



# Newsletter January 2020

 **Happy New Year!** 

**This year is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASEPA! To celebrate, we are planning to host anniversary receptions at both the AACE Annual Congress held May 6<sup>th</sup>-May 10<sup>th</sup> in Washington, D.C. and the AAPA 2020 meeting held May 16<sup>th</sup>-May 20<sup>th</sup> in Nashville, TN. More information to follow soon. Save the date!**

**New in 2020: We have a newly updated website with lots of useful information for our members, new member benefits including access to DANAtch and launching of a webinar series, and a new article series in our newsletter called The Nonclinical PA featuring a new PA in each edition. Read on for all this and so much more!**

## **I. Message from the President**

*By: Ashlyn Smith, PA-C*



I hope you and your loved ones have had blessed and happy holidays! Among the hustle of the season, life, career, and family, I pause to take a look back on the wonderful whirlwind the last 6 months have been.

Through training in ballet and jazz dance the last few decades (don't ask how many!), I have seen that mental conditioning occurs alongside the physical. As in any sport, it has been clear that every time strength, balance, and flexibility are tested, the greatest progress and personal growth occurs.

Surrounded by a flourishing membership and an enthusiastic and eager team of board and committee members, I leapt into the honor and challenge of the presidency with faith in that team and in those that came before me. ASEPA is strong, built on the foundation of diligent training and preparation. ASEPA is balanced, bringing together PAs throughout the country with unique perspectives and experiences. ASEPA is flexible through its growth, seeking out and adjusting to the needs of you the members and the unmet needs in the endocrine community.

In the words of my trainers encouraging passion and diligence: As ASEPA continues to grow, we will reach on relevé to access new resources, find balance relying on core values and strength, and “point our toes” to follow through with intention and commitment. Most importantly, as progress turns us in many directions, we will “find our spot” and keep the focus on advancing the endocrine profession and serving endocrine PAs best.

I am so grateful to be working for and with all of you and I cannot wait to see what is yet to come!

## **Secretary Update**

*By: Staci K. Wise, PA-C*

I took over the secretary role in July 2019, which is the peak time for membership renewals and conferences! A big thank you to Sarah Logan, who took over the membership committee. She has been instrumental in welcoming new and returning members, as well as looking for any members seeking volunteer opportunities with ASEPA. In an attempt not to inundate you with multiple emails, I am trying out a weekly email but do recognize this is a work in progress! As our new website is rolled out, I expect our members to have multiple ways to receive ASEPA content. Continue to be on the lookout for job and conference opportunities, as well as endocrine news and FDA approvals/updates.



Given our multiple partnerships with other organizations, I had a busy summer raffling off free conference registrations. Five members received free registration, while many others benefited from the discount codes that were given to ASEPA. As we close out 2019, we have had the opportunity for a CGMS webinar (Kudos to Megan O'Neill and Ashlyn Smith) and are creating publication-worthy educational SGLT2 material through our education committee. A big thanks to Amy Butts for organizing this project!

As we move forward to 2020, we will have a great opportunity to access the AADE's DANAtch database – more news on that below! We also will be having the main celebration at the 20<sup>th</sup> ASEPA Anniversary at the AAPA May conference in Nashville and at AACE in Washington, DC. I look forward to communicating with you all over the next two years!

## **Call for Volunteers**

Thank you to the wonderful members who express a desire to volunteer with ASEPA! We enjoyed a great increase in volunteers in 2019 and hope to keep up the momentum in 2020! Your involvement allows us to continue building on our efforts. We are always looking to recruit volunteers for current and future projects. Feel free to offer your expertise and skill set at any time, but we will also send email notifications when we have a special request or project. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Staci Kies Wise at [stacikwise@gmail.com](mailto:stacikwise@gmail.com)



## **Treasurer Update**

*By: Sean Flynn, PA-C*

Report available upon request  
by emailing [asepamembership@gmail.com](mailto:asepamembership@gmail.com)

## **II. ASEPA Brings Benefits to Members**

*By: Ashlyn Smith, PA-C*

Congratulations to the following members for winning discounted or complimentary conference registration: Heidi Webb to Heart in Diabetes, Heidi Webb and Lisa Hill to the Cardiometabolic Risk Summit (CRS), Kelly Keller to the World Congress on Insulin Resistance Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease (WCIRDC), and Karina Miranda and Ashley Klaczak for the Cardiometabolic Health Congress (CMHC) East. Conference summaries are highlighted on page 8. Complimentary registrations are valued up to \$600 each. Make the most of your membership and submit your name in the next drawing to these valuable educational meetings!

There are 2 new member benefits in 2020: Access to DANAtch and ASEPA webinar series!

