



Biological  
Handbooks

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Blood and  
Other Body Fluids

ANALYSIS AND COMPILATION BY Philip L. Altman

EDITED BY Dorothy S. Dittmer

PREPARED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE Committee on Biological Handbooks

Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology

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# Foreword

Blood and Other Body Fluids is the first of the biological handbooks to appear under the general direction of the Committee on Biological Handbooks, Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology. This volume, however, does not inaugurate a new series, but is in fact a continuation of the handbooks prepared under the auspices of the National Academy of Sciences - National Research Council.\*

The contents and contributors for this compilation were determined with the approval of the Advisory Committee on Blood and Other Body Fluids. After the data were analyzed, compiled, and edited by the Handbook Office staff, they were submitted for review to the contributors and other authorities in the areas covered in this volume.

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# Introduction

This handbook, which includes a revision of Standard Values in Blood published in 1952, presents comprehensive data on blood and other body fluids specifically compiled for reference purposes. The material is conveniently organized in the form of tables, graphs, diagrams, nomograms, and line charts. Most of the tables have been prepared especially for the Biological Handbooks Series from various authoritative collections of data and from the current literature. Contents of the volume have been authenticated by 380 leading investigators in the fields of biology and medicine. The review process to which the tables have been subjected was designed to eliminate, insofar as possible, errors of transcription and material of questionable validity.

For the convenience of the user, the tables have been arranged in 25 sections. An explanatory headnote, designed to serve as an introduction to the subject matter, occasionally precedes the tables in a section. Individual tables may be prefaced by a short headnote containing such important information as units of measurement, abbreviations, definitions, and estimate of the range of variation. To interpret the data, reading of the related headnote is essential.

On occasion, differences in values for the same specifications, certain inconsistencies in nomenclature, and some overlapping of coverage may occur among tables. These result not from oversights or failure to choose between alternatives, but from the deliberate intention of the handbook staff to respect the judgment and preferences of the contributor. Although units of measurement may vary within a table, values can be converted by using the information given in APPENDIX I: CONVERSION FACTORS AND FORMULAS.

Appended to the tables are the names of the contributors, and a list of the literature citations arranged in alphabetical order. The reference abbreviations conform to the LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS FOR SERIAL PUBLICATIONS, Fourth Series, Volume X, Army Medical Library, Washington, D. C. (U. S. Government Printing Office, 1948), and the 1955 SUPPLEMENT thereto. Abbreviations for new or unlisted publications were constructed from the "Dictionary of Abbreviated and Contracted Words" in the SYNOPSIS OF STYLE, Fourth Series, Volume II, Army Medical Library, Washington, D. C. (U. S. Government Printing Office, 1937).

It is suggested that the table of contents be used in conjunction with the index: the table of contents to determine the scope of the data for a particular fluid, and the index to locate a specific constituent, property, or animal. Because of the animal nomenclature used in the tables, the index lists vertebrates by common name and invertebrates according to genus.

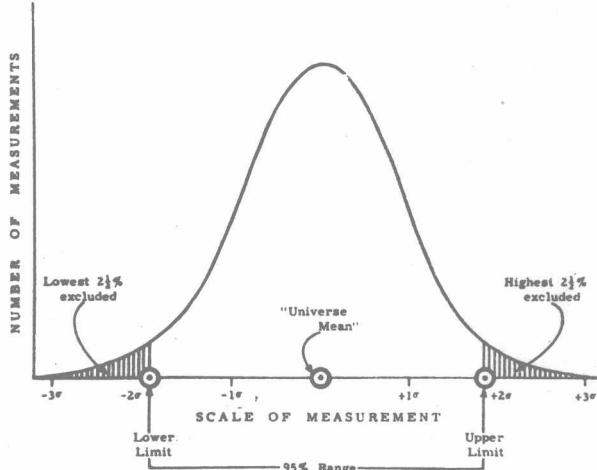
Values are generally presented as a mean and the lower and upper limit of the range of individual values about the mean. This range may be estimated in several ways, the method depending on the information available. Letter designations (a, b, c, d) identify types of ranges in descending order of accuracy.

