

32. Williams DG: Methods for the estimation of three vitamin dependent red cell enzymes. *Clin Biochem* 9:252-255, 1976
33. Schellenberg GD, Wilson NM, Copeland BR, Furlong CE: Transketolase from human red blood cells. *Methods Enzymol* 90:223-228, 1982
34. McCormick DB: Vitamins, in Tietz NW (ed): *Textbook of Clinical Chemistry*. Philadelphia, WB Saunders, 1986, pp 927-964
35. Zar JH: *Biostatistical Analysis*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ, Prentice-Hall, 1984
36. Fonda ML: Partial purification and characterization of vitamin B₆-P phosphatases from human erythrocytes, in Korpela T, Christen P (eds): *Biochemistry of Vitamin B₆*. Basel, Birkhauser Verlag, 1987, pp 399-402
37. Anderson BB, O'Brien H, Griffin GE, Mollin DL: Hydrolysis of pyridoxal-5'-phosphate in plasma in conditions with raised alkaline phosphatase. *Gut* 21:192-194, 1980
38. Whyte MP, Mahuren JD, Fedde KN, Cole FS, McCabe ERB, Coburn SP: Perinatal hypophosphatasia: tissue levels of vitamin B₆ are unremarkable despite markedly increased circulating concentrations of pyridoxal-5'-phosphate. *J Clin Invest* 81:1234-1239, 1988
39. Majumdar SK, Shaw GK, Thomson AD: Vitamin utilization status in chronic alcoholics. *Int J Vitam Nutr Res* 51:54-58, 1981
40. Merrill AH, Henderson JM, Wang E, Codner MA, Hollins B, Millikan WJ: Activities of the hepatic enzymes of vitamin B₆ metabolism for patients with cirrhosis. *Am J Clin Nutr* 44:461-467, 1986
41. Lumeng L, Schenker S, Li T-K, Brashear RE, Compton MC: Clearance and metabolism of plasma pyridoxal 5'-phosphate in the dog. *J Lab Clin Med* 103:59-69, 1984

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

We recently published an article in your Journal (*Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*, vol 13:66-68, 1989) entitled "Acetylation Phenotype in Abstinent Alcoholics," in which we administered sodium sulfamethazine to abstinent alcoholics and controls to determine acetylation phenotype. When the literature search for information related to this topic was done, we inadvertently overlooked a very relevant and initial study published 25 years ago by Dr. David Lester (*Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, vol 25:541-543, 1964),

which was entitled "The Acetylation of Isoniazid in Alcoholics." Dr. Lester found that the distribution of fast and slow acetylators did not differ when alcoholics were compared with controls. We reached the same conclusion in our study and confirm Dr. Lester's earlier results.

Sally Guthrie

*Assistant Professor of Pharmacy
College of Pharmacy
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan 40109-1065*