



VOLUSION...ASCLS SD

Grassroots explosion of **VOICE, VALUE, VISION**

Official publication of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science ~ South Dakota

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All ASCLS SD members are invited to submit articles of interest to the co-editors for publication in future issues.

ASCLS-SD SPRING MEETING: Excellent 1-Day Session!



On May 5th, Sioux Falls was privileged to host a 1-Day ASCLS-SD and CLMA-Siouxland collaborative meeting. This years spring meeting had excellent continuing education sessions that even included the topic of “jellybeans” 😊 The collaboration, cooperation, and camaraderie between South Dakota’s leading professional organizations could be felt by all.

Highlights of this meeting included ASCLS-SD’s annual elections, presentations of membership awards and student scholarships. A complete listing of all awards and election results can be found in the “ASCLS-SD Membership Spotlight” article in this issue.

ASCLS-SD extends a sincere thank you to all Sioux Falls clinical laboratory professionals who assisted in making this meeting possible.

ASCLS NATIONAL MEETING JULY 25-29: Calling All ASCLS-SD Members! By: Michelle Sedlacek, ASCLS-SD Publications Committee

Chicago in the summertime brings images to mind such as major league baseball, music festivals, Lake Michigan, and hopefully to ASCLS members, the 74th Annual ASCLS Meeting entitled “*Knowledge, Fun, and All That Jazz*”. The meeting will be held July 25-29, 2006 at the Renaissance Chicago Hotel. The 5-day event features over 40 Scientific Sessions, 12 Lunch n’ Learns, and 11 Scientific Assemblies. The world’s largest clinical laboratory exposition will showcase over 550 vendors.



Registrations received by June 21st will receive an “early bird” discount. Early registration also allows the registrant best access to your desired Lunch n’ Learn programs, and will also receive special promos and invitations from

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exhibitors and meeting sponsors that those who register after June 21st do not receive.

One very important change this year! All handouts for the sessions will be available on the ASCLS website and should be printed prior to attending this years meeting. ASCLS also recommends that you bring your preliminary program with you to the annual meeting because it contains information that will not be included in the final program distributed on site. The preliminary program was mailed out to ASCLS members in late April contains valuable info about accommodations and travel, general info, meeting schedules, program descriptions, registration info and forms, ASCLS membership application, governance schedule, and a personal planner. And if that isn't enough, there is a coupon for \$20 off a Professional I Category membership for non-members to become a new member at this meeting.

Evening entertainment includes a First Timers' Reception, a Welcome Mixer and E & R Fund Silent Auction, and the T'nT Boot Scootin' Boogie Bash. If you've never attended a national ASCLS meeting, ASCLS-SD would encourage you to set one of your personal or professional goals to attend one. Attending a meeting of this magnitude and being surrounded by **hundreds of professionally driven ASCLS members** for several days.... Will keep you professionally energized and focused for a very long time. So find your luggage, comfortable walking shoes, and of course someone to feed the cat and *Jazz it up with ASCLS in Chicago!*

To check out complete information on this meeting go to:

www.ascls.org/conferences/2006AM/index.asp

Hope to see you in Chicago!!!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: "ASCLS – A Light From The Past Creates A Vision For The Future!"

By: Dr. Patricia M. Tille, ASCLS-SD President

As my term of ASCLS-SD President is winding down, I would like to make just a few comments regarding the past two years of serving as your President. First of all, I must express my gratitude to several individuals who have worked with me throughout the past two years to accomplish many good things. Believe me, I could go on and on about these individuals and all their behind the scenes contributions that often times the general membership is unaware of. Thank you to all the board of directors and committee chairs for assisting with updating and re-establishing an active working society. In particular a special thanks to Leon Lunders, Deb Pravecek, Lori Murray, Mike Anderson, Sandy Sheppard, Renee Rydell, Deb Piper, Lezlee Koch, and Becky Davis. Each of these individuals provided countless hours of feedback, committee work and support for ASCLS and ASCLS-SD, without their support our society would not have regained the momentum we now have.



ASCLS-SD MEMBERS!

Have you visited our Web Page Lately?

www.ascls-sd.org

Current Pages:

- ➔ Our Purpose
- ➔ Membership & Benefits
- ➔ Student Career Information
- ➔ Event Calendar & Meetings
- ➔ ASCLS-SD Members Page
- ➔ Regional & National News
- ➔ Board of Directors – Meetings/Update
- ➔ Web Newsletter - VOLUSION
- ➔ Laboratory Links
- ➔ ASCLS-SD Leadership & Contacts
- ➔ Blips, Tips & Fun
- ➔ Management & Technical Tid Bits

PLUS NOW ... THERE'S A NEW MEMBER BENEFIT ON OUR WEB SITE!!

