

Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) September 1, 2019 Changes

The Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) is a screen that consists of a brief, 30-question test that helps healthcare professionals detect cognitive impairments very early on, allowing for faster diagnosis and patient care.

In June of 2019, the Director of MoCA Clinic and Institute announced the following September 1, 2019 changes to the training and certification requirements for the administration of the MoCA via the MoCA website (<https://www.mocatest.org/>):

- Q: Why is it being required to become certified?
- A: In an effort to reduce variability and ensure the highest accuracy, our training and certification program will become mandatory

- Q: When does this change go into effect?
- A: September 1, 2019.

- Q: Is there a grace period to becoming certified?
- A: You will have one year to complete MoCA's official standardized training and certification program

- Q: How long does the certification take?
- A: Certification takes just 1 hour and is essential for more accurate patient care. The process is standardized so that testing is consistent amongst multiple raters, making you more confident in the way you administer, score, and interpret tests. This helps minimize errors, and thus minimizes liability and misdiagnosis

- Q: How can I access the MoCA test after September 1, 2019?
- A: If you need immediate access to the test, you can select the button: *"I am certified or will complete my certification before September 1st 2020"* on the MoCA Paper Test page

- Q: How can I access the MoCA test after September 1, 2020?
- A: After September 1, 2020, access to the test will be restricted to certified raters only

- Q: What happens if I do not complete the MoCA's official standardized training and certification program?
- A: If you wish to continue using the MoCA Test without being officially trained and certified, you will be at increased risk for administration, scoring and interpretation errors which could lead to misdiagnosis and liability.

We are actively seeking additional clarification on specifics of this change. We will continue to update as we have information.