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March 21, 2017

Benjamin Doolittle, MD  
President, MPPDA  
Director, Internal Medicine-Pediatrics Residency Program  
Yale-New Haven Hospital  
20 York Street, Ste. 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New Haven, CT 06706

Dear Dr. Doolittle:

ABIM is delighted to extend congratulations to the Medicine Pediatrics Program Director Association and the entire Med-Peds community on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the formal recognition of combined training in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics as a pathway to certification in both disciplines. Physicians having expertise in both Internal Medicine and Pediatrics are able to manage complex diseases as well as provide primary care to their patients continuously through their lives. Training “doctors for adults and children” for 50 years is a great accomplishment that has now benefited generations of patients.

The curriculum developed in the late 1960s collaboratively by the American Board of Internal Medicine and the American Board of Pediatrics was designed to ensure the high standards of excellent patient care held by both Boards. In 1967, the ABIM Board of Directors stated:

At the June 19 meeting it evolved that with minimum modification of the training requirements of both Boards a physician could qualify for standard certification by both Boards. Thereby there might be certified a small group of leadership physicians some of whom might be expected to devote themselves particularly to the academic aspects of training the primary physician. Such men would take the separate written examinations of the two Boards and they would take two oral examinations which might be arranged on the same day. A total training program might involve essentially two years of pediatrics and two years of Internal Medicine. Dr. Swisher hoped that the Board would attempt to accommodate its requirements to such a program.

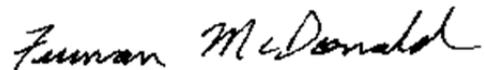
Indeed, the training model proposed in June 1967 remains largely in place today, though the methods of assessment have changed and the diversity of the trainees has increased; specifically, nearly 60% of the residents completing combined Med-Peds training in 2016 were women. Since its recognition for accreditation by ACGME, the numbers of physicians completing combined internal medicine-pediatrics training have grown into the thousands (see attachment). The success of Med-Peds training reflects the value of these combined specialties that goes well beyond the sum of their parts.

Once again, congratulations to you, MPPDA, and the entire Med-Peds community on this momentous 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

With warmest best regards,



Richard J. Baron, MD, MACP  
President and Chief Executive Officer



Furman S. McDonald, MD, MPH  
Senior Vice President for Academic and Medical  
Affairs  
Professor of Medicine