“MEMBERS ONLY RESOURCE PAGE”

- ➔ Analytical & Disease Specific References
- ➔ Management, Quality Systems, Pre & Post Analytical Quality References
- ➔ Motivational Posters Just For ASCLS-SD Members

Together, as a constituency we have accomplished many things the past two years and have much more to do, which I will leave for the incoming “President” to discuss in her first article. We have rekindled an active society by increasing our communication and reaching out to our membership. Two years ago, I began developing a new website for the ASCLS-SD society and last year, passed that duty on to Lezlee Koch and Ruth McFarland. You all know the result. ASCLS-SD has an outstanding website and we have re-established and created a professional newsletter that is truly a hall- mark for our state. In addition we have a continual email network connection to professional updates and information on a continual basis.

In addition to the increased communication, your ASCLS-SD Board-of-Directors and committees have been working on updating all of our state society documents. We added a Young Professional Member-At-Large position to the state board of directors in line with National ASCLS. This position is intended to provide an avenue for our young professionals to transition from student to career professionals, while maintaining a strong active voice in our professional society. The Board-of-Directors has been busy updating and revising the Standard Operating Procedures of the society, committee responsibilities, position descriptions, as well as updating our New Member Handbook. Eventually all of these items will be available to our members on our ASCLS-SD Web Site.

ASCLS-SD will create the future as a strong professional society, you will see a renewed commitment to professional advocacy and opportunities for personal involvement. I would personally like to encourage each and every member to make an attempt to attend our Society’s meetings. The next meeting is our fall 3-Day “Laboratory Revival”, October 4-6 in Sioux Falls. Our meetings are filled with excellent continuing education, member professional recognition and networking.

As I look forward to the position of ASCLS-SD Past President, I will enjoy a little bit “quieter” email, maybe..., but you can be sure you will continue to see me supporting our society and helping the incoming board members transition into their new roles. Serving as the ASCLS-SD president has been a wonderful experience.

If we have a vision, work together as a unified profession and keep the professional light of **ASCLS’s VOICE, VALUE and VISION** in front of us and in front of all clinical laboratory professionals every day.... we will continue to grow in number and strength, together we can make a positive impact on the clinical laboratory science profession!!

☞ **VISION:** “It is not enough to stare up the steps ---As clinical laboratory professionals, we must step up the stairs.” ☞





**RECRUIT
A NEW
MEMBER!**



BE AN ASCLS STAR

Every clinical laboratorian deserves the professional benefits of **ASCLS!**

We invite each of you to share how much ASCLS membership and benefits means to you with at least one other laboratory professional.

Every member receives the benefits that you enjoy as an ASCLS member-

- CLS Journal (Prof I only)
- ASCLS Today
- Members-only discounts on publications
- Savings on meeting registrations
- Membership in state and regional organizations
- Current information about legislative/regulatory issues
- An **instant network** of laboratory professionals

Share the **ASCLS VOICE-VALUE-VISION** with your friends and colleagues! We all benefit when ASCLS grows! The more members we have in South Dakota, the stronger our professions voice is here at home. This stronger voice benefits our laboratories and each one of us.

New members can join on-line at www.ascls.org or paper applications can be printed from the same location.

Check out, www.ascls.org or www.ascls-sd.org, for tools and tips for member recruitment to help you in recruiting a new member.



“DO YOU make a difference? YOU DO make a difference!” Same words... just a matter of what “you do”!
By: Lori Murray, ASCLS-SD 2006-07 Incoming President

I have been told are three types of people in this world. There are those who make things happen, those who watch and observe things happen, and those who don't know what's happening at all. I like to think of myself as one who likes to make things happen. That is the biggest reason I joined ASCLS. I like to surround myself with fun, happening people and this is a group determined to make things happen.

There are all kinds of ways to make things happen... from banner waving, to fist pounding and foot stomping, to the quiet simply stated voice of reason. It doesn't really matter how it happens..... just that **IT** happens. My goal for the next year as the President of ASCLS-SD is to keep the energy going. We have so much momentum going for our society right now. It is important to keep moving forward, building our strength and keeping our voice and vision at the forefront of what we do. Whether it is advocating something locally or nationally, our input is valuable to healthcare and to the patients we serve.

