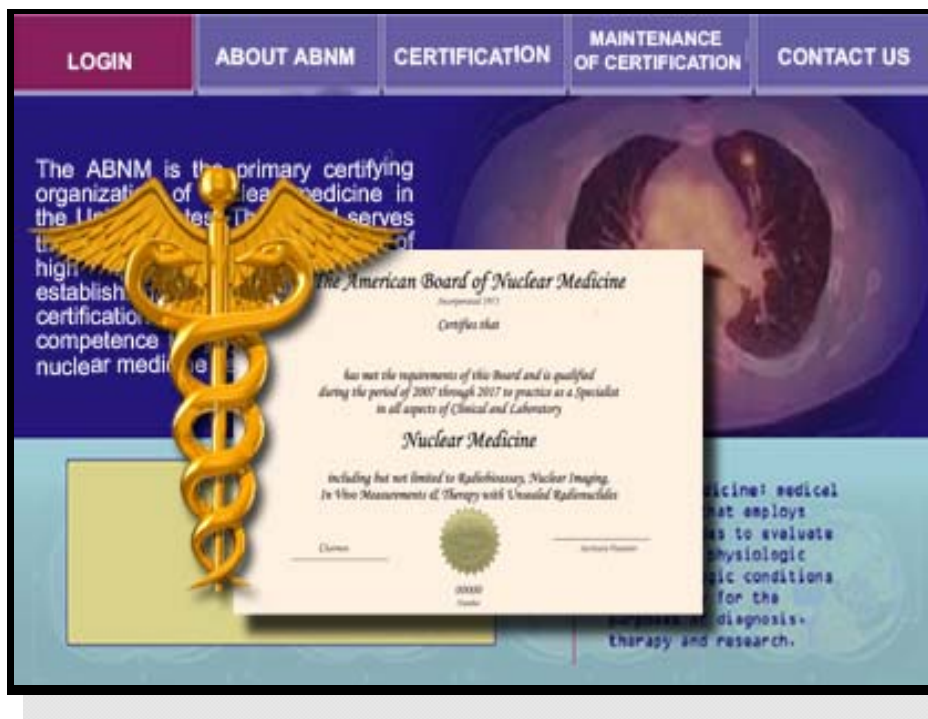




# The American Board of Nuclear Medicine

A Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties



## Maintenance of Certification (MOC) and MyMOC FAQ

# ABNM Maintenance of Certification and MyMOC Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ'S)

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## GENERAL QUESTIONS

The ABNM understands that its diplomates have many questions about MOC. This FAQ brochure attempts to answer the most common questions. As MOC evolves, board policy may change therefore this brochure is updated frequently. The most recent version is posted on the ABNM website. If you have additional questions or need further clarifications, please email your questions to [abnm@abnm.org](mailto:abnm@abnm.org)

**A. When did the ABNM MOC program start?** Since 2007, you have needed to confirm that you have a total of 25 CME credits annually. Part 4 requirements began in 2011.

**B. Why do I have to pay fees for this program?** The MOC fee was initiated in 2006 to help pay for the start-up costs of MOC. The board does not intend to make a profit from MOC fees. In 2012, the board started to incorporate the MOC exam fees into the MOC annual fees. The annual MOC fee is \$400. The MOC exam fee will be phased out over a period of 10 years. In order to participate in MOC, diplomates must pay all MOC fees from 2006 or from the date of their initial certification, whichever is later.

**C. How does the ABNM determine if a diplomate is participating in MOC?** The ABNM considers a diplomate as participating in MOC if they have met the following milestones:

1. MOC Fees-No more than 3 years behind in payment of annual MOC fees (fees are cumulative)
2. Part 1-Contact information, practice profile and unrestricted medical licenses confirmed/updated within the last 3 years
3. Part 2-No more than 3 years behind in cumulative annual CME and SAM requirements
4. Part 3-Passed the Maintenance of Certification exam every 10 years (or by the time required to remain certified)
5. Part 4-No more than 3 years behind in annual requirements

**D. What happens if I do not meet the milestones in the time required?** Your status would change to “not participating MOC” and this information would be made available to credentialing organizations when the information is requested and to the public through the ABMS website [www.certificationmatters.org](http://www.certificationmatters.org).

