The International Board of Heart Rhythm Examiners (IBHRE) is the global leader in heart rhythm certification. Established in 1985, IBHRE was the first testing organization founded to raise the level of professionalism and academic credibility in cardiac pacing and electrophysiology. Nearly 30 years and over 9,000 certified professionals later, IBHRE remains the certification of choice for physicians and allied professional who successfully validate their mastery of skills, knowledge, and abilities through predetermined standards of excellence.

**IBHRE AMBASSADORS FEATURED IN VIDEO TESTIMONIALS**

**DURING HRS’ SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS IN SAN FRANCISCO THIS YEAR, THE IBHRE AMBASSADORS HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE FEATURED IN VIDEO TESTIMONIALS ABOUT IBHRE**

Two videos were developed, one targeting a general audience of prospective certified professionals, and a second video directed towards the international community. In these videos, IBHRE Ambassadors discussed how the IBHRE certification has had an important impact in the heart rhythm community both domestically and internationally. They discussed why they took the extra step to become certified, how certification has affected their careers, and why other heart rhythm professionals should do the same.

The following IBHRE Ambassadors participated in the testimonials:

- Mike A. Black, CIS, NREMT-P, RCVT, CEPS, Murray, UT
- Bharat Kantharia, MD, FRCP, FAHA, FACC, FESC, FHR, Memorial Hermann Hospital, Houston, TX
- Sootkeng Ma, MD, MRCP(UK), CCDS, CEPS, Penang Hospital Heart Centre, Penang, Malaysia
- Frances Munkenbeck, MD, FHR, CCDS, Oregon Cardiology, Springfield, OR
- Laurie J. Newmark, RN, CCDS, Northern Nevada Cardiology, Reno, NV

View the videos at [www.ibhre.org/Marketplace/Promote-IBHRE/Video-Testimonials](http://www.ibhre.org/Marketplace/Promote-IBHRE/Video-Testimonials)

**WHAT’S INSIDE...?**

- IBHRE Ambassadors featured in Video Testimonials
- Physician EP Exam Registration deadline extended to September 18
- IBHRE at Heart Rhythm 2014
- Celebrating our most recently certified CEPS Professionals
- Kelly Temanson, CCDS, CEPS, attains highest Allied EP exam score for 2014
- Let IBHRE Endorse Your Program
- Get to know IBHRE Ambassador Chair Harlie Ferguson, CEPS
- What’s the difference between MOC and Recertification?
SHARE YOUR STORY WITH US!

“Device management is a constant challenge with ongoing evolution of features to meet individual patient needs; certification works toward challenging the health care professional for the good of the patient.”
-Barbara Brotz, RN, CCDS

We know that obtaining IBHRE certification is no easy feat! You are an IBHRE success story and your experience can help to encourage others who are preparing to become IBHRE Certified. Do you want to share your story or your colleague’s story with the rest of the world? Selected stories will be featured on IBHRE’s website, newsletter, and/or other marketing materials to inspire others in the profession.

IBHRE invites all certified professionals and employers to share their stories about their pathway to IBHRE certification.

CERTIFIEDS:
• What motivated you to pursue IBHRE certification?
• What unique study techniques did you embrace?
• How long did you prepare?
• How did you create a work and study balance?
• How has taking the exam helped advance your career?

EMPLOYERS:
• Why do you want your staff to become IBHRE certified?
• What are the key characteristics demonstrated by IBHRE certified professionals?
• How do you support and encourage staff who are interested in IBHRE certification?

Interested in being featured? Contact IBHRE at info@ibhre.org.

The IBHRE Career Center is one of many new features that was added to IBHRE’s website redesign this year, providing IBHRE certified professionals with the opportunity to locate and compare job opportunities while also allowing employers to directly market job openings towards IBHRE certifieds. Visit the Career Center at careers.ibhre.org to get started.

