MOC (Maintenance of Certification) Made Simple 2018

This is an EASY step-by-step quick instruction set for figuring out what you need to do to keep your pediatric infectious diseases certification current.

To remain certified, you will need to be licensed in your state (Part 1 MOC) and also need to document proof of ongoing medical education (Part 2) and improvement in clinical performance (Part 4) by the time your certification or MOC cycle ends.

In the near future, there will be a preferred option to enroll in a Maintenance of Certification Assessment (MOCA) for Pediatric Infectious Diseases, (Part 3) which will replace the every-10-year proctored recertification examination requirement. The MOCA for Pediatric Infectious Diseases will be an innovative online assessment approach that delivers 20 questions electronically each quarter. Its aim is to emphasize assessment of medical knowledge and clinical judgment “through a more flexible, continuous, and dynamic model that also incorporates learning into the assessment process.” To learn more about MOCA visit the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) website at: https://www.abp.org/mocapeds/faqs.

The ABP website (abp.org) has everything you need to know, with new, very useful information on MOC, which can be directly accessed at: https://www.abp.org/content/how-guide.

Fees for MOC: When you complete your current MOC requirements you will pay a fee to enroll in the next cycle of MOC (a five year cycle). That enrollment fee includes all the activities that you will need to complete MOC. More information can be found here: https://www.abp.org/content/enrollment-and-fees.

**Step One:** Go to the ABP Website (abp.org) to make sure that you are registered and find where you stand on your certification deadlines. Log in by clicking the upper right corner link “Log In” to see your personal information:
If you have a time limited certification (e.g., when you first took your exam, you were told that you would need to recertify periodically) you already have MOC requirements. You can access your individual requirements in your portfolio. If you have a certification that has lapsed or are a permanent certificate holder who wants to participate in MOC you must first enroll.

**Step Two:** Once logged in and registered, click on the “ABP Portfolio” folder/tab to see your personal portfolio.

Below, see an example of a page showing information about a personal portfolio. *This page contains information about your Certification Status by specialty or subspecialty, your Examinations, and your current status of MOC, including MOC Cycle dates.*
Step Three: On this new webpage, now Click on “MOC Dashboard”
In this webpage, you will find detailed information about your Parts 2, 3 and 4 MOC requirements (Part 1 MOC is your professional standing/medical license.)

Part 2: Self-Assessment (ongoing education) – 40 points are required

Part 3: Cognitive Expertise (this is the Peds ID exam, or MOCA for Peds ID in the future)

Part 4: Improvement in Practice (Quality Improvement) – 40 points are required

Remember that you need an additional 20 points from EITHER Part 2 or Part 4 activities (see below).
Step Four: Finding Part 2 Activities. Click on the “Find Self-assessment Activities (Part 2) tab under “My MOC Activities”
Under the “Interest Area”, Click the “Infectious Diseases” box to find Part 2 Activities related to our subspecialty.

You will be able to choose from many different self-assessment activities to earn the 40 Part 2 points necessary for your MOC cycle. Remember that you also can do additional Part 2 activities to complete the 20 additional points that are required during each MOC cycle.
Step Five: Finding Part 4 Activities. Click on the “Find Self-assessment Activities (Part 4) tab under “My MOC Activities”
On this new webpage, you will see many different Improvement in Practice (Part 4) Options.

**Improvement in Practice (Part 4) Options**

Below are the options to obtain Part 4 credits:

1. If your practice is NCQA PCMH/PCSP certified
2. Report a QI Project (1-10 physicians)
3. Use a Group Code for a QI Project (1-10 physicians)
4. Institutional QI Leadership
5. Find out if your organization is a Portfolio Sponsor
6. Find online Improvement in Practice Modules
7. Sponsor a QI Project (>10 physicians)
8. Find an Attestation for Approved Sponsored QI Projects

Depending on the project, 20-40 points of Part 4 MOC can be awarded. There are options for receiving credit for National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) certified practices, for institutional quality improvement leadership in organizations that are portfolio sponsors, for conducting small (1-10 physicians) or larger (>10 physicians) group quality improvement projects or for individual projects. Physicians who want to search online improvement practice modules, can Click the “Find online Improvement in Practice Modules” box which will take you to a new webpage that lists many approved Part 4 options for infectious diseases physicians (see below).
There is also a “Virtual QI Learning Performance Improvement Module” available for physicians not seeing patients.

There are no fees for ABP-sponsored Part 4 programs, but fees may be charged by non-ABP sponsors. Any institution/practice/association may apply to the ABP to certify a Practice Improvement Module for you and your colleagues, if desired.

You are free to choose any approved activity to fulfill your Part 2 and Part 4 requirements; activities do not have to be infectious diseases specific. Any activities that you complete will be credited to all your areas of certification (ie, reciprocal credit). For example, you don’t have to “double” the Part 2 and Part 4 requirements if you are maintaining both general pediatrics and infectious diseases certification.

The MOC cycle is a 5-year cycle. You must complete 100 points (40 Part 2, 40 Part 4 and 20 of either Part 2 or Part 4) in 5 years. Additional points do not carry over to the next cycle. For more information, visit https://www.abp.org/content/how-guide.