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President's Message

July 17, 2009

AAD Board of Directors Continues to Examine Subspecialty Certification in Procedural Dermatology Issue Despite ABD Decision to Postpone

As many of you are likely aware, the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) planned to consider an application for a subspecialty certification in Procedural Dermatology from the American Board of Dermatology (ABD) at a meeting in August. I wanted to inform you that the ABMS this week announced that it would postpone deliberation on the ABD application.

The American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) Board of Directors continues to monitor the situation and will have a strategic discussion about the proposed subspecialty certification in Procedural Dermatology at its August 1 meeting in Boston.

As background, the AAD Board began discussing the issue at its May meeting when it was first considering an AAD Advisory Board recommendation to oppose it. The Board postponed its deliberations to allow for the development of comprehensive background materials to inform such an important discussion. At the August meeting, the Board will be considering the many facets of the issue with the understanding that the specifics of the proposal may change as the ABD works to refine its application.

We encourage all interested parties to continue to be engaged in the process and work together to achieve an outcome that ultimately keeps our specialty on track to continue to ensure patient safety, improve the quality of health care and serve our patients well.

We will keep you informed about the AAD's position as this issue continues to develop.

Sincerely,

David M. Pariser, M.D., F.A.A.D.