

The Opinions of Neuromuscular Medicine Program Directors Regarding the ABEM-sponsored Board Certification in Electrodiagnostic Medicine and Certificate of Added Qualification in Neuromuscular Ultrasound

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Objectives

The American Board of Medical Specialties grants the most recognized board certifications in the United States. There exist other organizations that grant subspecialty board certifications and certificates of added qualifications (CAQ) to physicians that meet their qualifications, such as the American Board of Electrodiagnostic Medicine (ABEM). The purpose of this study was to assess the opinions of neuromuscular (NM) medicine fellowship program directors regarding ABEM-sponsored board certification in electrodiagnostic (EDX) medicine and certificate of added qualification (CAQ) in neuromuscular ultrasound (NMUS).

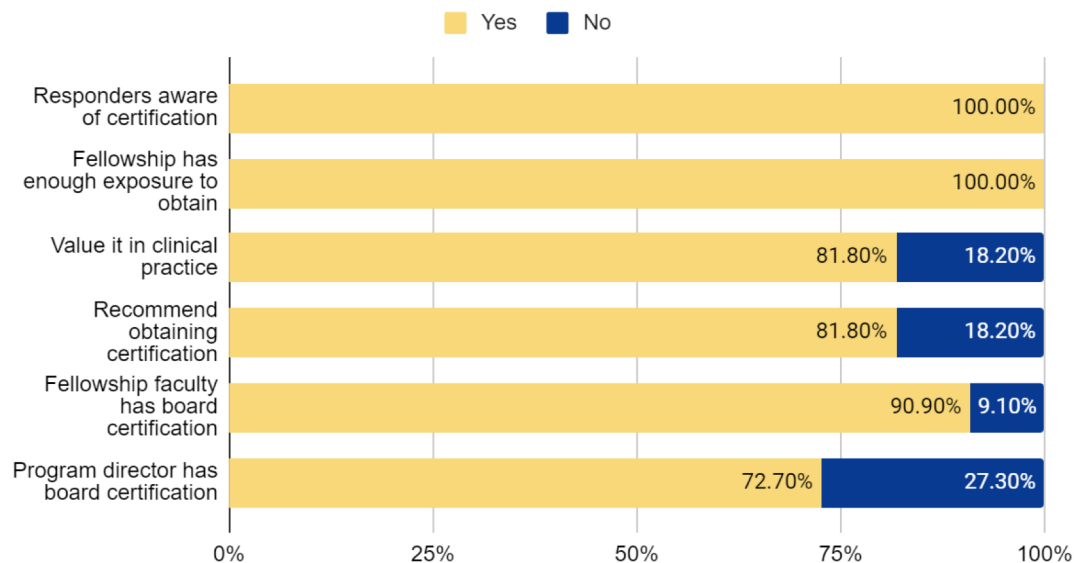
Design

A 20-question Google form survey was created regarding the ABEM-sponsored board certification in EDX medicine and CAQ in NMUS. This survey was then sent to program directors of the 52 ACGME-accredited NM medicine fellowships. Results were interpreted from the completed recorded responses.

Conclusions

While a majority of fellowship programs offer enough exposure to, see value in, and have fellows board-certified in EDX medicine, a minority offer enough exposure to NMUS. This is surprising considering over half of programs report value in obtaining CAQ in NMUS. This demonstrates reason for incorporation of ultrasound-trained PM&R fellows to NM fellowships.

Board Certification in Electrodiagnostic Medicine



Key Findings

This survey had a 21.2% response rate.

- 100% of respondents were aware of the board certification in EDX medicine and declared that their fellowship provided enough exposure to obtain it.
- 81.8% recommended obtaining this EDX board certification and valued it in clinical practice.
- 81.8% were aware of CAQ, 54.5% found it of value, and 36.4% recommended obtaining it.
- Only 18.2% claimed to have enough exposure in fellowship to be qualified to obtain CAQ.
- 90.9% and 72.7% of these fellowships have at least 1 faculty member or program director, respectively, board-certified in EDX medicine, but only 27.3% and 9.1% have them with CAQ in NMUS.

Certificate of Added Qualification in Neuromuscular Ultrasound

