

## TRAINING UPDATE

**Lab Location:** GEC, SGMC & WAH  
**Department:** Core

**Date Distributed:** 4/15/2016  
**Due Date:** 5/9/2016  
**Implementation:** 5/10/2016

### DESCRIPTION OF PROCEDURE REVISION

<b>Name of procedure:</b>
<b>Cell Count and Differential, CSF GEC.H06, SGAH.H08, WAH.H09 v4</b>
<b>Description of change(s):</b>
<p>Section 8.1: Replace specific centrifugation instruction with referral to posted instruction</p> <p><b>This revised SOP will be implemented on May 10, 2016</b></p>

Document your compliance with this training update by taking the quiz in the MTS system.

Approved draft for training (version 4)

Technical SOP

<b>Title</b>	<b>Cell Count and Differential, CSF</b>	
<b>Prepared by</b>	Cynthia Reidenauer	Date: 3/21/2011
<b>Owner</b>	Robert SanLuis	Date: 11/26/2013

<b>Laboratory Approval</b>		<b>Local Effective Date:</b>
Print Name	Signature	Date
<i>Refer to the electronic signature page for approval and approval dates.</i>		

<b>Review</b>		
Print Name	Signature	Date

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1. Test Information .....2  
 2. Analytical Principle .....3  
 3. Specimen Requirements .....3  
 4. Reagents.....4  
 5. Calibrators/Standards.....6  
 6. Quality Control .....6  
 7. Equipment and Supplies .....8  
 8. Procedure .....9  
 9. Calculations .....12  
 10. Reporting Results and Repeat Criteria .....12  
 11. Expected Values .....13  
 12. Clinical Significance.....13  
 13. Procedure Notes.....15  
 14. Limitations of Method .....16  
 15. Safety .....16  
 16. Related Documents .....16  
 17. References.....16  
 18. Revision History .....17  
 19. Addenda.....17

**1. TEST INFORMATION**

Assay	Method/Instrument	Local Code
Cell Count and Differential, CSF	Manual/Microscopic	CCTD
CSF Cell Ct diff ER ONLY (WAH only)		CCNDE
CSF Cell Ct tube number 1 ER ONLY, additional test (SGMC)		CRB1

Synonyms/Abbreviations
CSF Count, Cerebrospinal Fluid Cell Count, Spinal Fluid Count

Department
Hematology

Form revised 7/01/01

**2. ANALYTICAL PRINCIPLE**

Gross examination of the specimen is performed to determine the appearance. A microscopic examination is performed for the Total Nucleated Cell count (TNC) and Red Blood Cell count (RBC). Smears for cell identification are prepared using cyto-centrifuge or conventional centrifuge. Nucleated cell identification/ differential counts are done on Wright's Stained smears prepared using a cyto-centrifuge or smeared sediment from clinical centrifugation.

**3. SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS**

**3.1 Patient Preparation**

Component	Special Notations
<b>Fasting/Special Diets</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Specimen Collection and/or Timing</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Special Collection Procedures</b> All SGMC and GEC patients; WAH other than ED patients SGMC other than ED patients	Specimens are usually collected in three sterile tubes labeled 1, 2, and 3 in the order in which they are withdrawn. Tube 1 is used for chemical and serological tests, tube 2 is used for Microbiology, tube 3 is used for the cell count because it is the least likely to contain cells introduced by the spinal tap procedure. A minimum of 0.5 mL is required for the cell count.
<b>Special Collection Procedures</b> <u>WAH ED patients only</u>	Specimens are usually collected in four sterile tubes labeled 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the order in which they are withdrawn. Tube 1 is used for Cell count, tube 2 is used for chemical and serological tests, tube 3 is used for Microbiology, tube 4 is used for the cell count and diff because it is the least likely to contain cells introduced by the spinal tap procedure. A minimum of 0.5 mL is required for the cell count.
<b>Special Collection Procedures</b> <u>SGMC ED patients only</u>	Perform testing as described for non-ED patients and add cell count on tube 1. A minimum of 0.5 mL is required for the cell count.
<b>Other</b>	Not Applicable

