DECEMBER 2013
"Call for Abstracts!

Read an interesting anesthesia related article or topic, attended a seminar or AANA state or local meeting? Please share it with the class!

Please write a brief summary about the topic, provide a hyperlink if available so readers can read more. Email submissions to Katie Mayberger.

Items received by the 1st of every month will be included in that months newsletter! Submissions received after the 1st of the month may be included in that months newsletter or added to the next months at the editors discretion.

Question #1
Identify the rate-limiting enzyme in the synthesis of catecholamines.

Question #2
Which intravenous anesthetic is the only one that has low protein binding (12%)?
**Answer #1**
The transformation of tyrosine to dihydroxyphenylalanine (DOPA), catalyzed by the enzyme **tyrosine hydroxylase**, is the rate-limiting step in the synthesis of catecholamines. [Miller and Pardo, Basics. 6e, 2011 pp69; Barash, Clin. Anes. 6e, 2009 pp333; Brunton, Goodman & Gilman’s PBT., 12e, 2011 pp194–195; Hines, et. al., Stoelting’s ACED. 6e, 2012 pp394; Miller, Anesthesia. 7e, 2009 pp270–271f]

**Answer #2**
*Ketamine* is the only intravenous anesthetic that has low protein binding (12%). All other intravenous anesthetics have 73% to 98% protein binding. [Miller and Pardo, Basics. 6e, 2011 pp100t, 110]

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**Congratulations: Class of 2013**
Submitted by Mark Alderson, MSN, RN, CNL, SRNA

November 23, 2013 marked the graduation of the 2013 cohort of Masters of Nurse Anesthesia at the University of New England. Some may have been known to you as former co-workers, friends or mentors, while others helped us all indirectly. In some form, all of us benefited from their research and their trailblazing as they navigated the curriculum at UNE and grew in the clinical setting. I am reminded of a quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson, “*Do not follow where the path may lead. Go, instead, where there is no path and leave a trail.*”

As these new nurse anesthetists take their boards, become CRNAs and enter the workforce, we congratulate them on their achievements and wish them the best as they take the next step in their careers.