

ABNS MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION CREDITS

Principles

Part II of Maintenance of Certification is entitled “Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment”. The requirements developed by the ABNS and accepted by the American Board of Medical Specialties include CME and other credit hours based on the following principles:

150 CME credits during each three-year mini-cycle:

Type I 60 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM* in neurosurgery related activities

Type II 90 hours of other neurosurgery related education or additional *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM*

At the request of the ABNS, the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) has agreed to track verified *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM* for MOC participants. Certificates must be faxed or emailed to the AANS at (847) 378-0638 or cme@aans.org. Once the required 60 *AMA PRA Category 1 CreditsTM* have been logged, additional verified *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM* will default to Type II. The AANS has agreed to do this at no charge for its members; however, they charge a small fee to non-members.

Type I *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM* Neurosurgery Credits 60 credits for each three-year mini-cycle

- 1) **Live Activities (Meetings and Courses):** All activities directly and/or jointly sponsored for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM* by the AANS, Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) and other accredited providers are eligible (for instance, the CNS grants 24 credits for SANS). You must submit your CME Certificates from the accredited organizations to the AANS in order to have them tracked. As stated above, fax or email them to (847) 378-0638 or cme@aans.org.
- 2) **Enduring Materials:** Any printed, recorded, audio, video, and electronic activities eligible for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM* are accepted. Again, you must submit your CME Certificates from the accredited organizations to the AANS in order to have them tracked.
- 3) **Journal Activities:** Any journals that are peer-reviewed, neurosurgery relevant, involve an examination, and are eligible for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM* may be included. Needless to say, you must submit your CME Certificates from the accredited organizations to the AANS.
- 4) **Completion of MOC:** When a Diplomate has successfully completed all the requirements of a ten-year MOC cycle, including the Cognitive Examination, he or she is eligible for 25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM*. You must apply directly to the AMA for the credit; then submit your Certificate to the AANS. For information on how to apply to the AMA, click on this link: <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/education-careers/continuing-medical-education/physicians-recognition-award-credit-system/other-ways-earn-ama-pra-category/direct-credit.shtml>

Type II Additional AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM and other Neurosurgery Education
90 hours (credits) for each three-year mini-cycle

- 1) **Activities designated for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM by a provider accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME):** You must submit your CME Certificates from the accredited organizations to the AANS in order to have the credits tracked. Fax or email them to (847) 378-0638 or cme@aans.org.
- 2) **Direct AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM:** For the following, MOC participants must apply directly to the AMA for credit; then submit your Certificates to AANS as usual. For more information regarding these activities, click on this link: <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/education-careers/continuing-medical-education/physicians-recognition-award-credit-system/other-ways-earn-ama-pra-category/direct-credit.shtml>
 - *Presentations at Conferences:* Presenting a poster or teaching a course at a meeting designated for Category 1 credit (approximately 5 credits per poster and 2 credits per each hour of teaching)
 - *Published Articles:* First, second, or senior authorship of articles published in peer-reviewed journals listed in *Index Medicus* (approximately 10 credits per article)
 - *Advanced Degrees:* Earning a medically related degree, for instance a master of science or public health, or a PhD (approximately 25 credits per degree)
 - *Education Experiences Accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME):* Note that ACGME accreditation is different from ACCME accredited activities).
 - *Independent Learning*
 - *International Conference Recognition Program*
- 3) **Other Neurosurgery Related Education:** Other education activities must comply with AMA opinions in “Gifts to Physicians from Industry” and “Ethical Issues in CME” (i.e., are not promotional). Additionally, the neurosurgeon must find them worthwhile learning experiences relating to his or her practice. In each case, the Diplomate determines the educational value of the activities in which he or she participates and self-reports them at MyMOC on the ABNS website www.abns.org. The AANS does not track them. Diplomates may log up to 20 credits for such non-verified learning activities as teaching residents, medical students or other health professionals, unstructured online searching and learning (i.e., not Internet PoC), reading authoritative medical literature, and participating in live activities not designated for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM*. The rule of thumb is one credit for each hour spent. Other examples include:
 - Attendance at local ground rounds or other medical conferences not accredited by the ACCME
 - Consultations with peers and medical experts in direct contact, by phone or email
 - Preceptorships
 - Research
 - Self assessment activities
 - Small group discussions