We must be aware of the past, and use it to our advantage, but focus on what is ahead. What is our vision of the future? Where do we see ourselves in 5 or 10 years? When I think of that question, I get a bit nervous! In my social and profession worlds, I see that in the next 3-5 years... many, many people will be retiring, and who is going to hold the pieces together, keep the continuity, and keep us moving down the path to our goals? We really need to get those laboratory professionals in the 20-40 age group actively immersed in ASCLS, so that 5 years from now... we don't fall to pieces, the momentum lost. We need to bulk up our team, initiate new and creative ideas, or rework the old ones. We must encourage other clinical laboratory professionals to join ASCLS, for whatever their skill, (foot stomper or quiet reasoner) they are an integral part of our profession, our team and our future.

I am looking to this next year as an opportunity for growth, personally and professionally. I am grateful for the opportunity you have given me and will do my best to make a difference. We all juggle so many things in our lives, but if we pull together as a team... it makes the load a bit lighter, and definitely more fun. I will need the help of each and every one of you to make this work. I cannot do this alone. **YOU** are the nuts and bolts of the team, and without **YOU**, we will lose our momentum. **YOU DO** make a difference!! **YOU DO !**

☞ COMMITMENT: “Professional commitment unlocks the doors of imagination, allows vision, and gives us the “right stuff” to turn our dreams into reality.” ☞

MARK YOUR
CALENDARS ~ PLAN
AHEAD FOR 2006!

ASCLS-SD
&
CLMA-
Siouxland

2006
3-DAY FALL
MEETING!

Talk About An
Evolution!



LABORATORY
REVIVAL!

October 4-6, 2006
Ramkota Hotel
Sioux Falls SD

Unpack your bell-
bottoms, tie-dyes, love
beads, polyester suits
and your **rose colored**
glasses!

Plan on attending this
FANTASTIC, FUN,
FALL EVENT!



REGION V NEWS: Candidate for Region V Director Announced



Lezlee Koch CLS(NCA) MT(ASCP)

Colton SD

ASCLS Membership: Since 1974

Education: B.S. Medical Technology

Northern State University, Aberdeen SD

St. Luke's Methodist School of MT, Cedar Rapids IA

Employment: Avera McKennan Regional Laboratory, Sioux Falls SD

Position: Clinical Laboratory Manager, Outreach, Education, Compliance

Statement of Philosophy: Clinical laboratory professionals have rights and responsibilities not only for themselves, but to their profession and to the public they serve. We have the ability to achieve unbelievable goals with a focused, unified effort by our society's true strength...our grassroots members. Every ASCLS member, state constituent society and ASCLS Region has tremendous untapped potential just waiting to be unleashed to move our organization and profession forward.

I believe... **TOGETHER** in **ASCLS**... our **VOICE**, our **VALUE** and our **VISION** will allow us to create the future beginning today. The choice is ours... "To succeed, we must walk our professional path one step at a time with courage, faith, determination and trust in each other."

I am honored for the nomination to serve as ASCLS's Region V Director and welcome the opportunity to be able to serve ASCLS, Region V and all ASCLS grassroots members. As Paul Landauer would say, "I'm a proud clinical laboratory professional and I'm reporting for professional duty." I would like to take this opportunity to say.... Thank you ASCLS, for being there for me during every step of my professional journey.



MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT: ASCLS Renewal... A Time To Be Counted!

By: Becky Davis, ASCLS-SD Membership Development Chair

It is always our responsibility as ASCLS members to recruit new members but now is the time that each of us must consider renewal of our own ASCLS membership. To help you, our Membership Committee will be preparing and sending renewal reminders as we know that sometimes during very busy times it is easy to miss communication coming from ASCLS. As you consider your professional renewal, remember we serve as the voice of all clinical laboratory professionals as our mission statement emphasizes. It is through our membership in ASCLS and ASCLS-SD.... **our voice will be heard, our profession will be recognized as the true healthcare resource that it and our members truly are.** Be watching for your ASCLS renewal notices. If you do not receive any renewal notification by July, please notify any one of the Board of Directors or the Membership Committee right away. We will contact the national office for you to make sure that they have your current address.

