



American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc.

A Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)

ABPN Quarterly Update for Diplomates

March 5, 2025

March 2025 Quarterly Update Topics

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New Simplified Approach to Article Requirements for Article-Based Continuing Certification (ABCC) Pathway

Starting in 2025, the required number of article exams in the ABCC Pathway is [now set at 25 every three years for each certification](#). This approach makes it easier to keep track of article exam progress for those with two or more certifications. Tracking ABCC progress separately for each certification makes it easier for diplomates to choose the [ABCC Pathway](#) for any additional certifications, or to choose the 10-year Continuing Certification (CC) examination for a certification, without affecting ABCC progress in other certifications. For more information, visit the ABPN's new [Continuing Certification webpage](#) and the updated [ABCC FAQs](#). Please check your [ABPN Physician Portal](#) for details as some of the article exam blocks may have been modified to align with certification award dates.

ABCC Article Lists Available for 2025-2027

As requested by many diplomates, Article-Based Continuing Certification (ABCC) Pathway articles are available as a [curated reading list on the ABPN website](#), regardless of specialty or participation in the ABCC pathway. Three ABPN specialty certifications and 11 ABPN subspecialty certifications are included.

ABPN Unveils New Strategic Plan

The ABPN has introduced a refreshed strategic plan that reaffirms the organization's commitment to its core mission, which is now framed as: "To serve the public and the profession by promoting lifelong learning and certifying psychiatrists and neurologists to high standards of expertise."

The strategic plan also identifies six priority areas in which ABPN will develop new or expanded initiatives. To see the new strategic plan, including ABPN's vision and values, visit the [ABPN Strategic Plan 2025 web page](#).

ABPN Webinars Available Online

ABPN President and CEO Jeffrey Lyness, MD, recently hosted two webinars for diplomates. The first webinar, [ABPN Continuing Certification Program – An Introduction for New Diplomates](#), outlines the purpose and specific requirements for ABPN's Continuing Certification program and resources available to help satisfy requirements.

The second webinar, [Lifelong Learning & ABPN Board Certification – How to Not Peak at the End of Training](#) focuses on how to continue professional development after completing residency or fellowship training, and how specialty board certification fits into the landscape of lifelong learning.

Neurocritical Care Now Offers ABCC Pathway as Continuing Certification Assessment Option

All Neurocritical Care (NCC) diplomates certified in 2021, 2022, and 2024 who wish to use the ABCC Article Pathway must first edit their CC enrollment in the [Physician Portal](#) in the Assessment Section for the NCC certification. As with other ABPN fields, diplomates will be required to pass 25 NCC article exams every 3-year CC block in lieu of taking the 10-year CC exam.

ABPN Announces 2025-26 Award Recipients; 2026-27 Award Applications Now Open

The ABPN announced the [recipients of the 2025-26 Faculty Innovation in Education Award](#), which supports the development of innovative education and/or evaluation projects related to the mission of the ABPN, and [recipients of the ABPN Dortehea Juul, PhD, Education Research Award](#), which supports research projects related to the mission of the ABPN.

Applications for the [2026-27 ABPN Faculty Innovation in Education Award](#) and the [2026-27 ABPN Dortehea Juul, PhD, Education Research Award](#) are now open. For more information, including a list of previous winners, visit the [ABPN Awards Program](#) webpage.

ABPN Spotlight On...

The ABPN's Spotlight On showcases various ABPN stakeholders and provides a personal look at directors, committee members, and diplomates. You'll get to learn more about the people who help the ABPN carry out its mission.

In the latest [Spotlight On](#), the ABPN talks with [Daniel J. Bonthius, MD, PhD](#), who serves on the Child Neurology Certification Committee, and [Josepha Cheong, MD](#), who serves on the ABPN Board. Some highlights from the Spotlight On include:

Daniel J. Bonthius, MD, PhD, is Division Chief, Division of Child Neurology at Atrium Health Levine Children's Hospital, Charlotte, North Carolina.

Does serving on an ABPN Committee make you a better neurologist?

