



# Newsletter July 2019

## **Message from the President**

*Ashlyn Smith, PA-C*



Hello members! I am as excited to speak to you for the first time as president as my 2-year daughter Maddox is when she gets “more ‘nacks please!” We both know what a joy it is (though she may have more joy from ‘nacks than anyone has had about anything!)

I am honored to collaborate with a passionate group of board and committee members and an amazing legacy of past presidents to learn from and build upon. I am grateful for the mentorship of my predecessors including immediate past president CJ Chun and the big shoes he has left for me. Most importantly, I look forward to listening to YOU, the members!

During my secretary term, our membership grew to its strongest yet as a direct result of the Membership Recruitment Project and the efforts of many volunteers. As our membership and opportunities grow, we must direct this positive momentum toward what will advance the endocrine PA profession and serve your needs best. I look forward to applying your valuable feedback and insights gleaned from the 2018 ASEPA Needs Assessment Survey to implement the key projects that are most valued and valuable to you as members. Thank you to all who participated!

An important part of leadership is cultivating future endocrine PA leaders with direction, encouragement and accountability. With growth comes the need for leadership from engaged PAs who have their finger on the pulse of current topics in endocrinology. If you are interested in becoming more involved with ASEPA, feel free to reach out to me personally or to any of our dedicated board and committee members now or throughout the year as more opportunities develop.

## **Farewell**

*Ji Hyun Chun (CJ), PA-C, BC-ADM*

I still remember the day when my preceding president, Sondra O’Callaghan, was officially handing over the presidency and said “so, are you ready?!” It was then when it hit me, and a mixed feeling of excitement and fright seized me momentarily. I was overwhelmed to fill in the big shoes of all my preceding presidents and not to lose the momentum they have created. I thought for a while to see how I could take this foundation and take it to the next level with my strength. My first goal was to further increase our visibility by bringing our name to every medical organizations, conference meetings and collaborative activities. I made a commitment to not pass on any requests that comes in for ASEPA and put that as my priority over my other personal career obligations. At times it was overwhelming but I was able to meet this goal with great team work with my colleagues who shared same vision and passion. We were also able to significantly increase our



membership by reaching out to our “hidden” colleagues in Endocrine and Diabetes practices. As a result, we are at a busiest and most dynamic state with lots of exciting projects in process and more to come.

My next goal, perhaps the most important task as the president, was to find and mentor a better president to follow me. This perhaps would be my most prestigious achievement to spot Ashlyn Smith and involving her in the ASEPA leadership. I am excited to now step aside and watch and support Ashlyn taking our society to even higher level.

It’s been a great ride for the past two years. It’s been an honor to serve as the president of this great society. I thank all of our board of directors, committee members and most importantly, all our members out there in the field performing excellent work on a daily basis and setting great images of ourselves!

### **New Board and Committee Members for the 2019-2021 term**

#### **Board of Directors**

*President:* Ashlyn Smith, Endocrinology Associates, Scottsdale AZ

*Treasurer:* Sean Flynn, Chaparral Medical Group, Ponomo CA

*Secretary:* Staci Kies Wise, Atlanta Diabetes Associates, Atlanta GA

*Immediate Past President:* CJ Chun, OptumCare Medical Group, Irvine CA

*Student Representative:* Kaylee Poston, Texas Tech School of Health Professions, Lubbock TX

*Student Representative:* Bethany Knight, University of Oklahoma-University of Tulsa School of Community Medicine

#### **Committee Members**

*HOD:* Stephen Willis, MultiCare Rockwood Clinic Diabetes & Endocrinology Center, Spokane WA

*Membership:* Sarah Logan, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia PA

*Newsletter/Webpage:* Sonia Bahroo, The GW Medical Faculty Associates, Washington D.C.

*Publication:* Courtney Wilke, Florida State University College of Medicine, Tallahassee FL

*Education:* Amy Butts, Wheeling Hospital, Wheeling WV

*Liaison:* Joy Dugan, Touro University California, Vallejo CA

## **Call for Volunteers**

Thank you to the wonderful members who expressed a desire to volunteer with ASEPA! As always, we are looking to recruit volunteers for projects planned for 2019 and beyond. 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).

### **Secretary Update**

*Staci Kies Wise, PA-C, MMSc, BC-ADM*



Just a little note to introduce myself as the new ASEPA Secretary; I have been an Endocrinology PA for the last 14 years in Atlanta, GA. I am really excited about the current and upcoming opportunities that ASEPA has been working on and encourage our members to get involved, even if it is on a small scale! With the upcoming 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASEPA, this is a great time to get know each other and expand ASEPA’s efforts!

