

The Diagnostic Utility of Quantitative D-Dimer

1. Fibrinolysis is mediated by the enzyme _____.
 - a. Thrombin
 - b. Plasmin
 - c. Fibrinopeptide A
 - d. Factor XIIIa

2. The smallest of the cross-linked fibrin degradation products is _____.
 - a. Fibrin monomer
 - b. Fibrin dimer
 - c. Soluble fibrin
 - d. D-dimer

3. One fibrinogen equivalent unit (FEU) equals approximately:
 - a. 1 D-dimer unit
 - b. 0.5 D-dimer units
 - c. 2 D-dimer units
 - d. None of the above

4. The presence of D-dimer indicates that three things have occurred. They are:
 - a. Clot formation, Platelet aggregation, Vascular injury
 - b. Fibrin polymerization, Platelet aggregation, Fibrinolysis
 - c. Arterial thrombosis, Disseminated intravascular coagulation, Venous thrombosis
 - d. Clot formation, Cross-linking by F XIIIa, Fibrinolysis

5. Measurement of D-dimer may serve as an aid in the clinical diagnosis of all of the following **except**:
 - a. Disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC)
 - b. Atherosclerosis
 - c. Arterial thrombosis
 - d. Venous thromboembolism (VTE)

6. In the evaluation of a patient with a suspected VTE, a positive D-dimer finding would:
 - a. Indicate a deep vein thrombosis
 - b. Indicate a pulmonary embolism
 - c. Require additional testing for confirmation
 - d. Allow you to send the patient home

7. Manual latex slide tests for the semi-quantitative determination of D-dimer:
 - a. Are useful in evaluating patients with DIC
 - b. Are sensitive enough to be used to rule out venous thromboembolism
 - c. Are free of operator bias in interpretation
 - d. Are easily automated

8. Serum FDP assays require clotted samples in order to avoid interference from:
 - a. Thrombin
 - b. Polyclonal antibodies
 - c. Fibrinogen
 - d. None of the above

9. Automated quantitative latex enhanced immunoassays:
 - a. Have sensitivity and specificity equal to ELISA assays
 - b. Have a rapid turn-around-time
 - c. Utilize monoclonal antibodies
 - d. All of the above

10. The appropriate cut-off value to rule out deep vein thrombosis for a quantitative D-dimer assay should:
 - a. Provide the highest specificity
 - b. Provide the highest sensitivity
 - c. Reduce the number of false positives
 - d. Increase the number of false negatives

11. In ROC Analysis, the ROC stands for:
 - a. Receiver Operating Characteristic
 - b. Rate Of Convergence
 - c. Ratio Ordered Control
 - d. Reliability Of Curve

12. The ability of a test to identify or recognize the presence of disease is its:
 - a. Analytical sensitivity
 - b. Diagnostic sensitivity
 - c. Diagnostic specificity
 - d. Negative predictive value

