Hospice and Palliative Medicine Certification Exam

The initial certification exam is available every other year (even years) in the fall. Maintenance of certification (MOC) or continuing certification exams are available annually.

General information about continuing certification (MOC) for Hospice and Palliative Medicine (HPM) (administered by the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM).

No matter your primary certifying board, you need to be engaged in the HPM MOC program to maintain your subspecialty certification (or certificate of added qualification – CAQ).

HPM MOC deadline extensions due to pandemic. You are encouraged to check with your primary board regarding your MOC deadline extensions.

Assessment (exam) Options.

- **Traditional 10-Year MOC Exam** (Family Medicine HPM diplomates due for the exam in 2022 must take the 10-year exam.)
  - Required every 10 years
  - Test center only
  - In-person proctoring
  - Access to UpToDate during exam
  - Exam covers breadth of the discipline
  - Earn 20 medical knowledge points for every attempt
  - Approximately 10 hours

- **ABIM Knowledge Check-In 2-year MOC Assessment**
  - Physicians can take this assessment online (at home or office) or in a test center
  - Will no longer be available after 2021 as ABIM transitions to the longitudinal knowledge assessment (LKA)

- **Longitudinal Knowledge Assessment** (Available starting 2022 to all HPM diplomates except those from Family Medicine.)
  - HPM diplomates from ABIM can register for the LKA starting December 1, 2021.
  - Diplomates from the other boards can register starting December 16, 2022.
  - First round of questions will be available January 4, 2022.
  - 5-year cycle in which physicians answer questions on an ongoing basis and receive feedback on how they’re performing along the way.
  - Receive 30 questions at the start of each quarter and answer them any time before the end of that quarter. Four minutes/question. Answer one at a time or in batches. Earn 0.2 MOC points for each correct answer.
    - Each quarter, the questions you have opened will be scored.
    - Questions you have not opened will count toward the maximum of 100 total questions you don’t have to open over 5 years.
  - Open at least 500 of 600 questions over 5 years.
  - Answer questions at your pace, any place and time, and access any resource (except another person).
- Ongoing feedback including references and rationales.
- Updated score report on quarterly basis after the first year to help identify areas for future study.
- Pass/fail decision made at the end of your 5-year cycle.
- Continue with LKA or take the 10-year MOC exam to stay certified.

2022 MOC Assessment Fees
Continuing certification fees are set by your primary certifying board. Please confirm your fees with your primary board.

Contact ABIM with questions
ABIM is continuing to utilize feedback from the community to develop this new LKA option and encourages you to share your thoughts.