

THE OSTEOPATHIC EXAMINER



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Welcome to the Osteopathic Examiner, a quarterly newsletter providing information about the NBOME's many activities in the arena of assessment for osteopathic competencies and related health care professions.

COMLEX-USA Recommendations for the Future; Latest Blue Ribbon Panel Update

The NBOME's Blue Ribbon Panel on Enhancing COMLEX-USA has published an update entitled *Enhancing COMLEX-USA - A Report by the Blue Ribbon Panel of the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners including recommendations and next steps*.

The report also includes a brief historical review of the committee. You can review the document on the NBOME's website at: <http://www.nbome.org/docs/BRP-Enhancing%20COMLEX-USA%20final%20March%202012.pdf>

Jeanne Sandella, DO, named new VP for Clinical Skills Testing



Jeanne Sandella, DO, was recently appointed NBOME Vice President of Clinical Skills Testing following a national search. Dr. Sandella will begin in this new role on April 1, 2012, replacing Dr. Erik Langenau, who has served in that position since 2008 and is now NBOME's Vice President for Continuous Professional Development and Innovations.

Dr. Sandella has been affiliated with the NBOME since 2002, and has served as the organization's full-time Associate Director for Case Development and Standardized Patient Training at the NBOME's National Center for Clinical Skills Testing (NCCST) since 2008. [Read the complete announcement](#)

Erik Langenau, DO, transitions to new role – VP for Continuous Professional Development & Innovation



The NBOME has appointment **Erik Langenau, DO as its first Vice President for Continuous Professional Development & Innovations**, as of January 1, 2012. Previously, Dr. Langenau was Vice President for Clinical Skills Testing.

Dr. Langenau will focus on the NBOME's exciting new initiatives in post-initial licensure for physicians, including resources for continuing medical education, osteopathic continuous certification and maintenance of licensure, as well as the activities and leadership of the NBOME's Blue Ribbon Panel on Enhancing COMLEX-USA. This new position takes the place of the former Director for Innovations in Testing.

Executive Committee Reviews Current Draft of NBOME Strategic Plan, 2012-2016

The NBOME's detailed and inclusive strategic planning process continued at its Executive Committee Meeting in Fort Worth, Texas, March 23-24, 2012. Executive Committee (EC) members reviewed the latest draft of the NBOME Strategic Plan 2012 – 2016, currently in development. The EC also reviewed feedback from the other NBOME Board

Members and NBOME's Senior Staff, and continued to shape the plan, aligning the essential elements of the Strategic Objectives with the NBOME's Mission, Vision and Core Values. EC and Board members will be reviewing additional materials in order to approve the final plan in June.

Historic Collaborative Meetings Held at NBOME Offices

The NBOME had the privilege of hosting two important meetings recently at our offices in Philadelphia and Chicago.

The Federation of State Medical Boards' (FSMB) Pentalateral Group on Maintenance of Licensure (MOL) Collaboration convened January 31, 2012 at the NBOME Executive Offices. The group included senior staff representation from the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB), the NBOME, the American Osteopathic Association's Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists (AOA-BOS), the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) and the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME). Potential collaborative projects to support the FSMB and state medical and osteopathic medical licensing board's MOL initiatives were discussed.

On February 13, 2012, the Coalition for Physician Accountability met at the NBOME's Chicago Corporate Offices and Conference Center. The Coalition is a partnership with 10 organizations entrusted by the government, the public and physicians, with the responsibility to promote the professional quality and accountability of physicians. Representing the NBOME were Board Chair Janice A. Knebl, DO, MBA; John E. Thornburg, DO, PhD; Secretary/Treasurer John W. Becher, DO; President &

CEO, John Gimpel, DO, Med; and Senior Vice President for Cognitive Testing, Gerald Osborn, DO, MPhil.

Participating organizations are those that comprise the physician assessment, accreditation, certification, and licensure collaborative across the medical profession. The NBOME is a charter member of the Coalition, which grew out of former collaborative efforts known by a number of names in the past decade, most recently as the FSMB-led National Alliance for Physician Competence, in which the NBOME has always participated.

Other charter members include the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, the American Board of Medical Specialties, the American Osteopathic Association, the Association of American Medical Colleges, the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates, the FSMB and the National Board of Medical Examiners.

Initial discussions have centered on aligning the self-regulation efforts of the medical profession across the medical practice continuum from education and training to lifelong learning/continuous professional development.

Important updates posted to NBOME website

A number of important informational updates were recently posted the NBOME website. Please take the time to read them to keep informed about notable developments across the organization, including a proposed policy change, COMLEX-USA scheduling and a significant change to the COMLEX-USA Level 2-Performance Evaluation.

March 15, 2012 - Read the latest announcements from the NBOME.

Proposed NBOME Policy Change on COMLEX-USA Individual Candidate Attempt Limits - Circulated for Public Comment - [Read more.](#)

COMLEX-USA Scheduling Updates - [Read more.](#)

Keyboard Entry Planned for COMLEX-USA Level 2-Performance Evaluation - [Read more.](#)

JAOA to Publish NBOME's Fundamental Osteopathic Medical Competency Domains 2011

For more than 20 years, NBOME mission statements have included the word "competencies," and the NBOME Board has long envisioned an organization that contributed to assessment across the continuum for the purposes of high quality medical education, training and patient care.

