

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

ABNM

AMERICAN BOARD of NUCLEAR MEDICINE

1971-2021

Tracers

Newsletter

2022 Issue 1



Message from the Chair

Gholam Reza Berenji, MD, MS

Chair, American Board of Nuclear Medicine

Last year, as we marked the 50th anniversary of ABNM, a new era in the...

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Executive Director's Message

George M. Segall, MD

Executive Director, ABNM

2021 Financial Report

A major new initiative in 2021 was updating the...

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IMPORTANT DATES

- **April 1, 2022** – Online application period begins for CE and MOC Examination CBT at a Pearson VUE location (selected by the applicant)
- **May 31, 2022** – **Deadline to complete AND submit an online application for CE and MOC Examination**
- **June 30, 2022** – **CertLink Participants deadline to answer ALL second quarter questions**
- **September 1, 2022** – In-Training (IT) Examination enrollment period begins for US and Canadian Programs
- **October 3-8, 2022** – CE and MOC Examination administered at CBT Pearson VUE locations

Message from the Associate Executive Director

Leonie Gordon, MBChB

Associate Executive Director, ABNM

As my term as Associate Executive Director (AED) ends February 28, 2022, I reflect upon ,...

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ABNM Important Exam Information

The application season kicks-off on **April 1st and ends on May 31st**. The ABNM recommends that you start your application early to make sure that you have time to collect the needed documents

Applicants CE Examination

The application for the ABNM Initial Certification Examination is an online application. In order to start an application, Trainees/Applicants must first create an account. To create an account visit the ABNM website www.abnm.org

Quick Reference Guide/Links

- [CE Exam Schedule and Fees](#)
- [CE Exam FAQ](#)
- [Program Directors ABNM CE Exam What I Need to Do.](#)

Need additional assistance? Our staff is ready to assist you! Email us at abnm@abnm.org or call (314) 367-2225. Our office hours are 7:30 am to 4:00 pm Central Standard Time (CST).

Diplomates MOC Examination

Diplomates taking the MOC Examination must be fully participating in MOC including payment of all MOC fees. To start your online application, log in to your MOC Profile at www.abnm.org, click the MOC- Part 3 link (located on the navigation bar on the left side of your web browser)

Quick Reference Guide/Links

- [MOC Exam Schedule and Fees](#)
- [MOC Exam FAQ](#)
- [MOC What I Need to Do](#)

Communications Committee Chair Message

K. Elizabeth Hawk, MS, MD, PhD

Communications Committee Chair, ABNM

Over the course of the past couple of years, while facing the COVID-19 pandemic together ...

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MOC Committee Chair Message

Maria Rosana Ponisio, MD

MOC Committee Chair, ABNM

The cumulative number of diplomates who participated in CertLink from January 2018 to January 2022 is ...

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Meet the Newest Member of the ABNM

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Lisa Bodei, MD, PhD

Director Radionuclide Therapy Section of Molecular Imaging and Therapy Service, Department of Radiology, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY



Hollie Anne Lai, MD

Chair of Radiology, Children's Health of Orange County (CHOC) Hospital and Clinical Professor (Volunteer) of Radiological Sciences at the University of California, Irvine School of Medicine, Orange, CA



Medhat M. Osman, MD, ScM, PhD

Director, Division of Nuclear Medicine & PET/CT Imaging, Nuclear Medicine Training Program Director, Department of Radiology, Division of Nuclear Medicine, Saint Louis University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO



Kirk A. Frey, MD, PhD

Director, David E. Kuhl Collegiate Professor Radiology and Neurology; Director, Center for Positron Emission Tomography; Director, Nuclear Medicine Fellowship Program at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

More Tracers Articles

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[New Diplomates 2021](#)

[Diplomates Who Passed the 2021 MOC Examination](#)

[Diplomates Who Met the CertLink® Passing Standard in 2021](#)

[2021 CE & MOC Exam Pass/Fail Rates](#)

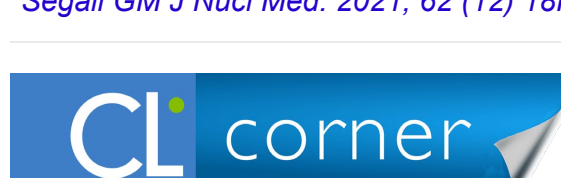


The Journal of NUCLEAR MEDICINE

ABNM Articles in JNM Newsline

Interim Report on Provisional Requirements for Radionuclide Therapy.

Segall GM J Nucl Med. 2021, 62 (12) 18N

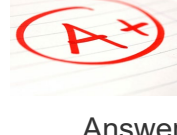


CertLink (MOC)

- **REMINDER: CertLink Participants June 30, 2022, is the deadline to answer ALL first quarter questions**
- [CertLink Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)

CertLink In-Training

- [About CertLink In-Training](#)
- [CertLink In-Training Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)



CERTLINK PARTICIPANTS: Key points that will assist you in receiving a passing score on CertLink® and fulfilling the ABNM requirements for re-certification

Answer all question by the deadline date for each quarter. Quarters cannot be reopened.

Don't get distracted. Questions are timed. Once you start a question, you have five minutes to submit your answer.

MOC profile updates are a requirement for maintaining board certification. In order to prevent an interruption in your certification log into your profile annually and update the following:

Update/Confirm Contact Information

Pay MOC Invoice(s)

Update MOC Parts 1, 2 and 4



DID YOU KNOW...

