

BCD QUICK  
TIPS

Reference the following  
to find helpful informa-  
tion on MOC details:

- FAQs
- The Buzz
- News and An-  
nouncements on  
the home page
- Link on profile  
pages that provides  
a list of Member  
Board MOC web-  
site pages

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# The BCD Buzz

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 3

SEPTEMBER 2011

## NEW Changes to MOC Reporting

The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) and their 24 Member Boards announced the next step in reporting Maintenance of Certification (MOC). The MOC program, established in 2000, was adopted by all Member Boards, but until now, was only reported by the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) which began a pilot program in 2010.

In September, Board Certified Docs will display an indicator that identifies whether or not diplomates are meeting the MOC requirements established by their certifying Member Board(s). Seven Member Boards (see list on the next page ) will participate in the initial rollout of this indicator. ABP will continue to report in the format introduced in 2010, and we will continue to display that data. The remaining Member Boards are expected to start reporting over the next year.

Although it is not required as part of the credentialing process, the ABMS MOC program is recognized as an important quality marker by insurers, hospitals, quality and credentialing organizations as well as the federal government.

We understand that this change will generate a lot of questions. The following is an explanation for those we expect to be most frequent. For additional information you can contact the boards directly. Links are available through the Profile pages and general contact details can be found on BCD under the Resources tab.

### 1. How will this information be displayed on the BCD profiles?

A section will be added below the certifications with a Yes or No indicator for each applicable board. See a sample profile on the next page.

### 2. How does the MOC Yes or No designation affect lifetime and time-limited certificates?

Diplomates holding a lifetime certificate have the option to participate in MOC, on a voluntary basis. Lack of participation in MOC has no impact on their certification status. At this time, diplomates who hold time-limited certificates under most Member Boards are still board certified as long as their certification has not expired, even if they do not meet the MOC requirements. However, this is not true for diplomates certified by ABP. If they are not current in MOC their profile will display **NOT CERTIFIED** for time-limited certificates only. If other boards determine that certification status should be affected by MOC participation, similar designations will be displayed.

### 3. If a profile displays an expired certification date and Yes for MOC, are they certified?

No, they are not certified if their certification has expired. When they complete MOC activities that their board has determined essential for certification, their certification status will be changed and display the appropriate details.

### 4. If a profile displays No for MOC, but the certification is not expired, is the diplomate still certified?

Yes, they are still certified but they are not meeting MOC requirements. If they do not recertify before their certificate expires, their profile will display **NOT CERTIFIED**. (For ABP diplomates, please reference question/answer 2 in this article.)

*continued...*

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### 5. How long is the Yes/No designation effective?

Each board will determine when to report changes in the participation status for their diplomates. Unless other information is indicated, diplomates' certification status should continue to be determined by their expiration dates or a label of **NOT CERTIFIED**. At

this time, the designation regarding "meeting MOC requirements" is purely informational.

### 6. What if I have questions regarding MOC participation?

The link shown in the sample will produce a page with links to the MOC details on each Member Board's website. If

you still have questions, you may contact each Member Board directly. Their contact information will appear on their websites and is also summarized in the Approved Specialty Boards file under the Resources tab on BCD. We will also be available in booth 115 at the NAMSS conference in Dallas, TX Sept 25-27 to answer any questions.

## Boards Reporting Effective in September 2011

The following boards will report MOC using the Yes/No model:

- American Board of Dermatology
- American Board of Family Medicine
- American Board of Nuclear Medicine
- American Board of Otolaryngology
- American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- American Board of Plastic Surgery
- American Board of Surgery

The American Board of Pediatrics will continue to report using the Reverification Date model they implemented in 2010.

## Sample Profile

**Board Certified Docs**  
An Official ABMS® Display Agent

HOME ABOUT US PRODUCT INFO FAQ'S RESOURCES CONTACT US

QUICK SEARCH  
ADVANCED SEARCH  
BROWSE BY INDEX  
BATCH SEARCH  
MY ALERTS  
SAVED SEARCH CRITERIA  
ACCOUNT INFO  
HELP  
LOGOUT

Print Download Save Specialist(s) Back to Search Results

**Doe, John** Viewed: 08/18/2011 11:04:13 EDT

**ABMS Primary Source Data**

**AMERICAN BOARD OF INTERNAL MEDICINE**  
CERTIFICATION(S):  
Internal Medicine 09/12/1990 - 12/31/2000, 11/08/2000 - 12/31/2010, 11/01/2010 - 12/31/2020

**AMERICAN BOARD OF OPHTHALMOLOGY**  
CERTIFICATION(S):  
Ophthalmology 05/07/2000 - 12/31/2010, 05/01/2010 - 12/31/2020

**Meeting Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Requirements** [Click for more info](#)

American Board of Internal Medicine	Status not yet reported
American Board of Ophthalmology	Yes

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