### **1) DANAtch:**

To increase diabetes technology awareness, ASEPA and the American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE) are partnering to give our members **free** access to **DANAtch.org**, a robust web-based resource created by AADE rounding up all things diabetes-tech in one spot!

With DANAtch, endocrine PAs can:

- Access device training and continuing education focused on DM technology
- Stay current on mobile apps and DM device information including glucometers, insulin pumps, and CGMs
- Connect with news and discussions shaping the future of DM care



For more information on utilizing this resource in practice, stay tuned for the second webinar in the exclusive ASEPA series highlighting DANAtch! ASEPA members can use the exclusive code below for **free** access to DANAtch in 2020!

## 2) ASEPA CGM Webinar Series:

November 25<sup>th</sup> marked the kickoff of the ASEPA webinar series with the inaugural webinar “*Using CGM Data Effectively in Clinical Practice*” to help address the unmet need in diabetes technology education! Over a dozen ASEPA members joined President Ashlyn Smith and ASEPA member and Scientific Affairs Manager at Abbott Diabetes Megan O’Neill in a review and discussion on the utilization of CGM data in clinical practice. The program addressed the recent recommendations from the *International Consensus on Time in Range*. There was particular interest and discussion on reducing hypoglycemia and associated anxiety, utilizing CGM to complement A1c, addressing discordances between A1c and CGM data, and enacting and empowering behavioral changes. Thank you, Megan, for your efforts and insights in this series. Thank you to all the ASEPA members who attended the webinar: your contributions were invaluable! Be on the lookout for invitations to more ASEPA programs in this CGM series!

## **III. How To Maximize Use of the New ASEPA Website**

*By: Sonia Bahroo, PA-C*

The months of July-December 2019 were spent giving the ASEPA website a complete and comprehensive makeover. There is more content than ever before with the goal being to make it as informative and educational as possible for all things Endocrine!

Here is a breakdown of how to best utilize all the new resources available online. The **Home** page gives a brief history of ASEPA, rotating member testimonials, and a direct link to join our organization. In fact each page contains the link to become a member. We are not currently on social media, but if we are in the future the home page would link directly to those sites.

**About Us** has drop-down menus to quickly navigate between pages for board members, committee members, and past presidents. It also contains information about our meetings and mission.

If you ever need a refresher on your many membership benefits, they are listed on the **Membership** page. Here you will also find a link to the newest benefit, DANATech!

The **Jobs** page allows you to quickly peruse the current Endocrine positions we have received. If your practice would like to advertise an open position, here is the place! Simply complete the online form and we will post it online free of charge.

A couple of new features include a **News** page that contains links to FDA alerts such as new drug approvals and recalls, breaking Endocrine news, and links to previous ASEPA newsletters. If you missed an ASEPA news bulletin in your email, you will likely find it here! We also now have an updated **FAQ** page with relevant Q&As on practice-related and professional matters.

The **Conferences/Events** page includes information on ASEPA meetings and events. We have also expanded the list of pertinent national and international meetings.

The new **Education** page now includes everything from the previous Links page plus links to online CME opportunities, webinars organized by ASEPA (another new venture we started in fall 2019), major clinical practice guidelines, and national organization sites grouped by disease state.

All in all, the new website is designed to be a valuable resource that you can utilize for reference at work to quickly access practical clinical information as well as catch up on the latest Endocrine news in your spare time. We hope you enjoy the facelift the ASEPA website has received and welcome your feedback/ suggestions for new content. Visit us at [www.endocrine-pa.com](http://www.endocrine-pa.com) and bookmark it in your web browser today!

#### **IV. Meet the Board Member**

*Staci K. Wise, PA-C*



Hi all! You probably know my name since I send multiple emails out on a weekly basis! My name is Staci Kies Wise and I have been the ASEPA Secretary since July of 2019. I am originally from the Florida Space Coast. I attended University of Central Florida for undergrad and then on to University of Florida (Go Gators!) for a Master's degree in Psychology. I then headed to Atlanta to attend the PA program at Emory University. I have been in endocrinology for the past 14 years as a PA. As part of my first-year training, I volunteered at a week-long diabetes summer camp and have been intimately involved with camp and the local diabetes community ever since! I feel very lucky to have been surrounded by so many great mentors and colleagues and love "paying it forward" by training new PAs, NPs, CDEs, and PA students.

Outside of my professional career, I am happily married with two small kids that remind me to laugh often and to take life less seriously. I have become an avid student of yoga, which keeps me grounded during the never-ending struggle of the "optimal" work-life balance.

