

ABMS CONFERENCE

2017

ABIM's Experience with DANS Data

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▶ ACHIEVING IMPROVEMENT
THROUGH ASSESSMENT
AND LEARNING.
TOGETHER.

Disclosures

Rebecca S Lipner, PhD

- Senior Vice President, Assessment and Research at the ABIM
- To protect the integrity of certification, ABIM enforces strict confidentiality and ownership of exam content.
- *No exam content or individual physician data will be disclosed in my presentation.*

ABIM's Mission

- To enhance the quality of health care by certifying internists and subspecialists who **demonstrate** the knowledge, skills and attitudes essential for excellent patient care.

We are... *Of the profession, for the public.*

- Self-regulation and public accountability

The Breadth of Internal Medicine

Adolescent Medicine
Adult Congenital Heart Disease
Advanced Heart Failure & Transplant Cardiology
Cardiovascular Disease
Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology
Critical Care Medicine
Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism
Gastroenterology
Geriatric Medicine
Hematology
Hospice and Palliative Medicine
Hospital Medicine (Focused Practice)
Infectious Disease
Interventional Cardiology
Medical Oncology
Nephrology
Pulmonary Disease
Rheumatology
Sleep Medicine
Sports Medicine
Transplant Hepatology

- ✓ Certify 1 of every 4 practicing physicians in US
- ✓ Over 250,000 valid certificates

Purpose

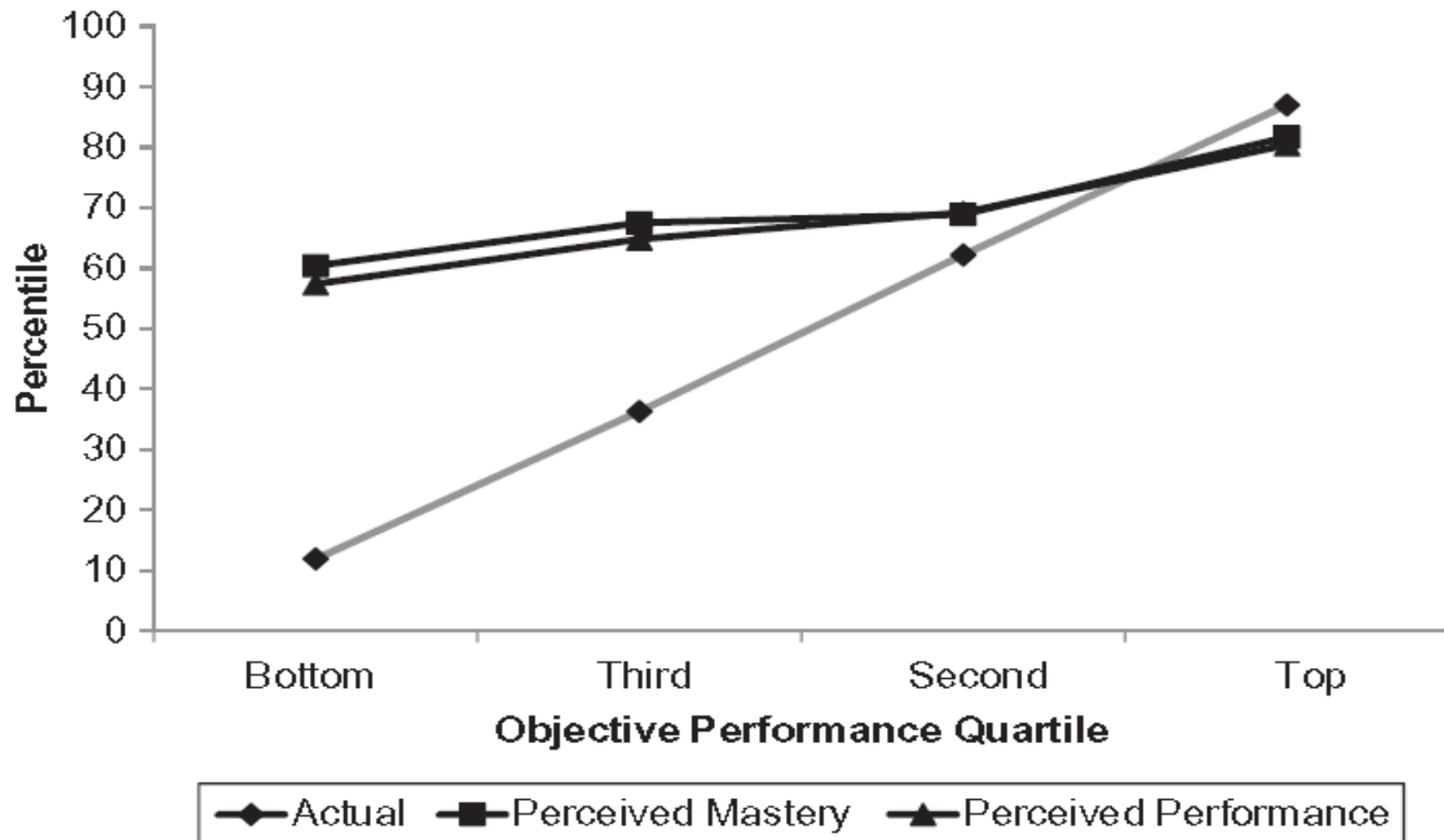
- Initial Certification
 - Medical licensure is non-differentiated so....
 - Specialty boards evolved to publicly recognize emerging specialization areas
 - Recognizes readiness for unsupervised practice in the specialty or subspecialty
- Maintenance of Certification
 - Demonstrate whether or not an internist is staying current with knowledge and practice in his/her discipline.

