



Amy Dorminey, Board Secretary
Alabama Board of Medical Examiners
P.O. Box 946
Montgomery, AL 36101-0946

Dear Ms. Dorminey,

The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) is the national physician specialty organization with over 7,000 members representing Interventional Radiologists in the US. Interventional Radiology (IR) is an innovative specialty that uses imaging guidance to perform minimally invasive procedures on almost every organ system and has developed techniques to treat diseases ranging from liver cancer to uterine fibroids. Interventional radiologists are clinical physicians who serve a critical role in caring for the sickest patients.

In 2012, the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) recognized Interventional Radiology as an independent specialty requiring “competence in imaging, image-guided minimally invasive procedures and peri-procedural patient care to diagnose and treat benign and malignant conditions of the thorax, abdomen, pelvis, and extremities.” Prior to this, vascular and interventional radiology (VIR) was considered a subspecialty of diagnostic radiology.

Today, the primary specialty of Interventional Radiology has a unique GME residency program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), as well as a unique and independent board certification (the Interventional Radiology/Diagnostic Radiology (IR/DR) certificate) from the American Board of Radiology. The IR/DR certificate is one of four primary certificates offered by the ABR and is separate and distinct from a primary certificate in Diagnostic Radiology (DR). Newly certified IRs, as well as those previously holding both a DR primary certificate and an IR Certificate of Added Qualifications, began receiving IR/DR certification on October 15, 2017.

SIR members have let us know many states have not updated their list of specialties and physicians are unable to select Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

In researching your licensing policies, it is unclear to us whether this is the case in Alabama. If you have not already done so, we respectfully ask you to update the Alabama medical board licensing options to allow licensees to designate Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

This is particularly important given the highly clinical and procedural nature of the specialty, which is as different from diagnostic radiology as it is from other primary specialties. IRs are being denied admission to insurance networks simply because the state licensing database has not been updated to show IRs as a primary specialty. Unless an IR can designate him or herself



correctly, networks may believe they have a satisfactory complement of physicians when they are actually limiting patient access to interventional radiologists.

Furthermore, patients who seek IR care are confused when their physician is listed incorrectly as a diagnostic radiologist, yet the patient is scheduled for an invasive procedure or clinical evaluation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this input to your Board. If SIR can provide additional information please do not hesitate to contact Susan Sedory, SIR's Executive Director, at (703) 691-1805, or ssedory@sirweb.org.

Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Debora J. Stovern, CMBE, Executive Administrator
Alaska State Medical Board
550 West Seventh Ave.
Suite 1500
Anchorage, AK 99501-3567

Dear Ms. Stovern,

The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) is the national physician specialty organization with over 7,000 members representing Interventional Radiologists in the US. Interventional Radiology (IR) is an innovative specialty that uses imaging guidance to perform minimally invasive procedures on almost every organ system and has developed techniques to treat diseases ranging from liver cancer to uterine fibroids. Interventional radiologists are clinical physicians who serve a critical role in caring for the sickest patients.

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In researching your licensing policies, it is unclear to us whether this is the case in Alaska. If you have not already done so, we respectfully ask you to update the Alaska medical board licensing options to allow licensees to designate Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

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Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Paula E. Martinez, Program Director
Colorado Medical Board
1560 Broadway
Suite 1350
Denver, CO 80202-5140

Dear Ms. Martinez,

The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) is the national physician specialty organization with over 7,000 members representing Interventional Radiologists in the US. Interventional Radiology (IR) is an innovative specialty that uses imaging guidance to perform minimally invasive procedures on almost every organ system and has developed techniques to treat diseases ranging from liver cancer to uterine fibroids. Interventional radiologists are clinical physicians who serve a critical role in caring for the sickest patients.

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In researching your licensing policies, it is unclear to us whether this is the case in Colorado. If you have not already done so, we respectfully ask you to update the Colorado medical board licensing options to allow licensees to designate Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

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Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Jeff Kardys, Admin. Hearings Specialist Bd. Liaison
Connecticut Medical Examining Board Department of Public Health
P.O. Box 340308
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Dear Mr. Kardys,

The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) is the national physician specialty organization with over 7,000 members representing Interventional Radiologists in the US. Interventional Radiology (IR) is an innovative specialty that uses imaging guidance to perform minimally invasive procedures on almost every organ system and has developed techniques to treat diseases ranging from liver cancer to uterine fibroids. Interventional radiologists are clinical physicians who serve a critical role in caring for the sickest patients.

