

BLOOD GROUP KINGDOM

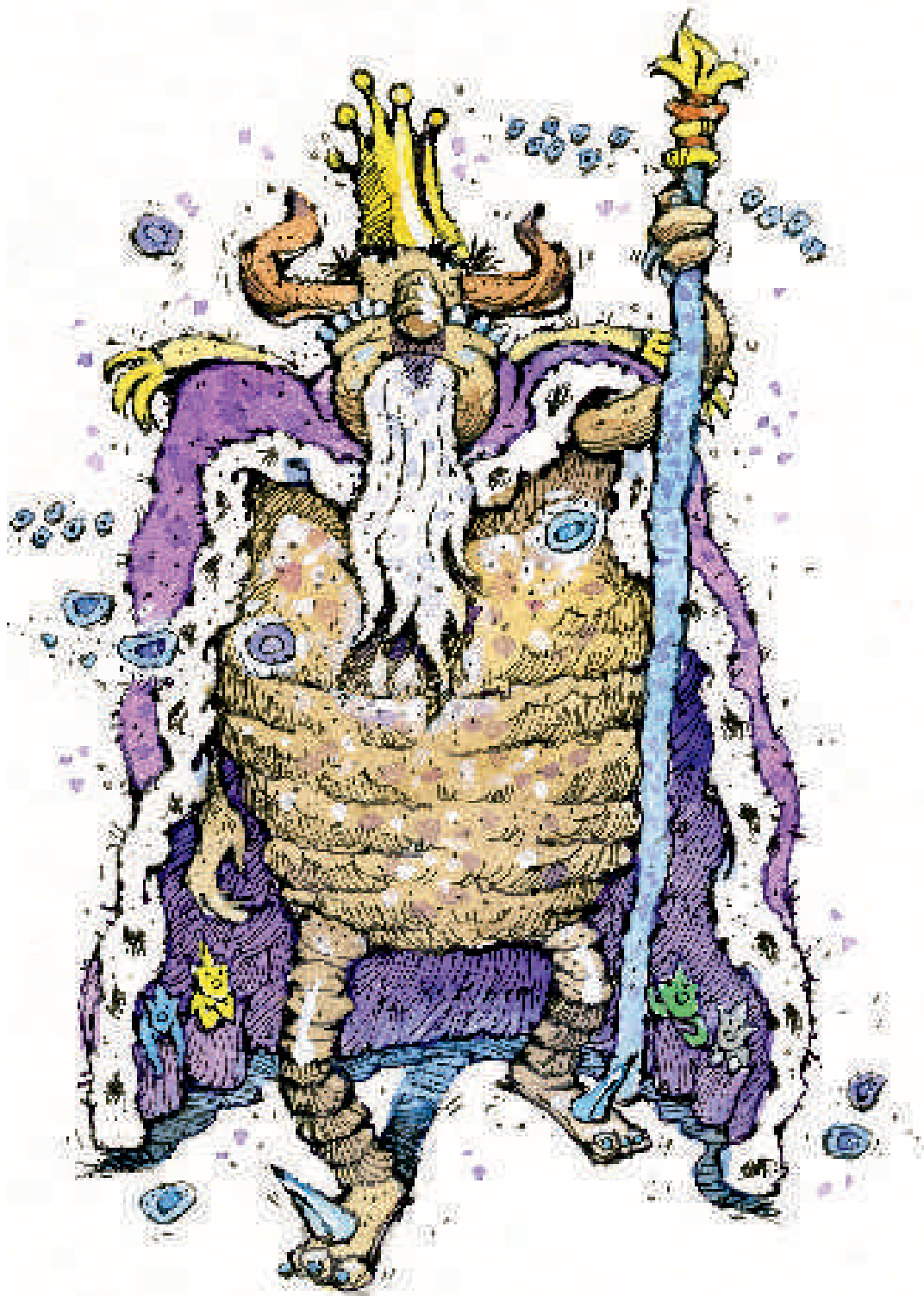
THE LABORATORY'S MOST WANTED

ABO

ABO is the King of all blood groups and leader of the Blood Group Kingdom. Rh tries to claim the leader position but the crown belongs to ABO. It is the first to be discovered of all blood groups and reigns over transfusion reactions. King ABO is the first blood group to develop and is powerful and destructive because it is everywhere. If you are looking for King ABO be sure to check colder weather, it does not like warmer climates. Also, this King can be tricky... don't be fooled if you don't see its antigens, its antibodies will most certainly be there.

