

December 2013

Happy New Year to the Certified Asthma Educator Community!

**Traci D. Arney, MN, FNP-C, AE-C, FAANP
NAECB Board Chair 2013-2014**

As 2013 draws to a close, and I complete my first year as Board Chair, I would like to reflect on the growth and stability of the National Asthma Educator Certification Board (NAECB). We have seen tremendous changes this year with the implementation the Recertification by Continuing Education program. A strong team developed the recertification program and our Recertification Committee has reviewed applications in a thorough and timely manner, already approving 40 applications since August 1st! In addition, 4474 professionals have passed the National Asthma Educator Certification Exam since it was initially offered in 2002. This credential is truly multidisciplinary, with nurses, respiratory therapists, pharmacists, social workers, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, physicians and 1000 hour candidates among our certificants.

The NAECB Scholarship committee has awarded more scholarships this year than ever before in the history of the NAECB with five scholarship recipients taking and passing the AE-C exam this year alone. NAECB scholarships are now awarded quarterly rather than annually. Interested candidates can apply for scholarships online at www.naecb.com.

Asthma educators are acutely aware that uncontrolled asthma presents great challenges, impacting all areas of healthcare, representing a financial burden for the healthcare system and impacting quality of life for individuals with asthma. NAECB board

members have worked to improve awareness of optimal asthma management, educating our colleagues at multiple local, regional and state conferences. Board members have also presented at national conferences, including the Association of Asthma Educators (AAE), the American Association of Nurse Practitioners and the American Association for Respiratory Care and also participated in a national Healthy People 2020 Progress Review webinar, jointly sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI).

This year, there were also several publications by board members, enhancing the knowledge of asthma educations and highlighting a successful community asthma program:

Bollmeier, S. G. (2013). New Therapies in Asthma. In: Ambulatory Care Pharmacotherapy Self-Assessment Program (1st ed.). Pulmonary and Preventive Care. Lenexa, KS: American College of Clinical Pharmacy.

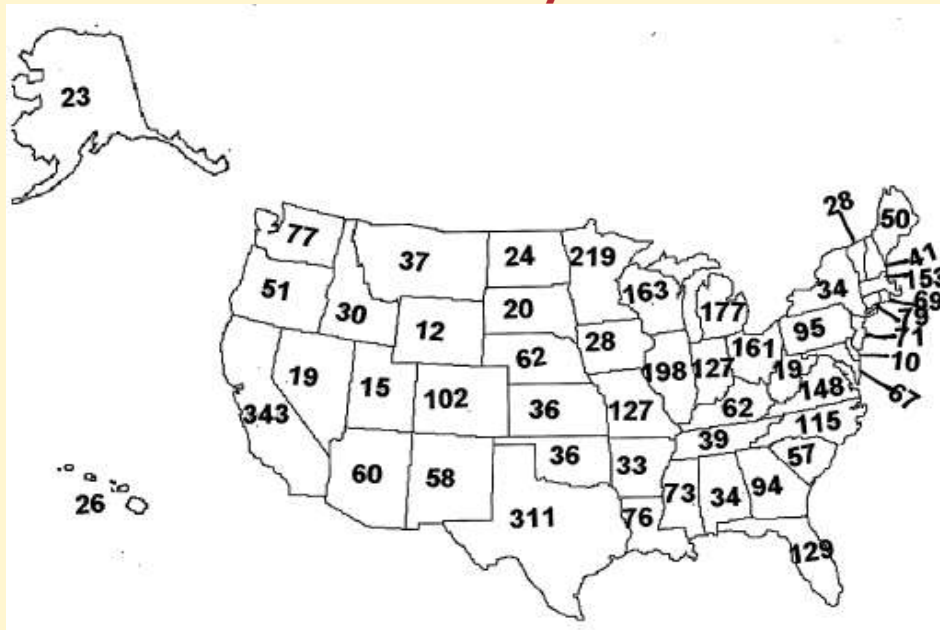
Meyerson, K. Asthma Network of West Michigan: A Model of Home-Based Case Management for Asthma. Nurs Clin N Am 48 (2013) 177-184.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to two board members for their dedication to the NAECB board for past 6 years: Suzanne Bollmeier, Pharm.D., BCPS, AE-C, and Stuart Abramson, MD, PhD, AE-C. They are completing their terms of office at the end of December and they will be missed.

2014 will be another busy year for the board as we build our Recertification by Continuing Education program and apply for accreditation of the NAECB by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).

Board of Director elections are in process and we will be welcoming new board members in January 2014. Please **VOTE** for your choice of new board members for the 2014 - 2016 term as soon as possible! On behalf of the NAECB board members, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you Happy Holidays! We wish you all a healthy, safe, and prosperous new year!

AE-C Count By State



Upcoming State/National Conferences:

American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI)

Annual Meeting
February 28 - March 4, 2014, San Diego, CA

<http://annualmeeting.aaaai.org/>

American Thoracic Society (ATS)

International Conference

May 16 - 21, 2014, San Diego, CA

<http://conference.thoracic.org/2014/>

U.S. EPA Rolls Out Facebook Ads

Keep your eyes peeled for dancing puppets. The first batch of Facebook ads are live! EPA will continue to roll out the other digital spots in coming weeks.

Facebook is donating ad space to EPA's "Breathe Easy" asthma campaign in December. Share a beat with friends and family.

Asthma in the News

Asthma nebulizers don't deliver full dose

Study found that less than 20% of the prescribed medication actually makes it into the lungs.

<http://www.health24.com/Medical/Asthma/News/Asthma-nebulizers-dont-deliver-full-dose-20131209>

Probiotics unrelated to asthma and wheeze prevention in children

Researchers found little difference in rates of asthma among a population (n=3257) of infants exposed to probiotics during pregnancy or within the first year of life (11.2%) compared to a control group (10.2%). <http://www.bmj.com/content/347/bmj.f6471>

EPA's 2014-2018 Strategic Plan Available for Review

The EPA has made their draft 2014-2018 Strategic Plan available for your review and comment. This is a unique opportunity for you to provide input on the EPA guidance, tools and technical assistance you find most useful in serving your communities. Comments must be received on or before January 3, 2014.

<http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OA-2013-0555-0001>

Early antibiotic use linked to asthma, not atopy

Research from the UK has found a "robust and dose-dependent" association between antibiotic use in the first 2 years of life and subsequent asthma at the age of 7 and a half years.

http://www.medwirenews.com/1740/105178/Asthma/Early_antibiotic_use_linked_to_asthma_not_atopy.html

NAECB Newsletter Editors:

Jack Barnette, AE-C

Karen Meyerson, MSN, APRN, NP-C, AE-C

Helpful Links

[Exam Info And Registration](#)

[Review Classes](#)

[Candidate Handbook](#)

[FAQ's](#)

[Code of Conduct](#)

NAECB Members

Visit the [NAECB Certificant Corner](#) for past newsletters, forms for replacement pins and certificates, and to update your contact information.

Promoting Excellence in Asthma Education

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