Lab instructions: Micro-hematocrit lab

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Aims: measure your blood hematocrit, estimate the density of RBC

Watch the video!

Read the instructions to the end before attempting.

1 - Open the envelope

2 - Wash your hand with hot water (helps the blood circulation)

3 - Clean your finger with the alcohol wipe

4 - Prick your finger with the sterile single-use device

5 - Fill the micro-hematocrit tube (tube should be horizontal); the capillary force will make the blood flow into the micro-hematocrit tube

6 - Seal the tube vertically with the paste

7 - Wait a couple of hours by letting the tube sit vertically or if you don't have the patience to wait, you can build your own "*Paperfuge*"

Tutorial for the fabrication here: *DIY Centrifuge | ThinkTac*

8 - Measure the hematocrit using the ruler provided or a regular ruler

9 - Assuming RBCs are spherical and rigid, with equivalent diameter of 4.5 µm, assuming 2 hrs is needed to sediment 3 cm, and plasma characteristics (viscosity, density) are the same as water. Estimate the density of RBC. Discuss your findings.

Submit a brief pdf report.