Kruger J, Dunning D.

Unskilled and unaware of it:
How difficulties in recognizing one's own
incompetence lead to inflated self-assessments.

Journal of Personality and Social Psychology.
1999;77:1121-1134.

The Dunning-Kruger Effect



Timeline: Certification and MOC

1936	ABIM established, first certification in Internal Medicine, followed by CV, GI, Pulm Subspecialties
1973	Nine subspecialties added
1987	Voluntary recertification tried but unsuccessful
1990	Time-limited certification
2000	Required recertification/MOC
2006	Conversion to computer exams complete
2014	Continuous MOC program; Cert and MOC exams begins separating blueprints and standards
2018	Alternative maintenance pathway

SiShare



PDC

Physician Data Center

Overview

A central repository for disciplinary sanctions, licensure information and ABMS certification data used in the licensing and credentialing of physicians and physician assistants

Credentials Services

The PDC Profile is a detailed report used by licensing and credentialing professionals to verify sanction history, licensure and ABMS certification

SiShare



Board Designated Request

For physicians and physician assistants to request a report to be sent to a state medical board

Certifications

The FSMB has received certification from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)

Contact

For more information, contact the PDC

ABMS Display Agent

The PDC serves as an official display agent for American Board of Medical Specialty Certification

Causes for Disciplinary Action

- Restricted License
- Failure of Behavior
 - Moral, Ethical, Professional
- Misconduct
 - Competence, Integrity
- Misrepresentation
 - Application, Eligibility, Certification
- Exam Misconduct

Considerations

- Ability to practice independently
- Gravity
- Duration
- Remorse
- Responsibility
- ABIM precedent

ABIM Process for Disciplinary Actions

- In 2016: 3,535 DANS Reports; 1,136 diplomates
 - Those that lose all licenses lose their certification, but with actions in one state but not in another are referred for due process
- ABIM Credentials and Certification Committee (“CCC”)
 - Notifies physician of any pending disciplinary sanction and timeline
 - Summarizes and copies of evidence to physician
 - Physician may make written submission
- Appeal Panel
 - Physician has a right to appeal
 - Panel - three non-ABIM employee physicians, with at least one member of ABIM Board of Directors
- ABIM may notify credentialing bodies etc. of final disciplinary sanctions

Evidence that Certification/MOC Matters

- External Measures of Quality
 - Cost
 - Processes of care
 - Outcomes of care
 - Disciplinary actions
 - Clinical care

Linked with...

- ABIM Measures of Certification/MOC
 - Certification status (initial cert, MOC)
 - Exam status (pass/fail)
 - Exam scores
 - MOC requirement

Two Studies

- Disciplinary Action

Linked with...

