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MEDICAL AND
DENTAL
PROFESSIONS



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Services for State Boards

2,650 Physicians Examined by States Using National Board Questions

In 1966, the National Board provided state boards with a total of approximately 25,000 tests that were used by them for the examination of about 3,000 physicians — an increase of 1,000 more tests than in 1965.

It had probably not been anticipated by the founding fathers of the National Board that in addition to providing certification of the qualifications of individual physicians, the National Board would be requested by state boards to provide sets of examination questions that could be used by state boards as their own examinations. In recent years, as state boards have become more familiar with the reliability, impartiality, and quality of the National Board examinations, an increasing number of requests are received to provide individual tests, or complete sets of Part I, Part II and Part III for the use and purposes of state boards.

5,481 Licenses Granted by Endorsement of National Board Certificates

During 1965 (the last year for which complete figures are available for licensing data), a total of 5,481 licenses to practice medicine were issued by endorsement of the certificate of the National Board of Medical Examiners by 46 state boards, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Guam.* This total can be compared with the total of 4,730 in 1963 and with the total of 3,377 in 1959.

The State Board that licensed the largest number of physicians on this basis was New York with a total of 1,236; California was a close second with a total of 1,165. Guam, with 5 diplomates licensed during the year demonstrates the wide range of acceptance of the Board's certificate.

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* Journal of the American Medical Association, Volume 196 (June 6, 1966).

Expanding Programs of Service and Research

The Executive Committee of the National Board of Medical Examiners, consisting of Drs. C. J. Glaspel, John B. Hickam, John P. Hubbard, J. D. McCarthy, Carl A. Moyer, John Parks, Walter S. Wiggins, William R. Willard, and Richard H. Young, held its regular fall meeting on October 6-8, 1966. At this three day meeting the Committee had a new look at the Board's rapidly expanding programs of evaluation of medical knowledge and competence at undergraduate and graduate levels. The Board's current activities have moved a long way from its original and historic role in administering qualifying examinations acceptable to state examining boards. During 1966, approximately 50,000 medical students and physicians were confronted by a variety of multiple choice examinations that the National Board had prepared for its own programs or had assisted in preparing for medical schools, state examining boards, specialty boards, hospitals, and the Educational Council for Foreign Medical Graduates. The data that are accumulating

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Part III — A Reminder

The Part III examination for 1967 has been scheduled for March 8. Eligibility requires graduation from an approved medical school and completion of at least six months of internship prior to the examination date. Any candidates who fail Part III in March will be given an opportunity for reexamination in time to apply for a medical license by endorsement of National Board certification by July 1st. Eligible candidates who have not already received application forms should request these forms from the National Board office promptly. Registration for the March Part III examination will close January 11, 1967.