

Announcement of *NephSAP*

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Members of the Society will find a new dividend accompanying this issue of the *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*. A new publication of the ASN, *NephSAP* (*Nephrology Self-Assessment Program*), begins with the release of its inaugural issue accompanying the July issue of *JASN*.

NephSAP hopes to provide ASN members with a vehicle by which to periodically evaluate and update their nephrology knowledge, clinical analytic skills, and judgment. Each issue will be devoted to a general theme (e.g., glomerular diseases) and will consist of two parts. First, a comprehensive, scholarly, and clinically oriented syllabus written by one of the associate editors of *NephSAP* that summarizes the important developments in the field over the previous 2 to 3 years. Second, a self-evaluation examination composed of 25 single-best-answer, clinically relevant questions that concern key topics embraced by the overall theme of the issue. Submitted answer sheets will be graded and returned along with the answers, explanatory comments, and appropriate references. The outcome of the self-evaluation exercise may provide guidance on the strengths and weaknesses of the respondent. Continuing Medical Education credits will be given for completion of the examination.

NephSAP will be published bimonthly starting in July; three issues are slated for 2002, and the full six issues will appear in

2003. ASN members will receive their issues of *NephSAP* at no additional cost, and they will be mailed with *JASN*. The associate editors have been selected for their established and well-recognized expertise in a specific theme area and for their teaching skills. Altogether, the themes will encompass the broad field of nephrology:

- Glomerular, Vascular, Tubulointerstitial, and Genetic Diseases: Richard Glassock and Gerald Appel
- Disorders of Fluids, Electrolytes, and Acid-Base: Richard Sterns
- Disorders of Divalent Ion Metabolism and Nephrolithiasis: Stanley Goldfarb
- Acute Renal Failure: Paul Palevsky
- Progression of Chronic Kidney Disease: Mark Rosenberg
- Dialysis and End-Stage Renal Disease: Jonathan Himmelfarb
- Renal Transplantation: Barbara Murphy
- Hypertension: George Bakris

These eight theme topics will be reviewed approximately every 16 months and published on a bimonthly basis. The emphasis will be on new and emerging clinically relevant information, but fundamental pathophysiology, molecular and cell biology, and genetics will be included if appropriate.

NephSAP should be a simple, readily available, and stimulating way for nephrologists to keep current in a rapidly changing environment. The editors encourage comments regarding *NephSAP* and its offerings. Our goal is to make this program the very best of its kind. Your input will help us to make it more useful to your professional life. Please let us know how we are doing and how we can make the program better.

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