SUMMARY

1) The following membrane components of human erythrocyte were isolated and partially purified: spectrin, GAPD, glycoporphorin (PAS I), Band 3 protein, and phospholipids.

2) Each of the above components were individually tested for their effect on complement lysis in an assay system comprising human red cells and heterologous human serum.

3) Soluble spectrin and soluble GAPD (both membrane-bound and cytosol in origin) inhibited complement lysis whereas glycoporphorin and phospholipids did not. Membrane-bound spectrin and GAPD did not inhibit complement lysis.

4) Using cross immunoelectrophoresis, degraded product of J3 was detected after incubation of serum with spectrin, but not with GAPD.

5) It is suggested that soluble GAPD acts as a feed back inhibitor during complement lysis of red cells in vivo.
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