



AMERICAN BOARD OF FAMILY MEDICINE
VISITING SCHOLARS PROGRAM

THE FIRST TEN YEARS





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INTRODUCTION

Two components of the American Board of Family Medicine's mission are to support the development of future leaders and to conduct rigorous research about the specialty of Family Medicine. To meet both goals, ABFM began sponsoring a Visiting Scholars Program for physicians, other professionals, and students interested in primary care research, training, or practice.

Through the Visiting Scholars Program, Scholars have an immersion experience at ABFM and work on a mentored research project with ABFM's Research Department. Scholars' projects are original research projects that align with their own interests and support the mission and goals of ABFM.

More senior researchers can be J. Lewis Sigmon, MD Senior Scholars. Dr. Sigmon served on the

ABFM Board of Directors and then served as the President and Chair of the ABFM Foundation. In 2023, ABFM began a collaboration with the Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors to host residency directors and core faculty as Strengthening Outcomes Assessment in Residency (SOAR) Scholars. In addition to formal Visiting Scholars, ABFM hosts other learners from undergraduate to medical students.

2024 marks the 10 year anniversary of the Lexington based Scholar Program. This report serves as an evaluation of the program and reports on the Scholar's feedback on the program, the academic outputs, and the impact of the program on their career.

Funding for the ABFM Visiting Scholars Program is graciously provided by the ABFM Foundation.



SCHOLARS BY THE YEARS

* J. Lewis Sigmon Senior Visiting Scholars

Strengthening Outcomes Assessment in Residency (SOAR) Visiting Scholars

2013

Jessica (Ottmar) Dobbins, DrPh
*Population Health Management by
Family Physicians*

2014

David Loxterkamp, MD*
Changes in Physician's Scope of Practice

Tomoko Sairenji, MD
House Calls by Family Physicians

2015

Jennifer Broders Jarrett, PharmD
*Pharmacists in Residency Education
and Interprofessional Practice*

Erica Kaitlin Schuster, BS
*Preparation to Provide Population
Health Management in Residency*

Anastasia Coutinho, MD, MS
*Scope of Practice Intentions of
Graduating Residents Compared to
Practicing Physicians

2016

Arch G. "Chip" Mainous, III, PhD*
*Burnout of Family Physicians;
Milestones; Fellowships*

Monee Rassolian, MD
Burnout of Family Physicians

Julie Phillips, MD
*Educational Debt, Career Choice, and
Examination Performance*

2017

Amanda Weidner, MPH
Scope of Practice and Burnout of New Graduates

Roger Garvin, MD*
Development of Professionalism in Family Medicine Training

Anna Hansen, BS
State Level Variation in Burnout

2018

Elizabeth Beckman, MD
Practice Patterns of Dually Boarded Family Medicine Psychiatrists

Joshua St Louis, MD, MPH
Family Physicians Treating Substance Use Disorder and Providing Maternity Care

Samuel Johnson, PharmD
Pharmacists' Roles in Family Medicine Practices

Jonathan Lichkus, MD
Quality Improvement Training in Residency

Jessica Creager, BS
Burnout and Practice Organization

Urooj Nasim
Variation in Scope of Practice Among Rural Family Physicians



Samuel Johnson, PharmD, (right)
 at ABFM headquarters

2019

William R. Phillips, MD, MPH*
Who are General Practitioners in 2018?

Sumathi Narayana, MD
Abortion Care in Family Medicine

Brandis Belt, MD
State Medical License Board Application Questions on Mental Health and Substance Abuse

Rachel Cox, BS
Practice Patterns of Family Physicians with Sports Medicine Certification

Zachary Ward, EdD
Rural /Urban Variation in Family Physician Burnout

Joseph Benitez, PhD
Effect of Medicaid Expansion on Scope of Practice and Panel Size

Saed Qunbar, PhD
Using Machine Learning to Recommend Certification Activities

Tanya Longbach, PhD
Does Self-Reported Preparation of Residents Correspond to Medical Knowledge?



