

In Memoriam, Past ABNM Board Members

Dr. Nilo E. Herrera, 84, passed away September 16, 2008. He was born October 27, 1923, in the Dominican Republic. He received his medical degree from the University of Santo Domingo in 1950. He won a Fulbright Scholarship in 1951.

He held several academic posts during his medical career, including clinical assistant professor of pathology at Yale University Medical School. He authored and co-authored more than 50 publications and seven books based on his medical research and clinical experience. He was chairman and director of the Department of Laboratory Medicine at the Danbury hospital and retired in 1991.

He established the World Health Organization Collaborating Center for Nuclear Medicine at Danbury Hospital and served as its director from 1982 till 1999. He served on the ABNM from 1985 to 1990.

Dr. John G. McAfee, 82, passed away July 26, 2008. He co-founded the first nuclear medicine facility at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1958. He was a nuclear medicine pioneer and recognized with numerous honors and awards including the Radiological

Society of North America (RSNA) highest scientific award, the Gold Medal in 1999.

His notable discoveries included the development of the first technetium 99m-labeled phosphate bone scanning agents as well as labeled blood cells for imaging their organ distribution. After his tenure at Johns Hopkins, Dr. McAfee spent 25 years at the State University of New York Health Science Center at Syracuse, New York as Professor and Chairman of the Department of Radiology and Radiological sciences.

In 1990, Dr. McAfee became a radiology professor at the George Washington University Medical Center and a nuclear medicine consultant to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Clinical Center. From 1992 to 1995, he was Chief of NIH's Radiopharmaceutical Research Section and consulted in the Clinical section until retiring. He served on many committees for NIH and the National Academy of Sciences.

A prolific writer, he was the author or coauthor of more than 300 papers, book chapters, and abstracts. He served on the ABNM from 1972 to 1979.

Dr. Edward Vincent Staab, 72, passed away November 1, 2008. He did his residency at V.A. Hospital at the University of Minnesota and obtained a M.S. in Biophysics during that time.

His academic experience was wide-ranging: he was at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Professor and Associate Chairman of the Department of Radiology at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Radiology at the University of Florida in Gainesville, and Director of the Imaging Science Program at Warren G. Magnusen Clinical Center, Chief of the Diagnostic Imaging Branch of the Biomedical Imaging Program DCTD/NCI, and Acting Division Director of the Division of Science and Technology, NIBIB/NIH in Washington, D.C.

His most recent position was as Professor Emeritus of Radiologic Sciences - Radiology at Wake Forest. He provided editorial assistance to various radiological journals and was the recipient of several honors and awards. He co-authored numerous book chapters and journal articles in his field of expertise. He served on the ABNM from 1986 to 1991.

2009 ABNM New Board Members



George M. Segall, M.D.
Chief, Nuclear Medicine Services
VA Palo Alto Health Care System
Palo Alto, California



Janis P. O'Malley, M.D.
Director, Nuclear Medicine
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Nuclear Medicine Department
Birmingham, Alabama



The American Board
of Nuclear Medicine

A Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties
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Certification Matters



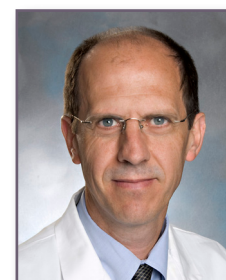
TRACERS

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Highlights from the Chair—Marcelo F. Di Carli, M.D.



Marcelo F. Di Carli, M.D. Secretary Treasurer and the Member-at-Large on the Executive Committee is Dr. Janis O'Malley, a new board member whose profile is on page 4. I will remain on the Executive Committee as Past-Chair and Dr. Henry Royal will remain on the Executive Committee as Executive Director.

By the time you read this article, my term as Chair of the ABNM will have ended. As shown below, the new ABNM Chair is Dr. Harvey Ziessman; the Vice-Chair is Dr. Barry Shulkin; the

Secretary Treasurer is Dr. David Mankoff

The other new Board member this year is Dr. George Segall (see page 4). George has written an article for this newsletter (page 3) describing his experience preparing for and taking the MOC examination. All board members are required to actively participate in MOC. I hope you enjoy his article. George will also be the ABNM representative on the American Board of Medical Specialties' Board of Directors.