## **V. Meet the Committee Member**

*Courtney Bennett Wilke, PA-C*

My name is Courtney Bennett Wilke and I am an Endocrinology PA and principal faculty at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida. In the Publications Committee for ASEPA, I am primarily responsible for locating authors and facilitating the peer review and publishing process for a quarterly Endocrine section in Clinician Reviews. This column entitled “Endocrine Consult” aims to bring practical information to providers who care for patients with a broad variety of endocrine disorders. Recent publications include “10 (Safe) Ways to Reduce Patients’ Insulin Costs” and “Screening for Endocrine Hypertension.”



## **VI. Student Corner**

*By: Kaylee Poston, PA-S*

Hi there! My name is Kaylee Mersiovsky Poston, and I am a second year PA student at Texas Tech University in Midland, Texas. I’m from a small town outside of Austin, Texas and got my Bachelor of Science in Nutrition from Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas



(whoop!). I first became interested in endocrinology during my undergraduate education when I learned about the effects that lifestyle can have on hormonal health, and how hormones affect nearly everything going on in our bodies! I am specifically interested in endocrinology within the realm of women’s health and reproductive endocrinology.

Upon graduation from PA school (August 2020), my husband and I hope to move to the Austin area, and I plan to apply to/seek out jobs in a few different specialties. Family medicine, urgent care, emergency medicine, endocrinology, or women’s health are of most interest to me. However, I am only on clinical rotation 3/8, so maybe I will find something else I enjoy along the way. I love hiking and being outdoors, trying new restaurants (especially love Asian food), spending time with friends and family, and traveling with my husband. We have lots of places on our bucket list to travel to, but our favorite so far has been our honeymoon to

Thailand last year which was incredible (highly recommend taking a trip there). While I am eager to graduate, I'm also enjoying the ride and trying to learn as much as I can. I've definitely grown a lot throughout PA school and am excited to see what growth the new year/upcoming clinicals have in store for me.

## **VII. PA-Physician Team**

Sonia Bahroo, PA-C and Joshua Cohen, MD

*By: Sonia Bahroo, PA-C*

I have had the honor of working with Joshua Cohen, MD at The George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates in Washington, DC for 13 years. When I first started in April 2006, the Division of Endocrinology only consisted of him, an NP, and a diabetes educator. I was his first PA!

At that time I noticed that patients brought in paper logs of their blood sugar readings when glucometer downloads were already being done at my former practice in North Carolina. When I approached Dr. Cohen about this, he told me there was so much he wanted to do to help advance the division but he didn't have the time to dedicate to it. I quickly utilized that as an opportunity to initiate and spearhead the MFA glucometer download project in addition to developing various patient handouts and writing clinic protocols.

Over the last decade, I have worked off and on at MFA due to multiple maternity leaves. Throughout this time, Dr. Cohen has always treated me with respect and allowed me the space to practice as autonomously as I want. With his support I have grown tremendously as an Endocrinology PA and as a healthcare provider overall. After 34 years of service at GW, Dr. Cohen will be retiring this month. He has entrusted me to take over the Endocrine disorders in pregnancy clinic that he has run for many years in collaboration with the MFA Obstetrics department. It has been a privilege to work with and learn from such an accomplished endocrinologist. Dr. Cohen will be very much missed by me and the entire GW community.



## **VIII. Award Recognition**

Congratulations to Ashlyn Smith, ASEPA President, and Ji (CJ) Chun, ASEPA Immediate Past President, on being selected as winners of the Point of Care Network's (POCN) America's Top 10 PAs in 2019! POCN is the largest network of NPs and PAs in America and started America's

Top PA (ATPA) Awards 3 years ago to recognize and celebrate influential and impactful PAs practicing today. Winners receive paid membership to AAPA for 2020, an award plaque, and professional exposure via POCN's website, PR, and social media initiatives. Scott Urquhart, PA-C, DFAAPA, another ASEPA past president, was a 2018 winner of this award. It is a huge achievement to have so many Endocrine PAs represented in this distinguished PA community!

## **IX. Conference Summaries**

- **Heart in Diabetes**

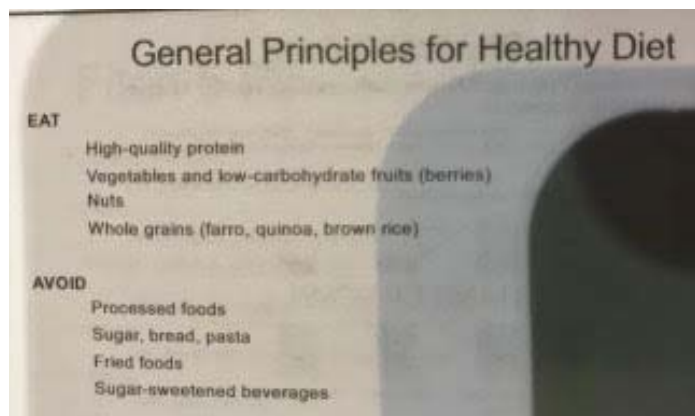
*By: Heidi Webb, PA-C; Bahl and Bahl Medical Associates, Pittsburgh, PA*

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Heart in Diabetes conference was held at the Loews Philadelphia Hotel over [July 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>](#). The meeting featured experts in the fields of endocrinology and cardiology and focused on the latest data from cardiovascular outcome trials and changes to best clinical practice of patients with cardiovascular, metabolic, and renal diseases. The conference featured both lecture and debate style presentations with both offering Q&A sessions.