Sumathi Narayana, MD, celebrating with the research team after completing her scholars visit

2020

Kento Sonoda, MD
Family Medicine Role in HIV Care

Meenu Krishnasamy, BS
Burnout in Residency

Andrea Dotson, MD
Changes in Family Physicians Provision of Maternity Care Over Time

Mitch Dandignac, PhD
Exploring CKSA Metacognitive Accuracy

Alison Paul, MD, MPH
Abortion Care in Family Medicine

Payal Patel, MD
Abortion Care in Family Medicine

Sebastian Tong, MD, MPH
Cesarian Sections; Practice Patterns of Family Physician Addiction Medicine Diplomates

2021

Julie Phillips, MD
Examining Trends and Predictors of Family Medicine Student Debt

Andrea Wendling, MD
Family Medicine Student Debt and Practice Location

Kento Sonoda, MD
COVID Impacts on Residents Intended Scope of Practice; HIV, Hepatitis C, and Opioid Disorder Treatment

Garrett S. Kneese, MPH
Trends in New Family Physician Graduate's Preparation for Practice

Tuhin Roy, MD, MPH
Evaluating the Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education Model

Jessica Sand, MPH
Primary Care Practice Ability to Address Patient's Social Needs

Peter Meyers, MD
National Health Service Corps and Public Loan Service Forgiveness Participation by Family Physicians

Reagan Bosse
Integration of Public Health and Primary Care

Mary Theobald, MBA
Health System Ownership and Scope of Practice

Samantha Larson, PhD
Changes in Burnout, Scope of Practice, and Practice Location



Jessica Sand, MPH, (right) at ABFM Headquarters



2022

Sebastian Tong, MD, MPH

Understanding Barriers and Facilitators to Providing Integrated Behavioral Health in Primary Care Practice Settings with Low Rates of Integration

Kyle Lau, MD

Trends in Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Family Medicine Fellowships and Certified Added Qualifications from 2014 – 2020

Adrian Sandoval, PharmD

Residency Pharmacotherapeutic Curriculum and In-Training Examination Performance

Kaplan Sanders, PhD

Gender Variation in Debt and Income in Early Career Family Physicians

Seetha Venkateswaran, MD

Health Systems Leadership Training in Residency

Omer Atac, MD, PhD

Vaccinations in Primary Care During COVID Pandemic

Peter Carek, MD, MS*

Practice Patterns of Early Career Family Physicians and Interest in Fellowship Training

2023

Caroline Jenkins, BS

Part Time Work Among Family Physicians

David Schmitz, MD*

Assessing Competency for Rural Practice

Grace Huynh, BS

Disaggregation of Asian-American Family Physicians

Emma Klug, BS

Procedural Contraception and State Level Reproductive Healthcare Regulation

Alyssa Lambert, BS

Geographic Variation in Family Physician Scope of Practice

Xinuo Gao, MD

In-Training Examination Performance and National Journal Club Article Selection

Mark Carrozza, MA

Physician Gender Pay Equity and Nurse Practitioner Scope of Practice

2024

Varshaben Songara, MD#

Variation in Milestones Attainment of IMG's by Residency Characteristics

Dragos Ghinea, MD

Residents Meeting New ABFM Core Competencies

Alexis Reedy-Cooper, MD#

Catholic Affiliation Impact on Women's Health Training

SCHOLAR EXPERIENCE

Reflecting back on your experience with ABFM – was there something you wish you had been able to experience or know about ABFM that you didn't get in your Scholars experience?



