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## IN MY OPINION

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**T**he impact of health care reform is beginning to be felt by all of us and gathers momentum daily. The full and permanent effects of health care reform upon each of us will not be known for some time. What can we do to help each other in the meantime and how can we plan for the future?

As members of the Technologist Section, we are very fortunate to have a support structure in place. The support we get, however, is only as good as the support we give. The information we receive is only as good as the information we share. Our needs are met only when we define what those needs are. The leadership of the Technologist Section cannot read minds, they need your input to determine the best course of action. What do we need to survive health care reform? The Technologist Section cannot provide information, assistance or education with regard to health care reform unless the members' needs are known.

Each of us has an excellent opportunity to provide input to the Section at the Orlando meeting in June. The National Council will be meeting on June 2nd, where final planning for the coming year will be concluded. The National Council delegates need to know what you want the Section to do to help you with health care reform. Since each National Council delegate cannot contact you individually, it is each member's responsibility to provide input to the National Council delegate either through a local grassroots organization or through personal contact. If you do not know who your delegate is, call the Central Office at (212) 889-0717 and you will be given the delegate's name and telephone number.

Now, more than ever before in the history of the Technologist Section, it is imperative that we all work together as a cohesive group. Planning for the future must be done with everyone's cooperation. Structuring of educational programs must take all needs into account. Communication is of utmost importance, but it must be bi-directional. Each member has a responsibility to communicate pertinent information, needs and outcomes to the group.

What are your ideas?

Should we change training programs to better prepare students for the future? What should our continuing education programs cover? Should we redo the model job descriptions? How well is the Section doing at keeping you informed? What has happened at your hospital that you think is important to all of us? The Section needs good ideas, as well as feedback.

The time to be an active member of the Technologist Section is NOW. Let your National Council delegate know what you need and what you think the Technologist Section can do so that health care reform becomes an opportunity instead of a threat.