



ABPath CertLink® - Taking Great to Greater

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Background

ABPath CertLink (ABPCL) is a longitudinal assessment platform designed to support continuous learning and professional development. ABPCL is used to fulfill the assessment requirement for ABPath's Continuing Certification (CC) Program.

Overview

The 2022 ABPCL End-of-Year Survey demonstrated a high degree of satisfaction from diplomates participating in the ABPCL program. It also identified opportunities for improvement that include keeping items up-to-date with new practice guidelines, improving image quality, and introducing new material. ABPath is implementing a sustainable and continuous quality improvement initiative that will deliver current and relevant content, higher-quality images, and the timely presentation of new content in the rapidly evolving field of pathology. The survey results and a description of the improvement process design are presented.

2022 ABPCL End-of-Year Survey Data

Respondents	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
ABPCL helps identify knowledge gaps.				
2,693	79 (3%)	159 (6%)	1,587 (59%)	868 (32%)
ABPCL helps me stay current in my specialty.				
2,680	83 (3%)	190 (7%)	1,494 (56%)	913 (34%)
ABPCL questions are useful learning tools.				
2,669	69 (3%)	114 (4%)	1,394 (52%)	1,092 (41%)
I am satisfied with the ABPCL platform.				
2,670	69 (3%)	99 (4%)	1,227 (46%)	1,275 (48%)
ABPCL question difficulty was appropriate.				
2,667	49 (2%)	126 (5%)	1,807 (68%)	685 (26%)
ABPCL questions assessed my judgment, going beyond factual recall.				
2,656	56 (2%)	214 (8%)	1,688 (64%)	698 (26%)

Respondents	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Good to Excellent
How do you rate the overall quality of the content in the ABPCL assessment?						
2580	45 (2%)	153 (6%)	588 (23%)	985 (38%)	809 (31%)	92%

Objective

To implement a Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement (QA/QI) process that supports CertLink's goal of being an assessment **of** learning... **for** learning.

Survey Comments

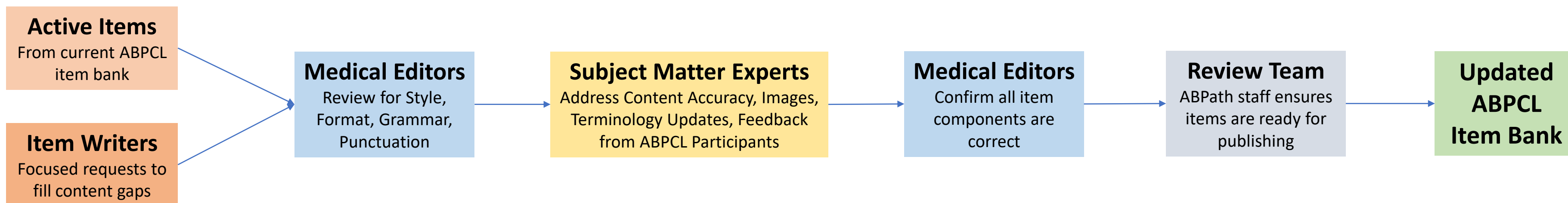
The questions are good. Keep up the good work! This is an outstanding and essential tool in maintaining proficiency while earning CME!

Test questions need better review, there were a couple that were blatantly incorrect.

ABPath has done a great job making this process professionally relevant and educational.

Many of the images were blurry and of very low quality. Also, some of the questions were poorly worded.

Plan to Improve – The Rebuild Phase



The Maintenance Phase

After a sustainable 2-year pool of thoroughly-vetted items has been established, ABPath will transition to a QA/QI of the existing items and introduce new content every six months.



Future Considerations

- Administration of unscored items... for learning
- Journal article-based questions
- Virtual microscopy functionality
- PROF, SBP, and PBLI competency content introduction