

Two CAQs Demonstrates PA's Dual Value

"As Chief PA in the emergency department at Eastern Long Island Hospital in New York State, we see a lot of boating injuries in the summer, along with Lyme disease, heat exhaustion and car accidents," he says. "Year-round we deal with acute heart problems and chronic disease, which means managing patients with multiple issues and medications."

Edelstein, who earned the Certificate of Added Qualifications in Emergency Medicine in 2011, asks: "Why wouldn't an emergency medicine PA earn the CAQ? Physicians respect you if you know the latest studies and nomenclature and present it in a concise way. Preparing for the CAQ keeps you on top of your game."



In addition to his duties in the ER, Edelstein also responds to codes and follows up on patients in the hospital.

"This is where my quest began to obtain a second CAQ in Hospital Medicine," he says. "Working in harmony with the hospitalists I am able to convey findings, suggestions for care, and other information that the team needs for positive outcomes. Having my CAQ in hospital medicine has shown the administration and doctors that I am a valuable asset on the floors as well as in the ER."

Edelstein says he encourages other PAs to strive to earn a CAQ as they progress in their careers. "More and more patients are looking up their providers on the Internet, and credentials make them comfortable. As our role grows I feel that additional credentials and being cross trained will only increase the roles of PAs in leadership in the future."

Chris Edelstein, MPAS, PA-C, has been a PA for 14 years and has experience in Level 1 trauma, hospital medicine, surgery, toxicology and orthopaedics.

Want to prove to yourself, your employer and your patients that you have what it takes to carry this distinction? To learn more about the CAQs NCCPA offers in cardiovascular and thoracic surgery, emergency medicine, hospital medicine, orthopaedic surgery, nephrology, pediatrics and psychiatry visit <http://www.nccpa.net/Specialty-CAQs>.