Introduction

Goal
To explore a longitudinal assessment model via the ABMS-powered CertLink platform to replace the Part III 10-year secure exam.

First 6 months
• Launched February 1st, 2018
• Concluded July 31, 2018
• 1193 registered participants
  (more than half of all MOC-participating ABMGG diplomates)

Objectives
The CertLink Program uses immediate performance feedback, exposure to practice-relevant information, and spaced repetition to help participants:
✓ Evaluate knowledge
✓ Fill knowledge gaps
✓ Demonstrate proficiency

Highlights

Program overview
• Voluntary participation
• Open to all diplomates
• 24 questions/6 months
• Meaningful participation required
• 1st year: general-genetics items; 2nd year to integrate specialty-specific items
• 2 surveys/year

Survey participation
77% responded

89 seconds
Average time to answer a question

Participation

Feedback
I’m learning little things that I wouldn’t have before and finding out things I should know.

Five minutes is more than enough time per question. I do like that I get immediate feedback on my performance.

I found the format very easy to navigate.

The exam was fair, practical, informative, totally relevant to my clinical practice and overall a good learning experience.

Assessing Pilot Success
The pilot is continually measured in the following ways:
• Survey feedback
• Participation data via platform
• Diplomate satisfaction
• Performance comparison to exam
• Knowledge acquisition (percent initially correct vs. clone questions)

Reflections
Surveys, participation, and general feedback indicate participants are highly engaged and optimistic about the CertLink program as an alternative to the current Part III secure exam.
ABMGG’s challenges include an increased burden in item writing, technical difficulties, and limited resources.