Letters to the Editor

Stannous Tin Determination

In reference to the recent article of Kenneth T. Study (*1*), the use of the NBS method for the determination of stannous tin in radiopharmaceutical kits was first described (*2*) by A.J. Farrant (deceased). This method has been in regular use in our laboratory for several years and has proved to be reliable and accurate for many types of kit.

In his article Study has repeated some of the studies quoted in Farrant's paper without finding any disagreement. However, while he has quoted her report as the source of the NBS purification method, we feel that he has failed to adequately acknowledge Farrant's contribution to the development of a valuable analytical method for radiopharmacy.

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References

1. Study K. Determination of stannous ion content of radiopharmaceutical kits using N-bromosuccinimide. *J Nucl Med Technol* 1982;10:161–62.

2. Farrant AJ. Determination of stannous tin in radiopharmaceutical "cold kits." Australian Radiation Laboratory Tech. Report ARL/TR 006, January 1979.

Reply

My article on using NBS for stannous ion determination (*1*) was simply an evaluation of a technique described by several authors (*2,3*). The NBS technique was not developed by A.J. Farrant but probably by M.Z. Barakat as described in his article dated 1972 (*3*). Other articles describing use of NBS have also been published (*4,5*). Although not developed by A.J. Farrant, application of the NBS technique to radiopharmacy was first reported by her and should be so credited (*2*). My apologies for not adequately recognizing or acknowledging her valuable contribution.

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References

1. Study KT. Determination of stannous ion content of radiopharmaceutical kits using N-bromosuccinimide. *J Nucl Med Technol* 1982;10:161–62.

2. Farrant AJ. Determination of stannous tin in radiopharmaceutical "cold kits." Australian Radiation Laboratory Tech. Report ARL/TR 006, January 1979.

3. Barakat MZ, Doweidar SI. The microdetermination of stannous tin with N-bromosuccinimide. *Microchem J* 1972;17:285–92.

4. Barakat MA, Abdalla A. A titrimetric method for determining arsenite in presence of arsenate. *Analyst* (London) 1960;85:288–94.

5. Vogel AI. *A Textbook of Macro and Semimicro Qualitative Inorganic Analysis.* London/New York: Longmans, Green, 1960:254.