

April 2014

Deadline Approaching for Certificants Whose Credentials Have Expired: July 31, 2014

Reminder:

- July 31, 2014, is the deadline for recertifying by Continuing Education credits if your AE-C credential has expired.
- A certificant whose credentials have expired (or are about to expire) must submit all required forms, including documentation of 35 continuing education units pertaining to asthma, before the deadline of July 31, 2014, in order to be considered for recertification by continuing education units. You are able to go back 5 years on your CEUs.
- **After July 31, 2014, any certificant whose credentials are currently expired will need to recertify by examination only.**

5th Annual Pediatric Asthma Conference Impacting the Community

Nationwide Children's Hospital is proud to host nationally renowned visiting faculty members from institutions across the country as well as experts from both Nationwide Children's Hospital and The Ohio State University on May 1-2, 2014, at the Hilton Columbus at Easton in Columbus, OH.

The keynote speaker on May 2 will be Fernando D. Martinez, MD, from the University of Arizona Medical Center. Dr. Martinez is a researcher and clinician with major projects that study the natural history of childhood asthma, and the role of genetic, physiological, immunological and environmental factors as determinants of the risk for asthma in early life.

Day one will be a half-day School Health Focused Session directed towards school health professionals for education and practical management of asthma in the school setting.

Day two is the General Session designed for pediatricians, family practitioners, pediatric pulmonologists/allergists, nurses, respiratory therapists, pharmacists and clinical staff from hospital, urgent care and primary care facilities with pediatric asthma patients. Topics include Early Onset Wheezing, Viral Infections and Asthma, Inner City Asthma, Adolescents and Asthma and Hot Topics in Asthma.

For more information, call (614) 355-0676 or visit NationwideChildrens.org/Conferences, keyword search: Asthma.

April

Jack Stephen Barnette, AE-C

April, you make the world a better place. Your sun light caresses my cheek and your gentle breezes embrace us in your awakening energy. The fresh aroma of earth fills us with hope for the future. Persephone is freed from the Underworld and the planet is renewed in glorious spring.

What is so special about this early spring month? Well, April 30th is National Honesty Day and, of course, April 1st is April Fool's Day. I guess somewhere in between lies the truth. No one knows exactly when the concept of April Fool's Day began, but some sources indicate that it may have its origins during the time of the Roman Empire. Traditionally, it is a time to play tricks or jokes on our unsuspecting friends. National Honesty Day was "invented" in 1990. Since the month begins with trickery and deceit, it was thought it should end on a higher moral note. There is no evidence that Congress ever endorsed and wrote a proclamation in support of this national day celebrating honesty; probably just an oversight of their part. April is a time to celebrate life and love and health and the environment. It is a time for new beginnings.

I believe April is the right time for us to reinvigorate our commitment to the respiratory health of our nation. Improving the air quality in the ambient environment and in the places where we live, learn, and work is an important part of that commitment. Removing or reducing environmental asthma triggers from homes and schools will lessen the burden of asthma and will improve the health and quality of life thousands of people throughout our country. Managing triggers is not only the right thing to do, but it will also result in fewer school absences, ER visits and

hospitalizations, and in the savings of millions in health care dollars. So get out there and make something happen. We are all in this together.

Major 'third-hand smoke' compound causes DNA damage and potentially cancer

Leftover cigarette smoke that clings to walls and furniture is a smelly nuisance, but now research suggests that it could pose a far more serious threat, especially to young children who put toys and other smoke-affected items into their mouths. Scientists reported that one of the tobacco-specific nitrosamines newly formed in "third-hand smoke" damages DNA and could potentially cause cancer.

This research was funded by the Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program, which is administered by the University of California.

Three quarters of people with seasonal, pandemic flu have no symptoms

Around 1 in 5 of the population were infected in both recent outbreaks of seasonal flu and the 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic, but just 23% of these infections caused symptoms, and only 17% of people were ill enough to consult their doctor. These findings come from a major new community-based study comparing the burden and severity of seasonal and pandemic influenza in England over 5 years.

Journal Reference:

1. Andrew Hayward MD, et al. Comparative community burden and severity of seasonal and pandemic influenza: results of the Flu Watch cohort study. *The Lancet Respiratory Medicine*, March 2014 DOI: 10.1016/S2213-2600(14)70034-7

Preparing for Reimbursement

Dr. Stephen Cha, Chief Medical Officer, Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMS)

Through the Affordable Care Act, the landscape for healthcare is changing quickly. Hear firsthand from Dr. Stephen Cha, Chief Medical Officer at the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services, about the new Medicaid reimbursement provision for non-medical providers delivering preventive care services, and what asthma programs should consider when engaging their state Medicaid offices.

<http://www.asthmacommunitynetwork.org/podcasts/episode/1369>

[2](#)

National Institutes of Health (NIH) Asthma Resources

As an Asthma Educator and health care provider I am always on the lookout for asthma and allergy resources for both myself and patients. I recently rediscovered the National Institutes of Health (NIH) website (<http://nih.gov>) and was surprised with the abundance of asthma information available. I would encourage all AE-Cs to visit this site. Type in 'asthma' under "search health topics" and you will be directed to general information, articles, video tutorials, and self-management plans. There is also information specific for asthma educators. Most resources are free and can be delivered to your home or business. There is also the option to download. I ordered and received hard copies of the EPR-3 Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Asthma for colleagues and Nurse Practitioner students as well as asthma action plans. In addition to asthma, other health topics can also be researched through this website including diabetes, obesity, cancer, depression, exercise, etc. Please visit the NIH website - it is an excellent resource center and I will be using it often.

John Manning, PNP, AE-C

Reference:

National Institute of Health
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
NHLBI Health Information Center
P.O. Box 30105, Bethesda, MD 20824-0105
Telephone: 1-301-592-8573
Email: NHLBIinfo@nhlbi.nih.gov
Website: www.nhlbi.nih.gov

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Promoting Excellence in Asthma Education

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