

AbstractID: 12056 Title: Requirements and Opportunities for Maintenance of Certification

The ABR began issuing time-limited certificates for physicists in 2002. As a result, many physicists are two-thirds the way through their MOC cycles, and should have reached several milestones by now. This course will discuss the origins of the MOC program, the requirements for physicists, and some of the opportunities available for meeting the requirements. Specific information will be provided to help physicists understand how they can satisfy the requirements for professional standing, through licensure or attestation; life-long learning and self assessment, through the accumulation of continuing education credits, self-assessment modules (SAMs) and self-directed educational projects (SDEPs); cognitive expertise, through participation in a cognitive exam; and assessment of performance in practice, through the conduct of a practice quality improvement (PQI) program. Examples of each aspect will be given. Use of the personal database (PDB) provided by the ABR for each diplomate to facilitate the MOC process will be described, and the opportunities for guidance in accomplishing SDEPs and PQI projects will be presented.

Educational objectives:

1. Understand the maintenance of certification program, its history and requirements.
2. Learn about opportunities for satisfying the MOC requirements.
3. Become familiar with sources of assistance from the ABR, including the personal database.
4. Identify opportunities for guidance from sources such as the AAPM.