Your **ABNM profile** and your **CertLink® profile** are on **TWO separate platforms**:

- Access to your ABNM profile is located at <https://www.abnm.org/account/profile/login>. Here you have access to your certification/contact information, MOC invoices, CME's and PPA
- **ARE YOU** currently participating in CertLink? Access your dashboard at <https://www.starttest.com/starttest2/7.3/router?programid=270&session=4520&code=e50d3c5a-0fa2-4637-9c15-bfe9713193ed&cmd=Default&redirect=1>

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[MOC](#)

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FOLLOW US

The ABNM welcomes comments from diplomates and residents regarding issues raised in this Tracers or any other issues affecting the practice of nuclear medicine or certification processes. Please email your comments to:

George M. Segall, MD
Executive Director
American Board of Nuclear Medicine
abnm@abnm.org

[Click here to download a printable PDF of this newsletter.](#)

Message from the Chair

Gholam Reza Berenji, MD, MS – *Chair, American Board of Nuclear Medicine*

Dear ABNM Diplomates:

Last year, as we marked the 50th anniversary of ABNM, a new era in the modernization of the Board has commenced. Several pivotal milestones have been achieved, which made our 50th birthday very special and remarkable to the future of the Board.

Since its incorporation in 1971, ABNM has issued 5,970 certifications. This year, our ABNM family welcomed 53 new diplomates with diverse cultural and academic backgrounds.

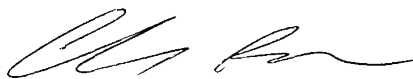
Last year, despite challenges posed by the pandemic affecting every aspect of our lives, ABNM operations continued uninterrupted. Similar to 2020, the 105th and 106th Board meetings were conducted virtually, followed by additional conference calls to finalize critical tasks including question selection and exam productions. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of ABNM Office Staff and Board members, while maintaining business-as-usual, several strategically important new projects to modernize the Board were accomplished. The highly anticipated question database system was implemented upon extensive training of Office Staff and Board members. As a result, for the first time, new questions were entered directly in the database, which seamlessly replaced the old method. By modernizing question-writing, the process is rendered more efficient, with significantly reduced workload. This upgraded process will subsequently improve exam content, including the quality of questions, images, and overall delivery of exams for years to come.

Along with implementation of the new database, the exam sub-committees, as well as exam blueprints, have been restructured to facilitate exam production and to improve preparation of our diplomates for emerging opportunities, specifically in theranostics and newly approved radiotracers. The exam sub-committees have been increased from 9 to 12 in order to add new topics such as therapy, and to create additional sub-committees for review of larger content areas such as cardiovascular imaging and oncology. The exam blueprints were also updated to reflect emerging needs in our practice. These changes will gradually further facilitate exam production and improve the quality of questions. Additional information about the new exam blueprints can be found at: <https://www.abnm.org/exam/exam-blueprint>.

Implementation of the new questions bank paved the way for the premiere online delivery of the In-Training Exam (ITE). Thanks to the exceptional effort by the ABNM staff, executive director, and associate executive director, as well as the exam committee, ITE was delivered smoothly in January of 2022. In addition to improved exam administration, noteworthy cost-savings was realized by replacing booklet printing, delivery, and return, by the environmentally friendly, online method. We hope to implement more ITE-related improvements based on this year's experience and feedback from the exam takers and residency program directors.

Last year was also another successful year for our new open nomination process. The ABNM welcomed three new board members, Drs. Lisa Bodei, Hollie Lai, and Medhat Osman. The new process was introduced three years ago with intention of increasing membership diversity and to provide a better representation of our diplomates and trainees by encouraging all qualified diplomates to participate. This year was particularly remarkable since, by inclusion of the new board members, the majority of the Board has now been elected by the open nomination process.

In closing, I would like to thank our former Chair, Dr. Ruth Lim, for her distinguished leadership in the past year of remarkable accomplishments, and our outgoing Board members Drs. Akin, Iagaru, and McConathy, for their exemplary service. Dr. Leonie Gordon, the ABNM Associate Executive Director, is sadly retiring this year. Her departure is a great loss for our board. We thank her for her many years of dedicated service to the Board and wish her a happy retirement. We have been fortunate to recruit Dr. Kirk Frey to fill the position. We eagerly welcome Dr. Frey and look forward to our collaboration. I also take this opportunity to recognize ABNM office Staff, Maria Watts, Patrick Murphy, and Monica Frye, for a job well done at such challenging times, and wish a safe and healthy year for all of you and your families.



Gholam Reza Berenji, M.D.
Chair

Executive Director's Message

2020 Financial Report

George M. Segall, MD – *Executive Director, American Board of Nuclear Medicine*

The ABNM fiscal year is January 1 through December 31. A full audit is conducted every two years by a certified public accounting firm, UHY. The firm conducts a less extensive financial review in alternate years. In 2021, UHY audited ABNM's financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2020. The report dated June 23, 2021, noted total assets of \$4,381,631 with an increase of \$471,283 compared to the prior year. The report also noted that ABNM financial statements conformed to generally accepted accounting principles, and that no material modifications were required.

