CITRATED PLATELET COUNT

PRINCIPLES

EDTA (Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid) is a commonly used anticoagulant for determination of complete blood counts. Associated with this anticoagulant is a phenomenon that is known to cause an erroneous report of low platelet counts by automated analyzers. This EDTA-induced pseudo-thrombocytopenia (PTCP) has been reported rarely in both normal individuals and in association with a variety of diseases, such as infections with HIV, rubella, CMV, autoimmune disorders, neoplastic diseases, thrombotic disorders and possibly trauma. This condition is commonly associated with hospitalized patients, especially seriously ill ones although less common in healthy individuals.

SAFETY

All reagents and controls should be handled as though capable of transmitting infectious diseases. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment when running patient samples or performing scheduled maintenance.
Refer to Safety Manual Infection Control and Procedures.

PROCEDURE

Step	Action
1.	Run the specimen in the instrument as soon as possible. Platelet is known to decrease in a citrated tube if left unprocessed. Prepare a slide for platelet estimate.
2.	In Cerner ARE Instrument Queue, click “Perform.” Note: Dilution factor is calculated by LIS.
3.	Review slide
4.	Under ARE Accession, click on PLT EST button and select appropriate platelet estimate result.
5.	Click “Verify” to release value.

Controlled Documents

The following controlled documents support this procedure.

Reference
1. Koepke, John. Practical Laboratory Hematology. Churchill Livingstone Inc. 1991.
2. Cornbleet J., *Spurious results from automated hematology cell counters. Lab Medicine.* 1983

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Document History Page

Change type: New, Major, Minor etc.	Changes Made to SOP – describe	Name of responsible person/date	Med. Dir. Reviewed/ Date	Director of Lab Ops. reviewed/ date	Date change Implemented
Minor	1. Regional Template Update 2. Revised index no.	Yvette R Lingat 3/20/2020		Mary Lou Beaumont	4/28/2020