



Serum Free Light Chain Analysis for the Diagnosis, Management, and Prognosis of Plasma Cell Dyscrasias: Future Research Needs Paper Number 23

By U. S. Department of Health and Human Services

Createspace. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 54 pages. Dimensions: 11.0in. x 8.5in. x 0.1in. Plasma cell dyscrasias (PCDs) are a group of clonal disorders characterized by the uninhibited expansion of a monoclonal population of malignant plasma cells. Plasma cells arise from B cells in the bone marrow and produce immunoglobulins that constitute the body's normal humoral immune response. The immunoglobulin molecule is composed of a heavy chain and a light chain. Plasma cells normally produce light chains in excess that do not bind to heavy chains to form a complete immunoglobulin molecule and instead enter the bloodstream as free light chains (FLCs). In PCDs, each abnormally expanded clone of malignant plasma cells produce an excess of either intact immunoglobulin or FLCs of a single type called a monoclonal protein (Mprotein) or paraprotein. The serum FLC (SFLC) assay (the Freelite Assay, The Binding Site Ltd., Birmingham, United Kingdom) was introduced in 2001 to measure the FLC component in particular. The SFLC assay works by recognizing an epitope that is detectable only on light chains that are not bound to the heavy chain of the immunoglobulin molecule (i. e., FLCs) in the serum. It has...



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