## Medical Laboratories Techniques Department



#### Hematology / Practical Dr. Karrar Salih Mahdi

Lecture 6

Red blood cell (RBC) Count

# **Red Blood Cell count**

The count of red blood cells, is the number of red blood cells in mm<sup>3</sup> of whole blood.

Normal average in male is 5.500.000 cell\mm<sup>3</sup> (range 5.000.000 - 6.000.000 cell\mm<sup>3</sup>) in female 4.800.000 cell\mm<sup>3</sup>.

#### Range (4.000.000-5.500.000) cell\mm<sup>3</sup> and child from (10-12 years) 5.400.000 cell\mm<sup>3</sup>.

To count red blood cells required sample of **blood with EDTA**.

## **Principle:**

The blood is diluted 200 time with RBCs diluting fluid (1200) in practice (20ul blood and 4 ml dilution).

#### Materials and instruments for manual Rbc Count:

1-Venous blood mixing with EDTA or capillary blood with heparin.

- 2-Neubauers chamber with cover slid.
- 3-Micropipette or red blood cell pipette.
- 4-Microscope.
- 5-Diluting fluid include:

a-**Disodium citrate solution** its composition disodium citrate 3.8mg, formalin 1ml and distilled water 99ml.

b-**Hayems fluid** its composed of –mercuric chloride 0.5mg (act as antiseptic), sodium chloride 1mg, sodium sulphate 5mg (have effect to prevent blood clotting) and distilled water 200ml.

The purpose of this fluid: its isotonic solution diluted blood, prevent lysis and prevent blood sedimentation.

#### **Procedure:**

1-Draw blood by micropipette 20 ul.

- 2-Mix the blood with diluting fluid 4ml.
- 3-Mix the contents in glass tube for 2 min.
- 4- Introducing the sample into the Neubauer chamber (10ul from mixture).

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5-To count the RBCs the microscope must be switched to 40X objective.

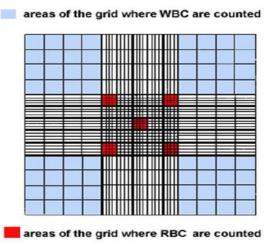
Count the cells in the respective areas as stated early. count the cell in 5 squares of the center square.

Rbcs count in\*10.000 cells of blood

# Purpose of test to detect the causes of blood count decreasing:

1-leukemia 2-bone marrow failure 3- hemorrhage 4-Anaemia 5-RBCs lysis

#### And causes of blood count increasing:



1-defect in erythropoietin 2-polycethemia 3-cardaic failure 4-dehydrtion 5-smoking 6-vomiting 7-lungs fibrosis 8-type of abnormal Hb

## Physiological effect on Rbc count: -

1-age 2-sex 3-Activity 4-nutrition 5-pregnancy 6-brest feeding 7-psychological Emotions.

## Automated Red blood cell count:

Electronic counter is based on the principle of aperture impedance method.

Anticoagulated blood is diluted with particle free diluting fluid such as physiological saline.

Particles passing through a chamber in single file scatter converted to pulses proportional to size of the cells which are then counted electronically (we were mention that in the lecturer of hemoglobin automated estimation).

#### References

1-Capiau, S., Stove, V. V., Lambert, W. E., & Stove, C. P. (2013). Prediction of the hematocrit of dried blood spots via potassium measurement on a routine clinical chemistry analyzer. *Analytical chemistry*, 85(1), 404-410.

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3-Chadha, G. K., Srivastava, A., Singh, A., Gupta, R., & Singla, D. (2020). An automated method for counting red blood cells using image processing. *Procedia Computer Science*, *167*, 769-778.

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