



2009 Annual Conference Speaker Biographies “Making Asthma Education Easy in the Big Easy”

Wendy Brown, PharmD, MPAS, PA-C, AE-C graduated from North Dakota State University School of Pharmacy with a Doctorate of Pharmacy in May 2001 and completed a NACDS/ NCPA Community Pharmacy Practice Residency through Dakota Pharmacy / NDSU in 2002. She completed a Masters in Physician Assistant Studies from the University of North Dakota in 2008 and is a Certified Physician Assistant. She has been a Certified Asthma Educator since 2002. Dr. Brown is currently an Assistant Professor at NDSU College of Pharmacy, Nursing and Allied Sciences.

Dr. Brown will present the following sessions:

Pharmacologic and Immunologic Therapy for Asthma

Pharmacology Update

AAE National Asthma Educator Certification and Recertification Review Course

Debra Clark, RN, AE-C, BS

Ms. Clark will present the following sessions:

Developing Age-Appropriate Materials

Food Allergies and Anaphylaxis

Loran Clement, MD completed pediatric residency training at The Johns Hopkins Hospital and the University of California, San Francisco. Following residency, he was a Research Associate in the Laboratory of Immunology at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH. He received training in Allergy and Immunology at the Mayo Clinic and UCLA. His activities have included laboratory research investigating T cell differentiation, clinical care of children with immunologic diseases, and participation in the national Breathmobile program, which provides school-based health care for children with asthma. He is currently Professor and Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of South Alabama College of Medicine.

Dr. Clement will present the following sessions:

Role of Spirometry and Peak Flow Monitoring in Pediatric Asthma

Barriers that Hinder Achieving and Maintaining Asthma Control in Children

Kathleen Conboy-Ellis, PhD, RN, PNP-BC, AE-C is an Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing at the University of Tampa in Tampa, Fl. Dr. Ellis has worked as a pediatric nurse practitioner specializing in the care of asthma and allergic disease since 1975, and is the Past-President of the Association of Asthma Educators. She lectures extensively on issues related to asthma care and education and allergic disease in children and has published original research and peer-reviewed manuscripts in these areas.

Ms. Conboy-Ellis will present the AAE National Asthma Educator Certification and Recertification Review Course

Ashley Dulle, BS, RRT, AE-C has worked in Respiratory Therapy for 8 years. During her career, she developed the Asthma Education program for the Pulmonary Clinic of LSUHSC in Shreveport, Louisiana, along with researching the effects of education on patient outcome and has presented her data at national conventions. Mrs. Dulle currently serves as the Program Director of Respiratory Therapy for Bossier Parish Community College in Bossier City, Louisiana and faculty for the Department of Cardiopulmonary Science at LSU Health Science Center in Shreveport.

Ms Dulle will present Stump the Asthma Expert!

Jane Maroney El-Dahr, MD is Section Chief of Pediatric Allergy, Immunology & Rheumatology at Tulane University School of Medicine and Professor of Pediatrics and Clinical Medicine. She attended Harvard University and Jefferson Medical College, followed by an internship in Pediatrics at Yale-New Haven Hospital, before completing her residency and Fellowship in Allergy and Immunology at the University of Virginia. Her current research is focused on asthma in the post-Katrina environment.

Dr. El-Dahr will present the following sessions:

Interpreting Allergy Tests
Allergic Skin Disorders

Antonina Evans, BPharm, RPh, AE-C is a Clinical Manager for Catalyst Rx, a pharmacy benefits manager in Las Vegas, Nevada. She is responsible for clinical client support including trend management, formulary management, client and provider education, and implementing clinical programs for her clients. Nina also serves as the Primary Clinician for the Catalyst Rx Asthma Program. She received her Bachelor of Pharmacy Degree from the Saint Louis College of Pharmacy and has over 30 years experience in Community Practice. Nina has served on the Association of Asthma Educators Board of Directors since 2004 and is a Past President of AAE.

