

Craig Cocchio, PharmD, BCPS, DABAT

ABAT 2022 Election

Candidate for

ABAT Board of Directors



Affirmation that candidate is a member in good standing of AACT and ABAT:
I am a member in good standing with AACT and ABAT.

Current Positions:

Emergency Medicine Clinical Pharmacist / Clinical Toxicologist/
Emergency Medicine PGY-2 Residency Program Director.
CHRISTUS Mother Frances Hospital, Tyler, Texas
Director of Continuing Education: High-Yield Med Reviews

Activities relevant to ABAT:

ABAT Journal Club Webinar April 7, 2020 - Presenter

Short Biography

My name is Craig Cocchio, and I have been an Emergency Medicine Clinical Pharmacist at CHRISTUS Trinity Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler, Texas. After completing my Doctor of Pharmacy degree at Long Island University, I completed a PGY1 residency at St Michael's Medical Center in Newark, NJ, and a PGY2 Emergency Medicine Pharmacy at Rutgers University and Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. Since then, I have initiated the Emergency Medicine Pharmacy program at NYU Langone Medical Center, returned to Rutgers University as a Clinical Assistant Professor and Director of the Emergency Medicine Pharmacy post-graduate residency program, and ultimately relocated to East Texas to take on my current role at CHRISTUS.

Although I did not pursue a toxicology fellowship program, I dedicated my ongoing professional education to toxicology and, in 2019, attained ABAT Diplomate status. Since then, I have continued my current role but expanded to ensure appropriate clinical management of patients presenting to our emergency departments in East Texas, including envenomation management.

Platform:

Emergency Medicine pharmacists have a profound interest in continuing their clinical, educational pathways to become clinical toxicologists. With the incredible growth of Emergency Medicine PGY2 programs in recent years, this interest in toxicology has continued to explode. As many of you have likely observed, with this growth, pharmacists who have completed PGY2 training continue to complete Toxicology Fellowship training.

For other pharmacists unable to successfully achieve a Fellowship position, their interest in toxicology remains. A warranted bridge needs to be constructed between the two major leadership groups to justly provide an opportunity to earn a career progression in this path. Not in optimizing ABAT exam access, content, or difficulty, but rather in aligning education standards and objectives between AACP and leading pharmacy organizations (ASHP and ACCP).

Having been a Member and Chair of the ACCP EMED PRN group, I recognize that such groups would be ideal partners to work collaboratively to establish toxicology education provided not just within ABAT circles but also including PGY2 graduate EM pharmacists. As an ABAT Board Member, I would be driven to serve as an experienced member of both sides and hopefully work towards the continued evolution of this specialty.