



# Certification UPDATE

Fall 2014

Keeping BONENT Members Informed

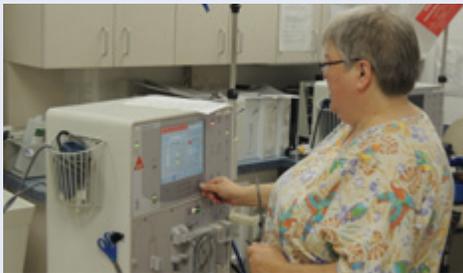
## BONENT Adds New Exam For Bio-Medical Technicians

For the last two years BONENT has been working on a new exam for Bio Medical Technicians. The debut of the Certified Hemodialysis Bio-Medical Technician (CHBT) exam was on September 1<sup>st</sup> 2014.

The goal of the BONENT Board was to establish an exam to help the Bio Medical Technicians to be recognized as professionals and to demonstrate their competency in the dialysis setting.

Adding to its CHT, CHN and CPDN dialysis certifications, BONENT has introduced the new

CHBT exam to measure technical proficiency in certain skills and general areas of knowledge. Eligibility for the exam is 12 months of work



experience in nephrology, of which includes a minimum of 6 months of dialysis BioMedical (BM) experience and any BM training certificates.

Nephrology technicians may receive certification in either or both exams - patient care (CHT) and bio-medical (CHBT). The 3-hour examination, via Computer Based Testing only, tests eight major domains of practice and tasks performed in the scope of hemodialysis technology (see ad on page 4 for list).

## BONENT Continues With 2 Summer Regional Seminars!

BONENT held two Regional Education Seminars this summer – The Northeast Seminar held in Newark NJ in July and the Southwest Seminar held in Houston TX in September.

We continue to hear that one of the most enjoyable and learning sessions is the “lunch networking session,” since the people you meet and the professional networks you make, are as valuable as what the speakers have to tell us. Attendees received 8 CEs for each all-day session.

There were presentations on what is new dialysis access, malnutrition and family-centered care,

home hemo, patient engagement and much more. See details on our website.

### We Need Your Suggestions for Topics & Speakers

In order to provide the educational opportunities that our members need, we are looking for suggestions on topics and quality speakers for these seminars. You can email the Continuing

Education Director at [lyle\\_bonent@msn.com](mailto:lyle_bonent@msn.com).

The Board of Directors will meet with the CE Programs Committee in November to finalize the 2015 seminar locations.

### Thank you to the following speakers:

**Jim Dineen, MS**, *Eagledreamer, Creative Mgt. Consultants*

**Julia Gladis, RD**, *Cryolife*

**Mike Morales**, *Dialysis Education Services*

**Mark Neumann**, *Editor, NNI*

**Raynel Wilson, RN**, *Networks 9/10*

**Diana Shelkov**, *CHT*

**Cathi Martin, RD**, *Pentec*

**Shane Simon, MBA**, *DaVita*

**Francis Sintobin**, *Cryolife*

**Rachelle Caruthers, LMSW**, *ESRD Network 14*

**Charissa Rice**, *NxStage*



# Certification UPDATE

## BONENT Across the Country!

The BONENT Certification UPDATE is published quarterly by:  
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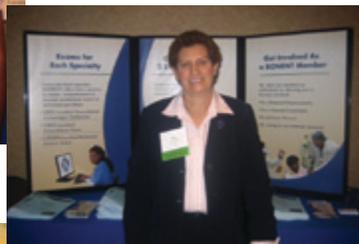
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**For an Order Form, visit [www.BONENT.org](http://www.BONENT.org) and click on Lapel Pins.**



# FROM THE PRESIDENT

## 2014 Highlights & 2015 Plans

BONENT starts a new fiscal year on October 1st, 2014. It is amazing how fast this year has gone. It is the time to look at last year and plan for what we are going to do next in all areas of the organization.

