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**Audiologists Can Earn Cochlear Implant Specialty Certification
During CI Symposium 2013 in Washington, D.C.
*Registration Deadline is August 26, 2013***

(Reston, VA, July 31, 2013) —The American Board of Audiology® (ABA) has partnered with the American Cochlear Implant (ACI) Alliance, a non-profit organization whose mission is to advance access to the gift of hearing provided by cochlear implantation through research, advocacy and awareness, to offer the Cochlear Implant Specialty Certification (CISC®) credential exam at the Cochlear Implant (CI) Symposium in Washington, D.C. this fall. The exam will be offered on October 26. Regular registration for the exam closes on August 26. Late registration (which includes an additional fee) will end on September 26.

Audiologists who hold the CISC are experts in all areas of cochlear implant knowledge, including expectations, surgical considerations, device operation, and rehabilitation. The CISC was developed to standardize training and knowledge of CI audiologists, elevate professional standards in audiology, and recognize those professionals who have acquired specialized knowledge in the field of cochlear implants.

“We greatly appreciate the fact that the ACI Alliance supports our specialty certification process and is giving attendees to the CI Symposium the opportunity to earn the CISC,” said Angela Pond, AuD, chair of the ABA Board of Governors. “We are happy to have this additional opportunity to offer our exam to audiologists who are experts in cochlear implants so they may showcase that specialization to their colleagues and patients.”

To earn the CISC, a candidate must first submit an application verifying professional experience and education requirements. To learn more about the CISC, visit <http://www.americanboardofaudiology.org/specialty/ci.html>. The successful applicant then must pass a challenging examination that covers eight cochlear implant knowledge domains: Candidacy Considerations, Counseling/Expectations, Surgical Considerations, Programming Principles/Speech Coding, Device Operation, Troubleshooting, Rehabilitation, and Outcomes. Only those who are able to achieve the designated examination score earn the CI credential. Once earned, the certification must be renewed every three years through 60 hours of continuing education, 30 of which must be specific to cochlear implants.

The CI Symposium (<http://www.ci2013dc.com/>) is designed for clinicians, scientists, educators, government officials and health insurance representatives and will be held Oct. 24-26, at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill in Washington DC. The Symposium will offer continuing education opportunities for audiologists from the American Academy of Audiology.

The ABA also will offer another chance for audiologists to earn the CISC in October. The Cincinnati Children's Hospital and the Ohio Academy of Audiology are hosting the CISC exam on October 5, 2013, in Cincinnati, OH.

To apply for ABA board certification or a specialty certification, visit www.americanboardofaudiology.org or contact Keri Murphy, senior manager of credentialing and compliance, at 703-226-1057 or kmurphy@audiology.org.

About the American Board of Audiology®

An autonomous organization, the American Board of Audiology® (ABA) is dedicated to enhancing audiological services to the public by promulgating universally recognized standards in professional practice. The ABA encourages audiologists to exceed these prescribed standards, thereby promoting a high level of professional development and ethical practice. To help meet that goal, the ABA administers the Pediatric Audiology Specialty Certification (PASC®) and the Cochlear Implant Specialty Certification (CISC®), both of which are voluntary certification programs. These specialty certifications were created by and are administered by ABA certified audiologists.

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