Welcoming 2 new board members is a bitter sweet moment for the Board because it also means we must say goodbye to two dedicated board members (Drs. Sally DeNardo and Steve Larson) who have completed their terms. It has been a privilege to serve as the chair of the ABNM.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Harvey A. Ziessman, M.D.
Chair

Barry L. Shulkin, M.D., MBA
Vice-Chair

David A. Mankoff, M.D., Ph.D.
Secretary Treasurer

Janis P. O'Malley, M.D.
Member-at-Large

Marcelo F. Di Carli, M.D.
Past-Chair

Henry D. Royal, M.D.
Executive Director

DIRECTORS

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Gary L. Dillehay, M.D.

Kirk A. Frey, M.D., Ph.D.

Leonie L. Gordon, M.D.

J. Anthony Parker, M.D., Ph.D.

Lalitha Ramanna, M.D.

George M. Segall, M.D.

Executive Directors Report—Henry D. Royal, M.D.



Henry D. Royal, M.D.
Executive Director
royalh@mir.wustl.edu

I hope you have noticed that the newsletter has a new design. Kudos to Dr. Leonie Gordon, Communications Committee Chair and the ABNM staff (especially Monica Waller - our graphics guru) for taking on this task. One of our biggest problems when we write this newsletter is that we quickly run out of space. So much is happening so quickly that it is difficult to keep our diplomates informed.

In addition to this newsletter, the ABNM frequently writes articles about maintenance of certification and other board related issues for the Newsline section of the Journal of Nuclear Medicine. Past issues of Tracers and the Newsline articles are posted on the ABNM website. Tracers can be found on the "ABOUT ABNM" tab by clicking on "Newsletters" in the left hand navigation column. The Newsline articles can be found on the "MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION" tab by clicking on "MOC Updates From Newsline" in the left hand navigation column.

Tracers is written to meet your needs. Let me know if there are any topics you would like to see covered.

2009 Certification and Maintenance of Certification Examination Schedule

Application Period: April 1, 2009 through May 31, 2009

(on-line application available at www.abnm.org)

Examination Dates: October 5 through October 9, 2009

ABNM Meeting Highlights

Kevin Weiss MD, MPH, the president of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) attended part of our board meeting. He discussed the need to document that high quality healthcare is provided by physicians certified by an ABMS board. He stressed that for physicians to have an important role in healthcare reform. Groups like the ABMS boards must reach out to the public and ensure them that we share their concerns for quality, safety and efficiency. Some ABNM board members are actively

involved in ABMS committees and activities.



ABNM BOARD MEMBERS

BACK ROW: Drs. George Segall, Harvey Ziessman, Leonie Gordon, Barry Shulkin, Lalitha Ramanna and Janis O'Malley; **CENTER ROW:** Drs. David Mankoff, Dominique Delbeke, Marcelo Di Carli, Gary Dillehay, J. Anthony Parker and Kirk Frey; **FRONT ROW:** Drs. Sally DeNardo, Henry Royal and Steven Larson

A Lifer's Reflections on the MOC Exam—George M. Segall, M.D.

I took the ABNM certification exam in 1986 and am considered a "lifer" – a physician with a lifetime certificate. ABNM certificates issued after 1991 expire in 10 years, and physicians must take the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) exam to be recertified.

Although I was a lifer, I was required to take the MOC exam in 2008 when I was elected to serve on the ABNM. Panic! Being a VA physician, my practice was restricted to adults. I had no recent clinical experience in pediatrics, and I worried that I hadn't kept up with molecular imaging. I looked at the ABNM web site and read the four sample questions. I answered three of them correctly. Was that good enough to pass? Would I pass with a low score that would embarrass me in front of my peers?

I looked at the on-line Content Manual. No help there. The manual was an encyclopedic listing of everything in Nuclear Medicine. How was I going to prepare for the exam? Where was I going to find the time? I looked in bookstores as well as on-line for review courses and sample tests.

