

Editorial

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“Images from the Medical Laboratory” – editorial remarks

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In several medical journals patients' case reports are often communicated by clinical images accompanied by a short comment, updating the recent knowledge and literature of the presented subject.

Pathological results from the clinical diagnostic laboratory are usually reported as numeric results and/or short commentaries. Images such as histo- or diagrams and blots are relatively common, whereas colour changes, inclusions such as cristalls, malformed granules, cellular changes in shape and size or unusual cellular inclusions, visualisation of genetic tests such as FISH and other examples of improved diagnostic techniques are also worth to be published.

In this issue of the *Journal of Laboratory Medicine* we start with an impressive illustration of clarithromycin-induced

crystalluria with needle-shaped crystals after a single intravenous dose of clarithromycin.

Image information are eye-catching and generate receptive attention: it therefore has great educational potential. It creates a kind of cognitive shortcut, as visual information is processed directly and more quickly by the brain.

Therefore, we decided to introduce this new category of short communications illustrating rare laboratory findings, to encourage our readers to submit own images complemented by a short comment.

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