



THE AMERICAN BOARD OF VENOUS & LYMPHATIC MEDICINE

FAQ's for Diplomates

Congratulations on your certification! This Q & A document should serve as a guide when planning to promote your new status as a certified vein specialist. Any questions may be directed to ABVLM Headquarters at (877) 699-4114 or info@ABVLM.org.

- 1) What is my new designation, or are there any titles or names that are appropriate to identify myself as having passed the Certification Exam in Venous & Lymphatic Medicine?
 - There are no designations or letters at the end of your name that are used to identify Certified Vein Specialists.
 - Typically you may write, in various combinations, some form of the below...

William Smith, MD
ABVLM Diplomate

William Smith, MD
Diplomate of the ABVLM

William Smith, MD
Certified by the American Board of Venous & Lymphatic Medicine

William Smith, MD
American Board of Venous & Lymphatic Medicine Diplomate

- The following are inappropriate.

William Smith, MD, ~~ABVLM~~ This is not correct, as there are no appellations for the ABVLM.

William Smith, MD, ~~DABVLM~~ This is not correct, as diplomate status is not an appellation.

William Smith, MD, ~~FABVLM~~ This is not correct, as there are no Fellows of the ABVLM.

William Smith, MD, ~~FACPh~~ This is not correct. FACPh is used by the American **College** of Phlebology to indicate Fellow status. You could only use this if you had ACP Fellow status independently, unrelated to the ABVLM.

- 2) May I use the ABVLM Logo on my advertising?

- The Board has decided not to approve logo use for diplomates.

The ABVLM official policy is to not allow for the use of its logo on letterhead, business cards, web sites or any other promotional vehicles produced by ABVLM Diplomates or others without written approval from the Board of Directors or its representative. In addition, when use is granted in writing the logo may not be altered in any way except in a manner specifically approved in writing by ABVLM.



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- 3) May I now be a FELLOW of the American College of Phlebology?
 - ABVLM Diplomates must contact the Membership Department at the American College of Phlebology (www.phlebology.org) to apply for FELLOW status. There are other criteria required, including ABVLM Diplomate status.

- 4) How many have taken and passed the exam?
 - Since its inception in 2008, 936 have sat for the exam and 805 have passed the exam (86%).
 - Pass rates by year are available upon request.

- 5) How many other physicians passed in my state or area/region?
 - You may search for certified Diplomates in your area at www.abvlm.org.

Please Note: We strongly recommend that advertising states *facts*. Per ABVLM Policy, you must keep region-specific information outside of any advertising. For instance, saying that you are the only certified vein specialist in your state or region is precluded by policy, as the validity of this type of statement could certainly change. Please also consult your state and local regulations regarding advertisements that promote your successful completion of a certification program.

- 6) What must I do to maintain my certification?
 - Please review the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) requirements published in the October 2011 **NewsAlert** (on the *Diplomates, MOC, CME Resources* webpage), or contact the ABVLM HQ Office for details of the MOC program.

*The information in this document is considered current as of **July 1, 2017** and is subject to change. Diplomates must adhere to these guidelines as they are listed now and as they may be amended over time. Feel free to contact the ABVLM at any time for a current copy.*