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Message from the Communications Chair

Esma A. Akin, M.D., Communications Chair

The ABNM communicates with 3577 active and 1114 retired diplomates. Keeping in touch is challenging when people are overwhelmed with daily information received from multiple sources. The ABNM tries to keep communications to a minimum, and to keep messages clear and concise.

Some of the regular communications received by diplomates include:

- Tracers semi annual newsletter
- MOC dues invoices annual with quarterly email reminders if not paid
- Request for support annual

Diplomates also receive notices of new initiatives such as CertLink™, the longitudinal learning and assessment pilot program that was launched in January 2018. Diplomates who participate in CertLink get quarterly notices of new questions, as well as monthly reminders when questions have not been answered. Participants get periodic surveys to provide feedback that the ABNM uses to improve the program. Participants in 2018 will also receive a one-time registration fee notice in the last guarter of the year.

Diplomates with time-limited certificates who are not participating in CertLink receive annual notices beginning two years prior to the expiration date of their certificates with information on how to register for the Maintenance of Certification examination.

Nuclear Medicine residency program directors receive information about the In-training examination given to residents in January, and information about the certification examination given in October. These notices are also sent directly to residents and other qualifying individuals.

The ABNM also sends important messages directly to all diplomates, such as changes the NRC Advisory Committee on the Medical Use of Isotopes is considering in regards to the current NRC requirements for 700 hours of supervised training and experience for Authorized Users (AUs) of radioactive materials under 10 CFR 35.390 (see Message from the Executive Director in this issue of Tracers).

The ABNM publishes a quarterly article in the Journal of Nuclear Medicine Newsline that helps keep diplomates up to date. The ABNM also updates its website with useful information.

Diplomates are asked to uptake their contact information at least once a year by going to the ABNM website and logging into My Profile (https://www.abnm.org/account/profile/login). Diplomates have the option of opting out of all ABNM correspondence by checking a box.

The ABNM answers many emails from diplomates and other individuals sent to abnm.org, and answers daily phone calls (314.367.2225). Feel free to contact the ABNM anytime we can help.