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# The Phlebotomy Pioneer

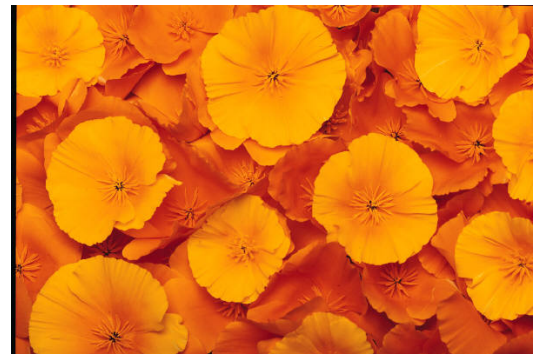
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## The Visionary

A fresh new vision for the field of Phlebotomy is the mandate for a company that started nearly 28 years ago.

The National Phlebotomy Association is dedicated to certifying and training phlebotomists all over the country. But one must ask who is the visionary behind a company that is the first of its kind to take such a stand in the importance and promotion of phlebotomy certification. Diane C. Crawford, is the dynamic trailblazer of NPA (National Phlebotomy Association). Located in Landover, MD. NPA's objective is to promote quality service to its members, but also to encourage non certified phlebotomists to become certified. "I have many goals for this company, but my primary aim is to be a strong voice in the community of phlebotomy" Crawford said. "I want there to be a global push for phlebotomy certification." Over the decades that NPA has been operating it hasn't steered away from the importance of certification. Although the field of phlebotomy has evolved the purpose of this company remains. "The field of phlebotomy continues to tailor itself, the equipment changes requirements



and safety issues alter. However, the purpose for this company is to educate, edify, and encourage phlebotomists to continue in the spirit of excellence" said Crawford.

Crawford's background in the health profession and her detailed research in the health industry, promotes her to push for national laws concerning phlebotomy certification. "Drawing blood isn't a game, this profession should be taken seriously; therefore, it is my belief that certification should be a law" Crawford stated.

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## Continuing Your Education

Salutations newly certified phlebotomist, welcome to the world of blood specimens and venipunctures. At this point you may be asking yourself what's my next step to becoming an effective phlebotomist. Well, we are glad you asked. Your friends at The National Phlebotomy Association want you to know that continuing your education is your next goal to becoming the best phlebotomist on the job. Continuing Education Units also known

as CEU's, are essentially pathways to staying abreast on topics in phlebotomy and the health industry. Likewise with any career, employees are looking for ways to utilize their strengths, and expand their knowledge for their chosen field.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Continuing Your Education



Because of current and future issues in the health profession phlebotomy is no different, we need that extra edge to understand the health care community, techniques, products and procedures in the field of Laboratory Medicine. Continuing your education will do just that. These are essentially hours (*units*) you've dedicated to expanding your knowledge after certification.

CEU's can vary from seminars, to workshops and even classes

provided by colleges or phlebotomy training programs. Your company may even offer classes within the office as well. As a newly certified, health care professional it's imperative to gain these units where ever they're offered.

Now that you know these units are important, you may also be wondering what topics should you focus on when signing up for a class or workshop? First and foremost you want to check to see if the

workshop given is from a legitimate source. Secondly, check to see if it involves any costs or a financial commitment for every unit given. And as for topics, each can vary from Safety in the Workplace; to Healthcare Standards just to name a few the list goes on. Most importantly ask yourself which topic will help to become an exemplary phlebotomist. Remember CEU's are for your benefit take advantage of every opportunity to gain these units.

*In some offices it's advised to gain CEU's and failure to comply may result in termination of your job.*

The National Phlebotomy Association encourages all its members to continue their education after they receive their certification. Although it's not a requirement for renewing your certification, it's highly recommended. In some offices it's highly advised to gain CEU's and failure to comply may result in the termination of your job.

As long as you stay true to this career continuing your education should be your focus as well as remaining current with your certification.

*Stay tuned for the National Phlebotomy Association Seminar and opportunity to gain at least 20 units.*

*(See CEU Checklist Page 3)*

## Calling all Phlebotomist ...Who's Protecting YOU?



Are you concerned with your protection rights in the workplace? Would you like to know who holds phlebotomists accountable when something goes wrong while drawing blood? Do you believe a patient will go to the extreme of suing a phlebotomist and his or her company? What are the

conditions of your protection? Are there any insurance or legal coverage's in case an incident occurs.

### **Are there laws protecting YOU?**

If you would like to see this subject in our next issue and would like to comment on the

topic, Email: The National Phlebotomy Association [NALTPHLE@AOL.COM](mailto:NALTPHLE@AOL.COM)

Subject Line: Who's Protecting you?

In your letter include contact information.

Full Name, Current Address, Phone number, and Email Address.

NPA will contact you by email.

