COMMUNICATIONS

Letter to the Editor:

WANTED: DISCUSSION GROUP ON THE INTERNET

As a medical laboratory scientist and instructor in transfusion medicine working in Canada, I would like to communicate with colleagues around the world using both electronic mail (e-mail) and a USENET news group dealing exclusively with transfusion medicine. With a news group (similar to a bulletin board system, or BBS), we could discuss common problems and share information and answers to questions informally and quickly.

I have recently had my home and work computers connected to the Internet via my employer's central computer. You do not need to be connected to the Internet (an international network of millions of computers in more than 40 countries) to use e-mail or a USENET news group. But if you work in a hospital, college, university, or other large institution, you may already have an Internet connection available to you, and access to it may be free or next-to-free of charge. Students at universities can also often gain free access to the Internet. (Note: The services are not really free: the institution pays and the individual employee or student uses the services free of charge.)

From my searches of news groups to which my employer subscribes, I have not found one dedicated to transfusion medicine. I am writing to ask anyone interested in communicating via e-mail about transfusion medicine, or in setting up a transfusion medicine news group, to contact me at my address below or via my e-mail address: plentendr@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca. Thank you.

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Editor-in-Chief

BOOK REVIEW


This excellent handbook should be made available to all persons needing quick, concise information on clinical and serologic aspects of transfusion medicine. The book is divided into three sections: the first section is devoted to clinical aspects of red cell transfusion, the second explains donor selection and compatibility testing for patients with antibody problems, and the third lists the clinical significance and technical aspects of an exhaustive list of blood group alloantibodies.

I was surprised, at first, when I noticed that the