**E. If I want to participate in MOC again, what are the re-entry requirements?** In order to participate in MOC, you will need to:

1. Pay all unpaid annual MOC fees
2. Enter yearly CME in your MyMOC profile
3. Pass the MOC exam
4. Complete all required PPA activities

**F. How will the ABNM help me track the milestones for participating in MOC?** If you fall one year behind, every other month you will receive an e-mail message from the ABNM reminding you of milestones and or/fees that require your attention or are due. This is why it is crucial for diplomates to update their contact information, especially their e-mail address, on a regular (or at least annual) basis.

**G. What if I decide to no longer participate in MOC?** Contact the ABNM by e-mail if you have decided not to participate in MOC. The ABNM will continue to send you one message each year about MOC, in the event your circumstances change and you wish to participate in the program.

**H. What should I do if I plan to retire and will no longer participate in MOC?** Contact the ABNM by e-mail informing us that you will retire and have decided not to participate in MOC any longer. We will note in your profile that you have retired and you will no longer receive any information about MOC. Should your circumstances change and you will again practice, and wish to participate in MOC, contact the ABNM for information about participating (see question above about re-entry requirements).

**I. Do all diplomates need to participate in MOC?** Yes. As professionals we all have a responsibility for life-long learning. MOC formalizes life-long learning and practice performance assessment (PPA) into a program that is valuable to diplomates and credible to state medical licensing boards, payers, patients, credentialing committees, etc. If boards do not take the lead in establishing a credible program, alternative programs will inevitably be imposed on medical professionals by others. The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) is coordinating the efforts of all 24 member boards.

**J. What are the consequences if I do not participate in MOC?** Over the next few years, it is likely that other groups will require ABNM diplomates to participate in MOC. Failure to participate may result in increased difficulty in renewing your medical license, being credentialed, or being reimbursed by the government and 3<sup>rd</sup> party payers. Candidates taking the certification examination and diplomates with time limited certificates taking the MOC examination now sign a statement acknowledging that they must participate in MOC in order to maintain their certificate. Lifetime certificates will not be converted to time-limited certificates when diplomates participate in MOC.

In August 2011, the ABMS (American Board of Medical Specialties) began posting diplomates MOC status (Participating: Yes/No) on their public website ([www.certificationmatters.org](http://www.certificationmatters.org)). The milestones that the ABNM will be using to determine MOC status are posted on the ABNM website ([www.abnm.org](http://www.abnm.org)).

**K. Do diplomates with a lifetime certificate need to participate in MOC?** Yes, it is illogical to require younger, more recently trained physicians to participate in MOC and not require older physicians to participate. There is some evidence to indicate that older physicians will benefit more from MOC. Failure to participate will likely result in increased difficulty in renewing your medical license, being credentialed, and being reimbursed by the government and 3<sup>rd</sup> party payers. Although the ABNM does not have plans to revoke lifetime certificates, lack of participation in MOC will be reported to agencies that inquire about certification status.

If diplomates with lifetime certificates decide to participate in MOC, they keep their lifetime certificate and get a second certificate indicating that they are participating in MOC.

**L. How are Self-Assessment Module (SAM) credits measured?** Each self-assessment module is assigned a number of CME credits. The ABNM uses these CME credits to measure self-assessment. A single module with 2.5 CME credits receives 2.5 credits toward the 8.0 self-assessment credit requirement. Note that a self-assessment module provides self-assessment credits and also counts toward the category 1 CME requirement. Other boards use different self-assessment measures. For example, the ABR's requirement is defined in terms of the number of modules; each module counts as one credit irrespective of the number of associated CME credits. The key point is that the ABNM requires 8.0 CME credits from self-assessment modules.

The ABNM is working with the ABR to jointly approve nuclear medicine SAMs so that completion of these modules will fulfill the requirements of both boards. The ABNM will accept SAM credits that are earned by completing SAMs that are approved by any other ABMS member board. The ABNM will periodically request documentation of CME credits of some diplomates participating in MOC. DO NOT SEND documentation of CME participation unless requested by the ABNM

**M. Do I have to participate in MOC if I am in training?** MOC fees and CME requirements will be waived for diplomates who are still in training. Diplomates must provide the ABNM with an annual confirmation letter from their Program Director confirming the diplomate is enrolled during the current year.

***Fees:***

After receipt/review/approval of program director letter, fees will be waived for current year. Once training is complete, the fees will be reinstated.

***Refund Of Fees Paid:***

If fees were paid while diplomate in training and waiver is granted, the fees will be refunded and reinstated upon completion of the training.

***CMEs:***

The CME requirement will also be waived while the resident is in an approved ACGME residency program. The CMEs will be prorated if the resident completes the program before December 31 of the final training year (see waiver response below)

The MOC CME requirements will also be waived while you are in a training program. Upon completion of your training, you will be required to complete the ABNM CME credits for that year, prorated for the time you were in training. For example, if you complete your training on June 30<sup>th</sup>, you will be required to complete ½ the ABNM credits (4 nuclear medicine credits from Nuclear Medicine self assessment modules, 8.75 category 1 CME (related to Nuclear Medicine) including the SAM credits and 12.5 category 1 CME credits including the credits related to Nuclear Medicine).

## USING YOUR MyMOC PROFILE

The ABNM has created a portal on the ABNM website for diplomates to track their MOC requirements. MyMOC Profile is the portal for that purpose. The following sections answer questions diplomates may have about the portal.

### I. MOC Fee

A. I paid my MOC fees and updated my contact information but received a message that Part 1 is incomplete, why? Most likely you did not update/complete Part 1 in your profile (see below-caution sign). Often a diplomate will pay fees online, but does not continue on to complete Part 1 and submit to the ABNM for review.

My MOC		Status
Click on Blue Triangle for help on each item.		
Are You Participating in MOC?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
MOC Fee		
Part 1 - Professional Standing		
Our records indicate that you have not yet addressed the MOC Part 1 requirement.		
<a href="#">Click Here</a> to enter and submit your Professional Status information.		
<a href="#">Close Detail</a>		

B. What do the status symbols mean and should I be concerned? As you enter information in your MyMOC profile, each part may be in various stages of review. The status bar will inform you if a part needs your attention, is currently under review by the ABNM or is complete and been accepted. Below is the status key defined:

STATUS KEYS		
= Done	= Incomplete	Please Confirm or Update
Complete/reviewed & accepted by ABNM:	Ready for review by ABNM:	Needs attention by diplomate:

### II. MOC Part 1—Professional Standing

Part 1 has three pages with 9 questions to answer regarding your professional status that can be completed in a few minutes. Once you have answered the questions, saved the pages and submitted the application, the ABNM will review the entries. If we have any questions, you will receive an e-mail message from the ABNM office.

My MOC Part 1 Checklist			= Done	= Incomplete
Status	Page #	Section Title		
	1	Instructions for Completing the ABNM Professional Status		
	2	Medical Practice Credentials		
	3	Current Work Experience		
<b>Submitting Your Update</b>				
Our records indicate that you have not yet completed all pages of My MOC Part 1. Green checkmarks in the status column above indicate the pages you have addressed. When you have checkmarks for all pages, you will be able to proceed to submitting your update from here.				

Once the ABNM has reviewed your entries and approved the pages for Part 1, the section will be marked done (status-check mark). You will also receive an e-mail indicating that your submission has been accepted.

## My MOC

! Click on Blue Triangle for help on each item.		Status
Are You Participating in MOC?	▼	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
MOC Fee	▼	✓
Part 1 - Professional Standing	▼	✓
Part 2 - Lifelong Learning	▼	
Part 3 - Cognitive Expertise Date of Next MOC Exam: 2019 Date Of Last Examination: 2007	▼	🔒
Part 4 - Practice Performance Assessment	▼	✓

### III. MOC Part 2—Life Long Learning

A. **How many Category 1 CME credits am I required to have annually?** The ABNM requires the following Category 1 CMEs :

<b><u>Total of 25 CME credits are required:</u></b>	
<b>25</b>	Category 1 CME credits (including nuclear medicine and SAM credits)
<b>17.5</b>	Category 1 CME credits related to nuclear medicine (including SAM credits)
<b>8.0</b>	Self-Assessment Modules (SAM's) related to nuclear medicine

If you have more than 8 SAM CME credits, this excess will be counted towards your nuclear medicine CME credits. If you have an excess in SAM and nuclear medicine CME credits, this excess will be counted towards your remaining total CME credits.

