ing of the radio-opaque agents to peptides.

Therefore, we must reasonably wonder if the appearance of interfering peaks in the electropherograms is only a coincidence of the unexpected elution times and absorbance spectra of the iodinated radio-opaque media with the stated elution times and absorbance spectra of the proteins (6) or a result of binding to the signal reagent.

We conclude that blood must not be collected for protein electrophoresis by CZE from patients who have received contrast media during the preceding 2–6 days. This time period has been described for some radio-opaque agents by Bossuyt et al. (6) and should be established for new contrast media according to their elimination times from blood. In addition, in questionable samples for paraprotein with negative immuno fixation, we recommend the desalting procedure as described.

We thank Schering España, Guerbet, Nycomed Amersham, Bracco (Rovi), and Mallinckrodt Medical for providing the necessary radio-opaque media for this study.

References
appropriate clinical documentation and should be in agreement with generally accepted laboratory standards.

References

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A representative of Greiner VACUETTE® North America responds:

To the Editor:

We at Greiner VACUETTE® North America agree with Dr. Krapf. Our statement about analyte stability was an unintentional misinterpretation of an original statement about the stability of our gel barrier. What we meant is that our gel barrier is stable for up to 48 h. Our product package insert does not make any mention of analyte stability.

We apologize if we misled anyone and have taken steps to fix current literature and our web sites, and to correct any misunderstanding. We look forward to continued feedback from any potential user or current customer in the marketplace. We believe the only way Greiner can continue to provide needed products and innovations is for us to actively listen to all of the feedback.

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