

ABPM's Longitudinal Assessment Program (LAP) Pilot for Clinical Informatics

Fulfilling the Recommendations of the Vision for the Future
Commission



What is Longitudinal Assessment?

- Shorter, more frequent assessments over a period of time
- Some content may be repeated to reinforce important concepts
- Uses proven adult learning principles
- Emphasizes learning over point-in-time, high-stakes testing
- Participants answer questions online; no need to travel for a point-in-time, high-stakes exam
- Find more information about the principles and research behind Longitudinal Assessment [here](#)

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Why is the ABPM considering Longitudinal Assessment?

- In 2019, the [Vision for the Future Commission](#) recommended all ABMS Member Boards implement longitudinal assessment
- In a 2019 ABPM Survey, 77% Diplomate respondents preferred longitudinal assessment over a single, point-in-time, high-stakes exam administered every ten years
- Longitudinal assessment will allow Diplomates to identify their own knowledge gaps and direct their educational efforts effectively

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Who will participate in the Longitudinal Assessment Program (LAP) pilot?

- All Clinical Informatics Diplomates will participate in the pilot
- Other ABPM Diplomates will not participate in the pilot.
- All ABPM Diplomates will be required to transition to the ABPM's Continuing Certification Program (CCP), including its longitudinal assessment platform, when the CCP is launched in Q1 2023.

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When is the LAP pilot?

- The pilot is scheduled to begin 1 April 2021
- The pilot will run for 24 consecutive months
- The pilot will be divided into four six-month sessions:
 - April through September 2021
 - October 2021 through March 2022
 - April through September 2022
 - October 2022 through March 2023

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How does it work?

- During each six-month session, you will answer 12 multiple-choice questions
 - Answer questions online through a link on the ABPM Physician Portal
 - Answer questions at any time during the six-month window: one at a time, all at once, or at any other frequency or grouping you wish
- You are allowed to use reference material to answer questions, but not to confer with your colleagues
- Incorrect and unanswered questions will be marked as incorrect and will affect your overall score

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Exam Questions

- Questions will be based on the Clinical Informatics exam content outline, which will be posted on the ABPM website soon.
- Once you open a question, you need to answer it within a specific time frame. To help ABPM determine the best time limit for the LAP, pilot participants will be randomly divided into three groups:
 - Group 1 will have 10 minutes to answer each question
 - Group 2 will have 5 minutes to answer each question
 - Group 3 will have 3 minutes to answer each question

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Scoring

- The LAP system will calculate your score based on the number of questions you answered correctly overall and in each content area
- ABPM and its subject matter experts will review a full psychometric analysis to determine a performance standard and a passing score
- During the pilot phase, Diplomates who fully participate but do not achieve a passing score will not be penalized for failing to achieve a passing score

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Feedback to LAP Pilot Participants

- After you answer each question, the system will provide the correct answer, the reason it is correct, and a reference in support of the correct answer
- In ABPM's online Physician Portal, you'll be able to view your individual performance and score in each content area after completing each set of 12 questions
- We will work with our partner specialty societies to provide relevant educational activities

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Feedback to ABPM

- The ABPM will invite LAP pilot participants to complete a survey to let us know how well the system is working and to share your comments and suggestions
- You can contact us any time with your feedback, questions, and suggestions. Send us a message at abpm@theabpm.org

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What do I do now?

- Check that the contact information in the [Physician Portal](#) is correct and up-to-date.
- If you haven't logged into the Portal before, please [click here to register your account](#).
- Watch for important information from ABPM in your inbox, including instructions for logging into the LAP system and completing the questions.

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Have Questions?

- Check out our FAQ page
- Send us a message at abpm@theabpm.org

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