**3.2 Specimen Type & Handling**

Criteria	
<b>Type -Preferred</b>	CSF – tube #3 or #4 (see Section 3.1) <i>If only one tube is received, perform all testing on that tube.</i> <b>Note: If only 3 tubes are received for a WAH ED or SGMC ED patient, follow the testing pattern for non-</b>

Criteria	
<b>-Other Acceptable</b>	<b>ED patients but also do a cell count on tube #1 before it is spun for chemistry / serological testing.</b> None
<b>Collection Container</b>	Sterile Plastic Conical Tube
<b>Volume - Optimum</b>	2.0 mL
<b>- Minimum</b>	0.5 mL
<b>Transport Container and Temperature</b>	Sterile Plastic Conical Tube at room temperature
<b>Stability &amp; Storage Requirements</b>	Room Temperature: Rapid deterioration and cell lysis occurs on prolonged standing in CSFs, the sample should be processed STAT and the count should be performed as soon as it is received. Stable for 24 hrs.
	Refrigerated: Same as above.
	Frozen: Unacceptable
<b>Timing Considerations</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Unacceptable Specimens &amp; Actions to Take</b>	<b>Clotted specimens</b> - perform counts and append the comment: <i>"Specimen contains clots, counts may not be accurate."</i> <b>Specimens received after 24 hours</b> - perform the counts and append the comment: <i>"Counts may not be accurate due to the age of the specimen."</i> Due to nature of specimen, do not reject, unless frozen. If the specimen is received frozen, cancel the test with the comment: <i>"Specimen unsuitable for assay; received frozen."</i> Notify a caregiver and document in the LIS.
<b>Compromising Physical Characteristics</b>	None defined
<b>Other Considerations</b>	None defined

#### 4. REAGENTS

Refer to the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) supplied with the reagents for complete safety hazards. Refer to the section in this procedure covering "SAFETY" for additional information.

##### 4.1 Reagent Summary

Reagents	Supplier & Catalog Number
Rinse	Wescor, SS-035A
Thiazin	Wescor, SS035/049B
Eosin	Wescor, SS-035C
Methanol	Wescor, SS-MEOH
Aerofix	Wescor, SS-148

Form revised 7/01/01

0.9% Saline	Thermo 0.9% Saline cat # 23535435
22% Albumin (Obtain from Blood Bank)	Immucor CE 0088
Diff Quick Stain Pak (GEC only)	Siemens
0.005% Methylene Blue Diluting Fluid	Chantilly reagent room

#### 4.2 Reagent Preparation and Storage

**NOTE: Date and initial all reagents upon opening. Each container must be labeled with (1) substance name, (2) lot number, (3) date of preparation, (4) expiration date, (5) initials of tech, (6) any special storage instructions; check for visible signs of degradation.**

<b>Reagent</b>	<b>Wescor Aerospray Rinse</b>
<b>Container</b>	Plastic Bottle
<b>Storage</b>	Room temperature
<b>Stability</b>	Manufacturer's expiration date
<b>Preparation</b>	Ready to use

<b>Reagent</b>	<b>Wescor Aerospray Thiazin</b>
<b>Container</b>	Plastic Bottle
<b>Storage</b>	Room temperature
<b>Stability</b>	Manufacturer's expiration date
<b>Preparation</b>	Ready to use

<b>Reagent</b>	<b>Wescor Aerospray Eosin</b>
<b>Container</b>	Plastic Bottle
<b>Storage</b>	Room temperature
<b>Stability</b>	Manufacturer's expiration date
<b>Preparation</b>	Ready to use

<b>Reagent</b>	<b>Wescor Aerospray Aerofix</b>
<b>Container</b>	Plastic Bottle
<b>Storage</b>	Room temperature
<b>Stability</b>	Manufacturer's expiration date
<b>Preparation</b>	Add 10 ml to Methanol and mix well prior to use.

