

Determination of lactate value

Determinação do valor de lactato

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Dear Editor,

I read a recently published paper on determination of lactate values with great interest.¹ It was concluded that “Lcen, and not Lper, can replace Lart with good correlation and clinical agreement. Lper tends to overestimate Lart, thus leading to unnecessary therapeutic interventions”.¹ There are some concerns regarding this work. First, it has to be clarified that the lactate levels determined at each site are not the same. The values from arterial, venous and capillary blood cannot be interchanged with each another. Second, the quality control for the analytical technique should be mentioned. In general practice, a point-of-care testing tool might be used for capillary blood samples, while a standard clinical chemistry analyzer might be used for arterial and venous blood samples. This may simply result in differences.

REFERENCES

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