Ms. Evans will present the following sessions:

Pharmacologic and Immunologic Therapy for Asthma
Advocating for Your Patients: How to Communicate Effectively with a Pharmacy Benefits Manager
AAE National Asthma Educator Certification and Recertification Review Course

Warren V. Filley, MD is a Fellow of both the American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (ACAAI) and the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology (AAAAI). Dr. Filley is clinical professor of medicine at the Oklahoma University Medical Center in Oklahoma City, where he is a private practitioner at the Oklahoma Allergy and Asthma Clinic. He is double boarded in Internal Medicine and Allergy/Immunology. Dr. Filley graduated with Honors in Biology from the University of Kansas and received his doctorate of medicine from the University of Kansas. He completed his residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center in Oklahoma City and his fellowship in Allergy/Immunology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

Dr. Filley will present Management of Childhood Rhinitis and How it Relates to Asthma.

Antoinette Gardner, RN, BSN, MEd, CCRC, AE-C is a pediatric nurse, certified asthma educator and certified clinical research coordinator in the Pediatric Pulmonary section at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in Shreveport. She is one of the founding board members of the National Asthma Educator Certification Board and a past chair of the board. She is currently serving a final 3 year term on the board of directors. Antoinette is also a member of the Asthma Education Reimbursement Taskforce, a multi-disciplinary group with representatives of a number of professional organizations interested in asthma education. Antoinette has been involved in asthma education for the past 25 years.

Ms. Gardner will present NAECB Update.

Maureen George, PhD, RN, AE-C is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Family and Community Health, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing in Philadelphia. Dr. George has worked as an advance practice nurse in lung disease since 1986, and is the Past-President of the Association of Asthma Educators. She lectures extensively on issues related to asthma care and education and has published original research and peer-reviewed manuscripts in these areas.

Dr. George will present the following sessions:

Pharmacologic and Immunologic Therapy for Asthma
The Challenges of Patient Adherence in Enhancing Asthma Self Management
AAE National Asthma Educator Certification and Recertification Review Course

Lynn B. Gerald, PhD, MSPH is the Canyon Ranch Endowed Chair and Professor in the Department of Health Promotion Sciences, College of Public Health, at the University of Arizona. She earned her B.S. in Psychology from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, her M.A. in Sociology at the University of South Alabama, and her M.S.P.H. in Epidemiology and Ph.D. in Medical Sociology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She is also actively involved in professional and community education related to asthma and has served on many national and local boards including the National Asthma Educator Certification Board and the American Lung Association of Alabama Board of Directors.

Dr. Gerald will present Making Asthma Education Easy Anywhere.

Karen Gregory, MS, APRN-BC, CNS, RRT, AE-C is an Acute Care Clinical Nurse Specialist with a specialty in asthma, allergy and pulmonary medicine. She is also a Registered Respiratory Therapist and

Certified Asthma Educator. Karen Gregory obtained her undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center. Karen currently works at the Oklahoma Allergy and Asthma Clinic as an Advanced Practice Nurse and Asthma Educator. She is on adjunct faculty at the University of Oklahoma, College of Nursing, teaching Nursing Research. She lectures extensively on issues related to allergy, asthma and other pulmonary diseases and is published in these areas. Karen recently served as the President of the Association of Asthma Educators and has served on the AAE Board of Directors for five years.

Ms. Gregory will present the following sessions:
Managing Food Allergy and the Pediatric Patient
Food Allergies and Anaphylaxis

Traci Hardin, MPH-AE-C has her Masters of Public Health degree in Health Promotion and Education and is a Certified Asthma Educator. She has been passionately teaching appropriate asthma management to parents and professionals for 12 years while working in both the managed care and non-profit sector. Traci created her own business, Breathe Well South Carolina, LLC, to continue her efforts of promoting best practice in asthma management to providers and caregivers of those with asthma. She also utilizes her passion for asthma education by maintaining a leadership role in the SC Asthma Alliance.

