Maintenance of Certification:  
The Fun and Easy Way 😊

Charles Bloch, PhD  
Associate Professor  
University of Washington School of Medicine  
Chair, AAPM Online Learning Services Subcommittee
Disclosures

- No real conflicts of interest to disclose
My Background

- Entered the MOC in 2006
- Audited by ABR in 2011 (passed)
  - ABR Audits 10% of MOC participants each year
  - HW: What is the probability of not being audited over a 10 year period?
- Took MOC exam Nov. 10, 2014 (results in 3 to 6 weeks)
Objectives

1) Review ABR MOC requirements

2) Understand 2013 changes to ABR MOC requirements

3) Understand online continuing education offerings at AAPM website including changes made in response to new MOC requirements
In 2002 the ABR implemented time-limited board certification for medical physicists.

Maintenance of Certification (MOC) demanded meeting certain requirements over a 10 year period to have board certification renewed:

- Professional Standing (practicing medical physics)
- Lifelong learning (250 category 1 CE credits + 20 SAMs over 10 years)
- Cognitive Expertise (an exam)
- Practice Quality Improvement (???)

Requirements were intended to be met continuously over the 10 year period.
ABR discovered that some physicists are procrastinators. (News flash)

250 CE credits over 10 years was supposed to be ~25/year, not 250 in year 10. This is why they are called “continuing” education credits.

20 SAMs over 10 years was supposed to be ~2/year. Maximum allowed was 4/year, except for people who forgot to get any during their first 5 years...
MOC: 2013 changes

- Certificates are no longer 10 year, but “continuing” based on annual compliance with MOC requirements.
- Annual MOC evaluation is based on 3-year rolling average: 75 CE credits over previous 3 years.
  - After 3 years in the MOC you should have at least 75 CE credits.
  - From then on, any 3 year period should have at least 75 CE credits.
- In ADDITION, at least 25 of the CE credits must have “self-assessment” (SA-CME).
  - Could be a SAM, but no explicit SAM requirement
  - All AAPM ONLINE CE is now SA-CME!
User login

ABRID or Full Email Address
charles.bloch@sea.procure.com

Password
******

- Not Registered?
- I forgot my password.

Log in
### Certifications/Public Reporting Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Public Reporting Status</th>
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<tr>
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</table>

### Maintenance of Certification Status

**Status:** Active  
**Enrollment Date:** 06/21/2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional Standing</td>
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| Lifelong Learning    | Total Completed 45.01 of 75 CMEs  
**Notice:** You have 29.99 remaining CME credits to be completed, of which 25 must be Self-Assessment CME (SA-CME) credits |
| Cognitive Expertise  | Next Exam Not Available - |
| Practice Quality Improvement (PQI) | Total Completed 0 |
AMERICAN BOARD of RADIOLOGY

MP Attestation

The following steps are required if you have no valid state licensure during your MOC cycle:

- Begin Step 1: Fill out your Self-Competency Attestation.
- Begin Step 2: Select and contact the attesters that will be filling out your evaluation.

Attester Status

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<tr>
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</table>

Midwest AAPM Fall Meeting

C. Bloch
Lifelong Learning

FAQ
Click here to view the Lifelong Learning FAQ.

Requirement
75 CME every three years, at least 25 of which must be Self-Assessment CMEs.

Look Back
A look-back determines if your requirements have been met.

Total CME Credits
Applied to your current 3-year look-back

Total Self-Assessment activities
Applied to your current 3-year look-back

Official CME/Self-Assessment CME (SA-CME) Credit Attestation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit Year</th>
<th>Source</th>
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<th>SAM</th>
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</table>
Lifelong Learning

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Total Self-Assessment activities
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Official CME/Self-Assessment CME (SA-CME) Credit Attestation

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<tr>
<th>Credit Year</th>
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### Lifelong Learning

**FAQ**
Click here to view the Lifelong Learning FAQ.

**Requirement**
75 CME every three years, at least 25 of which must be Self-Assessment CMEs.

**Look Back**
A look-back determines if your requirements have been met.

---

#### Credits for 2012

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<th>Source</th>
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**2013**

| Gateway | 26.67 | - | 0 |

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Nov. 15, 2014  Midwest AAPM Fall Meeting  C. Bloch
AAPM Online CE

- CAMPEP certifies AAPM online CE as “enduring material”
  - Virtual library and journal articles linked to quizzes provide CE
- AAPM has applied for and received “deemed status” from the ABR. Allows AAPM to approve SAMs without sending to ABR for review.
  - Meeting SAMs still count as self-assessment
- Based on definition of SA-CME, all AAPM online quizzes now provide SA-CME credit.
  - Online SAMs provide SA-CME credit as well (no SAMs requirement) so the online distinction is gone.

