

# ERRORS IN THE HEMATOLOGY LABORATORY AT ST. PAUL'S HOSPITAL MILLENNIUM MEDICAL COLLEGE, ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

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**Objective:** The objective of this study was to determine the magnitude of pre-analytical, analytical and post-analytical laboratory errors in hematology tests.

**Results:** A total of 2,606 hematology requests were studied. Out of the total, 562 (21.6%) pre-analytic, 14 (0.5%) analytical and 168 (6.4%) post-analytical errors were recorded which contribute a total frequency of 75.5%, 1.9%, 22.6%, respectively. The name of the physician requesting the test was not provided on 2,215 (85%) of request forms and 1,827 (70.1%) of the request forms were unaccompanied with proper clinical details of the patient. Essential information required on the request forms was often missed. Close communication between clinicians and laboratory personnel is the key to improve laboratory quality in general.

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