Practice Quality Improvement: Basics and Issues for Medical Physicists

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Mission

“To serve patients, the public, and the medical profession. . . .”

“By certifying that its diplomates have acquired, demonstrated, and maintained a requisite standard of knowledge, skill, and understanding. . . .”
Why MOC?

• Demonstrates commitment to lifelong learning and self-assessment
• Allows the physician to self-direct own continuing education
• Results in continuous quality improvement
• State licensing boards & insurance companies are becoming more interested in MOC as a way to reach their goals
MOC helps further development of the six key competencies:

- Medical knowledge
- Patient Safety
- Interpersonal and Communication Skills
- Professionalism
- Practice-based Learning and Improvement
- Systems-based Practice
...through the four MOC components.

- Professional Standing
- Lifelong Learning and Self-assessment
- Cognitive Expertise
- Practice Quality Improvement
| Evaluation Criteria for the Four MOC Components According to the Six General Competencies |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Medical Knowledge                                          | State board license requirements and actions                  | Documentation and completion of 500CME credits. Minimum of 250 Category 1. | Achieve a passing score on the ABR cognitive exam.             |
| 2. Patient Care                                               | State board license requirements and actions                  | Documentation: CME with review of new techniques and protocols. | Achieve a passing score on the ABR cognitive exam, which includes patient care content. |
| 3. Interpersonal & Communication Skills                      | SAMs with emphasis on communications.                         |                                                               |                                                               |
| 4. Professionalism                                            | State board license requirements and actions                  | SAMs content on professionalism.                              |                                                               |
| 5. Practice-base Learning & Improvement                      | Specific CME and SAMs developed for practice-based learning and improvement. | General questions about essential core knowledge and practice improvement principles. |                                                               |
| 6. Systems-based Practice                                     | Specific CME and SAMs developed for systems-based practice.   | General questions about CQI content.                          |                                                               |
Significant Improvements for 2013

Certificates have no end date
Continuous involvement
Annual “Lookback” beginning in year 4
Much improved website
  Easier to enter information
  Makes audits easier
  Better reminders for diplomates
## Continuous Certification Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Element</strong></th>
<th><strong>Compliance Requirement</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Licensure</td>
<td>At least one valid license or professional standing attestation in previous 5 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>CE</td>
<td>At least 75 Category 1 CE in previous 3 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self-Assessment CE</td>
<td>At least 25 Self-Assessment CE in previous 3 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>Passed MOC exam in previous 10 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PQI</strong></td>
<td><strong>Completed at least 1 PQI project in previous 3 years</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees</td>
<td>Current with MOC fees at any time during the past 3 years</td>
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Part 4 Cycle

Learning Year in Year 1 and Every 10th Year
Learning Year

Physicists have significant skills to contribute

- knowledge of informatics
- quantitate analysis of data
- statistical process control
Improving Physicist Skills in PQI

- Reading and self study
- On-line courses
  - Formal
  - Society based
- Formal courses
  - Technical schools
  - Colleges and Universities
Documentation of Learning Year

Documentation of learning year is by and Self Directed Education Program for which you can receive up to 15 CE credits for Part 2
Component 4 – Practice Quality Improvement Projects

QI projects must:

• Be practice-relevant
• Include focus on patients – care & safety
• Use QI principles: plan-do-study-act
• Generate an improvement plan
• Implement the plan
• Measure the effectiveness over time

Opportunity for integrated, practical physics
PQI Projects

Must have completed a project in last 3 years (4 years for first cycle)
Initial Cycle

Select Project

Collect Initial Data (Quantitative)

Analyze Data Determine Areas for Improvement

Formulate and Implement Improvement Plan

Subsequent Cycles

Collect Data (Quantitative)

Analyze Data Determine Areas for Improvement

Further Improvement Possible?

Yes

No

Select New Project
Outline of Part 4 Continuous Certification for Medical Physicists

- Complete Learning Year and SDEP
- Begin 1st PQI Project
- Begin Continuous Certification Cycle
- Begin Learning Year
- Annual Lookback Each Year Back 3 Years
- Begin 2nd PQI Project
- First Lookback
- Begin 3rd PQI Project
- Begin 2nd Learning Year

Annual lookbacks every year in March

If there are deficiencies on a lookback your status changes to Certified Not Meeting MOC Requirements. If the deficiencies are not corrected by the next lookback you become Uncertified.