Summary of the ABPN MOC Program: Life-Long Learning for Psychiatrists and Neurologists

by

Larry R. Faulkner, M.D.
President and CEO
American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology

J. Clay Goodman, M.D.
Neurology Council ABPN

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Outline of Presentation

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D. The Continuous ABPN MOC Program
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A. Introduction

• The world of healthcare delivery is undergoing tremendous change.
• We are now in a new era of:
  • Concern about rising costs of medical care.
  • Concern about patient safety and medical errors.
  • Concern about transparency of information about physician competency.
• All physicians will be affected by new rules and regulations designed to address these concerns.
• In this presentation, I will present a specific strategy known as Maintenance of Certification (MOC) that can help diplomates prepare for and adapt to the difficult challenges that lie ahead.

B. General Characteristics of the ABPN MOC Program

• Consistent with ABMS guidelines (Parts I – IV).
• Balances competing factors.
  • Quality and credibility
  • Convenience and cost
  • Diplomate satisfaction and participation
• Likely fulfills the requirements for Maintenance of Licensure (MOL).
• Fulfills federal requirements for quality documentation (CMS Rules).
• Contains components identified as crucial by organizations that credential physicians and pay for services.
C. Components of the ABPN MOC Program
   I. Part I – Professionalism and Professional Standing
   II. Part II – Lifelong Learning and Self-assessment (SA)
   III. Part III – Assessment of Knowledge, Judgment, and Skills
   IV. Part IV – Improvement in Medical Practice

   C. Components of the ABPN MOC Program
   I. Part I – Professionalism and Professional Standing
      • Unrestricted medical license
      • Measure of professionalism
      • Always been a requirement for ABPN certification
      • ABPN Statement in Professionalism
      • Professionalism forms the basis of medicine’s contract with society. The ABPN is concerned with those aspects of professionalism that are demonstrated through a physician’s clinical competence, commitment to lifelong learning and professional improvement, interpersonal skills, and ethical understanding and behavior. In its credentialing, certification, and MOC programs, the ABPN seeks to assess and document that its candidates and diplomates possess and maintain these aspects of professionalism.
II. Part II – Lifelong Learning and Self-assessment (SA)

- **Self-assessment**
  - 24 SA CME credits required in the 10-Year MOC Program
  - Diplomates in the 10-Year MOC Program who take the MOC examination in 2015-2021
- **SA examinations**
  - Developed by peers
  - Provide feedback to guide CME and life-long learning
  - Must earn CME credit (Beginning in 2014)
  - May occur before, during, or after an educational activity
  - Must be pre-approved by the ABPN (Beginning in 2014)
- 8 SA CME credits waived for certification/MOC examination, peer reviewed grant or paper, non-CME patient safety SA, peer supervision (4 hours), or peer review
  - Maximum of 16 SA CME credits waived

- **CME**
  - Average of 30 Category 1 CME credits/year
  - Developed by peers
  - SA and CME complete a medical knowledge quality improvement cycle.
Medical Knowledge Quality Improvement Cycle

Self-Assessment Activities

CME Activities

Knowledge Deficiencies

III. Part III – Assessment of Knowledge, Judgment, and Skills

• Secure, proctored, practice relevant examination.
• Developed by peers.
• Administered at Pearson VUE Professional Centers.
• Diplomates must complete all other MOC requirements.
  • Diplomates keep their own MOC data and attest completion to ABPN
  • One set of completed MOC activities suffices for multiple certificates
• Random audits of diplomate applicants.
• Passing score extends the period before another exam is required to 10 years.
  • High pass rate expected
IV. Part IV – Improvement in Medical Practice

- **1 Performance in Practice (PIP) Unit required for the 10-Year MOC Program.**
- Diplomates in the 10-Year MOC Program who take the MOC examination in 2015-2021
- Each PIP Unit
  - Clinical Module
  - Feedback Module
- Modules must be pre-approved by the ABPN (Effective 2014 forward).
- Credit will be given for approved institutional QI activities.
- PIP Modules complete a clinical activity quality improvement cycle.