Frequency

| | Caucasians | Blacks | Indian | Chinese | Japanese | Comments |
|----|------------|--------|--------|---------|----------|------------------------------|
| A | 43% | 27% | 21% | 28% | 40% | 0% in South American Indians |
| B | 9% | 20% | 40% | 29% | 20% | |
| AB | 4% | 4% | 9% | 9% | 10% | |
| O | 44% | 49% | 29% | 34% | 30% | |

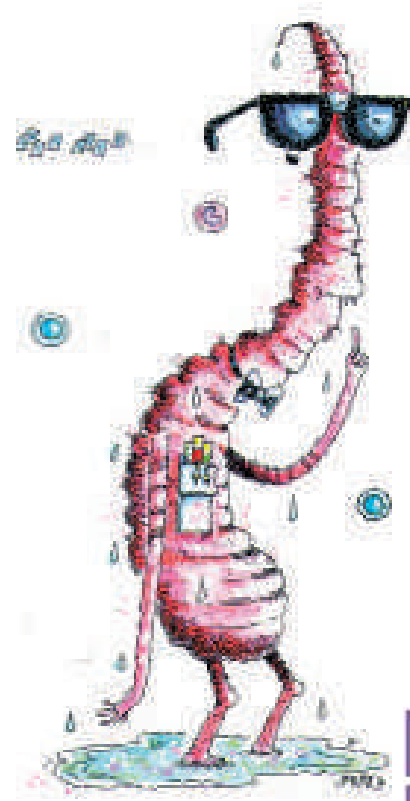


Rh

Meet Rhesus, the grand poo-bah among blood systems. The Rhesus clan considers itself very important, and for good reason. It's the largest of the blood systems, with more than 46 antigen members. And it holds the seat of honor in the bloodstream as part of the red cell membrane. But the real reason Rhesus claims bragging rights as the leader of the blood system is its deadly power. As little as 0.03 ml of Rh positive red cells can create antibodies in an Rh negative patient, making Rhesus the major culprit in Hemolytic Disease of the Newborn (HDN).

Frequency

| | | Caucasians | Blacks | Indian | Chinese | Japanese | Comments |
|----|-----|------------|--------|--------|---------|----------|----------|
| D | RH1 | 85% | 92% | 94% | >99% | >99% | |
| C | RH2 | 68% | 27% | 87% | 92% | 88% | |
| E | RH3 | 29% | 22% | 20% | 39% | 51% | |
| c | RH4 | 80% | 96% | 58% | 47% | 57% | |
| e | RH5 | 98% | 98% | 98% | 96% | 91% | |
| Cw | RH8 | 2% | 1% | | 0.1% | 0 | |



Lewis

Lewis tries very hard to be "one of the gang," but really isn't a blood system at all. Any old mucus cell can secrete Lewis, even the salivary gland. It hangs out in the blood, trying to look tough, but no one really pays much attention.

Frequency

| | | Caucasians | Blacks | Indian | Chinese | Japanese | Comments |
|-----|-----|------------|--------|--------|---------|----------|----------|
| Lea | LE1 | 22% | 23% | 21% | 24% | 19% | |
| Leb | LE2 | 55% | 72% | 61% | 77% | 72% | |



Duffy

The party animal of the blood systems, Duffy likes company. It can usually be found mixing sociably with other antibodies. Something of a snob, Duffy prefers American or European hosts. It almost never visits Africa or other tropical countries, but that's good -- it can make patients more susceptible to certain types of malaria.

Frequency

| | | Caucasians | Blacks | Indian | Chinese | Japanese | Comments |
|-----|-----|------------|--------|--------|---------|----------|----------|
| Fya | FY1 | 68% | 13% | 87% | >99% | 99% | |
| Fyb | FY2 | 80% | 23% | 58% | 9% | 19% | |



MNS

The granddaddy of the blood systems, MNS was first discovered in 1927. It used to be a quiet fellow, but technological advances in the blood lab have opened up a new career -- as the tattle-tale in paternity tests.

