

American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) and its 24 Member Boards are committed to providing continuing certification programs that deliver value to participating physicians. Working with physicians across specialties and practice settings, the boards are implementing substantive enhancements, combining best practices in adult learning with state-of-the-art technology that:

### Supports and Reinforces Learning

- Customized to physician practices.
- Special Focused Practice designations allow physicians to tailor continuing certification programs to their specific area of practice.
- Access to resources and reference materials during assessments, which simulate how physicians solve problems in practice.
- Clear learning objectives with emphasis on new developments in the specialty.
- Immediate feedback with references for further learning.
- Low-stakes testing is conducive to learning.
- Utilizing techniques from education psychology to enhance retention.

### Greater Flexibility

- Offering shorter, more frequent assessments delivered periodically online, as an alternative to the high-stakes exam.
- Easier access to practice-relevant CME activities.
- Recognition of learning and improvement activities available in daily practice, including:
  - Practice-based quality and improvement activities.
  - Improvement activities approved by hospitals or organizational sponsors of the ABMS Portfolio Program
  - Participation in data registries sponsored by medical specialty societies.
  - For physician scientists and physician executives, participation in educational, research, and administrative activities related to their professional roles.

### Easier to Use

- Convenient online access eliminates visits to testing centers.
- Streamlined reporting and tracking reduces time and administrative burden.
  - Automated reporting of CME activities.
  - Personalized dashboards to track progress and program requirements.
  - Simplified administrative processes.

# Alternative Approaches Bring Convenience to Assessment

American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) Member Boards are advancing innovative approaches to their continuing certification programs, that are convenient, relevant to practice, and enhance clinical knowledge and skills.

New assessment programs bring value to physicians by supporting their continuing professional development while maintaining the rigor the public expects of certification programs.

<b>Helps keep physicians up to date</b>	Adult learning principles and modern technology promote learning and retention of important new science.
<b>Prioritizes important changes in the practice of their specialty</b>	Assessments help diplomates keep up with important changes in medicine by including timely topics, new guidelines, and new evidence.
<b>More physician control</b>	Online assessments can be completed by physicians on their time and at their pace.
<b>Customized to practice</b>	Content personalized to reflect what physicians do in their own practices.
<b>Improve self-awareness</b>	Immediate feedback allows physicians to assess their knowledge, identify gaps, and learning needs.
<b>Directed learning</b>	Resources relevant to each question help physicians strengthen existing knowledge and develop a learning plan.



Let's start a conversation about what matters to you.  
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