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J. Christopher Farmer, MD Chair, Critical Care Medicine Board American Board of Internal Medicine 510 Walnut Street, Suite 1700 Philadelphia, PA 19106-3699

Dear Dr. Farmer:

On behalf of the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM), thank you for requesting feedback regarding possible American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) co-sponsorship of neurocritical care certification.

The Alliance's responses to the questions include:

(1) Does your organization and/or members think that ABIM should co-sponsor neurocritical care certification? Please elaborate on why you are responding "yes" or "no."

Yes, ABIM should co-sponsor neurocritical care certification. The formality of a sponsored pathway will improve internal medicine representation in standard setting and provide validation to all physicians practicing this care.

In addition, the Alliance recommends that the ABIM formally acknowledge that individuals who are (and will become) board certified in Critical Care Medicine have substantial training in neurocritical care and are competent to care for these patients.

(2) What benefits or unintended consequences would you anticipate should ABIM become a co-sponsor of the Neurocritical Care certificate allowing internists certified in Critical Care Medicine to pursue fellowships in Neurocritical Care and to become ABIM-certified in Neurocritical Care?

The benefits are outlined in the response to question one, and the Alliance does not foresee any disadvantages.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback regarding possible ABIM co-sponsorship of neurocritical care certification. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (703) 341-4540 or AAIM@im.org.

Sincerely,

D. Craig Brater, MD President and CEO

Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine