Overview of ABP Testing Program

Linda A. Althouse, PhD
Vice President, Psychometrics and Testing Services
May 15, 2015
Background

- Established in 1933
- Independent; not-for-profit
- Certified physicians are “Diplomates” (not members)
- Sole mission to the public to assure that physicians have specialized training in pediatrics & meet the standards needed to provide quality care
- Independent certifying board for Diplomates
- One of 24 specialty boards recognized by American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)
The American Board of Medical Specialties

Allergy & Immunology
Anesthesiology
Colon & Rectal Surgery
Dermatology
Emergency Medicine
Family Medicine
Internal Medicine
Medical Genetics
Neurological Surgery
Nuclear Medicine
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Ophthalmology
Orthopaedic Surgery
Otolaryngology
Pathology
Pediatrics
Physical Med Rehabilitation
Plastic Surgery
Preventive Medicine
Psychiatry & Neurology
Radiology
Surgery
Thoracic Surgery
Urology

#FOTC2015
ABP Exams – Training Through Career

GENERAL PEDIATRICIAN
- General Pediatrics Residency
- In-Training Exam (ITE)
- General Pediatrics Certifying Exam

PEDIATRIC SUBSPECIALIST
- Completion of General Pediatrics Training
- Subspecialty Fellowship
- Subspecialty ITE

Completing Subspecialty Training
- Subspecialty Certifying Exam

Practicing Physician
- MOC Exams
Certificates Offered By ABP

General Pediatrics

14 Subspecialties for which the ABP offers and administers:

- Adolescent Medicine
- Pediatric Cardiology
- Child Abuse Pediatrics
- Pediatric Critical Care Medicine
- Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics
- Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Pediatric Endocrinology
- Pediatric Gastroenterology
- Pediatric Hematology and Oncology
- Pediatric Infectious Diseases
- Neonatal Perinatal Medicine
- Pediatric Nephrology
- Pediatric Pulmonology
- Pediatric Rheumatology

*ABP offers 20 subspecialty certificates in total, but 6 are exams that are administered/offered by other boards.
# General Pediatrics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>In-Training (ITE)</th>
<th>Certifying</th>
<th>MOC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Items</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Format</td>
<td>Multiple-choice</td>
<td>Multiple-choice</td>
<td>Multiple-choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Paper – moving to internet</td>
<td>Prometric</td>
<td>Prometric</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration Time</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
<td>4 hours</td>
<td>Continuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scoring</td>
<td>No passing score; formative</td>
<td>Rasch scoring</td>
<td>Rasch Scoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candidates</td>
<td>~10,000 candidates</td>
<td>~4,500 candidates</td>
<td>~6,000 candidates</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Subspecialty Exams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-Training (SITE)</th>
<th>Certifying</th>
<th>MOC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• 150 items</td>
<td>• 210 items</td>
<td>• 190 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Prometric</td>
<td>• Prometric</td>
<td>• Prometric</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Annual</td>
<td>• Every other year</td>
<td>• Annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Feb or March</td>
<td>• Spring or Fall</td>
<td>• Spring and Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• One week administration</td>
<td>• One day administration</td>
<td>• 4-6 week windows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 4 hours</td>
<td>• 4.5 hours</td>
<td>• 4 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• No passing score; formative</td>
<td>• Rasch and Classical</td>
<td>• Rasch and Classical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ~30-500 candidates</td>
<td>~60-600 candidates</td>
<td>~20-400 candidates</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MOC and the Four Parts

Part 1 Professional Standing
Ensures physician is licensed and in good standing.

Part 3 – Cognitive Expertise
Incorporates an external objective assessment of the diplomate, providing assurance that the diplomate has maintained the necessary commitment to lifelong learning and seeks to remain current in the core subject matter of the specialty.

Part 2 – Life Long Learning
Requires participation in high quality, unbiased learning and self-assessment activities.

Part 4 – Performance in Practice
Focuses on ongoing assessment and improvement in the quality of care.