No luck. There was nothing for physicians. I looked with dismay at the textbooks lining my bookshelf. I sought out colleagues who took the exam, but their breezy assurance not to worry didn't provide much reassurance. Paralyzed by uncertainty and running out of time, I did nothing. The day arrived and I showed up at the testing center at my appointed time. I emptied my pockets, was fingerprinted, photographed and led to my cubicle.

Once I got started my anxiety evaporated. This wasn't so bad. The questions were reasonable and well written. I even knew the answers to some of the pediatric and molecular imaging questions. I had plenty of time to complete the 100+ questions in the allotted 3.5 hours. I left confident that I passed, and optimistic that my performance wouldn't be embarrassing.

About 6 weeks later I got my results. Hooray! I passed. Suddenly I was glad that I took the MOC exam. I was proud. My first ABNM meeting impressed me with the question-writing skill of my colleagues, and their sensitivity to the appropriateness of questions for the practicing physician. I also learned that the pass rate for the MOC exam is high.

About 95% of diplomates pass the MOC exam on their first attempt.

I also learned that practicing physicians can take the In-Training Examination given to residents if they really want to get an idea of what the MOC exam is like, and identify their own strengths and weaknesses. I encourage all lifers like me to take the MOC exam before the suggested deadline of 2015-2017.

It's not clear what the consequences will be if lifers don't participate in MOC. It is anticipated that organizations that regulate the practice of medicine and reimburse for professional services will require participation in MOC. Right now, the tangible benefit of passing the MOC exam is documentation of expertise in 12 areas of practice, including basic science, cardiovascular, CT, general nuclear medicine, pediatrics, molecular imaging, neurology, bone-infection, oncology PET and PET/CT, oncologic therapy, and patient safety. This documentation can be very helpful when applying for practice privileges.

Participation in MOC also earns the respect of your colleagues, and builds public trust. Don't delay. Trust me, you'll be glad you did it!

MOC Marches On—Barry L. Shulkin, M.D., MBA, Chair MOC Committee

The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) conceptualized Maintenance of Certification (MOC) nearly a decade ago to provide a credible framework for diplomates to document their commitment to life-long learning and continuous quality improvement. There is growing evidence that diplomates who participate in MOC provide better healthcare.

In response to ABMS requirements, the American Board of Nuclear Medicine (ABNM) developed the Maintenance of

Certification (MOC) program that became effective in 2007. The program documents that nuclear medicine physicians maintain the necessary competencies to provide quality patient care in nuclear medicine. It is now an ongoing process and will require the assessment and improvement of practice performance by nuclear medicine physicians, as well as completion of a patient safety module. ABNM is requiring MOC participation for its diplomates with time limited certificates issued since 1992. the

ABNM expects all of its diplomates, including those with lifetime certificates, will need to participate in MOC programs. It is the right thing to do!! Visit the ABNM's MOC page at <http://www.abnm.org/index.cfm?PageID=5052&RPID=4999> for additional information.

Login to the ABNM Website

www.abnm.org

New Diplomates Who Passed the 2008 Certification Examination

Agriantonis, Demetrios
Alabsi, Eyad
Altinyay, Mustafa
Anderson, Shane
Ashlock, Robert
Bajaj, Sunil
Banks, Kevin
Bathaii, Seyed
Blurton, Ashley
Bonta, Dacian
Borkar, Sunita
Brady, Matthew
Brenner, Michele
Cahill, John
Dalal, Ishani
Davis, Phillip
De Blanche, Lorraine
Dhillon, Rajesh
Dohrman, John

Edmunds, John
Feeney, John
Fox, Josef
Fu, Yitong
Gamble, Brian
Gannon, James
Garudaiyengar, Sheela
Goel, Sumina
Hassan, Aamna
Holz, Andrew
Hong, Xiaoni
Inoue, Shane
Kang, Patrick
Kao, Yang-En
Khan, Zahid
Khawar, Muhammad
Lee, Oneil
Lee, Daniel
Lindenberg, Maria