**ANNOUNCING...
FALL
“LABORATORY
REVIVAL”
PROGRAM
HIGHLIGHTS!!!**

- ~Celiac Disease
 - ~Hormone Therapy
 - ~Blood Bank Case Studies
 - ~Gram Stains
 - ~Laboratory Safety
 - ~Lean Laboratory Environment
 - ~Platelet Structure
 - ~Ethical Laboratory Issues
 - ~Molecular Diagnostics
 - ~TRALI
 - ~How To Influence Political Policy
 - ~Heparin Xa
 - ~Cost Effective Microbiology
 - ~Help I'm Laughing & Can't Get Up
 - ~Collaboration, Commitment, & Involvement
 - ~Teambuilding
 - ~Legal Issues for the Laboratory
 - ~Finding Life Balance
 - ~Waived Testing
 - ~QC/Lean/Six Sigma
 - ~Work Place Conflict
 - ~Allergy IgE Testing
 - ~Amphetamine/Meth
 - ~Crime Scene Investigation
 - ~Vendor Night
 - ~Student Sessions
- &
MORE!**

Please help me welcome Peggy Jennings to the Membership Development Committee this month. I have asked Peggy to assist me in the role of recruiting and retention of members. For the very short time I have known her, I have enjoyed her professional outlook and I am looking forward, with Peggy's help, in hearing back from you as we send out periodic reminders to you to renew your memberships!



STUDENTS: Preparation for NCA or ASCP BOR Examinations... As Well As For Your Future

By: Michael Andersen, ASCLS-SD 2nd Vice President

So you think you've finally finished, or you're so close, but there is the one thing that all students dread...the certification exam. I bet you're thinking how do I study for one cumulative final test that will be so important to me? I know I did. There are a few things that you should know for preparation for the exam. Don't procrastinate, study, and get rest.

First things first, don't procrastinate get the test taken shortly after graduation. This will make it easier on you, speaking from experience (taking the test on the last day possible); procrastination is not a good thing when it comes to taking the exam. The more time you put between you and the exam is an opportunity to lose some knowledge in your weaker areas. I know when I graduated the last thing I wanted to do was to study even more, but you will need to study less if you take the exam sooner rather than later.

The second thing is to study. Use all available resources to study for the exam. Exam study guides are available at most larger books stores and are very helpful. They give you an idea of the format of test questions and most books give a good description of answers. There are also websites available that have good educational tools that can help you out. Studying with classmates is also helpful; they may have ideas that help them remember certain things that may also help you.

Thirdly, get rest the night before the exam. If you get a good amount of rest and eat a good breakfast before the exam your brain will function more efficiently, or at least that is what I have heard. Finally, after you have passed that exam and are finally done with school, continue your education. ASCLS and ASCLS-SD offer high quality continuing education meetings and on-line offerings that award PACE credits at discounted prices for members. Both nationally recognized certification agencies, NCA and ASCP now require CE certification maintenance/renewal. There are also other websites and medical journals that offer CEUs.

Good luck students and first year professionals on your exams and your first year of professional work. **ASCLS-SD is proud of your hard work and dedication to our profession.**



LEGISLATIVE DAYS 2006: "A Huge Success!"

By: ASCLS-SD 2006 Legislative Day Attendees



**UP TO DATE
INFORMATION
ON THE
ASCLS-SD
&
CLMA-Siouxland
"LABORATORY
REVIVAL"
can be found at**

**[www.ascls-
sd.org/id4.html](http://www.ascls-sd.org/id4.html)**



**ASCLS-SD Salutes
Our Newest
Members!**

Rachel Rydell
Sioux Falls

JoAnn Huffman
Brookings

Mary Beth Sik
Clear Lake

Lindsay Stalcup
Rapid City

Allison Haugrud
Sioux Falls

Kristina Niedert
Sioux Falls

Elizabeth Story
Rapid City

Shannon Dunn
Sioux Falls

Shirley Heber, Sioux Falls SD:

For those of you who have ever had even a tiny bit of curiosity about what goes on in Washington, then keep reading! This is the story of how a well-planned political legislative blitz can make a real difference in the present and future of laboratory medicine.

