



April 19, 2018

Dr. Terry Kowalenko
ABEM
3000 Coolidge Road
East Lansing, MI 48823

RE: Application for Subspecialty Certification in Neurocritical Care Medicine (NCCM)

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Dear Dr Kowalenko,

Thank you for including the American Academy of Emergency Medicine (AAEM) in the discussion regarding the applications for subspecialty certification in Neurocritical Care Medicine (NCCM) and designation of Focused Practice (DFP) in Neurological Critical Care being submitted on behalf of the ABMS Boards in Emergency Medicine, Psychiatry and Neurology, Anesthesiology, and Neurological Surgery.

As noted, this is indeed a complex issue and was discussed at length with AAEM leadership and at our recent Critical Care Section meeting at the AAEM Scientific Assembly.

As an AAEM section, it is important for us to remain consistent with the mission and vision statements of AAEM. AAEM stands for board certification by ABEM. After thoughtful discussion, we would suggest that if fellowship blocks are not in continuous months during one elective year, then meaningful critical care rotations be fulfilled within the last 2 years of training, to be consistent with other advanced critical care specialization. Overall, we support the subspecialty application and confirm our commitment to ABEM/ABMS pathways for subspecialty certification in NCCM.

Our discussion did lead to some concern about the DFP for Neurological Critical Care. We also would suggest that the eligibility period for the Designation of Focused Practice be time-limited.

We recognize the need to establish a formal ABMS pathway for subspecialty certification in NCCM and appreciate your efforts in holding to high standards and support this application.

With respect,

Ashika Jain, MD
Chairperson
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Cc: Drs. Earl Reisdorff and Melissa Barton

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