August 12, 2016
Dear ACP Members,
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the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) process of the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM). As
I have stated in previous ƵƉĚĂƚĞƐ͕W͛ƐĚĞƐŝƌĞĚŐŽĂůŝƐƚŽĂƐƐƵƌĞƚŚĂƚƚŚĞƉƌŽĐĞƐƐĨŽƌƉŚǇƐŝĐŝĂŶ
accountability during a professional career is relevant and provides value to the physician. At the same
time, the process should be designed to reduce burden as much as possible, yet remain credible to the
public.
As I mentioned in the last email update in March 2016, ACP sent a letter to ABIM expressing our
concerns and urging them to develop a plan as quickly as possible about the future of knowledge
assessment and the secure examination, and to communicate more frequently about timelines and
plans. We also shared a summary of the results of the MOC survey with ABIM to inform them of the
feedback we received, and to underscore the need for them to accelerate the momentum for reform
and communicate additional changes.

Since then, ABIM has committed to developing an alternative to the secure examination, to working

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statement of no confidence in ABIM by the Pennsylvania Medical Society. ACP, along with others, was
asked to sign on to the statement. We chose not to because we believe ACP should continue to press
ABIM to improve the MOC process as quickly as possible to make it more relevant, efficient, valuable,
and affordable for internal medicine specialists and subspecialists. Although we understand and respect
the concerns of the PA Medical Society and others, ACP's priority is improving the process by which
physicians demonstrate ongoing competence, and we believe we can have the greatest impact by taking
a collaborative approach to making change rather than getting involved in other aspects about ABIM as
an organization.
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Labor Day. At that time, /ĂŵĚĞůŝŐŚƚĞĚƚŽƚƵƌŶŽǀĞƌƚŚŝƐƌĞƐƉŽŶƐŝďŝůŝƚǇƚŽW͛ƐŶĞǁsWͬK͕ƌ͘
Darilyn Moyer. As Dr. Moyer takes over her new position, I know she is as committed as I have been to
seeing this process proceed to a successful conclusion. Future updates about MOC will be coming from
Dr. Moyer, but I will continue to assist her as needed over the coming year as part of my interest and
responsibility in assuring a smooth and seamless transition process.
Best wishes to all of you for an enjoyable remainder of the summer.
Steven Weinberger, MD, MACP, FRCP