



National Certification Board for Diabetes Educators

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Members Elected to NCBDE Board of Directors

(Arlington Heights, IL – January 2020) James Bernasko, MD, FACOG, CDE®, Paulina Duker, MPH, CDE®, RN, Kari Kohrs, MPH, RD, LDN, CDE®, and Tami Ross, RDN, LD, CDE®, MLDE, FAADE, have been elected to serve as members of the Board of Directors of the National Certification Board for Diabetes Educators (NCBDE).

Dr. Bernasko, Stony Brook, NY, is one of few maternal-fetal medicine specialists in the United States who also earned his Certified Diabetes Educator (CDE) credential in 2006. He has established and directed several Diabetes in Pregnancy programs in the New York area and is currently Director of the Stony Brook University Hospital Diabetes in Pregnancy Center.

Paulina Duker, Malvern, PA, currently works for LifeScan Global Corporation as Content Lead, a role in which she has gained international experience in diabetes care and education. Her area of expertise includes direct patient care and education, outcomes management and quality improvement, program oversight, accreditation, staff development and content strategy. As Vice President for Diabetes Education and Clinical Programs at the American Diabetes Association, she was instrumental in getting certified health educators recognized under the 2012 National Standards for Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support, a change that supported the addition of the Master Certified Health Education Specialist to the standard pathway for CDEs beginning in 2014.

Kari Kohrs, Vancouver, WA, has held her CDE credential since 2003. She is the in-patient diabetes educator/navigator at PeaceHealth SW Medical Center in Vancouver and is the co-lead of the Glycemic Control Task Force Team at the hospital.

Tami Ross, Lexington, KY, is a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist and has held the CDE credential since 1993. She is a nationally recognized expert in diabetes and nutrition and has 30 years' experience providing diabetes and nutrition care and education in a variety of settings, currently as a Diabetes Population Health Specialist in public health. Tami has co-authored ten diabetes books and cookbooks, and served as the 2013 President of the American Association of Diabetes Educators (now known as the Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists).

They began serving terms on January 1, 2020. Dr. Bernasko, Ms. Duker and Ms. Ross are serving four-year terms; Ms. Kohrs is serving a two-year term, completing the term of former Board member Allyson Jackson, RD, CDE® who resigned from her role as a Board member effective December 31, 2019.

With their election, they join six CDE® Directors and one Public Member currently serving on the organization's Board. As of January 1, 2020, the Board will also include:

- Jasmine Gonzalvo, PharmD, BCPS, BC-ADM, CDE®, LDE, Chair
- Benjamin Klein, BS, Chair-Elect
- Jenni Osborne, CDE®, MCHES, MPH, Treasurer
- Leonard Sanders, MD, FACP, BC-ADM, CLS, CDE®, Immediate Past Chair
- Chrystyne Olivieri, DNP, FNP-BC, CDE®
- Carol Rasmussen, MSN, NP-C, CDE®, FAADE
- Becky Sulik, RDN, LD, CDE®
- Sheryl Traficano, MBA, CAE (NCBDE CEO, ex-officio)

About NCBDE: NCBDE is moving to a new name in 2020, the Certification Board for Diabetes Care and Education (CBDCE). Originally established as the NCBDE in 1986, the CBDCE, a not-for-profit certification organization, awards certification to qualified health professionals with specialized knowledge in diabetes care and education. This certification, known for many years as the CDE® credential, is also transitioning in 2020 to Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist (CDCES). Currently, over 19,700 health professionals proudly hold the CDCES credential, a program accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies. The organization's mission is to promote comprehensive and ongoing quality diabetes clinical management, education prevention and support by defining, developing, maintaining and protecting the certification and credentialing processes. For more information, please visit www.ncbde.org.

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