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
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.
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.
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
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
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
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
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
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
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.
Have Questions?

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