Changes to the migratory inhibitory factor, IL-17, and IL-10 levels in serum from chronic hepatitis B patients and clinical significance following Baraclude® treatment

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ABSTRACT. This study aimed to determine the relationship between changes in the serum levels of macrophage migratory inhibitory factor (MIF), interleukin (IL) 17, and IL-10 during chronic hepatitis B treatment via Baraclude® (Bristol-Meyers Squibb). Thirty-six patients with chronic hepatitis B and 24 healthy individuals were selected as the experimental and control groups, respectively, and the serum levels of MIF, IL-17, and IL-10 were measured during the period in which the experimental group was treated with oral Baraclude®; meanwhile, the alanine aminotransferase (ALT), hepatitis B virus (HBV) DNA, and HBV marker (M) levels were measured in the experimental group. In the experimental group, the ALT and HBV-DNA levels began to exhibit obvious decreases in week 4, and the MIF and IL-17 levels exhibited obvious increases in week 4 followed by gradual decreases; however, the IL-10 level exhibited an obvious decrease in week 12 and then...
increased gradually. These changes were significant when compared with the control group (P < 0.05). In conclusion, Baraclude® treatment not only actively suppressed HBV but also indirectly balanced the MIF, IL-17, and IL-10 levels and reduced the liver inflammatory response.

**Key words:** Chronic Hepatitis; Migratory inhibitory factor; Baraclude®; IL-17; IL-10