FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PAIN MEDICINE CERTIFICATION
APPROVED FOR EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

East Lansing, MI (April 25, 2014)—On April 24, 2014, the Board of Directors of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) approved the American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) joining the American Board of Anesthesiology (ABA), the American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (ABPMR), and the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN), in offering certification in Pain Medicine. This co-sponsorship arrangement provides an opportunity for Emergency Medicine residency graduates to pursue fellowship training in Pain Medicine, and upon successful completion of that training, seek subspecialty certification in Pain Medicine through ABEM.

More than 70% of patients who come to the emergency department have a chief complaint of some type of pain, and at least 40% have an underlying pain condition. The presence of subspecialty experts in Emergency Medicine will help to promulgate the science and practice of Pain Medicine throughout the specialty of Emergency Medicine.

ABEM President, James H. Jones, M.D., stated that, “Pain Medicine is a rapidly expanding area of interest, practice, and research within Emergency Medicine, and is a natural extension of our specialty. Our patients will directly benefit as this subspecialty grows and matures. This adds to the opportunities available for subspecialty certification provided by ABEM."

To be able to take the subspecialty certification examination, ABEM diplomates must have successfully completed a one-year, ACGME-accredited Pain Medicine fellowship program. They also must adhere to the ABEM Policy on Medical Licensure, hold a valid ABEM certificate, and be participating in the ABEM MOC program. Those who fulfill all requirements may apply to ABEM to take the examination. The eligibility criteria and application are available on the ABEM website (www.abem.org).

Pain Medicine becomes the ninth subspecialty available to ABEM-certified physicians along with Anesthesiology Critical Care Medicine, Emergency Medical Services, Hospice and Palliative Medicine, Internal Medicine—Critical Care Medicine, Medical Toxicology, Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Sports Medicine, and Undersea and

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The ABEM mission is to ensure the highest standards in the specialty of Emergency Medicine.
A Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties
Hyperbaric Medicine. ABEM diplomates also have pathways to subspecialty certification in Clinical Informatics (through the American Board of Preventive Medicine), and Surgical Critical Care (through the American Board of Surgery).


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About ABEM
Founded in 1976, the American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) develops and administers the Emergency Medicine certification examination for physicians who have met the ABEM credentialing requirements. ABEM has over 31,000 emergency physicians currently certified. ABEM is not a membership organization, but a non-profit, independent evaluation organization. ABEM is one of 24 Member Boards of the American Board of Medical Specialties.