



Improving Diagnostic Imaging

February 2018

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(President-Elect)

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Disclosure:

- Volunteer, American Board of Radiology



Important Note

- All of the information being shared today is current as of February 12, 2018 and is subject to change.
- For the most up-to-date information, go to the ABR website, www.theabr.org

ABR Mission Statement:

To certify that our diplomates demonstrate the requisite knowledge, skill, and understanding of their disciplines to the benefit of patients.

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ABR Disciplines:

- Diagnostic Radiology
- Radiation Oncology
- Medical Physics
- Interventional Radiology

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Certification Exam Structure (Diagnostic):

- Core
- Certifying
- Continuous / Maintenance of Certification

Certification Exam Structure (Diagnostic):

- Core
 - Twelve content areas
 - Administered at the end of three years of residency (between PG-4 and PG-5)
 - Passing score is required to proceed to subsequent exams
- Certifying
- Continuous / Maintenance of Certification

What Are these Categories?

Organ systems	MSK, Thoracic, GI, Urinary, Neuro, Pediatrics, Cardiac, Reproductive/Endocrine, Mammography, Vascular
Modalities	CT, MRI, RF/Fluoro, Nucs, Interventional, Ultrasound
Fundamentals	Physics, Quality and Safety

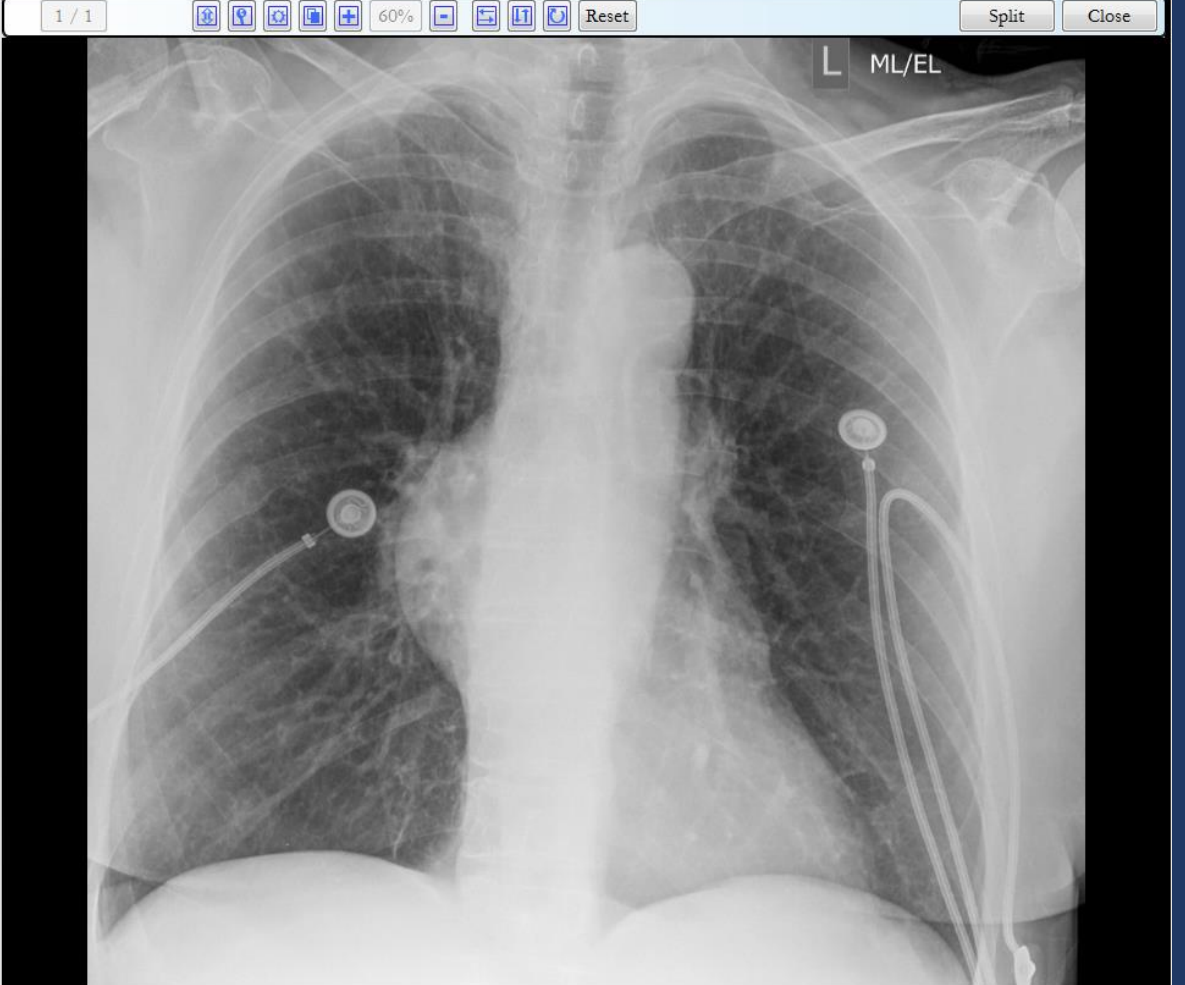
	Breast	Cardiac	GI	MSK	Neuro	Peds	Thorax	Repro / Endo	Urinary	Vascular	Q/S
CT											
IR											
MR											
NM/Molecular											
Rad/Fluoro											
US											
Physics											
Safety											
Q/S											

