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**SERUM LACTIC DEHYDROGENASE ISOENZYME PATTERN IN CHILDHOOD LYMPHOBLASTIC LEUKEMIA**

To the Editor:

We have read with great interest the recent article by Pui et al describing the prognostic value of serum lactic dehydrogenase (LDH) levels in childhood acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). Their results confirm our findings. In our study, in addition to elevation of serum LDH levels, isoenzyme patterns of LDH were also related to the prognosis of childhood ALL. The highest concentration of LDH-3 was observed in the high-risk group at the time of diagnosis. The ratio of LDH-3 to LDH-2 was found to be greater than 1.0 in more than 70% of children in the high-risk group but in none of the patients in the standard-risk group.

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**REFERENCES**


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**Table 1. Distribution of Serum LDH Isoenzymes According to Risk Group**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>No. of Patients</th>
<th>Percentage (Mean ± SD) of Total Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High risk</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>12.4 ± 4 42.8 ± 6 28.9 ± 7 11.1 ± 3 5.2 ± 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard risk</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16.0 ± 3 47.6 ± 4 22.2 ± 4 9.6 ± 3 4.6 ± 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Serum lactic dehydrogenase isoenzyme pattern in childhood lymphoblastic leukemia [letter]

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