

EMS Board Certification...  
Continues

The Journey



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NAEMSP: Annual Meeting | January 8-13, 2018 | Manchester Grand Hyatt | San Diego, CA

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Disclosures

- Editor-In-Chief, EMS Question Bank and EMS In Training Exam
- Contributor, ACEP/NAEMSP Board Review Course

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In Brent We Trust

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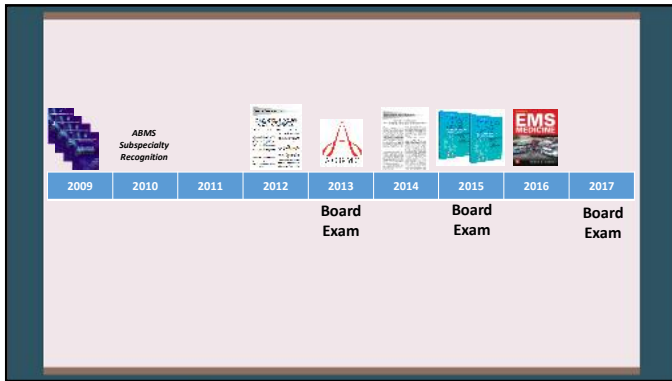
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### The Good News

- There are now 655 Board Certified EMS Physicians
- ABEM EMS Board Certification is being incorporated into medical director job qualifications

Year	Meeting Location	Participants
2018	Marriott Marlin Park Hotel, Las Vegas, NV	200
2017	Four Seasons Resort & Spa, Maui, HI	1,125
2016	Marriott Marlin Park Hotel, Las Vegas, NV	214
2015	Four Seasons Resort & Spa, Maui, HI	275
2014	Marriott Marlin Park Hotel, Las Vegas, NV	244
2013	Four Seasons Resort & Spa, Maui, HI	16
2012	Marriott Marlin Park Hotel, Las Vegas, NV	321
2011	Hyatt Regency Coconut Point, Boca Raton, FL	248
2010	Four Seasons Resort & Spa, Maui, HI	281
2009	Jackassville Hyatt - Jacksonville, FL	331
2008	Palace Hilton Aspen Park - Phoenix, AZ	372
2007	The Naples Grande Resort - Naples, FL	401
2006	Hilton St. Christopher - Tampa, AZ	447
2005	The Regency Resort - Naples, FL	474
2004	Hilton St. Christopher - Tampa, AZ	282
2003	Marriott Marlin Park Hotel - Las Vegas, NV	324
2002	Walden La Palmetta Resort & Spa - Tallahassee, FL	248
2001	Marriott Marlin Park Hotel & Spa - Fort Myers, FL	244
2000	Marriott Marlin Park Hotel - Las Vegas, NV	284
1999	Marriott Marlin Park Hotel & Golf Club - Miami Island, FL	292
1998	Walden La Palmetta Resort & Spa - Tallahassee, FL	200

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- Non-ACGME fellowship trained physicians will no longer be able to apply after the 2019 application cycle
- Candidates have 4 testing cycles to pass the test

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### Grandfathers (and Grandmothers)

- The EMS practice pathways will close at the end of the 2019 application cycle
- Practice Pathway
  - Within the past 6 years, must have “completed a minimum of 60 months of EMS practice of at least 400 hours per year”
- Practice + Training Pathway
  - Completed and “Acceptable”, Uncredited Fellowship\* and
  - Within the past 6 years, must have “completed a minimum of 24 months of EMS practice of at least 400 hours per year”

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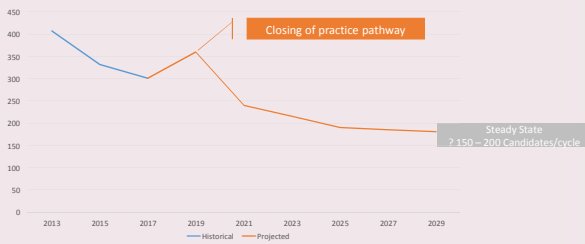
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### Candidates Per Exam Cycle



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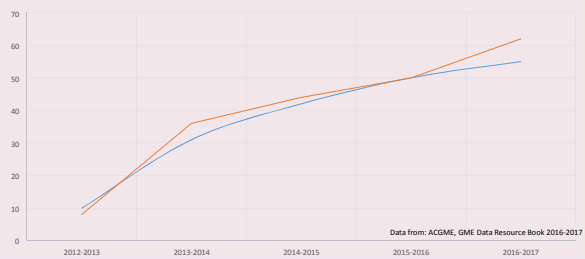
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### ACGME Accredited Fellows/Programs



