



DATE: 8/28/2017

ABRID: XXXXX

TO: Richard L. Duszak, MD

Dear Dr. Richard L. Duszak:

October 15, 2017, will be a landmark day for Interventional Radiology. On this day, qualified interventional radiologists (IRs) will be issued a new board certificate that reflects their unique stature as IRs and their singular role in treating and managing patients through image-guided interventions.

We, the IR Trustees and ABR staff, are very excited about this important and significant change in certification for Interventional Radiologists. Because this is a major change in your certification we ask that you take action by confirming your decision to convert your DR and VIR certificates to the new Interventional Radiology/Diagnostic Radiology (IR/DR) certificate. You can submit confirmation of your intent to convert here [XXX](#).

However, if you want to “opt out” and do not wish to have your DR and VIR certificates converted to the new Interventional Radiology/Diagnostic Radiology (IR/DR) certificate, you must end MOC maintenance of your VIR certificate, because there will be no MOC program specifically for the VIR certificate. To “opt out”, follow the link here [XXX](#) and select “Opt Out”.

Unless you “opt out”, this change in certificate status will automatically occur on October 15, 2017. We want everyone to understand what this conversion means. Therefore, if you do not confirm your decision to convert to IR/DR certification, or opt out from this conversion, we will follow up with you to ensure the changes made to your certification on October 15, 2017 are intentional. After October 15, 2017, VIR subspecialty certificates can no longer be maintained. This change will affect your DR and VIR subspecialty certificates only. If you have any other subspecialty certificates, they will not be affected.

What this means for you

You can choose one of two options:

- *Continue to participate* in MOC with your new IR/DR certificate, or
- *End maintenance* for your VIR subspecialty and retain only your DR certificate
- To better describe what each option means for you, we have outlined your current public-reporting status, along with how your new public-reporting status will be displayed for both options.

Your **Current** Public-Reporting Status

Certificate Name	Certificate Duration	Certificate Status	Valid-Through Date	Maintenance Status	MOC Requirements Status
Diagnostic Radiology	Lifetime	Valid	3/2/2063	Maintained	Meeting
Subspecialty in Vascular and Interventional Radiology	Continuous Certificate	Valid	3/2/2019	Maintained	Meeting

Your options are:

- 1) Continue to participate in MOC with your VIR subspecialty certificate until the October 15, 2017 conversion date.

If you continue to maintain your VIR subspecialty certificate, your public-reporting status will be as follows, beginning on October 15, 2017.

Lifetime DR certificate holders that choose to convert to the Continuous IR/DR Certificate can request to drop the IR portion of their certificate and be issued a new DR Lifetime certificate.

New public reporting status as of October 15, 2017

Certificate Name	Certificate Duration	Certificate Status	Valid-Through Date	Maintenance Status	MOC Requirements Status
Interventional Radiology/Diagnostic Radiology	Continuous	Valid	3/2/2019	Maintained	Meeting

- 2) End maintenance for your VIR subspecialty certificate

If you end maintenance, your DR certificate will not be converted. Should you choose to maintain your VIR subspecialty certificate in the future, your certification will be converted to resemble Option 1.

New public reporting status after ending maintenance

Certificate Name	Certificate Duration	Certificate Status	Valid Thru Date	Maintenance Status	MOC Requirements Status
Diagnostic Radiology	Lifetime	Valid	3/2/2063	Maintained	Meeting
Subspecialty in Vascular and Interventional Radiology	Continuous Certificate	Inactive	11/23/2018	Not Maintained	N/A

What you must do

Complete the form in the link below by September 22, 2017, to select your option of choice.

XXX

Again, your options are:

1. Continue to participate in MOC for your VIR Subspecialty → *Convert* to an IR/DR Certificate
2. End Maintenance for your VIR Subspecialty Certificate → Do *not* convert to an IR/DR Certificate

If you have any questions, contact the ABR at (520) 790-2900, or email information@theabr.org.

Sincerely,

The American Board of Radiology