(a) When the group of values is relatively large, a 95% range is derived by curve fitting. A recognized type of normal frequency curve is fitted to a group of measured values, and the extreme 2.5% of the area under the curve at each end is excluded (see illustration).

(b) When the group of values is too small for curve fitting, as is usually the case, a 95% range is estimated by a simple statistical calculation. Assuming a normal symmetrical distribution, the standard deviation is multiplied by a factor of 2, then subtracted from and added to the mean to give the lower and upper range limits.

(c) A less dependable, but commonly applied, procedure takes as range limits the lowest value and the highest value of the reported sample group of measurements. It underestimates the 95% range for small samples and overestimates for larger sample sizes, but may be used in preference to the preceding method where there is marked asymmetry in the position of the mean within the sample range.

(d) Another estimate of the lower and upper limits of the range of variation is based on the judgment of an individual experienced in measuring the quantity in question. The trustworthiness of such limits should not be underestimated.



## Abbreviations and Symbols

### MEASUREMENT

yr	= year	sq in.	= square inch
mo	= month	sq m	= square meter
wk	= week	sq cm	= square centimeter
da	= day	sq mm	= square millimeter
hr	= hour	sq $\mu$	= square micron
min	= minute		
sec	= second		
wt	= weight	L	= liter
lb	= pound	ml	= milliliter
g	= gram	$\mu$ L	= microliter
kg	= kilogram	cu cm	= cubic centimeter
mg	= milligram	cu mm	= cubic millimeter
$\mu$ g	= microgram	cu $\mu$	= cubic micron
$\mu\mu$ g	= micromicrogram	v	= volt
mEq	= milliequivalent	kv	= kilovolt
$\mu$ Eq	= microequivalent	mv	= millivolt
M	= mole	mho	= conductance unit (reciprocal of resistance in ohms)
gM	= gram-mole	IU	= international unit
mM	= millimole	ppm	= parts per million
$\mu$ M	= micromole	rpm	= revolutions per minute
mOsm	= milliosmole	av	= average
ht	= height	sat %	= saturation per cent
mi	= mile	vol %	= volumes per cent
ft	= foot	g %	= grams per cent
in.	= inch	mg %	= milligrams per cent
m	= meter		
cm	= centimeter		
mm	= millimeter		
$\mu$	= micron		
$\mu\mu$	= millimicron		

g-cal = gram-calorie  
kg-cal = kilogram-calorie

$^{\circ}$ C	= degree Centigrade
$^{\circ}$ F	= degree Fahrenheit
>	= greater than
<	= less than
$\sigma$	= standard deviation

### BIOLOGICAL SPECIFICATION

Hb	= hemoglobin	STP	= standard temperature and pressure
RBC	= red blood cell (erythrocyte)	sp	= species
WBC	= white blood cell (leukocyte)	$\sigma$	= male
CSF	= cerebrospinal fluid	$\varphi$	= female

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# I. Blood Physical Properties and General Chemical Components

## 1. BLOOD VOLUMES

For a summary of blood methods and interpretations, consult reference 10, Part I.