Ms. Hardin will present the following sessions:
Becoming an Asthma Educator and Care Manager
Asthma Education: How to Give it So They Get it

Melissa Higginbotham, MSN, CRNP has a Master's Degree in Pediatric Nursing from the University of Alabama-Birmingham and is a Certified Primary Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner and Certified Asthma Educator. Melissa is currently employed with the Children's Hospital of Alabama within the Pediatric Pulmonary Division as a Nurse Practitioner and Asthma Educator. She has been a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner since 1988 and spent the first 17 years of her nurse practitioner career working in a pediatric primary care setting. It was while working in this primary care setting that she began to develop an interest in asthma and asthma education. Over the past four years she has worked with various healthcare professionals and families to decrease morbidity and improve the quality of life among Alabama's pediatric asthma population.

Ms. Higginbotham will present Motivational Interviewing Skills for Changing Health Behaviors.

Catherine Kier, MD, FAAP, FCCP, DABSM completed her pediatric pulmonary fellowship at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and her postdoctoral sleep fellowship in the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. She is board certified in Pediatrics, Pediatric Pulmonary and in Sleep Medicine. Currently, she is Associate Professor of Pediatrics in SUNY Stony Brook School of Medicine; Division Chief of Pediatric Pulmonary, Allergy and Immunology; Director of Cystic Fibrosis Center and Director of Pediatric Sleep Disorders at Stony Brook University Medical Center.

Dr. Kier will present the following sessions:
Asthma Genotypes and Phenotypes
AAE National Asthma Educator Certification and Recertification Review Course

Dee Mallam, RN, AE-C is an asthma educator and practice manager for John G. Winant Jr., M.D in the specialty of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology. She has been employed with this practice for over 20 years, working with children and adults. Currently serving on the AAE Board of Directors and is also actively involved in professional and community asthma education.

Ms. Mallam will present Food Allergies and Anaphylaxis.

Floyd J. Malveaux, MD, PhD is Executive Director of the Merck Childhood Asthma Network, Inc. (MCAN). Dr. Malveaux is a nationally recognized expert on asthma and allergic diseases and is Emeritus Dean of the College of Medicine and Professor of Microbiology and Medicine at Howard University. Dr. Malveaux led Howard's participation in several initiatives to identify and address risk factors that contribute to increased asthma morbidity among inner-city children and to develop evidence-based interventions to reduce and prevent asthma among at-risk populations. In addition, Malveaux has worked extensively to address health disparities and improve the quality of health care and health outcomes, especially among low-income, urban and underserved populations.

Dr. Malveaux will present Closing the Gap of Comprehensive Asthma Care: Role of the Asthma Educator.

Gailen D. Marshall, Jr, MD, PhD is Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, Vice Chair for Faculty Development and Director of the Division of Clinical Immunology and Allergy at The University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson. He is an active clinician, teacher, and researcher, with interests in clinical immunoregulation, psychoneuroimmunology, IgE as a marker of immune dysregulation in various diseases, experimental immunotherapy, and the effects of psychological stress on immune dysfunction as a risk factor for disease, particularly in allergic, asthmatic patients.

Dr. Marshall will present The Hygiene Hypothesis and Asthma Care: Exploring Internal as Well as External Environmental Control.

Diana Merendino, MHS, RRT-NPS, RPFT is Assistant Professor and Program Director for Cardiopulmonary Science at LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport. She has been a practicing therapist for 25 years at LSUHSC and has been on staff with the School of Allied Health Professions teaching for the last 18 years. She received her Bachelor of Science Degree in 1985 and a Masters of Health Science Degree in 1993 from LSU Medical Center, New Orleans. Her clinical experience consists of working in ICU, floor and outpatient clinical areas of the hospital with patients ranging in age from birth to geriatrics.

Ms. Merendino will present Stump the Asthma Expert!

Carl D. Mottram, BA, RRT, RPFT, FAARC is the Director of the Mayo Clinic Pulmonary Function Laboratories and Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program and holds the academic rank of Associate Professor of Medicine, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine. He is a Respiratory Therapist and Registered Pulmonary Function Technologist with over 30 years of experience. He is the Past-Chair of the American Association for Respiratory Care's Clinical Practice Guideline Committee and is the current Chair of the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute's (formerly NCCLS) Quality Systems and Laboratory Practice Committee. Mr. Mottram is a consultant and exam item writer for the National Board for Respiratory Care

Mr. Mottram will present Clinical Application of Exhaled Nitric Oxide Monitoring.

