**ABPNS Report**

The Boards of Directors of the ABPNS and ABNS have been working seamlessly on the new certification process for pediatric neurosurgeons, which is now approved by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS). As a result, the first wave of candidates has received a *Recognition of Focused Practice in Pediatric Neurosurgery* in collaboration with the ABNS and the RCPS(C). All neurosurgeons seeking certification or recertification in pediatric neurosurgery should refer to the ABPNS (<https://abpns.org>) and ABNS (<https://www.abns.org>) websites for details. The following are recent important changes that we would like to bring to your attention:

**New Online Pediatric Written Examination**

* As of March 8, 2019, the pediatric written examination is now given online. All ACPNF fellowship graduates are requested to take it upon completion of their fellowship.

**Conversion of MOC to CC**

* The ABMS has required specialty boards to change from Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program to Continuous Certification (CC) program.
* Since all ABPNS diplomates have a time-limited certificate, which now converts to a joint certification recognized by the ABMS, all pediatric neurosurgeons are asked to enroll in the CC process. This is accessed through the ABNS website, and includes CME credit for the adaptive learning tool, which will update their knowledge annually.
* Since all pediatric neurosurgeons will hold an ABNS certificate plus a recognition of focused practice document, all neurosurgeons interested in maintaining pediatric certification are requested to take, annually, the general adult adaptive learning tool, as well as the pediatric module. These can be completed online (from home or office) any time during the year.

**New Case Volume Requirements for Pediatric Certification**

* ABNS certification requirements have changed, in that the chronological minimum surgical case log required is now 125 (instead of 150) consecutive, major surgical cases within an 18-month time period, with the oldest case being no more than 24 months from the time of application, and with a minimum of 3 months follow-up. The case log submitted must represent all locations of the practice of the applicant at the time of submission.
* A dual focused practice credential requires that 95 of the 125 cases be performed on patients 21 years of age or younger over an 18-month period.
* For ABPNS recertification, the requirement remains 65 consecutive cases in patients 21 years old or younger over a 12-month period.
* For Canadian diplomates and candidates of ABPNS certification that does not follow the standard ABNS pathway, refer to the ABPNS website.

**Annual Dues**

* Please note that the annual dues now go to the ABNS rather than ABPNS office, and can be paid online through the ABNS website.

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