

## Pleural Fluid Cholesterol, Transudates, and Exudates: Correspondence

Sir,

We would like to share ideas on “Pleural fluid cholesterol: A promising marker to differentiate transudates and exudates.”<sup>[1]</sup> Rustogi *et al.* concluded that “*pfCHOL is a less complex, cost-effective, reliable diagnostic marker and is as good as the Light's criteria to differentiate transudates and exudates.*”<sup>[1]</sup> We agree that pfCHOL might be helpful for the diagnosis of effusion. The observation in the present work repeatedly confirms the concept in the previous publication.<sup>[2]</sup> There are some laboratory medicine concerns. First, the technique for analyzing cholesterol in pleural fluid is still nonstandard. Applying CHOD-PAP method, which is used for serum sample analysis, might be possible, but there must be a standard evaluation of technique (diagnostic sensitivity, interference, reference value, etc.). Effusion cholesterol level is also affected by serum level, which is related to intake. Hence, a measurement of ratio compared to serum is needed.<sup>[3]</sup>

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Nil.

### Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

**Pathum Sookaromdee, Viroj Wiwanitkit<sup>1</sup>**

Private Academic Consultant, Bangkok, Thailand, <sup>1</sup>Department of Community Medicine, Dr. D. Y. Patil University, Pune, Maharashtra, India

**Address for correspondence:** Dr. Pathum Sookaromdee,  
Private Academic Consultant, Bangkok, Thailand.  
E-mail: [pathumsook@gmail.com](mailto:pathumsook@gmail.com)

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