

# Leading Global Excellence in Heart Rhythm Certification



ANNUAL REPORT Fiscal Year 2016

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# **ABOUT IBHRE**

For over 30 years, heart rhythm management professionals from around the world have achieved their professional best through IBHRE certification. IBHRE credentials are the official mark of achievement, expertise, and clinical judgment in the specialty practice of cardiac rhythm device therapy and cardiac electrophysiology (EP). Since its inception, IBHRE has certified more than 9,000 distinguished physicians and allied professionals who have been assessed on the scientific foundation, clinical skills, and technical knowledge required to provide and facilitate safe quality patient care in the management of arrhythmias.

In so doing, IBHRE offers the following certifications:

- Certified Cardiac Device Specialist (CCDS)
- Certified Electrophysiology Specialist (CEPS)
- Certified Electrophysiology Specialist Adult Cardiology (CEPS-AC)
- Certified Electrophysiology Specialist Pediatric Cardiology (CEPS-PC)

The IBHRE mark of excellence is held by health care professionals who demonstrate critical competencies required of their profession and, as such:

- Embrace advancements in technology;
- Adapt to health care changes to deliver quality care to a growing and increasingly complex patient population;
- Accurately assess patients and provide critical documentation;
- Implement evidence-based plans of care;
- Monitor and guide the selection and use of pharmaceutical formulas;
- Provide comprehensive education to medical, specialized, and auxiliary staff;
- Develop strategies to prevent complications; and
- Train, coach, and provide guidance to patients and families.

# **IBHRE Mission Statement**

The mission of the International Board of Heart Rhythm Examiners is to increase the heart rhythm professional's knowledge in order to improve the quality of care delivered to our patients.



# A LETTER FROM IBHRE'S PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Each year, IBHRE's strategic plan focuses on advancing its core organizational values, which are based on:

- Excellence
- · Visionary Leadership
- Professionalism
- Continuing Competency
- Collaboration
- Diversity

In fiscal year 2016, IBHRE exhibited these core values through many initiatives. Due to the dedication of subject matter experts who volunteered their time and talents, IBHRE celebrated many milestones, including the completion of a job task analysis study for each of its certification programs, and the development of new exam content outlines.

IBHRE continued to promote education by launching a mentoring program and offering a scholarship program for the second consecutive year. In addition, IBHRE embarked upon a new educational endeavor to develop an online review course to support its CCDS Certification Program.

To expand its outreach, IBHRE redesigned its website (IBHRE.org), launched an Ambassador Awards Program, appointed a Public Member to its Board of Directors, and expanded its IBHRE Day celebration.

IBHRE prides itself on offering quality programs. As such, the certifying board maintained its accreditation of the CCDS and CEPS certifications and obtained accreditation of the CEPS-PC and CEPS-AC programs.

On behalf of IBHRE staff, thank you for your steadfast commitment, which has enabled IBHRE to continue as a leader in promoting excellence in the field of heart rhythm management.

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Charles J. Love MD, FACC, FHRS, FAHA, CCDS President IBHRE



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Tracy Lofty, MSA, CAE Executive Director, IBHRE



### **EXAMINATION PERFORMANCE**

Through computer-based testing, IBHRE successfully administered five exams in FY 2016:

- Japan Cardiac Rhythm Device Therapy Exam for the Allied Professional January 16
- Cardiac Electrophysiology for the Allied Professional April 13
- Cardiac Rhythm Device Therapy for the Physician August 3
- Cardiac Rhythm Device Therapy for the Allied Professional August 3
- Cardiac Electrophysiology for the Physician December 7

Our FY 2016 certification exam administrations yielded 664 new certified professionals across six exam administrations. A total of 1,077 individuals registered for IBHRE exams in FY 2016. The overall pass rate across exam administrations was 74%.

#### **FY 2016 IBHRE Certification Exam Registration and Performance Statistics**

As of the end of FY 2016, more than 9,000 heart rhythm professionals were IBHRE certified in nearly 60 countries worldwide.