Ann Mullen, RN, MSN, CNS, AE-C is the Patient Education Coordinator at National Jewish Health. In this role, she coordinates all aspects of the patient education program. She has practiced at National Jewish in a variety of positions for over 20 years. Ms. Mullen received her BS in Nursing and her MSN in Community Health Nursing with an emphasis on school age youth from the University of Colorado Health Science Center.

Ms. Mullen will present the following sessions:
Becoming as Asthma Educator and Care Manager
Comorbid Conditions in Asthma

Tim Op't Holt, EdD, RRT, AE-C, FAARC is Professor of Cardiorespiratory Care, University of South Alabama, Mobile. His clinical and classroom teaching responsibilities include patient assessment, respiratory care procedures, mechanical ventilation, intensive care, research methodology, and asthma/COPD education. He is an asthma and COPD educator at the Victory Health Partners clinic in Mobile and is the current AAE President.

Dr. Op't Holt will present the following sessions:
Pharmacologic and Immunologic Therapy for Asthma
AAE National Asthma Educator Certification and Recertification Review Course

Bill Pruitt, MBA, RRT, CPFT, AE-C is senior instructor and Director of Clinical Education, Cardiorespiratory Care Program, University of South Alabama, Mobile. He is responsible for teaching, arterial blood gases and pulmonary function testing, cardiopulmonary diagnostic procedures and treatment, and respiratory care management.

Mr. Pruitt will present Spirometry and Bronchial Challenge Interpretation.

Yvonne M. Sterling, PhD, RN is a native of New Orleans, Louisiana and a graduate of Dillard University where she received a Bachelors of Science in Nursing. Her master's and doctoral degrees in nursing were

earned from the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. Currently, Dr. Sterling is the St. Charles General Hospital Auxiliary Professor of Nursing and the Director of the Doctor of Nursing Science Program at the LSUHSC School of Nursing. Her area of scholarship is focused on pediatric chronic illness. Her most recent work addressed asthma in African American children and their families. She is currently a co-investigator of a study, Head off Environmental Asthma in Louisiana (HEAL), funded by the National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences and the Merck Child Asthma Network.

Dr. Sterling will present Impact of Home Interventions in Asthma Control.

Kay Stiffler, RRT-NPS, RPFT, AE-C

Ms. Stiffler will present Developing Age-Appropriate Materials

Concettina (Tina) Tolomeo, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, AE-C is the nurse practitioner and director of program development for the Section of Pediatric Respiratory Medicine at the Yale School of Medicine in New Haven, CT. She is an adjunct faculty member at the Yale School of Nursing, teaching Clinical Pharmacology and serves as a Clinical Instructor for pediatric nurse practitioner students at the Yale School of Nursing and family nurse practitioner students at Southern Connecticut State University School of Nursing. Dr. Tolomeo is Past-President of the Association of Asthma Educators. She lectures extensively on issues related to pulmonary medicine, including asthma care and education, and is published in these areas.

Dr. Tolomeo will present the AAE National Asthma Educator Certification and Recertification Review Course.

Nina Zimmermann, MSN, RN, AE-C is a recent graduate with a post-masters certificate of the adult nurse practitioner program and also an adjunct faculty member at Maryville University in St Louis, Missouri. She teaches and facilitates health assessment and various clinical lab courses. She has over 10 years of pulmonary medicine and asthma education experience. She recently joined the Stella Maris Internal Medicine and Center for Medical Weight Loss practice in St. Louis as a new nurse practitioner. This summer she received the Outstanding Scholarly Award as the first nurse practitioner student to receive this award from the Veterans Administration Medical Center in St. Louis. She is awaiting to take her adult nurse practitioner certification board examination this summer.

Ms. Zimmermann will present the following sessions:

The Challenges of Patient Adherence in Enhancing Asthma Self Management

AAE National Asthma Educator Certification and Recertification Review Course