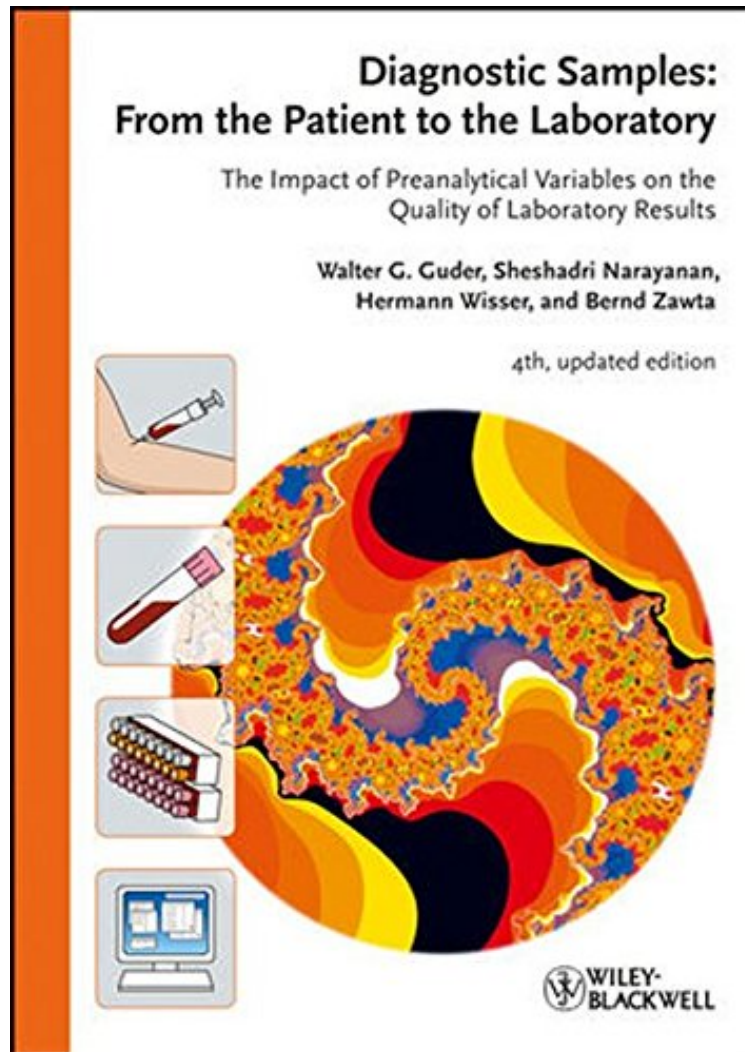


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Diagnostic Samples: From the Patient to the Laboratory: The Impact of Preanalytical Variables on the Quality of Laboratory Results

Walter G. Guder, Sheshadri Narayanan, Hermann Wisser, Bernd Zawta
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This fourth, updated edition contains the latest developments in analytical techniques. An international team of authors summarizes the information on biological influences, analytical interferences and on the variables affecting the collection, transport and storage, as well as preparation of samples. In so doing, they cover age, gender, race, pregnancy, diet, exercise and altitude, plus the effects of stimulants and drugs. National and international standards are described for sampling procedures, transport, sample identification and all safety aspects, while quality assurance procedures are shown for total laboratory management. In addition, this practical book contains a glossary as well as a separate list of analytes containing the available data on reference intervals, biological half-life times, stability and influence and interference factors. For everyone involved in patient care and using or performing laboratory tests.

From the Back Cover This fourth, updated edition contains the latest developments in preanalytical knowledge. An international team of authors summarizes the information on biological influences, analytical interferences and on the variables affecting the collection, transport and storage, as well as preparation of samples. In so doing, they cover age, gender, race, pregnancy, diet, exercise and altitude, plus the effects of stimulants and drugs. National and international standards are described for sampling procedures, transport, sample identification and all safety aspects, while quality assurance procedures are shown for total laboratory management. In addition, this practical book is rounded off by a glossary explaining all terms being used. This book is intended for everyone involved in patient care and using or performing laboratory tests.

About the Author Until Jan 2003 Prof. Dr. Walter G. Guder was Director of the Institute of Clinical Chemistry, Bogenhausen Community Hospital Munich and Professor of Clinical Biochemistry at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich. He studied medicine in Cologne, Tbingen and Munich. He served as President of the German Society of Clinical Chemistry and was Chairman of the Working Group on Preanalytical Quality. He is Editor of the *Laborbuch fr Klinik und Praxis* and Administrator of the Internet Program www.diagnosticsample.com.

Prof. Dr. Sheshadri Narayanan is an Adjunct Clinical Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University, New York City. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Clinical Chemistry and is qualified to act as Clinical Laboratory Director in the States of New York and New Jersey. Besides the many publications he has also authored a book on Principles and Applications of Laboratory Instrumentation and co-authored with Prof. Donald S. Young a book on Effects of Herbs and Natural Products on Clinical Laboratory Tests.

Prof. Dr. Hermann Wisser studied medicine and chemistry at the universities of Marburg, Gttingen and Mainz. He completed his education in laboratory medicine in Munich and Hannover. Thereafter he served as head of the Department of Laboratory Medicine of the Robert Bosch Hospital in Stuttgart and of the Institut of Clinical Chemistry of the University Hospital Mannheim. He was President of the German Society of Clinical Chemistry and President of the Forum of the European Societies of Clinical Chemistry. Until he died in 2004 Dr. Bernd Zawta was Head of the Department of Scientific Customer Support and Public Relations of Roche Diagnostics GmbH. He studied chemistry at the Technical University, Dresden, where he made his thesis on The chromatography of steroid hormones. He was editor of more than 20 brochures on the diagnostic application of tests in human diseases. Dr. Zawta served as WHO consultant in Mongolia in 1985. He died just before finishing a teaching program Focus Patient Sample together with Guder, Hagemann and Wisser.