Update from the ABOS: The Future of Maintenance of Certification (MOC)

David F. Martin, MD
Executive Medical Director
DISCLOSURES

Director (2005-2015), American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery
(Chair, MOC Committee – 2009-2011)

Executive Medical Director (2016-present), American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery

Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery (1990-present), Wake Forest Baptist Health
(Former Program Director – Residency/Fellowship)
Background
HISTORY

American Medical Association (AMA) – 1847

American Orthopaedic Association (AOA) – 1887

1933
American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons

1934
American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery

‘Quality and Competence’
ABOS

- Founded in 1934
  - AAOS, AOA, AMA
- Private, voluntary, non-profit, autonomous organization
- Exists to serve the best interests of the public and the medical profession
- Establishes educational standards for orthopaedic residents
- Evaluates the initial and continuing qualifications and competence of practicing orthopaedic surgeons
ABOS Mission Statement

To ensure safe, ethical, and effective practice of orthopaedic surgery, the ABOS maintains the highest standards for education, practice, and conduct through examination, certification, and maintenance of certification for the benefit of the public.
ABOS Composition – Who is the ABOS?

Board of Directors

- 21 Member Board (National/Voluntary)
- 2 Directors-Elect (one year term)
- 12 Directors (six year term)
- 6 Senior Directors (three year term)
- 1 Public Member (three year term)

Full Time Staff - Chapel Hill

- Executive Medical Director
  - David F. Martin, MD
- Chief Operating Officer
  - Aaron S. White
- 11 Staff Members
  - Examination/Credentialing/Communications/IT
- Advisors: Legal, IT, Web, Psychometrics
Where Do ABOS Directors Come From?

Nominating Societies:

1) American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS)
2) American Orthopaedic Association (AOA)
3) Council on Education of the American Medical Association (AMA)

Each organization provides nominees two years out of a three year cycle.
2017-2018 ABOS Leadership

• President          Peter M. Murray, MD
• Vice President     Terrance D. Peabody, MD
• President-Elect    Douglas W. Lundy, MD
• Secretary          Charles L. Saltzman, MD
• Treasurer          Frederick M. Azar, MD

2017-2018 ABOS Directors (21)

• 17 Academic/3 Private Practice/1 Public
• Diversity
• Subspecialty/Geographic Distribution
• Volunteer – 30 days/year
Board Certification
Part I (pass rate 89-94%)
• Written exam taken July after graduation (ACGME Residency)
• To sit you need basic minimum requirements (Credentials Committee)

Part II (pass rate 88-92%)
• Oral exam based on practice (20 months in one location)
• Taken 2 years after successfully passing part I (Credentials Committee)

Maintenance of Certification (MOC) (10 year cycle)
Continuous Certification Process

Subspecialty Certification
Hand (est. 1989)
Sports Medicine (est. 2007)

Lifetime Certificate Holders
Lifetime Board Certification
ABOS Diplomates

Diplomates 28,418 total

• Time Limited Certificate Holders 17,769
  • Participating in MOC: 97%

• Time Unlimited Certificate Holders 10,649
  • Participating in MOC: 7%

• Subspecialty Certification
  • Surgery of the Hand Certificate Holders: 1,741
  • Orthopaedic Sports Medicine Certificate Holders: 2,272
  • Both Subspecialty Certificates 38
Maintenance of Certification
‘MOC’
Maintenance of Certification (MOC)

- Medicine has the privilege of self-regulation
  - Ensure that standards are met
    - Educational standards
    - Residency standards
    - Practice standards

- Lifetime Certification does not guarantee competence

- Certification and Recertification are associated with:
  - improved patient care
  - greater adherence to practice guidelines
  - fewer state board disciplinary actions
  - less costly care

Gray BM, et al. JAMA 2014
Maintenance of Certification 2018*

• Professional Standing: Unrestricted License/Privileges

• Continuing Medical Education: 240 CME/40 SAE

• Knowledge Assessment: Proctored Examination

• Practice Improvement: Peer Review / Case List

*Developed to adhere to ABMS guidelines with input from the ABOS/AAOS Task Force
What is New in MOC?

• Streamlined Application/Case List functions
  • 75 case limit for all Recertification pathways
  • One Application/One Case List/One Peer Review
• CME/SAE options expanded, uploading simplified
• Decreasing time from application to examination
• Redesigned website / Enhanced Diplomate dashboard
• Diplomate-specific Communications
• Designated Certification Specialists
ABOS Certification Specialists

- Last names beginning with A-B: Denise Frazier dfrazier@abos.org
- Last names beginning with C-G: Sonya Parker sparker@abos.org
- Last names beginning with H-O: Kim Grover kgrover@abos.org
- Last names beginning with P-Z: Morgen Graham m Graham m Graham @abos.org

919-929-7103
What is New in MOC?

