Did you always have a burning desire to be an Interventional Radiologist?
I Wanted to be One of these Guys....
But then I Discovered these Guys....
Initial Certification

Interventional Radiology
The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) approved the Interventional Radiology/Diagnostic Radiology (IR/DR) Certificate in 2012 to recognize interventional radiology as a unique medical specialty addressing the diagnosis and treatment of diseases through expertise in diagnostic imaging, image-guided minimally invasive procedures, and the evaluation and clinical management of patients with conditions amenable to these methods.

The new IR/DR certificate will be one of four primary certificates offered by the ABR. Those certified in IR/DR will have demonstrated competency to practice in diagnostic radiology, as well as the full scope of interventional radiology.

The Committee on Requirements of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) has approved the program requirements for the Interventional Radiology Residency Program. These requirements can be seen on the ACGME website, and the application for the new residency will be available early in 2015. All applying sites will require an on-site visit.

VIR Subspecialty
The Vascular and Interventional Radiology (VIR) Subspecialty Certificate will be phased out after the IR/DR Certifying Examination begins. The ABR recommends that these candidates continue their training and seek certification according to the current processes. Those interested in practicing in IR can seek certification in IR with a subspecialty in VIR. No new applications for the Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology Enhanced Clinical Training (DIRECT) pathway will be accepted. Those who have begun IR training also may have the opportunity to transfer into an IR residency at their own institution to seek initial certification in IR/DR.

Initial Certification Info
Diagnostic Radiology
Interventional Radiology
Radiation Oncology
Medical Physics
Subspecialties
Hospice and Palliative Medicine
Neuroradiology
Nuclear Radiology
Pain Medicine
Pediatric Radiology
Vascular/Interventional
Holman Research Pathway
International Graduates
Board Eligibility
Initial Certification FAQs
IR Information
Exam Dates and Locations
Highlights

• ABMS approved the IR/DR Certificate in 2012
• Those certified in IR/DR will demonstrate competency to practice diagnostic radiology, as well as the full scope of interventional radiology
• The “CAQ” will be phased out after the IR/DR Exam begins
• DIRECT Pathway is gone, there is no DIRECT pathway
• ABR diplomates who hold CAQ will be allowed to convert to the new IR/DR certificate as long as MOC up-to-date
TWO Pathways: Integrated and Independent

- **Integrated:**
  - Match from medical school
    - Clinical intern (PGY I) year; surgery strongly encouraged
    - Five year training program (PGY2-6); three years of DR, and two years of IR to include an ICU rotation and potential “IR-related” elective rotations
• Independent:
• Two year independent program entered into post completion of a DR residency
  – DR residents who complete Early Specialization in IR (ESIR) during diagnostic training may receive credit for the first year of the 2-yr independent program
  – **Independent program will not be available until 2020**
Options for Current DR Residents interested in IR

- Completion of DR and complete IR Fellowship (prior to 2020)
- Transition “cross over” from DR to IR/DR pathway (a formal change in residencies)
- ESIR for those who would be entering PGY6 in 2020 (current PGY2 and subsequent classes)
## TRAINING PATHWAYS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>Integrated IR Residency</th>
<th>Traditional Pathway</th>
<th>Independent IR Residency</th>
<th>Independent IR Residency with ESIR</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PGY-1</td>
<td>1 year of ACGME approved non-radiology clinical training (internship)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PGY-2</td>
<td>Diagnostic radiology training + 3 IR rotations</td>
<td>Diagnostic radiology residency</td>
<td>Diagnostic radiology residency</td>
<td>Diagnostic radiology residency with ESIR: Program requires completion of 12 IR or IR-related rotations and, at least, 500 image-guided procedures within the IR domain.</td>
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<td>PGY-3</td>
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<td>PGY-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PGY-5</td>
<td>2 years of IR training</td>
<td>1 year of IR fellowship training</td>
<td>2 years of IR residency training</td>
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<tr>
<td>PGY-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>PGY-7</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>2 years of IR residency training</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total years of training</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
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IR/DR Examinations

- Same Core Exam as DR peers
- The **IR Exam** will consist of a computer-based and an oral exam
- Computer-based portion includes the DR module and Noninterpretive Skills (NIS) module *(same as for DR)*
Oral Exam