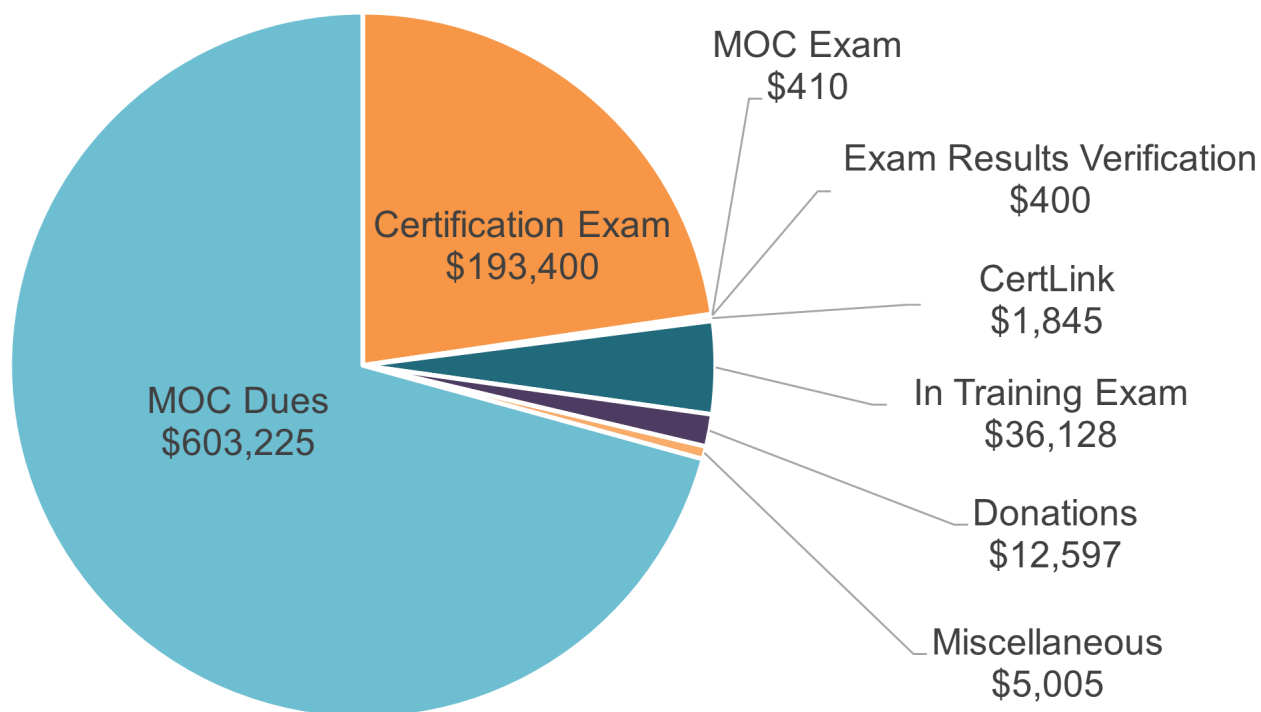
The United States Income Tax Return, Form 990, filed by all non-profit organizations, is publically available. There are many websites that provide free access to the tax returns, including the returns filed by the ABNM. One such website is <http://foundationcenter.org/find-funding/990-finder>.

The ABNM started 2021 with a budget of \$800,763 in

operating (non-investment) income. At the end of the year, the estimated operating income was \$853,010. Income was slightly above budget mostly due to a larger than expected number of physicians paying examination application fees, and more diplomates paying MOC fees.

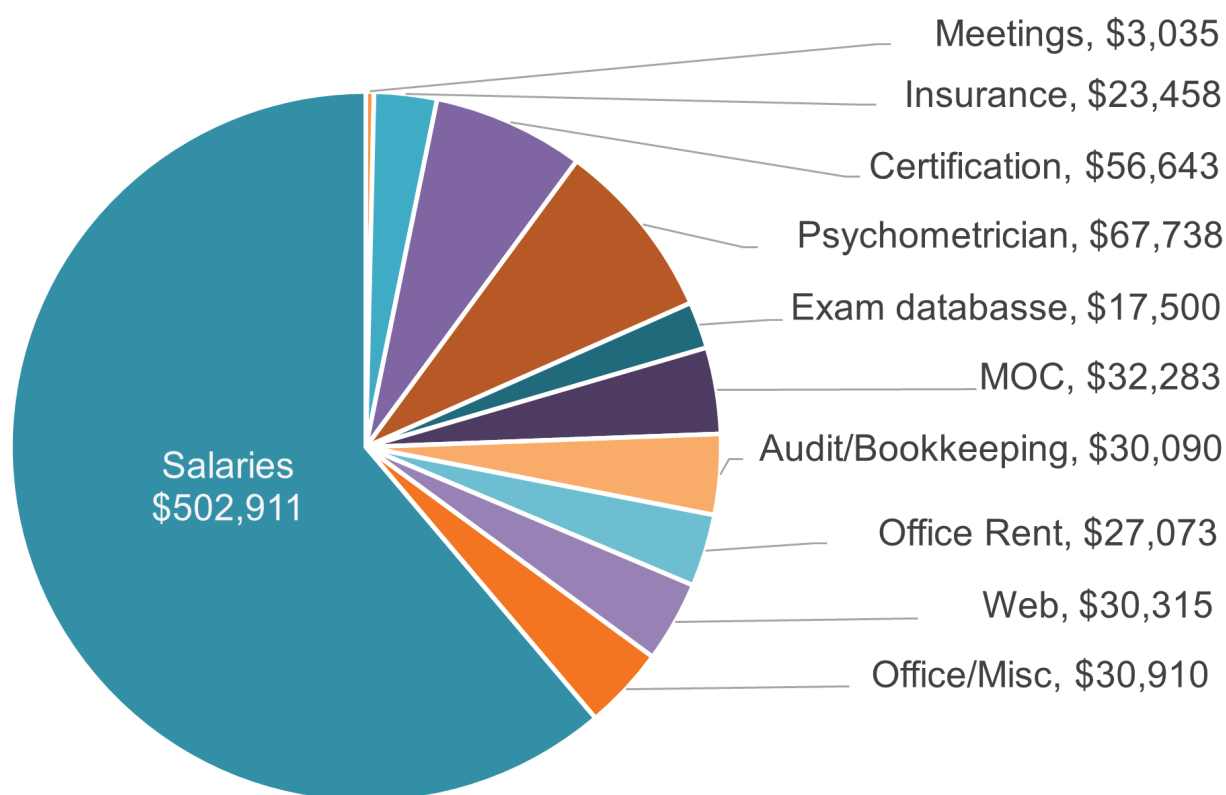
The ABNM started 2021 with a budget of \$843,776 in operating expense, which was \$19,818 lower than the amount budgeted for the previous year. At the end of the year, the estimated operating expense was \$821,956, mostly due to the impact of COVID-19 on business related travel, as well as a reduction in general operating expense.

