

ABMS Member Board Focused Practice Designation

The focused practice designation, approved by ABMS in March 2017, recognizes the value that physicians who focus some or all their practice within a specific area of a specialty and/or subspecialty can provide to improving health care. Focused practice designation enables the ABMS Member Boards to set standards for, assess, and acknowledge additional expertise that physicians gain through clinical experience, and may include formal training.

ABMS MEMBER BOARDS WITH APPROVED FOCUSED PRACTICE DESIGNATIONS				
American Board	Area of Focused Practice	Active Certification Requirement	Year Approved by ABMS	First Issued
Emergency Medicine	Advanced Emergency Medicine Ultrasonography	Emergency Medicine	2018	2022
Family Medicine	Hospital Medicine ¹	Family Medicine	2017	2010
Neurological Surgery	Central Nervous System Endovascular Surgery	Neurological Surgery	2017	2020
	Neurological Critical Care		2018	2021
	Pediatric Neurological Surgery		2017	2018
Obstetrics and Gynecology	Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery	Obstetrics and Gynecology	2019	2022
	Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology		2017	2018
Ophthalmology	Retina	Ophthalmology	2024	††
Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery	Adult Complex Thyroid/Parathyroid Surgery	Otolaryngology	2022	††
Pathology	Clinical Chemistry	Pathology- Anatomic/Pathology-Clinical OR Pathology-Clinical	2017	2020
	Clinical Microbiology			
Psychiatry and Neurology	Central Nervous System Endovascular Surgery	Neurology	2018	2022
Radiology	Central Nervous System Endovascular Surgery	Diagnostic Radiology OR Interventional and Diagnostic Radiology, and Neuroradiology Surgery	2018	2022
Surgery	Adult Complex Thyroid/Parathyroid Surgery	Surgery	2022	††
	Metabolic Bariatric Surgery	Surgery	2019	2022

¹ The American Board of Internal Medicine stopped issuing focused practice in Hospital Medicine in 2024.

†† Designation not yet issued.



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