Did you know…?
• Approximately 42% of IBHRE certified professionals are international
• CCDS certified allied professionals currently make up 67% of IBHRE’s certified professionals.
• 62% of allied professional certified professionals are industry based
Featured Story: Cardiac Technical Service Specialist Has Highest Allied EP Exam Score in 2014


What is your name, title, and place of work?
What are your duties and how long have you been involved in your profession?

My name is Kelly Temanson RN Senior Technical Service Specialist, St. Jude Medical, North/Central Wisconsin, and Support EP Labs for Ensite Mapping for EPS and Ablation Cases, Support for Pacemaker/ICD/CRT-P/CRT-D Implants/Follow Ups/Trouble Shooting, Investigational studies.
I graduated from St. Josephs School of Nursing in 1980, making 2014 my 34th year as an RN. Post-graduation, my nursing experience included 12 years in the cardiac care unit and 4 years in OB/Birthing Center before transferring to the cath lab. There I supported nursing care/conscious sedation for cardiac caths, interventional radiology, ERCP, and EP/Ablations. I worked there for 18 years before joining St. Jude in 2009.

Why did you decide to enter the field of pacing/electrophysiology?

I entered the field mostly by chance. There was an opportunity to apply for a position in cath lab which also included duties in the EP lab. Electrophysiology was certainly foreign to me back then and I thought I would never grasp the concepts. With diligence and the challenges of ep, the field certainly became my favorite and our lab soon became dedicated EP Lab where we rotated from assisting physician as scrub nurse, circulated and patient care/conscious sedation. We eventually added pacemaker implants then progressed to biventricular devices. We also started using mapping systems, performing laser lead extraction, trans-septal, and PVI cases. There wasn’t a day one didn’t learn something new.

What do you like most about the field of pacing/electrophysiology?

It brings challenges every day. There is never a routine day. You can start with a “simple” AVNRT or Atrial Flutter that becomes complicated by a second dysrhythmia on the left side or that isthmus or pathway that just can’t be decimated. What you think will be a “normal” day ends up being a 12 hour case! I also work with a group of great physicians in central Wisconsin, and I can’t forget the fantastic team of Jason Buchholz RN/Territory Manager, Calvin Hesse Sales Rep., Tim Barkman EP/TSS, Sarah Polzin EP/TSS.

What factors influenced your decision to become IBHRE certified?

Wanting to be proficient and provide the best possible outcomes for the physicians and patients St. Jude serves. It was a professional goal and personal accomplishment to take the exam.

We noticed that you currently hold both CCDS (original exam year 2003) and CEPS certifications (original exam year 2004) — why did you choose to become dual certified?

I actually acquired my CEPS certification while working in the EP lab. When I was hired by St. Jude Medical, I started as a CRM TSS and obtained my CCDS in 2012. I am one of the first “hybrid” TSS to cover both EPS as well as CRM implants/follow-ups. I felt it was imperative for me to continue to maintain my CEPS and CCDS to stay at the top of my field and provide the most advanced care for my patients. St. Jude Medical now requires their TSS to be dually trained in EP and CRM as well as holding both CEPS and CCDS certifications, so we can provide the best clinical resources to our patients and clinicians.

As a “well-seasoned” IBHRE certified professional who had the highest Allied CCDS exam score in 2013, what advice do you have for those getting ready to take the IBHRE exams? Have you found certain study tools or education materials to be more useful than others?

My best resources for exam preparation included training from St. Jude Medical, experience working with some of the best EP physicians in the country, using multiple textbooks and staying current with HRS membership and literature, as well as the invaluable information and experience that comes from doing case after case in the EP lab and using your physicians as resources.

What words of encouragement do you have for individuals hesitant about becoming IBHRE certified?

Challenge and be confident in yourself! You will never know unless you try!
LEARN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION (MOC) AND RECERTIFICATION

All IBHRE certified professionals are required to maintain and demonstrate continued competency through good standing, practice, and involvement in the heart rhythm management field. IBHRE promotes enhancement of the knowledge and skills essential to the delivery of optimal patient care through maintenance activities and re-examination.

MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION
The IBHRE Maintenance of Certification (MOC) promotes enhancement of the knowledge and skills essential to the delivery of optimal patient care through career-long learning. MOC is met by completing 45 contact hours of certification maintenance activities that are applicable to their IBHRE certification within five years after passing the exam. IBHRE is pleased to now be offering an online application for certified candidates to submit their MOC activities online at www.ibhre.org/Certification/Maintenance-of-Certification.

Contact hours must be directly applicable to the competencies listed in the certification exam content outline and must be applicable to at least three different exam content outline areas in order to be approved. Applicable MOC activities fall under the following categories:

- Continuing Medical Education (CME) or Continuing Education (CE)
- IBHRE Committee Service
- Lecture/Presentation
- Publications
- College or University Credit
- Industry Training
- Industry Sponsored Education Presentation

RECERTIFICATION (BY RE-EXAMINATION)
Recertification is met by re-examination 10 years after passing the exam. Certified professionals must also attest that they are currently active and involved in the field of cardiac rhythm management and that they remain in good standing within the medical community. Candidates who do not meet these requirements will lapse in their certification.

Visit our website to learn more about MoC and Recertification or contact IBHRE staff at info@ibhre.org if you have questions about MoC and Recertification requirements.
IBHRE LEADERSHIP SPOTLIGHT:
HARLIE FERGUSON, ASRT, CEPS

IBHRE WOULD LIKE TO FORMALLY WELCOME HARLIE FERGUSON, ASRT, CEPS AS THE NEW IBHRE AMBASSADOR CHAIR. IBHRE AMBASSADORS SERVE AS ADVOCATES AND MENTORS OF THE CERTIFICATION. THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THE IBHRE AMBASSADOR CHAIR IS TO WORK COLLABORATIVELY WITH STAFF LIAISONS AND THE AMBASSADOR GROUP TO ENSURE GROUP AND PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS AND VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT, AND TO REPRESENT AMBASSADOR INTERESTS TO THE IBHRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO ENTER THE FIELD OF PACING/ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY?

In 1989, after nine years as a Respiratory Therapist, I was looking for a new clinical horizon. I took a job in the cath lab. Pacemakers, ICD implants and EP studies awakened my inner “gadgeteer”. It was like discovering a new ice cream flavor and I couldn’t get enough EP. I was fascinated by the technology, gratified with the case outcome potential and fulfilled with the impact I had on patients.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT THE FIELD OF PACING/ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY?

The elements of scientific methodology combined with the sense of discovery are compelling but patient effect is most important. I am fascinated with mastering technological advancements that dramatically affect patient outcomes. I am proud and humbled to work in an area of science that cures and improves quality of life. It just doesn’t get any better than that.

WHAT FACTORS INFLUENCED YOUR DECISION TO FOLLOW THE LEADERSHIP PATH?

I spent a lot of time in my 30 year career, like most people, seeking purpose, fortune, authority, and opportunity. By virtue of some very patient mentors, I have come to know and understand what it is that I do best. This path, that I am on, seems to fit me well. My career has grown watching and emulating other successful professionals I respect and admire.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO THE MOST DURING YOUR TENURE?

Stretching my abilities to reach new opportunities, lead others to achieve personal and professional success, and continue to make a difference in this world.

DO YOU HAVE ANY WORDS OF WISDOM, PHILOSOPHY, OR QUOTE THAT HAS IMPACTED YOUR DECISIONS OR ANOTHER ASPECT OF YOUR LIFE?

It is important to embrace a philosophy that guides behavior and decision-making. My Grandfather taught me that a servant is worthy of his hire. We can expect no more than what we are willing to give of ourselves. When you believe in yourself, others will believe in you too. Trust and you will be trusted.

WHAT WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT DO YOU HAVE FOR INDIVIDUALS HESITANT ABOUT BECOMING IBHRE CERTIFIED?

Certification is a manifestation of experience, hard work, and skills development. Achieving this status will build your confidence, contribute to your competence and enhance your ability to achieve success for the patients under your care. Be a good student and a “worthy servant”. Don’t let any obstacles stand in your way and you will find that certification is a badge of honor you can wear proudly.

