

Assessment of Performance Practice (APP) Requirements

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- The **APP** is the **4th component** of the ABEM Emergency Medicine Continuous Certification (EMCC) program

- Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment (LLSA)
- ConCert Exam
- Professional Standing
- **Assessment of Performance Practice**

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● Assessment of Performance Practice (APP)

- Became available in January 2010, and
- The **requirements** for this component are being **phased in based on the diplomate's certification expiration date**
- The phase in period will be completed by 2019

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- **Quality improvement activities** that many diplomates are already doing in their hospitals are recognized by the APP program
- There is **no fee** for APP

- Diplomates whose certificates expire in 2013 and 2017
 - Have deadlines in 2011, and
 - Should consider initiating patient care practice improvement activities in 2010 to meet these deadlines

Your current certification expires:	LLSA & Assessment of Performance Practice (APP) Requirements
2009	To register for and take the 2009 ConCert examination: ● Pass ≥ 4 LLSA tests dated 2004 through 2009
2010	To register for and take the 2010 ConCert examination: ● Pass ≥ 5 LLSA tests dated 2004 through 2010
2011	To register for and take the 2011 ConCert examination: ● Pass ≥ 6 LLSA tests dated 2004 through 2011
2012	To register for and take the 2012 ConCert examination: ● Pass ≥ 7 LLSA tests dated 2004 through 2012

Your current certification expires:	LLSA & Assessment of Performance Practice (APP) Requirements
2013	<p>To register for and take the 2013 ConCert examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pass ≥ 8 LLSA tests dated 2004 through 2013 <p>To maintain clinically active status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 1 patient care practice improvement activity and attest to its completion in 2010 through 2011
2014	<p>To register for and take the 2014 ConCert examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pass ≥ 8 LLSA tests dated 2005 through 2014 <p>To maintain clinically active status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 1 PI activity and attest to its completion in 2010 through 2012
2015	<p>To register for and take the 2015 ConCert examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pass ≥ 8 LLSA tests dated 2006 through 2015 <p>To maintain clinically active status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 1 PI activity and attest to its completion in 2010 through 2013

Your current certification expires:	LLSA & Assessment of Performance Practice (APP) Requirements
2016	<p>To register for and take the 2016 ConCert examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pass ≥ 8 LLSA tests dated 2007 through 2016 <p>To maintain clinically active status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 1 PI activity and attest to its completion in 2011 through 2014
2017	<p>To register for and take the 2017 ConCert examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pass ≥ 8 LLSA tests dated 2008 through 2017 <p>To maintain clinically active status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 2 PI activities. Attest to completion of 1 activity in 2010 through 2011 and 1 in 2012 through 2015 • Complete the requirements for communication/professionalism feedback and attest to its completion in 2010 through 2015
2018	<p>To register for and take the 2018 ConCert examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pass ≥ 8 LLSA tests dated 2009 through 2018 <p>To maintain clinically active status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 2 PI activities. Attest to completion of 1 activity in 2010 through 2012 and 1 in 2013 through 2016 • Complete the requirements for CP feedback and attest to its completion in 2010 through 2016

- The APP only affects **clinically active** diplomates
 - It requires them to be involved in an acceptable **practice improvement plan** on the national, regional or local level, and
 - Involves the completion of ABEM acceptable
 - Patient care practice improvement activities, and
 - Patient survey (communication/professionalism) activities

- Diplomates who wish to remain clinically active can review their personal requirements through EMCC Online
 - Go to www.abem.org
 - Click on the EMCC tab on the home page, then
 - Click on the APP tab

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- There are **no APP requirements for clinically inactive diplomates**
- ABEM will assume that all diplomates are clinically active until:
 - Diplomates inform ABEM that they are clinically inactive, or
 - Diplomates fail to complete the APP requirements

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- Once the APP is completely phased in (2019), diplomates will be **required to complete 3 APP activities** during the 10 years after certification **to maintain their clinically active designation**:
 - One **patient care practice improvement activity (PI)** in the first 4 years after certification
 - A **second PI** in the following 4 years, and
 - One **communication/professionalism activity (CP)** in the first 8 years after certification

