

September 2013

AE-C® Recertification by Continuing Education

We have seen tremendous interest in the option of recertifying as an AE-C® by Continuing Education (CE). The announcement of this change was made by letter, e-mail newsletter, and by our partners in asthma education sharing the message. A number of questions have been asked and we would like to address these through the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) below:

Q: Do you accept CE credits from Pediatric Advanced Life Support or Advanced Cardiac Life Support?

A: No. CPR, PALS and ACLS are not addressed in the Detailed Content Outline (DCO). The DCO is found in the Candidate Handbook which is located on the NAECB.org website. The Detailed Content Outline is the matrix for the certifying exam. Any continuing education units must be pertinent to the DCO in order to be accepted for recertification. The DCO is the foundation for creating the exam items and was developed following a job analysis performed three years ago. Continuing education must be related to this outline to ensure competency of the AE-C®. We also consider the Expert Panel Report (EPR-3) as a topical guide for continuing education. In other words, if a CE topic can be linked to an EPR-3 recommendation, it may be considered "asthma-specific" enough to meet our requirement.

Q: If my credential has expired, can I still apply to recertify with continuing education?

A: Yes, we are offering a grace period for certificants whose credentials have expired or are expiring. The deadline for all expired and expiring AE-C® certificants is **July 31, 2014**. You must submit all paperwork and supportive certificates to the NAECB by this date for approval in order to recertify your credential, if it has expired. **After July 31, 2014, all expired certificants will only be able to recertify by EXAM ONLY.**

Q: What is the cost for recertification, how do I pay, how long is the certification valid, and how many continuing education units are required?

A: The cost to recertify by continuing education is \$245 and payment can be submitted with completed documentation by mail or you can pay via credit card directly through our website. Click on the blue "**Recertification**" button on the right side of the page, which will lead you to the recertification page.

PLEASE NOTE: Recertification by CE is valid for 5 years; recertification by examination is valid for 7 years. Recertification by continuing education requires that the AE-C® meets eligibility requirements and completes **35 clock hours of continuing education** (within 5 years of applying for recertification) in content areas applicable to asthma education.

Q: Is recertification offered to certificants from other countries?

A: ALL continuing education credits must be obtained in the United States; continuing education from outside the U.S. cannot be monitored or verified at this time.

Q: Where can I go to obtain more CE credits?

A: There are a number of websites which offer continuing education. For instance, Medscape.com offers continuing education at no cost. The American Lung Association, Association of Asthma Educators, American Association for Respiratory Care, and other professional organizations offer annual conferences as well as online education. Before taking an online course, be sure the provider is on the Recognized Provider List found on the NAECB website.

Q: How long does the process take to get my approval?

A: Your application must be completed in full in order to move through the process of approval. There will not be a preliminary evaluation. Therefore, payment, CE certificates, signed code of conduct, and complete application must all be submitted before your request for recertification can be processed.

Please submit ONLY those certificates and list ONLY those courses or lectures which you believe are pertinent to the NAECB Detailed Content Outline (DCO) or EPR-3 recommendations. Please DO NOT submit certificates or list courses which do not meet requirements for recertification. It can take up to one month to process your application, review your documentation and issue a new certificate, if you meet the requirements for recertifying by CE.

Asthma Continuing Education

We have added "Continuing Education Offerings" to the Certificant Corner of the Website and will post offerings which are emailed to Info@NAECB.org. The NAECB does not endorse nor is the Board affiliated with any of the posted offerings.

Websites

Medscape

<http://www.medscape.com/?src=google&medium=tsa>

American Association for Respiratory Care

<http://www.aarc.org/>

American Association of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology

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

American Association of Asthma Educators

<http://www.asthmaeducators.org/>

Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Asthma (EPR-3)

<http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001->

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Upcoming State/National Conferences:

Arizona

Oct 26, 2013, Annual Arizona Asthma Conference

<http://www.azasthma.org/>

CHEST

October 26 - 31, 2013

American College of Chest Physicians (CHEST) Conference
Chicago, IL

<http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001->

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ACAAI

November 7 - 11, 2013

The American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology 2013 Annual Scientific Meeting
Baltimore, MD

<http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001->

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AARC Congress 2013

November 16 - 19, 2013

American Association for Respiratory Care
59th International Respiratory Convention & Exhibition
Anaheim, CA

<http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001->

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Please let us know if you have an educational opportunity for AE-C@s which you would like to see listed here!

"Purity is a negative state and therefore contrary to nature."

William Faulkner

Submitted by Jack Barnette, AE-C

NAECB Board Member

As you have probably figured out by now, molds can be found almost anywhere; they can grow on virtually any surface, as long as moisture and oxygen are present. Molds can extract nourishment from just about any organic substance. The one factor we have for controlling mold growth indoors is controlling moisture. When excessive moisture accumulates in buildings or on building materials, mold growth will often occur, particularly if the moisture problem remains undiscovered or unaddressed. Leave those old books in your basement wet for 48 hours, or more and see what happens.

We are never entirely free from the presence of mold spores. During a typical warm, humid Midwestern summer, we may have as many as 50,000 mold spores per cubic meter of outside air. When it comes to mold growth indoors, we

need to control it, by controlling moisture, and clean it up when it affects our homes and schools and workplaces. We don't live in a sterile world, so given a chance, mold will occur.

Fungi are that great decomposers of dead plant materials. Fungi, including molds, are associated with the great outdoors, but given the right conditions they will happily grow well indoors in wet or damp conditions. Molds require the presence of considerable moisture for growth. A majority of mold species require "water activity" levels that are equivalent to relative humidity of around 70% - the EPA recommends that indoor RH be kept between 40% and 60%. Generally, people prefer humidity levels that are below the critical relative humidity for mold growth. Thus, moisture availability is by far the easiest mold growth requirement to control in environments that humans like to inhabit. "Keep it clean and keep it dry and you can wave the mold goodbye." Well not really, but at least we can begin to win the battle.

Ecology does not stop at the front door. The built environment doubles as a complex ecosystem that evolves under influence of its inhabitants, their behavior and the building materials, and don't forget that moisture is a critical factor as well.

Even healthy people can be impacted by the allergic and irritating properties of mold spores and pollen. Some people are sensitive to molds. For these people, exposure to molds can cause symptoms such as nasal stuffiness, eye irritation, wheezing, or skin irritation. Some people, such as those with serious allergies to molds, may have more severe reactions.

Use common sense, clean-up mold when you see it, and keep things dry.

Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending. Take it easy, stay well, and breathe easy.

NAECB Newsletter Editor: 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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