#### **Annual Renewal Reminder**

As you know, ASEPA is dedicated to the education, advancement and placement of PAs in the field of endocrinology. Membership in ASEPA entitles you to participate in all ASEPA meetings, conferences, and activities. You are also entitled to discounted rates to conferences such as American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists (AACE), Metabolic & Endocrine Disease Summit (MEDS), Cardiometabolic Health Congress (CMHC), the World Congress on Insulin Resistance (WCIR), the

Endocrine Nurse Society Regional Endocrine Symposium, and new this year is the Cardiometabolic Risk Summit (CRS). You will also continue to receive exclusive subscriptions to Endocrine Today, Diabetes Vital, Health Monitor and Clinical Endocrinology News magazines as well as a digital subscription of Clinician Reviews. Please renew your membership with ASEPA to ensure that you continue to receive member benefits. Annual dues are free for students and \$45 for fellow, sustaining and physician members.

## 2020: Planning for ASEPA's 20th Anniversary!

The year 2020 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary for ASEPA! To celebrate, ASEPA is 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. Save the date!

### Treasurer Update

*Sean Flynn, PA-C*

Available on request: asepamembership@gmail.com

### ASEPA Brings Benefits to Members

Congratulations to David Doriguzzi and Amy Dudas, recipients of the reduced and complimentary registrations to the 2019 AACE Congress, and to Kelsey Perfect and Silvie Georgens, recipients of the complementary registrations to the Cardiometabolic Health Congress West!

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!

### New Member Benefit: Cardiometabolic Risk Summit

New for 2019, ASEPA members are eligible for discounted and complimentary registrations to the Cardiometabolic Risk Summit which will be held this year from October 24-26, 2019 in Orlando, FL!

regarding the special offers for ASEPA members and the complimentary registration drawings from secretary Staci Kies Wise. See the site for more information: <https://www.primarycarecardiometabolic.com/>



Stay tuned for more information

### Meet the Board Member

*Sean Flynn, PA-C*



Hi Everyone! My name is Sean Flynn, and I'm the incoming treasurer of ASEPA. I've had a journey to get to where I am now, but I'm happy to be working in endocrinology. I grew up in Denver, CO and moved to San Francisco for my undergraduate education at the University of San Francisco. I met my fiancé while in undergrad, and we both moved to Boston to attend the MGH Institute of Health Professions PA program (I'm the loud one, she's the smart one!). After we graduated last May, we both moved to the Los Angeles area to start our career as PAs. She works in Occupational Medicine, and I moved into my current role in outpatient Internal Medicine and Endocrinology.

I'll admit it- I'm a narcissist. I'm a type 1 diabetic who works in endocrinology. I always had an inkling that I wanted to work in endocrinology, but I was able to set up two endocrine rotations while I was in PA school to solidify my interest (one was Dr. Zemel and Kristen Scheckel, our former Treasurer, and was a great experience). Outside of work, I like to spend my time watching football (Go Broncos!). My fiancé and I are trying to get back into running, but it's literally a slog.

Overall, I'm excited to work with ASEPA and I look forward to working with our board to expand the role of PAs in endocrinology!

## **Retirement**

*Re: Dwight Deter, PA-C, CDE, DFAAPA*

*By: Scott Urquhart, Chris Sadler, and Joe Largay*

"I've known Dwight since 2000 at the time of the inception of ASEPA. He was and still is one of the original endocrine PA's in the U.S. It has been my distinct pleasure to work with Dwight on many educational projects and lectures over the years. We have lectured many times together and worked on several AAPA chapter lecture series throughout the years. Like several of our close endocrine colleagues, they have moved in Pharma securing scientific positions. Unfortunately, we lose them as full time practicing endocrine PA colleagues, but fortunately, we gain them as outstanding representatives for our profession and specialty. That being said, Dwight finished up his career as a continued strong representative being a strong advocate and representative not only for ASEPA but PA's as a whole. Without a doubt, he had a memorable and fruitful career clinically and in the pharmaceutical industry. We give thanks to Dwight for all he has done and all he has been as a friend and colleague. Wishing you the absolute best with a happy and prosperous retirement Dwight, thank you so much."

- Scott Urquhart, PA-C



Pictured: Dwight Deter (left) and wife Chris

"Early in our careers there were only of few endocrine PA's speaking at regional and national conferences, one of those was Dwight Deter who I had the pleasure of speaking alongside, participating in advisory boards as well as developing educational materials together for our peers. What began as colleagues working together developed into a friendship that has lasted many years and I'm sure will continue regardless of retirement. What I appreciate most are the regular phone calls from Dwight just to say hello and check in about family, career and life. Dwight has had an illustrious career and has set an example for many to follow. He started at a time when the PA profession was still young and he helped forge the way for the rest of us by demonstrating the value of PA's by providing excellent clinical care to his patients, educating his peers on the latest advances in endocrine care and not settling for mediocre. Dwight, along with Dr. Strader were honored with the AAPA Paragon Physician/Physician Assistant Partnership Award and he has worked extensively traveling around the country educating us on endocrine topics. Dwight, I miss the times when we were able to work closely together, but I look forward to hearing how things are going in this next chapter of life on our next call. Well done my friend, and sincere and heartfelt congratulations on a career and life well lived. "

- Chris Sadler, MA, PA-C, CDE, DFAAPA

"I have known Dwight for nearly two decades and had the pleasure of working with him in different disciplines, first as an founding ASEPA member, then as a content expert for the AAPA Chapter Lecture Series on Diabetes and as a national lecturer at various venues and whenever I was invited to be on an advisory board, Dwight was always one of the most experienced consultants in the room. The final part of our journey was as a Clinical Science Liaison with AstraZeneca where he was revered for his level of expertise which led him to be chosen as one of first Senior Clinical Science Liaisons in the Cardio-Metabolic Division at AstraZeneca.