The ABNM ended 2021 with a net operating income of \$31,054, versus \$239,253 for the prior year. A breakdown of the major income and expense categories for 2021 is shown in the following diagrams.



Executive Director's Message

2020 Financial Report – Continued



The largest percentage of income (71%) was derived from the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) annual fee. The annual fee was \$150 when it was instituted in 2007. It was increased to \$175 in 2010. The fee was increased to \$400 in 2012 to eliminate additional registration fees paid by diplomates for the MOC examination (and CertLink, which was launched in 2018). The annual MOC fee was increased to \$500 in 2019 after 6 years without an increase because inflation made it impossible to maintain a balanced operating budget without an increase, despite reducing the number of staff in the ABNM office from 4 to 3 full-time employees. Due to COVID related decrease in travel and meeting expense, diplomates received a \$50 credit in 2021 and 2022, effectively reducing the annual MOC fee to \$450.

The largest expense was salary for five employees (3.5 FTE), including the Executive Director (0.25 FTE), Associate Executive Director (0.25 FTE), Administrator, MOC and Examinations Program Manager, and Diplomate Relations

and Communications Program Manager. Salaries were 61% of total expense in 2021. ABNM operations and exam production is handled by ABNM staff in St. Louis, and by directors located throughout the United States using email and conference calls. The ABNM also meets twice a year. Due to the impact of COVID-19, meetings were held virtually rather than in-person in 2020 and 2021.

The ABNM has \$3.95 million (as of December 31, 2021) in an investment portfolio managed by Wells Fargo Advisors. The investment portfolio is the ABNM's reserve fund for unexpected financial difficulties, as well as major new initiatives. The value of the portfolio increased 12.6% during 2021.

A major new initiative in 2021 was updating the examinations database. The ABNM signed a contract with Internet Testing Systems to provide a new system for authoring, storing, and delivering questions for ABNM examinations. The new contract also made it possible to administer the In-Training Examination on-line for the first time in January 2022.

Message From the Associate Executive Director

Leonie Gordon, MD – *Associate Executive Director, American Board of Nuclear Medicine*

The ABNM Today

As my term as Associate Executive Director (AED) ends February 28, 2022, I reflect upon all the changes that have occurred in our specialty and our board during my tenure as a board member and later as the associate executive director. The ABNM is a small ABMS member board and is still held to all the standards of all the other boards. We have 5 staff members including the executive director and the associate executive director and we all work closely as a cohesive team helping each other out as well as our trainees, diplomates, and board members.

When I joined as AED, CertLink® assessment was just beginning. ABNM has now refined the self-paced online program which conveniently delivers multiple-choice questions quarterly. Surveys are done regularly, and our participants give CertLink a 98% satisfaction rating. CertLink initially was a pilot program but was accepted by ABMS as a longitudinal assessment program in late 2020. In addition, ABNM, has created CertLink In-Training which provides trainees an opportunity to participate in continuous online learning and provides an opportunity for maximizing test preparation and getting to know ABNM better.

The ABNM successfully delivered its In-Training (IT) Examination as a remote computer-based exam during

January 2022. To achieve this and update our virtual presence in testing, ABNM migrated all its secure testing databases to a new vendor over several months and created a state-of-the-art online item banking system. It runs on major browsers both for Windows and Mac and offers extensive configuration options.

New PET radiopharmaceutical approvals have occurred, creating a new interest in our specialty. The addition of new therapeutic agents has added excitement and greater curiosity in nuclear medicine and molecular imaging. ABNM has comprehensively addressed all the new requirements with which they have been confronted. These have included changes in patient case requirements in resident therapy training, longitudinal assessment for diplomates, improved question writing and testing. I am proud to have been part of this strong collaborative organization.



Leonie Gordon
Associate Executive Director

Communications Committee Chair Message

Esma Akin, MD, FACR – *Communications Committee Chair, American Board of Nuclear Medicine*

Over the course of the past couple of years, while facing the COVID-19 pandemic together, so much of our personal and professional lives has been converted to digital and remote interactions.

As we continue to navigate this new normal together, the ABNM Communications Committee strives to serve our diplomates by providing the most up to date information related to our specialty and certification/maintenance of certification processes.

In addition to our Tracers newsletter, we disseminate information across a variety of social media platforms, including LinkedIn, Twitter, and Facebook. Our hope is that these digital media platforms are a place for connection, for sharing critical information, and for conversation. In a time when so much of our lives has transitioned to the digital and remote form of interactions, we hope that we can help you all feel continually connected, heard, and well informed on

pertinent nuclear medicine news.

If there is a social media platform, we are not yet present on, that you feel would provide a place of meaningful interaction, please do not hesitate to let us know.