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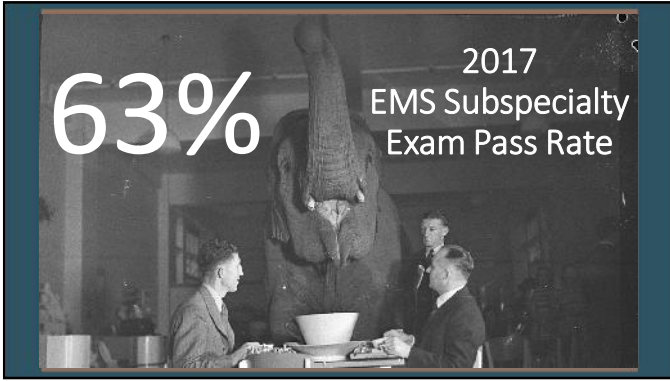
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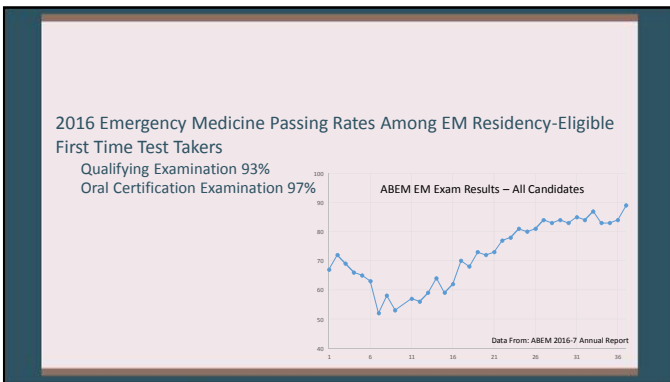
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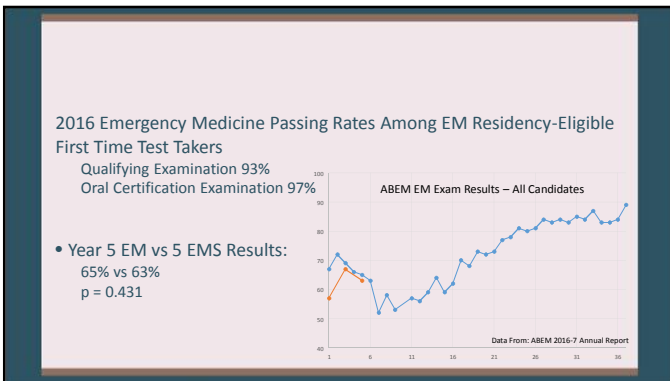
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"The purpose of subspecialty certification in EMS, as defined by ABEM, **is to standardize physician training and qualifications for EMS practice**, to improve patient safety and enhance the quality of emergency medical care provided to patients in the prehospital environment, and to facilitate integration of prehospital patient treatment into the continuum of patient care."

The EMS Examination Task Force, American Board of Emergency Medicine. "The core content of emergency medical services medicine." *Prehospital Emergency Care* 16.3 (2012): 309-322.

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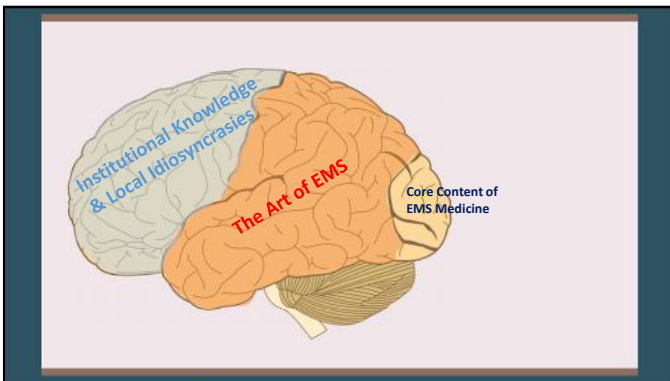
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**“Our results identified gaps in our EMS system** that we were able to address in the form of policy and protocol workgroups. We recognize that our review of the text and the recommendations we generated from this review are not a “one size fits all” ... but rather a ~~standardized approach.”~~



Tataris, K., Mercer, M., & Brown, J. (2015). Translation of EMS Clinical Practice and System Oversight from Core Content Study Guide to Best Practices Implementation in an Urban EMS System. *Prehospital Emergency Care*, 19(2), 302-307.

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**EMS Question Bank**

2015 Board Certification Rate



Clamency, Brian, et al. "Association between EMS Question Bank Completion and Passing Rates on the EMS Certification Examination". *Prehospital Emergency Care* (2017): 3-6.

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**2015/2016 & 2016/2017 In Training Exam**

- 168 items based on the EMS Core Content and Exam Blueprint
- Total Fellows = 111
- ACGME fellows = 99
- Scores predictive of obtaining board certification

	Projected Passing Rate	Actual Passing Rate
≥ 80.0%	100%	100%
70.0 - 79.0%	90%	90%
60.0 - 69.9%	49%	55%
< 60.0%	11%	29%

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### What Can ABEM Do?

- Further break down the exam blueprint
  - Emergency medicine model of clinical practice is broken down into 20 content areas, the largest of which represents 10% of the exam. It is further divided by Acuity Frames and Physician Tasks.
  - EMS exam blueprint is broken down into 4 content area, the smallest of which represents 10% of the exam.
- Offer an In Training Exam when feasible

ABEM. Qualifying Examination Content Specifications. [www.abem.org](http://www.abem.org)  
 ABEM. EMS - Overview. [www.abem.org](http://www.abem.org).

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### What Can We Do?

- Create high quality primary source material
- Harmonize references and text books
- Work to improve study materials/review courses/practice items
- Study (and then study some more)
- Take the Test Again

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### The Journey Continues...



"The decision by ABMS is one measure of success and validation for thousands of EMS physicians.  
**However, the greater success lies not within this destination, but rather in the journey to come.** That journey shall be a road to maturing the new subspecialty, expecting EMS subspecialty certification for EMS medical directors, continuing research efforts, ensuring vigorous application of science and evidence to improve care, and realizing a vision of EMS practice as an attribute of our health care system for the benefit of the population we serve."

Delbridge T, Perina D. "Emergency medical services: a journey to subspecialty." *Prehospital Emergency Care* 15.1 (2011): 1-3.

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