Core Practice Exam Questions

Navigation Calc **Case 15 of 111 (Item 1 of 1)** **Completed 6%** Physician Name Enter Break **Time Expired!**
< Back Flag Next > **Break Time: 00:30:00**

What is the most likely cause for the abnormality on the chest radiograph?

- ☐ A Right paratracheal lymphadenopathy
- ☐ B Right hilar mass
- ☐ C Type B aortic dissection
- ☐ D Ascending aorta aneurysm
- ☐ E Pericardial cyst



Core Exam:



Certification Exam Structure (Diagnostic):

- Core
- Certifying
 - Candidates select up to three clinical practice areas (in addition to “Essential” elements of Diagnostic Radiology).
 - Administered after completion of residency / fellowship.
- Continuous / Maintenance of Certification

Certification Exam Structure (Diagnostic):

- Core
- Certifying
- Continuous / Maintenance of Certification
 - Includes enhanced CME and PQI requirements.
 - Exam: Clinical Practice Areas (similar to Certifying) to attempt to parallel individual practice.
 - Transitioning to a *longitudinal* life-long assessment (January 2019)

Online Longitudinal Assessment:

- Similar to other certification boards (e.g. Anesthesiology, Pediatrics)
- The ABR version will allow for:
 - Planned / selected “practice profile content”*
 - Relevance of content (“decline” option)
- Consideration for future state*:
 - Oncology
 - Emergency Radiology

The Role of Physician Specialty Board Certification Status in the Quality Movement

Troyen A. Brennan, MD, JD, MPH

Ralph I. Horwitz, MD

F. Daniel Duffy, MD

Christine K. Cassel, MD

Leslie D. Goode, MHS

Rebecca S. Lipner, PhD

JAMA. 2004;292:1038-1043

- “. . . body of evidence includes the validity of board certification demonstrated by the testing process, the relationship of examination scores with other measures of physician competence, and the relationship between certification status and clinical outcomes.
- [additional] evidence involves the adaptation of error prevention theory to medical care. Patient safety is enhanced when problem-solving uses readily accessed habits of behavior, the same behavior necessary to achieve board certification.
- [additional] evidence demonstrates that . . . [MOC is] highly valued by the public.”

