



2012 Expanded Content Outlines

Based on the JTA conducted in April 2008, the updated content outlines for the Certification in Acupuncture are included below. The KSAs are designed to help guide the candidates in studying for each examination. All of the examinations administered in 2012 will be based on these content outlines. Each KSA statement gives the candidate the level of competency expected for the particular content area listed on the outline. Please note that the Acupuncture Certification includes the content outlines for the following examinations: Acupuncture with Point Location, Biomedicine and Foundations of Oriental Medicine.

The Acupuncture with Point Location Expanded Content Outline

The following content outline is effective on **January 1, 2012**. Below is the Expanded Content Outline for the Acupuncture with Point Location examination, which includes the Knowledge, Skills and Abilities (KSA) statements.

Please note: In regards to Clean Needle Technique (CNT), the Biomedicine module focuses on universal precautions and emergency situations in comparison to the Acupuncture with Point Location module which focuses on actual needling and its emergencies (e.g., needle angle and depth).

Please Note: Domain D1b is not tested on the Acupuncture with Point Location examination but on the Biomedicine examination. This content area is covered within the Biomedicine content outline – Domain A2e2.

Domain A: Develop a Comprehensive Treatment Plan Using Acupuncture Points Based Upon Patient's Identified Syndrome and Pattern Discrimination (40% of total exam of which 20% are point location images)

Sub Domain A1: Develop treatment plan

- Knowledge of prescriptions based on treatment principles to correct imbalances
- Knowledge of functions, indications and contraindications of treatment modality (e.g., acupuncture, moxa, Qigong, etc.)
- Ability to prescribe treatment principles to correct imbalances
- Ability to recall appropriate treatment principle to correct imbalance
- Ability to develop a treatment strategy
- Skills to recognize treatment principles to correct imbalances



A 1 (a): Six Stages theory (e.g., Taiyang, Yangming, Shaoyang, Taiyin, Shaoyin, Jueyin)

- Knowledge of treatment planning utilizing Six Stages theory
- Knowledge of Six Stages theory
- Knowledge of procedures, methods, concepts, contraindications for Six Stages theory
- Ability to administer treatment using Six Stages
- Skills to administer treatment using Six Stages

A 1 (b): Four Levels (Wei, Qi, Ying, Xue)

- Knowledge of treatment planning utilizing Four Levels theory
- Knowledge of Four Levels theory
- Knowledge of procedures, methods, concepts, contraindications for Four Levels theory
- Ability to administer treatment using Four Levels
- Skills to administer treatment using Four Levels

A 1 (c): Five Phase/Element points

- Knowledge of Five Phase/Element points
- Knowledge of theories and methods for Five Phase/Element points
- Ability to administer Five Phase/Element points
- Skills to administer Five Phase/Element points

A 1 (d): Antique points (Jing Well, Ying Spring, Shu Stream, Jing River, He Sea)

- Knowledge of Antique points
- Knowledge of theories and methods of Antique points
- Ability to administer Antique points
- Skills to administer Antique points

A 1 (e): Root and Branch

- Knowledge of Root and Branch technique to treat the patient's condition
- Knowledge of Root and Branch
- Knowledge of Root and Branch theories and concepts
- Ability to administer Root and Branch
- Skills to administer Root and Branch



A 1 (f): Zang Fu

- Knowledge of the Zang Fu model to treat the patient's condition
- Knowledge of Zang Fu
- Ability to apply the Zang Fu model to a patient's condition
- Skills to correctly treat a patient with the Zang Fu model

A 1 (g): Yin and Yang

- Knowledge of Yin and Yang model to treat the patient's condition
- Knowledge of Yin and Yang techniques and concepts
- Ability to apply the Yin and Yang model to a patient's condition
- Skills to correctly treat a patient with the Yin and Yang model

A 1 (h): Qi, Blood, Body Fluids and Essence

- Knowledge of Qi, Blood, Body Fluids and Essence models to treat the patient's condition
- Knowledge of Qi model
- Knowledge of Blood model
- Knowledge of Body Fluids model
- Knowledge of Essence model
- Knowledge of Qi, Blood, Body Fluids and Essence model techniques and theories
- Ability to apply the Qi, Blood, Body Fluids and Essence model to a patient's condition
- Skills to administer Qi, Blood, Body Fluids and Essence model for patient treatment