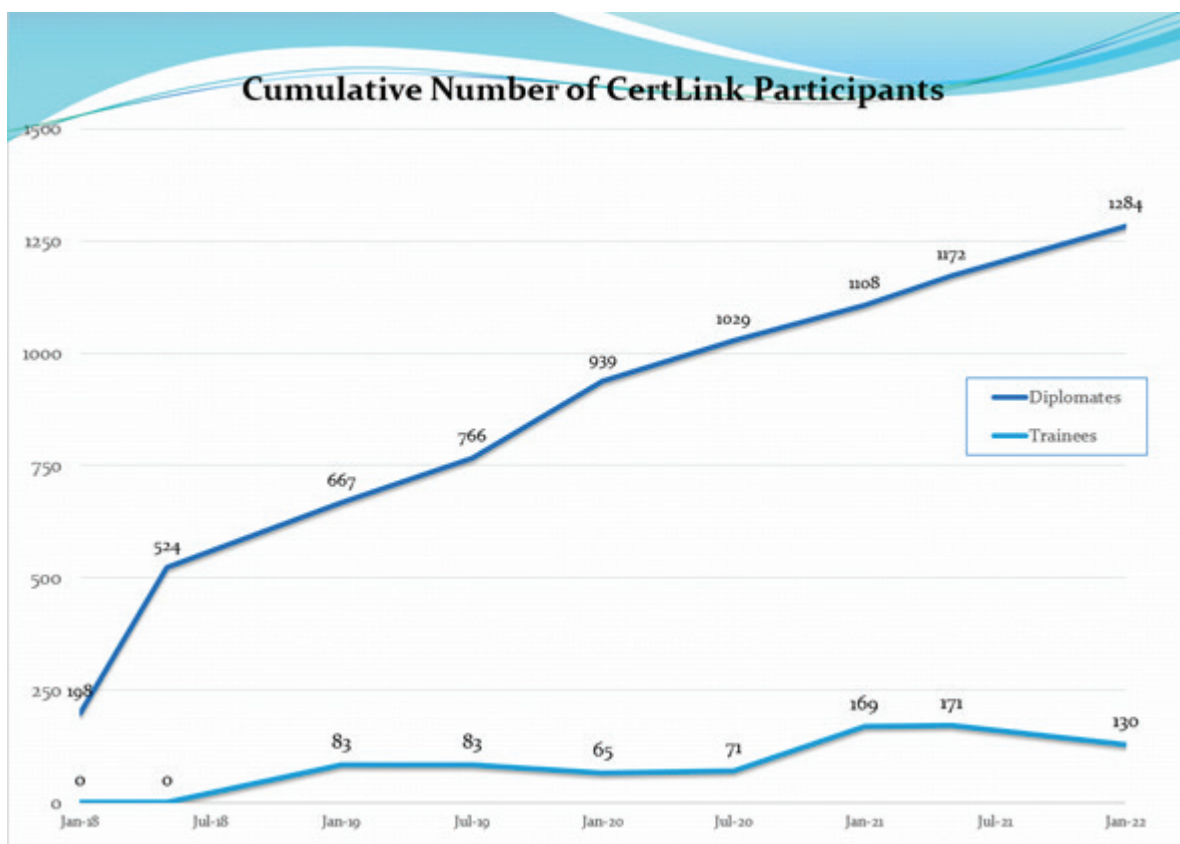
One of my personal favorite quotes is by Marie Currie: “Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.” There is an endless amount of information consumed digitally. We hope to be a constant and trusted source of accurate information for our diplomates. We encourage you to connect with us, join in the conversation, share information with colleagues, and help build a deeper sense of understanding of the phenomenal nuclear medicine profession. Please do not hesitate to share your suggestions and ideas for how we can best share information with you and provide a digital space to encourage meaningful connections.

MOC Committee Chair Message

Maria Rosana Ponisio, MD – MOC Committee Chair, American Board of Nuclear Medicine

The ABNM strongly encourages trainees to become certified and thus constantly reviews and updates training pathways. During the review this year, the ABNM certification policy has been updated. Currently, ABNM policy requires diagnostic radiology (DR) residents to complete DR residency before they are eligible to take the ABNM certification examination. The revised policies for the ABNM certification examination now allow DR residents to take the ABNM certification examination one year earlier than presently allowed. The new policy states that DR residents who have had a minimum of 16 months of Nuclear Medicine training in an institution(s) with an ACGME accredited Nuclear Medicine or Nuclear Radiology program (either preceding or concurrent with their Diagnostic Radiology training) and who have fulfilled all ABNM training requirements, may take the ABNM certification examination in the final year of their ACGME accredited Diagnostic Radiology training. This policy was approved at the 105th ABNM meeting on 06/08/2021.

For diplomates, the ABNM continues to offer the traditional maintenance of certification examination and the web-based longitudinal assessment, CertLink®. CertLink allows for a longitudinal evaluation by delivering questions regularly and providing immediate feedback on submitted answers. Furthermore, the diplomate can track their performance over time. The cumulative number of diplomates who participated in CertLink from January 2018 to January 2022 is 1284, with a pass rate of 89 %. Over the past year, the design and functionality of CertLink 1.0 have been updated to the new platform, CertLink 2.0. The ABNM, with the support of the ITS team, continues to improve the functionality based on user feedback, and several features have been updated. Diplomates are strongly encouraged to participate in CertLink®, and completion of the quarterly activities is needed to avoid unanswered questions being perceived as incorrect. The diplomate should update their MOC profile annually. The ABNM MOC Committee is pleased to provide this opportunity to you to maintain your ABNM certification and enhance your clinical skills.



Meet the Newest Members of the ABNM

Welcome to Our New Board Members



Lisa Bodei, MD, PhD – *Director Radionuclide Therapy Section of Molecular Imaging and Therapy Service, Department of Radiology, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY*

Dr. Bodei is a Nuclear Medicine physician in the Molecular Imaging and Therapy Service, Department of Radiology, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC). She has been the Director of Targeted Radionuclide Therapy of the Molecular Imaging and Therapy Service, Department of Radiology and has served as a member of the MSKCC Institutional Review Board since 2017.

