



ALLIANCE

for ACADEMIC INTERNAL MEDICINE

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Even Better Together

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Dear Ben,

My first real exposure to med-peds was when I became chair of medicine in 1990 so I have had personal experience with your combined program for half its life. I quickly realized how important med-peds was both to Indiana University School of Medicine and the two sponsoring departments. More importantly, I have always been impressed by the unique contribution of med-peds in offering a continuum of care coupled with depth of care. I have always been impressed that the individuals seeking training in med-peds did it with their eyes wide open knowing they would have to master a broader knowledge and skills base than others, that they would have to work harder than others and they would spend more time training. Thus, one could always count on the med-peds residents being fully committed and having a strong sense of self and of mission. An anecdote is we were so impressed with our med-peds residents that we wanted to keep expanding the program. But our pediatrics colleagues worried the optics would be bad if we had more med-peds residents than pediatrics residents!

Your discipline has proven itself through these 50 years. You are vitally important to the academy and in serving as a backbone for what is needed in health care. I consider my time personally involved with med-peds training as a privilege. I can also extrapolate that personal experience to that of AAIM as we have worked closely with MPPDA to the benefit of both organizations. We feel so strongly about that we wish we did not have to share you with our pediatric colleagues!!

Sincerely,

D. Craig Brater, MD
President, Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine