



NEWS RELEASE

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PHOENIX CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL JOINS ABMS MULTI-SPECIALTY PORTFOLIO PROGRAM

*Board Certified Physicians Participating in Quality Improvement Initiatives
Will Earn Maintenance of Certification Credit*

CHICAGO – April 24, 2018 – The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) today announced that Phoenix Children's Hospital (PCH), the largest pediatric hospital in the state of Arizona, has joined ABMS' Multi-Specialty Portfolio Program™ (Portfolio Program). Physicians who are Board Certified by one of the 20 of 24 ABMS Member Boards participating in the Portfolio Program can now earn Maintenance of Certification (MOC) *Improvement in Medical Practice* (Part IV) credit for their involvement in the hospital's Quality Improvement (QI) activities.

The ABMS Portfolio Program at PCH will be available to two groups of physicians – the 400-plus physicians employed by PCH's hospital-based medical group, and the more than 1,000 community-based physicians who make up the Phoenix Children's Care Network (PCCN), which is the largest pediatric-dedicated, clinically-integrated organization in Arizona.

PCH has developed an MOC Committee to review and evaluate whether QI activities meet Portfolio Program standards for MOC Part IV credit. The MOC Committee is governed by leaders from PCH's Continuing Medical Education Department and Quality Department.

PCH has a number of completed and ongoing QI projects, which have already received MOC Part IV approval through the American Board of Pediatrics. Those include:

- “Best Practice Alert to Reduce CT Use in Children with Minor Head Injury” which has significantly reduced unnecessary head CTs in children receiving care in the PCH Emergency Department, thereby reducing both cost and radiation exposure, and
- “Reducing Time to Antibiotic Administration for Febrile, Neutropenic Patients by Using a Clinical Pathway in the Emergency Department” which has substantially decreased the time to antibiotic administration in oncology patients presenting to the Emergency Department with fever and low white blood cell counts, thereby improving outcomes in oncology patients with sepsis.

“Phoenix Children’s Hospital is a recognized leader in patient safety and quality, in keeping with our mission to provide hope, healing, and the best care for children and families,” said Micah Olson, MD, Director, Continuing Medical Education, Phoenix Children’s Hospital. “We see the ABMS Portfolio Program as a means to engage our physicians in quality improvement work and support their efforts at lifelong learning. This program has enhanced our efforts to improve patient experience, increase patient safety, and provide high value pediatric healthcare.”

“We are pleased to welcome the Phoenix Children’s Hospital as an ABMS Portfolio Program sponsor. Physician engagement is essential to the long-term success of QI initiatives,” stated David W. Price, MD, FAAFP, FACEHP, Executive Director of the Portfolio Program. “PCH’s participation in the Portfolio Program provides additional recognition of the important work these physicians and their teams are undertaking to improve the care of patients throughout the state of Arizona and the greater Southwest.”

To date, the ABMS Portfolio Program has helped engage physicians in QI and practice improvement initiatives at hospitals and health systems across the country, with many showing improvement in care outcomes. Since its inception, more than 2,600 improvement efforts have been completed by Portfolio Program participants.

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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 880,000 physicians are certified in one or more of the approved 39 specialties and 86 subspecialties offered by the [ABMS Member Boards](#). For more information about ABMS, visit abms.org or call (312) 436-2600.

About Phoenix Children’s Hospital

Phoenix Children’s Hospital is Arizona’s only children’s hospital recognized by U.S. News & World Report’s Best Children’s Hospitals with rankings in all ten specialties. Phoenix Children’s provides world-class inpatient, outpatient, trauma, emergency and urgent care to children and families in Arizona and throughout the Southwest. As one of the largest children’s hospitals in the country, Phoenix Children’s provides care across more than 75 pediatric specialties. The Hospital is poised for continued growth in quality patient care, research and medical education. For more information about the hospital, visit <http://www.phoenixchildrens.org>.

About Phoenix Children’s Care Network

Phoenix Children’s Care Network is a physician-led, pediatric-focused and clinically-integrated organization that represents a valuable alliance between and among community pediatricians and subspecialists, with the collective focus on improving quality of care while effectively managing associated costs. It was the first pediatric network in the U.S. to achieve Utilization Review Accreditation Committee (URAC) accreditation as a clinically-integrated network. With more than 1,000 providers, it is the largest pediatric clinically-integrated organization in Arizona. A total of 85 percent of specialists and 65 percent of primary care providers in the state participate in the care network. For access to the very best pediatric care, make sure PCCN physicians are in your health insurance network. For more information, visit www.pccn.org.