Dr. Bodei is active in a number of committees at the national, international, and institutional level, such as the SNMMI Targeted Radionuclide Therapy Outreach Committee, and the ESMO NETs and endocrine tumors Faculty Group. She has authored more than 175 articles in international peer-reviewed journals and published eight invited book chapters. She currently serves as the associate editor of the Journal of Nuclear Medicine, section editor for Clinical Imaging and is also on the editorial boards of several scientific journals including the European Journal of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging.



Hollie Anne Lai, MD – *Chair of Radiology, Children's Health of Orange County (CHOC) Hospital and Clinical Professor (Volunteer) of Radiological Sciences at the University of California, Irvine School of Medicine, Orange, CA*

Dr. Lai is the Chair of Radiology at Children's Health of Orange County (CHOC) Hospital and Clinical Professor (Volunteer) of Radiological Sciences at the University of California, Irvine School of Medicine.

She has been a member of the SNMMI since 2002 and recently became SNMMI's first Value Initiative Transformative Leader. Dr. Lai currently serves on the SNMMI Pediatric Imaging Council Board of Directors and is a member of the SPR Nuclear Medicine Committee. She is an active member of the Children's Oncology Group and was a central reviewer for their Neuroblastoma and Lymphoma studies. Additionally, she was also a central reviewer for New Advances in Neuroblastoma Therapy (NANT). She is a member of the American Board of Radiology Angoff Committee (the CORE exams standard-setting committee) and has served as Secretary, Treasurer, and President for the Western Neuroradiological Society. Dr. Lai is also a current member of the American Society of Neuroradiology Finance committee.



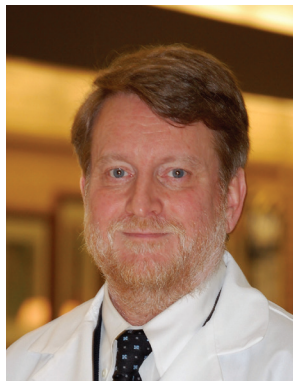
Medhat M. Osman, MD, ScM, PhD – *Director, Division of Nuclear Medicine & PET/CT Imaging, Nuclear Medicine Training Program Director, Department of Radiology, Division of Nuclear Medicine, Saint Louis University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO*

Dr. Osman is a Tenured Professor and the Medical Director of the Division of Nuclear Medicine and PET/CT at Saint Louis University, Saint Louis, MO. He currently serves as the President for the Missouri Valley Chapter of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging. He has co-authored over 80 peer-reviewed journal articles, seven textbook chapters, and more than 290 abstracts.

Dr. Osman recently completed a 6-month sabbatical at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne, Australia, where he was actively involved in Theranostics training and research. He is currently a member of the Correlative Imaging Council and Therapy Center of Excellence and has served on the Board of Directors of the PET Center of Excellence as well as served as a member of the Editorial Board of the SNMMI.

Meet the Newest Members of the ABNM

Welcome to Our New Board Members – *Continued*



Kirk A. Frey, MD, PhD – *David E. Kuhl Collegiate Professor Radiology and Neurology Director, Center for Positron Emission Tomography; Director, Nuclear Medicine Fellowship Program at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI*

Dr. Frey has accepted the position of Associate Executive Director of the American Board of Nuclear Medicine (ABNM) in March of 2022. Dr. Frey is the David E. Kuhl Collegiate Professor of Nuclear Medicine in Radiology, Professor in the Department of Neurology at the University of Michigan Hospitals in Ann Arbor Michigan.

Since 2003 he has been a Research Professor for the Mental Health Research Institute at the University of Michigan and served as Chief for the Division of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging, Chief of Nuclear Medicine Service and Director for the Center for Positron Emission Tomography at the University of Michigan from 2004 to 2021.

Dr. Frey previously served on the ABNM Board of Directors (2007–2015) as well as on the ACGME Nuclear Medicine Residency Review Committee (2014 – June 2022). Outside of his work in clinical diagnostic imaging, he is dedicated to advancing molecular brain imaging (particularly targeting neurodegenerative diseases) and to education of residents and fellows in Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging.



ABNM
AMERICAN BOARD of
NUCLEAR MEDICINE





2021 Contribution List

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR DONORS

Radium (\$2000-above)

Adwoa Essel, MD
George Segall, MD

Fluorine (\$1000-\$1999)

Robert Mathews, MD

Indium (\$500-\$999)

Daniel Lee, MD
Jean-Luc Urbain, MD, PhD
Xiaofei Wang, MD, PhD

Bennett Greenspan, MD
David Mankoff, MD

Iodine (\$200-\$499)

Eva Dubovsky, MD
Leonie Gordon, MD
Yogeshkumar Patel, MBBS
Brijesh Reddy, MD

Scott Sherman, MD
Barry Shulkin, MD, MBA
Hossein Jadvar, MD, PhD
Helen Nadel, MD

Rudolph Sada, MD
Nii Koney, MD MBA
Scott Perlman, MD

Technetium (Up to \$199)