The 2006 Legislative Symposium was held in Washington DC on March 27 and 28. Over 150 laboratorians were in attendance from all 50 states, and an estimated 50% were there for the first time! South Dakota representatives were Lezlee Koch, Shirley Heber, Michelle Friesen, Patty Buus, and Deb Piper. Several states' attendees were students or first-year professionals, and their enthusiasm about the field of laboratory medicine was so contagious! In-depth training was provided during the first day's sessions on such topics as Competitive Bidding, Title VII and Title VIII funding, Personnel Shortage, Pay for Performance and Medicare Reimbursement. Speakers from CMS, ASCLS, CLMA, ASCP and several from the Washington area relayed a wealth of information about the topics, and question and answer sessions were lively. An aide from one of the legislator's offices gave us an idea of how to prepare for our next day's meetings with our individual state's senators and representatives. Keep in mind that Congressmen and women from every state were being visited on the same day on the same issues by laboratorians from their state or region.....the message was going to be widely spread!

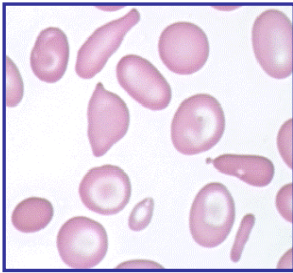
Tuesday morning, March 28, found us meeting for a quick breakfast before walking to the "Metro", or subway, which would take us to Capitol Hill. The cherry trees were beginning to bloom, and the area around the Capitol, Senate and House buildings was busy with visitors, legislators, staff members and of course, laboratorians! We arrived early enough to tour the buildings briefly and take in the ambience of the political scene.

We were fortunate to have the opportunity to meet separately with Senators John Thune and Tim Johnson in their respective offices. They were both extremely gracious and interested in our comments, and promised to assist with our needs in their committee meetings. Both were more receptive when they learned that MedPac, a political action committee that advises Congress on medical bills, has chosen not to support competitive bidding. Both senators are familiar with the logistical concerns of our state, and were sympathetic to the issue of personnel shortages.

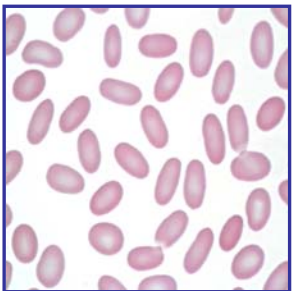
Our last meeting was with an aide from Representative Stephanie Herseth's office. Representative Herseth was unable to meet with us, but her aide was extremely knowledgeable on the critical issues facing the field of clinical laboratory science, and promised to pass along our comments. Representative Herseth had already signed House Bill 1175 to support solutions for the current and future shortage of laboratory personnel.

The most exciting part about this symposium was the opportunity to network

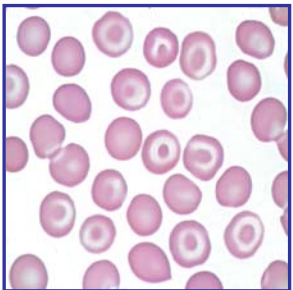
*For The Love of
RBC's!*



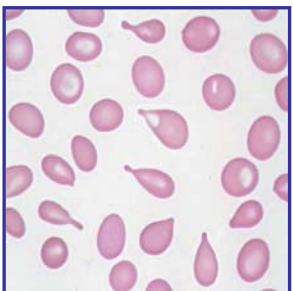
Poikilocytosis



Elliptocytes



Target cells



Tear drop cells

with other laboratory professionals from across the country, and to realize that we are not alone in the issues we face every day. I truly felt that we had made a difference after meeting with our legislators. You too can make a difference.....keep reading, learning, and participating in the field of laboratory medicine. The rewards are great and the opportunities to grow never end!

Michelle Friesen, Yankton SD:

On March 28, I was privileged to serve as one of your ASCLS-SD's Legislative Day representatives and travel to Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Our professional mission was to influence our Congressmen to take specific actions regarding their decisions on Competitive Bidding and the Medical Laboratory Personnel Shortage Act of 2005. Title VII (Funding for Allied Health Programs) and alternatives for the Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedules are interrelated to the two main talking points.

First and foremost topic was the **competitive bidding project** that CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) is proposing. Competitive Bidding is a method for setting the price of health care services through a bidding process to establish payment rates based on the lowest price submitted by providers. Along with competitive bidding, the Administration has proposed budget cuts proposing a 5% decrease in reimbursement for laboratory services. Laboratories have already experienced major cuts. The fee schedule has been frozen until 2008 and has not been updated since 2000. CLMA / ASCLS task force is working with the laboratory community, MedPAC (Medicare Payment Advisory Committee), CMS and Congress on a more cost-effective fee schedule.