- **Cardiometabolic Risk Summit**

*By: Lisa Hill, PA-C; Raleigh Endocrine Associates, Raleigh, NC*

I had the immense pleasure of attending the 2019 Cardiometabolic Risk Summit at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort in October 2019. I attended with another Endocrine colleague, and we both felt that the conference had a lot of good, up to date information concerning the management of Obesity, Hypertension, Hyperlipidemia, Prediabetes, and much more! I especially enjoyed an overview of the 2018 ACC/AHA lipid guidelines as well as pertinent clinical tools to help address the Obesity crisis in our nation. The conference was well structured and the food and accommodations were excellent. The information presented was tilted a little more towards our Primary Care colleagues, but I still found the conference well worth the time and would attend again in the future. Thanks!





- **World Congress on Insulin Resistance**

*By: Kelly Keller, PA-C; Pediatric Endocrine and Diabetes, Oregon Health and Science University*



The 17<sup>th</sup> World Congress Insulin Resistance Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease (WCIRDC) conference held in Los Angeles, California on December 4-7<sup>th</sup> was a wealth of information covering current research and clinically applicable information for insulin resistance, metabolic syndrome cardiovascular disease and diabetes. The conference was packed with learning opportunities starting at 6:45 am – 9:30 pm. My focus is in pediatric endocrine and diabetes and there were presentations focused on insulin resistance and Type 2 diabetes in youth that highlighted the importance of prevention and continued research for better treatment in this growing population. I am very appreciative of ASEPA giving me the opportunity to attend this conference and look forward to sharing what I learned with colleagues and patients.

- **CMHC East**

*By: Karina Miranda, PA-C; Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism, Cook County Health & Hospitals System, Chicago, IL*

It was my first attending the CMHC conference; this time it happened to take place in my hometown of Chicago, Illinois. It was a 4-day event (October 10-14<sup>th</sup>) where world-renowned leaders presented the most up to date information regarding diagnostic, preventative, and treatment options for patients with cardiovascular and metabolic conditions. Today, with most of the patients we see in clinic presenting with at least one cardiovascular co-morbidity, staying informed of the newest technology and pharmaceutical options for patients has become more important than ever before. This conference presented randomized controlled trial evidence and applied it to current medical guidelines which made the conference not only informative but very relevant to the patient population that I serve on a daily basis as an endocrinology PA. At the end of the conference, I walked away with a new set of tools which which to supplement my current clinical practice. This will allow me to improve my patients' current cardiovascular conditions but more importantly help reduce the risk factors that lead to complications of obesity, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, and diabetes.

- **16th Biennial Meeting of the Diabetes in Pregnancy Study Group - North America**

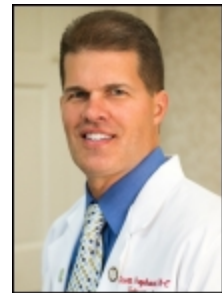
*By: Sonia Bahroo, PA-C; GW Medical Faculty Associates Inc., Washington, DC*

I had the opportunity to attend this conference in Washington, DC on October 31- November 1, 2019. It was a 1.5-day conference with national and international thought leaders who discussed a variety of pregnancy related topics including healthcare disparities, maternal and fetal outcomes associated with poor control, gestational HTN and preventing preeclampsia, endocrine disruptors, use of insulin pump and CGM technology, and debates on medication treatment. Anyone who treats pregnant patients with diabetes would benefit from attending this conference. It solidified my foundation and understanding in the concepts associated with the treatment this complex subset of Endocrine patients.

- **X. MEDS 2019 Update**

*By: Scott Urquhart, PA-C, DFAAPA*

The Metabolic and Endocrine Disease Summit will be celebrating our 10<sup>th</sup> year and 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> summits in 2020. We will be in Austin, TX in July and Orlando in October. Ashlyn Smith, our ASEPA President, has been invited as 2020 faculty and has graciously accepted. MEDS continues to market to and educate our colleagues in primary care and “new to endocrine.” In 2018 we had ~20% of attendees that were in diabetes and endocrine settings. In 2019 we had nearly 30% of attendees from endocrine settings in attendance.