NBOME's "Fundamental Osteopathic Medical Competency Domains 2011" elaborates on the required elements and

measurable objectives of seven core competency domains for osteopathic medical practice, and this acclaimed report will be published as a supplement to the April 2012 osteopathic medical education issue of the *Journal of the American Osteopathic Association (JAOA)*.

2011 Item Writers, Case Author of the Year named

Congratulations to the NBOME Item Writers and Case Author of the year for 2011. Thank you for your contributions to our continuous efforts to ensure the high quality of the COMLEX-USA licensure examination series and the NBOME's efforts to fulfill our mission of protecting the public.

COMLEX-USA Level 1

Kenneth Hentschel, DO, PhD, St. Vincent's Healthcare Spine & Brain Institute

Kathy LePard, PhD, Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine of Midwestern University

COMLEX-USA Level 2-Cognitive Evaluation

Steven Perkins, DO, Franciscan Skemp Healthcare-Mayo Health System

COMLEX-USA Level 3

Michelle DeVoe, DO, Treasure Valley Pediatrics

Health Promotion/Disease Prevention

Meredith Davison, PhD, MPH, University of Oklahoma – Tulsa School of Community Medicine

Osteopathic Principles and Practice

Jan Hendryx, DO, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine

Case Author of the Year

COMLEX-USA Level 2-Performance Evaluation

John Hohner, DO, Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine of Midwestern University

NBOME a major sponsor of AACOM and FSMB meetings

In 2012, the NBOME has continued its sponsorship of the NBOME Luncheon at the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine's (AACOM) Annual Meeting, and is supporting the Federation of State Medical Board's (FSMB) Annual Meeting and Centenary Celebration as a Gold Sponsor.

The AACOM meeting was held March 28-31 in Washington, D.C., and for the seventh consecutive year, the NBOME sponsored the NBOME Update Luncheon for all participants. During the session, attendees heard senior NBOME leaders report on our current and planned activities. This year's agenda included updates on COMLEX-USA (both Cognitive and Clinical Skills Testing, as well as other topics), an update on progress made by the Blue

Ribbon Panel on Enhancing COMLEX-USA, and the latest on COMAT.

The NBOME will also be a very supportive partner when the FSMB gathers attendees, April 26-28 in Ft. Worth, Texas to celebrate 100 years of "promoting excellence in medical practice, licensure, and regulation as the national resource and voice on behalf of state medical and osteopathic boards in their protection of the public."

The NBOME regularly collaborates with the FSMB, and is among the organizations that will officially participate in the centenary celebration activities. NBOME representatives will also present an update covering COMLEX-USA, COMVEX and COMSAE activities.



COMAT by the Numbers

As of March 20th, more than 9,400 COMAT examinations had been administered at 19 colleges of osteopathic medicine.

NBOME Sponsors the AOA's National Osteopathic Advocacy Center Executive Reception Area

On March 8th, the AOA held the **Official Opening Ceremony for its National Osteopathic Advocacy Center (NOAC)**, the osteopathic medical profession's home in Washington, DC. The NBOME is proud to be the sponsor of the "The NBOME Executive Reception" area.

As part of the sponsorship, the NBOME mounted an exhibit containing historic materials, such as publications: Examination Questions (1950-52), Bulletin of Information (1995), and a Regulations, Constitution and By-Laws booklet (1976). Also displayed are the NBOME's logos over the years, the NBOME history book, and more recent materials which demonstrate not only the NBOME's new visual identity system, but the overall direction of the organization. These include the NBOME 2010 annual report, themed *Growth, Development and Progress*, and the recently published brochure on osteopathic continuous certification.



The following day in Washington, NBOME President & CEO, Dr. Gimpel, and NBOME Vice President for Administration & COO, Larry Turner, updated the 100-member house of delegates of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association on COMLEX-USA, COMSAE, COMAT and other NBOME services and initiatives.

Above: NBOME representatives are pictured at the NOAC opening ceremony (from left): President and CEO, Dr. John Gimpel, Board member, Dr. Geraldine O'Shea, Board Secretary/Treasurer, Dr. John Becher, Board member Dr. Ronald Burns, and Board member, Dr. Dana Shaffer. Also in attendance at the event, but not in photo, was Larry Turner, NBOME Vice President for Administration & COO. Other event attendees included current United States Surgeon General, Regina Benjamin, MD; Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) Chair, Jan Rhyne, MD; and FSMB President and CEO Hank Chaudhry, DO.

National Doctors Day

March 30 is National Doctors Day, a day to recognize and honor the work and contributions of physicians across the country. On this day, the NBOME acknowledges and thanks all the physicians among our Board members, National Faculty and staff. Your contributions to the NBOME and the health and well being of the American public are greatly appreciated. Thank you!

INTERESTED IN AN NBOME VISIT?

NBOME representatives regularly provide updates to groups and organizations wishing to learn the latest developments on the COMLEX-USA examination series for licensure and other assessment tools, such as the COMAT series of subject examinations, certification/ re-certification examinations, etc. If you would like an NBOME representative to visit your organization and give an update, please contact Taunya Cossetti at tcossetti@nbome.org

Send submissions, questions or comments about *The Osteopathic Examiner* to Editor:

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**THE NBOME'S MISSION
IS TO PROTECT THE
PUBLIC BY PROVIDING THE
MEANS TO ASSESS
COMPETENCIES FOR
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
AND RELATED HEALTH
CARE PROFESSIONS.**