

# **National Nephrology Certification Organization, Inc.**

## **Why NNCO, Inc?**

### **Certification Examinations for Clinical Nephrology Technology & Biomedical Nephrology Technology**

During April 2008, the Centers of Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released a final rule that will modernize the Medicare conditions for coverage for the nation's dialysis centers and promote higher quality of care for patients receiving dialysis. Among the various qualifying factors that are critical for the patient care technician (PCT) is the mandate that they be certified either by a validated state certification exam or a nationally recognized certification exam. These requirements went into effect on October 15, 2008 and all PCTs must have completed these requirements within 18 months of the final rule.

The National Nephrology Certification Organization (NNCO) endorses the concept of voluntary, periodic certification by examination for all individuals in the field of nephrology technology. Certification is one part of a process called credentialing. It focuses specifically on the individual and is an indication of current competence in a specialized area of practice. Certification in nephrology technology is highly valued and provides formal recognition in the profession of nephrology technology.

NNCO offers two types of examinations: the Certified Clinical Nephrology Technology (CCNT) exam and the Certified Biomedical Nephrology Technology (CBNT) exam, which are administered by the Professional Testing Corporation (PTC), New York. Beginning in early 2009 these exams will be offered at proctored computerized facilities throughout the year.

The NNCO Board of Directors (BOD) is comprised of volunteers who have vast experience in a variety of areas of focus (clinical, biomedical, and technical) in the nephrology field. The role of the BOD is to a) Secure items (test questions) for both exams; b) Review these items for subject matter content and to ensure that these items are current in terms of what is being practiced in the field. NNCO's exams are periodically reviewed and updated.

To apply for the NNCO exams, contact PTC at 212.356.0660 or visit [www.ptcnyc.com](http://www.ptcnyc.com) to obtain a free copy of the Handbook for Candidates and Application for the National Certification examinations in Clinical Nephrology Technology (CCNT) and Biomedical Nephrology Technology (CBNT). A detailed content outline for both CCNT and CBNT examinations, reference list, and sample questions are also included in the Handbook for Candidates. The application fee for each exam is \$245.00. For more information on NNCO, please contact Mimi Eckert at PTC at 212-356-0682 or by email at [meckert@ptcnyc.com](mailto:meckert@ptcnyc.com).