



ELSEVIER

Journal of Chromatography B, 781 (2002) 1

---

---

JOURNAL OF  
CHROMATOGRAPHY B

---

---

[www.elsevier.com/locate/chromb](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/chromb)

## Preface

# Indicators of (patho)physiological processes

---

In this year's Special Volume we tried to offer an overview on the separation methods applicable to marker compounds in tissues of body fluids that can supply an information of the state of the organism and possible pathological processes involved. There are two basic problems that the Editor features when assembling such a Volume: First, new marker compounds appear (with a considerably different reliability in connection with a particular pathological process) every day which means that there will be necessarily gaps in the set of marker compounds dealt with. Second, there are very few if any markers that are relevant to a particular state and on the contrary a particular disease can be revealed by assaying a number of markers (see for instance the number of malignancy indicators). In addition to these two fundamental problems, the number of

physiological and pathological situations and the work which is currently being done is far too large to be dealt in detail within a single volume. Consequently in an attempt like this one always ends with a selection. On the other hand we believe that a proper survey of analytical (separation) methods is quite timely and fits well the scope of J. Chromatogr. B that bears the subtitle Biomedical Sciences and Applications.

Particularly with this Volume we shall be very grateful to the perspective readers of this Volume who would care to communicate their comments and remarks to the Editors.

Prague and Verona  
July 2002

Prof. Zdenek Deyl  
Prof. Franco Tagliaro