**Please note:** Because of the importance of correlative imaging and understanding the clinical impact of imaging on patient management, most CME credits will be considered to be related to nuclear medicine.

**B. Do I have to enter Category 1 CME credits?** If you have opted into the CMEgateway (see below) your credits from organizations that you are a member (such as the SNM, RSNA, and ACR) will automatically be downloaded to your profile. For this to happen, you need to register at the CMEgateway ([www.CMEgateway.org](http://www.CMEgateway.org)) and establish links to the professional organizations that you belong and earn CME credit. There are two advantages to using CMEgateway. First, you save time since your CME credits are automatically reported to ABNM on your behalf. Second, since these CME credits have been verified, they are not subject to audit.

The screenshot shows the CMEgateway.org website. At the top left is the logo 'CMEgateway.org'. On the right, there is a 'Member Login' section with fields for 'USERNAME' and 'PASSWORD', and a 'GO!' button. Below the login section is a navigation bar with links for 'HOME', 'F.A.Q.', and 'Forgot Your Password?'. A row of logos for various medical societies is displayed, including RSNA, ACR, SNM, ARRS, Society of Interventional Radiology, ASNR, The Society for Pediatric Radiology, CAMPEP, ABR (American Board of Radiology), ABNM, and AMA (American Medical Association). The main content area features several sections: 'Quick Start' with instructions on viewing and generating reports; 'What is the CME Gateway?' explaining the aggregation of credits; 'The CME Gateway Is Not' clarifying it is not a long-term storage facility; 'Functional Description' detailing the cross-referencing of member IDs; and 'Join Now!' with a link to create an account.

**C. I do not belong to the society where I earned the CME credit, will my credits transfer through the CMEgateway?** You must belong to the society to receive this benefit. You will have to manually enter those credits in your MYMOC profile and they will be subject to audit by the ABNM.

**D. What happens if the organization I received my CME credits through does not participate in the CMEgateway?** You will have to manually enter your CMEs into your MYMOC profile and they will be subject to audit by the ABNM. Therefore, you should keep a record of the CME activity in the event your profile is audited.

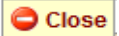
**E. How many Category 2 CMEs are required annually?** The ABNM no longer requires diplomates to document Category 2 CME activity. Although Category 2 CME is a valuable part of MOC, keeping track and recording Category 2 credit is largely busy work.



**F. How do I fill in the fields with CME credit information?** Since the activity can range from attending grand rounds, on-line educational activities to manuscript reviews, you have some flexibility in entering the activity. If you receive multiple CME credits from a single sponsor, you do not have to enter each CME credit. Instead use the **“Add Summary”** option. Below is a **sample CME summary activity entry** for reviewing journal articles. The fields in yellow are required to be completed before the entry will be accepted. Fill in the data as completely and clearly as possible, to avoid unnecessary inquiries from the ABNM about the

**My MOC Part 2**

**Part 2 - Adding CME Summary**

 Close

**Summary Information**

<b>Sponsor</b>	JNM <small>commonly known organization acronyms are accepted</small>
<b>Description</b>	3 manuscript reviews
<b>Year Earned</b>	2011

**Credits**

<b>Credit Type</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> CAT1 <input type="radio"/> CAT2
<b>Credits</b>	<b>Category 1 Total:</b> <input type="text" value="3"/> This number represents the number of AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ earned.
	<b>Category 1 in NM:</b> <input type="text" value="3"/> Of the number earned above, enter the number of credits in Nuclear Medicine.
	<b>SAM-NM:</b> <input type="text" value="0"/> Of the number earned above, enter the number of Nuclear Medicine SAM credits.


activity.

