



THE AMERICAN BOARD *of* PEDIATRICS

111 Silver Cedar Court, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514-1513
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July 1, 2019

Dear Colleagues,

I call your attention to some changes at the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP).

In June, our Board of Directors approved a revised *mission statement*:

Advancing child health by certifying pediatricians who meet standards of excellence and are committed to continuous learning and improvement.

The *statement* is shorter and, we hope, easier to remember. But the *mission* of the ABP has remained the same since the Board was founded in 1933. The ABP exists to support and encourage the best possible health care for children by setting standards for medical training, assessing levels of competence, and encouraging pediatricians to stay up to date with medical knowledge and best practices.

As you know, the ABP is operated by and for pediatricians who set and meet high standards of professionalism, education, and practice. Certification in General Pediatrics or a pediatric subspecialty recognizes a physician's commitment to delivering excellent child health care and serves as evidence to patients and their families, other physicians, employers, health systems and everyone else that a pediatrician is well-prepared to treat patients.

The revised *vision statement* approved by the Board of Directors is:

Inspiring a lifetime pursuit of learning to improve child health.

The ABP has programs to help pediatricians identify gaps in their knowledge and experience, then choose learning tools and activities that will help them fill those gaps. One way we do this is through [MOCA-Peds](#) (Maintenance of Certification Assessment for Pediatrics). With this ongoing, longitudinal assessment, pediatricians will know immediately after answering a question whether their response was correct. They also will have access to peer-reviewed evidence that supports the answer. You can find [more results](#) from our MOCA-Peds pilots on the ABP website.

Additionally, the ABP offers examples of quality improvement activities that will help pediatricians take their practice to a new level of success.

The Board of Directors also approved revised *statements of our values* with the easy-to-remember acronym CERT:

Consistency: Making unbiased decisions based on published ABP policies

Excellence: Striving to do our best work

Reliability: Living up to responsibilities and commitments

Transparency: Sharing non-confidential information openly

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We, at the ABP, expect pediatricians, trainees, families, and the general public to hold us accountable for these values.

I appreciate your role as a leader in the pediatric community and hope you will share these new statements with others. Please encourage them to help us set our profession's standards of excellence by joining us as an [ABP volunteer](#).

Together, we can keep advancing child health.

Sincerely,

David G. Nichols, MD, MBA
President and CEO
American Board of Pediatrics

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