<b>Reagent</b>	<b>0.9% Saline (Obtain fresh daily from Blood Bank)</b>
<b>Container</b>	Plastic Bottle
<b>Storage</b>	Room temperature

Form revised 7/01/01

<b>Stability</b>	24 hours, working supply in hematology. Open expiration on container in Blood Bank is 30 days.
<b>Preparation</b>	Ready to use

<b>Reagent</b>	<b>22% Bovine Albumin</b>
<b>Container</b>	Glass Bottle 10 ml
<b>Storage</b>	1°-10° C for long term storage
<b>Stability</b>	Stable until expiration date on the bottle. If turbid, discard.
<b>Preparation</b>	Ready to use

<b>Reagent</b>	<b>Diff Quick Stain Pack (GEC)</b>
<b>Container</b>	Plastic Bottle
<b>Storage</b>	Room temperature
<b>Stability</b>	Manufacturer's expiration date
<b>Preparation</b>	Ready to use

<b>Reagent</b>	<b>0.005% Methylene Blue Diluting Fluid. Obtain when needed from the reagent room in Chantilly.</b>
<b>Container</b>	Brown Glass Bottle
<b>Storage</b>	Room temperature
<b>Stability</b>	Manufacturer's expiration date. Aliquot small amount to use when needed. Stability of aliquot is 24 hours.
<b>Preparation</b>	Ready to use

**5. CALIBRATORS/STANDARDS**

Not applicable

**6. QUALITY CONTROL**

**6.1 Controls Used**

<b>Control</b>	<b>Supplier &amp; Catalog Number</b>
Cell-Chex 2ml each of L1-UC, L1-CC and L2	Streck Laboratories, Inc. Cat # 212431

**6.2 Control Preparation and Storage**

**NOTE: Date and initial all controls upon opening. Each container should be labeled with (1) substance name, (2) lot number, (3) date of preparation, (4) expiration date, (5) initials of tech, and (6) any special storage instructions; check for visible signs of degradation.**

Form revised 7/01/01

<b>Control</b>	Cell-Chex Level L1-UC, L1-CC and L2
<b>Preparation</b>	None. It is not necessary to warm the controls to room temperature before using.
<b>Storage/Stability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Store upright at 2-8°C</li><li>• Closed-vial stability 180 days.</li><li>• Open-vial stability 30 days</li></ul>

### 6.3 Frequency

- **Cell Count and Cytocentrifuge QC** is performed every 8 hours of patient testing for manual body fluid counting and per technologist.  
QC menu each level of controls is as follows:
  - L1-UC perform cell count and crystal exam
  - L1-CC perform a cytospin differential and a crystal exam
  - L2 perform cell count only**Note:** crystal exam only pertains to body fluid
- **Automated or Manual stain methods** is performed once per day. A smear must be reviewed on a daily basis to verify that the staining is adequate for differential of the various cells. The result of this review is documented in the manual Hematology QC book.
- Diluting fluid must be checked daily for contamination and documented. Refer to section 8.2

### 6.4 Tolerance Limits

- Cell count by Manual Hemacytometer:**  
QC values for Manual Hemacytometer are lot specific so check package insert for lot number and expiration date. The lot number and ranges for each lot in use will be available on the Cell Chex Log.
  - If both QC values are within 2 SD, patient results may be released.
  - If a control value is >2SD, repeat the control before running patient samples. If the repeat control is within 2SD, patient samples may be run.
  - If the repeat of the control value is still >2SD, further investigation is required before running patient samples.
- Differential %:**  
QC values for Differential % are lot specific so check package insert. The lot number and ranges for each lot in use will be available on the Cell Chex Differential Log.
- Corrective Action:**
  - All rejected runs must be effectively addressed through corrective action. Steps taken in response to QC failures must be documented. Patient samples in failed analytical runs must be reanalyzed.



- Corrective action documentation must include the following: The QC rule(s) (or specific QC criteria) violated, the root cause of the problem, steps taken to correct the problem, how patient samples were handled, and the date and initials of the person recording the information.

d) **Review of QC**

- Refer to SOP Laboratory Quality Control Program for more details.
- Upon weekly and monthly review of QC, if the SD's or CV's are greater than the above maximums, investigate the cause for the imprecision and document implementation of corrective actions.