- **Clinical Modules**
  - Obtain data from at least 5 patients in a similar category (diagnosis, treatment).
  - Diplomates select their own categories and cases
  - Compare data to practice guidelines developed by peers.
  - Assess at least 4 quality indicators
  - Identify opportunities for improvement.
  - Implement improvements.
  - Recollect data within 2 years from at least 5 patients in the same category (same or different patients).
• **Feedback Modules**
  • Diplomates choose one type of Feedback Module they want to complete.
    • Patient Surveys (at least 5 patients selected by diplomate)
    • Peer Surveys (of General Competencies)*
    • Institutional Peer Review (of General Competencies)*
    • Supervisor Evaluation (of General Competencies)
    • Resident Evaluations (of General Competencies)*
    • 360° Evaluation (of General Competencies)*
  • Identify opportunities for improvement.
  • Implement improvements.
  • Re-solicit opinions within 2 years.

*Must include at least 5 evaluators.

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**Clinical Activity Quality Improvement Cycle**

1. **Patient Care Data Collection**
2. **Data Comparison with Care Standards**
3. **Clinical Activity Modifications**
4. **Opportunities for Improvement**
D. The Continuous ABPN MOC Program

- Begins for diplomates certified or recertified in 2012.

- Requirements for CMOC.
  - Unrestricted medical license(s)
  - Cognitive examination every 10 years
  - Specific MOC activities every 3 years
  - 24 CME hours of Self-assessment activities
    - Maximum of 16 SA CME hours waived for certification/MOC examination, peer reviewed grant or paper, non-CME patient safety SA, peer supervision (4 hours), or peer review
  - 90 CME hours (includes the 24 SA CME hours)
  - 1 PIP Unit (Clinical Module and Feedback Module

- Annual registration on the ABPN Folio.
- Annual MOC fee ($175 for 2014).
  - No fee for one MOC cognitive examination in 10 years
• Diplomates who graduate from an ACGME–accredited subspecialty fellowship in 2011 or later and pass the ABPN subspecialty examination receive 3 years of MOC credit (SA, CME, PIP).

• Diplomates with “life-time” certificates may now join the Continuous MOC Program in two ways.
  • Pass the MOC examination
  • Register for the Continuous MOC Program, complete 3 years of required MOC activities, and pass the MOC examination within 3 years
E. ABPN Patient Safety Course Requirements

- Part of the 2015 ABMS MOC Standards.
- Begins for diplomates certified or recertified in 2016.
- Diplomates must complete an ABPN-approved Patient Safety Course prior to certification or in the first 3-year period of the Continuous MOC Program.
- Patient Safety Courses must include didactic information, questions, and performance feedback.
  - Must include Required Topics and Optional Topics (See ABPN website).
  - May or may not earn CME credits.
- Non-CME Patient Safety Courses must be developed and give by accredited institutions (e.g., hospitals, clinics, training programs).

F. ABPN Physician Folios

1) Sign on to ABPN website: www.abpn.com
2) Click on ABPN Physician Folios
ABPN Physician Folios

To activate your account you will need to enter the following information:
- Current Email Address
- First Name
- Last Name
- Birth Date
- Social Security Number

Please enter the information in the input boxes below and submit your request.

Secure login
Personalized diplomate account
Single source of MOC information

Personalized MOC status provides:
- What is required
- What you have
Continuous MOC (Medical License)

Attestation of Requirements for Three-Year Block of C-MOC
Continuous MOC
Annual registration fee

Continuous MOC
ABPN Approved Products
Continuous MOC in three-year blocks:
Dashboard view and status of MOC requirements – CME, Self Assessment, & Performance in Practice
(Feature Still Available)

Enter completed MOC activities:
CME, Self Assessment (SA), Performance in Practice (PIP)
**G. Conclusions**

1. These are **trying times** for all physicians.
2. We can expect to see more and more calls for objective evidence of on-going physician competence.
3. The ABPN can be an ally and its MOC Program can help diplomates respond to public concerns.
4. This is a **time for calm and reasoned leadership** – not anger or panic.
5. The ABPN will strive to make its MOC Program **credible** and also **reasonable**.
6. The ABPN **welcomes feedback** from diplomates and will attempt to incorporate constructive suggestions to continually improve its MOC program.
   - Feedback Module requirements
   - Non-CME SA options
   - 10-Year MOC Program SA and PIP requirements
“My hope is that we begin to rely more on objective markers like board certification as a statement of quality . . . One can always ask a doctor if he or she is board certified and involved in maintaining that certification. It’s a straightforward quality marker, and it’s a question that’s easy to ask . . . and as a patient, I find that reassuring.”

