



American
Board of
Psychiatry and
Neurology, Inc.

For Immediate Release

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AMERICAN BOARD OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY ANNOUNCES CHANGES IN PROGRAM FOR LIFELONG LEARNING AND CONTINUOUS CERTIFICATION

September 5, 2017, Buffalo Grove, Ill -- The American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN) is pleased to announce plans for significant changes in its program for lifelong learning and continuing certification, also known as maintenance of certification (MOC). These changes are the result of ongoing discussion by the ABPN as well as feedback from its diplomates and related professional societies. Diplomates will be provided with greater flexibility and more relevant and meaningful options for meeting ABPN requirements.

1. Planned changes in Part III of MOC (MOC Examination)

a. During the next year, the ABPN plans to collaborate with affiliated professional societies to develop a **new pilot alternative** to its current secure, 10-Year MOC Examination. In this new pilot, diplomates will be given the opportunity to complete repeated self-assessment activities based upon specific literature references selected by a committee of peer diplomates. More details on the new pilot alternative will be available in the coming months.

b. The 10-Year MOC Examination **will continue to be available** for those diplomates who elect to complete it instead of the new self-assessment alternative.

2. Expanded options for Part II of MOC (Self-assessment) in addition to self-assessment examinations

a. Eight (8) hours of self-assessment CME credit **will now be waived** in each 3-year Continuous MOC block when diplomates participate in ABPN-approved registries such as those being developed by the American Academy of Neurology and the American Psychiatric Association.

b. Eight (8) hours of self-assessment CME credit **will continue to be waived** in each 3-year Continuous MOC block when diplomates pass an ABPN certification or MOC examination, get a peer reviewed grant approved, get a peer reviewed paper indexed in a scientific journal, complete an ABPN-approved non-CME patient safety self-assessment activity, obtain four (4) hours of documented peer supervision, or have their clinical performance reviewed by an institutional Peer Review Committee.

3. Continued options for Part IV of MOC (Improvement in Medical Practice) that may substitute for the completion of Clinical Modules or Feedback Modules.

a. Part IV credit **will continue to be offered** for diplomate participation in ABPN-approved quality improvement activities, including institutional quality improvement activities, the ABMS Portfolio Program, Primary or Comprehensive Stroke Centers, Joint Commission OPPE activities, professional registries, Part IV activities of other ABMS Member Boards, or selected international MOC activities.

b. Part IV credit **will continue to be offered** for diplomate completion of ABPN-approved feedback activities, including peer surveys, patient surveys, institutional surveys (e.g., Press Ganey), institutional peer review, supervisor evaluations, resident evaluations, or 360-degree evaluations.

While the ABPN program for lifelong learning and continuing certification must comply with the ABMS MOC Standards and be rigorous enough to meet the needs of professional organizations that credential and pay diplomates, the ABPN is also committed to ensuring that its program is meaningful for diplomates and consistent with the realities of their busy lives. The ABPN welcomes constructive feedback about its program, and it looks forward to working with its diplomates and related professional societies to make that program as good as it can be.

The American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to serving the public interest and the professions of psychiatry and neurology by promoting excellence in practice through certification and maintenance of certification processes.

More information on these MOC options is available on the ABPN website at www.abpn.com.

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