Nov. 15, 2014
Midwest AAPM Fall Meeting
C. Bloch
Virtual Library (VL) consists of recordings of presentations from Annual Meeting, Spring Clinical Meeting, Summer Schools, CRCPD conferences and other selected meetings.

Previously produced and hosted by BlueSky, AAPM has moved the VL in-house. New format is live now.

- Reduced cost to AAPM
- Greater flexibility
- Better integration with AAPM web site
- Greater functionality for members
Hello Dr. Bloch...

AAPM Events that pertain to you... [Manage your event notifications]

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Participant(s):</strong> SS</td>
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RSNA 2014 - 5 Upcoming Meeting(s)

Latest AAPM Member Discussions
[see your discussion threads | all general discussions | forum notifications]:

Online Learning Center

Message from the Chair

It’s July, which means the AAPM Annual Meeting is almost upon us.

In the latest AAPM Newsletter, George Starkshall points out numerous education related sessions at the upcoming meeting. I would like to highlight two which are specific to the online learning center.

First, the Education Council Symposium is Sunday morning from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. It features several speakers describing a broad range of topics in medical physics education. I plan to be there and hope you will too.

Second, Monday afternoon there is a Professional Session (2:45 – 3:45 p.m.) where I have an oral presentation. During my 7 minutes I will try to address how MOC participants can meet their current continuing education requirements through the online learning center.

In addition, for those in Austin early, Saturday afternoon (3:00 – 5:00 p.m.) the Online Learning Services Subcommittee will be meeting. The meeting is open to anyone and we always welcome comments and suggestions.

I still get e-mail requests for more quizzes as well as questions about why quizzes expire. As for the latter, part of the goal of continuing education is to help people keep up with what is new. In addition, our quizzes are accredited by CAMPEP who mandates that we retire them after 3 years. For those reasons, we must continually generate new quizzes.

If you would like to see more quizzes in a specific category, please send me a link to the reference material you would like to see a quiz based on. It could be an article in MedPhys or JACMP, or something in the AAPM Virtual Library. If you are willing to write the quiz let me know. If not, I can try to find another volunteer. But without volunteers from AAPM members, none of this happens.

The Webcast of the Month highlights ENPIF and BM for External Beam Radiotherapy from the BM/ENPIF.
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<td>Radiation Protection:Brachytherapy</td>
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Jan Seuntjens and Larry DeWerd. "Dosimetry for Ir-192 HDR Brachytherapy - Present Status and Future Direction." Presentation 1 and Presentation 2.

AAPM Virtual Library - Presented at the 54th AAPM Annual Meeting, Charlotte, NC. July 31, 2012.

1. Water calorimetry works by measuring:
   A. ionization pairs created in water
   B. ionization pairs created in air
   C. temperature rise in water
   D. temperature rise in air

2. The total uncertainty in water calorimetry for Ir-192 (k=1) was explained to be close to:
   A. 1%
   B. 2%
   C. 3%
   D. 4%

3. The total error in water calorimetry is dominated by which factor?
   A. Pre-drift linearization
   B. thermister calibration
   C. dwell time error
   D. positioning error

4. The standard uncertainty (k=1) is lowest for which measurement medium?
   A. water
   B. graphite

Medical Physics

The Self-Directed Education Project (SDEP)

Self-directed educational projects (SDEPs) may be used as an optional means for fulfilling some of the CE credit requirements for medical physicists. Fifteen SA-CE credits will be awarded per project.

