



Clinical Decision Levels for Lab Tests, 2nd Edition, 1987
B.E. Statland, Published by Medical Economics Co., Inc.,
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Laboratory investigations are invaluable tools for clinical diagnosis and good patient management. The clinician is therefore faced with the problem of having to remember the normal range of values for the tests he has requested and also the levels at which decision is to be taken.

This concise and compact book on laboratory tests is essentially written for housemen and medical officers with the aim of overcoming the above problem. It comprises two parts. The initial chapters serve to introduce the scientific basis of development of decision levels for laboratory investigations, while the later chapters constituting the bulk of the book, is devoted to the decision levels and guidelines for action on 100 analytes.

The reference (normal) intervals given by the author can be modified according to local reference figures. Most of the routine laboratory tests and a few specialised tests have been dealt with in this book. Dr. Bernard Statland reminds us of some of the complexities involved in establishing normal values, the variables that affect test outcomes, and the delineation of confidence limits. In lucid detail, he shows how confidence limits vary, depending on whether we wish to include or exclude a disease as a possibility.

This book is strongly recommended for all doctors in training and physicians who need a ready source of reference on laboratory data.

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