John Norcini, Ph.D.
New York Times
August 12, 2010

“NOTE: All policies, components and requirements of the ABPN’s MOC program are subject to change. It is the responsibility of each individual ABPN Diplomate to remain apprised of the current applicable MOC program. As such, Diplomates are encouraged to consult the ABPN’s website (www.abpn.com) regularly to ascertain whether any changes have been made.”
Questions?

• MOC Program Information:  
  www.abpn.com/moc
• MOC Physician Folios to determine personalized MOC requirements:  
  www.abpn.com/folios
• MOC Questions:  
  Email – Questions@abpn.com

American Academy of Neurology
MOC Resources
ABMS/ABPN Maintenance of Certification

ABMS
The American Board of Medical Subspecialties mandates MOC requirements.

ABPN
The boards, including ABPN, interpret those requirements and establish specific requirements for diplomates.

The AAN* develops resources to help members meet their MOC requirements.

*AAN, ABMS, and ABPN are each separate organizations. AAN has no input on MOC requirements.

AAN CME Resources

- Annual Meeting
- Continuum*
- Continuum Audio*
- Fall Conference
- NeuroLearn – AAN’s new online CME program
- Neurology (Journal) CME
- Neurology Podcasts
- NeuroSAE*
- NeuroPI**
- Practice/Coding Webinars

* = also provides self-assessment
** = also provides PIP
AAN Self-Assessment Resources

- **Continuum**
  - 6 courses per year

- **Continuum Audio**
  - 6 courses per year

- **Continuum Test Your Knowledge**
  - Annual Meeting
  - Fall Conference

- **NeuroSAE**
  - Online program
  - 100-150 self-assessment questions
  - References/Resources

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**NeuroSAE®**

- One general edition, subspecialty edition, and Annual Meeting edition offered annually

- Versions Currently Available
  - Neuro SAE Fifth Edition
  - Neuro SAE Sixth Edition
  - Neuro SAE Seventh Edition
  - Neuro SAE Vascular Edition
  - Neuro SAE Clinical Neurophysiology
  - NeuroSAE Epilepsy Edition

- FYI – NeuroSAE: Medical Student Edition (not MOC)
AAN PIP Resource

- Neurology Performance Improvement – NeuroPI
  - Online
  - Performance Improvement CME Model
  - 3 Part Program – Assessment, Intervention, Evaluation
  - 6 modules per year

Modules Available
- MS: System Assessment
- Epilepsy Care
- Patient Safety: Falls
- Acute Stroke Care
- ALS – Assessment and General Management Issues
- ALS – Specific Management Issues
- Chronic Opioid Therapy
- Dementia
- Distal Symmetric Polyneuropathy
- Chronic Sleep Apnea
- Parkinson’s Disease – Diagnostic Review, Cognitive, Psychiatric and Sleep Disturbances
- Parkinson’s Disease – Safety Issues, Autonomic Dysfunction, Therapy, and Treatment Options
- **Modules in Development**
  - MS: (Title TBD)
  - Critical Care: Intracranial Cerebral Hemorrhage
  - Headache (possibly two modules)
  - PD – module refresh
  - Patient Safety: Falls – module refresh

- **In Discovery**
  - Child Neurology
  - Spine
  - Behavioral Neurology
  - Other Topics – TBD
- **One stop shop for tracking**

- **AAN and Non-AAN Activities**
  - CME
  - Self-Assessment
  - Performance in Practice
  - Professional Activities

- **In development:** A personalized MOC dashboard to assist you with tracking your progress

### MOC Resources

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www.aan.com/cme-and-moc/  
www.aan.com/view/NeuroPI
Free with AAN Membership

- As of January 1, 2015.....
- Meet all of your self-assessment, PIP, and CME needs

- Stop by the AAN Booth to see demos and learn more