Over the years the quality that stands out the most as a clinician, colleague and friend was Dwight's integrity. I will miss him, like all of us, at each meeting I attend where he is not present.

Thank you, Dwight, for your leadership over the years!"

- Joe Largay, PA-C, CDE



### **Meet the Committee Member**

*Joy Dugan, MPH, DHSc, PA-C*



Hello!

I have spent the majority of my career in primary care managing diabetes with a diabetologist. I had the opportunity to provide advanced diabetes care in at a county clinic. My passion was leading shared office visits for diabetes management. Prior to being a PA, I worked in obesity management and diabetes education as an exercise physiologist at a residential weight loss clinic and federally qualified health clinics.

My undergrad is from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and my PA/Public Health training is from Touro University California.

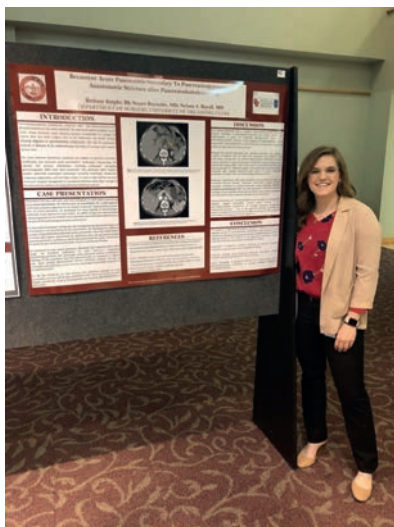
I am currently the Associate Program Director of the Joint MSPAS/MPH Program at Touro University California. As a PA educator, my passion is educating students on diabetes and lifestyle counseling. Upon graduation, all of my students are certified in the National Diabetes Prevention Program. I am on the campus interdisciplinary diabetes team called the DREAM (Diabetes Research, Education, and Management) Team. As a team we are active in academic writing and psychosocial research in diabetes. We also host a Diabetes Week, teaching diabetes to students across the campus as a collaborative team with pharmacy, nurse practitioner, and osteopathic medical students. My hope is the next generation of PAs and other healthcare providers will be better prepared to address the diabetes epidemic.

As a member of the Primary Care Advisory Board to the American Diabetes Association, I represent the ASEPAs as a liaison to the ADA. I have lectured at national conferences on prediabetes, psychosocial aspects of diabetes, shared medical appointments, and exercise in diabetes.

In my free time, I am busy chasing my almost 3-year old Mary Katherine. I enjoy running with my Rottweiler-dachshund mix (don't ask) and I am obsessed with my Peloton bike.

### **Student Corner**

*Bethany Knight, PA-S*



Hi ASEPA! My name is Bethany Knight, I'm currently enrolled at the University of Oklahoma School of Community Medicine! I've always been interested in endocrine, and plan to apply for several endocrine and family medicine positions as graduation gets closer, although I do already have some very promising leads! My interest in endocrine started at the age of 8, which is also the age I was diagnosed with Type One Diabetes. It sparked my interest in medicine and technology, leading me to the University of Arkansas where I majored in Biomedical Engineering and also finished my prerequisites for PA school. I'm a pretty hardcore Arkansas Razorback football fan, even though we may not be the top of everyone's NCAA rank list. Being from Arkansas, our Razorbacks are the closest thing my home

### **Service Recognition:**

*Sondra O'Callaghan, PA-C MPH, CHES*

On behalf of the board of directors, we would like to acknowledge Sondra O'Callaghan, past president of ASEPA, for your time and service to ASEPA and the endocrine PA profession.

Sondra has served on the ASEPA board of directors as secretary from 2011-2012, president from 2013-2017, and immediate past president from 2017-2019.

Thank you, Sondra!



*Pictured: Sondra O'Callaghan (left) with collaborating physician Dr. Yau*

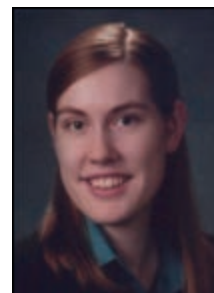
state has to the NFL. Aside from the Razorbacks, my hobbies (when I'm not studying) include hiking, running (half marathons are my favorite), ultimate frisbee, collecting cacti, and canoeing. I am hoping to find a job near mountains that I can traverse by skis or hiking boots with my husky in tow!