Kwasi Armah, MD	Chi-lai Ho, MD	Samuel Pak, MD
Luvenia Bender, MD	Carlos Jimenez, MD	Daniel Patrick, MD
Steve Cho, MD	Arash Kardan, MD	Ali Aria Razmaria, MD, MSc
Gagandeep Choudhary, MBBS, MD	Borys Krynyckiy, MD	Eric Rohren, MD
Paige Clark, MD	Hollie Lai, MD	Jason Samii, MD, PhD
Patrick Colletti, MD	Harry Lessig, MD	John Schultz, MD
Guido Davidzon, MD, SM	Tong Li, MD	Wisam Shaba, MD
Mikhail Doubrovin, MD, PhD	Randall Loftus, MD	Edward Silberstein, MD
Giuseppe Esposito, MD	Nadia Malik, MBBS, MD	Bradley Trotter, MD
Sami Fakir, MD	William Mallin, MD	Jonathan Weiss, MD
Bina Franklin, MD, MS	Jonathan McConathy, MD, PhD	James Wilson, MD
Ahmed Gharib, MB ChB	Eileen Jose Mercado-Yap, MD	Robert Wolek, MD
Edwin Goldstein, MD	Gustavo Mercier, MD, PhD, MBA	Christine Yeoh Hauser, MD
Erin Grady, MD, CCD, FACNM	Daniel Miller, MD	Ahmed Zaza, MD
Christopher Gregory, MD	Jules Minkes, DO	
Thomas Heston, MD	Sudha Narasimhan, MB BCh	

The ABNM appreciates all the Diplomates who support the ABNM by paying MOC fees and voluntary contributions every year. In addition, we would like to thank the above listed Diplomates for their generous support of the ABNM through a financial donation in 2021.



New ABNM Diplomates

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW DIPLOMATES WHO RECENTLY PASSED THE ABNM INITIAL CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION OCTOBER 2021

Noha Aboueldahab, MBBCh, Masters
Yasir Ahmad, MBBS
Ashley Anderson, MD
Yaser Baghdadi, MD
Nishanta Baidya, MD
Ricardo Bello Martinez, MD
Marc Benayoun, MD, PhD
Brendan Calhoun, MD
James Cassuto, MD, PhD
Bo Chen, MD
Joshua Cho, MD
David Choi, MD
Jian Dong, MD
Sarah Ebert, MD
Hebatallah Fouad Said, MD, Mac, MBBCh
Jonathan Gershenson, DO
Jennifer Gillman, MD, MSCI
Anthony Hafez, DO
Jason Halpern, MD
Samantha Harrington, MD, MSc
Amin Jahromi, MD PhD
Maham Jehangir, MBBS
Kamlesh Jobanputra, MBBS, MD
Alexander Khalaf, MD
Sonya Khan, MD
Alireza Khatami, MD
Mary Ellen Koran, MD, PhD
Ajay Kumar, MD, PhD, DNB
Michael Lee, MD
Qiubai Li, MD

David Lin, MD
Emmanuel Magara, MD
Charles Marcus, MD
Sohaib Mohiuddin, MD
Sarah Moorman, MD
Patrick Navin, MB, BCh, BAO
Domnique Newallo, MD
Emilie Nguyen, MD
Laura Ortiz-Teran, MD, PhD
Licia Pacheco Luna, MD, PhD
Hyesun Park, MD
Shiva Rahimi Shahmirzadi, MD
Molly Roseland, MD
Jeremy Ross, MD
Roberto Salas Fragomeni, MD
Ali Salavati, MD, MPH
Bhagya Sannananja, MBBS, MD
William Scales, MD
Neetu Soni, MD, FRCR
Mina Swiha, MD, PhD
Erik Velez, MD
Zi Jun Wu, MD
Cindy Yuan, MD, PhD





Diplomates Who Passed the 2021 MOC Examination

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DIPLOMATES WHO RECENTLY PASSED THE ABNM MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION OCTOBER 2021.

Garima Agrawal, MD

Ana Barlucea-Bajo, MD

Lisa Bodei, MD

Zuzan Cayci, MD

Muhammad Chaudhry, MD

Carlo Contoreggi, MD

Vasken Dilsizian, MD

Daryl Eber, MD

Shabbir Ezuddin, MB BS, MD

Sujit Gandhari, MD, MPH

Noble George, MD

Nasrin Ghesani, MB BS

Behnaz Goudarzi, MD

Mian Ibrahim, MB BS

Germaine Johnson, MD

Hollie Lai, MD

Yi Li, MD

Esther Lim, MD, MBA

Marcus Maydew, MD

Michael Middleton, MD

Daniel Mollura, MD

Michelle Oh, MD

Joseph Osborne, MD, PhD

Medhat Osman, MB ChB, ScM, PhD

Charles Pringle, MD

Saiyyeda Rahman, MD

Dhanashree Rajderkar, MD

Jyotsna Rao, MB BS

Salman Rashid, MB BS

Bhawana Rathore, MD

Sanjaya Viswamitra, MB BS

Heidi Wassef, MD

Timothy Zelenak, MD





Diplomates Who Met the CertLink® Passing Standard in 2021

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DIPLOMATES WHO RECENTLY
ACHIEVED A PASSING SCORE WITH CERTLINK IN 2021

