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: pletendr @ gpu.srv.ualberta.ca.

Thank you.

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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

Letter From the Editor-in-Chief:

10th ANNIVERSARY GIFT AND RH ISSUE

The 10th anniversary of Immunohematology, Journal of Blood Group Serology and Education is in 1994. To celebrate this occasion, and to thank our subscribers and authors, we will be sending them a gift—a standing magazine file for the journals—with the December 1994 issue. The file holds up to 20 issues (5 years of Immunohematology).

The December issue of Immunohematology will be a very special one. It will feature articles on the Rh Blood Group System. To date, five articles have been accepted for publication. They include some very exciting information, such as the new phenotype Rh:-32,-46, autoimmune hemolytic anemia in a D-negative person due to autoanti-D, autoanti-LW in an infant, and the impact of anti-V, VS on finding compatible blood for multiply transfused patients. Dr. Peter Issitt has agreed to contribute an editorial in which he will discuss the contribution of each Rh paper selected for publication. This should be an exciting issue to finish the 10th year of publication and launch the journal into its 11th year.

Delores Mallory
Editor-in-Chief

IMMUNOHEMATOLOGY, VOLUME 10, NUMBER 2, 1994
authors did not use references. They explain in the Foreword that the information and recommendations in the book reflect their combined experience and knowledge of more than 80 years. Omitting references has enabled the authors to write a book in which every sentence is concise and informative.

The tables in this book are some of the best I have ever seen. For the physician, there is a table listing standard blood orders for different surgical procedures and a table that provides concise information on 79 red cell antibodies.

Section 3 is unique in that it consists entirely of a summary of "clinical" and "technical" facts about antibodies found in 22 blood group systems and 5 blood group collections, all listed by International Society of Blood Transfusion (ISBT) number, and 12 other blood group antibodies. Without elaboration, everything you need to know about blood group antibodies can be found in these 43 pages.

I found the book easy to handle (it is small and lightweight), and the print very readable. It is one of the best handbooks currently available for persons who need concise and quick information on clinical aspects and laboratory practice of red cell transfusion without the encumbrance of references and details of historical studies.

Mary H. McGinnis, AB(ASCP)SBB
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American Red Cross Immunohematology
 Methods and Procedures, 1993

Corrections to the Microwave Elution Method

Page 80-1
Error: Method B
Correction: Method B

This method uses a microwave probe.

Page 80-2
Error: Procedure
Correction: Procedure

5. Verify that the temperature achieved is 55–62°C.

Page 80-2
Error: References
Correction: References

1. McCullough JS...

Page 80-2
Error: Reagents
Correction: Reagents


Page 80-2
Error: Procedure
Correction: Procedure

4. Put 90 mL of cold tap water into a tall 5 oz. plastic specimen cup.

Page 80-2
Error: Procedure
Correction: Procedure

4. Put 90 mL of cold tap water into a tall 5 oz. plastic specimen cup (Sage Inc., catalog no. 2200).

(The shape, size, and composition of the cup affects the procedure: substitution with other types of specimen cups may produce poor results.)

Page 80-2
Error: Procedure
Correction: Procedure

7. Set the microwave oven temperature to 45°C.

CORRECTION

Note: Purchasers of the American Red Cross Immunohematology Methods and Procedures—please note the following corrections for the Microwave Elution Method. Any other corrections that come to our attention and that would have an impact on the correct use of a method or procedure will be published in future issues. We welcome notification of any errors that you may find. All such corrections will be incorporated into a second printing, or into a second edition when it is published.