**G. What if I don't have all the information to complete the page?** You must fill in all required fields if not, you will receive an **error message (see below)** informing you data must be entered in the field to proceed to the next entry. Required fields are highlighted. The sample below is for an **individual CME session**:

**My MOC Part 2**

**Part 2 - Adding Individual CME Session**

 Close

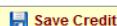
 **Invalid Category 1 Total** - The Category 1 Total provided (0) must be greater than zero.

**Session Information**

<b>Sponsor</b>	University of Wisconsin <small>commonly known organization acronyms are accepted</small>
<b>Program</b>	Grand Rounds
<b>Location</b>	<input type="text"/> <small>optional</small>
<b>Session Title</b>	Nuclear Medicine Update
<b>Session Identifier (Code)</b>	<input type="text"/> <small>optional</small>
<b>Date Earned</b>	10/31/2011

**Credits**

<b>Credit Type</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> CAT1 <input type="radio"/> CAT2
<b>Credits</b>	<b>Category 1 Total:</b> <input type="text" value="0.00"/> This number represents the number of AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ earned.
	<b>Category 1 in NM:</b> <input type="text" value="0.00"/> Of the number earned above, enter the number of credits in Nuclear Medicine.
	<b>SAM-NM:</b> <input type="text" value="0.00"/> Of the number earned above, enter the number of Nuclear Medicine SAM credits.

 Save Credit

When you have completed the entry, click on **“Save Credit”** to save the entry.

**My MOC Part 2**

**Part 2 - Adding Individual CME Session** Close

**Session Information**

Sponsor	University of Wisconsin <small>commonly known organization acronyms are accepted</small>
Program	Grand Rounds
Location	<input type="text"/> <small>optional</small>
Session Title	-Nuclear Medicine Update
Session Identifier (Code)	<input type="text"/> <small>optional</small>
Date Earned	2011

**Credits**

Credit Type	<input checked="" type="radio"/> CAT1 <input type="radio"/> CAT2	
Credits	Category 1 Total:	<input type="text" value="1"/> This number represents the number of AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ earned.
	Category 1 in NM:	<input type="text" value="1"/> Of the number earned above, enter the number of credits in Nuclear Medicine.
	SAM-NM:	<input type="text" value="0"/> Of the number earned above, enter the number of Nuclear Medicine SAM credits.

**Save Credit**

If the entry was accepted, you will be informed it has been **saved** to your profile:

**My MOC Part 2**




**Part 2 - Edit CME Summary** Delete Close

Save was successful!




**H. Why do I have a duplicate entry of CME credit noted in my record?** Sometimes diplomates are unaware what activities are automatically entered by the CMEgateway, if they have opted to have the credits uploaded. Always check the entries that are automatically approved by the CMEgateway in your profile *before* you enter new credits. This will eliminate the ABNM contacting you when duplicates are identified (**see below**):

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			SNM	<b>Clinical Applications of SPECT and PET in the Evaluation of Dementia</b> <small>Clinical Applications of SPECT and PET in the Evaluation of Dementia</small>	12/29/2006	2.50	2.50	2.50	0.00	2.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unspecified	<b>SNM sam- PET in Dementia</b>	12/29/2006	0.00	2.50	2.50	0.00	2.50
<p>Is this a duplicate entry from CME Gateway? If so, please delete this entry. If it is not, please update the Sponsor field with that information and re-submit.</p>										

**I. What do the status symbols mean when I enter CME credits and should I be concerned?** As you enter CME information in your MyMOC profile, the entries may be in various stages of review. The status bar will inform you if a part needs your attention, is currently under review by the ABNM or is complete and been accepted. **Below** are definitions of the status keys and sample entries with the symbols:






STATUS SYMBOL KEY		
	 = Done	 Please Confirm or Update
CME credit submitted to ABNM for review:	Complete/reviewed & accepted by ABNM:	Needs attention by diplomate:

**Results**

Status	Sponsor	Session/Program	Date Earned	SAM-NM	CAT1-NM	CAT1-AII	CAT2	Total CME
	Unspecified	Manuscript writing (10 published manuscripts)	12/1/2008	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00
	RSNA	Radiographics CME/SAM <i>Radiographics Articles</i>	11/1/2009	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00
	Unspecified	III Rad Society Annual Mtg	3/14/2009	0.00	0.00	7.25	0.00	7.25
Enter name of Sponsor of the Session/Program in field. Resubmit to ABNM after information is entered.								

