ACNM Response to ABNM and ABR regarding the ABNM-ABR Task Force Statement of June 3, 2015

The American College of Nuclear Medicine is the major organization representing the physicians and trainees in nuclear medicine. Over the past six weeks, we have surveyed our membership including all ACNM fellows, members and NMRO resident members regarding individual opinions related to the ABNM-ABR Task Force Statement of June 3, 2015. We received 140 separate responses summarized as follows:

- Support as proposed: 30 (21%)
- Support with contingencies: 44 (31%)
- Do not support in any format: 67 (47%)

The most common contingencies were related to the creation of an ABR established criteria and mechanism for training and ABR certification for ABNM certified physician recognizing successful diplomats’ current CT and MRI skills including an appropriate MOC pathway.

An excel file with the collected ACNM membership opinions and comments is attached. ACNM recognizes the ABNM-ABR Task Force members for their effort in producing this bold and sweeping proposal as a potential solution to current shortcomings in nuclear medicine training and subsequent limitations in career opportunities. ACNM also recognizes the ABNM as a small, progressive and financially stable organization, the dissolution of which is considered undesirable to ABNM diplomates.

As a stakeholder in nuclear medicine training, authentication, careers and practices, ACNM acknowledges the diversity of opinion regarding proposed ABNM-ABR changes. Given a very significant proportion of membership choosing “Do not support in any format”, the ACNM does not support the ABR/ABNM Task Force Proposal of June 3, 2015 as written.

Again, thank you to the Task Force members for addressing nuclear medicine’s future. Let us continue to work together in creating solutions.

Sincerely,

Rathan Subramaniam, MD, PhD, MPH, FACNM
ACNM President