



TRACERS

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ABNM Partners With ACNM For Development Of New Format of The MOC Examination

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The ABNM will be launching a pilot program in 2017 called Certlink™ to replace the current maintenance of certification (MOC) examination, which required each diplomate to schedule their exam at a specified examination center and time, and to pass every ten years for recertification. Plans are to phase out this prior exam format from 2017 to 2020.

CertLink is a new, web-based assessment platform with which the American Board of Specialties (ABMS) has recently partnered. It will allow member boards (such as the ABNM) the opportunity to pilot new methods for assessment of diplomate knowledge in a technically user-friendly and easily accessible format, including a mobile feature.

In order to accomplish this goal, the ABNM is collaborating with the American College of Nuclear Medicine (ACNM) for development of a bank of questions. The ACNM is very excited about this partnership opportunity with the ABNM in developing these questions. ACNM members will author an initial 250 to 300 questions under the guidance of the ACNM Education Committee and the ABNM. The questions will cover the following nine categories and will be assessed via the CertLink program: basic science, cardiovascular, oncology, pulmonary, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, musculoskeletal, endocrine and neurology.

The questions will be delivered to ABNM diplomates on a regular basis in a multiple-choice format. Immediate feedback and references will be given on the answer choices selected, thus enhancing and providing a continual learning process for each diplomate.

Exact parameters for this CertLink program are yet to be finalized. However, the program will allow diplomates to receive regularly scheduled CertLink questions, with follow-up to these questions based upon the diplomate performance. The ultimate goal of this new format is to provide more active participation and learning, immediate feedback, and make the process of assessment easier and more relevant for each diplomate.