Updates in ABIM MOC

Amy K. Holbrook, MD, FACP
Abbott Northwestern
THIS IS
CONFUSING!!!
American Board of Internal Medicine

• Created in 1936
• Largest medical specialty board
• Certifies all internal medicine specialties and subspecialties
• ”Voluntary”
History of ABIM

- 1936: One time exam - essay and oral exam
- 1972: Oral examinations discontinued
- 1990: Started giving 10 year certifications
- 1995: MOC modules added
- 2014: Increased cost and significantly increased requirements
  - Large physician backlash
- 2015: ABIM backed off on changes
  - Suspended QI requirement, patient survey, patient safety modules
Changes

- Significant public relations push from ABIM after backlash
- “Transforming ABIM Blog”
- Community engagement team
- New score reporting
- Updating exam blueprints
- Grace period for exam failure
- No longer required to maintain underlying certification
- CME Finder
Current Requirements

• 100 MOC points every 5 years
• Complete some MOC points every 2 years
• Recertification exam every 10 years
  • *New 2 year option starting in 2018

• Personalized portal
Open Book

• 2016: Study of ~800 physicians, randomized to ‘open book’ or traditional exam
  • Open book = UpToDate

• Results:
  • Reduced physician anxiety about the exam
  • Enhanced capacity to differentiate between high and low performances, minimal impact on pass rate
Knowledge “Check-Ins”

• 2 year exam in lieu of 10 year exam
• Only offered in even numbered years
  • 4-6 dates per year

• If you take and fail, you can try again - but not for 2 years
  • Wouldn’t lose certification for one failure

• Get 20 MOC points
Knowledge “Check-Ins” - Logistics

- Need a computer with a camera and microphone
  - Home, office, or testing center
  - Can be audited
- ~2-3 hours
- Immediate feedback on performance
- Access to UpToDate
- YouTube video
2018 “Check-In” Dates

- June 7
- June 9
- September 12
- September 15
- November 20
- December 1
## 2018 - Knowledge “Check-In”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018 (Pilot)</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
<td>Cardiovascular Disease</td>
<td>Advanced Heart Failure &amp; Transplant Cardiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nephrology</td>
<td>Geriatric Medicine</td>
<td>Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism</td>
<td>Critical Care Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gastroenterology</td>
<td>Hospice &amp; Palliative Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hematology</td>
<td>Hospital Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Infectious Disease</td>
<td>Interventional Cardiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pulmonary Disease</td>
<td>Medical Oncology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rheumatology</td>
<td>Sleep Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Transplant Hepatology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Adult Congenital Heart Disease will be available the first year the MOC assessment is offered in 2023.
• If your certification expires this year
  • You need to take the traditional exam

• (Sorry)
2018

• “No consequences year”

• If your IM certificate expires in 2019
  • Take the “Check-In” in 2018!
  • Not offered in 2019
  • Need to take traditional exam if you don’t take “Check-In” in 2018
Traditional Exam

- Still every 10 years

- Fall 2018 and beyond - open book
  - Open book = UpToDate

- Working on revamping test blueprint
Costs - 2018

- **Annual MOC Fee**
  - $124 year before due
  - $155 in year due
  - $175 after year due

- **Traditional Exam Fee**
  - $655 for IM
  - $1200 for subspecialty

- **Check-In Exam Fee**
  - $130
Costs

**CHOICE.FLEXIBILITY.VALUE.**
The value and cost of MOC in 2018

**UPDATED FEE SCHEDULE: 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANNUAL MOC PROGRAM FEE</th>
<th>PAY ANNUALLY</th>
<th>ASSESSMENT FEE*</th>
<th>TRADITIONAL MOC EXAM</th>
<th>KNOWLEDGE CHECK-IN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before Year Due</td>
<td>$124</td>
<td>Internal Medicine (IM) &amp; Focused Practice in Hospital Medicine (FPHM)</td>
<td>$650 $130</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Year Due</td>
<td>$155</td>
<td>Subspecialty (SS)</td>
<td>$1,200 $240</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After Year Due</td>
<td>$175</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The cost for taking one traditional MOC exam and five Knowledge Check-ins is the same over 10 years.

**SUPPORTING 200,000 DOCTORS THROUGH THEIR CAREERS**
At ABIM, fees go directly to serving physicians by providing:

- Peer-developed assessment options
- New, seamless #CMEtoMOC connection
- Access to all ABIM MOC activities
- New, dynamic intuitive portal
- Innovative and personalized MOC choices

**OVER 10 YEARS OPTIONS TO PAY LESS**
Includes MOC Program and Assessment Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017 FEES</th>
<th>2018 UPDATED FEES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2017 FEES</strong></td>
<td><strong>2018 UPDATED FEES</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IM</td>
<td>$1,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SS</td>
<td>$2,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IM &amp; SS</td>
<td>$3,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SS &amp; SS</td>
<td>$3,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IM &amp; SS &amp; SS</td>
<td>$4,810</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Projected based on updated 2018 fees. Represents a decrease compared to 2017 fees.
Alternative Pathways
Alternative Pathways

• “Collaborative Maintenance Pathways”
  • American College of Physicians
  • American College of Cardiology
  • American Society of Clinical Oncology
ACP Pathway

- In development
- Will meet criteria for MOC
- MKSAP based
National Board of Physicians and Surgeons

- Alternative “grassroots” board certification organization
- Launched in 2015
- ~3000 diplomates
- Multispecialty
- Requirements:
  - Initial certification by ABMS organization
  - 50 hours of CME every 2 years
  - Clinical privileges
More to come

- Experience with 2 year “Check-In”
- Details of ACP’s alternative pathway
- QI, Patient Survey, Patient Safety requirements all “postponed”
Take home

• 2 year "Check-In" Exam option starts in 2018
  • Suggest taking it then

• MKSAP-based ACP alternative in the works

• Still need to earn points every 2 years, 100 points every 5 years

• Lots of variables based on your re-certification timing
  • Check personalized portal
“When you put it like that, it makes complete sense.”