

Customer Focus



**Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
Los Angeles, California**

When you're the largest non-profit hospital in the Western United States — and one of the most renowned medical centers in the world — you consistently attract a high volume of patients. Which leads to a consistently high volume of lab work.

So it's not surprising that Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles made the decision to automate one of its most labor-intensive lab processes. The century-old institution, famous for its celebrity clientele, selected the Sebia HYDRASYS[®] system for protein and immunofixation electrophoresis.



"These tests took up a lot of our technologists' time," explains Sharron E. Kelly, manager of Immunology and Cytometry, Hematology and ER/AC Labs. "We needed a solution that would semi-automate the process, yet still provide high quality gels and comparative values to our old system."

The HYDRASYS proved to be a winner for many reasons. For one, it eliminates some of the hands-on work required of manual tests. "With this system, PEPs and IFEs are faster, with a shorter incubation time — whereas with the manual system we had to personally wash the gel, then blot it and press it over and over again," says Delma Ines, a senior medical technologist at the lab.

"With just a few touches on a keypad, technologists can now perform all phases of electrophoresis quickly — and almost effortlessly."

*—Sharron E. Kelly, M.A., M.T. (ASCP) S.I. Manager, Divisions of Immunology and Cytometry, Hematology and ER/AC
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center Los Angeles, California*

With just a few touches on a keypad, Ines and her colleagues can now perform all phases of electrophoresis quickly — and almost effortlessly. The HYDRASYS, designed as a walkaway system, handles everything from sample application to migration to incubation to staining, destaining and drying.



"Another nice thing about the instrument is that we no longer have to make dilutions for PEP," adds Ines. "And, it allows us to pipette specimens and let them sit for eight hours if we want to run samples in batches."

While reduction of hands-on time was a major consideration in purchasing the HYDRASYS, the quality of the Sebia gels was also important to Kelly. "The protein gives us particularly good separation," she notes, "and the bands are very crisp and clear." Kelly also likes the fact that Sebia offers different-sized gels, giving her lab greater flexibility.

Clearly Superior...

AUTOMATICALLY BETTER

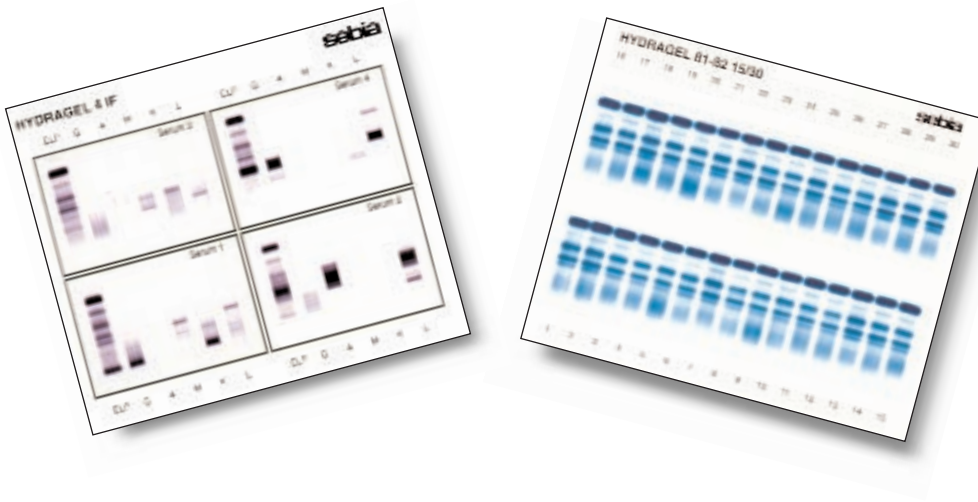


Customer Focus

The HYDRASYS isn't the only Sebia system 'on staff' at Cedars-Sinai. The lab also employs the Sebia HYRYS™ Densitometer for results interpretation and analysis. The instrument features a series of windows-based menus that allow technologists to perform overlapping functions — for example, scanning while printing previous scans, or reviewing curves while printing. This capability has shaved valuable minutes off of the process — which, over the course of hundreds of samples, can add up to a meaningful time savings.

"The HYRYS is very easy to use, and also very flexible," Ines says. "For example, you can rescan certain lanes on the fly as you're reviewing them. There's no need to type anything in."

"The HYRYS produces very nice graphs, and it offers good functionality for data management"



Kelly adds, "The HYRYS produces very nice graphs, and it offers good functionality for data management."

According to Kelly, the cost of implementing Sebia technology was not as high as one might expect. "We found that it really wasn't that much more expensive than our manual system — and it has allowed us to achieve greater efficiencies. It was definitely a smart move for us to go with Sebia."

About Cedars Sinai Medical Center

Founded in 1902, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center has grown to become one of the world's most respected medical institutions. Staffed with more than 2,000 healthcare professionals, the 800-bed facility offers state of the art diagnostic and treatment technologies and services — among them the Sebia HYDRASYS and HYRYS electrophoresis systems.

In five consecutive surveys by an independent research firm, Los Angeles residents named Cedars-Sinai as having the best doctors, best nurses, best overall quality, most personalized care and most modern equipment. In keeping with its mission, Cedars-Sinai Health System continues to be a market leader in the delivery of affordable health-care.