**J. I've made an error in entering a CME activity and have been contacted by the ABNM to revise, what should I do?** To edit/delete invalid or duplicate CME credits, go to your profile and click on "Part 2 Lifelong Learning" (Lower right on your profile page).

**My MOC**

Click on Blue Triangle for help on each item.		Status
Are You Participating in MOC?	▼	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
MOC Fee	▼	
Part 1 - Professional Standing	▼	
Part 2 - Lifelong Learning	▼	
Part 3 - Cognitive Expertise Date of Next MOC Exam: 2016 Date Of Last Examination: 1979	▼	
Part 4 - Practice Performance Assessment	▼	

This will open up the "Click Here" link to view and edit your CME entries.

**Part 2 - Lifelong Learning** ▲

Please update your CME History at least annually.

[Click Here](#) to view or make edits to your CME History.

Close Detail

This will open up the graph of the CME you have earned the last 3 completed calendar years (**the current year is not included in this graph**). *To edit/delete invalid or duplicate CME credits, click on **“View/Edit CME Entries”**.*

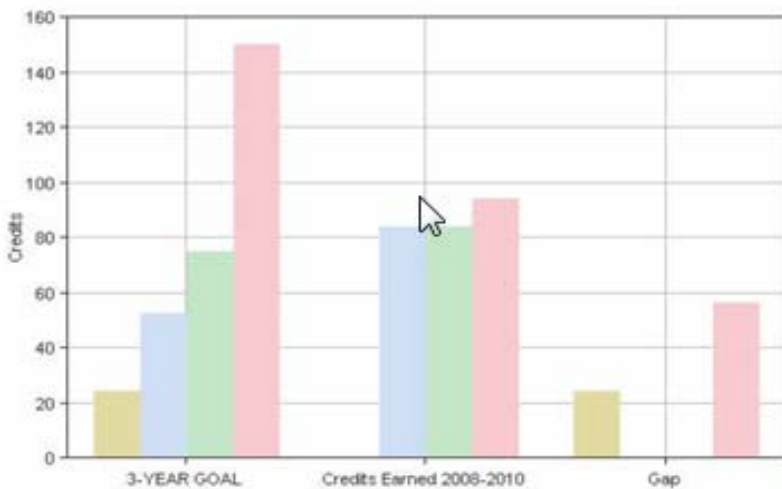
**My MOC Part 2**

Current Part 2 Status

[View/Edit CME Entries](#) [Close](#)

CME Gateway Linking Status

	Self Assessment	Category 1 - Nuc Med	Category 1 All	All CE
Three-Year Goal Per Credit Type:	24	52.5	75	150



	Self Assessment	Category 1 - Nuc Med	Category 1 All	All CE
Yearly Goal Per Credit Type:	8	17.5	25	50

You will now see all your entries. You can filter them by using the filter tool at the top of the list of entries. Filtering by Status “Requires Attention” is recommended. Please note: you cannot edit or delete CME entries that have been accepted by the ABNM (**green checkmark**). If an accepted CME entry is invalid or a duplicate, please email the ABNM office.

✓	SNM	Examination Preparation Session & Speciality Area Question Preparation <i>2004 Semi-Annual Meeting</i>	6/29/2004	0.00	5.00	5.00	0.00	5.00
✓	SNM	ABNM Certification (CE) Recertification (RE) and In- Training Examinations Preparations and Analysis of Prior Examination Question Performance <i>2004 Semi-Annual Meeting</i>	6/28/2004	0.00	5.00	5.00	0.00	5.00
ⓘ	Unspecified	<a href="#">hjkfsa</a>	1/1/2004	8.00	8.00	8.00	0.00	8.00
ⓘ	Unspecified	<a href="#">hikjh</a>	1/1/2004	0.00	75.00	75.00	0.00	75.00
✓	ACR	Intersociety Summer Conference 2003 (ISC2003TR-CAT1) <i>Intersociety Summer Conference 2003</i>	8/3/2003	0.00	0.00	11.00	0.00	11.00
✓	ACR	Intersociety Summer Conference 2002 (ISC2002TR-CAT1) <i>Intersociety Summer Conference 2002</i>	7/28/2002	0.00	0.00	9.50	0.00	9.50

As shown above, click on the invalid or duplicate CME credits (**in the session/program column**).