Mahmood, Syed
Makhlouf, Paul
Malik, Nadia
McAlarney, Kelly
Meka, Murali Krishna
Mintz, Akiva
Mittra, Erik
Mocherla, Bharat
Moinuddin, Asif
Nagano, Vicki
Nakamura, Kevin
Nuthakki, Soujanya
Perini, Rodolfo
Phan, Peter
Rangaswamy, Balasubramanya
Sakellis, Christopher
Shah, Chirayu
Sheehy, Niall
Singnurkar, Amit

Stauss, Jan
Suh, Jongdae
Suter, Edgar
Taher, Abida
Terreri, Anthony
Ulaner, Gary
Viejo Rullan, Francisco
Walia, Rohit
Webb, John
Wong, Ka Kit
Yasrebi, Mona
Yeoh Hauser, Christine
Zhu, Hongyun
Zukotynski, Katherine

Congratulations and Welcome

Congratulations to Our Diplomates Who Passed the 2008 MOC Examination

Time Limited Certifications

Allen, Tate
Al-Sebaie, Sahar
Arredondo, Mario
Artze Sordo, Maria
Babin, David
Baez-Carattini, Rene
Becker, Murray
Bender, Luvenia
Boetsch, Charles
Bohnen, Nicolaas
Brito, Jorge
Castro, Brigid
Cheng, David

Dayanikli, Bayram
Drubach, Laura
Espino-Maya, Marilyn
Estrada, Mark
Frankel, Daniel
Ganguli, Satyajit
Jimenez, Carlos
Johnson, Anton
Jude, Cecilia
Khan, Angabeen
Kim, Anatole
Kumar, Mithilesh
Lassiter, Fred
Leavitt, Gary
Lewison, Karen

Lin, Eugene
Love, Charito
Martinez, Gilbert
Masters, Bernard
Meredith, Robert
Naiman, Jeffrey
Newberg, Andrew
O'Malley, Janis
Pandit-Taskar, Neeta
Perry, David
Ponton, Carmen
Ramaswamy, Mohan
Robinson, Martin
San Pedro, Elmer
Schoder, Heiko

Seltzer, Marc
Sundell, John
Tinkler, Stuart
Tittiranonda, Kittipat
Trotter, Bradley
Yeganeh, Frederic
Yeh, David
Yen, Stephanie

Lifetime Certifications

Housholder, Daniel
Segall, George

Academic Council—Bennett S. Greenspan, MD, President Academic Council

The Academic Council supports radiology and nuclear medicine faculty involved in teaching, research and patient care at academic medical centers. The Nuclear Medicine Program Directors Committee, specifically addresses issues related to maintaining an ACGME accredited nuclear medicine training program. The Academic Council welcomes the participation of all faculty members involved in teaching physicians and scientists.

The Academic Council and its committees meet at the SNM Mid Winter meeting (MWM) and the SNM annual meeting. The Academic Council organizes educational sessions for the mid-winter and annual meetings.

At the 2009 SNM annual meeting, the Academic Council will again sponsor a basic science categorical course on

Molecular Biology, presented by the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB), an institute of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

For the past two years, the Academic Council has organized sessions at the Association of University Radiologists (AUR) annual meeting, which is the only meeting devoted to academic imaging specialists. The purpose of Academic Council participation is to improve the knowledge base of the attendees, especially radiology residents, and also to foster greater collaboration between Radiology Residency Program Directors and Nuclear Medicine Program Directors. Many of the issues faced by both groups are similar. Steve Karesh, Ph.D., of Loyola University presented a lecture titled, "Radiation Safety, Radiopharmacy, and NRC Regulations", which was designed to help senior radiology residents prepare for their

oral board certification examination. This lecture has been one of the most successful and highly rated sessions of the AUR meeting. It will be given again at the 2009 AUR annual meeting in May. The Academic Council has also been given representation on the AUR Annual Meeting Program Planning Committee.

Two Academic Council board members, Dr. Darlene Metter and I, are members of the SNM Molecular Imaging Education Task Force, which is currently working on a proposed revision of the nuclear medicine curriculum. Dr. Henry Royal is also a member of this task force. The task force is suggesting a greater emphasis on molecular imaging, with the goal to develop the most modern and sophisticated nuclear medicine training so that trainees will be expert in emerging molecular imaging techniques in clinical practice.