

Chief Physician for Test Development Joins the NBOME

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Philadelphia, PA - July 21, 2016 - The National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME) is pleased to announce that Roberta A. Wattleworth, DO, MHA, MPH, FACOFP, has been named to the new position of Chief Physician for Test Development, Assessment Services for the NBOME.

In this new role, Dr. Wattleworth will provide expertise on the development and review of questions, or test items, that appear on NBOME cognitive examinations, including the COMLEX-USA Level 1, Level 2-CE and Level 3 examinations that provide the pathway to licensure for osteopathic physicians. She will serve as a content expert in partnership with NBOME National Faculty subject-matter experts to support test development initiatives, including test item and clinical case writing and editing, referencing, test item review, key validation, test item coding, and related quality assurance and improvement processes, as well as leading novel test item development for innovative initiatives.



A member of the NBOME Board of Directors since 2011, Dr. Wattleworth has worked closely with the NBOME since 2001 as an active member of the NBOME National Faculty. Among her many contributions, she served as Vice Coordinator for the COMLEX-USA Level 3 examination from 2005 to 2008, as Coordinator from 2008 to 2011, and as a committee member for the NBOME COMVEX examination, an evaluative instrument for physicians to demonstrate current osteopathic medical knowledge. She has served the NBOME Board with numerous initiatives, including the Advanced Item Committee and Clinical Decision-Making Task Force, and as Coordinator for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.

A board-certified specialist in family medicine, Dr. Wattleworth has over 20 years of experience in the medical education environment. A graduate of Des Moines University-College of Osteopathic Medicine, she completed residencies in both anesthesiology and family medicine, and has many years of experience as a practicing physician and medical educator. Most recently, Dr. Wattleworth was Associate Dean of Medical Education, and Professor of Family Medicine, at Liberty University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Lynchburg, Virginia. Previously, she served as Chair of the Department of Family Medicine and Professor of Family Medicine at Des Moines University-College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Dr. Wattleworth also holds master's degrees in public health and healthcare administration from Des Moines University-Osteopathic Medical Center and is a Fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (FACOFP).

"We are thrilled to have Dr. Wattleworth as a member of our staff," said John R. Gimpel, DO, MEd, NBOME President and Chief Executive Officer. "Her contributions to our Board have been immeasurable, and now as a staff member her expertise will continue to play an important role in our test development initiatives."

The NBOME is the leading assessment organization for the osteopathic medical profession. The COMLEX-USA examination series is a requirement for graduation from colleges of osteopathic medicine and provides the pathway to licensure for osteopathic physicians in the United States and numerous international jurisdictions.