



ABP Corporate Policy Potential Breach of Test Integrity

All ABP examination takers and MOCA-Peds participants must agree to abide by the ABP Honor Code: Professionalism, Moral and Ethical Principles (Honor Code). Examination takers must also confirm compliance with an Exam Day Agreement. They are also responsible for following proctor instructions and test center rules. MOCA-Peds participants must affirm compliance with the MOCA-Peds Participation Agreement.

Most ABP examinations (eg, in-training, certifying, MOC) are administered under secure conditions and are proctored to maintain the integrity and security of the certification process. All candidates taking an ABP examination will be monitored. Proctors are required to report any irregular, improper or disruptive behavior by a candidate and have the authority to discontinue a candidate's testing and eject a candidate from a testing center. Irregular, improper or disruptive behavior is any behavior that threatens the validity of the examination, whether such behavior occurs before, during or after the administration of the examination. Examples of irregular or improper behavior include, but are not limited to, giving or obtaining information or aid, looking at the test material of others, excessive use or misuse of unscheduled breaks, bringing unauthorized items into the examination room, failing to comply with time limits or instructions or other improper behaviors.

MOCA-Peds, designed to be a web-based, continuous assessment that can be taken anywhere at any time, is still considered a high-stakes assessment (ie, results are used to decisions) requiring care to assure its validity. To maintain the integrity of the certification process, MOCA-Peds participants may neither seek nor receive assistance from individuals when answering questions. In addition, they may not share information in any format about the content of the assessment in greater detail than found in the published learning objectives. However, because of the learning component of MOCA-Peds, the use of reference materials such as books, journals, and the Internet is allowed while taking the assessment.

The ABP utilizes proctor reports, data forensic techniques, and other methods to identify potential test irregularities and threats to test integrity and validity. Any irregular or improper behavior that is observed, made apparent by data forensics, or discovered by other means may constitute grounds for action by the ABP.

Depending on the breach and evidence reviewed, the ABP may exercise the following potential actions, including but not limited to:

- a. Invalidate examination/summative assessment results without refund.
- b. Provide an opportunity to retest under controlled conditions to ensure validity of scores. Candidates electing not to reschedule in the provided time period will have their examination invalidated and will receive a refund of the examination fee. The processing and evaluation fee is not refundable. Candidates who wish to take the examination during the next regularly scheduled testing window will need to register as a re-registrant.
- c. Pursue any other appropriate disciplinary, legal and/or reporting actions, such as, but not limited to:
 - sending a warning/cease and desist letter;
 - sending a takedown notice for copyright infringement;



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- withholding or invalidating scores/summative decisions;
- denying admission to the ABP's certification and/or maintenance of certification programs;
- revoking existing certificates;
- bringing legal action against the individual and/or reporting incidents to third parties such as state licensing boards.

The ABP is not liable for any expenses or associated losses incurred because of the investigation, invalidation and retesting efforts for such cases identified. The invalidation of one's MOCA-Peds summative assessment will necessitate taking the secure examination option to maintain MOC. Any subsequent appeal of a decision resulting from the application of this policy will be handled according to the established appeal process of the ABP.

Policy Adopted Date: 11/12

Last Non-Contextual Revised:

Last Revision Approved by the Board of Directors/Executive Committee: 06/19