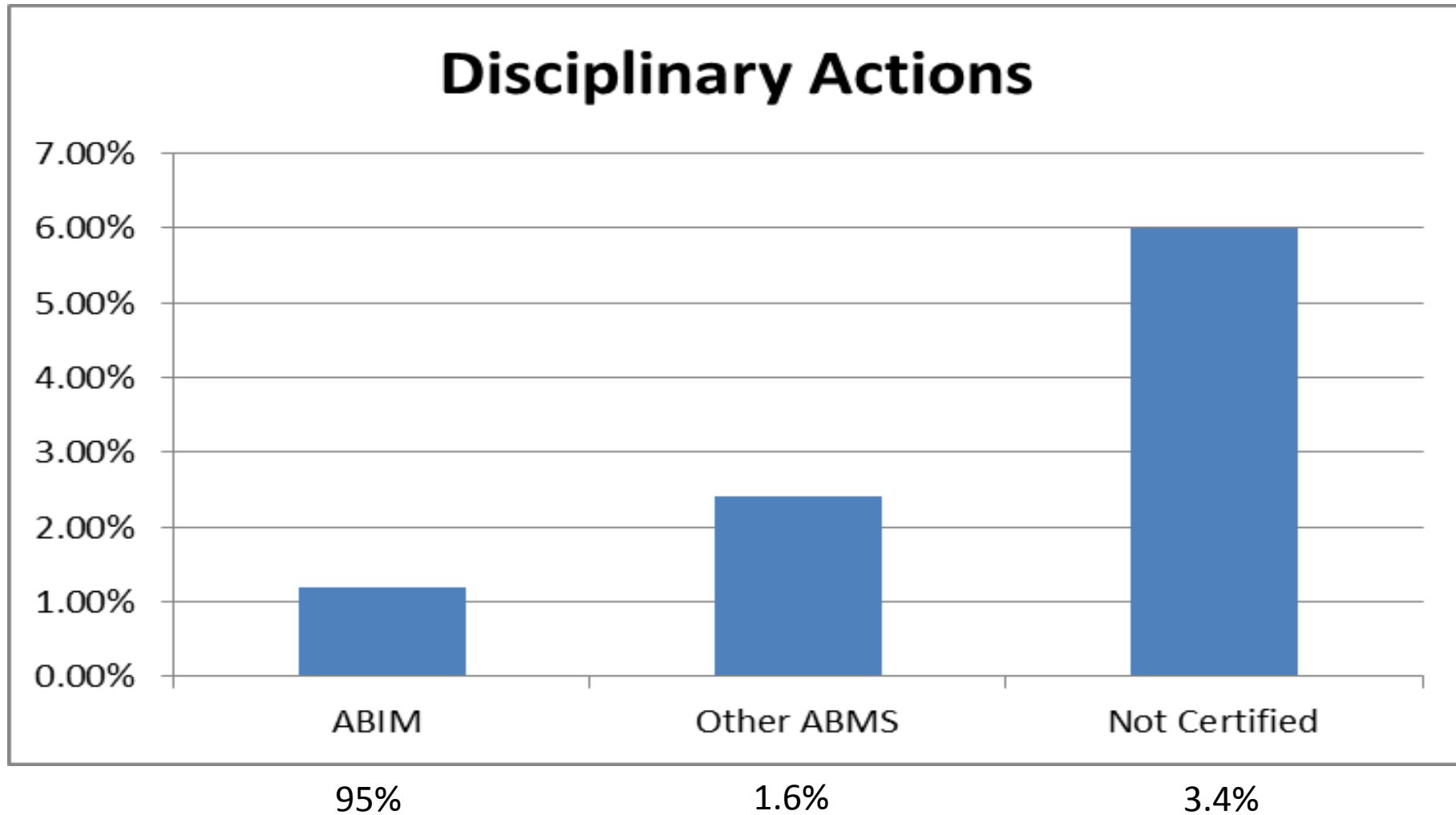
1. Certification Status
2. Certification Exam Performance