The laboratory community opposes competitive bidding for laboratory services because:

- ➔ it has the potential reduce the number of laboratory service providers in a community,
- ➔ it has the potential to restrict a physician's laboratory service choice which is based on patient convenience, quality of service, accuracy and timeliness of results,
- ➔ it will possibly impact patient care by compromising access to laboratory services.

We urged Congress to oppose competitive bidding and any attempt to implement competitive bidding without an appropriate demonstration project.

The next issue discussed was the **shortage of laboratory personnel**. The impact of laboratory testing in our healthcare system is paramount-up to 70% of medical decisions are based on laboratory test results. In addition, laboratory professionals need to be in the front line in the identification of agents of bioterrorism and emergency preparedness. The shortage of laboratory personnel has reached a critical level in the United States and stands to increase in the coming years. H.R. 1175, the Medical Laboratory Personnel Shortage Act, has been introduced to help create solutions to the immediate and long term effects of the laboratory personnel shortage. H.R. 1175 would allow grants, loans, and other funding mechanisms that are needed to encourage students to consider careers in the laboratory and to

PROFESSIO!
Live IT!
Proclaim IT!
Let IT Shine!

Did you know that the words profession and professional comes from the Latin word “professio”? This word means a public declaration with a force of promise!

Professions are groups which declare in a public way that members will perform in a certain way and ultimately have the goal to serve society to meet defined needs.

As dedicated members of the laboratory profession, we are held accountable for the healthcare services we provide everyday.

***This is merely a definition....
Not the true
HEART & SOUL
of professionalism!***

Real professionalism has little, if anything, to do with the business you are in!

Nor the tasks that you perform!

Nor how many degrees you have achieved!

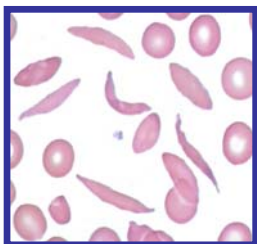
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allow development and enhancement to the necessary laboratory training programs. **We thanked Representative Stephanie Herseth as a supporter of H.R. 1175 and urged support from Senator Thune and Senator Johnson.**

HEMATOLOGY SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLY: Two Simple Laboratory Tests Useful in Predicting Major Complications in Sickle Cell Patients!

By: Michelle Sedlacek MT(ASCP), ASCLS-SD Publications Committee

Sickle cell disorders are a type of hemoglobinopathy that affects the globin portion of the chain but not the heme portion. Hemoglobinopathies can be caused by qualitative or quantitative defects. The most common qualitative disorder is sickle cell anemia. Sickle cell trait affects 8-10% of American blacks and is usually asymptomatic with occasional bouts of hematuria. Sickle cell disease occurs in 0.3-1.3% of American blacks and is a severe, potentially fatal condition.



Sickle cell disease is commonly known to cause a sickle cell crisis leading to complications such as leg ulcers, bone and joint pain, arthritis, renal papillary necrosis, GI complications, hepatomegaly, autosplenectomy, pulmonary hypertension, thrombosis, and stroke. Pulmonary hypertension (PH) is a condition where the blood pressure in the artery to the lungs is increased.

Prolonged pulmonary hypertension can cause damage to the lungs and failure of the right ventricle. Secondary PH develops in most types of hereditary and chronic anemias that are caused by hemolysis. The prevalence of PH is estimated to be 20%-40% in patients with sickle cell disease and is associated with increased mortality over sickle cell patients without PH.

One of the tests touted as a predictor of PH is the BNP assay. Brain natriuretic peptide is released from the heart ventricle when under pressure strain. BNP levels were measured in 230 patients with sickle cell disease and in 45 healthy controls. BNP was higher in the patients with PH than those without PH or those in the control group. A BNP level >160pg/ml was a clear predictor of mortality with a two-fold increase in the risk of death. BNP levels were also measured in banked blood samples of separate patients enrolled in the Multicenter Study of Hydroxyurea in Sickle Cell Anemia Patients Follow-Up study initiated in 1995. An elevated BNP level was found in 30% of the group indicating that up to one-third of the study subjects had undiagnosed pulmonary hypertension.

A second test that physicians are being urged to use a screen for PH in sickle cell patients is lactate dehydrogenase. LDH is an enzyme found in many types of cells in the body but is especially high in the RBC's, heart, kidneys, liver, and muscles. A study of 213 patients with sickle cell disease was conducted, measuring LDH levels and correlating those results with their medical history. The 31 patients with highly elevated LDH levels (512-1171 IU/L) demonstrated a direct correlation between their LDH level and the

PROFESSIO!

