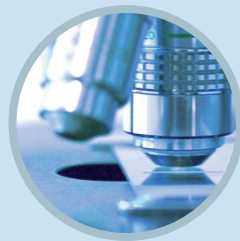


Preanalysis

Edited by

Hans-Peter Seelig



Preface

Preanalysis is an important aspect in quality management of laboratory medicine. In 2003 our Laboratory edited a small booklet concerning preanalytical aspects of laboratory medicine as an accompanying work script for participants of a series of “Preanalysis Workshops” held in the laboratory in Karlsruhe. A second, some more extended edition of the booklet was launched in 2006, upgraded by a conspectus of functional tests. The actual, completely revised and far more extended German edition of “Preanalysis” was written in 2008 and simultaneously translated in English (J.O.S and H.-P.S) to serve as laboratory pre-test tutorial for the foreign customers of our laboratories, their doctors and patients, less familiar with the German language.

The actual English and German version of “Preanalysis” intends to introduce more thoroughly practitioners, clinicians and their co-workers to the varied problems of laboratory tests in their preanalytic phases, such as scheduling of patients and collection, preparation, storage and transport of samples to the laboratory, principles of streamlined test selection by means of evaluation of diagnostic test quality. It has been accommodated to technical innovations and legal reforms. The new edition also has been expanded by an overview on quality considerations of laboratory tests (chapter 9) and an introduction to microscopy (chapter 10). A great body of the new edition concerns to proper sample acquisition for clinical chemistry, immunological, microbiological or molecular genetic analyses, which may be important for people involved in healthcare anywhere.

I am very indebted to my laboratory co-workers Dr. med. Andrea Dornbach (Microbiological Laboratory), Dr. med. Gabriele Schlüter (Human Genetics), Dr. med. B. Miller and Dr. rer. nat. L. Schleithoff (Molecular Genetics), Dr. rer. nat. P. Schranz (Cellular Immunology), PD Dr. med. M. Volkmann (Clinical Chemistry) and the many other people of our laboratory, as well as to Dr. Sigrid Hake (Berlin), for their help, advices and suggestions.

Especially, I want to appreciate to my secretary Mrs. Anita Kubus for her excellent and painstaking editorial and photographic work and to Mr. K. Hotoran (IT-Department) for his skilful performance of all the computer drawings.

We are very indebted to Mr. T. Graham, Olympus Germany GmbH, Hamburg, for revising the English text.

Karlsruhe, June 2008

Hans-Peter Seelig

Until recently a small booklet of Preanalysis edited in 2006 could be downloaded from this site.

Now a revised and far more extended edition of preanalysis edited in 2008 is available. This book can be obtained either in German or English language. Its objective is to inform practitioners, surgeons and hospital doctors and their co-workers about important, but often underappreciated preanalytic problems of laboratory testing, thus improving the quality of analyses, shortening test turn around time and supporting better medical diagnoses.

Customers of our Laboratory may order the book at no charge via the attached link, other interested parties may order the book at net cost price (25.00 €).

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