# A Healthy You in 2006, Cleanse Your Body

Remember when your parents use say “It’s what’s on the inside that counts.” Of course, they were probably trying to make you feel better after being dismissed by your ultimate crush, but nevertheless your parents were right. If the inside of your body isn’t functioning well, nothing else matters. When it comes to what you put in the “inside” are you being cautious? Do you overload your digestive system with a whole lot of junk? If your reluctant to answer these questions you may need to start detoxifying your body. Detoxifying also known as fasting is a short process indi-



viduals maintain, in order to cleanse the body for health purposes. According to doctors, fasting is like flushing the system and giving your body a break from food in order to eliminate all its toxins. Toxins can come from the food you eat, to the pollution in the air. These toxins pose a threat to your immune system. This technique is not to be confused with starvation, the procedures for fasting is very system-

atic. Fasting has been used to treat diseases such as diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular disease, allergies, skin disease and gastrointestinal disease. If done correctly, fasting can be very beneficial. To see the positive affects of fasting depends on long-term dedication. So often we can get so attached to our three course meals, gourmet desserts and mid-night snacks, we forget it’s ok to give food up for a day to cleanse our system. When you fast, drink plenty of fluids like water and juices. For more info on this topic, contact your physician.

## CEU Checklist

A total of 1.8 Continuing Education Units are NPA’s standard every year.

Ten hours of training is equal to One CEU. Any amount above the 1.8 CEU’s will not be carried over until the following year. You are given the entire calendar year to submit CEU’s.

The following activities are approved CEU’s

- Certification and Recertification classes in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation CPR by the American Heart Association
- Fire and safety precaution
- Any in service program that is rendered by your place of employment
- Certificates from any Home Study Module
- Teaching phlebotomy procedures to students at the work place. Must have proof of hours spent
- Volunteer work at Health Fairs Must have proof of hours spent

## Visionary continued.....

a standard for drawing blood. “My goal is to take this concern globally and it is my hope that laws will begin to change the phlebotomy outlook.” The National Phlebotomy Association takes pride in certifying over 15,000 phlebotomists in all 50 states and some nationwide. Crawford’s goal is to increase the already impressive numbers. However, she believes that the focus

should not only be in the quantity of phlebotomists, but in the quality of phlebotomists “I am not so consumed with numbers that I forget why NPA is here; we must promote quality instruction so we are educating and certifying exemplary phlebotomists. I am so pleased to have my staff, and instructors behind me on this matter.” While Crawford continues to do what she

loves, she reflects on the organization that began with a passion to see people develop. She concludes that the responsiveness of legislators, health-care professionals and phlebotomists is the fiber of NPA.” I believe in fulfilling my passion so individuals can fulfill theirs; it’s my hope that individuals see the importance of certification so we can transform the face of phlebotomy for years to come.”



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**The National Phlebotomy Association  
Educating, Edifying, and Encouraging.**

**The National Phlebotomy Association created the industry in 1978 in Washington, DC. NPA Certification has the same prestige and benefits for the Phlebotomist as does certification by any other professional organization for its members. Certification by NPA will aid job placement for phlebotomists and general level and quality of phlebotomy care will be enhanced by a certified Phlebotomists and aid in obtaining a phlebotomists position. To receive information on programs and certification, please feel free to call or write.**

## The Phlebotomist's Creed

### L.O.V.E

#### Living, and Overcoming, for Victories, Everyday

**We shouldn't merely exist, but we should live!**

Editor's Notes

When you think about the word live, what comes to mind? It is certain many things on earth have the opportunity to live. The other day I was thinking about how a flower is given an opportunity to reach its full potential once it develops from a seed to a budding display of beauty. Sometimes the flower is to be marveled from a distance, other times it is plucked to bring joy to someone. And then other times it's trampled on and overlooked. A flower is simply a wonderful plant that exists just to be beautiful. It was meant to be a symbol of endearment, affection, love, and it was meant to leave a lasting impression. The flower merely lives to be wonderful. Even though its beauty doesn't last forever, it still signifies splendor. The question is are you living or existing? Is your reason for living to be a

marvelous wonder? Were you meant to bring joy to another individual or is your purpose to exist and be trampled on and forgotten? It's amazing that with the billions and billions of people that occupy this planet we're all here for a purpose and a reason. Nevertheless, it's up to us as individuals to either be alive or be unmoved. I choose to live like the flower to be a marvel in my own right, and to bring joy to someone's life. I want to have an aura of sweetness and a reputation of goodness. We could learn a lot from this delicate array of beauty. So next time you see a flower, ask yourself the question, am I living or



existing?

C. Crawford

I am a prominent member of the health community.

I follow the guidelines and procedures set before me.

I will follow the path of excellence, continue in my education always, strive to learn and stay current with certification.

As I work, no matter the mood, I will keep a pleasant attitude.

I will keep a positive outlook and never say I am burnt out, stressed or feeble, because I realize my priority is in the needle.