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Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Devashree Singh, Executive Director
Delaware Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline
861 Silver Lake Blvd
Suite 203
Cannon Building
Dover, DE 19904

Dear Ms. Singh,

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Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



LaSharn Hughes, MBA, Interim Executive Director
Georgia Composite Medical Board
2 Peachtree Street, NW
6th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30303-3465

Dear Ms. Hughes,

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Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Ahlani K. Quiogue, Executive Officer
Hawaii Medical Board
P.O. Box 3469
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Ms. Quiogue,

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Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Christine A. Farrelly, Executive Director
Maryland Board of Physicians
P.O. Box 2571
Baltimore, MD 21215

Dear Ms. Farrelly,

The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) is the national physician specialty organization with over 7,000 members representing Interventional Radiologists in the US. Interventional Radiology (IR) is an innovative specialty that uses imaging guidance to perform minimally invasive procedures on almost every organ system and has developed techniques to treat diseases ranging from liver cancer to uterine fibroids. Interventional radiologists are clinical physicians who serve a critical role in caring for the sickest patients.

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In researching your licensing policies, it is unclear to us whether this is the case in Maryland. If you have not already done so, we respectfully ask you to update the Maryland medical board licensing options to allow licensees to designate Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

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Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



George Zachos, JD, Executive Director
Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine
200 Harvard Mill Square
Suite 330
Wakefield, MA 01880-3238

Dear Mr. Zachos,

The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) is the national physician specialty organization with over 7,000 members representing Interventional Radiologists in the US. Interventional Radiology (IR) is an innovative specialty that uses imaging guidance to perform minimally invasive procedures on almost every organ system and has developed techniques to treat diseases ranging from liver cancer to uterine fibroids. Interventional radiologists are clinical physicians who serve a critical role in caring for the sickest patients.

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Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Cheryl W. Pezon, JD, Executive Director
Michigan Board of Medicine
P.O. Box 30670
Lansing, MI 48909-8170

Dear Ms. Pezon,

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M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Connie Clarkston, Executive Director
Missouri Board of Registration for the Healing Arts
3605 Missouri Blvd
P.O. Box 4
Jefferson City, MO 65109-7111

Dear Ms. Clarkston,

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Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Kathie Lueke, Program Manager
Nebraska Board of Medicine and Surgery
P.O. Box 94986
Lincoln, NE 68509-4986

Dear Ms. Lueke,

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Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Sondra Frank, JD, Executive Director
New Mexico Medical Board
2055 S. Pacheco Street
Building 400
Santa Fe, NM 87505-0503

Dear Ms. Frank,

The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) is the national physician specialty organization with over 7,000 members representing Interventional Radiologists in the US. Interventional Radiology (IR) is an innovative specialty that uses imaging guidance to perform minimally invasive procedures on almost every organ system and has developed techniques to treat diseases ranging from liver cancer to uterine fibroids. Interventional radiologists are clinical physicians who serve a critical role in caring for the sickest patients.

In 2012, the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) recognized Interventional Radiology as an independent specialty requiring “competence in imaging, image-guided minimally invasive procedures and peri-procedural patient care to diagnose and treat benign and malignant conditions of the thorax, abdomen, pelvis, and extremities.” Prior to this, vascular and interventional radiology (VIR) was considered a subspecialty of diagnostic radiology.

Today, the primary specialty of Interventional Radiology has a unique GME residency program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), as well as a unique and independent board certification (the Interventional Radiology/Diagnostic Radiology (IR/DR) certificate) from the American Board of Radiology. The IR/DR certificate is one of four primary certificates offered by the ABR and is separate and distinct from a primary certificate in Diagnostic Radiology (DR). Newly certified IRs, as well as those previously holding both a DR primary certificate and an IR Certificate of Added Qualifications, began receiving IR/DR certification on October 15, 2017.

SIR members have let us know many states have not updated their list of specialties and physicians are unable to select Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

In researching your licensing policies, it is unclear to us whether this is the case in New Mexico. If you have not already done so, we respectfully ask you to update the New Mexico medical board licensing options to allow licensees to designate Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

This is particularly important given the highly clinical and procedural nature of the specialty, which is as different from diagnostic radiology as it is from other primary specialties. IRs are being denied admission to insurance networks simply because the state licensing database has



not been updated to show IRs as a primary specialty. Unless an IR can designate him or herself correctly, networks may believe they have a satisfactory complement of physicians when they are actually limiting patient access to interventional radiologists.

Furthermore, patients who seek IR care are confused when their physician is listed incorrectly as a diagnostic radiologist, yet the patient is scheduled for an invasive procedure or clinical evaluation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this input to your Board. If SIR can provide additional information please do not hesitate to contact Susan Sedory, SIR's Executive Director, at (703) 691-1805, or ssedory@sirweb.org.

Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Stephen J. Boese, Executive Secretary
New York State Board for Medicine
89 Washington Avenue
2nd Floor, West Wing
Albany, NY 12234

Dear Mr. Boese,

The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) is the national physician specialty organization with over 7,000 members representing Interventional Radiologists in the US. Interventional Radiology (IR) is an innovative specialty that uses imaging guidance to perform minimally invasive procedures on almost every organ system and has developed techniques to treat diseases ranging from liver cancer to uterine fibroids. Interventional radiologists are clinical physicians who serve a critical role in caring for the sickest patients.

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SIR members have let us know many states have not updated their list of specialties and physicians are unable to select Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

In researching your licensing policies, it is unclear to us whether this is the case in New York. If you have not already done so, we respectfully ask you to update the New York medical board licensing options to allow licensees to designate Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

This is particularly important given the highly clinical and procedural nature of the specialty, which is as different from diagnostic radiology as it is from other primary specialties. IRs are being denied admission to insurance networks simply because the state licensing database has



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Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Bonnie Storbakken, Executive Secretary
North Dakota Board of Medicine
418 E. Broadway Avenue
Suite 12
City Center Plaza
Bismarck, ND 58501-4086

Dear Ms. Storbakken,

The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) is the national physician specialty organization with over 7,000 members representing Interventional Radiologists in the US. Interventional Radiology (IR) is an innovative specialty that uses imaging guidance to perform minimally invasive procedures on almost every organ system and has developed techniques to treat diseases ranging from liver cancer to uterine fibroids. Interventional radiologists are clinical physicians who serve a critical role in caring for the sickest patients.

In 2012, the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) recognized Interventional Radiology as an independent specialty requiring “competence in imaging, image-guided minimally invasive procedures and peri-procedural patient care to diagnose and treat benign and malignant conditions of the thorax, abdomen, pelvis, and extremities.” Prior to this, vascular and interventional radiology (VIR) was considered a subspecialty of diagnostic radiology.

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SIR members have let us know many states have not updated their list of specialties and physicians are unable to select Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

In researching your licensing policies, it is unclear to us whether this is the case in North Dakota. If you have not already done so, we respectfully ask you to update the North Dakota medical board licensing options to allow licensees to designate Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

This is particularly important given the highly clinical and procedural nature of the specialty, which is as different from diagnostic radiology as it is from other primary specialties. IRs are



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Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



A.J. Groeber, Executive Director
State Medical Board of Ohio
30 E. Broad St.
3rd Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-6127

Dear Mr. Groeber,

The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) is the national physician specialty organization with over 7,000 members representing Interventional Radiologists in the US. Interventional Radiology (IR) is an innovative specialty that uses imaging guidance to perform minimally invasive procedures on almost every organ system and has developed techniques to treat diseases ranging from liver cancer to uterine fibroids. Interventional radiologists are clinical physicians who serve a critical role in caring for the sickest patients.

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SIR members have let us know many states have not updated their list of specialties and physicians are unable to select Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

In researching your licensing policies, it is unclear to us whether this is the case in Ohio. If you have not already done so, we respectfully ask you to update the Ohio medical board licensing options to allow licensees to designate Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

This is particularly important given the highly clinical and procedural nature of the specialty, which is as different from diagnostic radiology as it is from other primary specialties. IRs are being denied admission to insurance networks simply because the state licensing database has not been updated to show IRs as a primary specialty. Unless an IR can designate him or herself



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Thank you for the opportunity to provide this input to your Board. If SIR can provide additional information please do not hesitate to contact Susan Sedory, SIR's Executive Director, at (703) 691-1805, or ssedory@sirweb.org.

Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Suzanne M. Zerbe, Administrator
Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine
P.O. Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

Dear Ms. Zerbe,

The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) is the national physician specialty organization with over 7,000 members representing Interventional Radiologists in the US. Interventional Radiology (IR) is an innovative specialty that uses imaging guidance to perform minimally invasive procedures on almost every organ system and has developed techniques to treat diseases ranging from liver cancer to uterine fibroids. Interventional radiologists are clinical physicians who serve a critical role in caring for the sickest patients.