**6.5 Review Patient Data**

Since only a few patient samples may be tested in one day, daily review for trends may not be applicable.

**6.6 Documentation**

QC results are recorded on the Cell Chex QC log sheets.

**6.7 Quality Assurance Program**

The laboratory participates in CAP proficiency testing.

**7. EQUIPMENT and SUPPLIES**

**7.1 Assay Platform**

Not applicable

**7.2 Equipment**

Equipment	Supplier
Microscope	Not specified
Wescor Aerospray Cyto centrifuge	Wescor, Inc
CytoTek centrifuge (GEC only)	Shandon

**7.3 Supplies**

Supply	Supplier & Catalog Number
Disposable Pipettes	Fisher Brand or equivalent
Hemocytometer (disposable) C-CHIP	InCyto co, Ltd DHC-N01-5 neubauer improved
MLA pipette and tips	Not specified
Disposable tubes	Not specified
Cover glass	Fisher Scientific, Cat. #12-544-10 or equivalent

Form revised 7/01/01

Supply	Supplier & Catalog Number
Microscope Slides	Fisher Scientific, Cat. #12-550-13 or equivalent
Petri Dish	Fisher Scientific, Cat. #08-757-12 or equivalent
Applicator Sticks	Bulk Pack, Multiple Vendors
Cytopro	Wescor, Cat. #SS-113

## 8. PROCEDURE

**NOTE: For all procedures involving specimens, buttoned lab coats, gloves, and face protection are required minimum personal protective equipment. Report all accidents to your supervisor.**

PROMPT EXAMINATION AFTER RECEIPT OF CSF IN THE LABORATORY IS ESSENTIAL FOR ACCURATE RESULTS. Cellular disintegration may occur if there is a delay in testing. If delay is unavoidable, refrigerate until testing can commence.

### 8.1 Color and Appearance

Step	Examination for Appearance and color
1.	Examine the CSF for appearance and color.
2.	If bloody, centrifuge the tube used for chemistry testing for <b>the time and speed posted on centrifuge 5 min. at 3400 rpm</b> to remove the cellular elements and report the color of the supernatant.
3.	Compare the supernatant to distilled water. Use the term xanthochromia for any orange, pink or yellow color.

### 8.2 Concentration

Step	Specimen Preparation
1.	Place a drop of Methylene Blue diluting fluid on a slide and coverslip. Examine under 100X for contamination with artifacts, crystals or bacteria, replace fluid if necessary. Record the examination on the Cell Count Worksheet. If the diluting fluid is acceptable to, proceed to specimen dilution.
2.	Inspect specimen to determine the appropriate dilution. a. All specimens will be diluted with 0.005% Methylene Blue Diluting fluid. b. The minimum dilution is 1:2. This will ensure distinction between RBC and TNC. Red Cells will not pick up the methylene blue stain and will appear agranular. Methylene Blue allows the visual distinction of nucleated cells by staining the granules a faint blue.
3.	Mix specimen well and make the appropriate dilution. Refer to dilution tables below.

Step	1:2 Dilution
1.	Perform the diluting fluid check as described above. If the diluting fluid is acceptable to use, proceed to dilution of the specimen.

Form revised 7/01/01

Step	1:2 Dilution
2.	Mix specimen well. Using a 100µL pipette, add 100µL of body fluid to 100µl of Methylene Blue Diluting Fluid. Mix dilution well. Let sit 10-15 minutes. <b>Dilution Factor is 2</b>
3.	Charge the two chambers of the hemacytometer by touching the tip of the pipette to the coverslip edge where it meets the chamber floor. The chamber will fill by capillary action if the hemacytometer and coverslip are clean.
4.	If the hemacytometer is overcharged, it must be discarded and a fresh one used.
5.	Place the charged hemacytometer in a humidified Petri dish for 10 minutes to allow the cells to settle.
6.	Place the hemacytometer on the microscope and examine. The area to be counted is adjusted according to the sample. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If less than 20 cells are present in one square, count all the squares.</li> <li>• If greater than 20 cells are present in one square, count the four corner squares only.</li> <li>• If greater than 200 cells are present in one square count 5 of the 25 squares in the middle square.</li> </ul> <b>ALWAYS USE THE AVERAGE COUNT FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE CHAMBER IN THE FORMULA.</b> Count the total number of rbc's and nucleated cells present on both sides. The sides should agree within 20%.
7.	Calculate the total number of RBCs and nucleated cells. Follow instructions on the Cell Count Worksheet to calculate results.
8.	All calculations must be recorded on worksheet.

