



NEWS RELEASE

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AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION, UPPER MIDWEST REGION JOINS ABMS MULTI-SPECIALTY PORTFOLIO PROGRAM

Program Offers Participating Physicians an Opportunity to Maintain Board Certification and Improve Patient Health and Safety

CHICAGO – May 21, 2018 – The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) today announced that the American Lung Association, Upper Midwest Region 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 American Lung Association’s Quality Improvement (QI) activities.

The Lung Association program will have a special focus on health clinics, hospitals, and health systems and physicians in Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Wisconsin, but it will be available to any systems or physicians affiliated with the American Lung Association who would like to participate. This program is available to all Lung Association affiliated clinic types – small, large, urban, suburban or rural, independent or large delivery systems, residency programs, and university-based, as well as for specific populations, such as the Indian Health Service.

The “Enhancing Asthma Care Program” is one of the QI initiatives the organization will offer for MOC credit through the Portfolio Program. This program works with primary and specialty clinics to ensure guidelines-based asthma care. It engages with clinics for up to one year and improves quality indicators and health utilization. To date, the Enhancing Asthma Care Program has worked with more than 300 primary and special care clinics and 2,500 providers.

“This is a significant win for the Lung Association’s work in helping people with asthma breathe better and live better lives. We look forward to working with physicians who are looking to actively participate in every step of our asthma quality improvement project,” said Jill Heins, senior regional director of lung health for the Lung Association. “The Lung Health Team has been working on this approval for nearly two years, so it’s an honor to join the Portfolio Program’s list of distinguished partners.”

“We are pleased to welcome the Lung Association as an ABMS Portfolio Program sponsor. The organization has a long-standing tradition of offering essential health programming in the community,” stated David W. Price, MD, FAAFP, FACEHP, executive director of the Portfolio Program. “The Lung Association’s participation in the Portfolio Program will allow them to recognize physicians currently participating in their community-based QI programming by facilitating MOC credit, while at the same time, encouraging others to engage in important community health improvement programs.”

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 American Lung Association

The American Lung Association is the leading organization working to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease, through research, education and advocacy. The work of the American Lung Association is focused on four strategic imperatives: to defeat lung cancer; to improve the air we breathe; to reduce the burden of lung disease on individuals and their families; and to eliminate tobacco use and tobacco-related diseases. For more information about the American Lung Association, a holder of the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Guide Seal, or to support the work it does, call 1-800-LUNGUSA (1-800-586-4872) or visit: Lung.org.