



AMT
American Medical Technologists
Certifying Excellence in Allied Health

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Editor
CLINICAL LABORATORY NEWS
American Association for Clinical Chemistry
1850 K Street, NW Suite 625
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Editor:

American Medical Technologists (AMT) takes this opportunity to comment on the article in the October 2008 issue of *Clinical Lab News* entitled "Lab Credentialing Agencies Merging."

We feel compelled to point out the false inference that could be drawn at the outset of the article that there are only two credentialing agencies for clinical laboratory personnel, and that they are the ASCP Board of Registry and the National Credentialing Agency for Lab Personnel (NCA). Of course, as most know, there are not simply two clinical lab personnel certification agencies, but four. They are, ranked in order of number of annual MT/CLS certifications issued in recent years: ASCP, AMT, NCA, and the program of the American Association of Bioanalysts (AAB).

To be sure, later in the article there is a reference to the "two *major* players in certifying medical laboratory personnel," (emphasis supplied), but it identifies these two as ASCP and NCA. To the extent that number of certificants, number of years in the certification business, or number of state licensing boards that recognize a certification exam are factors in defining the word "major" then in truth one would have to say that either the two major players are ASCP and AMT, or that there are three major players: ASCP, AMT, and NCA. AMT, established in 1939, certifies on an annual basis far more MT/CLSs than NCA (founded only in 1978), and actually AMT's numbers are closer to those of ASCP than to NCA.

We appreciate your assistance in setting the record straight.

Sincerely,

Christopher A. Damon
Executive Director