BCUCM

BOARD OF CERTIFICATION IN URGENT CARE MEDICINE®

BCUCM is a Member Board of the American Board of Physician Specialties®







ADVANCING EXCELLENCE IN EPISODIC PATIENT CARE



BOARD OF CERTIFICATION IN URGENT CARE MEDICINE

Board certification for urgent care physician specialists is available through the Board of Certification in Urgent Care Medicine[®] (BCUCM[®]) – a Member Board of the American Board of Physician Specialties[®] (ABPS[®]). The BCUCM has developed an innovative, new and nationally-recognized board of certification in support of urgent care physicians who have completed residency training in an existing specialty and have significant practice experience in urgent care.

BCUCM is under the direction of dedicated urgent care medicine physicians from the United States and Canada. Some members of BCUCM are dual-boarded physicians – board-certified by Member Boards of ABPS, Member Boards of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), and/or Member Boards of the American Osteopathic Association Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists (AOABOS). They are dedicated and committed to ensuring that BCUCM Diplomates possess the highest degree of the core body of knowledge in urgent care medicine.

BCUCM is unique among boards of certification by including public members on its board of directors, along with the physician board members. Public members bring critical insight from the patient standpoint to the certification process.





WHY BOARD CERTIFICATION IN URGENT CARE MEDICINE?

Consider these facts about urgent care medicine in the United States:

- There are more urgent care centers than emergency departments
- More physicians practice urgent care than emergency medicine
- Urgent care medicine fills a crucial gap between emergency and primary care
- Demand for urgent care services by patients and insurers is increasing
- Like other disciplines, the practice of urgent care medicine requires a skill set and knowledge base that integrates with other specialties
- Urgent care is unique enough that expertise is not demonstrable through certification in any existing specialty. . .until now

RECOGNITION OF URGENT CARE MEDICINE

A clinical discipline becomes recognized as a medical specialty when sufficient numbers of physicians practicing that specialty join together in organizations which:

- Establish core competencies
- Establish clinical training programs
- Develop peer-reviewed journals with a primary focus on the discipline
- Set standards for specialty eligibility
- Develop certifying examinations based on established core competencies from clinical training programs to verify knowledge in that specialty

This process began in urgent care medicine over a decade ago. More recently, the development of postgraduate fellowship training programs has demonstrated the status of urgent care medicine as a new, promising and needed specialty. Now, board certification has become available.



THE BCUCM EXAM

The BCUCM exam has been created under the same strict content-development and psychometric standards that have been approved by state medical boards across the country. The exam covers the full spectrum of the specialty, including:

- Evaluating and treating patients who are seen every day in urgent care
- Recognizing patients with life-threatening conditions who may present to urgent care clinics
- Making diagnostic and treatment decisions based on urgent care patient case scenarios
- Interpreting lab work, radiographs, and electrocardiograms of common and important urgent care patient presentations
- Performing procedures common to the specialty

APPLICATION PROCESS

The BCUCM application, along with comprehensive information, is available online at www.BCUCM.org. Compete and return the attached reply card to receive a complete BCUCM information kit.



Board of Certification in Urgent Care Medicine® 5550 West Executive Drive • Suite 400 Tampa, Florida 33609-1035 Phone: 813-433-2277 • Fax: 813-830-6599 www.bcucm.org

HIGHLIGHTS OF BCUCM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Eligibility to take the BCUCM exam is available to both allopathic and osteopathic, residency-trained physicians practicing urgent care medicine in the U.S. and Canada
- Applicants must be fully trained and have verifiable practice experience in urgent care
- All applicants must have completed a residency in an ACGME or AOA approved training program and be practicing urgent care medicine full-time (at least 1400 clinical hours per year)
- Applicants who have completed a residency in Family Practice, Emergency Medicine, combined Internal Medicine/Pediatrics, combined Family Practice/Emergency Medicine, combined Internal Medicine/Emergency Medicine, or combined Pediatrics/ Emergency Medicine must have at least 2800 hours of practice experience in urgent care medicine over the past 2 years
- Applicants who have completed a residency other than the above must have at least 7000 hours of practice experience in urgent care medicine over the past 5 years
- Applicants who have completed one of the approved fellowship programs are eligible for the exam at any time after completing their fellowship

For complete details regarding eligibility requirements, please visit www.BCUCM.org