• “The new IR/DR oral examination will be longer, with more emphasis on clinical management than the current oral exam given to candidates of the Vascular and Interventional Radiology subspecialty certificate.” – the ABR

• The IR/DR Exam will be given 3 months after completion of the IR residency

• Current plan is in single location (computer based and oral), likely Tucson, with target date of 2017 for first IR/DR certifying exam
Now over 50 Independent Programs, over 50 ESIR Programs, and over 25 Independent Programs accredited

Options for current 4th year medical students
Medical students interested in IR who will be fourth year students starting in July 2015 and plan to enter the NRMP main match taking place in March 2016, should apply for a diagnostic radiology residency. They can then apply for an Independent IR residency position after completing a DR residency. Alternatively, DR residents may be able to transfer internally into an IR residency at their home institution once their institution obtains Integrated IR residency accreditation.

Integrated IR residency
It may take a few years for all institutions to make the complete transition to the Integrated IR residency model. As a result, trainees who are interested in IR certification should contact individual programs to determine the transitional status of their postgraduate IR training. As of February 2016, over 60 programs have applied for ACGME accreditation of integrated IR residency programs. 20 have already received accreditation:

- Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Program, Boston
- Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Boston
- Georgetown University, Washington
- Ioahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Program, New York
- Maine Medical Center Program, Portland
- Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston
- Medical College of Wisconsin Affiliated Hospitals Program, Milwaukee, Wis.
- Medical University of South Carolina College of Medicine Program, Charleston
- Rush University Medical Center Program, Chicago
- Stanford Hospital and Clinics Program, Calif.
- UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine/UCLA Medical Center Program, Los Angeles
- University of Arkansas College of Medicine Program, Little Rock
- University of California (San Diego) Medical Center Program
- University of Illinois College of Medicine at Chicago Program
- University of Kansas, Lawrence
- University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- University of Minnesota Medical School Program, Minneapolis
- University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
- Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.
- Washington University, St. Louis

Independent IR residency
The nationwide launch date for the new Independent IR residency is July 1, 2020. ACGME accreditation of the current one-year subspecialty fellowship in vascular and interventional radiology (VIR) will cease on that date and all accredited GME training in interventional radiology will be accomplished via the IR residency. Applications for independent IR residency program accreditation must be submitted to the ACGME by July 1, 2017 to be ready to launch an Independent IR residency on July 1, 2020.

ESIR programs
For information on the ESIR programs accredited by ACGME for Early Residency in Interventional Radiology, please visit the ACGME website.
ESIR programs

As of February 2016, over 25 programs have applied to the ACGME for Early Specialization in Interventional Radiology (ESIR) designation. Ten have already received approval:

- Florida Hospital Medical Center, Orlando
- Loyola University, Maywood, Ill.
- University of Louisville School of Medicine, Ky.
- William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, Mich.
- Mount Auburn Hospital, Cambridge, Mass.
- Albert Einstein Healthcare Network, Philadelphia
- Drexel University College of Medicine/Hahnemann University Hospital, Philadelphia
- University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
- Pennsylvania Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania Health System, Philadelphia
- Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston

Residency transfers

Within a single institution, it will be possible to transfer between the IR and DR residencies at the beginning of the PGY2, PGY3, or PGY4 year provided qualifications for transfer are met.

Articles and press releases

IR Quarterly, Spring 2015, Special Section: IR Residency:

- Answering basic questions about the IR Residency plan, M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR (IR Quarterly, Winter 2015)
- The IR residency takes one step closer, M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR
- An interview with M. Victoria Marx, MD, FSIR, Jeremy Collins, MD.
- IR residencies: High demand, low supply, Dave Tabriz, MD
- The IR/DR Certificate and New IR Residency (IR Quarterly, Winter 2014)
- Society of Interventional Radiology Hails Affirmation of Specialty’s Role in Patient Care; Read the SIR Press Release

Committees and task forces

IR Residency Task Force

*Members of the IR/DR Residency Task Force serve as resources for the Radiology RRC of ACGME, key stakeholders and the society.*

ABR, ACGME: Jeanne M. LaBerge, M.D., FSIR
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SCARD: Valerie Jackson, M.D.
SCARD, ACR: Alan H. Matsumoto, M.D., FSIR
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References

• Theabr.org
• Sirweb.org
Soooo, any questions?
Remember ....

the ox is slow
but the earth is patient

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