Disciplinary Actions and Cert Status

Lipner et al., 2016, Acad Med

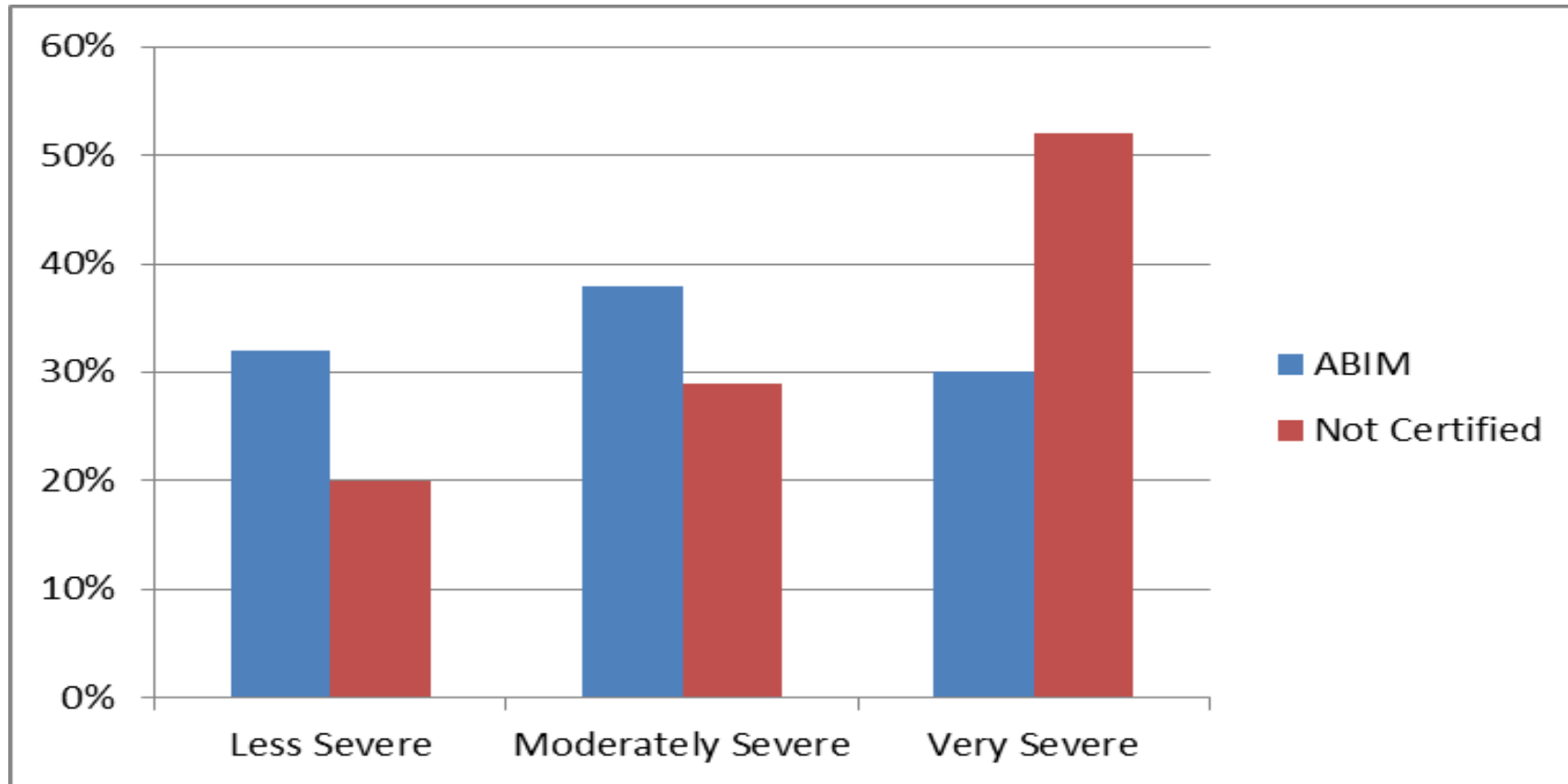
- Sample: 66,881 physicians who did their first year of training in IM between 1995-2004
 - ABIM certified – 95%
 - Other ABMS certified – 1.6%
 - Not certified – 3.4%
- Method:
 - Three datasets combined
 - FSMB, ABIM, AMA
 - Logistic regression, ANOVA

Disciplinary Actions and *Cert Status*



Disciplinary Actions and *Cert Status*

- Severity of Disciplinary Actions by Certification Status



The Not Certified Cohort is More Likely to...

- Have received a disciplinary action
- Have more severe disciplinary actions
- Have lower program ratings on medical knowledge in 1st year
- Be an international medical graduate
- Be male
- Have attended more than one IM residency program