Step	Diluted Specimen 1:10
1.	Perform the diluting fluid check as described above. If the diluting fluid is acceptable to use, proceed to dilution of the specimen.
2.	Mix specimen well. Using a 100µL pipette, add 100µL of body fluid to 900µl of Methylene Blue Diluting Fluid. Mix dilution well. Let sit 10-15 minutes. <b>Dilution Factor is 10</b>
3.	Charge a counting chamber (one pipette per side), using proper technique.
4.	Place in a Petri dish for about 10 minutes to let the cells settle.
5.	For counting guidelines, follow steps 6 through 8 for 1:2 Dilution

Step	Diluted Specimen 1:20
1.	Perform the diluting fluid check as described above. If the diluting fluid is acceptable to use, proceed to dilution of the specimen.
2.	Mix specimen well. Using a 50µL pipette, add 50µL of body fluid to 950µl of Methylene Blue diluting fluid. Mix dilution well. Let sit 10-15 minutes. <b>Dilution Factor is 20</b>
3.	Charge a counting chamber (one pipette per side), using proper technique.
4.	Place in a Petri dish for about 10 minutes to let the cells settle.
5.	For counting guidelines, follow steps 6 through 8 for 1:2 Dilution

Form revised 7/01/01

Step	Diluted Specimen 1:50
1.	Perform the diluting fluid check as described above. If the diluting fluid is acceptable to use, proceed to dilution of the specimen.
2.	Mix specimen well. Using a 20µL pipette, add 20µL of body fluid to 980µl of Methylene Blue Diluting Fluid. Mix dilution well. Let sit 10-15 minutes. <b>Dilution Factor is 50</b>
3.	Charge a counting chamber (one pipette per side), using proper technique.
4.	Place in a Petri dish for about 10 minutes to let the cells settle.
5.	For counting guidelines, follow steps 6 through 8 for 1:2 Dilution

Step	Diluted Specimen 1:100
1.	Perform the diluting fluid check as described above. If the diluting fluid is acceptable to use, proceed to dilution of the specimen.
2.	Mix specimen well. Using a 10µL pipette, add 10µL of body fluid to 990µl of Methylene Blue Diluting Fluid. Mix dilution well. Let sit 10-15 minutes. <b>Dilution Factor is 100</b>
3.	Charge a counting chamber (one pipette per side), using proper technique.
4.	Place in a Petri dish for about 10 minutes to let the cells settle.
5.	For counting guidelines, follow steps 6 through 8 for 1:2 Dilution

### 8.3 Differential Count

- Perform a differential cell count on a cytocentrifuged specimen using Wright’s stain or equivalent. The leukocytes are classified and reported as a percentage. Examine smear for the presence of immature or abnormal cells.
- If abnormal or immature cells are noted, refer to a Pathologist for review.

### 8.4 Cytospin

Step	Cytospin		
1.	Assemble sample chamber and glass microscope slide in the Wescor Aerospray cytocentrifuge carousel. At GEC, follow Cytospin procedure.		
2.	<b>IF</b>	<b>THEN</b>	
	Nucleated cell count is <300	Place 3-5 drops of fluid plus 1 drop of albumin into a disposable cytofunnel and place into the Cytospin centrifuge. The albumin is used to make the cells adhere to the slide better before the staining procedure.	
	Nucleated cell count is >300	<b>Cells/ µL</b>	<b>Dilution</b>
		301-700	1:2 (5 drops CSF + 5 drops saline)
		701-1500	1:5 (2 drops CSF + 10 drops saline)
		1501-3000	1:10 (2 drops CSF + 20 drops saline)
>3000	1:20 (2 drops CSF + 40 drops saline)		
	Mix dilution well and place 3-5 drops into the Cytospin funnel. Add 1 drop of albumin.		
3.	<b>Centrifuge Sample:</b> See procedure Aerospray Hematology Slide Stainer Cytocentrifuge		

Form revised 7/01/01

Step	Cytospin
	(SGMC/WAH) or Cytospin CSF/Body Fluid Slide Preparation (GEC) as appropriate.
4.	Stain slide using the Aerospray stainer or Diff Quick Stain Pack as appropriate

**9. CALCULATIONS**

Formula for Hemacytometer

$$\frac{\text{Cells Counted}}{\# \text{ of squares counted}} \times 10 \times \text{dilution}$$

**10. REPORTING RESULTS AND REPEAT CRITERIA**

**10.1 Interpretation of Data**

None required.

**10.2 Rounding**

Results for cell counts are rounded to whole numbers.

**10.3 Units of Measure**

Parameter	Units
RBC	Cells/ $\mu$ L
TNC	Cells/ $\mu$ L
Differential Counts	%

**10.4 Clinical Reportable Range**

Not applicable.

**10.5 Repeat Criteria and Resulting**

Any duplicate counts not agreeing within 20% must be repeated.

All CSF counts must be reviewed by a second technologist prior to resulting. Calculations must be rechecked and proper placement and documentation of cell counts on the worksheet must be verified. In addition, once typed into the computer a second technologist must verify the proper placement of the counts **PRIOR TO ACCEPTING THE RESULTS.**

**Second tech review for Germantown Emergency Center ONLY:**

Due to the fact that there is only one person working per shift, if a CSF cell count is performed then it will be the first duty of the next shift tech to review the cell count worksheet and compare it to the results entered into the computer. The reviewing tech will initial that the second tech review was performed.

Form revised 7/01/01

All fluids needing a pathology review are to be taken to the pathologist on call for Hematology. All slides are to be accompanied by an IRA report from the LIS and the pathologist slide review form.

**11. EXPECTED VALUES**

**11.1 Reference Ranges**

Parameter/Units of Measurement	Both Male and Female	
	< 60 Days	≥ 60 days to Adult
Color	Colorless	
Appearance	Clear	
RBC cells/μL	<10	<10
TNC cells/μL	<20	<6
Lymphocyte %	<70	<70
Monocyte %	<30	<30
Eosinophil %	<10	<10

**11.2 Critical Values**

None established

**11.3 Priority 3 Limit(s)**

None established

**12. CLINICAL SIGNIFICANCE**

CSF Appearance		
Appearance	Cause	Most Significance
Crystal Clear		Normal
Hazy, turbid, cloudy, smoky, milky	WBC's; RBC's  Microorganisms Protein	Meningitis, Hemorrhage, Traumatic tap  Meningitis Disorders that affect blood-brain barrier, Productions of IgG within CNS
Oily	Radiographic Contrast Material	
Bloody Xanthochromic	RBC's Hemoglobin  Bilirubin  Merthiolate Carotene Protein	Hemorrhage Old Hemorrhage Lysed cells from traumatic tap RBC Breakdown Elevated serum bilirubin Contamination Increased serum levels See above

Form revised 7/01/01

<b>CSF Appearance</b>		
<b>Appearance</b>	<b>Cause</b>	<b>Most Significance</b>
Clotted	Protein Clotting Factors	See above Introduced by traumatic tap
Pellicle Formation	Protein Clotting Factors	Tubercular meningitis

The CSF is the third major fluid of the body. It provides a physiologic system to supply nutrients to the nervous system, remove metabolic wastes and produce a mechanical barrier to cushion the brain and spinal cord against trauma. Identification of cell types present in the CSF has become a valuable diagnostic aid most frequently associated with meningitis. High WBC counts with neutrophilic majority are associated with bacterial meningitis while lymphocyte/monocyte predominance indicates viral, tubercular, etc., origin. The differential can impart diagnostic information based on abnormal cell types found indicating metastatic carcinoma, central nervous system involvement of leukemia or parasitic infections. Refer to the table below for a more complete list.