After personally reading post summit evaluations and having conversations with endocrine practicing attendees, it has become apparent that many attend with a desire and/or need to expand their endocrine acumen. We are very excited each and every year with what MEDS has been able and continues to do, providing practical endocrine education for our colleagues.

For those of you that have yet to attend we would enjoy seeing you there and for another opportunity to network with ASEPA members. This year we had about 10 ASEPA members and prospective members with us in Orlando. With the continued growth and recognition of MEDS it is now opening up further opportunities from the pharmaceutical industry to support ASEPA educational initiatives. Please join us and your colleagues at one of the Summits in 2020.



### **MEDS West 2019:**

*By: Ashlyn Smith, PA-C*

In August of this year, I had the pleasure of attending the Metabolic & Endocrine Disease Summit (MEDS) West in San Diego, CA. The faculty was exceptional at translating a variety of endocrine topics into manageable, clinically relevant applications. The spectrum of disease topics covered and high caliber of material were an asset to those who attended. ASEPA staffed a booth at the event to increase awareness for the organization and the endocrine PA profession. ASEPA was well-represented with members from attendees Shams Hooda, John Sink, Jennifer Lin, Ashley Sparks, Katharine Patrick, Megan O'Neill, Jennifer Beckerk, and me to faculty CJ Chun, Chris Sadler, Ellen Mandel and Scott Urquhart. I would recommend MEDS West or East to anyone looking to take their endocrine knowledge to the next level. I look forward to joining the faculty in 2020!



## **XI. Message from AACE**

*By: Sandra L. Weber, MD, FACP, FACE  
President, AACE*



We are proud of the long-standing collaboration between ASEPA and the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists (AACE), which mirrors the important and real-world partnership between Physician Assistants (PAs) and endocrinologists in health care that occurs on a daily basis.

With the rapid growth of our field, particularly in the area of diabetes control and monitoring, AACE is dedicated to optimizing patient care and helping our members keep up to date with the latest in the field of endocrinology. AACE has continued to expand on educational opportunities, in collaboration with organizations like ASEPA, for all practitioners in the field. Amongst our latest initiatives is the *IDEA* program, which launched just this past October and provides transformative recommendations for anyone involved in the therapeutic management of diabetes.

Other initiatives include the *Successful Co-management between Primary Care and Endocrinology (SCOPE)* educational opportunity, which will specifically address the needs of PAs.

We would also like to welcome all Allied Health Professionals to join our AACE community. Members will receive many benefits, including:

- Special rate for our annual meeting, **EMBRAACE** and its educational content.
- Access to *Endocrine Practice* online, clinical case reports, practice guidelines, and more.
- Opportunity to participate in Disease State Networks, with news and notices specific to your preferred network.
- Access to AACE patient education material and resources.

As we approach 2020, we hope you will join us at **EMBRAACE**, our 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific and Clinical Congress, which will be held on May 7-10, 2020 in Washington, DC. This conference offers more than 80 immersive courses to suit your interests on the latest developments in endocrinology. More importantly, do not miss out on a chance to network and socialize with your larger endocrinology community. Visit the **EMBRAACE** [website](#) and [register](#) today.

I look forward to the continued partnership between our organizations. For further information about AACE's upcoming educational programming for PAs and to stay up to date on AACE and

ASEPA collaborations, visit our recently updated website at AACE.com, subscribe to our e-newsletters, and/or follow us on social media via @theaace.

## **XII. ASEPA in Action**

- **IDEA project**

*By: Wendy McLaughlin, PA-C*

Innovating Decisions and Empowering Action in Diabetes (IDEA) is a multi-year initiative to provide education materials and tools for health care providers and patients that will allow more widespread use and understanding of Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) systems.

This is a joint effort including steering committee members from AACE, ASEPA, AADE, International Diabetes Center, and the American College of Clinical Pharmacy. ASEPA is represented by CJ Chun, PA-C, Immediate Past President of ASEPA, Jenna Brothers, PA-C, and Wendy McLaughlin, PA-C.

Patient workgroup advisors include representatives from College Diabetes Network, Diabetes Patient Advocacy Coalition, T1D Exchange and The Diatribe Foundation/Close Concerns. Affiliate member/grant supporters are from The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust and The France Foundation.

Historically diabetes control has been assessed using an A1c—but A1c is an average and therefore misses the nuances of day to day blood sugar variability that allow providers to appropriately adjust medications and patients to fully understand everything that contributes to their blood sugar levels. CGM data shifts the focus to time in range which is a more accurate representation of diabetes control.