### Continuing Education

#### Lots of CE at Our Seminars

We had 3 BONENT Regional Continuing Education Seminars:

- BONENT 2014 Northeast Regional Seminar on May 4th in Newark, NJ
- BONENT 2014 Midwest Regional Seminar on July 13th in Chicago, IL
- BONENT 2014 Southwest Regional Seminar on September 28th in Houston, TX



These were all great seminars that the participants truly enjoyed. Unfortunately, there were not as many PCT's and nurses in attendance as we had hoped. Many of you ask about more Group A CE availabilities, so consider attending one of our seminars to get 8 CEs!

There are several who I would like to thank:

- Cryolife and NxStage for their support in providing interesting speakers on extremely important topics.
- BONENT member, Diana Shelkov, for speaking at the Houston and Newark meeting
- Mark Neumann and Nephrology News and Issues for speaking on "Politics and Dialysis". If you are not on their email list, I would recommend that go to their website and sign up.
- Sanford Brown College for their 2014 sponsorship.

Finally, I would like to thank nurse and technicians, BONENT certified or not, that attended these seminars, whose participation, brought an interactive nature to the program and great chance at networking at lunch.

#### Target Areas for 2015 Seminars

We will again be presenting three BONENT Regional Seminars in 2015. The dates and locations have yet to be determined. We are always interested in your suggestions on topics and speakers.

#### Join the CE Committee

With the new year approaching, we will be naming a new Continuing Education Committee. If you are interested, contact Lyle Smith at [lyle\\_bonent@msn.com](mailto:lyle_bonent@msn.com). You need to be BONENT certified and current with your dues. No experience is needed – just be ready to work hard! We will especially focus on getting the word out about our seminars and getting more attendees. We will be forming a "host committee" for each of the sites, responsible for marketing the meeting and developing contacts with the local Network. If sounds interesting to you to help locally, contact Lyle.

#### Examinations

##### New BioMed Exam Up and Running!

Finally, after three years of hard work of many individuals, we have released the new **Certified Hemodialysis Bio-Med Technician certification (CHBT)** on September 4, 2014. It is something that

is very much needed in the dialysis community. It is only available currently in the computer-based testing (CBT) form. Check the website for more details.

I would like to thank Dennis Schell CHT for leading the group that developed this new exam and all of the technicians that took time out of their busy schedules to make this happen. I would particularly like to thank Ed Castroverde, Byron Roshto CHT, and Scott Giesen who spent many hours at the end of this process to get it across the finish line.



RJ Picciano  
President

#### Spanish CHT Coming Soon! Spread the News

Our goals for the Exam committee may sound modest after what the committee and all its volunteers accomplished in 2014, but they are very important. First, we should have the Spanish language CHT exam done and available in the 1st quarter of 2015. Hopefully, it will launch January 1, 2015. We plan to market this the U.S. first and then to Latin America.

#### CHN Exam to be Updated

Next up on our busy plate, we will update the CHN exam. Any nurses interested in being part of this process contact Paulette Sheeley at [PSheeley22@gmail.com](mailto:PSheeley22@gmail.com).

#### Our 40th Anniversary

##### The Loss of One of Our Founders

2014 was the 40th anniversary of BONENT! In the past few issues of the newsletter, we gave you the history of BONENT, including why we were founded and who the Founders were. On a sad note, we lost one of those founders, Sally Burroughs-Hudson, small in stature, but with a giant of a heart. The renal community is significantly poorer with her passing. Our memory of her will drive us to be better. Sally and her husband, Martin were among those BONENT claims as our Founders.



#### 40th Anniversary to Continue to 2016!

We are going to continue with 40th Anniversary Celebration. BONENT was founded in 1974, but did not give their first exam until 1976. So, we are going to continue our 40th Anniversary Celebration through 2016!

#### We're an Organization of Volunteers – Think About Volunteering

In addition to the staff's duties, BONENT is a non-profit association, and volunteer organizations live and die by what volunteers do. So, I

would like to thank all of you who have volunteered in the past year. But, I would like to encourage the rest of you to get involved. As a professional, it is each professional's responsibility to do something to make the profession better. So, again, I would encourage you to volunteer! It will make you feel good about yourself and may lead to you accomplishing something you never thought you could. Remember: "The Journey of a 1000 miles starts with 1 step" Have a great holiday season and I will see you in 2015.

