

Geschäftsleitung
Dr. med. Martina Fliser
Dr. med. Martin Holfelder

Fachärzte
Dr. med. Dörte Beier
Carmen Black
Dr. Irena Crnkovic-Mertens
Helene Derksen
Prof. Dr. med. Peter Findeisen
Dr. med. Martina Fliser*
Dr. med.
Gabriele Genthner-Grimm
Dr. med. Anne-Sophie Limbach
MUDr. Hans Jakob Limbach
Dr. med. Hans-Jakob Limbach*
Dr. med. Kai-Jürgen Lüthgens
Dr. med. Cyrill Müller
Joachim Singer
Dr. med. Margot Thiaucourt
Fachärzte für
Laboratoriumsmedizin
Prof. Dr. med. Herbert Hof
Dr. med. Klaus Oberdorfer
Fachärzte für Mikrobiologie,
Virologie und Infektions-
epidemiologie/Hygiene
und Umweltmedizin/Labora-
toriumsmedizin
Dr. med. Martin Holfelder*
Facharzt für Laboratoriums-
medizin / Mikrobiologie,
Virologie und Infektions-
epidemiologie
Dr. med. univ. Ilka Steiner
Fachärztin für Laboratoriums-
medizin / Mikrobiologie, Virolo-
gie und Infektionsepidemiolo-
gie / Klinische Pharmakologie
Dr. med. Konrad Bode
Dr. med. Alessa Boschert
Dr. med. Käti-Andrea Koch
Dr. med. Jan Kubis
Dr. med.
Torsten Schmidt-Wieland
Sabine Singer
Fachärzte für
Mikrobiologie, Virologie und
Infektionsepidemiologie
Dr. med. Sabine Schütt
Prof. Dr. med.
Constanze Wendt
Fachärztinnen für
Mikrobiologie, Virologie und
Infektionsepidemiologie /
Hygiene und Umweltmedizin
PD Dr. med. Karin Janetzko
Fachärztin für Transfusions-
medizin / Laboratoriums-
medizin

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Introduction of Total Cell Count in Body Fluids and Cerebrospinal Fluid

Dear Colleagues,

We would like to inform you that, as part of our already established automated analysis of body fluids, we will report the **total cell count** additionally to our cell reports of body fluid and cerebrospinal fluid samples starting from 1 May 2025.

The total cell count includes all nucleated cells, not only leukocytes, but also other diagnostically relevant cell types such as mesothelial cells, macrophages, or tumor cells, which may be significant in certain clinical contexts.

If you are using remote laboratory data transmission (LDT), please note that new assignments may be required in your information system.

	Analysis Abbreviation NEW
Cell count in body fluid sample (cells/ μ L)	ZELLP
Cell count in cerebrospinal fluid (cells/ μ L)	ZELLL
Cell count in dialysate (cells/ μ L)	ZELLD

After implementation, you will receive the following parameters in body fluid cell analysis reports, as before, and now additionally the total cell count [unit]:

- Cell count in the body fluid sample: Total number of nucleated cells in body fluids [cells/ μ l]
- Leukocyte count in the sample (WBC) [cells/ μ l]
- Polymorphonuclear cells (%) among WBC: Sum of neutrophil and eosinophil granulocytes
- Mononuclear cells (%) among WBC: Sum of lymphocytes and monocytes
- Erythrocyte count [$10^3/\mu$ l]

Important note:

If malignancy is part of the clinical question, please continue to submit a targeted request to pathology/cytology.

Our laboratory is not specialized in cytological or tumor cell diagnostics. The automated total cell count can provide supplementary information, but does not replace expert cytological evaluation.

*Ärztliche Leitung

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

Technical inquiries:

Ms. Cinderella Marks

Phone: +49 6221 3432-128

Medical inquiries:

Dr. med. Margot Thiaucourt

Phone: +49 6221 3432-502

Thank you for your understanding!

With kind regards,

Your team at MVZ Labor Dr. Limbach & Kollegen