### Part I: MAN

Subjects were unanesthetized, predominantly white adults (normal individuals or hospital controls), under average environmental temperature (22-28°C) and sea-level barometric pressure conditions. Number of determinations is the same as the number of subjects, unless otherwise indicated. Plasma and erythrocyte volumes were obtained by various dilution methods, the diluent or tagging substance being given in the pertinent method column. A tagging substance listed under erythrocyte volume (column E) indicates that cell volume was determined after *in vivo* dilution of the tagged cells, either by counting radioactivity of washed or dried cells, or by multiplying radioactivity of whole blood by venous or arterial hematocrit uncorrected for trapped plasma. Venous hematocrit values were obtained by centrifuging the blood sample (3000 rpm, 30 minutes, 18 cm radius) and were not corrected for trapped plasma, unless otherwise specified. In most instances, whole blood volume was calculated from other values in the same study; where a tagging substance is given in column H, blood volume was determined directly by dilution of the tagged erythrocytes in whole blood, on the assumption that the erythrocyte concentration in the sampled blood represented the total body erythrocyte concentration. Method (columns C and H): PV = plasma volume, EV = erythrocyte volume, VH = venous hematocrit, BV = whole blood volume. Values in parentheses are ranges, estimate "c" (cf. Introduction).

Subjects		Plasma Volume		Erythrocyte Volume		Venous Hematocrit % cells	Whole Blood Volume		Reference
Sex	No.	Method	ml/kg body wt	Method	ml/kg body wt		Method	ml/kg body wt	
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)	(J)
1	Male	30	T-1824	41.1	P <sup>32</sup>	28.0 <sup>1</sup>	PV + EV	69.1	23
2		40	T-1824	47.9 (39.2-62.5)	Fe <sup>55</sup> or Fe <sup>59</sup>	29.8 (21.5-36.3)	PV + EV	77.7 (63.8-97.0)	7
3		20	T-1824	45.7 (35.8-56.5)		44.1 (39.3-49.4)	PV 100 - VH × 100	81.6 (65.4-95.2)	29
4		49	T-1824	43.1 (32.0-58.2)		44.7 (36.0-51.8) <sup>2</sup>	PV 100 - VH × 100	77.7 (62.7-97.7)	6
5		11	T-1824	40.5 (28.5-48.2)		47.2 (42.0-53.0) <sup>3</sup>	PV 100 - VH × 100	76.7 (60.5-92.6)	4
6		31	I <sup>131</sup> , hu- man serum albumin	41.4 (33.6-61.8)		44.1 (34.9-49.0) <sup>4</sup>	PV 100 - VH × 100	74.2 (60.0-96.0)	28
7		53	T-1824	45.6 (31.7-56.5)		44.7 <sup>1</sup>	PV 100 - VH × 100	82.3 (59.8-101.7)	9
8		51	T-1824	44.7 (34-58)		45.0 <sup>1</sup>	PV 100 - VH × 100	85.1	20
9		32	T-1824	47.4 (36.5-59.7)		42.6 (37.9-49.2) <sup>1</sup>	PV 100 - VH × 100	82.6 (62.2-102.2)	24
10		11	T-1824	47.4 (43.7-61.4)			PV 100 - VH <sup>5</sup> × 100	82.8 (72.7-99.4)	12
11		34	T-1824	45.3 (32.4-56.9)		43.5 (39-51)	PV 100 - VH × 100	80.1 (57.5-106.0)	19
12		42		Cr <sup>51</sup> as sodium chromate	28.2 (20.0-39.8)	45.8 (39.0-54.6)	Cr <sup>51</sup> as sodium chromate	61.5 (45.9-81.0)	16
13		32 <sup>6</sup>	T-1824	45.2 (35.3-55.9)		46.5			14
14		21	Cr <sup>51</sup> as chromic chloride	39.3 (28.7-48.5)					5
15		59	T-1824	36.7		48.2			11
16		25		Cr <sup>51</sup> as sodium chromate	31.8 (25.4-38.7)				26

/1/ Hematocrit corrected for trapped plasma by factor of 0.96. /2/ Venous hematocrit calculated from formula:  
 $\frac{\text{reading of packed cells}}{\text{reading of fluid level} - 2.0}$ . /3/ Centrifuged until cells completely packed. /4/ Measured by specific gravity (dropping blood into copper sulfate solutions of known density). /5/ Centrifuged at 8000 rpm, and 7.2 cm radius, for 1 hour. /6/ 62 determinations.