#### Ohio Torch Bearer Award

RJ Picciano recently received the Torch Bearer Award from the Kidney Foundation of Ohio. She is the inaugural recipient and is receiving this honor for her commitment to personal and professional development, contributions to the community through volunteer services and serves as a role model for others.



# BONENT Announces Its 4<sup>th</sup> Certification Exam

## CHBT: Certified Hemodialysis Bio-Medical Technician

From that period to the present, BONENT has Adding to its CHT, CHN and CPDN dialysis certifications, BONENT introduces the new CHBT (Certified Hemodialysis Bio-Medical Technician) examination to measure technical proficiency in certain skills and general areas of knowledge and will help Bio-Med Technicians be recognized in their profession.

Nephrology technicians may receive certification in either or both exams - patient care (CHT) and bio-medical (CHBT).

**Eligibility:** 12 months of work experience in nephrology, of which includes a minimum of 6 months of dialysis BioMedical (BM) experience and any BM training certificates.

The 3-hour examination, via CBT only, tests the following eight major domains of practice and tasks performed in the scope of hemodialysis technology:

- Water Treatment System Management (30%)
- Medical Machine Maintenance (24%)
- Concentrate System Management (11%)
- Life-Safety and Physical Plant Maintenance (9%)
- Professional Responsibilities (8%)
- Quality Assurance Performance Improvement (7%)
- Documentation Practices (7%)
- Reprocessing of Dialyzer (4%)



## Apply now. Be one of the first to be a CHBT!

### MEMO

**To: Dialysis Providers, BONENT Members  
& Renal Networks**

**Re: New BioMed Tech Exam (CHBT)**

I am sending you information on the new BONENT Certified Hemodialysis Bio-Medical Technologist Exam and Certification to all of you in conjunction with a career goal of mine, and many others like me. I have worked in Dialysis for well over 30 years and have seen all levels of competency when it comes to the care and oversight of Dialysis medical equipment. It has always puzzled me as to how something as important as the life saving equipment itself can be managed by some individuals without Industry wide guidelines and requirements for National Certification and Training.

My personal vision has been to see an industry where all of the multi-disciplinary members of the Dialysis Team are Nationally Certified in the field that they are the experts for. The BONENT CHBT Exam Program accomplishes

such a certification and is recognized worldwide as a very prestigious technical certification organization for both DPC Staff (CHT Exam), and now, Biomed Staff (CHBT).

We know that the last remaining “hold out” on the vision of Certification Standards for all in the Dialysis Clinic has been the Biomed Technicians that work on Medical Equipment. I have always been amazed that it has not been mandatory to achieve and maintain National Certification for Bio-Medical Services for our Patients, regardless of the Provider.

That said, well over a year ago I was given the honor of joining a BONENT team of subject matter experts with the express purpose of establishing such an exam for all Biomedical Technicians to strive for. Our SME’s were selected from Providers from all over the industry and included a wide variety of experts in our field. The Exam process was directed and overseen by a nationally recognized testing company which maintains the highest standards for the development, field testing and final deployment of national exams.

As your Network 16 MRB Technical Advisory Board Representative, I am asking if all Networks can help with this important long term goal of National Bio-Medical Certification by forwarding the BONENT CHBT Exam Flyer to all of the Dialysis Providers and other Networks across the country.

Where there is no CMS requirement for National Certification of Bio-Med Tech’s at this time, it is for the benefit of our patients that Bio-Medical Technicians begin to work towards National Certification pro-actively. I do this work for our friends and patients like our own Troyce Crucchiola and for all of the other Dialysis Patients of the world, and not for any self gain or recognition.

My work for BONENT is as a Volunteer and has no affiliation or direct association with FMC, whom I proudly work for. Thank you to all and I appreciate your indulgence and consideration of this matter.

Best Regards,

**Byron Roshto**

*NW Renal Network 16 MRB Member*