EXAMINATION	DATE	#REGISTERED	PASS	FAIL	PASS RATE
¹CCDS- Japan	January 16	325	138	187	42.46%
CEPS	April 13	218	168	50	77.06%
CCDS- Physician	August 3	63	51	12	80.95%
CCDS-Allied	August 3	431	271	160	62.8%
CEPS-PC	December 7	16	15	0	100%
CEPS-AC	December 7	20	16	4	80%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>IBHRE has a partnership with the Japanese Heart Rhythm Society in collaboration with the Japan CDR Center to administer the CCDS exam in Japanese for allied professionals.

#### IBHRE JOB TASK ANALYSIS REPORT

IBHRE conducted a Job Task Analysis (JTA) Study for each of its certifications under the guidance of Mitchell & McCue, a marketing research company based in Dallas, Texas. The JTA is designed to identify professional knowledge, skills, and abilities, and to serve as the foundation for the exam content outline. From study findings, new exam forms will be developed to reflect current practices.

Below is the schedule that has been set in consultation with testing agencies for the administration of new exam forms.

2017	New CEPS (Allied Professional) exam form to be administered
2017	CEPS-PC and CEPS-AC to use 2015 exam form that will be updated to reflect
	new content classifications (2017, 2018, and possibly 2019)
2018	New CCDS exam form to be administered
2019	New Japan CCDS exam form to be administered



# MARKETING ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH

#### **IBHRE AT HEART RHYTHM SOCIETY 2016**

FY 2016 marked another year that IBHRE capitalized on its relationship with the Heart Rhythm Society. Several events designed to increase awareness of IBHRE programs were held in conjunction with the Heart Rhythm Society's 37th Annual Scientific Sessions in San Francisco, Calif., including:

**The IBHRE Lounge.** IBHRE hosted the "IBHRE Lounge," which served as a meeting place for attendees of the HRS annual conference. The lounge provided attendees a networking environment in which they could learn about IBHRE CCDS and CEPS certification programs. Attendees participated in an "Ask the Experts" session, interacted with IBHRE staff, networked with IBHRE certified professionals, picked up certification ribbons, and obtained marketing collateral on IBHRE programs. Additional activities hosted in the lounge included a volunteer recruitment session and a networking reception.

#### IBHRE Ambassador Awards Ceremony.

IBHRE presented the first Ambassador Awards during the HRS annual conference. In so doing, we presented the IBHRE Ambassador of the Year Award and IBHRE Vanguard Award, which recognizes IBHRE subject matter experts who have made significant contributions to IBHRE through their advocacy of the certification and their involvement with the organization.

Honorees were:



#### Ambassadors of the Year Award Recipients



Laurie Newmark, RN, CCDS IBHRE Senior Ambassador Northern Nevada Cardiology, Reno, Nev.



Jay Charles Reid, MS, BSN, RN, CCDS IBHRE Senior Ambassador Medtronic, Jacksonville, Fla.



Harlie Ferguson, AS, CEPS Chair, IBHRE Ambassador Committee St. Jude Medical S.C., Inc. (Retired), St. Paul, Minn.



# MARKETING ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH

Annual IBHRE Raffle. As in previous years, we hosted a free raffle and presented two winning heart rhythm professionals with a complimentary registration for the IBHRE certification exam. Our annual raffle has proven to be a great marketing tactic. It helps IBHRE to promote its certification programs and provides an avenue by which qualified health care professionals can pursue certification. Last year's winners were employees of St. Jude Medical (Austin, TX) and the Kawartha Cardiology Clinic (Ontario, Canada).

#### **IBHRE BUSINESS MEETINGS**

IBHRE leadership conducted business meetings with international healthcare leaders from Japan and collaborated regularly with IBHRE Ambassadors.