- *“The team was very receptive to my interests and helped to coordinate meetings with appropriate leaders from other pertinent organizations.”*
- *“This was an incredible experience! The entire ABFM team has been nothing but supportive. I’m not sure how it could be improved. I was given a great space to work, great people to interact with and learn from, and an excellent source of data to analyze.”*
- *“Overall, it was really excellent! They did a great job of introducing me to all aspects of the organization.”*
- *“It was a very useful experience, and everyone was very welcoming and helpful.”*
- *“I really appreciated the intro that I received, the meetings I got to attend, and the introductions that were made -- I learned a lot!”*
- *“It was great to meet everyone at ABFM, do research, and feel like a part of day-to-day operations.”*

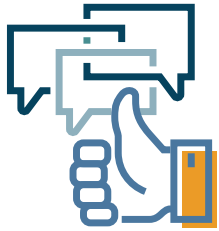


Rachel Cox, BS, 2019 (center) celebrating the end of her scholars program

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PROJECT SPECIFICS AND APPLICATION

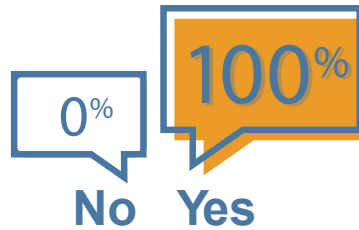
Has your experience with ABFM had any impact on your subsequent career?



- *“I developed much stronger research skills, which has helped lead to further research work and conference presentations. In addition, it helped develop me as a faculty member so I could teach others.”*
- *“I have continued to collaborate with ABFM staff over the years. This has led to several publications.”*
- *“It was a great experience and I remember my interactions with the team well including the analytics people. I didn’t go into research afterward, but I still consider it as one of the most valuable experiences of my residency.”*
- *“My experience with the ABFM has introduced me to the Family Medicine community, receive excellent mentoring, allowed me to publish three times, helped me present at the STFM conference, and introduced me to others in the field (including some great people at the Graham Center).”*
- *“Yes, significantly so. This particular study got a lot of attention and has continued to – and the connections I have made by being engaged with ABFM have led to more and more opportunities for growth.”*
- *“Positively impacted my career in various aspects - enhanced networking - bolster my research and writing skills”*
- *“Yes, absolutely. I can definitely say that it was an important milestone in my career moving forward.”*
- *“Very much so- continued research collaborations, networking, etc.”*

PROGRAM SPECIFICS AND APPLICATION

Would you recommend this program to colleagues?



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- *“If you are interested in continuing medical education issues and even postgraduate medical education issues it is a great resource.”*
 - *“Great opportunity for focused work with a great team of expert scholars who have access and experience with valuable databases. Provided a well organized program for visitors. A very welcoming atmosphere. I was made to feel my contributions were valued. Opportunity to learn about broader ABFM activities.”*
 - *“I think this is a great experience especially for those interested in pursuing academics, research or teaching. Currently I do work in an academic environment teaching residents.”*
 - *“The opportunity to work with such an excellent team, to get to know the Family Medicine community, and to analyze rich datasets.”*
 - *“Unique opportunity to work with leaders in the field and receive mentoring/ career support or guidance that would be otherwise unavailable.”*
 - *“I found it really useful - got a lot of support from ABFM to build my project and was able to basically complete the project by the time I left.”*

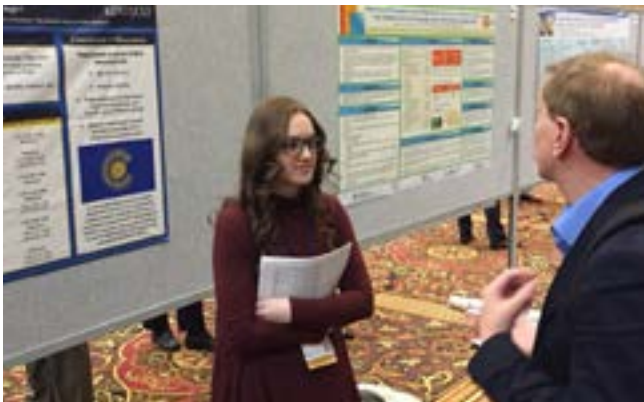
Overall Impact Rating:

Using a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 represents the least impact and 5 represents the greatest impact, how would you assess the program’s influence on your career and professional development?