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In researching your licensing policies, it is unclear to us whether this is the case in Pennsylvania. If you have not already done so, we respectfully ask you to update the Pennsylvania medical board licensing options to allow licensees to designate Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

This is particularly important given the highly clinical and procedural nature of the specialty, which is as different from diagnostic radiology as it is from other primary specialties. IRs are being denied admission to insurance networks simply because the state licensing database has not been updated to show IRs as a primary specialty. Unless an IR can designate him or herself



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Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



James V. McDonald, MD, MPH, Chief Administrative Officer
Rhode Island Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline
3 Capitol Hill
Room 401
Providence, RI 02908-5097

Dear Mr. McDonald,

The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) is the national physician specialty organization with over 7,000 members representing Interventional Radiologists in the US. Interventional Radiology (IR) is an innovative specialty that uses imaging guidance to perform minimally invasive procedures on almost every organ system and has developed techniques to treat diseases ranging from liver cancer to uterine fibroids. Interventional radiologists are clinical physicians who serve a critical role in caring for the sickest patients.

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SIR members have let us know many states have not updated their list of specialties and physicians are unable to select Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

In researching your licensing policies, it is unclear to us whether this is the case in Rhode Island. If you have not already done so, we respectfully ask you to update the Rhode Island medical board licensing options to allow licensees to designate Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

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Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Sheridon H. Spoon, Esq., Administrator
South Carolina Board of Medical Examiners
110 Centerview Drive
Suite 202
Columbia, SC 29210-8432

Dear Mr. Spoon,

The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) is the national physician specialty organization with over 7,000 members representing Interventional Radiologists in the US. Interventional Radiology (IR) is an innovative specialty that uses imaging guidance to perform minimally invasive procedures on almost every organ system and has developed techniques to treat diseases ranging from liver cancer to uterine fibroids. Interventional radiologists are clinical physicians who serve a critical role in caring for the sickest patients.

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In researching your licensing policies, it is unclear to us whether this is the case in South Carolina. If you have not already done so, we respectfully ask you to update the South Carolina medical board licensing options to allow licensees to designate Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide this input to your Board. If SIR can provide additional information please do not hesitate to contact Susan Sedory, SIR's Executive Director, at (703) 691-1805, or ssedory@sirweb.org.

Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Brint Carlton, Executive Director
Texas Medical Board
P.O. Box 2018
Austin, TX 78768-2018

Dear Mr. Carlton,

The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) is the national physician specialty organization with over 7,000 members representing Interventional Radiologists in the US. Interventional Radiology (IR) is an innovative specialty that uses imaging guidance to perform minimally invasive procedures on almost every organ system and has developed techniques to treat diseases ranging from liver cancer to uterine fibroids. Interventional radiologists are clinical physicians who serve a critical role in caring for the sickest patients.

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In researching your licensing policies, it is unclear to us whether this is the case in Texas. If you have not already done so, we respectfully ask you to update the Texas medical board licensing options to allow licensees to designate Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

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Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Larry Marx, Bureau Manager
Utah Physicians & Surgeons Licensing Board
PO Box 146741
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6741

Dear Mr. Marx,

The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) is the national physician specialty organization with over 7,000 members representing Interventional Radiologists in the US. Interventional Radiology (IR) is an innovative specialty that uses imaging guidance to perform minimally invasive procedures on almost every organ system and has developed techniques to treat diseases ranging from liver cancer to uterine fibroids. Interventional radiologists are clinical physicians who serve a critical role in caring for the sickest patients.

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In researching your licensing policies, it is unclear to us whether this is the case in Utah. If you have not already done so, we respectfully ask you to update the Utah medical board licensing options to allow licensees to designate Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

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Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Melanie de Leon, JD, Executive Director
Washington Medical Quality Assurance Commission
PO Box 47866

Olympia, WA 98504-7866

Dear Ms. de Leon,

The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) is the national physician specialty organization with over 7,000 members representing Interventional Radiologists in the US. Interventional Radiology (IR) is an innovative specialty that uses imaging guidance to perform minimally invasive procedures on almost every organ system and has developed techniques to treat diseases ranging from liver cancer to uterine fibroids. Interventional radiologists are clinical physicians who serve a critical role in caring for the sickest patients.

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In researching your licensing policies, it is unclear to us whether this is the case in Washington. If you have not already done so, we respectfully ask you to update the Washington medical board licensing options to allow licensees to designate Interventional Radiology as their primary practice area.

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Sincerely,



M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
President



Tom H. Ryan, JD, MPA, Executive Director
Wisconsin Medical Examining Board
1400 E. Washington Avenue
Room 178
Madison, WI 53703-3041

Dear Mr. Ryan,

The Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) is the national physician specialty organization with over 7,000 members representing Interventional Radiologists in the US. Interventional Radiology (IR) is an innovative specialty that uses imaging guidance to perform minimally invasive procedures on almost every organ system and has developed techniques to treat diseases ranging from liver cancer to uterine fibroids. Interventional radiologists are clinical physicians who serve a critical role in caring for the sickest patients.

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President