#### **IBHRE WEBSITE**

IBHRE's web presence was enhanced to be more user friendly and mobile compatible. Please visit the enhanced site at IBHRE.org.



#### IBHRE TRADE SHOW ACTIVITIES

In October 2015, IBHRE exhibited at the American Nurses' Credentialing Center's Magnet Conference in Atlanta, Ga. In addition, several IBHRE Ambassadors promoted IBHRE certification by delivering presentations throughout the world.



#### **IBHRE DAY CELEBRATION**

IBHRE celebrated its third annual IBHRE Day on February 11<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of IBHRE Day is to spread awareness of IBHRE certification and to recognize our certified professionals. The day is also designed for employers to extend their appreciation to employees who have earned IBHRE credentials. In addition to news releases and other promotional material, IBHRE hosted an online blog radio show to promote the value of IBHRE certification as well as an online "Ask the Experts" session on IBHRE's Facebook page.



# **PROGRAMS**



#### IBHRE MENTOR PROGRAM

IBHRE launched a mentoring program for individuals preparing for the certification exam as well as individuals seeking career advice. Highly qualified IBHRE Ambassadors serve as mentors and are assigned as available. The mentoring application is available at IBHRE.org.

#### IBHRE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

For the second year, IBHRE has offered its Scholarship Program to allied health care professionals seeking IBHRE certification. Awarded to three applicants each year, this award was developed to help underwrite the cost of certifications for heart rhythm professionals with limited access to professional development resources. IBHRE's Scholarship Review Panel reviewed qualified submissions that included a completed application as well as written endorsements by two IBHRE certified individuals.

Paul Bibby, Robert Von Langen and Lalaine Wagner were selected to receive scholarship awards. These individuals were selected based on their current and potential contributions to the field of heart rhythm management as well as their extraordinary distinction. Each recipient received an \$800 registration discount for either the Certified Cardiac Device Specialist (CCDS) or Certified Electrophysiology Specialist (CEPS) certification exam, which is valid until December 31, 2017. In addition to the scholarship, recipients received a one-year membership to HRS upon meeting eligibility requirements.



# **CERTIFICATION AND FINANCIAL REPORTS**

#### **ACCREDITATION**

The American National Standards Institute accredits IBRHE certification programs. ANSI accreditation is widely acknowledged as the foremost personnel certification accreditation body in the United States. In FY 2016, the CEPS and CCDS were reaccredited and the CEPS-PC and CEPS-AC received initial accreditation.



The organization's standards are established in line with the International Organization of Standardization to establish worldwide consensus to provide rigorous guidelines for products, services and sound practices. The accreditation signifies to IBHRE-certified professionals, exam candidates, and the medical community that IBHRE programs adhere to the highest standards in credentialing.

#### 2016 FISCAL YEAR-END REPORT

The independent financial auditor's review of IBHRE's FY 2016 financial statements was conducted by Rogers & Company, an accounting firm contracted through HRS. IBHRE's audit was satisfactorily completed confirming that, as of the fiscal year-end date, September 30, 2016, financial reports and accounting systems are an accurate representation of IBHRE's financial position.

HRS is a related party to IBHRE through common Board members. All functions necessary to perform IBHRE's mission are performed by employees of HRS or contracted through HRS. IBHRE reimburses HRS for these expenses. HRS also collects exam registration fees on behalf of IBHRE. Total revenue earned based upon registration fees, interest and dividends (net) and miscellaneous income equaled \$1,119,639. Expenses totaled \$1,035,587; with management and general expenses of \$208,911 and program expenses of \$826,676. Net realized and unrealized gain on investments totaled a gain of \$32,390. This activity resulted in a fiscal year end unrestricted net asset or organization net worth of \$1,559,150.



# **GOVERNANCE**



**Board of Directors** 

IBHRE owes much of its success to its board of directors, committee leaders, and ambassadors who contribute their expertise, time, and leadership to support the organization's activities. The organization is fortunate to have active and committed leaders who profoundly believe in the mission and strategic direction of the organization.

