

# ***Acanthocheilonema viteae* in *Mastomys coucha*: Chemotherapeutic and Chemoprophylactic Role of Vitamin A in Experimental Filarial Infection**

Sunita Bhatnagar<sup>a,\*</sup>, Shailja Bhattacharya<sup>b</sup>, and R. K. Chatterjee<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Regional Plant Resource Centre, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar 751015, India.  
E-mail: sunita\_bhatnagar@hotmail.com

<sup>b</sup> Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow 226001, India

\* Author for correspondence and reprint requests

Z. Naturforsch. **61c**, 285–288 (2006); received August 11/September 16, 2005

The role of vitamin A was evaluated for its chemotherapeutic and chemoprophylactic action against *Acanthocheilonema viteae* infection in *Mastomys coucha*. Vitamin A was administered for 10 days, five days before infection and five days post infection. On day 0 experimental animals as well as controls were infected with L3, the infective stage. Establishment of the worms revealed significantly less percentage of worm recovery over untreated controls. Cell-mediated response was found to be the cause of this reduction in worm recovery, whereas humoral response was not significant as IgG, IgA and IgM titres were low.

*Key words:* *Acanthocheilonema viteae*, *Mastomys coucha*, Vitamin A