(continued)

We may be too “short-term” in our thinking... If we only focus on our job... Not our career and who we are **DEEP DOWN!**

Just to be highly skilled does not make a professional... Professionalism is an **ATTITUDE**, not a set of competencies!

REAL PROFESSIONALISM
is the....

- Display of **PRIDE & PASSION** in all that you do
- Continuous **COMMITMENT** to quality
- **DEDICATION** to the interests of the customers you serve
- Seeking **CHALLENGE** at every opportunity
- Sincere desire to “**SERVE & GIVE BACK**” to your profession through professional memberships and being active in professional organizations!

“Professional is not a label you can give yourself.”

“It is a description you hope others will apply to you & what you stand for!”

severity of pulmonary hypertension. Mortality rates were examined over a 49-month period and researchers found that the patients with an LDH greater than the median had a reduced survival rate. It is believed that the source of the LDH comes from the breakdown of fragile RBC’s.

Both of these common tests seem to be important predictive tools in determining which sickle cell patients are most at risk of serious complications from pulmonary hypertension.

(SOURCE: www.hematology.org)



ASCLS-SD MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT: Annual Elections & Awards!

By: Lezlee Koch, ASCLS-SD Publications Co-Chair

CONGRATULATIONS & SPECIAL WISHES TO... 2006-2007 ASCLS-SD Officers & Nominations Committee

President: Lori Murray, Garretson SD

1st Vice President: Michael Andersen, Freeman SD

2nd Vice President: Susan Lopez, Volga SD

Past President: Patricia Tille, Sioux Falls SD

Secretary-Treasurer: Deb Pravecek, Brookings SD

Board Members-At-Large:

Janet McArthur, Spearfish SD

Dana Yeager, Rapid City SD

Ruth McFarland, Flandreau SD

Young Professional Member-At-Large: Tanya Stuckey, Sioux Falls

Student Forum Representative: Allison Haugrud, Sioux Falls SD

Nominations Committee:

Mona Gleysteen, Castlewood SD

Kelly Thomas, Rapid City SD

2006 ASCLS-SD Awards & Scholarships

ASCLS-SD Membership Award: 2 Yr

Michael Andersen	Corinna Christopherson	Crystal Dwight	Michelle Friesen
Neili Fullenkamp	Katie Louwagie	Megan Mathias	Leanne Nicholls
Tracy Roth	Lynn Seime	Jennifer Tranas	Tyron White
Dawn Vreugdenhil			

ASCLS-SD Membership Award: 10 Yr

Susan Lopez	Kelly Thomas	Donald Wahl	Dana Yeager
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ASCLS-SD Membership Award: 15 Yr

Sharon Ailts	Owen Bain	Rebecca Davis	Julie Horstman
Patrick McMahon	Craig Nelson	Pam Swier	



Being A Professional...

Does not guarantee that you will get the biggest office, the most important title, or the best job.

It does not mean that you will make the most money or win the loudest applause.

What being a professional does mean is that your professionalism will be recognized and you will be given the respect you are deserving of.

Being a professional will also allow you to be recognized as the healthcare resource you are.

When you are a true professional, you will always be able to look in the mirror and say:

**“I like who I see;
I make a difference;
I give back to my profession;
I am proud of my profession & what I stand for.”**



ASCLS-SD Membership Award: 20 Yr

Robert Jenson

Ardith Peterson

ASCLS OMICRON SIGMA – State/Regional/National

Malinda Campbell (State)

Rebecca Davis (State)

Michael Andersen (Regional)

Lezlee Koch (Regional)

Lori Murray (Regional)

Deb Piper (Regional)

Mona Gleysteen (National)

Patricia Tille (National)

Jennifer Tranas (National)

ASCLS-SD Keys To The Future

Michelle Sedlacek

Tanya Stuckey

ASCLS-SD Member of the Year

Patricia Tille

ASCLS-SD Scholarship Recipients

Allison Haugrud

Joann Huffman

Colleen Lesnar

Just a Few of the Kodak Moments From The Spring Meeting!



ASCLS is more than a handshake...
It's a lifetime of professional friendships!



Fantastic Attendance by Students...
ASCLS Salutes Our Future Professional Shining Stars!



There's no such thing as a break... the Networking & Information Sharing flows right into the next session !



ASCLS Professional Pride...
Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow!