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September 1, 2017

Jane Doe, MD
5441 E. Williams Circle
Tucson, AZ 85711

Dear Dr. Doe:

We recently sent you an email concerning the status of your Diagnostic Radiology (DR) lifetime certificate and your Vascular and Interventional Radiology (VIR) subspecialty certificate, which you are maintaining through your participation in MOC. In summary, on October 15, 2017, the ABR will convert your two certificates to one new specialty certificate in Interventional Radiology/Diagnostic Radiology (IR/DR). Your new IR/DR certificate will be maintained by continuing to participate in MOC just as you do today.

Since there has been concern expressed in the IR diplomate community, the purpose of this letter is to inform you that if you opt to convert to an IR/DR certificate, you are not relinquishing any of your rights to regain your lifetime DR certificate at any time in the future.

If you should decide to discontinue your interventional radiology practice and practice diagnostic radiology, simply let us know and we'll reissue your lifetime certification.

If you practice interventional radiology until you retire, let us know when you retire that you no longer want to maintain your IR/DR certificate and we'll reissue your lifetime DR certification.

If for medical or other reasons you cannot maintain your IR/DR certificate, let us know and we'll reissue your lifetime DR certification.

If you change your mind at any point in the future, let us know and we'll reissue your lifetime DR certification.

The new IR/DR specialty certificate is the result of 15 years of work by the Society for Interventional Radiology (SIR) and the ABR to ensure the strength of the specialty and included a protracted effort for recognition by other medical specialties of the nature of our field. This was a big win for interventional radiologists.

If you have any further questions, please contact us by phone at (520) 790-2900 or at information@theabr.org.

Sincerely,

Valerie P. Jackson, MD
Executive Director

Valerie P. Jackson, MD, Executive Director

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