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**THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HYPERTENSION AND THE ASH SPECIALIST PROGRAM ANNOUNCE
SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH OF NEW CERTIFICATION FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS**

NEW YORK (April 4, 2016) - The American Society of Hypertension, Inc. (ASH) and the ASH Specialist Program Inc. (ASP) are excited to announce today the successful completion of the first cycle of the ASH Certified Hypertension Clinician (ASH-CHC) program.

This new advanced certification pathway – open to clinicians at the front-lines of diagnosing and treating hypertension [Nurse Practitioners, Clinical Nurse Specialists, PharmDs, Physician Assistants and Primary Care Physicians] – was created to validate their expertise in providing specialized care to patients with hypertension and related cardiovascular or renal conditions. By obtaining the ASH-CHC, healthcare clinicians will enhance their professional stature and credibility in the field, and demonstrate their clinical knowledge and commitment to the highest standards of patient care. This ASH-CHC certification is unique among professional certifications due to its interdisciplinary, multi-professional spectrum.

The Application Portal for the second cycle of the ASH-CHC examination is now open:

Examination Period: July 31-August 13, 2016,

Application deadline: June 15, 2016

To apply online, please click the following link: <http://www.ptcny.com/clients/ASH/>

Eligibility Requirements, Content Outline and Study References are posted on the American Society of Hypertension website, www.ash-us.org in the HTN Specialist Program/ASH-CHC section.



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About the American Society of Hypertension

The American Society of Hypertension (ASH) is the largest U.S. professional organization of scientific investigators and healthcare professionals committed to eliminating hypertension and its consequences. The Society serves as a scientific forum that translates current hypertension research into effective clinical treatment strategies for patients. The mission of the organization is to promote strategies to prevent hypertension and to improve the care of patients with hypertension, obesity and cardio-metabolic disease. Recently, ASH has begun offering a number of new initiatives to improve prevention, awareness, treatment and control of hypertension including educational programs for primary care clinicians at its annual scientific meeting, in-service training for healthcare professionals at community clinics, and heart-health screenings across the country for the general public. For more information, please visit www.ash-us.org.

About the ASH Specialist Program Inc.

The ASH Hypertension Specialists Program was formed by the American Society of Hypertension, Inc. (ASH) in 1998 in response to the growing recognition that the hypertension problem requires the coordinated effort of front-line health care providers and those physicians with documented expertise in managing hypertension. The ASH Specialists Program created the Specialist in Clinical Hypertension designation for the specific purpose of identifying and recognizing physicians with expert skills and knowledge in the management of clinical hypertension and related disorders. These physicians can act as local and regional consultants for the more complex and difficult cases and also assist in advice regarding guidelines and process improvement. To date, designation has been granted to approximately 1700 physicians practicing in the United States, Canada and other countries.



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