book from the AABB Press. Three experts in adult and pediatric hematology with extensive experience in the clinical management and transfusion support of patients with sickle cell disease have addressed these complicated problems. The authors expressed their "hope that in laying out the data and putting it into an appropriate context, we can help physicians and transfusionists take better care of patients with sickle cell disease." They have succeeded in large part in meeting this ambiguous goal. This concise, yet informative, book portrays the issues, controversies, and perils of transfusion therapy for the patient with sickle cell disease. As noted by the authors, "in no other clinical setting are the value of erythrocyte transfusion, and the complications arising from it, put in such stark relief."

The book begins with two excellent chapters on the pathophysiology of sickle cell disease and its clinical manifestations. These chapters are well referenced and current. The middle three chapters address transfusion issues, established and proven indications, and controversial indications. The final two chapters deal with immunologic and nonimmunologic transfusion-related complications. Despite three authors contributing to the book, the writing style remains consistent and there is little redundancy that is often found in multiauthored texts. The book is very readable, making some complex issues quite understandable.

The text provides a comprehensive overview of the transfusion support issues for these complicated patients. This book is not targeted for those working in donor recruitment; it does not provide innovative methods or ideas for increasing blood donations in the African American community. Although apheresis technology is mentioned, the goal of this book is not to be an apheresis text, as specific technical details, such as vascular access, pediatric apheresis issues, and other protocol details, are not mentioned in this text. Finally, the recent issues of growing controversy, such as bone marrow transplantation as a cure and transfusion support for patients at risk for stroke as identified by new radiologic methods, are not extensively addressed.

Overall, this book will be very useful to its intended readership. It does an excellent job of presenting the difficulties of transfusion support for these patients in a concise and readable format. This book fills a void in the transfusion literature, because there is no other book that specifically addresses the transfusion issues for these patients. With its very reasonable price and excellent presentation by the authors, this book is a true bargain.

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IN MEMORIUM

Aaron M. Josephson, MD
1924–1999

The field of blood transfusion and hematology lost a valued friend, Aaron Josephson, who died at age 75 in Mobile, Alabama. His career began in 1949 at Michael Reese Hospital and Research Foundation in Chicago. Over a period of 22 years, he went from intern to executive director. While there he focused on the hemoglobinopathies, which he published with Karl and Lilly Singer. Later, he became medical director of Fenwal Laboratories and Hyland Therapeutics.

Dr. Josephson lectured and conducted many seminars promoting technical and clinical safety of transfusion therapy throughout Europe as well as in Israel, Japan, China, Australia, and Africa. He won many friends in those countries with his generous and gentle way of imparting knowledge.

In 1987, his career took him to the American Red Cross in Missouri and finally to Alabama.

All who knew him will remember his enthusiasm, attention to detail, and his kind ways.

Dorothy C. Malamut, MT(ASCP)SBB
1939–1999

Ms. Malamut, who died of kidney disease on September 4, 1999, was known to many people around the world as the voice and heart of the American Red Cross Rare Donor Registry. She spent most of her 20 years with the American Red Cross finding rare donor blood for patients in need, and she was almost always successful in meeting that need. She also was guardian of the blood donated by rare donors and made certain that their blood was used appropriately.

She was a primary contributor to the development of the computer program REGGI of the American Red Cross, which lists blood type information of rare blood
donors and is used to search for rare blood when needed. Currently, REGO is used by the American Rare Donor Program, which is the result of the merger of the two major rare donor lists in the United States, the American Red Cross Rare Donor Registry and the American Association of Blood Banks Rare Donor File. Ms. Malamut was the recipient of an American Red Cross Tiffany Award.

She came to the American Red Cross in 1974 from New York City where she had worked in several blood transfusion services. After retiring from the American Red Cross in 1994, she became a foster parent and worked with Welcome Wagon. She had just started a similar business, “Hi-Neighbor,” when she became ill.

Dorothy Malamut will long be remembered for her care and concern for all patients in need of rare blood and for the rare donors who gave this blood.

Delores Mallory
Editor-in-Chief

Mary McGinniss
Managing Editor

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**COMMUNICATIONS**

**Letter to the Editors**

**“Those Were the Days”**

After graduating in the mid-80s from SBB school, I was fortunate enough to be employed by the antibody laboratory at the New York Blood Center. Laurie Marsh had taken pity on me and hired me as a junior reference technologist.

I had been used to working in a hospital blood bank filled with automated cell washers, table top centrifuges, and blood bank refrigerators. At the New York Blood Center, things were set up English style. Kitchen refrigerators stored our rare reagents. A circa-1960s hair dryer was hooked up to an ancient serofuge to create a heated centrifuge in which to spin the very volatile ether eluate. Phosphate-buffered saline was reconstituted in big jugs. Huge floor centrifuges the size of washing machines spun down our 10 × 75mm test tubes. We washed and filled our tubes with a metal pipette hooked up to a pump. The speed on the pump could be adjusted by rotating a dial numbered 1 to 10, 1 being the slowest fill and 9 set for the super tech. Not being very coordinated, it took me a few weeks to stop spraying my fellow techs and actually wash my tubes. Tubes were incubated in a water bath located near a 50-gallon tank. On a few occasions, I nearly incubated my panels along with the guppies.

Equipment aside, I learned so much, regained my confidence, and developed a love for immunohematology, thanks to Mr. Marsh, Rock, and Janet.

Although I have been away from the New York Blood Center for a long time, I still love the folks I worked with. They were so generous with their knowledge.

Monique Theuriere Mohammed, MS(SBB)ASCP
Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital
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**Letter From the Editors**

**1999 Review**

We thank the authors of the outstanding articles published in 1999. The 1999 index, published in this issue, gives you an overview of the scope of the material published in these articles and lists those authors.

We thank our editorial board whose names are published in the front of each issue. The board members offer important suggestions for improving the journal and constantly support our efforts. Board members also serve as peer reviewers as requested.

We also thank the following individuals who assisted us in reviewing and selecting papers for publication.

David J. Anstee, PhD
Patricia Arndt, MT(ASCP)SBB
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