For SDEPs, the candidate must identify areas in which professional improvement and/or educational augmentation is needed or would be of value. The approach to each project is prospective and must be defined in advance. The components of the SDEP include:

- Significance: a statement of the educational need
- Approach: a list of activities designated to address the need
- Evaluation of achievement, with an initial prospective statement and a final summary statement at the time of completion
- Impact on practice/outcome statement, with an initial prospective statement and a final summary statement at the time of completion

A variety of activities may be accommodated as SDEPs, including (but not limited to):

- Quality improvement
- Research projects
- Publication of original research
- New lecture development
- Regulatory issue review
- Educational topics
Significance: a statement of the educational need
Approach: a list of activities designated to address the need
Evaluation of achievement, with an initial prospective statement and a final
summary statement at the time of completion
Impact on practice/outcome statement, with an initial prospective statement
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A variety of activities may be accommodated as SDEPs, including (but not
limited to):
- Quality improvement
- Research projects
- Publication of original research
- New lecture development
- Regulatory issue review
- Educational topics
- Technology updates
- New protocol implementation

In all cases, the four-component prospective format must be followed. Provided
via the links below are nine examples of SDEPs (three in each of the medical
physics disciplines), representing a subset of the wide range of possible topics
that might be chosen. Diplomates are encouraged to review all of them in order
to more fully appreciate the diversity of categories available.

Click on the links below to see examples of SDEPs in each of these areas. It is
beneficial to study the examples in all three areas, regardless of your particular
discipline.
- Diagnostic Medical Physics
- Nuclear Medical Physics
- Therapeutic Medical Physics

Click on the link below for template to use in recording your SDEP project:
- Medical Physics SDEP Template

Click on the link below for an example of a completed SDEP project template:
- Completed Medical Physics SDEP Template

Four Parts
One: Professional Standing
Two: Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment
Three: Cognitive Expertise
Four: Practice Quality Improvement

Diagnostic Guidelines
AAPM Enhanced Virtual Library

- **Virtual Library** presentations embedded in AAPM website
- **AAPM member directory** member’s presentations included in their directory listing
- **Example quiz** presentation embedded in quiz
- **Meeting program** after meeting presentations linked to program and embedded in AAPM page.
Virtual Library

Presentations posted in the Virtual Library include:

- streaming video and/or audio of the speakers
- transcription of the audio for numerous presentations
- slides of the presentations

Unlimited access to the virtual library is included as a benefit of AAPM membership at no extra charge. Join the hundreds of other AAPM members who are using the AAPM Virtual Library for their continuing education, research, and information needs.

Medical Physics Continuing Education Credits (Members Only)

The AAPM On-Line Learning Services Subcommittee is actively posting continuing education question/answer sets for several of the Virtual Library presentations.

If you're not familiar with the Online Learning Center program, please review the information posted here.

Search the virtual library:

By Title: [ ] Submit Query [ ]

By Presenter: [ ] Submit Query [ ]

(includes institution information)

Browse the virtual library

- by CAMPEP category
- in a comprehensive list of all videos
- by choosing a tab below

Now Available | Meetings | Physicists of Note | Items of Interest | Educators Day | Vendor Presentations | CRCPD | DVD/CODs

Webcast of the Month

We hope you find this month's Webcast valuable and that you return each month during the year to benefit from new offerings in the series.

Risk Assessment Introduction; Process Mapping

Presenter: M. Saiful Hug, Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh Med Ctr, Pittsburgh, PA


SU-B-WAB-1 Sunday 12:00AM - 12:30PM: Room: Wobash Ballroom

AAPM members, and the AAPM as an organization, have been active for many years in educational activities outside of the USA. A great portion of these activities has taken place in countries with much less resources, and with only infrequent or barely organized Medical Physics societies, while others were carried out in support of new and emerging needs in regions with long Medical Physics traditions. The AAPM has earned a great reputation as a result of these and other activities.

The last decade has seen an insurmountable surge of deployment of new technology and methods worldwide, but also an increased awareness about the risks it poses. Hence the pressing need for well educated and trained Medical Physicists. The gap is most critical in developing countries, where the normally slow process of growing the training capacity appears to be an unaffordable luxury.