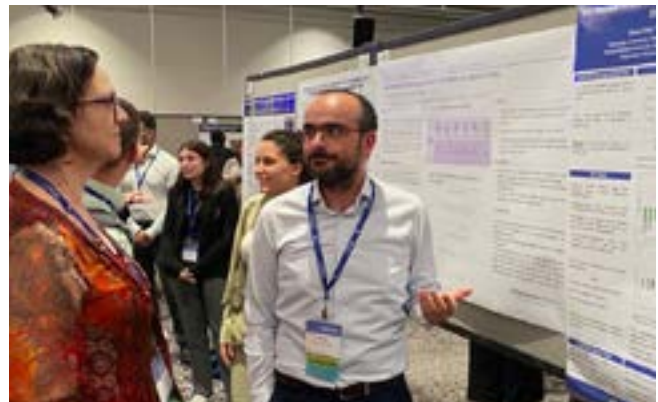


SCHOLAR PUBLICATIONS

1. **Carek PJ**, Cheng Y, Bazemore AW, Peterson LE. [Variation in Practice Patterns of Early- and Later-Career Family Physicians](#). *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*. 2024;37(1):35-42.
2. **Coutinho AJ**, Cochrane A, Stelter K, Phillips RL Jr, Peterson LE. [Comparison of Intended Scope of Practice for Family Medicine Residents With Reported Scope of Practice Among Practicing Family Physicians](#). *JAMA*. 2015 Dec 8;314(22):2364-72.
3. **Cox R**, Morgan ZJ, Nithyanandam S, Puffer JC, Peterson LE. [Practice Patterns of Family Physicians With and Without Sports Medicine Certification](#). *Clinical Journal of Sport Medicine*. 2020;30(3):210-215.
4. **Creager J**, Fang B, Coutinho AJ, Peterson LE. [Associations Between Burnout and Practice Organization in Family Physicians](#). *Annals of Family Medicine*. 2019;17(6):502-509.
5. Davis C, **Krishnasamy M**, Morgan ZJ, Bazemore AW, Peterson LE. [Academic Achievement, Professionalism, and Burnout in Family Medicine Residents](#). *Family Medicine*. 2021;53(6):423-432.
6. Davis C, **Krishnasamy M**, Morgan ZJ, Bazemore AW, Peterson LE. [On the Topic of Academic Achievement, Professionalism, and Burnout in Family Medicine Residents](#). *Family Medicine*. 2023;55(2):131-131.
7. Davis CS, **Meyers P**, Bazemore AW, Peterson LE. [Impact of Service-Based Student Loan Repayment Program on the Primary Care Workforce](#). *Annals of Family Medicine*. 2023;21(4):327-331.



