胎生期間中に遅延したために出現したのではないかと考えられ,またそれは原子爆弾に被爆した影響に応じていろいろ異なった状態として現われているのではないかと考えられる.しかし原子爆弾の放射線照射の影響がないのではないかと考えられる第Ⅱ群より第Ⅰ群にこれらの異常がより多く出現しているということはなかった.それに加えて第Ⅰ群においてもこれらの異常の頻度は爆心地からの距離あるいは妊娠期別による差が認められなかったのである.

これは放射線よりも他の要因によって吸収消失が遅延したことを示している。すなわち、原子爆弾に被爆した母親の栄養低下が多分原因となった可能性がある。被爆当時における長崎の食糧事情は非常に悪く、ことに母親の栄養は最悪の状態にあったと考えられる。これが胎児に影響して水晶体血管膜、硝子体動脈の吸収、消失を遅延せしめた原因と考えられる。

妊娠中の母親の栄養が不良であるために、微細な眼科的 奇形が発生するという仮説は死産、新生児死亡の大部分 あるいは先天性奇形のあるこどもの大部分の母親が、妊娠中に栄養が特に悪かったものに出現していることと一致 するようである.¹⁶ また動物実験により、一部栄養素あるいはビタミンの不足から眼の奇形その他の先天性奇形の発生をみている.¹⁷

水晶体の小さな空胞を含む水晶体混濁は第Ⅲ群よりも第Ⅰ,第Ⅱ群に多くみられた。しかしこれらの比較群の間には水晶体混濁の頻度に有意差は認められなかった。白内障に関する調査と同様に,第Ⅰ群において水晶体混濁が著しく出現すると考えられたが,1400m未満群と1401m以遠群との間に有意差はなかった。この結果から原子爆弾の特別な影響よりも,母親の被爆当時のよくない栄養状態の方が胎児の眼の発育状態により影響を及ぼしたのかもしれない。結論的な調査は,より大きな調査対象標本が得られる広島においてのみなされうるのである。

SUMMARY

An ophthalmologic study was conducted from August 1963 to March 1964 on 266 children who were in utero at the time of the atomic bomb.

Visual disability was more frequently noted in the children whose mothers were not in the city at the time of the bomb, but no differences were noted by sex or by distance from hypocenter for those within the city. In the group within 2000 m, no differences were found by distance or trimester of pregnancy.

Segmental iris heterochromia was not seen, but heterochromic spots or nevi of the iris were found in 17% of the subjects. No differences were noted by sex and comparison group.

Persistent pupillary membrane and persistent hyaloid artery were more frequently noted in the within-city groups. A difference considered statistically significant was found in the prevalence of pupillary membrane between the within-city and the not-in-city groups. However, in the group within 2000 m the prevalence did not differ by distance and trimester of pregnancy.

Lenticular opacities including small vacuoles were more frequently found in the within-city groups, but no statistically significant differences were observed between those within 2000 m and those not-in-city at the time of the bomb.

要約

原爆時に胎内にいた胎内被爆児集団の調査対象 266 名について, 眼科調査が1963年8月から1964年3月までの間に実施された.

原爆時,長崎市に在住していなかった母親から生まれたこどもの視力障害が高率に認められた。しかし長崎市に在住していた母親から生まれた群には、性別、爆心地からの距離別による差がなかった。2000m未満の胎内被爆児群には距離別、妊娠期別による差がなかった。

分節状虹彩異色症は認められなかった. しかし虹彩の異色斑あるいは色素母斑は対象者の17%に認めら た. 性別, 比較群別による差は認められなかった.

瞳孔膜遺残および硝子体動脈遺残は原爆時母親が長崎市に在住していた群に、より多く認められた。瞳孔膜遺残の頻度は、原爆時母親が長崎市に在住していた群と在住していなかった群との間に統計学的に有意差が認められた。しかし2000m未満の胎内被爆群の頻度には距離別、妊娠期別による差がなかった。

水晶体内の小空胞を含む水晶体混濁は原爆時,母親が長崎市内に在住していた群に多くみられたが,原爆時母親が爆心から2000m未満で被爆した群と原爆時母親が長崎市に在住していなかった非被爆群との間には統計学的に有意な差がみられなかった.

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