Patient Safety and Communication Course FAQs

Why does the MOC Program include a Patient Safety and Communication Course?

The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) sets standards for certification boards’ MOC programs. The 2015 standards require boards to ensure that diplomates have adequate knowledge of safety science and principles. Diplomates should successfully complete a foundational patient safety course or equivalent learning experience early in the MOC cycle. The ABOG places this activity in the first MOC cycle in Year 3 in the Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment portion (Part II) of MOC.

When will I see the Safety and Communication Course chapters?

The Patient Safety and Communication Course is available to physicians in Year 3 of the MOC program once they have completed the required number of Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment (Part II) MOC articles and questions.

- OB GYN Diplomates must read 15 articles and answer 60 questions with 80% correct.
- Subspecialist Diplomates must read 8 articles and answer 32 of the OB GYN questions plus read articles and answer 30 of their Subspecialty questions with 80% correct.

Once this requirement is met, the Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment (Part II) section of your Personal Page will be updated with a button labeled “Safety Course Available”. By selecting this button, the Required Safety and Communication Course page displays the pre-test and chapter titles.

How do I get to each chapter?

Each chapter title will be displayed in the Required Safety and Communication Course section after completing the required MOC article questions. A pre-test must be completed before you can read the first chapter. The chapters must be completed in order. To open a chapter, click on the chapter title.

Why is there a “Pre-Test”?

In order for ACOG to award CME credit for the Safety and Communication Course, a pre-test is required. The pre-test questions will give you an idea of the content in the Safety and Communication Course. There is no required “passing grade” for the pre-test.
How do I view the course's presentation?

The Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment (Part II) section of your Personal Page will be updated with a button labeled “Safety Course Available” after you have completed the required number of MOC article questions. It will show which chapters you have completed, which chapter you are currently working on and those you have not yet started.

By clicking on the chapter title, you may view the presentation of the chapter you are working on and any that you have already completed.

Each slide in the presentation will have a “previous slide” and “next slide” icon in the lower left and right corners. By clicking on these icons, you may navigate your way through the presentation. Some slides will have a “link to Additional Info Screen” icon (a block icon with a lower case letter “i”). Clicking on this icon will take you to additional information about the slide. Click the “Return to Previous Screen” button to return to the chapter presentation.

To return to the main page of the Safety and Communication Course, click the “Return to List of Chapters” button located at the top of the slide.

When do I see the questions for each chapter?

When you have viewed the entire presentation for your current chapter, the questions will appear below. These questions function very much like those you are used to seeing in the MOC article process. You may save your answers and return at a later time to complete them. Once you have answered all of the questions, you may submit them for grading. You cannot move to the next chapter until you have answered 80% of the questions correctly. If you fail to achieve 80% correct, you will need to modify your answers and re-submit them.

How do I move to the next chapter?

Once you have completed a chapter's presentation and have answered its questions with 80% correct, the next chapter will be available to you. Return to the List of Chapters, and you will see that it is now available.

Do I really earn 35 CMEs?

That’s right. Diplomates in Year 3 of their MOC Cycle participate in the Safety and Communication Course and earn 35 CMEs for successful completion, for no additional fee.
What about the May and August releases of Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment article titles?

Diplomates in Year 3 of their MOC Cycle are not required to complete more than 60 questions (if a General OB GYN) or 62 questions (if a subspecialist). You will be able to see the May and August articles, but will not have access to the questions.