NEWS RELEASE

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AMERICAN BOARD OF MEDICAL SPECIALTIES
BRINGS TOGETHER HEALTH CARE LEADERS AND BOARDS
COMMUNITY TO EXAMINE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES
AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ABMS Conference 2017 to Focus on Improving Patient Care, Quality Standards

CHICAGO – September 19, 2017 – The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) will convene more than 400 experts from across the health care spectrum at ABMS Conference 2017 on Sept. 25-27 at the Westin Michigan Avenue Chicago to explore the challenges and opportunities facing professional self-regulation, the fields of assessment and training, quality and practice improvement, and the rapidly changing health care environment today.

ABMS Conference 2017, Achieving Improvement Through Assessment and Learning. Together will offer health care professionals and leaders from ABMS Member Boards, hospitals and health systems, academic medical centers, specialty societies, and continuing medical education and professional development communities the opportunity to learn about and accelerate the implementation of best practices in assessment and medical education, quality improvement (QI) and health policy initiatives, and improvement in patient care through Board Certification.

“This year’s Conference focuses on the role of assessment and learning in improving the care and treatment of our patients, families, and communities,” stated ABMS President and Chief Executive Officer Lois Margaret Nora, MD, JD, MBA. “The program theme of ‘Together’ is reflected throughout ABMS Conference 2017. The improvements underway in the Boards Community are due to the collective work and influence of this meeting’s participants. They also will be the catalysts for our future innovations. ABMS Conference 2017 is an incredible forum that brings together leaders from all aspects of health care to share best practices and new ideas, and forge relationships that will make a difference in the work of their organizations and the work of the Boards.”

This year’s program will feature more than 60 engaging sessions – including four plenary sessions hosted by recognized national and international leaders – on a variety of topics such as professionalism and professional standing, health care research and policy, QI, patient safety and engagement, cybersecurity and protecting health data, assessment innovations, and board and continuing certification examination development and administration.

Plenary speakers include:
- Pat Mastors, Co-Founder and Executive Director, Patients’ View Institute
- Cees van der Vleuten, PhD, Professor and Director of the School of Health Professions Education, Maastricht University, The Netherlands
Tom Stewart, Associate Director – Technology Consulting, Security and Privacy, Protiviti
Lois Margaret Nora, MD, JD, MBA, ABMS President and Chief Executive Officer, American Board of Medical Specialties

Selected session topics include:
- Patient Safety and Patient-centered Outcomes
- Certification’s Impact on Practice and Performance
- Improving Colon and Breast Cancer Screening Rates
- The Physician Workforce: Understanding Today, Planning for Tomorrow
- What New Skills Physicians Will Need
- How to Attract and Retain Millennials
- Addressing Burnout Among Family Physicians
- Embracing Change to Better Serve a Dynamic Constituency
- Modernizing Accreditation
- Strategies for Surviving a Data Breach

ABMS Conference 2017 also features exhibits of new products and services as well as a poster session of late-breaking research and evidence-based practices on topics ranging from Patient Safety and Patient-centered Outcomes to Improvement in Medical Practice. As members of the ABMS Visiting Scholars Program present the results of their research projects in a dedicated breakout session, members of the new class of 2017-2018 will be announced. The Visiting Scholars Program provides a unique one-year, part-time professional development and scholarship opportunity for early career physicians, junior faculty, fellows, residents, and individuals holding advanced degrees in public health, health services research, and other relevant disciplines.

“The close collaboration between ABMS and its Member Boards in planning this year’s Conference was a great experience. The input we received enabled us to create a wide variety of programming and will allow attendees to learn from experts in areas that impact their roles and institutions,” said Kristin Hemsworth, Chair of the ABMS Conference 2017 Planning Committee. “We appreciate the input by all those involved in contributing to a successful and informative event.”

*If you cannot attend, but would like post-conference information or to contact any of our presenters, please contact ABMS.

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**About ABMS**
Established in 1933, the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) continues to be the leading not-for-profit organization overseeing physician certification in the United States. ABMS establishes the standards its 24 Member Boards use to develop and implement educational and professional evaluation, assessment, and certification of physician specialists. More than 860,000 physicians are certified in one or more of the approved 37 specialties and 86 subspecialties offered by the ABMS Member Boards. For more information about ABMS, visit abms.org or call (312) 436-2600.