We plan to discuss the “What, Why, and How” of the involvement of AAPM members in International Educational activities that should be of help in developing countries and that will enrich the members’ experience and outlook.

Learning Objectives:
1. To learn about challenges for Medical Physics education in developing countries.
2. To look at ways and opportunities to “do good” while engaging in exciting work.
3. To discuss ways to help our colleagues abroad while expanding our own understanding and improving our skills.
4. To learn how collaborating on projects can leverage the educational offerings and generate opportunities for growth.

Contact Email: ypippman@yahoo.com
**Cognitive Expertise**

<table>
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<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Pass an ABR MOC or initial certification examination within the last 10 years.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Last MOC Exam Passed, None</td>
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You must successfully pass an ABR MOC or initial certification exam every 10 years in order to continue meeting MOC requirements for Part 3 - Cognitive Expertise.

### Maintenance of Certification Exams

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<tr>
<th>Specialty/Subspecialty</th>
<th>Exam Type</th>
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<th>Results</th>
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### Initial Certification Exams

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This website is scheduled to undergo routine maintenance on Saturday, 15 November from 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. CDT. During this time, you may not be able to schedule, reschedule or cancel test appointments. We apologize for this inconvenience and thank you for your patience.
Pearson VUE offers online services for a large number of testing programs. Each testing program has a unique set of offerings, so first select your program from the list below. If you have forgotten your sign in details, you may request them on the next screen.

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<tr>
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<td>Academic/Admissions</td>
<td>American Board of Orthodontics (ABO)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction Trades, UST &amp; Inspectors</td>
<td>American Board of Otolaryngology (ABOTO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment, HR, Management &amp; Safety</td>
<td>American Board of Pediatric Dentistry (ABPD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Services</td>
<td>American Board of Periodontology (ABP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government / State Regulated / Federal Government</td>
<td>American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (ABPMR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health, Medicine, Nursing &amp; Pharmacy</td>
<td>American Board of Preventive Medicine (ABPM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology (IT)</td>
<td>American Board of Prosthodontic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Services</td>
<td>American Board of Radiology (ABR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate, Appraisers, Mortgage &amp; Loan</td>
<td>American Board of Surgery (ABOS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Professionals</td>
<td>American Board of Surgery (ABOS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel/Travel Services</td>
<td>American Board of Thoracic Surgery (ABTS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This website is scheduled to undergo routine maintenance on Saturday, 15 November from 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. CDT. During this time, you may not be able to schedule, reschedule or cancel test appointments. We apologize for this inconvenience and thank you for your patience.

Sign In

Pearson VUE offers online services for a large number of testing programs. Each testing program has a unique set of offerings, so first select your program from the list below. If you have forgotten your sign in details, you may request them on the next screen.

To sign in, first select your testing program.

1) Narrow by category.
   - View All
   - Academic/Admissions
   - Construction Trades, UST & Inspectors
   - Employment, HR, Management & Safety
   - Financial Services
   - Government / State Regulated / Federal Government
   - Health, Medicine, Nursing & Pharmacy
   - Information Technology (IT)
   - Insurance
   - Legal Services
   - Real Estate, Appraisers, Mortgage & Loan
   - Retail, Customer Service, & Sales
   - Technology
   - Transportation

2) Select your testing program.
   - American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (ABOMS)
   - American Board of Orthodontics (ABO)
   - American Board of Otolaryngology (ABOto)
   - American Board of Pediatric Dentistry (ABPD)
   - American Board of Periodontology (ABP)
   - American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (ABPMR)
   - American Board of Preventive Medicine (ABPM)
   - American Board of Prosthodontic
   - American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN)
   - American Board of Radiology (ABR)
Home

ABR Exams

Pre-approved Exams
You do not have any pre-approved exams at this time.

Upcoming Appointments
You do not have any appointments scheduled.
Exam given in November. Registration opens 6 months in advance.

The testing center is open for other examinations that same day. If cosmetologists get all the available slots before you do, you will not be able to take the exam at the center close to you.

