

Newsline 2012: 25 Years of Age

It is with great pleasure and with considerable trepidation that I agreed to succeed Conrad Nagle, MD, as Newsline editor of *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine (JNM)*. Conrad has had an extremely successful 13-y tenure as Newsline editor, beginning in 1999. Working first with Martin Sandler, MD, and then with Heinrich Schelbert, MD, PhD, during their tenures as *JNM* editor in chief, Conrad brought new features and new faces to Newsline while continuing time-honored traditions, such as the annual publication of the SNM Highlights Lecture from the Annual Meeting. The prior and first Newsline editor was Stanley J. Goldsmith, MD, whose 12-y tenure began in 1987. I hope to sustain the careful stewardship that both Stan and Conrad brought to their roles as Newsline editor.

Newsline is the nonscientific portion of this journal, highlighting newsworthy items of interest to the nuclear medicine and molecular imaging community, including physicians, technologists, and basic scientists in clinical and academic practice worldwide. Newsline has changed somewhat over the years, reflecting the personality and interests of the editors, the maturation of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging, and the interests of its readers. Once a tear sheet inserted monthly into the published

journal, Newsline now appears online each month as well as in print.

As the new editor, I would like to know which features readers have found most useful, interesting, and informative and would welcome suggestions regarding how Newsline might further add to readers' knowledge of the wide, interesting, and constantly changing world of nuclear and molecular medicine. Nancy Knight, PhD, has been the talented and hard-working consulting Newsline editor since 1999. I am delighted that she has agreed to continue in that position. I hope that we can maintain the high standard set for Newsline in the past and can continue to provide the same quality and value to our diverse readership in the United States and across the globe.



Harvey A. Ziessman, MD

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JNM Newsline Editor

ABMS Makes Physician MOC Status Public

On October 11, the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) announced that it had begun reporting publicly whether physicians who are board certified by 1 or more of the 24 ABMS Member Boards are meeting the ABMS Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program requirements established by their certifying board(s). The public reporting initiative is being rolled out over the course of 1 y, beginning with 7 member boards, including the American Board of Nuclear Medicine (ABNM), American Board of Dermatology, American Board of Family Medicine, American Board of Otolaryngology, American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, American Board of Plastic Surgery, and American Board of Surgery. The remaining 17 member boards will make available the MOC status of their board-certified physicians in or before August 2012.

Some member boards had already been reporting the MOC status of their physicians in alternate formats, and most welcomed the ABMS announcement. "Certification would have no value if information on which doctors were certified was not publicly available," said Henry D. Royal, MD, executive director of the ABNM. "Likewise, MOC would have no value for our diplomates and our patients if information about who is participating was not publicly available."

For the first time, the ABMS will serve as the central repository for the MOC status of physicians from all 24 ABMS member boards, which will be reported publicly in the same format. The MOC status of physicians who are board certified by an ABMS member board(s) will also be displayed by ABMS licensees, by official display agents, and on www.CertificationMatters.org. The Web site was updated with the new information on November 9. "We're honoring our pledge of increased transparency to the public by providing easy access to important information about individual physicians," said Kevin B. Weiss, MD, ABMS president and chief executive officer. "This is a significant milestone in ABMS history. The public can be confident that physicians who are meeting the requirements of the ABMS MOC program are committed to lifelong learning and ongoing self-evaluation."

For the 7 member boards, including the ABNM, participating in the initial rollout, the results of researching a physician's status will show the name of the physician and the name of the ABMS member board(s) that certifies the physician, as well as a "yes" or "no" response to the question about whether the physician is meeting the MOC requirements of that member board(s). The ABMS site also includes a link to the Web site of each physician's certifying board(s).