You can now edit or delete the entry (**see below**). Delete the entry by clicking on the **“Delete”** button on the top right corner of the editing box. Edit the entry by correcting the invalid or missing information and then clicking on the **“Save Credit”** link at the bottom center of the editing box. When you click delete, you will be asked to confirm that you want to delete this CME entry.

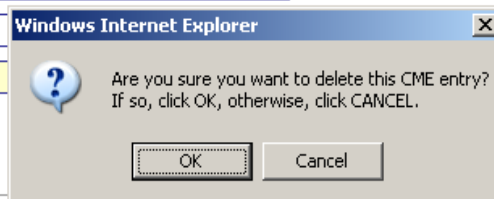
### My MOC Part 2

#### Part 2 - Edit Individual CME Session

#### Session Information


Sponsor	Unspecified <small>commonly known organization acronyms are accepted</small>
Program	
Location	
Session Title	j;ldksg
Session Identifier (Code)	<small>optional</small>
Date Earned	1/1/2004

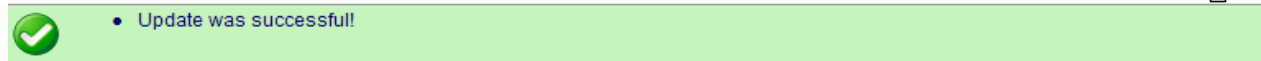


If you edit an entry, click **“OK”**, you will receive confirmation that the entry was updated. To get back to the list of entries, click on the **“Close” link (upper right of editing box)**.

### My MOC Part 2

#### Part 2 - Edit Individual CME Session




#### Session Information

Sponsor	Unspecified <small>commonly known organization acronyms are accepted</small>
Program	asd
Location	<small>optional</small>
Session Title	hlkjh
Session Identifier (Code)	<small>optional</small>
Date Earned	1/1/2004

#### Credits

Credit Type	<input checked="" type="radio"/> CAT1
	<input type="radio"/> CAT2
Credits	Category 1 Total: <input type="text" value="75.00"/> This number represents the number of AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ earned.
	Category 1 in NM: <input type="text" value="75.00"/> Of the number earned above, enter the number of credits in Nuclear Medicine.
	SAM-NM: <input type="text" value="0.00"/> Of the number earned above, enter the number of Nuclear Medicine SAM credits.

 Save Credit

When you reach your goal of having no more CME entries that require attention, clicking on the close button returns you to your CME summary graph. Click on the **“Close”** button again to return to your profile page.



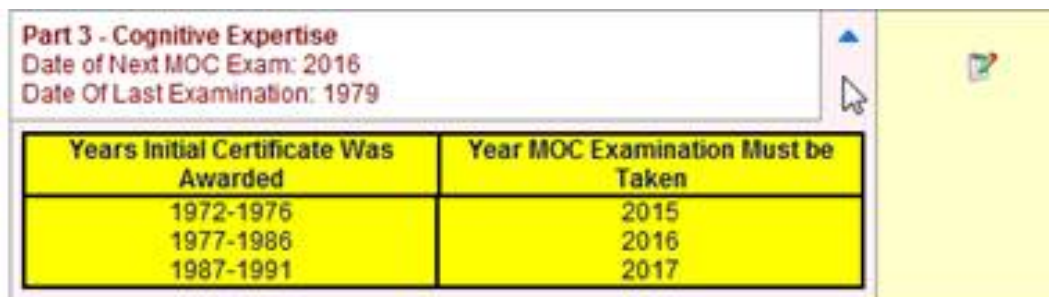
**K. I was behind in CME credits but I made them up in the current year. Despite this, I am still getting messages that I am behind, why?** In order to avoid penalizing diplomates for not completing their required CME until the end of the current year, the current year is **EXCLUDED** from the CME calculation. Therefore, excess CME credits from the current year will not be counted until the end of the current year. The ABNM is looking at alternative ways of counting CME in order to address the problem but a solution will not be implemented for several months.

