



American Board  
of Internal Medicine®

## ACADEMIC AFFAIRS



**Enhancing** the Assessment and Evaluation of **Residents** and **Fellows**

## ABIM Academic Affairs Partners in Assessing Trainee Competence

The American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) Academic Affairs department is dedicated to working closely with the graduate medical education community to enhance residency and fellowship training through **faculty development, education and research.**

We strive to support the academic community by encouraging program directors to critically assess and evaluate trainee competence. This assessment helps to ensure that board eligible physicians have acquired the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to advance in their careers by:

- Establishing relationships with residents and the faculty who train them
- Providing education and tools to help faculty improve their assessment of residents
- Communicating the value of Certification and Maintenance of Certification (MOC) to residents early in their medical careers
- Supporting academic leaders in their efforts to engage trainees in lifelong professional development



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*Director of ABIM Academic Affairs*

## About ABIM

For more than 70 years, certification by the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) has stood for the highest standard in internal medicine and its 19 subspecialties. Board certified internists have met rigorous standards through intensive study, self-assessment and evaluation, and they value continuous professional growth and learning after completing their training.

## Achieving Better Outcomes

### Faculty Development

Core and general faculty who are skilled in the assessment and evaluation of trainees are an important asset to training programs. Academic Affairs offers two faculty training activities that can help meet the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Core Faculty requirement to acquire the right set of assessment and evaluation skills.

### Faculty Development Course

The faculty development course is an intensive five-day course designed exclusively to train faculty to evaluate clinical competence across the six ACGME general competencies. Held twice each year, this course provides a comprehensive overview of assessment methods and tools available to training programs that includes highly interactive small group workshops on:

- Competency-Based Education Training Fundamentals
- Direct Observation Skills/Feedback
- How to Evaluate the ACGME Competencies
- Systematic Review of Assessment Tools
- Working with Problem and Marginal Residents
- Teaching and Evaluating Practice-Based Learning and Improvement, and Systems-Based Practice

### ABIM Hospital Visit

Organizations can foster educational opportunities for faculty development by hosting an ABIM Hospital Visit. The ABIM Hospital Visit program is an interactive workshop that teaches internal medicine faculty practical evaluation skills across the six ACGME general competencies. To schedule a visit, please visit [www.abim.org](http://www.abim.org) for more details.

## Measurements for Success

### Education

Program accreditation requirements emphasize the need for valid and reliable faculty assessment, evaluation and direct observation of trainees. All of the ABIM products and services listed below can help programs meet this challenge, which is defined by the six ACGME general competencies: Patient Care, Medical Knowledge, Practice-Based Learning & Improvement, Interpersonal & Communication Skills, Professionalism and Systems-Based Practice.

### Training Program Assessment Tools

#### Practice Improvement Modules

ABIM PIMs Practice Improvement Modules<sup>SM</sup> for training programs allow for convenient and easy documentation of program activity in all of the ACGME general competencies, particularly for the Practice-Based Learning and Improvement, and Systems-Based Practice competencies. Faculty who participate in a PIM with their residents may be able to earn credit toward our Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program. Please visit [www.abim.org](http://www.abim.org) for more information.

#### Mini-CEX

The Mini-Clinical Evaluation Exercise (Mini-CEX) focuses on the core skills that residents demonstrate in patient encounters. It can be easily implemented by attending physicians as a routine, seamless evaluation of residents in any clinical setting. Go to [www.abim.org](http://www.abim.org) to download the Mini-CEX form.

#### Procedural Logbook

The Procedural Logbook is a convenient tool for documenting the procedural skills learned during training. Documentation and verification of these skills are requirements to sit for the ABIM certification exam, obtain hospital clinical privileges, and in many cases to earn hospital credentials. The Procedural Logbook can be ordered through ABIM's Business Services department by calling 215-446-3630 (9 a.m. - 5 p.m., ET) or e-mailing [publicationorders@abim.org](mailto:publicationorders@abim.org).



#### FasTrack™

FasTrack, ABIM's online system for program directors and administrators, allows you to track and complete evaluations of clinical competence for residents and fellows.

## Improving the Quality of Training

### Research

In conjunction with the ABIM Psychometrics and Quality Research departments, Academic Affairs studies the impact of Practice Improvement Modules (PIMs), as well as other assessment tools, and the role of external factors (e.g., microsystems, transitions in block rotation and teamwork) that affect physician performance and quality improvement in the training space. Our research efforts help influence improvements in ABIM's products while enhancing the tools and measures used in residency and fellowship training.

#### Research Projects

- PIMs in Residency
- Clinical Supervision PIM
- Direct Observation, Teamwork, Transitions in Residency

## Contact Us

### Academic Affairs

1-800-441-ABIM, ext. 4246 or [AcademicAffairs@abim.org](mailto:AcademicAffairs@abim.org)

- Register for a Faculty Development Course
- Schedule a Hospital Visit
- Questions about training program assessment tools

### Contact Center

1-800-441-ABIM or [request@abim.org](mailto:request@abim.org)

- Certification policy questions
- FasTrack inquiries
- Practice Improvement Modules (PIMs)

### Business Services

215-446-3630 (9 a.m. - 5 p.m., ET) or [publicationorders@abim.org](mailto:publicationorders@abim.org)

- Procedural Logbook
- Mini-CEX (download copies from [www.abim.org](http://www.abim.org))

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