Yes! Serving on the committee prompts me to keep learning. I'm amazed by the fact that, even though I have been studying and practicing child neurology for many years, there are some



important facts that I just don't know or never learned. Serving on the committee exposes me to this new knowledge a lot sooner than I would have learned it otherwise. Read [Dr. Bonthius' full Spotlight On here](#).

Josepha Cheong, MD, is a Professor of Psychiatry and Neurology at the University of Florida College of Medicine in Gainesville, Florida. She is the current Chair of the ABPN Board of Directors.



What do you want to achieve with the ABPN Board?

Through the work on the ABPN Board, I want to achieve a balance between the standards of the board certification process and the flexibility to meet the changing regulatory landscape of medicine as addressed by the various governing organizations. Read [Dr. Cheong's full Spotlight On here](#).

ABPN Director Nomination Process Now Open

The ABPN Board has started the annual process of selecting new psychiatry and neurology directors to begin in 2026. There are three methods by which candidates are considered by the ABPN board of directors:

- a) nominations as requested by the ABPN from several professional societies;
- b) nominations by current directors, leading to individual invitations to apply; and
- c) self-nominations from ABPN-certified physicians.

For those considering self-nomination, please request more information about the director positions by sending an initial inquiry to DirectorNominee@abpn.org. While the board will carefully review all candidates, please note that typically a history of ABPN service (such as membership on test development committees) is highly valued among the many types of experience that are helpful to the role.

ABPN Test Development Committee Applications Open

The ABPN is seeking applicants for our test development committees in psychiatry, neurology, child neurology, and most of our subspecialties. There are separate committees for certification examinations and article exams for the Article-Based Continuing Certification (ABCC) Pathway. Candidates for committee membership must be certified in the applicable field by the ABPN, actively participate in ABPN Continuing Certification (CC) with timely documentation of CC requirements in the ABPN Physician

Portal and have *at least three years of clinical experience post-training in their specialty and, if applicable, in their subspecialty.*

In reviewing applications, the ABPN considers multiple aspects including, but not limited to, factors such as subspecialty or other specific expertise, practice type and work setting, geographic distribution, and other experiences that would foster the work of the committees. [Applications](#) for the current year's cycle should be submitted by **July 31, 2025**.

Visit the ABPN Booth at the AAN and APA Annual Meetings

Have questions about certification? ABPN staff members will be in attendance at the following meetings to assist you with all of your certification inquiries:

- [American Academy of Neurology Annual Meeting](#) on April 5 - 9 in San Diego
- [American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting](#) on May 17 - 21 in Los Angeles

Diplomates are invited to attend ABPN presentations on certification at both the AAN and APA annual meetings. Learn more about the [AAN presentations](#) and the [APA presentations](#).

2025 ABPN Board of Directors Announced

The ABPN recently announced its 2025 Board of Directors. The Board's term runs through December 2025.



Dr. Josepha Cheong was named Chair. She is a Professor of Psychiatry and Neurology at the University of Florida College of Medicine in Gainesville, FL, and Faculty of the VHA VISN8 NFSGVHS Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Center (GRECC). She is certified by the ABPN in Psychiatry and Geriatric Psychiatry and participates in continuing certification. Dr. Cheong also serves as Treasurer on the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Board of Directors and is the ABPN liaison to the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry (AAGP).

Dr. Imran Ali was named Vice Chair. He is a tenured Professor of Neurology and is currently the Interim Dean at the University of Toledo, College of Medicine. He has served in various leadership roles, including as the Clair Martig Endowed Chair of Neurology, Vice Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education and as the Inaugural Chair of the newly formed Department of Medical Education at the University of Toledo. He is certified by the ABPN in Neurology, Epilepsy, and Clinical Neurophysiology and participates in continuing certification.



Read more about the 2025 ABPN Board of Directors [here](#).

2025 Exam Schedule available

The [ABPN exam schedule](#) for 2025 is available online. ABPN offers both Spring and Fall exam dates for select CC recertification exams to give diplomates more choices within a given year.

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