### **ENDO2019**

*Kristen Scheckel, PA-C*

On Sunday March 24, 2019, myself and fellow ASEPA member PA Ravin Mehta attended scientific affairs dinner at Emeril's Delmonico restaurant at New Orleans, LA with AstraZeneca science liaison Crisamar Anunciado NP, BC-ADM. An insightful discussion developed about uses for Farxiga and other SGLT-2 inhibitors. Risks associated with Farxiga including fournier's gangrene, lower limb amputation, fracture risk, and risk for acute kidney injury when used in combination with diuretic medication were discussed. Struggles surrounding insurance coverage for both SGLT-2 inhibitors and GLP-1 agonist medications were also mentioned. It was an insightful meeting and very gracious of AstraZeneca to hold the meeting for ASEPA members.



### **AACE 2019 Congress**

ASEPA represented endocrine physician assistants at the 2019 AACE Congress. Nearly a dozen ASEPA members joined together for a dinner program and reception thanks to Novo Nordisk. On behalf of the ASEPA board of directors, thank you for attending and it was great to meet and see you all again!

### **AACE Conference Summary**

*David Doriguzzi, PA-C*

On April 25-28, 2019 the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologist (AACE) held its annual meeting in Los Angeles California. In its usual style, the conference offered numerous options for learning opportunities via formal CME lectures, non-CME meet-and-greets with experts, poster presentations, and an exhibit hall featuring every major player in endocrine related pharmaceutical and device industries. ASEPA also hosted a booth providing invaluable information to attendees about the organization and the PAs role in modern endocrine care.

Like any well-designed conference, attendees were faced with the challenge of



*Pictured: Ashlyn Smith (left) and CJ Chun manning the ASEPA booth at the AACE 2019*

deciding which topic they'd like to learn about. Fortunately, the lectures were commonly repeated during different segments of the day, allowing the opportunity to catch a topic one might have missed while attending an earlier session. I was particularly impressed by the implementation of the smart phone/tablet app which allowed attendees to reference the slides and take notes right on their own devices. Even so, lecture halls often resembled pop concerts as conventioners held up their phones to snap screenshots of the projected slides for future reference.

As valuable as the learning opportunities during the formal sessions were, I found that one of the most worthwhile events that I attended during the conference was the ASEPA dinner reception that took place on Day 2. It was really enjoyable to get to know my colleagues in a relaxed and comfortable setting, while having a roundtable discussion on diabetes care, hosted by a pharmaceutical company. The endocrine PA community is growing and it was great to be able to meet and interact with PAs serving in this discipline from all over the country.

Next year's conference will be taking place in early May in Washington DC.

### **Message from AACE**

*Sandra L. Weber, MD, FACP, FACE*  
*AACE President, 2019-2020*



As a practicing endocrinologist that has worked with Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants, I appreciate the collaboration between the ASEPA and the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists (AACE).

In the past year, AACE continued to collaborate with organizations like ASEPA to expand educational opportunities for allied health professionals within the endocrine community. Some of our latest programming and offerings include multidisciplinary content presented at our 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific and Clinical Congress, our revamped *Principles of Endocrine Neck Sonography Course*, the *online ACE Self-Assessment Program (ASAP)*, and our expanded *Disease State Resource Centers* available on our recently enhanced website at [AACE.com](http://AACE.com).

We are also excited to announce several new initiatives that will be available for PAs later this year, including:

- Three new clinical practice guidelines, *Bariatric Surgery*, *Post-Menopausal Osteoporosis*, and *Growth Hormone Deficiency*. Upon publication, new companion interdisciplinary educational content will be available.
- Regional workshops from our new *Successful Co-management between Primary Care and Endocrinology (SCOPE)* initiative, which is designed to provide the primary care team with the knowledge and skills to care for common endocrine disorders.
- Educational and awareness programs created from the *Innovating Decisions and Empowering Action in Diabetes (IDEA)* project, which is a collaboration of multiple associations including AACE and ASEPA. The goal of this initiative is to help the diabetes community understand continuous glucose monitoring, report interpretations, and how to use of this information to optimize therapeutic management.

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](http://AACE.com), subscribe to our e-newsletters, and/or follow us on social media via [@theaace](https://twitter.com/theaace).



### **Cardiometabolic Health Congress West:**

*Silvie Georgens PA-C, RD, CDE*

*Diabetes and Endocrine Associates*

*San Diego, CA*

The first weekend in May brought a unique conference experience to the beautiful venue of the Sheraton Grand at Wild Horse, a Native American owned resort in Phoenix Arizona. The ambiance and decor celebrate the local heritage and I found it to be welcoming and serene.

The conference, in its 14<sup>th</sup> year, showcased engaging faculty and a range of topics from obesity to anticoagulation with many in between. There was also special attention made to include cultural diversity. There were pointed presentations looking at cardiometabolic health issues specifically applied to indigenous communities and to women.