A sincere thank you goes to them for all of their efforts. The IBHRE certification program would not exist without the labors of these leaders.

#### IBHRE'S NEW PUBLIC MEMBER POSITION

IBHRE has filled its new Public Member position on the Board of Directors. Elsie Kelly of San Francisco, Calif., was highly recommended for the position by the Citizens Advocacy Center in Washington, DC. She is a former teacher and has served on numerous community committees. In May 2016, IBHRE's Board of Directors approved Ms. Kelly.

# As stipulated in IBHRE's bylaws, qualifications for IBHRE's Public Member include:

At least one Director shall be a so-called "Public Member", meaning that such person shall have a general understanding of the importance of heart rhythm management by virtue of education, career experience, or personal experience. Such person need not be a member of HRS. The "Public Member" shall have all the rights and powers of a Director, including voting rights. It is the intention of the corporation that the "Public Member" shall provide perspective and insight from the standpoint of the general public. In order to ensure impartiality, individuals certified by IBHRE are ineligible for service as the Public Member. The "Public Member" shall be selected by the Directors by majority vote and subject to approval of the HRS Board of Trustees in accordance with Section 4 of Article VI.

# **BOARD & COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

President: Charles J. Love, MD, FHRS, FACC, PAHA, CCDS

First Vice President/Treasurer:

Edward V. Platia, MD, FHRS, CCDS, CEPS

Secretary: Christine Chiu-Man, MSC, FHRS, CCDS, CEPS

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Marleen E. Irwin, FHRS, RCRT, CCDS

Toshiyuki Ishikawa, MD

Janet McComb, MD, FHRS

Neil F. Strathmore, MBBS, FHRS, CCDS

George F. Van Hare, MD, FHRS, CCDS, CEPS

Elsie M. Kelly (Public Member)

Tracy Lofty, MSA, CAE (Staff Liaison)

#### **IBHRE Finance Committee**

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Edward V. Platia, MD, FHRS, CCDS

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Ralph J. Verdino, MD, CCDS

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Raymond Yee, MD, CCDS, CEPS

#### **Scholarship Committee**

Laurie J. Newmark, RN, CCDS (Chair)

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Mike A. Black, CVT, NREMTP, CEPS

Frances C. Munkenbeck, MD, FHRS, CCDS

#### **Physician and Allied Pacing Test Writing Committee**

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Ji-Hae Yun, RN, CCDS

Jason Riley, BS

#### **Japan Test Translation Committee**

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Yoshinori Kobayashi, MD

Takashi Kurita, MD

Katsuhiko Imai, MD Toru Maruyama, MD

Yasushi Miyauchi, MD

Masahiko Takagi, MD

Naohiko Takashi, MD

Dr. Takashi Noda, MD, PhD

#### IBHRE Ambassadors

Harlie L. Ferguson, AS, CEPS (Chair)

Subhashish Agarwal, MD, CCDS

Robert-Marian Alexandru, BENG, CEPS

Enrico Asidao, CEPS

Ricardo A.D. Bernado, RCPT, CEPS

Mike A. Black, CVT, NREMTP, CEPS

Anna S. Borisov, AA, AAS, AS, CEPS

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Alex Cambridge, BS, CCDS

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Ahmed Abdellatif Hussein, MB, CCDS, CEPS

Aparna Jaswal, MD, CCDS

Bharat K. Kantharia, MD, FHRS

Sootkeng Ma, MD, CCDS, CEPS

Pattarapong Makarawate, MD, MS, FHRS, CCDS, CEPS

Anastasios Manaris, MD, FHRS, CCDS

Frances C. Munkenbeck, MD, FHRS, CCDS

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Jay Charles Reid, BS, BSN, RN, CCDS

Kevin Ruben, BS, CEPS

Robert Lee Williams, BS, CCDS

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