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Components of PI Activities

- A patient care **practice improvement activity** must include the following 4 steps:
 - **The review of patient clinical care data from 10 patients that relates to a single presentation, disease or clinical care process that is part of the EM Model**
 - The patient data may include:
 - Clinical care processes
 - Feedback from patients that relates to the clinical care administered
 - Outcome of clinical care, or
 - Access to care (e.g., time for through-put)
 - Group data and data collected through a national, regional or local PI program in which you participate is acceptable

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● Comparison of the data to evidence-based guidelines

- If evidence-based guidelines are **not** available, explicit expert consensus or comparable peer data may be used
- **Development and implementation of a practice improvement plan, and**
- **The review of patient care data from 10 additional patients with the same presentation, disease or clinical care process as the initial patient data review**
 - To assess whether clinical practice performance has positively changed or if acceptable performance is maintained

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Communication/Professionalism Activity

- The usual method used to meet the communication/professionalism (CP) activity will be through **patient questionnaires**
 - ... Press-Ganey patient surveys may meet the ABEM requirements, or
 - You can create a simple survey process of your own
- However, other methods (e.g., interviews and focus groups) are also acceptable

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Components of CP Activity

- The **communication/professionalism activity** must include:
 - The collection of appropriate feedback from ≥ 10 of your patients, and
 - The measurement of 1 physician behavior from each of the following 3 categories:
 - **Communications/listening** (... listening carefully and using language appropriate to the listener)
 - **Providing information** (... explaining your clinical impression and anticipated management to the patient and his/her family), and
 - **Showing concern for the patient** (... asking the patient if they have concerns or ?s or inquiring about adequate pain relief)

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Attestation

- Diplomates must **attest to the completion** of each of **these 3 APP activities online**, and
- Provide the name of an **independent verifier** for each of these APP activities

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Verification of APP Activity

- The **verifier** must be someone with oversight or knowledge of practice performance that meets ABEM requirements, such as:
 - Hospital board chair or other member of the board
 - Department chair
 - Chief of staff
 - Medical director
 - Practice administrator in non-hospital settings

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- The **designated verifier** need **not** do anything unless they are contacted by ABEM as part of the verification process
- If the verifier is contacted by ABEM, he/she will sign the form that ABEM sends to them
- ABEM will randomly select 10% of all APP attestations for independent verification

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- ### ABMS Patient Safety Improvement Program
- **Completion of the ABMS Patient Safety Improvement Program (PSIP)**
 - Meets the requirement of the APP PI activity if diplomates use their own patients' data
 - It **does not** meet the requirement for the CP activity
 - This program is available to diplomates in 3 forms;
 - 2 independent programs
 - Patient Safety Foundations (PSF)
 - Quality Improvement in Practice (QIP) - \$30
 - A third program that is a combination of the two
 - Patient Safety Improvement Program (PSIP) - \$55
 - **Only the ABMS Quality Improvement in Practice (QIP) and the Patient Safety Improvement Program (PSIP) fulfill the ABEM APP PI activity**
 - ABEM will receive independent verification for Diplomates who complete these programs, which can be purchased for \$30 and \$55 respectively

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- ### ABMS Patient Safety Improvement Program (PSIP)
- The URL for this program is: www.healthstream.com/hlc/abem
 - They can also be contacted @ 800-521-0574, Mon. –Fri., 7 AM - 7 PM CST
 - This program will be available through July 2011

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- You will need your license # and NPID # when you start the program
- You do not need to complete it in 1 session
- You will receive 2.5 hours of category I CME for successfully completing the program

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- Each APP activity must be begun, completed and reported within the designated time frames for that activity
- If you fail to do this, your certification will remain valid, but your clinical activity status will be changed to **clinically inactive**
- This status will:
 - Be reported to the ABMS and
 - Be public information, but
 - Not be identified on diplomates' certificates
- You can revert your status from clinically inactive to clinically active by completing any 1 of the required APP activities

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Thank You For Your Attention

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Questions?



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