

## One Source Will "CAP" Off 2006 with Another Laboratory Accreditation

Editor Ty Weaver

One Source Toxicology Laboratory was awarded an accreditation by the Commission on Laboratory Accreditation of the College of American Pathologists – Forensic Urine Drug Testing (CAP-FUDT), based on the results of a recent on-site inspection.

The Laboratory's Director Subbarao V. Kala, PhD., was advised of this national recognition and congratulated for the "excellence of the services being provided." One Source Toxicology Laboratory is one of the more than 6,000 CAP-accredited laboratories nationwide. However, there are approximately 50 laboratories in the United States that are CAP-FUDT certified.

During the CAP accreditation process, inspectors examine the laboratory's records and quality control procedures for the preceding two years. CAP inspectors also examine the entire staff's qualifications, the laboratory's equipment, facilities, safety program and record, as well as the overall management of the laboratory. This stringent inspection program is designed to specifically ensure the highest standard of care for the laboratory's patients.

A major area of improvement for obtaining the CAP Accreditation was an increased awareness of laboratory safety for the employees and implementation of continuing education programming at One Source. The personnel were trained to conduct the proper procedures for shipping and handling of biohazard materials. The laboratory staff trained with the local fire department on how to properly extinguish chemical fires. Kala and staff established chemical hygiene and a safety manual to ensure laboratory safety procedures are strictly followed. An ergonomics specialist inspected the employee's working environment, duties, safety and efficiency to perform their jobs.

The training sessions in these areas were performed after the initial on-

site inspection. The sessions were documented and submitted to the commission prior to the accreditation approval. Kala was responsible for ensuring the necessary steps were taken for the laboratory to receive the CAP-FUDT certification. The process involved training all employees of the laboratory. This proved challenging as the laboratory operates 24 hours with a day and night shift, so the training sessions had to be conducted twice in order to accommodate the shifts.

The College of American Pathologists is a medical society serving nearly 16,000 physician members and the laboratory community throughout the world. It is the world's largest association composed exclusively of pathologists and is widely considered one of the leaders in laboratory quality assurance. The CAP is an advocate for high-quality and cost-effective medical care.

One Source wanted the accreditation to ensure client-donors were receiving the highest quality methods of testing and to provide their employees a safe place to work.

Kala said, "Having a certification from SAMHSA and CAP-FUDT will help satisfy both quality control and safety of our laboratory's operations. Preserving these certifications and all other certifications illustrates that One Source Toxicology Laboratory is providing its clients with the highest quality of testing services for their drug testing program."

There are several disciplines, or divisions, under the College of American Pathologists. One Source Toxicology falls under the Forensic Urine Drug Testing Discipline. "This discipline is highly specific and the process to become certified is extremely extensive. There are few laboratories in the United States with this specific certification," said Kala.

The College of American Pathologists' certification is one of many for One Source Toxicology Laboratory. To view all of One Source Toxicology Laboratory's

certifications, visit the opening page of the website and click the "certification" link. For more information on the College of American Pathologists, visit [www.cap.org](http://www.cap.org).

### Why CAP-FUDT?

The three programs managed by the College of American Pathologists are general laboratory accreditation, forensic urine drug testing, and reproductive laboratory accreditation.

The forensic urine drug testing program, the accreditation One Source Toxicology received, is for laboratories performing urine drug testing for non-medical purposes. A laboratory performing this kind of test must successfully perform confirmatory tests for the following drugs:

- Amphetamine
- Methamphetamine
- Codeine
- Total Morphine
- Benzoylcegonine
- Phencyclidine
- Delta-9-THC-COOH

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The MP3 files are available for download immediately following the completion of the newsletter production process. As a client you have the ability to listen to the newsletter prior to receiving it in the mail.

