

**Subject: ABIM to Discontinue Requirement for Maintaining Underlying Board Certification**

*July 1, 2015*

*DJ Lakkireddy, MBBS, FACC (dlakkireddy@kumc.edu)*

This is huge

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From: Heart Rhythm Society <[info@hrsonline.org](mailto:info@hrsonline.org)>

Date: Wed, 01 Jul 2015 16:01:28 -0000

Subject: ABIM to Discontinue Requirement for Maintaining Underlying Board Certification

To: [dlakkireddy@gmail.com](mailto:dlakkireddy@gmail.com)

Welcome, Dhanunjaya

July 1, 2015

ABIM to Discontinue Requirement for Maintaining Underlying Board Certification

Effective January 1, 2016, the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) will officially discontinue the requirement for maintaining underlying board certification in Cardiovascular Disease for subspecialists. Maintaining the Cardiovascular Disease Certification will not be required to maintain certification in Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology or other subspecialties. This change does not affect the requirements for initial certification.

Earlier this year, HRS submitted a letter asking ABIM to discontinue the requirement for maintaining underlying board certification among other improvement recommendations. Throughout the year, HRS has been part of a continuous dialogue between ABIM leadership that led to this change.

This announcement is a step in the right direction; however, HRS will continue its strategy outlined in our previous communications to membership. First, we will explore viable alternatives to ABIM for EP certification. Second, we will continue to work with ABIM to reform the 10-year recertification requirement and the maintenance of certification (MOC) program to accept EP-specific CME with the ultimate goal of reducing the excessive financial burden and time away from practice placed on our members.

Our mission at the Heart Rhythm Society is to end death and suffering from heart rhythm disorders. We will continue to champion our members'

desire to focus on patient care rather than navigating the complexity of the MOC process.

Thank you for your input in this process. We will continue to keep you informed of new developments.

The July 1 ABIM press release can be viewed online [ <http://www.abim.org/news/abim-will-discontinue-requirement-for-maintaining-underlying-board-certification.aspx>

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Sincerely,

John D. Day, MD, FHRS

President, Heart Rhythm Society

James H. Youngblood

*July 1, 2015*

*Srinivas Murali, MBBS, FAC*

I assume that this will also apply to Interventional and HF/ Transplantation cardiology sub specialists?

*July 1, 2015*

*Edward Fry, MD, FACC (fry5@comcast.net)*

Definitely a win for the Cardiology community and another example of the successful, measured approach the College has taken in slowly, but surely influencing ABIM policy in a way that benefits members. ACC needs to, humbly, take credit for this and other incremental "victories" (2 year MOC moratorium, fellows certification, elimination of the PIM, etc.). Following this game plan may frustrate some impatient members (at times I am in that group), but it is clear that there has been movement, and more importantly, there has been an engagement of ACC in the overall revision of the board certification and MOC process, while keeping all options for the College (including "secession") on the table. Most games are won with singles, not swinging for the fences. - Ed