Brennan et al

Self-assessment in Lifelong Learning and Improving Performance in Practice

Physician Know Thyself

F. Daniel Duffy, MD

Eric S. Holmboe, MD

JAMA, September 6, 2006—Vol 296, No. 9

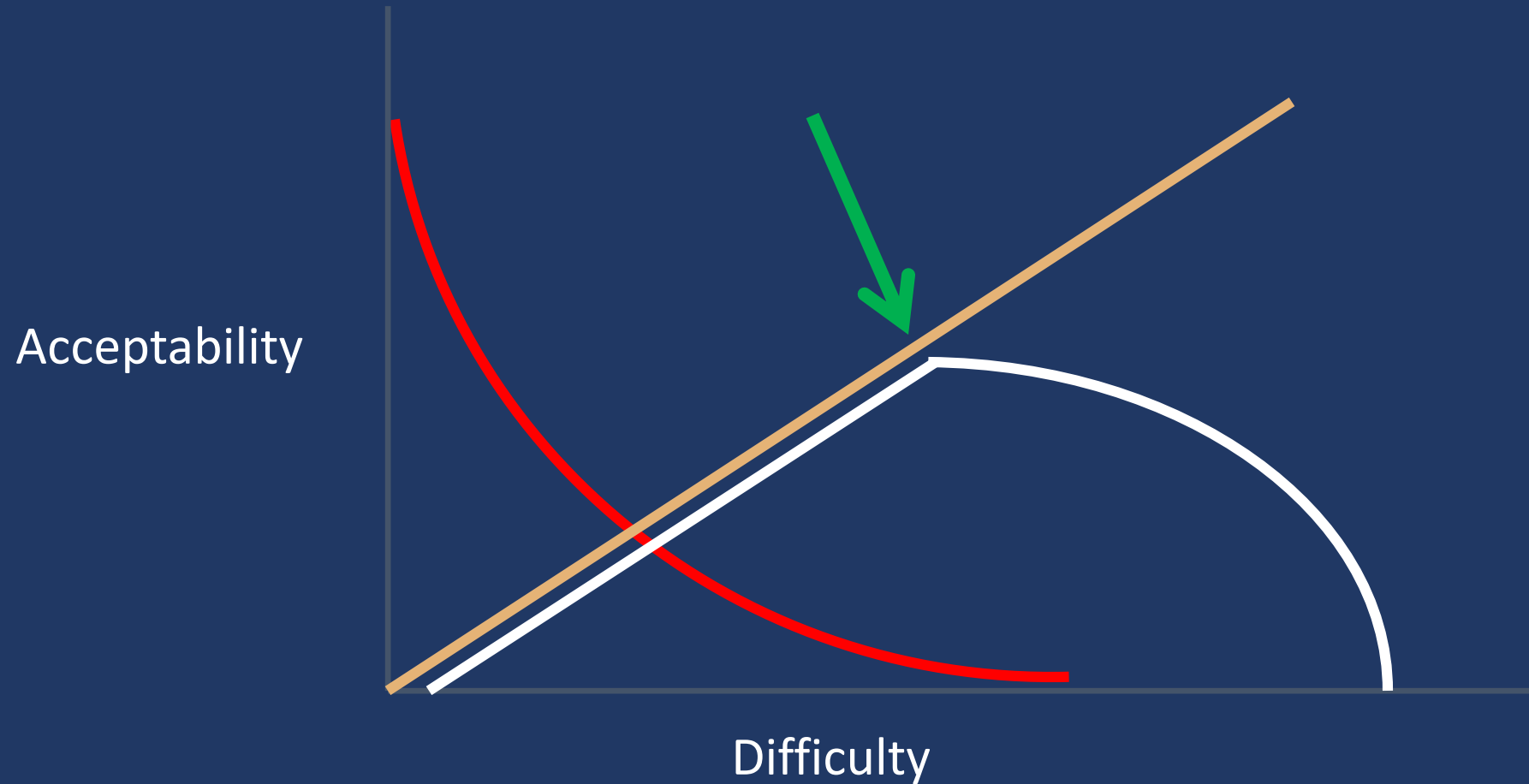
- A medical profession accomplishes accountability by providing its members periodic measurement of performance using reliable and valid instruments and judging performance against evidence-based standards, providing graduate and continuing medical education (CME) programs that advance members' knowledge and skills to meet these standards, and publicly certifying those who do so.”
- Uncovering a gap in knowledge or in clinical performance motivates self-directed professionals to take action to close it.

Duffy and Holmboe 2006

Maintenance of Certification Requirements



Maintenance of Certification Requirements



The Message . . .

- In many ways, the value of board certification is proportional to the rigor of the process.
- The opportunity we (as radiologists) have to be a self-regulating profession is at risk if we don't do it well.
- The ABR is ever-evolving to be relevant and reasonable.

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- 1. The American Board of Radiology continues to serve the public interest by upholding the rigor of the board certification process.
- 2. The ABR's new online longitudinal assessment, a critical component of continuous certification and life-long learning, will allow for the development of increasingly relevant content that is specific to the scope of specialized radiologist practice patterns (including oncologic imaging).

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