



Maryland
CHAPTER

Message from the President

Joseph Marine, MD, FACC



President's Message

November 2019

The Collaborative Maintenance Pathway Goes Live

I hope that everyone is enjoying the fall season. My family enjoyed a corn maze and picking pumpkins on a beautiful Sunday afternoon last weekend.

Last Tuesday, October 1, marked the official launch of the ACC's **Collaborative Maintenance Pathway (CMP)**. This event represents the culmination of years of effort on the part of many ACC leaders and staff to develop an alternative to the ABIM's 10-year recertification exam.

As many ACC members will recall, the ABIM rolled out its expanded maintenance of certification (MOC) program in 2014, requiring physicians to earn 100 "MOC points" through online modules every 5 years, including a new controversial Practice Assessment requirement, while continuing to require the 10-year recertification exam, all at substantially increased cost. ACC governors across the country heard from unhappy members and discussed this issue at length at Board of Governors (BOG) meetings. The ACC responded by working with other medical professional societies and the ABIM to significantly **modify MOC requirements**. In addition, the ACC initiated an extended negotiation with ABIM to create an alternative to the 10-year recertification exam, resulting in the announcement of the CMP at ACC.19.

Based on the popular and highly successful ACC Self-Assessment Programs, the CMP combines the educational power of **ACCSAP** with a new online test called a "Performance Assessment" which can be taken at home or in the office. The CMP is designed to promote continuous learning by allowing you to focus on 20% of the field each year, so that over the span of 5 years, your knowledge of the entire field is refreshed. Participation in the CMP entails the following steps:

1. Be currently certified by the ABIM in Cardiovascular Disease and not in an exam grace period.
2. Purchase 5-year subscription to ACCSAP.
3. Spend at least 7 hours engaging in the topic of focus for the year. In 2019, this topic is Arrhythmias.
4. Enroll in the CMP at www.ACC.org/CMPEnroll.
5. Take a Performance Assessment (approximately 60 questions covering Arrhythmias for 2019) at home or in office during one of the 2 weeks offered (November 6-12, 2019 or December 4-10, 2019).
6. Repeat Steps 3 & 5 for the next 4 years. Each year will focus on a different 20% of the content.

In partnership with SCAI, HRS and HFSA, the ACC also plans to offer Collaborative Maintenance Pathways for Interventional Cardiology, Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology, and Advanced Heart Failure & Transplant Cardiology in 2020, through **CathSAP**, and Heart Failure SAP respectively (Heart Failure SAP will launch in 2020).

The CMP does involve additional cost over the traditional 10-year ABIM recertification exam (\$3000 per 10 years for ACCSAP/CMP versus \$1200 to



MACCS

MACCS 2019: Cardiovascular Care and Imaging in the Older Patient

The aging of the population along with uncertainty around evidence-based care of older adults mandates a critical review of the use of diagnostic testing, especially imaging procedures, in achieving patient-centered goals of care. MACCS 2019 will focus on imaging and diagnostic testing in older adults with CVD, as well as broader issues in imaging and geriatric cardiology relevant to everyday cardiology practice.

Come to Heart House for CME/CNE educational sessions, explore local research and understand the age-associated changes throughout the cardiovascular (CV) system that can fundamentally alter the performance and interpretation of most CV tests. Our rapid fire format, debates and panel discussions are designed to make MACCS an interactive meeting in an engaging environment with open discussion. [View the agenda and register today!](#)

Heart House
2400 N ST., NW
Washington, DC 20037
Sunday, November 24
7:00am-3:15pm

And don't miss out on these other opportunities the same weekend:

November 23: [FIT Non-Clinical Competencies & Jeopardy](#)

November 23: [CVTeam Networking Event](#)

register for the 10-year exam, in addition to annual ABIM fee of \$160/year); however, the CMP includes all the educational content of [ACCSAP](#), as well as all the Part II / Medical Knowledge MOC points needed to maintain certification and CME credits to maintain state licensure. It does not require spending a day at a testing center and, for those members who take a Board review course to prepare for the 10-year exam, the CMP may actually be the less expensive option.

The CMP represents the effort of many ACC leaders and staff, as well as hundreds of ACC physician volunteers who are serving as editors, chapter authors, and question-writers. It is a collaborative educational effort that we in the College should be proud of. While the CMP may not be the choice of every member, it provides a real alternative to the 10-year ABIM recertification exam that many members will appreciate. You can learn more about the CMP [here](#).

Thanks to the many of you who voted in the election for the next President of the Maryland Chapter ACC, who will simultaneously serve as Governor representing Maryland on the ACC Board of Governors. We are grateful to the two very qualified candidates who allowed themselves to be nominated and stand for election. Both have a distinguished record of service to the ACC. I am pleased to announce that Dr. Garima Sharma was elected. She will serve as President/Governor-elect in 2020-21 and President/Governor for 2021-24.

On a personal note, last week I was honored to be selected to serve as Chair of the Board of Governors for 2021-22, the year after my term as governor ends. I am excited to have this opportunity to serve the College and its members in this role.

Finally, please take the time to register for our annual chapter meeting, [MACCS](#) (being held Sunday, November 24) which will feature national and regional leaders in the fields of cardiac imaging and geriatrics, as well as a representative from the British Cardiovascular Society. It promises to be a great meeting. Hope to see you there.

As always, please send MDACC leadership and staff your comments, questions, and suggestions to president@marylandacc.org.



Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Joseph E. Marine, MD, FACC
President, Maryland ACC

Missed last month's message? [Click here.](#)