Pearson VUE will show all the time slots that are available on that day. Their system will allow you to register for any of them. HOWEVER, ABR requires you take the exam at 8 a.m. If you register for any other time slot, ABR will move you to the 8 a.m. slot if one is available (or send you to another center hundreds of miles away if one is not).
ABR Certification Testing

The mission of the American Board of Radiology (ABR) is to certify that our diplomates demonstrate the requisite knowledge, skill, and understanding of their disciplines to the benefit of patients. The ABR is offering initial certification and Maintenance of Certification (MOC) examinations in radiation oncology and medical physics as computer-based exams in Pearson VUE Professional Centers. The ABR is solely responsible for exam development, scoring, and reporting of results.

Downloads

- Computer-Based Testing Tutorial

  Please Note: The tutorial explains the use of several types of items; however, ABR exams use only one-best-answer, multiple-choice questions. All other features demonstrated are applicable to ABR exams.

Exam Calculator Update

The scientific calculator that is built into ABR exams was recently updated. The calculator is modeled after the Texas Instruments TI-30XS. If you wish to familiarize yourself with the way this calculator functions prior to your exam, please see Computer-Based Testing Tutorial. You can also find step-by-step download instructions here.

- Once downloaded, begin the practice exam. On the fourth item, you will see a calculator link on the top left of the screen. Simply click on the link. The calculator is displayed so you can practice using it.
- For a complete list of features available on the TI-30XS, please refer to TI's Guidebook (250 KB pdf). When opening the guidebook you may have to click "Continue as Guest" in order to access it.
Practice Quality Improvement

Status
Completed Projects: 0
Incomplete Projects: 0

Requirement
Complete at least 1 PQI project in previous 3 years
Look Back
A look-back determines if your requirements have been met.

Due to the PQI attestation enhancements in myABR, PQI project attestations completed in 2012 or 2013 on your PQB will need to be re-entered in myABR.

PQI Projects in Progress

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Start</th>
<th>Applied to MOC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No data to display</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Completed PQI Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Start</th>
<th>Applied to MOC</th>
</tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Completed PQI Projects
I’m too busy doing QA. I don’t have time to do some “project”.
  – Make your project the QA you are already doing.

PQI is the QA work we are already doing, but with “metrics”.

1. Identify something that could be improved in your clinic.
   a. IMRT QA sometimes fails the first time.
   b. Hypothesis: If we setup the phantom correctly it will pass more often.

2. Measure the baseline (“metric”=how often does it fail the first time).

3. Develop a plan to improve the quality.
   a. Checklist for phantom positioning.

4. Re-measure the quality (how often is it failing now).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| By what method(s) did you learn about quality improvement, error reduction, and/or patient safety? | Participation in my own institution's quality program(s)  
Self-directed reading                                                                                           |
| Which of the following describes your progress this year with regard to your current PQI project? (Please check all that you have accomplished during this year) | I have made baseline measurements to document the scope of the problem  
I have completed a PQI project, and am in the process of choosing another  
I have developed an action plan for improvement  
I have instituted the action plan  
I have made measurements to determine if improvement has occurred  
I have chosen an appropriate project  
I have analyzed the root cause of the problem  
I have not yet begun a PQI activity  
I have not yet begun a PQI activity                                                                                               |
| What is the major area of your PQI project?                              | Safety for patients, employees, and the public                                                                                         |
| Which ACGME/ABMS/ABR core competencies are incorporated in your project (check all that apply): | Patient care  
Practice knowledge                                                                                              |
| Which of the following best describes the origin of your project:        | Individual project                                                                                                                      |
| Which of the following goals are incorporated into your project (check all that apply): | Improved patient outcome  
Improved patient, employee, or public safety  
Reduction in error                                                                                                     |
Conclusions

- ABR MOC has moved from 10 year requirements to 3-year moving average.

- 20 SAMs/10 years has been dropped.

- 25 SA-CME/3 years is added.

- AAPM online CE is now 100% SA-CME
  - AAPM has “deemed” status from ABR
  - Virtual Library has moved in house with enhanced features
Acknowledgments

AAPM Headquarters Staff
- Jackie Ogburn
- Michael Woodward
- Farhana Khan
- Zailu Gao

AAPM Headquarters Staff
- Lisa Rose Sullivan

Others
- Subcommittee members

Nov. 15, 2014 Midwest AAPM Fall Meeting