A 1 (i): Meridians and collaterals including divergent meridians (Jing Luo)

- Knowledge of Jing Luo
- Knowledge of Jing Luo concepts and theories
- Knowledge of meridians and collaterals (Jing Luo) model to treat the patient's condition
- Ability to apply the Jing Luo model to a patient's condition
- Skills to correctly treat a patient with the Jing Luo model

A 1 (j): Extraordinary meridian

- Knowledge of the Eight Extraordinary meridians
- Knowledge of the Eight Extraordinary meridians concepts and theories



- Knowledge of Qigong concepts and theories
- Knowledge of Yuan Qi concepts and theories
- Ability to apply the proper points for patient's condition
- Ability to apply Extraordinary meridians in pairs/combinations
- Skills to administer the Jing for patient's condition

Sub Domain A2: Point selection

A 2 (a): Distal/local, adjacent points

- Select distal/local, adjacent points to address channel imbalance
- Knowledge of distal/local, adjacent points and affected channels
- Knowledge of channels
- Ability to recall distal/local, adjacent points and affected channels
- Ability to identify channel imbalances
- Skills to identify channel imbalances

A 2 (b): Based on TCM muscular channel theory

- Knowledge of points based on the muscular channel theory
- Knowledge of concept and purpose for choosing acupuncture points based on the muscular channel theory
- Ability to select/recognize acupuncture points based on the muscular channel theory
- Skills to administer acupuncture points based on muscular channel theory

A 2 (c): Points along corresponding channels to affected cutaneous regions

- Knowledge of the cutaneous regions
- Knowledge of acupuncture/points along the cutaneous regions
- Ability to recognize points along corresponding channels to affect cutaneous regions
- Ability to understand concepts, methods and results of choosing points of the cutaneous regions
- Ability to identify points to affect the cutaneous regions
- Skills to identify points along corresponding channels to affect cutaneous regions



A 2 (d): Front-Mu (Alarm) points, Back-Shu (Associated) points, and their combination(s)

- Knowledge of functions of Front-Mu (Alarm), Back-Shu (Associated) points and their combination
- Knowledge of imbalances of an excess or deficient nature
- Knowledge Front-Mu (Alarm), Back-Shu (Associated) points and their combination to affect systemic imbalances
- Ability to recall Front-Mu (Alarm), Back-Shu (Associated) points and their combination
- Ability to recognize Front-Mu (Alarm), Back-Shu (Associated) points and their combination; ability to affect imbalances of an excess or deficient nature
- Skills to identify Front-Mu (Alarm), Back-Shu (Associated) points and their combination to address systemic imbalances
- Skills to administer Front-Mu (Alarm), Back-Shu (Associated) points and their combination for imbalances

A 2 (e): Lower He-Sea (Uniting) points

- Knowledge of Lower He-Sea (Uniting) points to connect channel with respective Fu Organ
- Knowledge of Fu organs and their functions
- Knowledge of He-Sea (Uniting) acupuncture points
- Ability to recognize Lower He-Sea (Uniting) points to connect channel with respective Fu Organ
- Ability to identify Lower He-Sea (Uniting) points to connect channel with respective Fu Organ
- Skills to identify Lower He-Sea (Uniting) points to connect channel with respective Fu Organ

A 2 (f): Four-Needle technique points

- Knowledge of Four-Needle technique acupuncture points
- Knowledge of Four-Needle technique and how it affects imbalances
- Ability to recognize Four-Needle technique points to address imbalances
- Ability to recall Four-Needle technique acupuncture points
- Skills to identify/perform Four-Needle technique points to address imbalances



A 2 (g): Eight Influential points

- Knowledge of the Eight Influential points to affect related anatomical areas and types of tissues
- Knowledge of the Eight Influential points
- Knowledge of anatomical areas and types of tissues
- Ability to recognize the Eight Influential points as being able to affect related anatomical areas and types of tissues
- Skills to identify the Eight Influential points to affect related anatomical areas and types of tissues
- Skills to recall Eight Influential points to affect related anatomical areas and types of tissues