Vasantha Aaron, MD
Amir Abdelmalik, MD
Alain Abi Ghanem, MD
Scott Adams, MD
Rajan Agarwal, MD, MBA
Kamran Akram, MD
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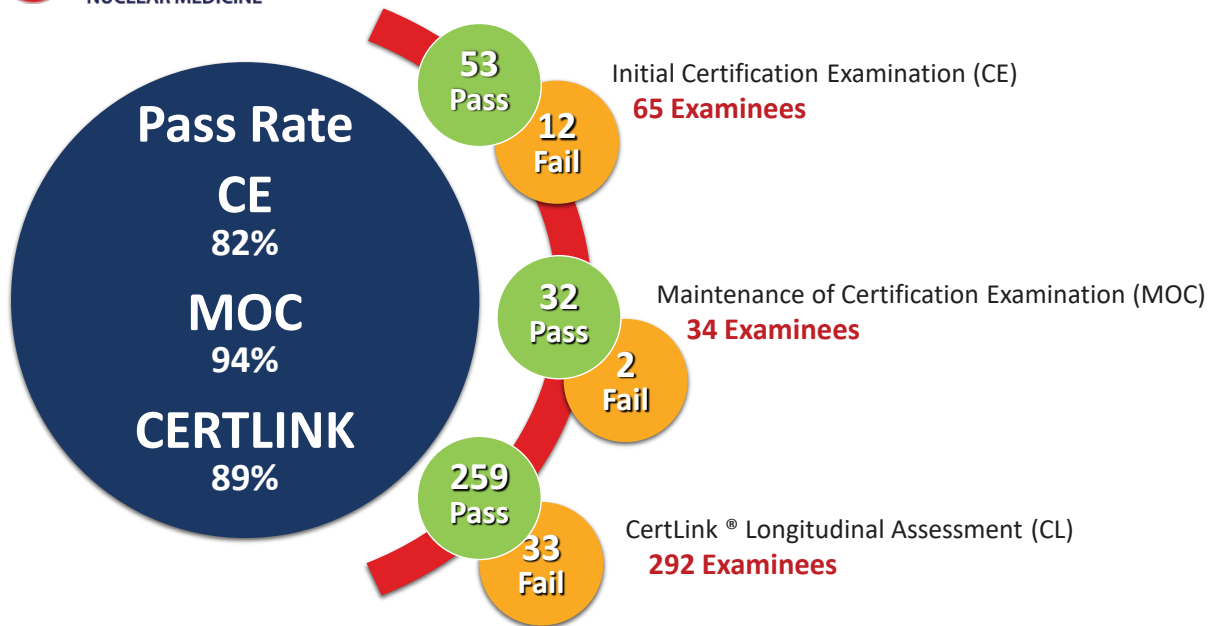
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Interim Report on Provisional Requirements for Radionuclide Therapy

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In 2020, the American Board of Nuclear Medicine (ABNM) proposed new requirements for radionuclide therapy (*J Nucl Med.* 2020;61[12]:41N). The proposed changes were based on the evolution of practice since the requirements were changed in 2014, with fewer radioiodine therapies for hyperthyroidism and thyroid cancer and more parenteral therapies due to U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval of additional radiopharmaceuticals for cancer treatment. Before making changes, the ABNM polled the directors of all 38 Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)-accredited nuclear medicine programs. Fifty-three percent approved the proposal in its entirety. Thirty-four percent supported the proposal with reservations about decreasing the minimum number of radioiodine therapies and increasing the minimum number of parenteral radiopharmaceuticals, including requiring experience with at least 2 different FDA-approved radiopharmaceuticals. Four directors (10%) did not support the proposal because of challenges in providing experience with parenteral therapies. Based on this feedback, the ABNM decided that candidates for the 2021 and 2022 certification examinations could fulfill the requirements using the current ACGME-based criteria or by using the new provisional criteria proposed by the ABNM. The ACGME Nuclear Medicine Review Committee decided that programs would not be cited if trainees met the ABNM provisional requirements instead of the ACGME requirements.

The ABNM provisional requirements did not change the minimum number of all therapies, which was maintained at 35. The minimum number of radioiodine therapies using ≤ 33 mCi of ^{131}I was decreased from 10–15 to 5, and the minimum number using >33 mCi of ^{131}I was also decreased from 10–15 to 5. The minimum number of parenteral therapies was increased from 5 to 10, with the additional requirement that experience must include at least 2 different FDA-approved radiopharmaceuticals, excluding ^{90}Y microspheres. The requirement for 35 total therapies could be met by any therapy beyond the specified minimum.

Sixty-five candidates took the 2021 ABNM certification examination. Seven candidates (11%) met the new provi-

sional requirements, with the remaining candidates meeting the current ACGME-based requirements. Six of the 7 candidates also met the eligibility requirements for certification by the American Board of Radiology (ABR) in diagnostic radiology and had 16 months of nuclear medicine training. Four of the candidates completed the ABNM and ABR requirements during 4 years of diagnostic radiology residency, and 2 candidates completed the requirements in 5 years, with 1 year of nuclear medicine plus 4 years of diagnostic radiology training. One candidate was certified by another specialty board and met the requirements with 2 years of nuclear medicine training.

The radionuclide therapy case logs of the 7 candidates who met the new provisional requirements were reviewed. The parenteral radionuclides listed included ^{223}Ra -dichloride (41 therapies) and ^{177}Lu -DOTATATE (37 therapies). Candidates were required to list only the minimum requisite number of 10 parenteral therapies (although some listed more than 10), so it is not known whether these candidates had additional experience with these or other FDA-approved radiopharmaceuticals. No candidates listed ^{89}Sr -chloride, ^{153}Sm -lexidronam, ^{90}Y -ibritumomab tiuxetan, or ^{131}I -iobenguane. It is also unknown how many trainees had experience with prostate-specific membrane antigen (PSMA)-targeted radiopharmaceuticals, which are still in clinical trials.

The number of trainees meeting the provisional radionuclide therapy criteria this year was small. The ABNM does not expect any significant change in the number of trainees having greater experience with parenteral therapies until the FDA approves PSMA-targeted radiopharmaceuticals for treatment of prostate cancer. FDA approval will likely be too late to impact training during the current academic year at sites that are not participating in clinical trials, but adoption of the new treatment is expected to be rapid at teaching institutions once these therapies are approved.



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