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**TO:** Credentialers, Payers, Hospitals, and other Interested Stakeholders

**FROM:** Brent Wagner, MD, ABR President  
Valerie Jackson, MD, ABR Executive Director

**DATE:** January 18, 2019

**RE:** American Board of Radiology (ABR) Interventional Radiology/Diagnostic Radiology (IR/DR) Certificate Conversion

On October 15, 2017, the American Board of Radiology (ABR) issued a new specialty certificate, Interventional Radiology and Diagnostic Radiology (IR/DR). This certificate combines the legacy Vascular and Interventional Radiology (VIR) subspecialty certificate and the Diagnostic Radiology (DR) specialty certificate into one certificate.

The IR/DR certificate replaces the Diagnostic Radiology specialty certificate and the Vascular and Interventional Radiology (VIR) subspecialty certificate that interventional radiologists currently hold. The new IR/DR certificate reflects full competency in both diagnostic radiology and interventional radiology. It represents the highest level of recognition that the ABR provides for both diagnostic radiology and interventional radiology.

Diplomates who previously held both the VIR and DR certificates were issued an IR/DR certificate on October 15, 2017, and they had no interruption in certification by the ABR in either interventional radiology or diagnostic radiology.

Diplomates who hold only a DR certificate are not affected by this change, and the DR certificate remains unchanged.

For the most up-to-date information on ABR certification and Maintenance of Certification (MOC) participation for any ABR-certified diplomate, please visit the [Certification Verification](http://www.theabr.org) page on the ABR website, [www.theabr.org](http://www.theabr.org).

For any questions regarding the new IR/DR certificate issued by the ABR, please call the ABR office at (520) 790-2900 or email [mail to: information@theabr.org](mailto:information@theabr.org)

**Valerie P. Jackson, MD, Executive Director**

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