I am a PA working in endocrinology and am amazed by the advances we have made in treating some of our most burdensome chronic diseases. This conference was an opportunity to solidify some of my current practices and update my knowledge on diseases I don't manage directly but that affect many of my chronic patients. I provide my best care when I know my patients well.



### **AAPA 2019**

ASEPA had another great year at the AAPA 2019 conference! Several ASEPA board and committee members were privileged to be speakers (listed below). Nearly 30 ASEPA members connected for a reception and scientific discussion on Type 2 Diabetes and the cardio-renal system thanks to the AstraZeneca team. In particular, ASEPA would like to extend a **special thanks to Joe Largay and Maria O'Connor, fellow ASEPA members who hosted the event.** Thank you to all who attended and we look forward to seeing you again at future events!



*Pictured: Members and colleagues at the ASEPA reception at AAPA 2019*



## **AAPA 2019 House of Delegates Meeting**

*Ben Prohaska, PA-C*



Brief summary of actions for the AAPA conference in Denver 2019 for the House of Delegates (HOD).

The full 61-page Summary of Actions for the 2019 HOD report can be found using the link below. You must be a member of the AAPA to login and view:

<https://www.aapa.org/about/aapa-governance-leadership/house-of-delegates/>

It was my pleasure to represent ASEPA at the 2019 HOD meeting in Denver this past May. A portion of the resolutions passed during this session had to do with bringing the AAPA in line with other national organizations such as the AMA. Other discussions over the two days were on Resolutions having to do with Human Trafficking, Awareness and Prevention of PA Professional Burnout, Antimicrobial Resistance Paper, Safety-Product labeling, Violence-Weapons and Organizational Approaches to ending Violence, Medical standards for Military Readiness among Transgender Service Members, and Expanding the Role of PAs in Surgical and Procedural Specialties.

Some of the most interesting resolutions had to do with Non-physician Licensure for Medical School Graduates. The HOD passed a resolution stating the AAPA opposes legislation which would categorize such licensees as PAs in any circumstance, meaning foreign medical school graduates cannot come to the US and be considered a PA. The HOD also recommended that the AAPA increase the maximum of 10 Category I CME in a single year for precepting PA students to 20 Category I CME credits. I find this to be a win for all of us who precept students and a win for PA schools who are in desperate need of clinical sites.

Lastly the HOD heard from WPP, the company that is investigating a title change to our profession. They briefly discussed data from the survey that was sent out about a month before the conference. All the data was not in. They shared that the qualitative research indicates that physician assistants are highly valued in the healthcare system and offer true benefits to healthcare providers, patients, and employers alike. However, they found when surveying the general public and patients as well as other healthcare clinicians, certain issues could limit physician assistant potential. They found the limits always revolved around the word assistant. In WPP's words from May 2019-July 2019 they will look into "Leverage research to develop strategic foundation for positioning the physician assistant brand and inform title development". From August 2019- September 2019 they will "leverage insights and strategy to explore new title opportunities". From September 2019- December 2019 "Field quantitative survey to validate new title and to assess legal and financial ramifications". WPP will bring their findings to the HOD session in 2020.

## **MEDS 2019 Update**

*Scott Urquhart, PA-C*



We have entered our 9<sup>th</sup> year with our 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> summits scheduled for San Diego and Orlando. Although MEDS was intended to educate our primary care and "new to endocrine" colleagues, in 2018 we had >20% of attendees that were in diabetes and endocrine settings. 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 in 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.

All the best,

Scott Urquhart PA-C

## **ASEPA in action**

### **- ASEPA Speakers at AAPA**

#### **Immediate Past President CJ Chun, PA-C, BC-ADM:**

- Obesity Leadership Edge: Treating Obesity as Chronic Disease
- Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome
- Advances in Diabetes Technology: Pumps and CGM
- Noninsulin Pharmacotherapy for Type 2 Diabetes

#### **President Ashlyn Smith, PA-C:**

- Managing Cardiovascular Risk in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes: Emerging Concepts
- Adrenal disorders: Cases of Fact or Fiction?
- DON'T Break A Leg: Clinical Decision-Making in Osteoporosis

#### **Education Committee Member Amy Butts, PA-C, CDE:**

- Insulin initiation and intensification
- Individualizing insulin therapy to your patient: A review of case studies

#### **Liaison Committee Member Joy Dugan, PA-C, MPH:**

- Prediabetes and Type 2 Diabetes Prevention
- Shared medical visits

#### **Publication Committee Member Melissa Murfin, PA-C, PharmD, BCACP:**

- Pharmacogenetic Testing in Primary Care

### **- IDEA**

*CJ Chun, PA-C, BC-ADM*

In March of 2018, American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists (AACE) initiated a project called IDEA, Innovating Decisions and Empowering Action in Diabetes Management. Main goal of this project is to improve understanding of glucose monitoring, report interpretations, and use of this information to optimize therapeutic management, leading to practice transformation and increased shared decision-making.

