



American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc.

A Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)

ABPN PART III PILOT PROJECT

Larry Faulkner, M.D., President and CEO

Patti Vondrak, Director, Operations

Linjun Shen, Ph.D., Vice President, Test Development and Core
Competencies

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Edited by Paramjit T. Joshi, MD



Introduction

- The ABMS 2015 MOC Standards outline specific requirements for MOC Part III (Assessment of Knowledge, Judgment, and Skills):

The ABMS 2015 MOC Standards also **encourage Member Boards to explore new methods of evaluating diplomate knowledge, judgment, and skills:**



- SINCE THAT TIME.....
- The ABPN discussed optional alternatives to its MOC Part III Examination on multiple occasions in the past and **received stakeholder input**.
 - ABPN Policy Meetings
 - Crucial Issues Forum
 - MOC Clinical Advisory Committee
- The ABPN has considered the relative strengths and weaknesses of optional alternatives to its MOC Part III Examination.
- In July 2017, the ABPN decided to proceed with the development of a Pilot Project **optional alternative based Examinations** in each 3-Year CMOC block.



Pilot Project Objectives

- To create and assess the effectiveness of a journal article-based assessment system as an **optional alternative to the current ABPN secure, proctored MOC Part III Examination.**
- This idea was met with considerable enthusiasm by the stake-holders such as: AAN, ANA, APA and AACAP Professional Organizations.



Timetable for Pilot Project: July 2017 – December 2017

2017

- July 2017 – ABPN votes to move forward with MOC Part III Pilot Project
- August 28, 2017 – Preliminary Pilot Project application submitted to ABMS
- September 19, 2017 – **Met with AAN and APA for preliminary discussions about Pilot Project**
- September 28, 2017 – **Request sent to professional societies for Pilot Project Committee nominees**
- October 21, 2017 – Discussed Pilot Project details at ABPN Policy Meeting; ABOG presentation to Board
- November 9, 2017 – **Met with representatives from professional organizations to discuss Pilot Project**
- November/December 2017 – Selection of Pilot Project Committee Members
- November/December 2017 – Send invitations to all Pilot Project Committee Members



Timetable for Pilot Project: 2018 – 2019

2018

- January 18 & 23, 2018 – **Pilot Project Committee organizational kickoff meetings**, item writing workshops, and charge to recommend articles
- March – Pilot Project Committees finalize the selection of articles and receive question writing assignments
- June – Pilot Project Committees begin question writing review for the selected articles
- August – Pilot Project Committees complete question writing and review for the selected articles
- October – **Conduct an experimental administration of Pilot Project** article-based tests
- Ongoing – **Communication with field** about Pilot Project updates and details

2019

- January – **Officially open Pilot Project to eligible ABPN diplomates**
- Ongoing – Continuous assessment and evaluation of pilot
- Ongoing – **Communication with field** about Pilot Project updates and details



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Appointed to Oversee Project

- Adult Neurology: Steve Lewis & Imran Ali
- Child Neurology: Nina Schor & John Bodensteiner
- Adult Psychiatry: Joan Anzia & Bob Boland
- Child Psychiatry: Christopher Thomas & Paramjit Joshi



Pilot Project Committee Structure

- Selection Process
 - **Nominated by ABPN and professional societies**
 - Appointed by ABPN
- Member Qualifications
 - ABPN Certified, participating in MOC
 - Familiar with literature
 - No conflict of interest issues
 - Members must participate in pilot



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Membership (11)

- **Chair & Co-Chair: ABPN Director**
- ABPN Nominees:
 - ABPN Director
 - Two experienced ABPN Examination Committee members
 - Senior Resident Administrative Fellow
- **Professional Society Nominees – 6/11 members**



Pilot Project Design

1. The Pilot Project will be offered as **an alternative to single MOC examinations in Psychiatry (P), Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (CAP), Neurology (N), and Child Neurology (CN).**
2. The Pilot Project will run for three years, from **2019-2021.**
3. The length of time (eligibility period) for a diplomate to complete the Pilot Project varies by the expiration date of the diplomate's certificate or by their current block and status in the Continuous MOC Program (CMOC).



1. Eligible and volunteering ABPN diplomates must **read and answer questions on at least 30 out of 40 carefully selected journal articles.**
2. Each journal article will cover one of the clinical topics on the Pilot Project Content Outline, which is based on the current MOC Examination Content Outlines (P, CAP, N, CN).



Pilot Project Design

6. Diplomates must **answer a mini-test consisting of 5 questions** associated with each article.
7. The questions will be administered in an **online, open-book format accessed via the internet** from a personal computer.
8. Those diplomates who **answer at least 4 out of 5 questions correctly per article on the first attempt on any 30 articles** of the potential 40 articles selected **will not be required to complete the Part III MOC examination**.
9. Diplomates will **receive immediate feedback** after completing the mini-test related to an article.
10. Diplomates will **receive a waiver of 16 Self-Assessment CME credits** from ABPN upon successful of the pilot.
11. If a diplomate is **unsuccessful on the pilot or incompletes the pilot**, he/she **will have two opportunities to take the MOC examination** before being reported as 'Not Certified'.



