



NEWS RELEASE

ABMS Media Contact: Rich Waters
(312) 436-2626
rwaters@abms.org

Winthrop Media Contact: Leanna Cherry
(516) 663-2234
LCherry@winthrop.org

ABMS MULTI-SPECIALTY PORTFOLIO PROGRAM ADDS WINTHROP UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Program Reflects Evolution to Align Initiatives for Physicians to Maintain Board Certification, Improve Patient Care

Chicago, IL – March 27, 2017. The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) today announced that the Winthrop-University Hospital (WUH) has joined the ABMS Multi-Specialty Portfolio Program (Portfolio Program). WUH physicians who are Board Certified by one of the 21 ABMS Member Boards participating in the Portfolio Program may now obtain ABMS Maintenance of Certification (MOC) credit for participation in organizational quality improvement (QI) initiatives. The new WUH “MOC Program” is one of 83 Portfolio Program participants which include hospitals, health systems, medical societies and healthcare organizations from across the country.

“Our goal is to provide our physicians an easy way to align the QI work they are doing and fulfill their ABMS MOC requirements. We value our physicians and would like to support them in this process, and are delighted to be an ABMS Portfolio Program sponsor,” said Maria Lyn Quintos-Alagheband, MD, FAAP, Director of the Performance Improvement Science Academy at Winthrop and Quality/Safety Officer for Children Services at the Winthrop Children’s Medical Center.

The Quality Improvement Maintenance of Certification (QI-MOC) Subcommittee of the Continuing Professional Education Committee (CPEC) will oversee the WUH program, which will be managed by Winthrop’s Office of Continuing Medical Education/Continuing Education (CME/CE). The WUH MOC Program team will work closely with the QI department to facilitate and build skills in improvement science while offering *Improvement in Medical Practice* (MOC Part IV) credit to approved QI projects at Winthrop. These QI initiatives locally initiated and implemented organization-wide, will benefit Winthrop patients as well as provide valuable learning opportunities for the hospital’s more than 1,300 Board Certified physicians.

“The Portfolio Program was developed to offer Board Certified physicians the opportunity to obtain MOC credit for practice-relevant QI initiatives they are participating in at their institutions, and are potentially applicable across a multitude of specialties,” said David W. Price, MD, FAAFP, FACEHP, Executive Director of the Portfolio Program. “Winthrop’s commitment to engaging their physicians in MOC QI activities is evident in their establishment of this new program and will have a direct impact on improving patient safety and care.”

“The Winthrop MOC Program will help coordinate and elevate the hospital’s substantial quality improvement efforts to affect overall systematic changes,” said Rob Armstrong Martin, MBA, CHCP, Assistant Dean and Director of Continuing Medical Education at Winthrop. “The CME/CE Office embraces academic credentialing of high priority performance improvement interventions, which include all of the Institute of Medicine’s six dimensions*, and we feel that participation in the ABMS Portfolio Program will encourage our faculty to participate more broadly in QI initiatives.”

To date, the Portfolio Program has helped engage more than 12,000 physicians in quality and practice improvement initiatives at hospitals and health systems across the country, with many showing improvement in care outcomes. Since its inception, more than 1,700 improvement efforts have been completed by Portfolio Program participants.

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* Donald M. Berwick, A User’s Manual For The IOM’s ‘Quality Chasm’ Report. Health Affairs, 21 no. 3 (2002): 80-90.

About ABMS

Established in 1933, the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) continues to be the leading not-for-profit organization overseeing physician certification in the United States. ABMS establishes the standards its 24 Member Boards use to develop and implement educational and professional evaluation, assessment, and certification of physician specialists. More than 860,000 physicians are certified in one or more of the approved 37 specialties and 86 subspecialties offered by the [ABMS Member Boards](#). For more information about ABMS, visit abms.org or call (312) 436-2600.

About Winthrop University Hospital

Founded in 1896 by a group of local physicians and concerned citizens, Long Island’s first voluntary hospital is a 591-bed university-affiliated medical center and ACS Level I Trauma Center offering a full scope of inpatient and outpatient programs and services to address every stage of life.

Ever changing and growing with the diverse community it serves, Winthrop is, in many ways, a unique institution, simultaneously large and small, regional as well as local. Winthrop has the country’s highest volume CyberKnife Center and is one of the busiest TAVR centers in the country. It is the first Baby Friendly Hospital on Long Island, and has a Magnet-designated nursing staff. Recognized by Healthgrades as one of the top five percent of hospitals in the U.S. for clinical excellence, Winthrop successfully blends the progressive philosophy, sophistication and advances of a teaching and research institution with a personal approach to patient care – an approach that has become the cornerstone of our organization.

For more information about the breadth and depth of services at Winthrop, call 1-866-WINTHROP or visit www.winthrop.org.