Preparing for Board Certification in the Clinical Informatics Subspecialty

Creating the Clinical Informatics Subspecialty

From 2007-2008, AMIA worked to define the core content of the clinical informatics subspecialty and the training requirements for proposed clinical informatics fellowships. The American Board of Preventive Medicine (ABPM) and the American Board of Pathology (ABP) agreed to sponsor the application for a new subspecialty examination. In March 2010, the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) received the application for the subspecialty certification. After an extensive review by the ABMS specialty boards and the ABMS Committee on Certification (COCERT), the ABMS Board approved the proposal in 2011.

Importance of the Clinical Informatics Subspecialty

With increasing investment in health information technology (HIT) by hospitals, health systems and practitioners, the clinical informatics discipline is seen as vital — and much more than “computers in medicine.” Clinical informatics is a body of knowledge and discipline that is transforming health care. By analyzing, designing, implementing, and evaluating information and communication systems, clinical informatics improves patient care, strengthens the clinician-patient relationship, and enhances individual and population health outcomes.

Who Can Become Certified?

Physicians certified by any of the ABMS member boards — and who have 3+ years of clinical informatics practice (25% FTE) within the immediate past 5 years — may be eligible to certify in clinical informatics through an exam offered by the ABPM.

*Note: Pathologists can apply only through the ABP.

Why Become Certified?

Physicians who become certified are truly clinical informatics pioneers. As of January 2016 there are 1,105 physicians across the country who are board-certified clinical informaticians. Each December, a new group of physicians will gain professional recognition as a Diplomate (those who pass the Exam). Since clinical informatics is such a new subspecialty, each Diplomate becomes a de facto Ambassador for the profession. As each Diplomate demonstrates his/her HIT leadership in the workplace, s/he contributes to advances in the profession.

Don’t wait to get certified.

Practice pathway eligibility only lasts through 2017. In 2018 clinical informatics Board certification will only be available after completion of an accredited two-year fellowship.
Studying for the Board Exam
AMIA has designed a Clinical Informatics Board Review Course (CIBRC) Learning Program to meet the educational needs of physicians across the country.

Which Course is for You?

CIBRC Online Plus: An on-demand, in-depth course with practice tests, a simulated Board Exam, and a Competency Tracker that creates a customized eLearning curriculum based on your assessment results — accessible at your convenience.

CIBRC Live, Face-to-Face Course: This intensive course is led by distinguished faculty and leaders in clinical informatics education. For upcoming dates and locations, go to www.amia.org/meetings-and-events.

CIBRC Bundle: Most board exam eligible physicians combine face-to-face and online education for the most comprehensive learning experience available.

CIBRC Test: From a simulated Board Exam to learner-generated tests, you will receive a thorough self-assessment.

2016 Key Dates

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Apply to Sit for Board Exam through ABPM or ABP</td>
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<tr>
<td>June – July</td>
<td>Late Registration (additional fees apply)</td>
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<tr>
<td>March – October</td>
<td>Study for Board Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Take Board Exam</td>
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<td>December 2016/January</td>
<td>Diplomates Announced</td>
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CIBRC Learning – Not Just for Board Certification

Do you want to advance your career skills and earn CME?
With the CIBRC Learning Program, you can test your competence in clinical informatics and earn up to 24 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ of CME.

Links for More Information

- The ABPM website features current information on the Board Exam www.theabpm.org. Pathologists go to www.abpath.org
- For Board Prep Exam learning resources, visit www.AMIA.org and Learn.AMIA.org
- Eligibility requirements are available at http://theabpm.org/applicationci/ci_requirements.pdf
- List of ACGME accredited Clinical Informatics Fellowship Programs https://www.amia.org/programs/academic-forum/clinical-informatics-fellowships