Along with representatives from AACE, American Diabetes Association, Endocrine Society, American Association of Diabetes Educators, and others, I have been on the steering committee to create educational modules and provide unique perspectives from PA standpoint.

We have total of 3 phases planned and just completed the first phase which included building consensus with collaborating organizations and develop core case contents. We are now in the second phase which is to raise awareness and disseminate education online to specialists and patients, raise patient and media awareness, educate primary care, specialists, and patients via live meetings, advocacy efforts.

If you are interested in utilizing these resources at your clinic, institution, chapter meetings (state, specialty, etc), please let me know.

We always welcome good clinical case scenarios which will build our case study bank. Please contact me at [cjcmedicine@gmail.com](mailto:cjcmedicine@gmail.com) if you would like to contribute and find out how to do so.

### **- Diabetes Workshop by JDRF** *Stephen Willis, PA-C*

June 6th 2019 HCP Education Collaborative hosted by JDRF and the Helmsley Foundation  
San Francisco, CA Pre ADA Congress



Meeting kick off by Arron Kowalski - CEO JDRF

The meeting was very well attended by approximately 60 individuals. Attendees were from T1D Exchange, Barbara Davis Diabetes, Joslin Center for Diabetes, Cleveland Clinic, DiaTribe, American Diabetes Association, Endocrine Society, American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists, American Association of Diabetes Educators, representatives from several medical schools, universities and pharmacies.

Kelly Close presented information from this study which generated much interest.

HCP Information: Drowning in Resources, Lacking Confidence? JAMES M. MCDERMOTT, BRIAN LEVINE, JOHANNA LACKNER, ERIK SHOGER and KELLY L. CLOSE

Diabetes 2019 Jun; 68(Supplement 1): -.

<https://doi.org/10.2337/db19-56-LB>

- Study showed that the care of diabetics based on A1c has actually decreased in the last 6 yrs based on A1c.
- Patients tend to trust information from online diabetes patient groups more than their healthcare provider. 37% vs 35%. If patients are not plugged into the internet/outside network other than in-office appointments, they trust their HCP 88% of the time.
- Many countries have better A1c control than the US.
- A map of the US shows large white areas without any Endocrinologist's. My question on this issue: Does this include APP specialists in Endocrine care?
- Percent of Providers who feel they have adequate resources to help PWD (patients with diabetes) PCP 77%, NP 63%, PA 43%, CDE 82%.
- Of the four groups of providers PA's also responded that they have the least amount of time to stay up to date.
- PCP's are rarely taught how to teach insulin injection/ titration.
- Provider Confidence in tx PWD: PCP 94%, NP 90%, PA 74%, CDE 89%
- Provider Confidence in starting insulin: PCP 85%, NP 85%, PA 44%, CDE 89%

HCP's feel that there is a need to have a centralized hub to go to for information on treating PWD. 76% want up to date guidelines, 66% want more information on diabetes devices.

48% of HCP responded they were not able to implement information learned from CME courses to treat PWD due to cost of medication and/or devices.

A large percentage of PCP's don't want to manage Diabetes.

1st medication started is metformin, 2nd sulfonylureas, 3rd other orals, last on list insulin

How can we keep Medical Schools, NP and PA programs up to date on Diabetes care, guidelines and teach them how to use and start insulin in their patients.

Should we embrace certificate programs for diabetes care that would include insulin, CGM, guidelines, pump therapy?

Smaller group sessions brainstormed on unmet needs, key ideas brought back to the entire group:

- Collaboration to have a National Initiative to educate on the epidemic of diabetes which affects many more than the opioid crisis. Who would champion this initiative, ADA and all other groups agree to collaborate on goals for public message and HCP training needs?
- Cost as a barrier to care
- Socioeconomic and health literacy barriers
- Many organizations with different priorities

- Rapid changing healthcare environment with regard to reimbursement and EMR systems
- Work with medical education institutions to improve curricula around diabetes care
- Offer short online CME opportunities ie 5-15min sessions on diabetes education due to limited time of providers to learn via internet, phone app's.
- Leverage education opportunities from industry to collaborate with non-profits
- Improve patient education tools, hands out and online information.

The take home points from this meeting is that we need to align HCP education and CME to meet the needs of patients in today's healthcare environment. An effort to align the CME regarding diabetes care and treatment to include an evidence-based approach to new technology ie. CGM and insulin pumps. I see the role of ASEPA to work with AAPA to ensure that PA curriculum is up to date. I was disappointed at the reported proficiency of PAs to treat patients with diabetes. We could push to improve the competency of PAs to treat patients with diabetes.

### **Job Postings**

#### **North Scottsdale Endocrinology, Scottsdale, Arizona.**

Seeking a Physician Assistant with 1-2 years' experience, who excels at providing excellent patient care.

We are looking for someone who can multi-task and has the ability to prioritize, with great time management skills. Candidate must have working knowledge of diabetes, EMR experience and eClinical is a plus!