A 2 (h): Four Sea points

- Knowledge of the Four Seas points
- Knowledge of Qi, Blood, Food and Marrow
- Knowledge of the Four Seas points to affect corresponding Qi, Blood, Food and Marrow
- Ability to recognize and recall the Four Seas points to affect corresponding Qi, Blood, Food and Marrow
- Skills to identify the Four Seas points to affect corresponding Qi, Blood, Food and Marrow

A 2 (i): Based upon causative factor

- Knowledge of points to treat causative factor(s) according to TCM
- Knowledge of causative factors according to TCM
- Ability to recognize points to treat causative factor(s) according to TCM
- Skills to identify points to treat causative factor(s) according to TCM

A 2 (j): Five Shu (Transporting) points according to TCM

- Knowledge of the Five Shu (Transporting) points to treat imbalances of the Five Elements according to TCM
- Knowledge of the Five Elements according to TCM
- Knowledge of Five Shu (Transporting) points according to TCM



- Ability to recognize the Five Shu (Transporting) points to treat imbalances of the Five Elements according to TCM
- Skills to identify the Five Shu (Transporting) points to treat imbalances of the Five Elements according to TCM

A 2 (k): Luo-Connecting points, Yuan-Source (Primary) points, and their combinations

- Knowledge of Luo-Connecting points that access divergent channels to strengthen internally-externally related channels
- Knowledge of Yuan-Source (Primary) points to access fundamental Qi for the channel
- Knowledge of Luo-Connecting acupuncture points
- Knowledge of Yuan-Source (Primary) acupuncture points
- Knowledge of the divergent channels
- Knowledge of Fundamental Qi
- Ability to recall Luo-Connecting acupuncture points
- Ability to recognize Yuan-Source (Primary) acupuncture points to access fundamental Qi of the channel
- Ability to recognize Luo-Connecting points as being able to access divergent channels to strengthen internally-externally related channels
- Ability to recall Yuan-Source (Primary) acupuncture points
- Skills to identify Luo-Connecting points that access divergent channels to strengthen internally-externally related channels
- Skills to identify Yuan-Source (Primary) acupuncture points to access fundamental Qi for the channel

A 2 (l): Xi-Cleft points

- Knowledge of Xi-Cleft points and indications
- Knowledge of choosing correct Xi-Cleft points
- Ability to recognize Xi-Cleft points
- Skills to identify and locate Xi-Cleft points

A 2 (m): Entry and Exit points according to 12 Channel theory

- Knowledge of Entry and Exit points according to 12 Channel theory



- Knowledge of the 12 Channel theories
- Knowledge of Entry and Exit acupuncture points
- Ability to recognize acupuncture Entry and Exit points according to 12 Channel theory
- Ability to recall acupuncture points to clear Entry and Exit points according to 12 Channel theory
- Skills to identify Entry and Exit points according to 12 Channel theory

A 2 (n): Window of the Sky

- Knowledge of Window of the Sky theory
- Knowledge of appropriate points according to Window of the Sky theory
- Knowledge of acupuncture points associated with Window of the Sky theory
- Ability to recall acupuncture points according to Window of the Sky theory
- Skills to identify acupuncture points for Window of the Sky

A 2 (o): Extra points

- Knowledge of Extra points
- Knowledge of clinically appropriate Extra points to treat corresponding conditions
- Ability to recognize clinically appropriate Extra points to treat corresponding conditions
- Skills to identify clinically appropriate Extra points to treat corresponding conditions
- Skills to administer Extra points

A 2 (p): Auricular points

- Knowledge of auricular acupuncture points (e.g., auricular landmarks, locations, functions, and indications of auricular acupuncture points)
- Knowledge of the indications of auricular points
- Ability to recognize auricular points
- Ability to recall auricular acupuncture points to address imbalances
- Skills to identify auricular points

A 2 (q): Scalp points

- Knowledge of scalp acupuncture system (e.g., scalp landmarks, proportions, locations, functions, indications and contraindications of scalp acupuncture points)



- Ability to recall scalp acupuncture points to address imbalances
- Skills to identify scalp points