WHAT WAS THE LAST BOOK YOU READ?

Aside from a few novels for late night entertainment, “Life Together” by Dietrich Bonhoeffer was very enlightening. It was given to me by a good friend (Thanks Steve!)

WHEN AND WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO BECOME AN IBHRE AMBASSADOR AND/OR CHAIR?

A few years ago I was asked to organize IBHRE EP exam preparation courses for our company and became a frequent resource seeker at the HRS and IBHRE web sites. When I saw the Ambassador application at the IBHRE web site, I decided that this was an opportunity for me to seek affirmation and reach beyond my corporate boundaries into the global EP community. I saw this as an opportunity to show pride in my own certification achievement (Certificate #170611) and encourage others.

WHAT HAVE YOU ENJOYED MOST ABOUT BEING AN IBHRE AMBASSADOR AND/OR CHAIR?

I am pleased to have met some really fine people of this organization and make new friends. This position provides me with a renewed sense of value in my career achievements as I join with other Ambassadors to take on special projects that advance the mission of the organization. It is an honor to be considered qualified as Chair of the Ambassadors. It is a privilege to engage with and represent this distinctive group and perform as their Liaison to the IBHRE Board of Directors.

WHAT IS ONE OF YOUR FAVORITE CITIES AND WHY?

Brussels, Belgium. My wife and I spent two weeks walking on ancient stone, enjoying, the history, food, and the stunning architecture.

DO YOU HAVE ANY HOBBIES?

Playing acoustic guitar has always had a profoundly soulful effect on me. As a “finger picker”, I enjoy 12 bar blues, folk, country and gospel.
NEED ADVICE ON HOW TO CONVINCE YOUR EMPLOYER TO LET YOU BECOME IBHRE CERTIFIED?

IBHRE offers materials to help prospective examinees to seek sponsorship support from their employers with the Justification Toolkit. Presenting this toolkit to your employer will allow him or her to appreciate that the investment made in you will further develop your competencies as well as advance the success of your organization.

GENERAL TIPS BEFORE YOU MEET WITH YOUR EMPLOYER

• Focus on how your IBHRE certification can enhance the organization as a return on investment.

• Offer to deliver a brief presentation to your colleagues to share what you have learned and the benefits of certification, so that others can be inspired and motivated to get certified. Our certification presentation materials can be found in the IBHRE Marketplace at www.ibhre.org.

• Share the exam content outline with your supervisor so he or she can become familiar with the core competencies on which the IBHRE exam focuses.

• Communicate how the Heart Rhythm Society validates IBHRE Certification.

• Prepare a plan showing specifically what costs need to be covered to successfully achieve the certification.

• Access IBHRE Statistics.

WHAT SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN YOUR JUSTIFICATION PACKAGE:

• The Justification Letter Template provides an outline for you to customize as well as a detailed explanation to your employer of the benefits of the IBHRE credential, what it means to be IBHRE certified, and why the organization should invest in your professional development.

• IBHRE Quick Facts gives a cheat sheet of information about the IBHRE certification program, why employers support the certification, and statistics about our certified professionals.

• IBHRE Exam Content Outline for your specific exam shows your employer what topics are covered and in what competency areas you will advance by taking the exam.

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Visit www.ibhre.org/Marketplace/Promote-IBHRE/Tips-for-Talking-to-Employers
IBHRE AT THE HEART RHYTHM SOCIETY’S SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS

DURING HEART RHYTHM SOCIETY’S 35TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS IN SAN FRANCISCO, CA, IBHRE HELD DIFFERENT EVENTS TO PROMOTE FURTHER AWARENESS OF IBHRE’S PROGRAMS AND NEW EVENTS OCCURRING AROUND THE WORLD.