Salary is competitive and based on experience. CME and PTO is covered by the practice.

We are a very fast paced office, Open Tuesday- Friday. Qualified applicants please forward resume to [gracezmendo@gmail.com](mailto:gracezmendo@gmail.com), or fax to 480-219-5547.

#### **Endocrine PA in Raleigh, North Carolina**

Raleigh Endocrine Associates (REA) is a recognized leader in North Carolina in the treatment and care of endocrine-related conditions. Our practice has been treating patients in the Triangle and beyond for more than 30 years and is unparalleled in experience and expertise. Our providers are highly trained and skilled in the diagnosis and treatment of all endocrine disorders.

We are actively seeking a Full-Time Physician Assistant with endocrinology experience, including caring for patients with diabetes (Type 1 and Type 2) and knowledge of pumps, sensors, and closed-loop technologies. Position requires appropriate certification and NC licensure. Allscripts experience preferred. You will work closely with one of our physicians to manage patient care and experience, and provide direct patient care for new patient and follow-up visits.

Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday. No evening or weekend call responsibilities. Competitive salary and benefit package, including CME allowance.

To apply, please send resume/CV and cover letter to [msangster@raleighendocrine.com](mailto:msangster@raleighendocrine.com).



## Clinical Science Liaison at AstraZeneca in Washington D.C. area

At AstraZeneca we turn ideas into life changing medicines. Working here means being entrepreneurial, thinking big and working together to make the impossible a reality. We're focused on the potential of science to address the unmet needs of patients around the world. We commit to those areas where we think we can really change the course of medicine and bring big new ideas to life. As a Cardiovascular Metabolic (CVMD) Clinical Science Liaison, you'll play a pivotal role in channeling our scientific capabilities to make a positive impact on changing patients' lives.

AstraZeneca's strategy in CVMD focuses on ways to reduce morbidity, mortality and organ damage by addressing multiple risk factors across cardiovascular (CV) disease, diabetes and chronic kidney-disease indications. The patient-centric approach is reinforced by science-led life-cycle management programs and technologies, including early research into regenerative methods.

### Typical Accountabilities:

The CVMD Clinical Science Liaison will serve as a key clinical liaison to advanced practice health care providers (HCPs). The CVMD Clinical Science Liaison will be a key member of the CVMD Field Medical Affairs team, working in close partnership with the CVMD Medical Science Liaisons and Field Physicians.

As a CVMD Clinical Science Liaison, you will identify and cultivate relationships with primary care providers including nurse practitioners, physician assistants, clinical pharmacists, large group practices, and other health care providers such as physicians when appropriate. You will conduct educational programs on disease state and appropriate use of AstraZeneca products with a focus on diabetes and CV areas and respond to customer inquiries to ensure focused and balanced clinical and scientific information that supports the appropriate use of AstraZeneca's products and services.

Additionally as a CVMD Clinical Science Liaison, you will deliver appropriate clinical and scientific information to support appropriate use of AstraZeneca products in a patient focused manner; maintain expertise in disease state management, emerging therapies and the competitive landscape; gather customer insights regarding AstraZeneca and competitor products to help inform medical and commercial strategies and adhere to internal standard processes and comply with regulatory and compliance requirements.

### Essential Requirements:

- Masters Degree in Nursing and an advanced certification (i.e. NP, PA-C)
- At least 5 years of direct patient care experience
- Previous experience in the clinical management of diabetes
- Excellent verbal skills
- Strong presentation skills including the ability to effectively communicate medical data/concepts
- Outstanding interpersonal skills
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite
- Ability to travel (40-60%)

### Desirable Requirements:

- Previous pharmaceutical industry experience
- Previous experience in field medical role
- Certified Diabetes Educator

*AstraZeneca is an equal opportunity employer. AstraZeneca will consider all qualified applicants for employment without discrimination on grounds of disability, sex or sexual orientation, pregnancy or maternity leave status, race or national or ethnic origin, age, religion or belief, gender identity or re-assignment, marital or civil partnership status, protected veteran status (if applicable) or any other characteristic protected by law.*

[https://astrazeneca.wd3.myworkdayjobs.com/Careers/job/US---Washington---DC/Clinical-Science-Liaison---MD-DC-VA\\_R-048442-1](https://astrazeneca.wd3.myworkdayjobs.com/Careers/job/US---Washington---DC/Clinical-Science-Liaison---MD-DC-VA_R-048442-1)

**Phoenix Metro area, AZ****Endocrinology Associates**

Busy single-specialty endocrinology office looking for PA-C to join a team with one physician and two PAs. Experience in endocrinology is preferred but new graduates are welcome. Please send a current CV and 2-3 references to the contact below.

