

SUBJECT: Osteopathic Continuous Certification (OCC)

SUBMITTED BY: California Society of American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFPP)

REFERRED TO: 2016 American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFPP)
Congress of Delegates

RESOLUTION NO. 9

- 1 WHEREAS, while the current method of requiring family medicine board certification requires an
2 exam every eight years with maintenance of certification has some benefit for some
3 physicians to assure competency, there is dissatisfaction for many physicians due to the
4 maintenance of certification modules, expense, time required away from practice, and
5 condensed study requirements; and
- 6 WHEREAS, development of a new additional pathway for continuous maintenance of board
7 certification could provide physicians continuous lifetime board certification provided
8 these physicians enroll and are compliant in the continuous life-long board certification
9 teaching modules; and
- 10 WHEREAS, a new method of continuous life-long board certification would allow the American
11 Osteopathic Board of Family Physicians (AOBFP) a method to identify specific subsections
12 of medicine and surgery based on scope of practice that could be continually reinforced and
13 tested in a method that provides for optimum patient outcomes; and
- 14 WHEREAS, offering of a continuous life-long certification CME process could attract new residency
15 graduates of the ACGME Single Accreditation System to AOBFP, especially since the ACGME
16 is proposing to eliminate the requirement to take American Osteopathic Association (AOA)
17 board certification for 80% of graduates from Osteopathic Recognized residency programs;
18 and
- 19 WHEREAS, current experience with osteopathic residency graduates from dually accredited
20 programs result in a majority of the DO residents opting for the American Board of Medical
21 Specialists (ABMS) examination which will likely continue under a Single Accreditation
22 System and result in the loss of AOA membership, and
- 23 WHEREAS, this flexibility would allow AOA to offer CME, maintenance of licensure, and board
24 certification for all physicians in Osteopathic CME recognized programs by including them
25 in this new osteopathic board certification method; now, therefore be it
- 26 RESOLVED, that the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFPP) requests that the
27 American Osteopathic Association (AOA) and the American Osteopathic Board of Family
28 Physicians (AOBFP) study, develop, and promote a continuous life-long board certification
29 pathway for residents and physicians who choose AOA/AOBFP board certification utilizing
30 continuous learning.

ACTION _____