

ALUMINUM CONTENT IN ELUENTS FROM COMMERCIAL TECHNETIUM GENERATORS

Because of previous reports (1-3), we investigated the aluminum content of technetium generator eluents for its affect on the diagnostic quality of a technetium-sulfur colloid preparation made after a procedure of Larson and Bennett (4). Our investigation was designed to compare aluminum concentration with the clinical usefulness of the radiocolloid and to evaluate several commercial molybdenum-technetium generators. The aluminum content was determined by the aluminon colorimetric procedure (5). Our findings are summarized in Table 1. In three generators that were used clinically*, we did not find that the variations of aluminum content were adversely affecting the quality of the scans. In over 600 cases studied, there was no flocculation problem as reported by Haney et al (3).

Some difficulties that were experienced in preparing this radiopharmaceutical in our clinic were traced to variability in reagents supplied to our radiopharmacy by outside sources.

May we suggest that the method of preparation is of utmost importance. The technique of Haney requires a chelating agent for successful preparation,

* Amersham/Searle; New England Nuclear; and Squibb.

whereas the technique of Larson and Bennett is quite successful without a chelating agent. One less injectable agent is one less problem of toxicity.

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TABLE 1. COMPARISON OF COMMERCIAL TECHNETIUM GENERATORS

Manufacturer	No. generators analyzed	Mean Al content	Mean Al content	Mean Al content	Mean Al content	Mean Al content	Mean Al content	Mean Al content
		($\mu\text{g}/\text{cc}$) 1st milking	($\mu\text{g}/\text{cc}$) 2nd milking	($\mu\text{g}/\text{cc}$) 3rd milking	($\mu\text{g}/\text{cc}$) 4th milking	($\mu\text{g}/\text{cc}$) 5th milking	($\mu\text{g}/\text{cc}$) 6th milking	($\mu\text{g}/\text{cc}$) 7th milking
Amersham/Searle	3	44.3	29.4	20.4	No sample available	16.7	10.4	10.4
New England Nuclear	1	None detected	None detected	None detected	None detected	None detected	None detected	6.8
Squibb	2	None detected	None detected	None detected	None detected	None detected	None detected	None detected
Mallinckrodt	1	9.8	10.2	7.4	5.4	8.6	4.6	4.6
Abbott	1	43.6	13.0	44.8	0.2	None detected		

ERRATUM

Due to an error of positioning, Fig. 1 of the paper " ^{48}KCl : A New Radiopharmaceutical for Imaging the Heart" by P. J. Hurley, M. Cooper, R. C. Reba,

K. J. Poggenburg, and Henry N. Wagner, Jr. (*J Nucl Med* 12: 516-519, 1971) was printed upside down. We apologize for this inversion.