

Internal Medicine Education Advisory Board (IMEAB) Meeting
Friday, December 11, 2020
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. EST
Virtual Meeting

Participants

Alejandro Aparicio, MD	Leonard S. Feldman, MD, FAAP,	William W. Pinsky, MD
Michael Barone, MD, MPH	FACP, SFHM	Thomas Rebecchi, MD
Eric B. Bass, MD, MPH, FACP	Eleanor M. Fitzpatrick, MA	Tabassum Salam, MD, MBA, FACP
D. Craig Brater, MD	Eric Holmboe, MD, MACP, FRCP	Jerry Vasiliadis, PhD
Aggie Butler, PhD	Lisa Howley, PhD, MEd	
Karen C. Caruth, MBA	William F. Iobst, MD	<i>AAIM Staff:</i>
Davoren A. Chick, MD, FACP	Furman McDonald, MD, MPH	Hanan Abdulahi, MPP
Bergitta E. Cotroneo, FACMPE	John Moriarty, MD	Margaret A. Breida, MS
Jaclyn Cox, DO	John D. Myers, MD, FACP	Michael Kisielewski, MA
Sima Desai, MD	Donald S. Nelinson, PhD	Valerie O
Laura Edgar, EdD, CAE	Attila S. Nemeth, MD	Jordan Ortiz
Christopher A. Feddock, MD, MS	Miguel Paniagua, MD	
	Vikesh I. Parekh, MD	

Welcome and Introductions

D. Craig Brater, MD, welcomed participants.

The minutes of the July 16, 2020 IMEAB meeting were approved.

Organizational Updates

National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME)

- The Step 2 Clinical Skills (CS) exam was suspended due to the pandemic. NBME will use this intermission to enhance the exam. Survey results will help address the medical education community's concerns, along with informing future projects to modify assessments. Data gathering, clinical reasoning, and communication will continue as the three core components. ((Update: as of January 2021, the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) and NBME announced the discontinuation of the Step 2 CS examination.))
- Effective July 2021, the new US Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) attempt limit policy will reduce an examinee's total number of allowable attempts from six to four per Step exam. This is to maintain alignment with USMLE attempt limits imposed by state medical boards.
- NBME is dedicating resources towards the development of competency-based assessments (CBA) and will be working with the medical education community and technology experts. This initiative will focus on developing "CBA units", with the aim of establishing new assessments to capture and measure the expected competencies of a physician along with conducting longitudinal research.

Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG)

- The Step 2 CS exam is a requirement for ECFMG certification. With its suspension (and now discontinuation), ECFMG developed pathways for IMGs to meet the clinical skills and English proficiency requirements.
- The US Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) proposal to replace "duration of status" with a specified date will negatively impact US healthcare, particularly disrupting J-1 physician training and the patient care that they provide. As a result, ECFMG, in partnership with other stakeholders, formally opposed the rule change.

American College of Physicians (ACP)

- ACP developed several resources to support physicians through the pandemic. To note, CMEs can be earned through some of these resources. An online, mobile-friendly COVID-19 physician's guide was developed, addressing infection control and patient management.
- ACP continues to support the COVID-19 vaccine launch through policies that address authorization, ethical allocation, vaccine hesitancy, etc. A vaccine authorization communication strategy will be released after Board of Directors approval.
- The ACP Board Prep Portfolio will be revamped in the next year. Residents will have access to the Medical Knowledge Self-Assessment Program (MKSAP) 19, which will include expanded learning plans, earn-as-you-go CME, customized learning plans, new short form MCQs, etc. Just as the Board Prep Curriculum, learners will have access to revised content that directly maps to high-yield ABIM topics.

Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)

- Milestones 2.0 is formally posted, to include a supplemental guide. A digital health sub-competency was added based on a second round of public comment.
- Two new open-access assessment tools are available on *Learn at ACGME: Teamwork Effectiveness Assessment Module (TEAM)* and *Direct Observation of Clinical Care (DOCC)*. Residents and fellows can use the TEAM module to gather and interpret feedback from their interprofessional team. DOCC is an app for faculty and evaluators to document direct observations of clinical activities performed by residents and fellows.
- Results of the 2020 Milestones National Report are delayed due to the pandemic. Discussion continues on how to embed data into systems. The 2019 Milestones National Report included predictive analytics to understand learners' risk factors. (Update: Click on the hyperlink to access the [2020 Milestones National Report](#))

Review Committee – Internal Medicine (RC-IM)

- Major revisions to the IM Program Requirements (PRs) were vetted and will be reviewed by the ACGME Board of Directors in February 2021. If approved, the PRs will go into effect July 2022, except for the coordinators FTE which will go into effect in 2023.
- There is a new binary approach to GME operations during the pandemic: emergency and non-emergency categories. An institution can self-declare Emergency Status for up to 60 days without ACGME approval. The RC understands that even with the binary approach, there will be times when IM residents will have increased workloads; the RC will not fault programs due to pandemic.
- Regardless of pandemic status, compliance with the duty hours, supervision, and safety protocols are non-negotiable.

Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)

- A new strategic plan was developed, based on environment scan, needs assessment results, and stakeholder input. The vision statement was expanded to include community collaboration, and ten action plans were formulated.
- The *Program Director Assessment of Resident Readiness* pilot will attempt to provide better outcomes data of graduates and inform curricular quality improvements in medical schools.
- The *AAMC New and Emerging Areas in Medicine Series* will incorporate DEI cross continuum competencies in 2021. To date, the series addressed QiPS and Telehealth.
- The National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) awarded AAMC a grant to further enhance its *Fundamental Role of the Arts and Humanities in Medical Education* (FRAHME) project. An example of the grant-funded work is the *Creative Expressions During Times of Uncertainty* project. In addition to this work, AAMC collaborated with StoryCorps to create a community site dedicated to stories of physicians in academic medicine. Similarly, the AAMC worked with the *Good Listening Project* to conduct virtual “listening sessions”, resulting in poems based on the physician’s story.

American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM)

- COVID-19 did not affect the initial certification examinations due to the ABIM deficits in required training policy. It should be noted that the policy was further clarified by APDIM. Diplomats were given an option to delay their board exams and maintain eligibility for a grace period of one year. Most initial certification exams were rescheduled. Further, there is delay in uploading pass rate data.
- The longitudinal pathway for MOC is a five-year cycle and includes both participation requirement and performance standard. It is a path for physicians to meet their MOC assessment requirements and earn MOC points.

Society of General Internal Medicine (SGIM)

- SGIM published a manuscript addressing the manifestation of structural racism within medical education institutions, with the purpose of identifying multi-dimensional strategies necessary to combat this issue.
- SGIM surveyed clinician educators to obtain information on mentoring, to include professional advancement, personal growth, and job satisfaction. SGIM reviewed various mentoring models, with the intent of exploring educators’ experience as mentees within these models. The study revealed that educators appear to be moving away from traditional mentoring models, favoring mentoring teams consisting of mentors at different career stages.

Society of Hospital Medicine (SHM)

- SHM developed best practice resources aimed at guiding faculty on how to effectively train residents during the pandemic. A POCUS portfolio program was established to assist programs understand their current “image portfolio”.

American College of Osteopathic Internists (ACOI)

- ACOI has been building its principle-centered medicine (PCM), which involves the integration of science and humanism. PCM follows seven core principles.
- The American Board of Osteopathic Internal Medicine (AOBIM) update highlighted that DOs certified by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) can partake in an exam-free pathway towards American Osteopathic Association (AOA) board certification. Effective January 2021, the AOBIM will retire high stakes exams and will implement 15 confidence-based learning modules.