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JOURNAL CLUB

Selected articles made freely available, including helpful slides and key points for discussion in your Journal Club. The link below provides free access to both the article and Journal Club content.

Estimates of Within-Subject Biological Variation Derived from Pathology Databases: An Approach to Allow Assessment of the Effects of Age, Sex, Time between Sample Collections, and Analyte Concentration on Reference Change Values Graham Ross Dallas Jones
www.clinchem.org/content/65/4/579

PEARLS OF LABORATORY MEDICINE

Clinical Chemistry Trainee Council (CCTC) is a free, multilingual, online program for residents and fellows in laboratory medicine. The program provides a wealth of free educational materials and interactive tools, including Podcasts, Guide to Scientific Writing, Question Bank, Pearls of Laboratory Medicine, and much more. The Pearls are brief presentations on one key topic succinctly presented using slides, audio, and transcript supplements.

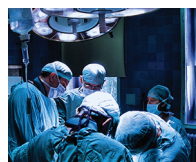
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Stephen Roper
Maple Syrup Urine Disease and Other Disorders of Branched Chain Amino Acid Catabolism
10.15428/CCTC.2018.301432

Kristi J. Smock
Von Willebrand Disease
10.15428/CCTC.2018.298414

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ON THE COVER Surgeons in an operating room. For evaluation of tissues for potential cancer involvement, histopathologic analysis of tissue sections is commonly employed on surgical specimens, often intraoperatively through frozen section analysis. Mass spectrometry (MS) technologies have shown potential for cancer diagnosis. To be most useful, bringing MS closer to the patient or operating room would be a goal. Several ambient ionization techniques have been tested for intraoperative cancer diagnosis and surgical margin evaluation either through *ex vivo* tissue sections and tissue smears analyses. The use of smaller, lower-cost, and lower-performance mass spectrometers, such as a linear ion trap, could ease technology translation into the clinical space. This issue of *Clinical Chemistry* contains a clinical evaluation of a new handheld pen-like device, the MasSpec Pen, for ovarian cancer diagnosis across different sample sets, tissue types, and two different MS systems (orbitrap and linear ion trap). (See page 674.) Reproduced with permission. Copyright Dandelionus / Bigstock ID.



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