



# NBOME Update: Osteopathic Medical Board of California

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President & Chief Executive Officer

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April 13, 2022

**NBOME**

NATIONAL BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL EXAMINERS



**NBOME**

**PROTECTING THE PUBLIC BY  
PROVIDING THE MEANS TO ASSESS  
COMPETENCIES FOR OSTEOPATHIC  
MEDICINE AND RELATED HEALTH  
CARE PROFESSIONS**

COMLEX-USA  
**EXAM CHANGES**

**Level 1 Changing from Numeric  
Scoring to Pass/Fail**

May 2022

**COMLEX-USA Attempt Limits  
Change from  
6 to 4**

July 2022

A photograph of four medical professionals in blue scrubs, with stethoscopes around their necks, gathered around a laptop. They are looking at the screen with focused expressions. The image has a blue color overlay.

# **SPECIAL COMMISSION**

# REPRESENTATION

## COMMISSION REPRESENTATION

\*Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)

American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) Board of Deans

American Association of Osteopathic Examiners (AAOE) / licensure

American Osteopathic Association (AOA)

AOA-Bureau of Emerging Leaders (BEL) / (student or resident)

AOA-Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) / (student)

Assembly of Osteopathic Graduate Medical Educators (AOGME)

Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA)

Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents (COSGP) / (student)

Educational Council on Osteopathic Principles (ECOP)

National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME) Board of Directors & National Faculty

Organization of Program Director Associations (OPDA)

Patient/Public Representative

## WORK OF THE COMMISSION

- Implemented **Enhanced Attestation Pathways** to Level 3 for **Classes of 2020 – 2023**
- Evidence for Clinical Skills Activities (ECSA) Inventory received from **90% of COMs**, informing the NBOME of current clinical skills assessment at the schools
- Finalizing recommendations to assure that the COMLEX-USA licensure examination pathway continues to evolve with the rapidly changing practice of osteopathic medicine, osteopathic medical education and health care

## Future of Clinical Skills Assessment: **KEY TAKEAWAYS**

**1.**

**The profession agrees that the assessment of clinical skills is important**

Verified by public group presentations through Summer 2021

**2.**

**The COMs can have a role in licensure assessment in the future**

Informed by the completion of the ECSA Inventory

**3.**

**It is important to have a national standard**

Recommendations focusing on these issues

# FINAL RECOMMENDATION THEMES

## RECOMMENDATION AREAS



**FUTURE of CLINICAL  
SKILLS ASSESSMENT**



**DIVERSITY, EQUITY  
& INCLUSION**



**EMERGING CONTENT  
& COMPETENCIES**



**TECHNOLOGY  
& TEST DELIVERY**

## NEXT STEPS



**April 13 - May 4**

Public commentary period



**June 2022**

Final recommendations go to  
NBOME Board of Directors



**July 2022**

Final report released



# OSTEOPATHIC DISTINCTIVENESS

- NBOME believes that an osteopathic distinctive exam is essential part of the osteopathic medical education and licensure path
- COMLEX-USA is the only exam that is accepted for licensure of DOs in all 50 states and serves to assess both the progress of osteopathic medical students and the competency of prospective osteopathic physicians
- COMLEX-USA is based on the osteopathic educational curriculum and unique exam blueprint including the seven (7) competency domains for practice of osteopathic medicine
- OMT/OMM is a subset of the wider range of osteopathic medical principles and practice
- COCA Standard 6.12: COMLEX-USA is key factor in COMs demonstrating “success in respect to student achievement in relation to the institution’s goals” under DOE regulations
- Resolution advocating for single licensure exam brought by AMA Medical Student Section for consideration at upcoming AMA meeting fails to consider many of these factors
- NBOME is in touch with interested parties including AMA staff and student leaders and will provide a formal written response; any Board feedback is welcomed

# DEFINING THE PRACTICE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

## **Defining the distinctive practice of osteopathic medicine: Building on the 2019 summit**

John R. Gimpel, DO, MEd  
*The DO, April 2022*

## **What is osteopathic medicine? A unified definition is desperately needed**


Brian Loveless, DO  
*The DO, March 2022*

## **Myths and Misconceptions: The Value of the COMLEX-USA Credential**

NBOME website

## **The Importance of Osteopathically Distinctive Assessment**

NBOME website



Read more at  
[nbome.org/blogs](https://nbome.org/blogs)



THANK YOU!

#DOProud | #NBOME | #COMLEX-USA / #RoadToDOLicensure

**NBOME**