

Supplementary Table 2. Responses to the questionnaires on sample preparation for body fluid cellular analysis

Questionnaires & Answer Options	Responses, % (institution)
1. Please select body fluid cell analysis test items allowed in the department of laboratory medicine at your hospital. If there are other test items besides the listed examples, please describe them in the 'others' column.*	
1) C5627 Body fluid cytopathology (using cytospin)	43.4 (33/76)
2) D0327 Examination (CSF, Ascites, Pleural fluid, Joint fluid, etc.) (Color, Specific gravity, Cell count, Differential count, pH)	93.4 (71/76)
3) D0329 Stain and Microscopy (CSF, Ascites, Pleural fluid, Joint fluid, etc.)	64.5 (49/76)
4) D0326 WBC differential count (Others)	56.6 (43/76)
5) Others	7.9 (6/76)
2. What test tubes do you use for body fluid analysis (including color, specific gravity, cell count, differential count, cytomorphology)?	
1) EDTA tube	44.7 (34/76)
2) Plain tube	3.9 (3/76)
3) Dependent on sample type	50.0 (38/76)
2.1. What samples are tested with the EDTA tube?*	
1) Pleural fluid	89.7 (35/39)
2) Peritoneal fluid	87.2 (34/39)
3) Synovial fluid	87.2 (34/39)
4) Pericardial fluid	76.9 (30/39)
5) Dialysis fluid	59.0 (23/39)
6) Bronchoalveolar lavage fluid	53.8 (21/39)
7) Cerebrospinal fluid	28.2 (11/39)
2.2. What samples are tested with the plain tube?*	
1) Cerebrospinal fluid	86.1 (31/36)
2) Bronchoalveolar lavage fluid	41.7 (15/36)
3) Dialysis fluid	30.6 (11/36)
3. Do you have any criteria for refusal of samples?*	
1) Clotted samples	78.9 (60/76)
2) Inadequate volume of samples	71.1 (54/76)
3) Samples with debris	31.6 (24/76)
4) Do not have any criteria	9.2 (7/76)
4. If the test cannot be performed immediately, how many hours of storage are allowed prior to testing?	
1) 1 hour	48.7 (37/76)
2) 2 hours	21.1 (16/76)
3) 4 hours	3.9 (3/76)
4) 24 hours	2.6 (2/76)
5) Dependent on the test/sample	19.7 (15/76)
6) Others	3.9 (3/76)
5. What is the turnaround time for body fluid analysis?	
1) 1 hour	15.8 (12/76)
2) 2 hours	22.4 (17/76)
3) 4 hours	5.3 (4/76)
4) 24 hours	17.1 (13/76)
5) Dependent on the test/sample	27.6 (21/76)
6) Others	11.8 (9/76)
6. Choose all the methods used for body fluid analysis.*	
1) Automated cell counter	42.1 (32/76)
2) Neubauer chamber	89.5 (68/76)
3) Cytospin slide microscopy	85.5 (65/76)
7. If both the automated cell counting and microscopy are being performed, please describe each indication.	34.2 (26/76)

*multiple choice allowed.