Erica Kaitlin Schuster, BS, presenting at NAPCRG in 2016



Omer Atac, MD, PhD, presenting at NAPCRG in 2023

8. Davis CS, **Roy T**, Peterson LE, Bazemore AW. [Evaluating the Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education Model at 10 Years: Practice-Based Outcomes and Opportunities](#). *Journal of Graduate Medical Education*. 2022;14(5):599-605.
9. **Dobbins JM**, Peiper N, Jones E, Clayton R, Peterson LE, Phillips RL. [Patient-Centered Medical Home Recognition and Diabetes Control Among Health Centers: Exploring the Role of Enabling Services](#). *Population Health Management*. 2018;21(1):6-12.
10. Doe S, Coutinho A, Weidner A, Cheng Y, **Sanders K**, Bazemore AW, Phillips RL, Peterson LE. [Prevalence and Predictors of Burnout Among Resident Family Physicians](#). *Family Medicine*. 2024;56(3):148-155.
11. **Hansen A**, Peterson LE, Fang B, Phillips RL. [Burnout in Young Family Physicians: Variation Across States](#). *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*. 2018;31(1):7-8.
12. **Huynh G**, Fleischer S, Peterson LE. [Data Disaggregation of Asian-American Family Physicians](#). *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*. 2024;37(2):349-350.
13. **Lambert A**, Fleischer S, **Atac O**, Bazemore AW, Peterson LE. Regional Variation in Scope of Practice by Family Physicians. *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*. 2024; In-Press.
14. **Lichkus J**, Fang B, Peterson LE. [Family Medicine Residency Graduates' Preparation for Quality Improvement Leadership](#). *Journal of Graduate Medical Education*. 2019;11(5):558-564.
15. **Louis JSt**, Eden AR, Morgan ZJ, Barreto TW, Peterson LE, Phillips RL. [Maternity Care and Buprenorphine Prescribing in New Family Physicians](#). *Annals of Family Medicine*. 2020;18(2):156-158.
16. **Mainous AG**, Fang B, Peterson LE. [Competency Assessment in Family Medicine Residency: Observations, Knowledge-Based Examinations, and Advancement](#). *Journal of Graduate Medical Education*. 2017;9(6):730-734.
17. **Nasim U**, Morgan ZJ, Peterson LE. [The Declining Scope of Practice of Family Physicians Is Limited to Urban Areas](#). *The Journal of Rural Health*. 2021;37(4):734-744.
18. **Ottmar J**, Blackburn B, Phillips RL, Peterson LE, Jaén CR. [Family Physicians' Ability to Perform Population Management Is Associated with Adoption of Other Aspects of the Patient-Centered Medical Home](#). *Population Health Management*. 2015;18(2):72-78.
19. **Patel P**, **Narayana S**, Summit A, Gold M, Morgan Z, Peterson LE, **Paul A**. [Abortion Provision Among Recently Graduated Family Physicians](#). *Family Medicine*. 2020;52(10):724-729.

20. **Patel P, Narayana S, Thill Z, Gold M, Paul A.** [Family Physicians' Role in Simplifying Medication Abortion During the COVID-19 Pandemic.](#) *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine.* 2021;34(Supplement): S33-S36.

21. Peterson LE, **Nasim U**, Madabhushi V. [Declining Endoscopic Care by Family Physicians in Both Rural and Urban Areas.](#) *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine.* 2019;32(4):460-461.

22. Peterson LE, Puffer JC, **Nasim U**, Petterson S, Newton WP. [Family Physicians' Contributions to Rural Emergency Care and Urban Urgent Care.](#) *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine.* 2019;32(3):295-296.

23. **Phillips JP**, Morgan ZJ, Bazemore AW, Peterson LE. [Debt of Family Medicine Residents Continues to Grow.](#) *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine.* 2021;34(3):663-664.

24. **Phillips JP**, Peterson LE, Fang B, Kovar-Gough I, Phillips RL. [Debt and the Emerging Physician Workforce: The Relationship Between Educational Debt and Family Medicine Residents' Practice and Fellowship Intentions.](#) *Academic Medicine.* 2019;94(2):267-273.

25. **Phillips JP**, Peterson LE, Kovar-Gough I, O'Neill TR, Peabody MR, Phillips RL. [Family Medicine Residents' Debt and Certification Examination Performance.](#) *PRIMER.* 2019;3:7.

26. **Phillips J**, Peterson LE, Fang B, Ma IKG, Jr RLP, Kovar-Gough I, Phillips RL. [How Many Graduating Family Medicine Residents Have Chosen Financial Support for Service Commitments?](#) *Family Medicine.* 2017;49(8):626-629.

27. **Phillips WR**, Dai M, Frey JJ, Peterson LE. [General Practitioners in US Medical Practice Compared with Family Physicians.](#) *Annals of Family Medicine.* 2020;18(2):127-130.