Frequency

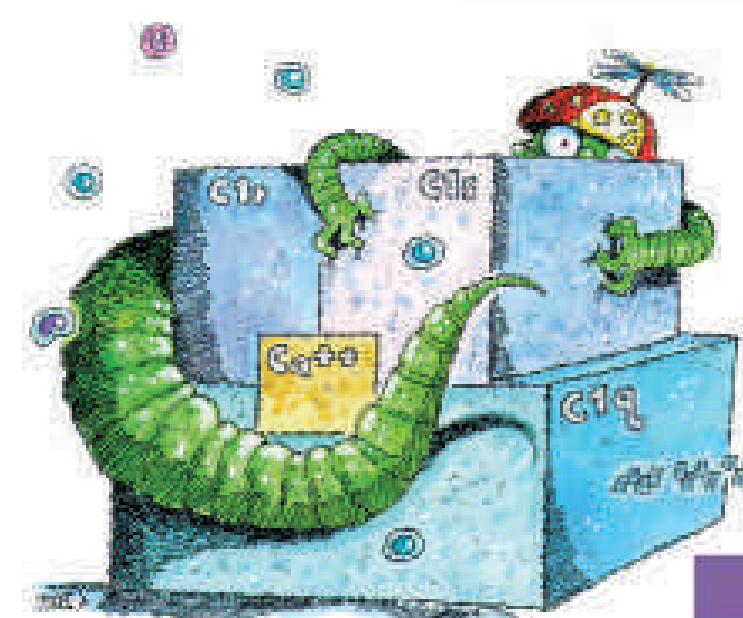
| | | Caucasians | Blacks | Indian | Chinese | Japanese | Comments |
|---|------|------------|--------|--------|---------|----------|----------|
| M | MNS1 | 78% | 74% | 89% | 80% | 79% | |
| N | MNS2 | 70% | 75% | 65% | 67% | 67% | |
| S | MNS3 | 52% | 30% | 55% | 9% | 10% | |
| s | MNS4 | 90% | 92% | 89% | >99% | >99% | |

Kell

The meanest, nastiest blood system around is undeniably Kell. Second only to Rhesus in strength, it is 20 times more immunogenic than any other blood group antigen (with the exception of D). Researchers at the Mayo Clinic accuse Kell of causing 21 percent of hemolytic transfusion reactions during a ten year study. With a record like that, Kell is one to be watched.

Frequency

| | | Caucasians | Blacks | Indians | Chinese | Japanese | Comments |
|-----|------|------------|--------|---------|---------|----------|---------------------------------------|
| K | KEL1 | 9% | 2% | 3.5% | 0% | 0% | Higher frequency in Arabs (up to 25%) |
| k | KEL2 | 99.8% | 99.9% | 99.9% | 100% | 100% | |
| Kpa | KEL3 | 2% | <0.01% | 1% | 0% | 0% | |
| Kpb | KEL4 | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | |
| Jsa | KEL6 | Rare | 20% | N/K | 0% | 0% | |
| Jsb | KEL7 | 100% | 99% | N/K | 100% | 100% | |



Kidd

Now you see it, now you don't. The Kidd is famous for its disappearing act, first making patients miserable then hiding in the blood so it can't be found. It often manages to repeat this trick a time or two before finally being caught. Kidd antibodies are famous for "binding up" complement. Kidd's reputation as a troublemaker is well-deserved, but it's usually not lethal.

Frequency

| | | Caucasians | Blacks | Indian | Chinese | Japanese | Comments |
|-----|-----|------------|--------|--------|---------|----------|----------|
| Jka | JK1 | 77% | 92% | 73% | 69% | 67% | |
| Jkb | JK2 | 74% | 49% | 76% | 74% | 82% | |

Diego

Where in the world is Diego? Diego loves to play hide and seek and is resistant to enzyme treatment. If you are looking for Diego be sure to check South, Central or Latin America. If you still can't find him, be sure to check the Asia Pacific area. As populations become more global in nature, Diego's significance is also increasing in other areas of the world. Since Dia is infrequent it may not be around most of the time; however when the antibody is present it can cause Hemolytic Transfusion Reactions and Hemolytic Disease of the Fetus and Newborn -- it was first discovered because it caused HDFN in Mrs. Diego's baby.

Frequency

| | | Caucasians | Blacks | Indian | Chinese | Japanese | Comments |
|-----|-----|------------|--------|--------|---------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dia | DI1 | Rare | Rare | N/K | 5% | 9% | 36% in South American Indians |
| Dib | DI2 | 100% | 100% | N/K | 99% | 99% | |
| Wra | DI3 | Rare | | | | | Anti-Wra is common in AIHA patients commonly detected in cross match |
| Wrb | DI4 | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | |

