

3rd Annual EMS Medical Directors' Conference



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Board Certifications

Dr. Michael Smith



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AMERICAN BOARD OF
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Update on EMS Board Certification

Michael J. Smith, MD

EMS Medical Director

Reid Health, Richmond Indiana

Disclosures

- No connection with ABEM
- Not on the committee that wrote the text items
- No conflicts of interest to declare
- Lecture developed from an initial slide set by David Cone, MD at Yale SOM

ABEM's newest subspecialty

- First board exam in 2013
- Administered once every other year
- Sunset approaching on “grandfather” period

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- Impact quality of care.
- Further integrate prehospital treatment into the continuum of patient care.
- ??? Financial impacts ???

Nov 2015 Exam: Applications

- Applications received: 238
 - 229 ABEM diplomates (96%)
 - 9 non-ABEM diplomates
- Applications approved: 224 (94%)
 - 6 non-ABEM diplomates
- 52 (22%) applications were received during last week of application period (down from 38% in 2013)

Nov 2015 Exam: Results

- 332 took the exam (includes second-time takers)
- 223 passed (67.2% - vs 58% in 2013)
- 75.9% of those who self-reported any fellowship training passed
 - 60 passed, 19 failed
 - Compared to 79% in 2013
- 64.4% of those who self-reported no fellowship training passed
 - 163 passed, 90 failed
 - Compared to 53% in 2013
- No difference ($p=0.06$ by chi-square test)

November 2015 Exam Results

- First-time exam takers:
 - 159 passed, 67 failed = 70.4% pass rate
- Second-time exam takers:
 - 64 passed, 42 failed = 60.4% pass rate
- No difference ($p=0.07$ by chi-square test)

Cumulative Totals: All Time



- **456 have passed the exam and are certified by ABEM**

• Medical Toxicology	404
• Pediatric Emergency Medicine	294
• Undersea & Hyperbaric	197
• Sports Medicine	161
• Hospice & Palliative	114

- **Subspecialties At A Glance ~ September 2015 (www.abem.org)**

Grandfathers / Grandmothers

- Closing of practice and practice-plus-training pathways
- July 1, 2019 for the October 2019 exam
- “The EMS practice pathway and practice-plus-training pathway will close at the end of the 2019 application cycle, on July 1, 2019. Specifically, all eligibility requirements must be completed, and all applications postmarked no later than July 1, 2019.”

Practice Pathway

Emergency Medical Services Eligibility Criteria
Page 2

EMS Practice Pathway

Physicians who apply through the EMS practice pathway must demonstrate that within the six years immediately preceding the date on which they submit their EMS certification application they have completed a minimum of 60 months of EMS practice of at least 400 hours per year. Physicians can have practiced EMS as Assistant Medical Director, Associate Medical Director, Medical Director, or within another leadership role of one or more EMS agencies with patient care responsibility; or as a direct provider of prehospital emergency care; or any combination of these roles.

ABEM will independently verify the EMS practice a physician submits to fulfill the eligibility criteria.

Practice-plus-training Pathway

EMS Practice-Plus-Training Pathway

Physicians who apply through the EMS practice-plus-training pathway must have:

- Successfully completed an acceptable, unaccredited fellowship in EMS, **and**
- Within the six years immediately preceding the date on which they submit their EMS certification application, have completed a minimum of 24 months of EMS practice of at least 400 hours per year. Physicians can have practiced EMS as Assistant Medical Director, Associate Medical Director, Medical Director, or within another leadership role of one or more EMS agencies with patient care responsibility; or as a direct provider of prehospital emergency care; or any combination of these roles.

ABEM will independently verify the EMS practice a physician submits to fulfill the eligibility criteria.

Practice-plus-training Pathway

Physicians must submit the following information on the unaccredited fellowship they completed for review by ABEM:

- Documentation that the fellowship was at least one year in length.
- Documentation that the fellowship curriculum was based on the Core Content of EMS medicine.

ABEM will request independent verification directly from the program director that a physician successfully completed the EMS fellowship.

What If?

- Contact information for the ABEM staff who primarily support the EMS subspecialty application and credentialing process.
- Angie McGoff, Specialist
 - amcgoff@abem.org
 - 517-332-4800 extension 387
- Christina Tisdale, Administrative Asst
 - ctisdale@abem.org
 - 517-332-4800 extension 387

“The 387 extension is answered by either Christina, me, or another staff member here in Certification Services. It is the best extension for you to get a live person when you call.”

Angie, 11/30/2014

Reconfirmed, 1/11/2016

Maintenance of Certification

- Oh boy, another LLSA?

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- NO! Physicians boarded in two specialties can choose which is considered their primary specialty, and completion of the LLSA and IMP in that board counts as satisfaction in ALL boards they hold.

Maintenance of Certification

- Oh boy, another LLSA?
- NO! Physicians boarded in two specialties can choose which is considered their primary specialty, and completion of the LLSA and IMP in that board counts as satisfaction in ALL boards they hold.
- Caveats:
 - 1. You have to do ALL LLS and IMP activities in one board, you cannot pick and choose individual activities.
 - 2. You do have to take the ConCert exam in EVERY specialty each decade.



Questions?

Contact Us:

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Website: indianatrauma.org

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