IBHRE was excited to have its own lounge where IBHRE certified professionals were invited to visit to meet with colleagues, pick up their IBHRE certification ribbons and lapel pins, and recharge in between sessions. IBHRE also hosted “One-on-One” sessions with IBHRE Test Writing Committee members and IBHRE Ambassadors, where prospective examinees could stop by, ask specific questions about the exam, and learn more how IBHRE certification is being recognized across the profession.

Additionally, IBHRE held several meetings with international physician leaders from Japan, India, and Europe to discuss partnership opportunities and determine new ways to promote certification awareness.

A select number of IBHRE Ambassadors participated in video testimonials for IBHRE where they gave their perspective of what it means to be IBHRE certified, the importance of the IBHRE designations, and why health care professionals should obtain the certification. Watch the video on the IBHRE website at www.ibhre.org.

Throughout the Scientific Sessions, IBHRE promoted its free annual raffle to win a complimentary registration for the IBHRE certification exam. Every year, IBHRE presents two winning health care professionals with a complimentary registration. With this event, IBHRE can make way for qualified health care professionals to obtain the certification. For 2014, the winners were from Sutter Medical Center of Santa Rosa, CA and Children’s Hospital Boston, EP, Boston, MA.

IBHRE staff was pleased to have the opportunity to meet several certified professionals and talk to prospective examinees in person at the IBHRE booth in Heart Rhythm Place within the Exhibit Hall. We hope to have an opportunity to meet more individuals next year at the 2015 Annual Meeting in Boston, MA.

QUICK TIPS

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

• Have you moved or changed employment? Let IBHRE staff know so we can update your records! Keeping your contact information up to date is crucial, so we can contact you with certification reminders and deadlines.

LOOKING FOR A TESTING CENTER?

• IBHRE Exams are administered by computer-based testing at Prometric Test Centers worldwide. To locate a test center near you, visit www.prometric.com/IBHRE.

NOT SURE WHEN YOUR CERTIFICATION ENDS?

• IBHRE certifications are valid until December 31st of the 10th year of your certification. Can’t remember in what year you took your exam? Contact IBHRE staff at info@ibhre.org or visit the IBHRE recipient list at www.ibhre.org.
CELEBRATING OUR NEWLY CERTIFIED CEPS RECIPIENTS:

To view the complete lists of IBHRE Certified Professionals visit www.ibhre.org/Certification/IBHRE-Recipients

2013 IBHRE PHYSICIAN CEPS CERTIFIEDS

**ADULT EPs:**
- Abed, Hany
- Abozguia, Khalid
- Almehairi, Mohammad
- Chong, Daniel Thuan Tee
- Chong, Eric
- El Kadri, Mouataz
- Hamam, Ismail
- Hanninen, Mikael
- Homoud, Munther
- Ko, Yu-Kwan
- Kumar, Prabhat
- Kumawat, Kapil
- Lam, Kai Keung Steve
- Makarawate, Patarawadee
- Narayanan, Kumar
- Sharif, M. Nabi
- Suwanpen, Chayanut

**PEDIATRIC EPs:**
- Anderson, C. Chris
- Aziz, Peter
- Bar-Cohen, Yaniv
- Collins, Kathrynn
- Epstein, Michael
- Erickson, Christopher
- Ferns, Sunita
- Fishberger, Steven
- Imundo, Jason
- Kanjanaphithai, Supaluck
- Kannel, Prince
- Kertesz, Naomi
- Kirsh, Joel
- Moore, Jeremy
- Pflaumer, Andreas
- Raddill, Andrew
- Rhee, Edward
- Runciman, Martin
- Srinivasan, Chandra
- Zimmerman, Frank