Primary location:  
9328 E. Raintree Dr.  
Scottsdale, AZ

Satellite office (Wednesdays):  
5520 W. Chandler Blvd, Suite 3  
Chandler, AZ 85226

Phone: 602-266-8463

Contact: Office manager Cynthia Everlith [cynthiae9@endoassocaz.net](mailto:cynthiae9@endoassocaz.net)

**Smithtown, NY**

Organization: MIDDLE COUNTRY ENDOCRINOLOGY

285 MIDDLE COUNTRY ROAD, SUITE 105

SMITHTOWN, NY 11787

631-509-0390

Email: [mcendo@optonline.net](mailto:mcendo@optonline.net)

Prominent Smithtown endocrine group is seeking a part-time Physician Assistant. The hours are 8 - 4:30 two days a week. Our practice is currently home to a Medical Doctor, Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant, Sonogram Technician, and Registered Dietitian.

The candidate must have graduated from a master's level state-approved Physician Assistant program and possess state licensure to practice the expanded role. Must be experienced in endocrine and diabetes management

**Denver, CO**

Outpatient Internal Medicine/ Endocrinology office in Denver Colorado is looking to hire a full time Physician Assistant.

- Four 10-hour days or Five 8-hour days
- No weekends. No on-call.
- Salary is competitive and dependent on experience.
- Health insurance can be offered if you need it.
- 401 K is offered after 2 years
- 3 weeks PTO per year
- Covered professional fees such as licensing fees, DEA renewal fee, and AAPA annual membership dues.

- Malpractice insurance provided

We also encourage attendance at weekly Endocrine grand rounds held at The University of Colorado Anschutz medical campus and other educational programs at nearby hospitals.

Our office staff includes a clinical research team, four medical assistants, one PA who has been working at the practice for 5 years, and one physician who is board certified in Internal Medicine and

Endocrinology and has over 30 years clinical and teaching experience.

We have had an Internal Medicine resident, 4th year medical student, and PA's every month for practically that entire time.

Our office is looking for a PA who is interested in both Internal Medicine and Endocrinology. We serve as primary care for most of our diabetic patients. Patient appointments are scheduled for 30 minutes in length for established patients and 60 minutes in length for new patients. You will be seeing on average 12-15 patients per day once you feel comfortable working on your own. In the mean time, we will help you accommodate to the office and gradually ramp up your schedule.

We spend significant time with our patients in order to treat them as a whole person, trying to educate and motivate behavior change in the face of complex medical problems. This is not a typical primary care office and not fast paced medicine. We are looking for someone who is willing to spend time with patients and who is able to develop a trusting and caring partnership with patients. Many of our patients are well-educated professionals and will keep you on your toes if you want to keep up your skills.

Both the Physician and the current PA will help support the new PA who is hired for as long is necessary to help their transition be as smooth as possible because we want the new PA that is hired to be successful and we want our patients to be well cared for. You will be working as a colleague with the supervising physician and your medical opinion and knowledge will be valued. You will be working to the full extent of your training.

Please consider applying if you are interested in providing high quality patient care in an outpatient setting to patients with the entire spectrum of Endocrine and Internal Medicine disorders. New graduates will be considered. If interested in moving forward, please send your resume, cover letter, and 2-3 references to [creeksideendocrine@yahoo.com](mailto:creeksideendocrine@yahoo.com) . Thank you.

### **Upcoming Conferences**

***\*featured conferences\* → check for complimentary/discounted registration with Staci Kies Wise at [stacikwise@gmail.com](mailto:stacikwise@gmail.com)***

### **Practical Ways to Achieve Targets in Diabetes Care**

University of Colorado Barbara Davis Center

Keystone, Colorado

July 11-14, 2019

### **\*3rd Annual Heart in Diabetes (HiD)\***

Philadelphia, PA

July 12-14, 2019

Members may use the promo code **HIDPO for a 30% discount** off registration

<https://www.heartindiabetes.com/>

### **\*Metabolic& Endocrine Disease Summit 2019 West\***

San Diego, CA

July 31-August 3, 2019

### **American Association of Diabetes Educators Conference**

Houston, TX

August 9-12, 2019

**\*Metabolic& Endocrine Disease Summit 2019 East\***

Orlando, FL  
October 2-5, 2019

**\*Endocrine Nurse Society Regional Endocrine Symposium\***

Houston, TX  
October 19, 2019  
<https://endocrinenursessociety.wildapricot.org/event-3415483/Registration>

**\*Cardiometabolic Risk Summit\***

Orlando, FL  
October 24-26, 2019  
<https://www.primarycarecardiometabolic.com/>

**\*Cardiometabolic Health Congress 14th Annual Conference\***

Boston, MA  
October 10-13, 2019  
<https://www.cardiometabolichealth.org/>

**\*Cardiometabolic Risk Summit\***

Orlando, FL  
October 24-26, 2019  
<https://www.primarycarecardiometabolic.com/>

**\*17th Annual World Congress on Insulin Resistance Diabetes & Cardiovascular Disease (WCIRDC)\***

Los Angeles, CA  
December 5-7, 2019  
<https://www.wcir.org/>

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