

THE AMERICAN BOARD OF FAMILY MEDICINE HAS APPROVED **STEPPING UP: TREATING THE UNCONTROLLED DIABETIC PATIENT** AS AN ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITY FOR MEETING MC-PART IV REQUIREMENTS.

In addition to completing the assignments for the basic module, this activity will require chart reviews of 10 randomly selected patients; the development and implementation of an action plan; and a follow-up chart review after three months.

For more information, call Ilana Hardesty or Lara Zisblatt at the Boston University School of Medicine CME office, 617-638-4605.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION

What is Performance Improvement CME?

PI CME is a three-stage learning model approved for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*[™] which uses evidence-based measures and Quality Improvement interventions to change physician performance.

Why is PI CME important?

PI CME can potentially help physicians meet multiple reporting requirements – Maintenance of Certification, Maintenance of Licensure, and Pay for Performance.

How does PI CME work?

PI CME has three stages:

- **Stage A: Learning from current practice** (assess your practice via chart reviews or other methods; compare specific markers to evidence-based performance measures [i.e., HEDIS, AHRQ, etc.])
- **Stage B: Learning from the application of PI** to patient care (create an action plan to address discrepancies and implement the plan; specific actions MIGHT include such things as chart reminders, patient communications, or system changes)
- **Stage C: Learning from evaluation** (reassess your practice, determine whether interventions were successful)

How many credits can I earn?

5 credits are earned for the successful completion of EACH stage of PI CME; an additional 5 credits are awarded if all three stages are successfully completed, for a total of 20 possible credits. Note that credit is issued even if there was no change in practice.

What is Maintenance of Certification, and how does it relate to PI CME?

MoC is a four-part program developed by the member boards of the American Board of Medical Specialties, whereby physicians who wish to maintain their specialty certification must meet specific requirements on a periodic basis. The requirements include:

Part I -Professional Standing: Medical specialists must hold a valid, unrestricted medical license in at least one state or jurisdiction in the United States, its territories or Canada.

Part II-Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment: Physicians participate in educational and self-assessment programs that meet specialty-specific standards that are set by their member board.

Part III-Cognitive Expertise: They demonstrate, through formalized examination, that they have the fundamental, practice-related and practice environment-related knowledge to provide quality care in their specialty.

Part IV-Practice Performance Assessment: They are evaluated in their clinical practice according to specialty-specific standards for patient care. They are asked to demonstrate that they can assess the quality of care they provide compared to peers and national benchmarks and then apply the best evidence or consensus recommendations to improve that care using follow-up assessments.

PI CME ACTIVITIES *MIGHT* BE USED TO SATISFY PART IV REQUIREMENTS. PHYSICIANS SHOULD CHECK WITH THEIR BOARDS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Does the American Board of Family Medicine accept PI CME?

The ABFM (www.theabfm.org) has a list of approved programs that count toward their Maintenance of Certification (MC-FP) Part IV. These include:

Performance in Practice Module (PPM): PPMs, the ABFM's Part IV modules, are web-based, quality improvement modules in health areas which generally correspond to the Self-Assessment Modules. See <https://www.theabfm.org/moc/part4.aspx> for details.

Approved Alternative Activities for Part IV Modules: Note: ABFM Diplomates who complete alternate MC-FP Part IV activities are still required to submit the required MC-FP fees in order to receive MC-FP credit for these alternate activities.

- AAFP METRIC modules in Diabetes, Asthma, Coronary Artery Disease, and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
- Colorado Permanente Medical Group Department of Education Performance Improvement CME
- ABIM PIMs Completed in a Group Setting within a Mixed Practice
- NCQA Physician Recognition Programs in Diabetes and Heart/Stroke
- Geriatrics Education Network of Indiana (GENI) Geriatrics Quality Improvement Initiative
- **Boston University School of Medicine module Stepping Up: Treating the Uncontrolled Diabetic Patient**

Diplomates of the American Board of Family Medicine who complete a Part IV—Performance in Practice Module (PPM) as part of Maintenance of Certification for Family Physicians (MC-FP) may also submit this activity as a Best Practice Initiative in Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield's (Highmark Blue Shield) QualityBLUE program.