**2014 IBHRE ALLIED PROFESSIONAL CEPS CERTIFIEDS**

- Abanto, Mary
- Aalcott, Paul
- Alves, William
- Arter, James
- Ash, Sarah
- Athill, Kelvin
- Bagley, David
- Baird, Michael
- Baker, Georgie
- Banks, Phil
- Barber, Sam
- Barcelon, Berenadette
- Benali, Sofiane
- Braaten, Megan
- Brady, Kevin
- Brahms, Anna
- Brazil, Leah
- Buchner, Katherine
- Burke, Jeffrey
- Butler, Zachary
- Cambridge, Alex
- Cannon, Blake
- Clark, Richard
- Ck laxton, Mark
- Coleman, Heather
- Cooley, Jason
- Danzig, Sari
- Davis, Arthur
- Decker, Emily
- Derohan, Robert
- Dias, Andre
- Dillon, Terence
- Donaldson, Laurie
- Doulin, Karen
- Duarte, Pamela
- Durham, Melanie
- Dutton, Amy
- Dyer, Heather
- Edzards, Maryann
- Eldridge, Maria
- Emerson, Brian
- Engstrom, Nathan
- Feller, Christine
- Fernald, Eric
- Feticio, Ivan
- Finnerty, Kathryn
- Fischer, Katrina
- Flessner, John
- Gaffney, John
- Gassman, Zachary
- Giacomazzi, Stephen
- Gleason, Michael
- Goswell, Ciaran
- Gugino, Dana
- Gutierrez, Emileidis
- Hammad, Kamal
- Hanson, Neal
- Harris, Matthew
- Hebl, Brenda
- Hentkowski, Scott
- Hicks, Krista
- Hinsberg, John
- Holle-Utley, Susan
- Honigsfeld, Darian
- Houck, Michael
- Jackson, Joshua
- Jensen, Sara
- Jewell, Simon
- Jordan, Taylor
- Kaldany, Martina
- Keoh, Aaron
- Kelley, Paul
- Kerwin, Keith
- Kim, Bokyung
- Kim, Sun
- Kim, Sung Wook
- King, Christine
- Kite, Joel
- Knight, Kara
- Kucera, Ryan
- Kuroiwa, Koji
- Kurth, Kaitlin
- Langley, Buffi
- Lee, Britanny
- Lee, Jing Soo
- Mahaffy, Nathanael
- Maher, Christopher
- Martin-Beaulieu, John
- Martynyuk, Yuriy
- Mathews, Ayerst
- Maxwell, Lynnsy
- Mckelvey, Daniel
- Mckinney, Jeremy
- Mclay, Douglass
- Mcleod, Jan
- Medina, Alison
- Mediratta, Vikramaditya
- Meese, Daniel
- Merrill, Norm
- Mills, Ann
- Miyawaki, Kenichi
- Moody, Charles
- Moon, Jeffrey
- Nagel, Roel
- Nelson, Bonnie
- Nguyen, Bryan
- Nieuwenhuis, Human
- Noonan, Katherine
- Norton, Chris
- Oakes, Ryan
- Palen, Matthew
- Parker, Mark
- Phillips, Brian
- Polzin, Sarah
- Powell, Trista
- Powers, Brent
- Price, Jane
- Quinn, Joshua
- Rascon, Ralph
- Redfearn, Sharon
- Repoley, Jill
- Roberts, David
- Robichaux, Jennifer
- Ross, Heather
- Rost, Michelle
- Sala, Joseph
- Salazar, Arianna
- Salazar, Benjamin
- Seely, Shon
- Senne, Caroline
- Shae, Douglas
- Shibuya, Brandon
- Simmers, Christopher
- Simon, Tamara
- Simpson, Charles
- Smith, Brenna
- Spearman, Tammy
- Springman, Beth
- St. Arnold, Nicole
- Steedman, David
- Stel, Erik
- Tao, Huiwei
- Temanson, Kelly
- Tonemah, Randall
- Tryba, Alexi
- Tucker, Gareth
- Uhlin, Andreas
- Urwiler, Kelly
- Valero Torrinha, Cristina Raq
- Vath, Jeffrey
- Vaughn, Patricia
- Wang, Benqi
- Wasilewski, Christine
- Wasmiller, Stephanie
- Watt, Theresa
- Wessinger, Nicholas
- West, Jessica
- White, Kenneth
- Worsnick, Sarah
- Yao, Yongping
- Zhu-Wang, Ying