

# CollegeNews

## The ACMG Announces New Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Part IV Modules

In 2006, The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) made significant changes to maintenance of certification (MOC). As the lead practice organization for medical geneticists, The American College of Medical Genetics (ACMG) has collaborated with the American Board of Medical Geneticists (ABMG) to develop a set of modules to satisfy the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Part IV requirements. The modules allow medical geneticists to demonstrate and evaluate their excellence in practice, identify areas for improvement and document this improvement. The practice performance assessment modules are derived from practice guidelines or expert opinion specific to genetic diseases or patient presentations for genetic evaluation.

There are 8 modules currently available including:

- Autism Spectrum Disorder;
- Counseling for Inherited Cancer Risk;
- Down syndrome;
- Fragile X syndrome;
- General Genetics Patient;
- Genetic Counseling for Preconception or Prenatal Diagnosis;
- Neurofibromatosis type-1; and
- Phenylketonuria,
- and more are being developed.

The modules can be accessed from the ACMG homepage under the Education tab by clicking on "Maintenance of Certification." Detailed instructions on the program provide an overview for participating in the process, including information on how to access and complete the modules. **The modules cost \$25 for ACMG members** and \$75 for non-members. Each module includes module-specific instructions, a list of resources to be reviewed, a practice profile assessment for five patients and a checklist of relevant practice guidelines. Visit [www.acmg.net](http://www.acmg.net)



## 2011 ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting March 16-20, 2011 Vancouver, British Columbia Canada

Online Abstract Submission, Registration and hotel information is now available. Go to the ACMG meeting website at [www.ACMGmeeting.net](http://www.ACMGmeeting.net) for more information and to register.

- **Abstract Submission**  
Deadline is December 10, 2010.
- **Early Bird Registration**  
Deadline is December 15, 2010.
- **Advance Discount Registration**  
Deadline is February 9, 2011. After February 10, 2011, late registration fees will apply.

Those planning on attending the 2011 ACMG meeting are reminded that as of June 1, 2009, everyone traveling between the United States and Canada by land, sea (including cruises and ferries) or air will be required to present a valid passport or other documents as determined by the Department of Homeland Security to cross the border. For information regarding visas and entry requirements for Canada, please call Immigration Canada at 1-888-242-2100 (in Canada) or visit their website at [www.cic.gc.ca](http://www.cic.gc.ca), or visit the Canadian Border Services Agency website at <http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/menu-eng.html>.

## 2011 ACMG Genetics Review Course

The next Genetics Review Course will be held June 2-5, 2011 at the Hilton DFW Lakes Executive Conference Center in Grapevine, Texas. Program, registration and hotel information will be available at [www.acmg.net](http://www.acmg.net) in January 2012.

### **ACMG Foundation Announces Annual Meeting Scholarships**

The ACMG Foundation has recently launched a fundraising campaign to raise money for ACMG Annual Meeting Scholarships to help off-set the costs of attending the ACMG Annual Meeting each March.

In the past, we have received requests for help from trainees who are new in their career and can't afford to attend the Annual Meeting on their own. From genetic counselors that don't have travel budgets to clinical geneticists whose institutions have moratoria on meetings and travel; this scholarship fund will afford them an opportunity to continue attending our biggest meeting of the year!

Given the increase of budget constraints, the ACMG Foundation expects the need for assistance this year to be even greater!

To contribute to this worthy cause and assist your colleagues and fellow ACMG members, please donate online at the ACMG Foundation website: [www.ACMGFoundation.org](http://www.ACMGFoundation.org) or contact the Director of Development, David Cotter, at 301-718-2014 or [dcotter@acmgfoundation.org](mailto:dcotter@acmgfoundation.org).

If you would like more information on applying for this scholarship, please check the ACMG Foundation website for eligibility requirements and an application.

### **Shire HGT Becomes First ACMG Foundation "Champion"**

Recently the ACMG Foundation reinvigorated its Corporate Partners Program (CPP). The CPP enables corporations to support the work of the ACMG Foundation at various levels of contribution.

One of the ways a company can give to the ACMG Foundation is to pledge to support the Foundation for three consecutive years and become a "Cham-

pion" of the Foundation. The ACMG Foundation proudly announces that its first Champion is Shire HGT which committed to giving at least \$75,000 a year for the next three years.

For more information about supporting the work of the ACMG Foundation and becoming a Champion, please contact David Cotter, 301-718-2014 or [dcotter@acmgfoundation.org](mailto:dcotter@acmgfoundation.org).

### **New ACMG Guideline for Cytogenetic Microarray**

In a new Practice Guideline, the ACMG Board of Directors has recommended the use of cytogenetic microarray (CMA) for copy number variation (CNV) as a first-line test in the initial postnatal evaluation of individuals with multiple anomalies (not specific to a well-delineated genetic syndrome), apparently non-syndromic developmental delay/intellectual disability, or autism spectrum disorder. This acknowledgment by the College of the clinical validity and clinical utility of the test should provide a clear and valuable basis for reimbursement for such laboratory services. The full guideline is available on-line at [www.acmg.net](http://www.acmg.net) (Publications/Practice Guidelines.)