

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution: 314
(A-18)

Introduced by: Michigan

Subject: Board Certification Changes Impact Access to Addiction Medicine Specialists

Referred to: Reference Committee C
(Sherri Baker, MD, Chair)

1 Whereas, Opioid use has been declared a national epidemic by the Centers for Disease
2 Control; and
3
4 Whereas, The American Board of Addiction Medicine (ABAM) provided Addiction Medicine
5 board certification from 2009 to 2015; and
6
7 Whereas, When Addiction Medicine (ADM) was officially recognized as a new subspecialty by
8 the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) on March 14, 2016, ADM board certification
9 moved to ABMS oversight; and
10
11 Whereas, ABMS is mandating current ABMS certification in any ABMS-recognized Member
12 Board specialty as a requirement to enroll in a transitional maintenance of certification program
13 and to qualify for the ABMS Addiction Medicine board certification examination; and
14
15 Whereas, Many ABAM-board certified Addiction Medicine specialists have not maintained board
16 certification in an ABMS-recognized Member Board specialty; and
17
18 Whereas, These duly certified ADM specialists may be unable to obtain hospital privileges
19 and/or third-party patient panel privileges as they are not considered to be board certified by the
20 ABMS, thus potentially limiting access to this crucial resource; therefore be it
21
22 RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association work with the American Board of Addiction
23 Medicine (ABAM) and American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) to accept ABAM board
24 certification as equivalent to any other ABMS-recognized Member Board specialty as a
25 requirement to enroll in the transitional maintenance of certification program and to qualify for
26 the ABMS Addiction Medicine board certification examination. (Directive to Take Action)

Fiscal Note: Minimal - less than \$1,000.

Received: 05/02/18