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Thursday October 15, 2009

Live blood analysis is not really junk science

I AM a homeopathic doctor. Although we do not need to do live blood analysis (LBA) in our practice, it has helped me to understand so much more about the conditions of my patients.

When I took up this course, called live blood morphology, my teacher and trainer stressed again and again that it is not to be used as a diagnostic tool, but rather as a screening tool at most. We know that certain people abuse LBA for monetary gains, but that does not make it less scientific.

By looking at a drop of blood under a brightfield microscope, we will be able to see the conditions of the blood, especially the red blood cells (RBC's). If the size and shape of the RBC's are not normal, it will surely affect their oxygen-carrying capacity.

When the RBC's are too big (macrocytes) or too small (microcytes) their oxygen carrying capacity diminishes.

When there is a mixture of macrocytes and microcytes, the condition is called anisocytosis. Macrocytes and microcytes are most likely caused by deficiencies in iron, folic acid and vitamin B-12.

Many times an operator will see cells with rough edges, a condition called poikilocytosis. These are cells damaged by free radical possessing agents such as chemicals, smoke from cigarettes, preservatives, etc.

Target cells are indicative of a deficiency in hemoglobin "Hb" content and are therefore incapable of delivering oxygen. The causes could be lack of iron in the system and are common in menstruating women with heavy blood flow.

The terms microcytes, macrocytes, anisocytosis, poikilocytosis, target cells that often appear under the blood film report of a normal blood test. When the knowledge and analysis of the RBC condition is already in the mainstream of

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medical science, how can it still be called "junk science" ?

What we truly need now is regulation so that LBA is not abused in whatever way. We have reached a stage when we can no longer brush it aside as being unscientific or brand it as "junk science".

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