



**Adopted October 2005**

## **POSITION STATEMENT PERFORMING VENIPUNCTURE**

The management of fluids and electrolytes is essential to maintaining homeostasis in the surgical patient. Intravenous (IV) access is established in order to administer parenteral fluids and medications. The purposes of parenteral fluids include preventing dehydration, maintaining normal levels of electrolytes, and replacing the loss of blood and body fluids, either due to trauma or during the course of surgery. Continuous IV therapy is established to achieve the above stated objectives.

Therefore, it is the position of the Association of Surgical Technologists that the individual who has graduated from a CAAHEP-accredited program and attained the credential of CST, or CFA, who receives the training for venipuncture is qualified to perform venipuncture for the purpose of continuous IV therapy.