New Member Spotlight: International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards (IBCCES)

The International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards (IBCCES) provides training and certification that empowers medical professionals to better understand the needs of individuals with cognitive disorders including those with autism, ADHD, sensory disorders, dementia, mental health, dyslexia and other special needs. The IBCCES has been providing certifications in healthcare, education and other industries since 2001 and offers over 20 certification programs. For more information on IBCCES, please click here.

Excerpts from a conversation with Meredith Tekin, President, International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards

Meredith has worked in marketing, communications, project management and operations in the non-profit, corporate and healthcare arena for a number of years. Meredith has been President of IBCCES for over two years, and was drawn to its social impact and mission to improve the lives of individuals with cognitive disorders. The IBCCES Advisory Board includes clinical specialists, special education experts, and self advocates on the autism spectrum who contribute to IBCCES' programs. The goal of IBCCES and its board is to enable professionals to provide more effective services to children and adults with cognitive disorders by educating on best practices and improving quality of care. For example, individuals with autism vary widely, but many individuals have communication challenges, sensitivity to touch and different reactions to pain and discomfort, making it necessary for medical professionals to understand these differences in order to provide effective treatment.

Over the past year, Meredith and her team identified a need for training in emergency departments, as people with autism are more likely to visit an emergency department and the EM professionals are less likely to have this specific training. Thus, IBCCES performed pilot testing in a New York-based hospital and found the autism program helped the emergency department staff be more efficient, better understand these patients and avoid escalating situations. The goal is to bring this program to hospitals nationwide, so IBCCES started researching ways to connect with leaders in emergency medicine. Through this research, IBCCES discovered EDPMA and decided to become a member.

Meredith and her team have found EDPMA to be very useful in providing opportunities to connect with EM professionals, share best practices and gain a deeper understanding of key advocacy and reimbursement issues. IBCCES wants to stay in the forefront of issues impacting emergency medicine and finds the advocacy information provided by EDPMA particularly helpful. And, with COVID-19 adding to the changing
landscape in emergency medicine, IBCCES has also found the use of telehealth and EDPMA’s leadership in this area to be especially helpful.

Meredith and her team plan on participating in EDPMA's virtual Webinars and Roundtable events on a regular basis. And, they will connect with emergency medicine professionals through EDPMA's LinkedIn members-only group and public page. Meredith is pleased to have found EDPMA earlier this year especially in this time of a global pandemic.