AAIM supports acceptance of the COMLEX-USA as equivalent to the USMLE

Graduates of osteopathic medical schools (DO) are integral to the success of Internal Medicine. In the 2023 Match, DO applicants accounted for 17.4% of individuals who matched into IM residencies. All DO graduates are required to take the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examinations (COMLEX-USA). The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), as the single accreditation system for allopathic and osteopathic graduate medical education in the US, accepts the COMLEX-USA for residency training. The American Medical Association (AMA), Coalition for Physician Accountability (CoPA), and the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) have all advocated for equivalence with the COMLEX-USA and the USMLE (United States Medical Licensing Examination).

The Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM) encourages all Internal Medicine residency programs and Internal Medicine subspecialty fellowship programs, in their holistic review of applicants, to accept that the COMLEX-USA results are equivalent to the USMLE. AAIM continues development of resources and implementation of processes that fairly consider osteopathic applicants in all aspects of the residency and subspecialty fellowship application and interview process.

March 10, 2024
Approved by the AAIM Board of Directors