<b>Predominant Cells Seen in CSF</b>		
<b>Type of Cell</b>	<b>Major Clinical Significance</b>	<b>Microscopic Findings</b>
Lymphocyte	Normal Viral, tubercular and fungal meningitis Multiple Sclerosis	All stages of development may be found.
Neutrophil	Bacterial meningitis Early cases of viral, tubercular, or fungal meningitis Cerebral hemorrhage	Granules may be less prominent than in blood.  Cells disintegrate rapidly.
Monocyte	Chronic bacterial meningitis Viral, tubercular, and fungal meningitis Multiple Sclerosis	Found mixed with lymphocytes and neutrophils.
Eosinophil	Parasitic infections Allergic reactions Intracranial shunts (hydrocephalus)	Same appearance as seen in blood.
Macrophages	Viral and tubercular meningitis RBC's in spinal fluid	May contain phagocytized RBCs appearing as empty vacuoles or ghost cells and hemosiderin granules.
Pia arachnoid mesothelial (PAM) cells	Normal, mixed reactions, including neutrophils, lymphocytes, monocytes and plasma cells	Resemble young monocytes with a round, not indented, nucleus.
Blast forms	Acute leukemia	Lymphocytes or myeloblasts.
Plasma cells	Multiple Sclerosis Lymphocyte reactions	Transitional and classic forms seen.

Form revised 7/01/01

Predominant Cells Seen in CSF		
Type of Cell	Major Clinical Significance	Microscopic Findings
Ependymal Cells Choroidal Cells	Normal trauma Diagnostic procedures	Seen in clusters with distinct nuclei and distinct cell walls.
Malignant Cells	Metastatic carcinoma	Seen in clusters with fusing of cell borders and nuclei.

General Patterns of Laboratory Findings on CSF in Disease					
	Normal	Pyogenic Infections	Tuberculosis Meningitis	Virus Infection	Syphilitic Infection
Appearance	Clear, Colorless	Turbid to purulent	Clear to slightly cloudy	Clear to milky	Clear
Coagulability	Does not coagulate	Apt to clot	Fibrin web or pellicle may form	Rarely clots	Small clots in acute syphilitic meningitis and paresis
Cell Count/ $\mu$ L	Adults: 0-10 Children under 5 Years: 0-20	100 - Several thousand	20 - 1000	10 - Several hundred	10 - 100
Predominating Cell Type	Mononuclears	Polynuclears	70-90% mononuclears	Mononuclears	Mononuclears
Total Protein	15-45 mg/dL	50-1500 mg/dL	Normal-400 mg/dL	60-300 mg/dL	Normal-100 mg/dL
Glucose	(True Glucose) 50-80 mg/dL	Markedly decreased	Decreased, usually falls progressively	Normal	Normal or slightly decreased
Chloride (as NaCl)	118-132 mEq/L (adult)	Decreased	Decreased greatly	Normal	Normal
Colloidal (curve)	Negative	Meningitic	Meningitic	Variable	Tabetic, paretic, etc. depending on type or location of the infection
Pressure	70-150 mm H <sub>2</sub> O (adult)	Usually increased	Usually increased	Normal to slightly increased	Normal except in acute meningitis.

### 13. PROCEDURE NOTES

- **FDA Status:** Laboratory Developed Test (LDT) without message
- **Validated test modifications:** not applicable
- Perform cell counts as soon as possible since cells deteriorate with time.
- If there is a clot, perform count on available liquid and make notation in the report. Counts on partially clotted samples may be affected depending whether or not cells are trapped in the clot.
- Low power scanning should be performed on smear to evaluate cell distribution and evaluate for presence of malignant cells.



#### **14. LIMITATIONS OF METHOD**

Not applicable

#### **15. SAFETY**

The employee has direct responsibility to avoid injury and illness at work. Nearly all harmful exposures to infectious substances and chemicals, and other injuries, can be avoided with effective training and consistent safe work practices.