The goal of IDEA is to provide tools that will lead to a unified approach to CGM interpretation. The use of this information will improve care for patients with diabetes by making CGM more accessible and usable by all healthcare providers. Understanding the data provided by CGM will allow healthcare providers and patients to optimize therapeutic decisions.

- **SGLT2i project**

*By: Maria Argoud, PA-C*

ASEPA members Courtney Bennett Wilke, Tara Bennett, Carlos Flores, and myself, Maria Argoud, are working together with the help of Amy Butts, Staci Kies Wise, Scott Urquhart and Ashlyn Smith to compose two SGLT2-i handouts: one for providers and the other for patients. The SGLT-2 inhibitor handouts will discuss the mechanism of action, common side effects, and

the benefits of the SGLT2-i class. The patient handout is for clinical Physician Assistants to use as an educational handout for their patients when prescribing a medication in the SGLT2-i class to help lower their patient's A1c. The handout will be in English and Spanish in order to include a wider patient population. The second handout will be geared towards providers in non-endocrine specialties to use to educate themselves on the SGLT2-i class allowing the provider to become more comfortable prescribing a SGLT2-i or at least be familiar with this DM medication class. The hope is that these handouts will be finished by February 2020 and will be located on the ASEPA website for all members to use.

- **ASBMR**

*By: Sonia Bahroo, PA-C*

In 2017 AAPA approached ASEPA to work on a collaborative initiative by the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR) and the Center for Medical Technology Policy (CMTTP) to develop recommendations for secondary fracture prevention. I attended the Fracture Prevention Stakeholder Summit in Crystal City, VA in July 2017. Information gathered from that meeting was used to create a strategic roadmap to move forward. One of our members Kelly Amenta, was nominated by ASEPA to participate in the second phase. Kelly has worked hard on this committee led by ASBMR and their efforts have paid off. In September 2019, the [Consensus Clinical Recommendations for Secondary Fracture Prevention](#) were published in the *Journal of Bone and Mineral Research (JBMR)*. A big kudos to Kelly Amenta!

### **XIII. Spotlight: The Non-Clinical PA**

*By: Ann L. Elderkin, P.A.; [aelderkin@asbmr.org](mailto:aelderkin@asbmr.org)*



Ann L. Elderkin, PA served as Executive Director the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR) in Washington, DC for 13 years, 9 months. She is currently semi-retired and continues in a leadership role with the ASBMR Secondary Fracture Prevention Initiative, a multistakeholder coalition which developed the Consensus Clinical Recommendations for Secondary Fracture Prevention. ASBMR is the world's largest professional, scientific, and medical society established to bring together clinical and experimental scientists involved in the study of bone and mineral metabolism. With almost half its members from outside the United States, ASBMR is proactive in shaping research and facilitating the translation of that science to healthcare and clinical practice worldwide.

A leader with a reputation for making a difference in the healthcare industry, Elderkin has more than 25 years of experience in healthcare leadership positions, directing healthcare policy development, directing public health administrations and providing medical services as a physician assistant. Prior to joining ASBMR, Elderkin served as project director and managing editor of *Bone Health and Osteoporosis: A Report of the Surgeon General*, released in October 2004. She also directed projects on women's mental health and healthcare services.

Elderkin served in the Office of the Surgeon General of the United States as a Senior Health Policy Fellow and Consultant from 2000 to 2002. From 1990 to 2000, she was director of the City of Somerville (Massachusetts) Health Department and also served as director of the City of Portland (Maine) Public Health Division.

Elderkin has received many awards for her work, including: the Surgeon General Exemplary Service Award in 2002; the American Medical Association Dr. Nathan Davis Award for Outstanding Career Public Servant at the Local Level in 1995; the American Cancer Society Making a Difference Award for Outstanding Community Service in 1995; the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Partners in Prevention Award in 1995; and the American Cancer Society Award for Extraordinary Effort and Results, recognizing leadership in tobacco-control regulations in 1992.

Elderkin graduated from the Physician Associate Program at the Yale University School of Medicine and practiced as a PA in Massachusetts from 1980 to 1993 in medical and surgical specialties. She served as the President of the American Academy of Physician Assistants from 1993 to 1994 and on the AAPA Board from 1986 to 1995. In 1993 she testified on the role of PAs at televised public hearings of the White House Task Force on Health Care Reform.

## **XIV. Job Postings**

### **1) Medical Science Liaison – Northeast Region**

Valeritas is a commercial-stage medical technology company focused on improving health and simplifying life for people with diabetes by developing and commercializing innovative technologies. We designed our first commercialized product, the V-Go Wearable Insulin Delivery Device, or V-Go, to help patients with Type 2 diabetes who require insulin to achieve and maintain their target blood glucose goals. V-Go is indicated for continuous subcutaneous infusion of insulin over 24 hours and on-demand bolus dosing in two-unit increments in adult patients requiring insulin. V-Go is a small, discreet and easy-to-use disposable insulin delivery device that a patient adheres to his or her skin every 24 hours. V-Go enables patients to closely mimic the body's normal physiologic pattern of insulin delivery throughout the day and to manage their diabetes with insulin without the need to plan a daily routine around multiple daily injections.

