Hello there, I’m Dr Thomas Gerber, Associate Editor and Web editor at Mayo Clinic Proceedings. I’m also a Professor of Medicine and Radiology at the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine.

I’m here to tell you about the Editor’s Choice and Highlights articles in the October 2016 issue of Mayo Clinic Proceedings.

This month's Editor's Choice is an Original Article about physician attitudes regarding maintenance of certification. This article was written by Dr David Cook and colleagues from Mayo Clinic in Rochester and the University of South Carolina in Columbia. The authors conducted an Internet and paper survey among a national cross-specialty random sample of licensed US physicians. They found that only 12% of the respondents thought that maintenance of certification activities were well integrated in their daily routines, and 81% believed that maintenance of certification activities are a burden.

What's more, 38% of respondents met criteria for being burned out. The results from this review confirm that dissatisfaction with current maintenance of certification programs is common, and not specific to any sectors or specialties of medicine. So, as long as these negative perceptions remain unresolved, we cannot expect optimal physician engagement in the maintenance of certification process.

The accompanying Editorial entitled "The Evolution of Physician Certification and the Canary in the Coal Mine," was authored by Dr James Puffer, the president and chief executive officer of the American Board of Family Medicine.

The first Highlight this month is a Review article authored by Dr Mandeep Singh from Mayo Clinic in Rochester and colleagues from Mayo Clinic, and from academic medical institutions in Boston, Massachusetts, and New York.

This Review addresses in detail the challenges involved with choosing among multiple potential therapeutic combinations of antithrombotic and antiplatelet therapies that minimize the risk for recurrent ischemia without unduly increasing the risk for bleeding.
This Review article comprehensively synthesizes available information to provide our readers with in-depth knowledge of contemporary antithrombotic therapy that will help you make individualized treatment decisions.

Another Highlight in this month's issue of *Mayo Clinic Proceedings* is the newest contribution to our ongoing Symposium on Pain Medicine. The article on anorectal and pelvic pain was written by Dr Adil Bharucha and Dr Tae Hee Lee from Mayo Clinic in Rochester. This comprehensive review focuses on the three most common functional disorders associated with pelvic pain: functional anorectal pain such as levator ani syndrome, or proctalgia fugax; interstitial cystitis, and chronic prostatitis. The Review discusses overlapping similarities and differences among these three entities, pathogenetic factors, and symptom-guided therapy.

The importance of multidisciplinary approaches such as lifestyle modifications and pharmacologic, behavioral, and physical therapy are discussed in detail. You can get up to 1 hour of CME credit for reading this Symposium article, if you complete the appropriate documentation.

The third Highlight in this month's issue is a Commentary with the provocative title "Murder Liability for Prescribing Opioids: A Way Forward?" This article was authored by Dr Tony Yang from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, and Dr Rebecca Haffajee from Harvard Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts. Going from a recent case in which a California physician was convicted for murder in three patient drug overdose deaths and sentenced to 30 years to life in prison, this Commentary explores the criminal liability for prescribers of opioids.

The authors believe that the prospect of facing criminal charges may deter so-called "pill mills" from engaging in irresponsible opioid prescription practices, but they also explain why effectively addressing opioid misuse in the United States, yet avoiding undertreatment of pain, will require going beyond the criminal justice system, and focus on more judicious and informed opioid prescribing practices in all contexts.
And I’m sure you remember that you can access these Highlights and Editor’s Choice articles that we just discussed here, on our website free of charge during the entire month of October.

There is a lot of other free content on our Mayo Clinic Proceedings website at www.mayoclinproceedings.org. We update the website frequently, and you’ll find something new and interesting almost every day. You can also stay in touch with us on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. We use our social media channels to keep you up to date on “online first” publications that come out on our website between the monthly issue updates, news stories related to articles that were published in Mayo Clinic Proceedings, and also to host video content such as “full author interviews” or our 60-second video article summaries.

Thank you so much for watching. Enjoy the fall colors outside, wherever you are. We will see you again in November!

We hope you found this presentation from the content of our website valuable. Our journal’s mission is, “To promote the best interests of patients by advancing the knowledge and professionalism of the physician community.” If you are interested in more information about us, our homepage is www.mayoclinproceedings.org. There you will find access to information for our social media content, such as additional videos on our YouTube Channel: www.YouTube.com/MayoProceedings, or journal updates on Facebook: www.facebook.com/Mayo Clinic Proceedings. You can also follow us on Twitter: www.Twitter.com/MayoProceedings. More information about health care at Mayo Clinic is available at: www.MayoClinic.org. This video content is copyrighted by Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research.