- General Orthopaedic Questions
  - Eliminated from all Practice-Profiled Recertification Examinations

- New Practice-Profiled Examinations 2018
  - Sub-specialty questions only
  - Pediatrics, Orthopaedic Trauma, and Foot and Ankle
  - Shoulder and Elbow planning underway; ready by 2019

Recertification Examination Options Now Available:

- General, Spine, Adult Reconstruction, Pediatrics, Trauma, Foot & Ankle, Shoulder & Elbow, Surgery of the Hand, Sports Medicine, Oral (entirely practice based)
What is New in MOC?

- Expanded Blueprints for all examinations
- Study Guide/Examination Preparation

- ABOS-NBME Blueprint Exercises 2017-2018
- Input from multiple organizations
  - ABOS/AAOS/OTA/POSNA/AOFAS/ASSH/AAHS/ASES/AAHKS/AOSSM
Maintenance of Certification 2017*

What is the problem?

• Professional Standing: Unrestricted License/Privileges

• Continuing Medical Education: 240 CME/40 SAE

• Knowledge Assessment: Proctored Examination

  Common Nightmare: Failing a Test

• Practice Improvement: Peer Review / Case List

*Developed to adhere to ABMS guidelines with input from the ABOS/AAOS Task Force
58% Response Rate

18,058 Diplomates invited to participate
10,464 Board Certified Orthopaedic Surgeons Voiced Their Opinions!

Examination Format Preference

- Computer-Based Examination: 41.2%
- Longitudinal Assessment: 39.8%
- Virtual Practice Assessment: 14.2%
- Oral Recertification Examination: 3.9%

Frequency of Knowledge Assessment Preference

- Questions every quarter: 13.8%
- Questions every six months: 26.8%
- Questions every year: 26.8%
- Questions every two years: 26.8%
ABOS WLA: Diplomate Eligibility

• Pilot Program Launch: January 2019
• Open to all Diplomates who are currently ABOS Board Certified
• Maintenance of Certification Part III (Knowledge Assessment) Options:
  • ABOS Computer Based Practice-Profiled Recertification Examinations
  • ABOS Oral Recertification Examinations
  • ABOS WLA
• No Changes to other facets of MOC
  • Application
  • Case List
  • Continuing Medical Education and Self-Assessment Examination Credit
  • Peer Review
  • Evaluation/Review by the ABOS Credentials Committee
ABOS WLA Process

Each January:

• 80-100 Orthopaedic Knowledge Sources (journal articles, practice guidelines, AUCs, monographs) identified and posted on the ABOS website
• Sources chosen by subject matter experts in Knowledge Source Groups
• Knowledge Source Groups:
  • General Orthopaedics (AAOS/BOC)
  • Orthopaedic Sports Medicine (AOSSM/AAOS)
  • Surgery of the Hand (ASSH/AAHS/AAOS)
  • Adult Reconstruction (AAHKS/AAOS)
  • Spine (NASS/AAOS)
  • Orthopaedic Trauma (OTA/AAOS)
  • Foot and Ankle (AOFAS/AAOS)
  • Pediatric Orthopaedics (POSNA/AAOS)
  • Shoulder and Elbow (ASES/AAOS)
  • Oncology (MSTS/AAOS)
ABOS WLA Process

- Participating Diplomates: Sources viewed on their ABOS Dashboard
- Authentication/Security/Attestation
- Each Diplomate chooses 15 Sources to study in-depth
  - ABOS has option to require certain sources
- ABOS WLA is open for five weeks in April and May
  - 30 questions (2 from each Knowledge Source) delivered to Diplomate
  - Questions designed to verify comprehension/familiarity
- Questions delivered to Desktop/Laptop Computer
  - Questions answered over the 5 week April-May time period
  - Supplied with correct/incorrect and question source
- Allotted 3 minutes to answer each question - open-book format
- Pacing/Sessions at the discretion of the Diplomate
ABOS WLA Passing Standards

• Successful Completion of the ABOS WLA:
  • Earn five (5) Quality Years: answering 24 out of 30 questions correctly in the administration window (5 weeks) of that year constitutes a Quality Year
  • 120 Knowledge Assessment questions answered correctly in six years of participation

• ABOS Diplomates with Certificates expiring in 2019-2022:
  • Certificates will be extended yearly to reach the five year mark as long as Quality Years are earned

• Diplomates not completing the ABOS WLA program successfully must re-enter another MOC Part III Pathway (minimum 2 opportunities):
  • Computer-Based Practice-Profiled Examination
  • Oral Recertification Examination
ABOS WLA: Next Steps

• Eligible ABOS Diplomates will receive additional information later this year

• Announcements/Information will be posted at www.abos.org

• Knowledge Sources posted January 2019

• Computer-Based Practice-Profiled Recertification Examinations still available

• Oral Recertification Examination still available

• Subspecialty Certification – must choose 5 subspecialty sources/year
  • Surgery of the Hand
  • Orthopaedic Sports Medicine
Summary
ABOS Priorities

• Lifelong Certification Process that promotes continuous learning to improve patient care

• Respect the unique nature of each surgeon’s practice

• Goal: safe, ethical, and effective practice to serve our patients, our profession, and the public
ABOS Focus

• Relevance
• Value
• Burden
• Feedback – we are listening
• VOLUNTEER
Thank You / Questions?

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