

# Determination of Trace Elements in Liver, Serum and Plasma of Mice by PIXE and Instrumental Neutron Activation Analyses (IV)

Makoto Yanaga, Hitomi Maetsu, Yumi Kawamoto, Mariko Koike,  
Takanori Ogi, Takuya Ohyama, Motoko Noguchi<sup>\*1</sup>, Hideo Suganuma,  
Syoji Futatsugawa<sup>\*2</sup> and Kouichiro Sera<sup>\*3</sup>

Radiochemistry Research Laboratory, Faculty of Science, Shizuoka University  
*836 Ohya, Shizuoka 422-8529, Japan*

\*1 Department of Biology and Geosciences, Faculty of Science, Shizuoka University  
*836 Ohya, Shizuoka 422-8529, Japan*

\*2 Nishina Memorial Cyclotron Center, Japan Radioisotope Association  
*348-58 Tomegamori, Takizawa 020-0173, Japan*

\*3 Cyclotron Research Center, Iwate Medical University  
*348-58 Tomegamori, Takizawa 020-0173, Japan*

## Abstract

Effects of slight zinc deficiency on concentrations of trace elements in various organs and tissues of mice were investigated. Eight-week old male mice of ICR strain were divided into four groups, and fed with diet containing different concentration of zinc, <1, 3, 7, and 30  $\mu\text{g/g}$ , respectively, for one or three weeks. Concentrations of twelve elements in liver, kidney, pancreas, testis, and bone were determined by instrumental neutron activation analysis. Zinc concentration in plasma was also determined by PIXE analytical technique. Zinc concentrations in bone and pancreas were decreased with a decrease of zinc content in diets. Contrary to the zinc concentration, cobalt concentrations were increased in the reverse order. It is concluded that not only serious but slight zinc deficiency effects on the metabolism of trace elements in organs and tissues, although no apparent symptoms due to zinc deficiency were recognized.