

Labs for DCs: Iron Deficiency Anemia ~ 2 Hrs

Learning Objective: Understand how to evaluate patients with anemia and whether they are being managed correctly, the dangers of and how to avoid iron supplement overdose, and how to evaluate whether the cause of the bleeding that caused the iron deficiency anemia is being addressed properly.

Hour One:

- Clinical overview of anemia

- Causes of anemia besides iron deficiency, blood loss as primary cause of iron deficiency anemia and steps to ensure the cause of the bleeding is found and corrected.

- Signs and Symptoms to look for in patients that have not yet been diagnosed with anemia but have it.

Hour Two:

- Signs and symptoms of iron toxicity from iron supplementation in those who've been misdiagnosed as iron deficient but instead have anemia from a different cause.

- Lab findings and interpretation: Complete Blood Count (CBC): including RBC, Hemoglobin, Hematocrit, MCV, MCH, MCHC; Serum Iron; Total iron Binding Capacity (TIBC); Ferritin.

- Medical vs alternative treatment options for the various causes of bleeding in iron deficiency anemia cases.