New NCCLS Guideline on Erythrocyte Protoporphyrin

The National Committee on Clinical Laboratory Standards has released an approved guideline, Erythrocyte Protoporphyrin Testing (NCCLS document C42-A). Its aim is to decrease nonuniformity in current practices in measuring erythrocyte protoporphyrin (EP). The biochemistry and pathology of EP are discussed, the history of EP determinations is summarized, and the applications of the test are defined. The document recommends adoption of a specific molar absorptivity for calibration of EP methods and universal adoption of reporting units as the molar ratio of protoporphyrin to heme. Detailed methods for measuring EP by extraction and hemato-fluorometry are included, and interpretation of EP results is discussed.

Price: $25 for member organizations and $75 for nonmembers; phone 610-688-0100 to order.

AACC Audioconferences and Meetings


For information about any of these conferences or audioconferences, contact AACC at 1-800-892-1400 or 202-857-0717.

Other Meetings


XX Mexican Congress of Clinical Chemistry, March 1–6, 1997, Mexico City, Mexico. Information: Asociacion Mexicana de Bioquimica Clinica, Torres Adalid 508, Colonia del Valle, 03100 Mexico, D.F. Mexico; phone +52-5-687-8405; fax +52-5-523-2919.

20th International Conference on Microscopy and Immunology Annual Update, March 2–7, 1997, Park City, Utah. Information: Midge Beckman, University of Utah School of Medicine, Office of the Vice President for Health Services, Salt Lake City, Utah; phone 801-581-7480.


Forensic and Clinical Toxicology Workshops: Intermediate, March 7–9, 1997; Advanced, June 6–8, 1997. Three-day workshops in forensic and clinical toxicology and courtroom expert testimony; 18 hours of ACCENT credit available. Contact: John Vasilidis, PhD, Toxicology Labs. Inc., 7701 Pacific St., Omaha, Nebraska 68114; phone 402-392-1086; e-mail jvasilidas@monarch.papillion.ne.us.


9th International Dresden Symposium on Lipoproteins and Atherosclerosis, June 27–29, 1997, Dresden, Germany. Contacts: Prof. Dr. med. M. Hanefeld or Prof. Dr. W. Jaroß, 9th International Dresden Lipid Symposium, Medical Faculty of the Technische Universität, Institute and Polyclinic of Clinical Metabolic Research, Fetscherstr. 74, D-01307 Dresden, Germany; phone +49-351-458-3310; fax +49-351-458-4342.

8th Annual Frederick Conference on Capillary Electrophoresis, October 20–22, 1997, Hood College, Frederick, Maryland. Deadline for abstracts (200 words) is July 18, 1997. Late abstracts will be considered for poster presentation. A 1-day course will be held on October 19, 1997. Information: Margaret L. Fanning, Conference Coordinator, SAIC Frederick, NCI-FCRDC, PO Box B, Frederick, MD 21702-1201; phone 301-846-5865; fax 301-846-5866.

11th European Conference on Advanced Technology and Biotechnology for the Clinical Laboratory, October 21–24, 1997, Milan Fair, Milan, Italy. Deadline for abstracts is July 20, 1997. Information: ATB ’97 Conference, c/o Emmezeta srl, Ms. Francesca Radaelli, Via Carlo Farini 70, 20159 Milano, Italy; phone +39-2-66-80-23-23; fax +39-2-66-86-699; e-mail emmezeta@galactica.it.