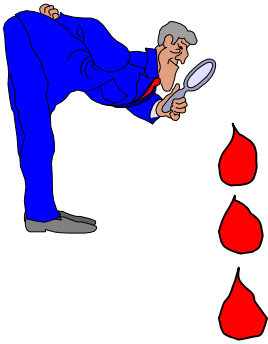


ANOTHER *BLOODY* NEWSLETTER!

April 2001



Farewell! We wish to say a heartfelt goodbye to Suzanne Wingfield, who is retiring after 17+ years of service. She will surely be missed. Good luck in her future endeavors!

Sample collection tips:

- **Small animal venipunctures:** Since at least 1 ml of blood is needed in a 2 ml EDTA tube, and at least 3 ml of blood is needed in a small clot tube, using a 3 ml syringe is insufficient. Please use a 6 ml syringe for routine venipunctures, fill the EDTA tube, and place the remainder in the clot tube. This will avoid dilution and shrinkage artifact in the CBC results, and provide enough serum to complete all chemistry tests requested.

- Please submit specimens for coagulation studies promptly. These tubes need to be spun and the tests run as soon as possible.

Hematology by the Advia 120:

The hemoglobin result is read photometrically. This result, and the corresponding MCHC can be skewed because of lipemia in the blood. Therefore, in lipemic and hemolyzed specimens, the more accurate Calculated Hemoglobin and CHCM are reported. The Advia determines the density and size of the red cells. These parameters are not affected by lipemia. The CHCM

is derived from the Calculated Hemoglobin. These parameters are reported in the "Tech comment" field.

Emergency service: There are several instruments the emergency tech must start up each morning. Please avoid interrupting the tech in the morning for optimal turn-around time. Our techs are responsible for Clinical Pathology and Radiology requests during emergency hours; a single tech cannot accommodate the needs of both departments at the same time. Radiographs needed before 1 p.m. on weekends or holidays should be taken by the resident or intern on duty. Exceptions include a lack of Clinical Pathology workload after 10 a.m. or life threatening emergencies. The emergency tech will take radiographs requested between 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Prioritization of Clin Path vs. Radiology may be required at any time.

Student Lab: The student lab will be cleaned daily, and all slides left out will be thrown away. If you wish a slide to be saved, please take it with you.

Respectfully submitted by Cherie Heger

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