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Letter to the Editor

Confocal 3D DNA cytometry: Assessment of required coefficient of variation by computer simulation

To the Editor,

We appreciate the interesting and useful comments by Yuval Garini on our paper [3,7]. Dr. Garini states that new developments in imaging technique soon become available for clinical applications. Garini expects these developments to lead to an increase in throughput, i.e., the number of nuclei being measured per unit time will increase. To a great extent we agree and we look forward to apply the new technology to help us to solve one of the main problems we encounter with our measurements [1,6,7]. However, we would like to emphasize that interpretation of the images remains another time-consuming factor that can not be neglected, e.g. [2,4]. In our experience, more than 2 hours of the total time to complete a measurement is needed for segmentation, especially for manual corrections [8]. Besides faster imaging therefore a better image quality like those obtained with 4π microscopy [5] will further decrease the time needed for analysis.

Lennert S. Ploeger, André Huisman, Hub F.J. Dullens and Paul J. van Diest
Department of Pathology, University Medical Center Utrecht, Utrecht, The Netherlands

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