We have an opening for a **Medical Science Liaison – Northeast Region** within our Commercial group.

Position Summary:

The Medical Science Liaison (MSL) will be a field-based position responsible for cultivating relationships with current and future thought leaders in academic and clinical practice settings at a regional level. The MSL will provide scientific and educational support for Valeritas' products and will be responsible for developing creative and innovative strategies for addressing the specific needs of key external thought leaders.

Location/Territory:

The territory for this position includes: **New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Washington DC and Delaware.** The successful candidate should reside within this territory or in close proximity to it. **Relocation assistance is not offered with this position.**

Essential Responsibilities, Duties and Tasks:

- Maintain business and clinical knowledge of scientific research and publications pertaining to V-Go as well as the diabetes treatment landscape including current treatment strategies, current and pending competitors, and new therapeutic developments.
- Identify, develop and maintain relations with health care providers to establish and/or further the knowledge of Valeritas' products and their appropriate use.
- Enhance clinical/scientific knowledge of customers and colleagues through education and appropriate scientific exchange.
- Coordinate and deliver effective educational slide presentations regarding insulin management and delivery of insulin via V-Go Insulin Delivery Device for healthcare professionals through presentations at office visits, advisory board meetings, medical meetings, and other appropriate venues to enhance product and disease state knowledge.
- Collaborate with internal and external stakeholders in support of the needs of Key Opinion leaders (KOLs).
- Respond to customer inquiries in a focused manner to ensure focused and balanced clinical and scientific information in support of Valeritas' products and services.
- Identify academic centers and investigators to initiate and/or participate in clinical trials and identify key areas of future research for the medical affairs department.
- Provide recommendations to marketing for scientific experts and other external parties to serve as consultants, advisory board members, or speaker training faculty based on specific criteria.
- Provide Medical Information booth support for identified meetings.
- Support Valeritas Speakers Bureau including contribution and dissemination of scientific content for peer-to-peer decks.
- Assist with training sales representatives on product knowledge and understanding of disease state and technical information.
- Adhere to internal standard processes and comply with regulatory and compliance requirements.



Position Requirements:

- Advanced degree and/or advanced licensure or certification (i.e. PharmD, NP, PA-C)
- Preferred candidate will have experience in the clinical management of diabetes or MSL experience in diabetes
- Adhere to internal standard processes and comply with regulatory and compliance requirements.
- The position is field-based with upwards of 65% required travel (car and plane) to manage assigned geography including ability to travel overnight and occasionally on weekends for scientific meetings
- Excellent verbal skills and interpersonal skills
- Strong presentation skills including the ability to effectively communicate medical data/concepts
- Strong ability to effectively collaborate and communicate with key opinion leaders, content experts and professional organizations
- A highly motivated self-starter willing and able to work with minimal day to day supervision
- Growth-minded with the desire to be part of a rapidly changing environment
- Field-based with a primary residence within the region of interest for Valeritas sales force team alignment

Valeritas is proud to be an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, veteran status, or any other protected status or characteristic as required by applicable law.

Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the responsibilities/duties/functions/tasks of this position.

Valeritas offers a competitive base salary and bonus, with a complete benefits package including annual stock grants, a 401k plan and full medical insurance.

Please reply with cover letter and resume to: [HR@valeritas.com](mailto:HR@valeritas.com).

**2) Denver, Colorado.** Full- time and part time (3 days per week) available. Established private endocrinology practice is seeking a Physician Assistant to join our busy practice in Denver conveniently located south of downtown. Enjoy a set schedule, 8 AM – 5 PM Monday – Thursday, half-day Friday. Incentive opportunities and competitive benefits offered. Endocrinology experience preferred but not required. Board Certification and Colorado License required.

To apply, please send resume/CV to [opportunities@coendo.com](mailto:opportunities@coendo.com)

**3) Creekside Endocrine Associates, Denver, Colorado**  
4101 E Louisiana Ave Denver CO 80210

Established outpatient Endocrinology office in Denver is seeking either a part-time or full-time Physician Assistant to join two Endocrinologists (Dr. Zemel and Dr. Kerstein), one Certified Diabetes Educator, and one PA (Kristen Scheckel). PA Kristen has worked at the office for 5 years and has 10 years experience working in Endocrinology and will serve as a colleague/mentor.

