ACOFP Brings Learning to You

Intensive Update & Board Review in Osteopathic Family Medicine

0.5 Category 1-B CME credits per module
14.5 Category 1-B CME credits for series

This popular ACOFP educational program can now be accessed through your own computer for in-office or in-home study. Purchase these modules, including audio and slides, through ACOFP’s eLearning Center at www.acofp.org.

OMT Video Procedures Online

0.5 Category 1-B credits per chapter, based on Somatic Dysfunction in Osteopathic Family Medicine.

View step-by-step demonstrations of 122 OMT procedures – ideal for preparing to take the practical portion of the AOBFP-recertification exam. These online OMT videos are available only through the ACOFP website and comes with an array of related educational resources to reinforce your learning. Visit ACOFP’s eLearning Center at www.acofp.org.

DO OMT iPhone App

DO OMT places osteopathic manipulative treatment procedures at your fingertips with 122 videos demonstrating easy-to-follow, step-by-step procedures. This app includes a searchable library and is a great resource for the Performance Evaluation portion of the AOBFP Certification and Recertification exams. Search by keyword “DO OMT” in the App Store.

DO Reflexes iPhone App

As part of the complete osteopathic physical examination, the recognition of viscerosomatic reflexes is an invaluable diagnostic tool.

DO Reflexes is easily searchable and allows you to identify the location of viscerosomatic reflexes and a somatosomatic. Search by keyword “DO Reflexes” in the App Store.

Know Your Requirements for Osteopathic Continuous Certification (OCC)

Dear AOA-Certified ACOFP Member:

Our certification as Osteopathic Family Physicians is taking on increasing importance due to government, public and media calls for accountability through ongoing documentation of practice performance. To provide the level of confidence expected by these entities and by our patients, the American Osteopathic Association is requiring all specialty certifying boards, including our family medicine specialty certifying board (The American Osteopathic Board of Family Physicians - AOBFP) to assess its diplomates on an ongoing basis through each certification cycle – thus, Osteopathic Continuous Certification (OCC) will begin on January 1, 2013.

Throughout this process, the AOBFP and the ACOFP have advocated on your behalf to make the process as applicable and easy as possible. As a service to its AOA-certified members, the ACOFP is providing you with 5’s for Family Physicians to Achieve Osteopathic Continuous Certification – an overview of the five components that you are required to fulfill over the eight-year OCC cycle.

What’s the Same?

- Current requirements will continue for unrestricted license, written and practical recertification exams, CME, and AOA membership.

What’s New?

- New is a requirement to demonstrate practice performance assessment and improvement that combines an initial round of chart extractions, completion of an online OCC educational unit, passing an online test for that unit, and an additional round of chart extractions. The number of required educational units varies based on the date of your current certification, according to the following phase-in schedule:

  2011-2012...complete four OCC units before the next recertification deadline
  2008-2010...complete two OCC units before the next recertification deadline
  2006-2007...no OCC units will be required until the next recertification cycle

OCC participation is mandatory for those with time-dated certificates, and it is highly recommended for those with non-time dated certificates, which are those dated prior to March 1997.

What is ACOFP’s role?

The ACOFP has collaborated with the American Osteopathic Board of Family Physicians (AOBFP) to supply educational units to complement the practice performance portion of OCC. As the specialty’s educational organization, ACOFP has worked with osteopathic educational institutions to develop the Diabetes Educational Unit and the Low Back Pain Education Unit. After the first chart extraction, you will access these units through the ACOFP website and receive AOA Category 1-B credit upon successful completion of the post tests. Then ACOFP will report your completion of that portion to the AOA and AOBFP.

The ACOFP post test is required to receive CME credit and is separate from the required online AOBFP exam.

What About Efforts to Require “Maintenance of Licensure”?

The Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) has recommended that participation in OCC be accepted by state medical boards as having completed any maintenance of licensure requirements that they may implement. AOA continues to work with FSMB and state medical boards as they consider the development of maintenance of licensure legislation.

To help you prepare for the cognitive and practical exams, the ACOFP offers several live and online resources that are described on the back page. We hope that these educational materials and this overview will help you to understand and achieve Osteopathic Continuous Certification!

Fraternally,

Paul A. Martin, DO, FACOFP dist.
ACOFP President
5 ‘s for Family Physicians to Achieve Osteopathic Continuous Certification

To fulfill the new AOA/AOBFP requirements for Osteopathic Continuous Certification (OCC) in Osteopathic Family Medicine, you will need to complete all five OCC Components during the eight-year OCC cycle.

What’s the Same?

- Component # 1 – Unrestricted License
  You will be required to provide verification of your licensure status prior to completion of Osteopathic Continuous Certification Assessment Program (OCCAP) measure sets in Component # 4 and prior to completion of the cognitive exam in Component #3.

- Component # 2 – Lifelong Learning/CME
  The AOA requires 120 CME hours, with 30 in AOA Category 1-A, and the AOBFP requires an additional 30 hours in Family Medicine that may be acquired in any category, for a total of 150 hours per three-year CME cycle.

- Component # 3 – Cognitive Assessment
  Complete these two exams any time during years 7 or 8 of the OCC cycle. The registration deadline is generally five months prior to the examination date.

  Part 1: The AOBFP currently offers the 200-question computerized exam two times per year on specified dates at regional locations.

  Part 2: The AOBFP offers the OMT performance exam two times per year at the ACOFP Annual Convention in March and the AOA OMED Convention in October. You must successfully demonstrate competency through the AOBFP performance evaluation.

- Component # 5 – Continuous AOA Membership
  Be a member in good standing for a continuous period of at least two years immediately prior to the date of application/examination and continuously thereafter.

What’s New?

- Component # 4 – Practice Performance Assessment & Improvement
  The new requirement is to demonstrate performance assessment and improvement in knowledge and skills, with scores compared to national benchmarks and standards of care based on documented evidence.

  You must complete two OCC educational units in years 1-3 of the OCC cycle, and two more in years 4-6 for a total of four OCC educational units in years 1-6. All educational units will only be accessible through the AOBFP’s web-based portal, which will link to the ACOFP website.

  To start Component # 4, pick the pathway that best matches your practice.

  Full Scope Clinical Practice Pathway
  - Complete one online OCC educational unit – either Diabetes or Low Back Pain.
  - Complete one online OCC educational unit – either Communication or Cultural Competency.

  Limited Scope Family Medicine Practice Pathway
  Must devote 90% or more of time in clinical practice to focused areas such as Sports Medicine, Occupational Medicine, etc.
  - Identify your own assessment tool that provides performance data demonstrating practice improvement in the specific area – prior AOBFP approval required.
  - Complete one online OCC educational unit – either Communication or Cultural Competency – including a web-based exam administered by AOBFP.

  For these two pathways, successful completion of an OCC educational unit requires the following steps be completed in order:
  1. Submit patient data from 20 charts to the OCCAP – the AOA’s online Osteopathic Continuous Certification Assessment Program – and receive a performance report.
  2. Complete the Educational Unit and pass an online exam administered by the AOBFP.
  3. Again, submit patient data from 20 charts to OCCAP and receive a performance report.

  Non-Clinical Practice Pathway
  For those in academic positions, healthcare executives, federal employees, etc.
  - Identify an assessment tool that does not require patient chart data, but provides performance data demonstrating practice improvement in the specific area – prior AOBFP approval required.
  - Complete one online OCC educational unit – either Communication or Cultural Competency – including a web-based exam administered by AOBFP.

OCC Starts on January 1, 2013