Professional Development and the Transformation of American Healthcare

As part of its ongoing series of forums with special guests, the Board convened a discussion with invited healthcare leaders on “Professional Development and the Transformation of American Healthcare.” The guests, Board members, and ACCME member organization liaisons discussed their vision for how the ACCME and the CME community could evolve to support efforts to transform American healthcare. They addressed questions such as:

- How can we create synergy between the shared goals of our organizations to promote clinician well-being, team development, and the provision of safe, cost-effective care?
- How should we collaborate to elevate the role and value of education as a key asset for clinician behavior change?
- How do we maximize the effectiveness of accredited continuing education in helping to solve public health imperatives?

The Board appreciates the thoughtful perspectives shared by the invited guests:

- Helen Burstin, MD, MPH, FACP, Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer, Council of Medical Specialty Societies
- Kate Goodrich, MD, MHS, Director, Center for Clinical Standards and Quality, and Chief Medical Officer, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- Richard Hawkins, MD, President and Chief Executive Officer, American Board of Medical Specialties
- Adrienne White-Faines, MPA, FACHE, Chief Executive Officer, American Osteopathic Association

Strategic Plan: Leveraging the Power of Education

The Board adopted a new strategic plan for 2018–2021, which delineates the ACCME’s goals to drive transformation in the learning environment, support the continuing medical education (CME) community, and simplify and align regulatory systems. Comprised of six priority areas, the strategic plan expresses the ACCME’s vision for leveraging the power of education to improve the quality of care for the patients and communities we serve:

To build its vision of the future, the Board and executive leadership engaged in a strategic review of ACCME’s trajectory, identified opportunities and challenges, and interviewed stakeholders to gain their insights and perspectives. The strategic plan is available on the ACCME website.
Accreditation Decisions
The Board ratified 57 accreditation and 14 progress report decisions.

Reaccreditation
- 22 continuing medical education (CME) providers achieved Accreditation with Commendation.
- 26 CME providers achieved Accreditation. Of those, 14 providers need to submit progress reports.
- 4 CME providers received Probation and need to submit progress reports.

Initial Applicants
- 2 initial applicants successfully achieved Provisional Accreditation.
- 3 initial applicants did not achieve Provisional Accreditation.

Progress reports
- 11 CME providers demonstrated compliance with all the requirements previously found in noncompliance.
- 3 CME providers did not yet demonstrate compliance with all requirements.

Currently, there are 1,770 providers in the ACCME System, including ACCME-accredited, state-accredited, and jointly accredited providers.

Complaints Process
The Board ratified two complaint decisions. The activities that were the subject of complaints were reviewed by the ACCME and by independent reviewers. The CME providers were found in Noncompliance with the CME Clinical Content Validation Policy. In accordance with the Process for Handling Complaints regarding ACCME-Accredited Providers, the providers are required to provide corrective information to the learners, faculty, and planners; they are also required to submit a report to the ACCME describing the actions they took and the information that was transmitted.

Elections
The Board was pleased to elect Steven Craig, MD, to serve on the ACCME Board of Directors.