Become familiar with the Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) Manual to learn the requirements on working safely and protecting the environment from harm. Although lab work typically focuses on the hazards of working with specimens and chemicals, we must also control other important hazards.

- Slips, trips, and falls cause many serious injuries. Please ensure that spills are cleaned quickly (to avoid slippery floors) and that you can see and avoid obstacles in your path.
- Ergonomic injuries result from performing tasks with too much repetition, force, or awkward position. Ergonomic injuries include strains and back injuries. Learn about ergonomic hazards and how to prevent this type of injury.
- Scratches, lacerations, and needlesticks can result in serious health consequences. Attempt to find ways to eliminate your risk when working with sharp materials.

Report all accidents and injuries immediately to your supervisor or the business unit Environmental Health and Safety Manager or Specialist.

#### **16. RELATED DOCUMENTS**

1. Laboratory Quality Control Program
2. Hematology Slide Stainer Cyto centrifuge, Wescor Aerospray® Model 7151, SGMC / WAH Hematology SOP
3. Cytospin CSF/Body Fluid Slide Preparation, GEC Hematology SOP
4. Diff Quick Stain Kit, Hematology SOP
5. Cell Count Worksheet, AG.F12
6. Cell Chex Control Log, AG.F87

#### **17. REFERENCES**

- 1) Body Fluids, Third Edition, Kjeldsberg, C.R., and Knight, J.A., American Society of Clinical Pathologists Press, Chicago, 1993.
- 2) Clinical Hematology and Fundamentals of Hemostasis, Second Edition, Harmening, Denise M., F.A. Davis Company, Philadelphia, 1992.
- 3) Urinalysis and Body Fluids, Edition 2, Strasinger, S.K., F.A. Davis Company, 1989
- 4) Defining CSF WBC Count Reference Values in Neonates and Young Infants, Kestenbaum Ebberson et al Pediatrics 2010;125;257-264
- 5) CSF Analysis, D. Seehusen et al American Family Physician September 15,2003; Vol. 68; Number 6, 1103-1108

**18. REVISION HISTORY**

Version	Date	Section	Reason	Reviser	Approval
			Supersedes SOP SGAH-WAH H019.000		
000	06/06/12		Update owner	L Barrett	J Buss, RSL
000	06/06/12	6.1, 6.7	Add diluting fluid check to match Cell Count Worksheet	J Buss	J Buss, RSanLuis
001	11/26/13		Update owner	L Barrett	R SanLuis
001	11/26/13	4	Add Methylene Blue diluting fluid and stain components	L Barrett	R SanLuis
001	11/26/13	6	Update QC material, frequency clarified	L Barrett	R SanLuis
001	11/26/13	7, 8	Remove use of alcohol swabs, filter paper and non disposable hemacytometer,	L Barrett	R SanLuis
001	11/26/13	8.2	Add Methylene Blue as diluting fluid, add process to make each dilution	L Barrett	R SanLuis
001	11/26/13	10.5	Add second review process for GEC	L Barrett	R SanLuis
001	11/26/13	13	Add handling for clots	L Barrett	R SanLuis
001	11/26/13	15	Update to standard wording	L Barrett	R SanLuis
001	11/26/13	16	Add forms, update SOP titles	L Barrett	R SanLuis
001	11/26/13	19	Remove forms	L Barrett	R SanLuis
001	11/26/13	Footer	Version # leading zero's dropped due to new EDCS in use as of 10/7/13.	L Barrett	R SanLuis
2	3/12/14	8.3	Correct 1:1 dilution to 1:2. Add dilution factors	C Reidenauer	R SanLuis
2	3/12/14	8.4	Change Isoton to saline	C Reidenauer	R SanLuis
3	3/30/16		Change SGAH to SGMC throughout	L Barrett	R SanLuis
3	3/30/16	8.1	Replace specific centrifugation instruction with referral to posted instruction	L Barrett	R SanLuis

**19. ADDENDA**

None