POLICY #7R1

CLINICALLY INACTIVE STATUS

A diplomate who becomes clinically inactive must notify the ABD. The ABD defines clinically inactive as not seeing patients or being involved with patient care, including dermatopathology, for a period of at least 12 months. This can be done when confirming their medical licensure data on their MOC table (on abderm.org), or by contacting the ABD via phone, email or USPS. Once a diplomate has been officially designated Clinically Inactive their status will remain as such until s/he contacts the ABD to request that their certification be changed to Clinically Active.

The ABD shall designate the diplomate as Clinically Inactive, unless it appears that the diplomate may have engaged in an activity that merits revocation of certification, as described in Article VII, section 3 of the ABD Bylaws (ABD bylaws). To maintain the status of Clinically Inactive, the diplomate with a time-limited certificate remain active in the Maintenance of Certification in Dermatology (MOC) program except for MOC Part 4 (Practice Improvement) – this includes maintaining a current medical license.

A diplomate in Clinically Inactive status who wishes to return to active clinical practice must notify the ABD by phone, email or USPS. Once a diplomate’s status has been changed to Clinically Inactive – it must be manually changed by an ABD administrator back to clinically active. A diplomate who has Clinically Inactive status who subsequently becomes clinically active without notifying the ABD may forfeit his or her certification. Application for resumption of Clinically Active status will be reviewed by the Certificate Review Committee (CRC) of the ABD. The CRC may, at its discretion, impose additional requirements; for example, the CRC may require the diplomate to pass the MOC examination prior to or within a certain period of time after granting a change to Clinically Active status. In making its decisions, the CRC will consider the length of time the diplomate has been Clinically Inactive, the time elapsed since passing the most recently taken ABD examination (MOC or initial certification), and other matters pertaining to fitness for clinical practice. The diplomate may appeal the decision of the CRC to the Appeals Committee, in accordance with ABD policy.