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THE DISTRIBUTION AND MICROSCOPIC APPEARANCE  
OF HEMATOPOIETIC CELLS IN THE HUMAN MANDIBLE

Anthony P. Urbanek D.D.S.  
B.S., John Carroll University, 1969  
D.D.S., Indiana University School of Dentistry, 1973

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The following degree committee of the Department of Anatomy, Indiana University Medical Center, Indianapolis, Indiana, approves this thesis as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Science degree.

John F. Schmedtje

John F. Schmedtje, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Committee Chairman

Ralph A. Jersild Jr.

Ralph A. Jersild Jr., Ph.D.  
Professor

Richard C Webster

Richard C. Webster, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor

June 8, 1973  
Date

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## VI. SUMMARY

The relative size, shape, and distribution of marrow spaces within the mandible were studied. Once the areas of the mandible that would most likely contain marrow were elucidated, bone smears were studied to confirm the presence or absence of active marrow cells.

The gross trabecular pattern within the mandible was studied by using 34 hemisected and dried human mandibles. Photographs and radiographs were taken of each specimen. The mandibles were then embedded in blocks of methyl methacrylate and cut coronally into sections. In this manner, a comparison of the trabecular pattern seen grossly in cross section and that seen radiographically could be confirmed and elucidated directly.

Evidence indicates that trabecular bone patterns within the mandible is not related to sex or age. A method was proposed which would enable one to quantitate marrow within the mandible or any other bone.

Intra-oral mandibular punctures and marrow smears were made from three humans, immediately post mortem. Active red marrow cells are present in the middle

(body) and posterior (angle and ramus) positions within the mandible. The cell populations of these marrow smears do not differ significantly from those taken from the sternums of normal individuals.