Disciplinary Actions and Cert Exam Performance

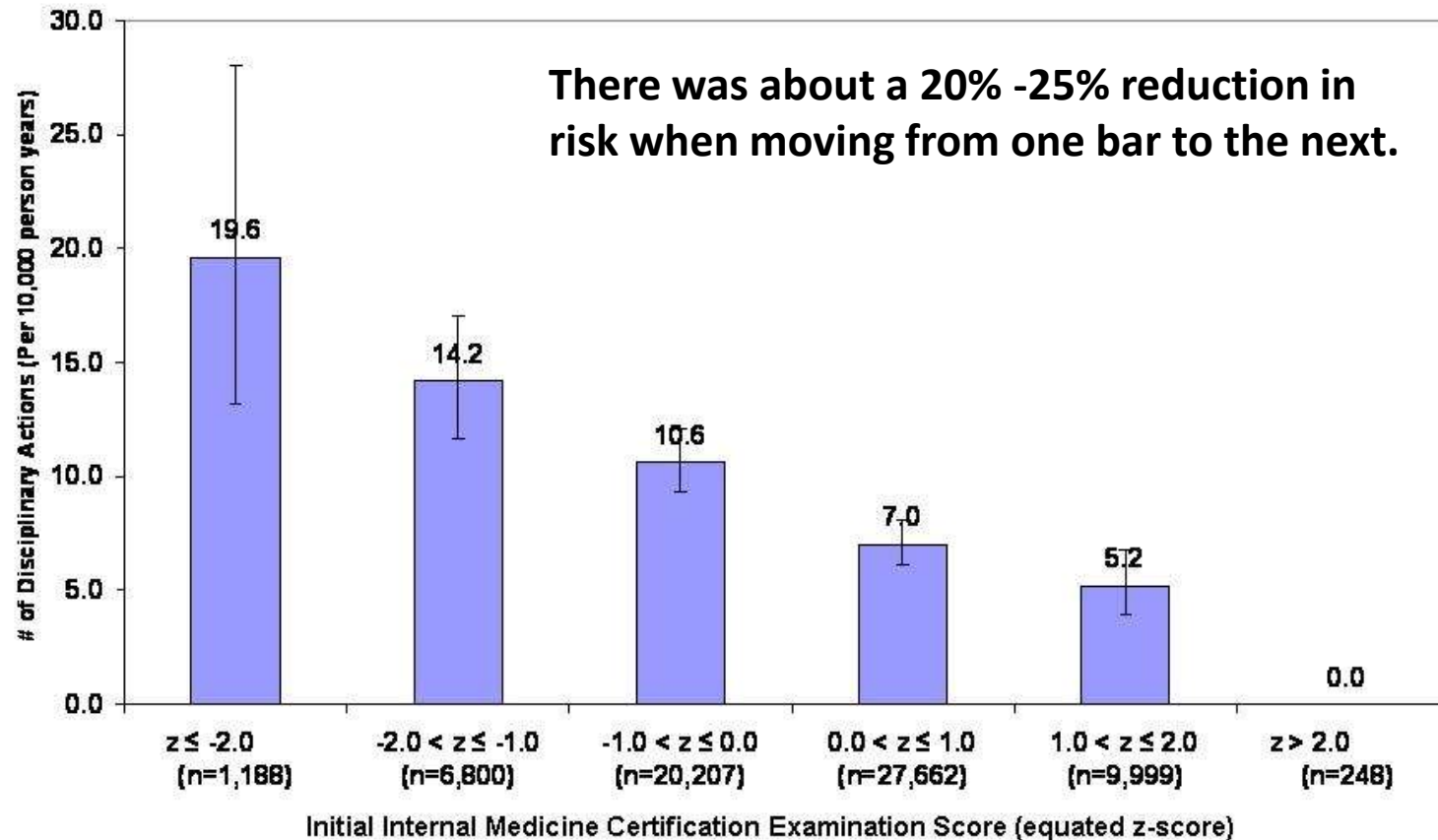
Papadakis et al., 2008 Ann Int Med

- Sample: 66,171 physicians who entered training in IM between 1990-2000 and became diplomates
 - Disciplinary actions between 1990-2006
- Method:
 - Retrospective cohort study
 - Multivariate Cox proportional hazard analysis

Disciplinary Actions (n=638)

Basis for Disciplinary Action	Physicians Disciplined
Failure to meet CME	21.6%
Substandard care/negligence	12.4%
Fraud/billing/tax irregularities	9.1%
Controlled substance violation	8.2%
Exam/licensure irregularities	7.4%
Substance use	4.9%
Failure to comply with board	4.9%
Convicted of crime	3.8%
Inadequate records	2.7%
Other	25.0%

Disciplinary Actions and Cert Exam Performance



Summary of Two Studies

**ABIM Board Certified Physicians
are more likely to...**

...AVOID DISCIPLINARY ACTION

**5x LESS
LIKELY**

*ABIM Board Certified physicians are **5x less likely to have state medical licensure disciplinary actions** than a non-certified physician ¹*

**↑ SCORE
MEANS
LESS DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

*The higher a physician's score on the initial certification exam, the **less likely they are to have state medical licensure disciplinary actions** against them ²*

REFERENCES:

1. Lipner RS, Young A, Chaudhry HJ, Duhigg LM, Papadakis MA. Specialty certification status, performance ratings, and disciplinary actions of internal medicine residents. *Academic Medicine*. 2016;91(3):376-81.
2. Papadakis MA, Arnold GK, Blank LL, Holmboe ES, Lipner RS. Performance during internal medicine residency training and subsequent disciplinary action by state licensing boards. *Annals of Internal Medicine*. 2008;148(11):869-76.

Conclusion

- Certification in IM is a marker of professionalism for the public
 - Those certified are less likely to get disciplined
 - Those scoring higher on the exam are less likely to get disciplined
- Similar study for Maintenance of Certification currently under review....

Questions?

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