Emma Klug, BS, presenting at NAPCRG in 2023



Jessica Creiger, BS, presenting at STFM in 2018

28. Puffer JC, Knight HC, O'Neill TR, **Rassolin M**, Bazemore AW, Peterson LE, Baxley EG. [Prevalence of Burnout in Board Certified Family Physicians](#). *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*. 2017;30(2):125-126.
29. **Rassolian M**, Peterson LE, Fang B, Peabody M, Baxley EG, Mainous AG. [Workplace Factors Associated with Burnout of Family Physicians](#). *JAMA Internal Medicine*. 2017;177(7):1036.
30. **Sairenji T**, Dai M, Eden AR, Peterson LE, **Mainous AG**. [Fellowship or Further Training for Family Medicine Residents?](#) *Family Medicine*. 2017;49(8):618-621.
31. **Sairenji T**, Jetty A, Peterson LE. [Shifting Patterns of Physician Home Visits](#). *Journal of Primary Care & Community Health*. 2016;7(2):71-75.
32. **Sanders K**, Phillips J, Fleischer S, Peterson LE. [Early-Career Compensation Trends Among Family Physicians](#). *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*. 2023;36(5):851-863.
33. **Sanders K**, Jabbarpour Y, Phillips J, Fleischer S, Peterson LE. [The Gender Wage Gap Among Early-Career Family Physicians](#). *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*. 2024;37(2):270-278
34. **Schuster EK**, Peterson LE. [Resident and Residency Characteristics Associated with Self-Reported Preparedness for Population Health Management](#). *Family Medicine*. 2017;49(10):772-777.
35. **Sonoda K**, Morgan ZJ, Peterson LE. [HIV Care by Early-Career Family Physicians](#). *Family Medicine*. 2021;53(9):760-765.
36. **Sonoda K**, Morgan ZJ, Peterson LE. [Pandemic Disruption in Residency Did Not Alter Trends in Intended Scope of Practice](#). *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*. 2022;35(6):1191-1193.
37. **Tong ST**, Eden AR, Morgan ZJ, Bazemore AW, Peterson LE. [The Essential Role of Family Physicians in Providing Cesarean Sections in Rural Communities](#). *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*. 2021;34(1):10-11.
38. **Tong ST**, Morgan ZJ, Bazemore AW, Eden AR, Fitzgerald RM, Peterson LE. [Practice Patterns of Family Physicians with and Without Addiction Medicine Board Certification](#). *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*. 2021;34(4):814-819.
39. **Tong ST**, Morgan ZJ, Bazemore AW, Eden AR, Peterson LE. [Maternity Access in Rural America: The Role of Family Physicians in Providing Access to Cesarean Sections](#). *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*. 2023;36(4):565-573.

