

AUTHOR'S CORRECTION

D-Lactic Acid Measurements in the Diagnosis of Bacterial Infections

SHARON M. SMITH, ROBERT H. K. ENG, JOSEPH M. CAMPOS, AND HERMAN CHMEL

Microbiology Section, Laboratory Service, and Infectious Disease Section, Medical Service, Veterans Administration Medical Center, East Orange, New Jersey 07019; Clinical Microbiology Laboratory, Childrens Hospital National Medical Center, and Department of Child Health and Development, George Washington University, Washington, D.C. 20010; Department of Pathology and Department of Medicine, New Jersey Medical School/University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Newark, New Jersey 07103; and Division of Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine, Department of Medicine, University of South Florida College of Medicine, Tampa, Florida 33612

Volume 27, no. 3, p. 385–388. Throughout the text, “sensitivity” should read “percentage for predictive value of a positive test” and “specificity” should read “percentage for predictive value of a negative test.”

P. 387: Table 2 should read as follows.

TABLE 2. Summary of D-lactic acid results^a

Source (n)	No. of positive cultures			No. of negative cultures			% Positive predictive value ^b	% Negative predictive value ^c	% Sensitivity ^d	% Specificity ^e
	Total	TP with elevated D-lactate	FN with normal D-lactate	Total	FP with elevated D-lactate	TN with normal D-lactate				
Ascitic fluid (51)	11	11	0	40	6	34	64.7	100	100	85.0
Pleural fluid (39)	6	6	0	33	4	29	60.0	100	100	87.9
Synovial fluid (17)	4	4	0	13	0	13	100	100	100	100
CSF (157)	27	26	1	130	2	128	92.3	99.2	96.3	98.5
Overall							79.7	99.5	97.9	94.4

^a TP, True positives; FN, false negatives; FP, false positives; TN, true negatives. The cutoff value for normal D-lactate (lactic acid) used was 0.15 mM.

^b Predictive value of a positive test = $TP/(TP + FP) \times 100$.

^c Predictive value of a negative test = $TN/(TN + FN) \times 100$.

^d Sensitivity = $TP/(TP + FN) \times 100$.

^e Specificity = $TN/(TN + FP) \times 100$.