#### IV. MOC Part 3—Cognitive Expertise

**A. How do I know when it is time for me to take the MOC exam?** Once you have created your MyMOC profile, you will be prompted on your profile page when you should apply for your next MOC exam. Below is information for a diplomate with a time-limited certificate who is due to take the exam in 2017.

<b>Part 3 - Cognitive Expertise</b> Date of Next MOC Exam: 2017 Date Of Last Examination: 2007	
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If a diplomate holds a non-time limited certificate and is participating in MOC, the following schedule for taking the MOC exam is below:



Years Initial Certificate Was Awarded	Year MOC Examination Must be Taken
1972-1976	2015
1977-1986	2016
1987-1991	2017

**B. Is there another way the ABNM can remind me of the exam deadline?** The ABNM sends reminders every other month to diplomates via e-mail regarding a diplomate’s status in all Parts of MOC. Reminders about Part 3 deadlines will be sent 2 years before your certificate expires. Your certificate expiration date will be listed on page 1 of your profile.

**C. What happens if I miss the deadline and my certificate expires?** You will not be in compliance with the ABNM MOC requirements until you have taken the MOC exam and passed. You will be listed as no longer being certified if you do not pass the MOC exam before your exam deadline.

**D. If I miss the deadline will I still be able to take the exam?** Yes, the next time it is offered, which is once a year. If your certificate expired longer than 5 years, the MOC Part 3 requirement is to sit for the initial certification exam rather than the MOC exam.

**E. Can I take the exam earlier than the required 10 years?** Yes, you can take the MOC exam at anytime, however the certificate will only be valid for a maximum of 12 years after passing the previous exam, regardless when the MOC exam is passed.

**F. I have a non-time limited certificate, will that certificate still be valid when I pass the MOC exam?** Yes, you will always retain your original non-time limited certificate. Upon passing the MOC exam, you will receive an additional certificate noting this accomplishment and your participation in MOC.

## V. MOC Part 4—Practice Performance Assessment

**A. How do I pick a Part 4 project?** The diplomate has more flexibility over this part of MOC than the others. Projects selected to meet the Practice Performance Assessment (Part IV) requirement of the ABNM's Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program should:

- Be relevant to your practice
- Be achievable in your practice setting
- Produce results that are suited to repeat measurement during your ten year MOC cycle
- Be reasonably expected to bring about quality improvement

**B. Do you have any resources that will help me choose a project?** Yes, the ABNM *Guidelines for PPA projects* can be found on the ABNM website [www.abnm.org](http://www.abnm.org) under the Maintenance of Certification tab:

**What is MOC?**

- MOC FAQ Brochure
- Information Brochure
- Are you participating in MOC?
- Guidelines for PPA projects
- PPA Project Timeline
- MOC Updates From Newslines
- Components of Pro. Competence

**C. What is the timeline for Part 4 projects?** On your profile home page, you will see the timeline for Part 4 projects.

**D. What am I required to complete each year for Part 4?** Each year the requirements for the project will be identified in the survey screens (**see sample Year 1 below**):

1. I have learned about quality improvement, error reduction, and/or patient safety. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Yes

2. By what method did you learn (Check all that apply)?

- Self-directed reading
- Course attendance
- Completion of qualified Self-Assessment Module Related to Practice Performance Assessment
- Participation in my own institution's quality program(s)
- Other (Please Specify)

**Part 4 - Practice Performance Assessment**

Please click a survey link below - one survey is required per year.

Part IV Plan for			MD
Part IV Year	Calendar Year	Status	Survey Title
1	2011		<b>Learning/Identify Project Plan</b>
2	2012	--	Identify Project Plan/Progress On Plan
3	2013	--	Progress on Plan
4	2014	--	Complete Project Plan
5	2015	--	Identify Project Plan/Progress On Plan
6	2016	--	Progress on Plan
7	2017	--	Complete Project Plan
8	2018	--	Identify Project Plan/Progress On Plan
9	2019	--	Progress on Plan
10	2020	--	Complete Project Plan