Pilot Project Design

12. Diplomates can **select articles from a library of approved articles.**
13. For a given article, once a mini-test has been started, it must be completed. Only one mini-test can be open at a time during the Pilot Project eligibility period. A diplomate must submit the answers of a completed mini-test before opening the next mini-test. A mini-test can be answered during multiple-sittings.
14. Diplomates can **complete their 30 articles and mini-tests at any time during their approved Pilot Project eligibility period.**



Specialty/Subspecialty Content Outlines

- Pilot Project Committees identified a **Content Outline for article selection** based on the current Content Outline for the MOC Examination.



Selection of Journal Articles

1. Every selected article will address one of the topics on the Pilot Project Content Outline.
2. There will **generally be 4 articles offered per topic** on the Pilot Project Content Outline.
3. Each selected **article will have direct application for clinical practice**, and will have been usually **published within the last 5 years**.
4. Lifespan of an article will be three years.
5. All articles will be selected from **peer-reviewed journals** listed on MedLine, **practice guidelines**, or other **important references** selected by the Pilot Project Committee.
6. **Diplomates are responsible for obtaining access to journal articles.**
7. Pilot Project Committees will rate the accessibility of selected articles into two categories: **public access** (no fee or free to members of APA, AAN, AACAP, CNS) or **non-public access** (fee).
8. Pilot Project Committees will **ensure that a range of public access articles are available** for diplomate selection.
9. **Diplomates may recommend articles for consideration** by Pilot Project Committees.



Guidelines for Questions

1. **Five questions will be written on each article.**
2. All questions will be **multiple-choice questions.**
3. For each article, there will be **at least one question that asks about a specific and meaningful detail of the article** not found in the abstract to determine if a diplomate has read the article carefully.
4. For each article, there will be **at least two questions focused on the clinical application of information contained in the article.**
5. A diplomate may receive credit for a specific article only one time.
6. Diplomates will not receive credit for articles they have written (covered in attestation).



Evaluation of the Pilot Project

- The overall success of the Pilot Project will be measured by:
 - The **proportion of eligible diplomates who choose to participate in the Pilot Project.**
 - The **proportion of diplomates who complete the Pilot Project.**
 - The **success rate of diplomates** in the Pilot Project.
 - **Overall satisfaction of the diplomates** with the Pilot Project on exit surveys.
 - **Feedback from professional societies** about the Pilot Project.



Navigation bar with four icons and labels:

- [Become Certified](#)
- [Maintain Certification](#)
- [Access Residency Info](#)
- [Check Physician Status](#)

[Home](#) > [Maintain Certification](#) > [Current](#)

MOC Part III Pilot Project

The ABPN MOC Part III Pilot Project is a professional journal article-based assessment activity designed as an optional alternative to the current secure, proctored 10-year MOC examination. The Pilot Project will run for 3 years, from 2019-2021 and, if approved by the ABMS, the ABPN plans to transition diplomates into this program in 2022 as a permanent alternative to the secure MOC examination.

Once available to all diplomates, the Pilot Project will ultimately provide greater flexibility to ABPN diplomates for meeting their MOC Part III program requirements.



Frequently Asked Questions

See our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) webpage for more information.



Pilot Participation

All MOC requirements must be up-to-date in your [ABPN Physician Folios](#) account By March 1, 2018 to be eligible to participate in the Pilot Project.

Maintain Certification

- [Maintenance of Certification Program](#)
- [MOC Activity Requirements](#)
- [MOC Part III Pilot Project](#)
- [Alternative MOC Activity Options](#)
- [Information About MOC Exams](#)
- [Taking a MOC Exam](#)
- [ABPN Diplomate Audits](#)
- [Your ABPN Physician Folios Account](#)
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Physician Folios

- For candidates and diplomates
- [LOG IN HERE](#) to apply for an exam or
 - Update and track MOC information

ABPN preCERT®

For training directors and coordinators



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PART III PILOT PROJECT PARTICIPATION

Certificates As of 4/8/19	Eligible Diplomates (22,061 individuals)	Enrolled Diplomates (14,102 individuals)	Participation (passed one or more mini- exam)	Completion (passed 30 mini- exams)
Psychiatry	14,598	9,360 (64%)	3,120 (33%)	539 (6%)
Neurology	5,771	3,676 (64%)	1,314 (36%)	221 (6%)
Child Neurology	879	627 (71%)	216 (34%)	34 (5%)
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry	3,304	2,193 (66%)	467 (21%)	68 (3%)



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PART III PILOT PROJECT SURVEY

RESULTS

	Agree or Strongly Agree	Disagree or Strongly Disagree
Article is easy to access	96%	4%
Article is helpful to my practice	93%	7%
Test is a fair assessment of my understanding of this article	90%	10%
Questions are well-written	86%	14%
My experience of taking this test is satisfactory	91%	9%

(Number of completed mini-exams = 59,870)



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Questions

- Questions@abpn.com
- ABPN Physician Folios [www.abpn.com \ folios](http://www.abpn.com/folios)
- Help Line
 - 847-229-6510