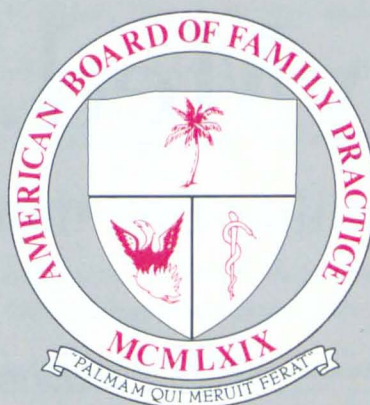


VOLUME 12, NUMBER 6 • NOVEMBER–DECEMBER 1999

# The Journal of the American Board of Family Practice



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Management of Hepatitis C

Adolescent Risk Behavior

Outcomes of Congestive Heart Failure

Teaching Information Mastery

Assessment of Cost-Effective Analyses

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**Original Articles.** Reports of original research, usually dealing with a clinical, health services, or other clinically relevant study.

**Medical Practice.** Scholarly articles that relate directly to clinical topics useful in everyday family practice, whether dealing with diagnostic or therapeutic roles of the family physician or reporting studies of what family physicians do in practice.

**Clinical Review.** In-depth reviews of specific clinical problems, disease entities, or treatment modalities; comprehensive and critical analysis of the literature is required (usual maximum length 5000 words).

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**Clinical Guidelines and Primary Care.** Summaries of major clinical guidelines proposed by various specialty, governmental, or health care organizations, with critical commentary from a primary care perspective.

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**Special Articles.** Articles in other areas that may relate to the role of the family physician, education for family practice, or other subjects important to family practice as a clinical specialty.

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**Family Practice—World Perspective.** Papers reporting developments related to the practice or education of family physicians in various countries around the world (usual length 1200–1800 words).

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# Subspecialty Certification in Pain Management

The American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (ABPMR) in conjunction with the American Boards of Anesthesiology (ABA) and Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN) has announced plans to offer a Subspecialty Examination for Certification in Pain Management. This examination will be administered on September 9, 2000 by ABA at various locations. Diplomates of other Member Boards of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), which includes the American Board of Family Practice, may apply for admission to this process.

Pain management is defined as the medical discipline concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of the entire range of painful disorders. Because of the vast scope of the field, Pain Management is a multidisciplinary subspecialty. The expertise of several disciplines is brought together in an effort to provide the maximum benefit to each patient. Although the care of patients is heavily influenced by the primary specialty of physicians who subspecialize in Pain Management, each member of the pain treatment team understands the anatomical and physiological basis of pain perception, the psychological factors that modify the pain experience, and the basic principles of Pain Management.

## Qualifications for Certification

All applicants for subspecialty certification in Pain Management must be current Diplomates in good standing of a member Board of the ABMS. Determination of acceptability for examination will be made according to the rules and regulations of the ABPMR. Additional requirements include:

1. All candidates for subspecialization in Pain Management must
  - provide documentation of a medical degree by submitting a copy of a diploma or certificate;
  - provide documentation of current certification by an ABMS Member Board;
  - provide a notarized copy of current, valid and unrestricted license to practice medicine or osteopathy in a United States licensing jurisdiction, Puerto Rico, or Canada;
  - fulfill the education requirement for subspecialization in Pain Management; and
  - satisfy the Pain Management examination requirement for Pain Management subspecialization.
2. The education requirement in Pain Management can be fulfilled by satisfying temporary criteria for the initial five-year period of Pain Management subspecialty certification.

In addition to general certification by an ABMS Member Board, the temporary criteria are:

- satisfactory completion of residency training required for general certification by an ABMS Member Board prior to July 1, 1998; **AND**
- satisfactory completion of 12 months (one year) of formal training in Pain Management acceptable for subspecialization in Pain Management, in addition to general certification by an ABMS Member Board; **OR**
- completion of the equivalent of 24 months (two years) of full-time practice in Pain Management acceptable for subspecialization. Credit will be granted only for Pain Management practice that occurs during the eight years immediately preceding the deadline for receipt of application to take the examination; **OR**
- exceptions to these temporary requirements that could be considered equivalent combinations of training and practice will be considered on an individual basis for subspecialization in Pain Management.

All physicians who apply for subspecialization in Pain Management after the 2003 examination will be required to complete one year of training in an ACGME-accredited Pain Management program.

Diplomates of the American Board of Family Practice interested in subspecialty certification in Pain Management should contact **The American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, 21 First Street, SW, Suite 674, Rochester, MN 55902-3092, Phone 507-282-1776, Fax: 507-282-9242.** Applications will be available from ABPMR January 1, 2000 with a return deadline of February 15, 2000.