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BOOK REVIEW

Practical Guide to Modern Hematology Analyzers

By Authors: Warren Groner and Elkin Simson

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This book is concerned with the cell counters in hematological laboratories. Numerous stages of development in this field are discussed. For instance 1951-1965 is described as the stage of consolidation. This stage is mainly concerned with the development of complete blood cell count in reduction automation, its costs and counting machines. A stage of rediscovery followed in 1965, concerning the knowledge of a more specific chemistry and molecular structure of cells. The cell counters became reference methods for 7 parameters of red and white cells, including platelets.

The different systems of cytoanalyzers and flow methods as well as multiparameter system fundamentals are discussed and described in detail.

Of general interest are the chapters on standardization with definitions of the International Committee for Standardization in Hematology (I.C.S.H.). The authors see this as a very much open issue. They think that one must estimate what degree of standardization is desirable and necessary for various clinical purposes.

The last chapter is concerned with the performance of the analytical systems and integration of analyzers into the laboratory.

This book is very much of interest to the clinical hemorheologist, although it is mainly concerned with the morphological parameters of blood. Even though the word 'Hemorheology' is not mentioned in a single chapter, the book nevertheless deserves our attention. I hope that a similar book on specific hemorheological methods may soon come into existance.

Siegfried Witte