The work schedule can be flexible – office hours are Monday through Friday 9 AM to 5 PM. The ideal candidate will be able to work all day on Mondays. PA Kristen's schedule is full days on Tuesdays through Fridays.

Experience working in Endocrinology would be a plus; however, we are willing to train the right candidate. Dr. Zemel has over 30 years of experience teaching medical students, residents, Endocrine fellows, and PA students. He is very passionate about teaching. The core foundation of our medical practice is taking a detailed history, which guides the physical exam and lab test ordering and then coming up with a plan in the best interest of the patient using shared mutual decision making.

We spend extra time with our patients to ensure that they are treated as a whole person. Everyone in our office cares deeply about our patients, from the receptionist to the medical assistants to the phlebotomists and we have had minimal staff turnover.

We practice old fashioned, patient centered medicine and are an independent small practice. We are also a clinical research site for the development of new Endocrinology drugs. You would have the option of knowing that these extra paths for patient care exist as well as the potential to participate by contributing patients to our studies. We have our own research director and research coordinators for perform patient visits for the study protocols. You could potentially have a role in some of the study visits. This and other aspects of our practice generate the opportunity for potential extra income.

Interested applicants should send their CV and resume to [creeksideendocrine@yahoo.com](mailto:creeksideendocrine@yahoo.com). Please include why you are attracted to the field of Endocrinology and whether you are interested in full-time or part-time employment.

## **XV. Upcoming Conferences**

*\* indicates partner conferences \* —> check for complimentary/discounted registration with Staci Wise at [stacikwise@gmail.com](mailto:stacikwise@gmail.com)*

Mayo Clinic Endocrine Update 2020: February 24-28, 2020 - San Juan, Puerto Rico  
<https://ce.mayo.edu/endocrinology/content/endocrine-update-2020#group-tabs-node-course-default1>

Harvard Medical School Clinical Endocrinology 2020: March 21-25, 2020 - Boston, MA  
<https://endocrinology.hmscme.com/>

\* Endocrine Nurses Society (ENS) 30th Annual Symposium: March 28, 2020 - San Francisco, CA \*  
<https://www.endo-nurses.org/event-3493>

ENDO 2020: March 28-31, 2020 - San Francisco, CA  
<https://www.endocrine.org/ENDO2020>

Global Endocrinology, Nutrition and Metabolism Conference (GEMC2020): April 20-21, 2020 - Houston, TX  
<https://gemc2020.org/>

\* Annual Cardiometabolic Health Congress (CMHC) West: May 1-3, 2020 - Phoenix, AZ \*  
<https://www.cardiometabolichealth.org/2020/advancing-cardiometabolic-health-from-east-to-west.html>

EMBRAACE: May 7-10, 2020 - Washington, D.C.  
<http://2020.aace.com/>

\* 4th Annual Heart in Diabetes (HiD): June 26-28, 2020 - New York, New York \*  
<https://www.heartindiabetes.com/>

\* Metabolic & Endocrine Diseases Summit (MEDS) West: July 15-18, 2020 - Austin, TX \*  
<https://www.globalacademycme.com/conferences/meds/welcome-metabolic-endocrine-disease-summit-meds>

Practical Ways to Achieve Targets in Diabetes Care (ATDC): July 16-18, 2020 - Keystone, CO  
University of Colorado Barbara Davis Center  
<http://www.atdcconference.com>

American Association of Diabetes Educators Conference (AADE): August 14-17, 2020 - Atlanta, GA  
<https://www.diabeteseducator.org/events>

Clinical Endocrinology Update (CEU) East: September 10-12, 2020 - Miami, FL  
CEU West: Dates and location TBD  
<https://www.endocrine.org/meetings-and-events/ceu>

19th Annual International Congress of Endocrinology (ICE): October 4-7, 2020 - Buenos Aires, Argentina  
<https://www.endo-nurses.org/event-3493>

\* 15th Annual Cardiometabolic Health Congress (CMHC): October 21-24, 2020 - Boston, MA \*  
<https://www.cardiometabolichealth.org/2020/boston-15th-annual.html>

\* MEDS East: October 14-17, 2020 - Orlando, FL \*  
<https://www.globalacademycme.com/conferences/meds/welcome-metabolic-endocrine-disease-summit-meds>

\* Cardiometabolic Risk Summit (CRS) 2020: dates and location TBD \*  
<https://www.primarycarecardiometabolic.com>

\* 18th Annual World Congress on Insulin Resistance Diabetes & Cardiovascular Disease (WCIRDC): December 3-5, 2020 - Los Angeles, CA \*  
<https://www.wcir.org/>

Don't forget to check out and bookmark the new ASEPA website at  
<http://endocrine-pa.com/>