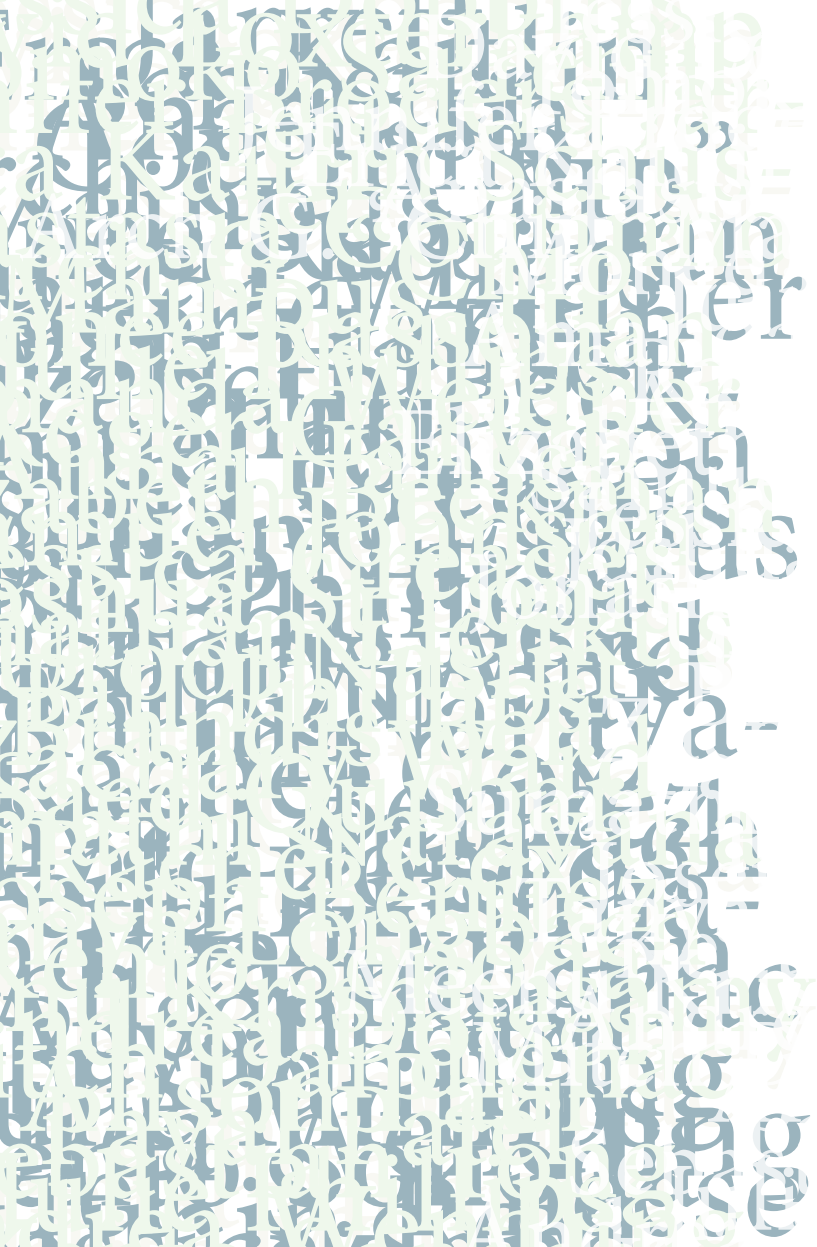


40. **Tong ST**, Morgan ZJ, Stephens KA, Bazemore A, Peterson LE. [Characteristics of Family Physicians Practicing Collaboratively with Behavioral Health Professionals](#). *Annals of Family Medicine*. 2023;21(2):157-160.
 41. **Ward ZD**, Morgan ZJ, Peterson LE. [Family Physician Burnout Does Not Differ with Rurality](#). *The Journal of Rural Health*. 2021;37(4):755-76.
 42. **Weidner AKH**, Phillips RL, Fang B, Peterson LE. [Burnout and Scope of Practice in New Family Physicians](#). *Annals of Family Medicine*. 2018;16(3):200-205.
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In the first ten years the Visiting Scholars projects have been crucial to advancing the ABFM mission and strategic aims. Their published work has helped us to advance new knowledge across a range of important domains, including:

1. **Scope of Practice:** Scholars have helped us to understand discrepancies between intended and actual scope of practice, changes in scope over time, rural/urban differences in scope, and the association of scope of practice and burnout. Understanding how additional certifications changes delivery of care. Scholar work also highlights family physicians' roles in HIV care, maternity services, and home visits.
2. **Workforce Issues:** Scholar's work has helped focus our attention on family physicians' burnout, gender wage gaps, how debt and loan repayment options affect practice, and preparedness for population health management.
3. **Residency Training:** Scholar's work has evaluated how the milestones assess residents and how student debt impacts exam performance. Also, how different models of training impact graduate practice.

In summary, the Visiting Scholars program has helped ABFM advance the impact of certification, monitor changes in family physicians and their practices, and strengthen the scientific foundation of family medicine, all in alignment with ABFM's mission and strategic aims.



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