A 2 (r): Coalescent points

- Knowledge of coalescent points
- Knowledge of the indications and contraindications of coalescent acupuncture points
- Ability to recall coalescent points to address imbalances
- Skills to identify coalescent points

A 2 (s): Crossing points

- Knowledge of crossing points (e.g., intersection of two or more meridians, including the twelve regular meridians and the eight extra meridians)
- Knowledge of the indications and contraindications of crossing points
- Knowledge of location and distribution of crossing points
- Ability to recall crossing points to address imbalances
- Ability to identify diseases treated with crossing points
- Skills to identify crossing points

A 2 (t): Fourteen meridians

- Knowledge of fourteen meridians theories and contraindications
- Ability to recall fourteen meridians to address imbalances
- Skills to identify fourteen meridians

A 2 (u): Confluent points

- Knowledge of confluent points
- Knowledge of confluent points theories and contraindications
- Skills to identify confluent points
- Skills to apply confluent points for patient's condition
- Ability to recognize (e.g., locate) confluent points
- Ability to recall confluent points to address imbalances



A 2 (v): Command points

- Knowledge of command points
- Knowledge of command points theories and contraindications
- Skills to identify command points
- Ability to recognize (e.g., locate) command points
- Ability to recall command points to address imbalances (hot, cold, excess, deficiency)

Sub Domain A3: Treatment strategy using acupuncture, cupping and moxibustion

- Knowledge of functions and indications of acupuncture, cupping, moxibustion techniques
- Knowledge of techniques, cautions and contraindications of acupuncture, cupping, moxibustion
- Knowledge of different types of acupuncture, cupping, moxibustion
- Knowledge of treatment strategies utilizing acupuncture, cupping, moxibustion
- Ability to apply treatment strategies utilizing acupuncture, cupping, moxibustion
- Skills to identify treatment strategies utilizing acupuncture, cupping, moxibustion

Sub Domain A4: Needle selection (e.g., filiform, three-edges, plum-blossom, press and intradermal needles)

- Knowledge of acupuncture needles
- Knowledge of acupuncture needle use
- Knowledge of acupuncture needle applications, precautions
- Ability to utilize appropriate acupuncture needles
- Skills to administer appropriate acupuncture needles

Sub Domain A5: Identification of correct point location

- Knowledge of acupuncture points
- Knowledge of acupuncture point location theories and concepts
- Knowledge to identify correct point location
- Ability to identify correct point location
- Skills to identify correct point location

Sub Domain A6: Point location (images only)



Domain B: Treatment Techniques and Mode of Administration (20% of total exam)

Sub Domain B1: Patient position

- Knowledge of correct positioning of the patient
- Knowledge of positioning techniques and concepts
- Ability to correctly position the patient
- Skills to decide and execute correct positioning of patient

Sub Domain B2: Needle insertion

- Knowledge of needle insertions with appropriate angle and depth
- Knowledge of safety rules and regulations concerning needle insertion
- Ability to insert needles to the appropriate angle and depth
- Skills to insert needles at correct angle and depth

B 2 (a): Angle

B 2 (b): Depth

B 2 (c): Needle insertion technique

Sub Domain B3: Achieve arrival of Qi by:

B 3 (a): Lifting and thrusting

- Knowledge of arrival of Qi
- Knowledge of lifting and thrusting
- Knowledge to achieve arrival of Qi by lifting and thrusting
- Knowledge of concepts and theories concerning lifting and thrusting
- Ability to achieve arrival of Qi by lifting and thrusting
- Skills to manipulate needle with lifting and thrusting to elicit the arrival of Qi

B 3 (b): Twirling or rotating

- Knowledge of arrival of Qi
- Knowledge to achieve arrival of Qi by twirling and rotating



- Knowledge of twirling or rotating
- Ability to achieve arrival of Qi by twirling or rotating
- Skills to administer arrival of Qi by twirling or rotating

B 3 (c): Plucking

- Knowledge of arrival of Qi
- Knowledge to achieve arrival of Qi by plucking
- Knowledge of plucking
- Ability to achieve arrival of Qi by plucking
- Skills to administer arrival of Qi by plucking
- Skills to manipulate needle using plucking to elicit arrival of Qi

B 3 (d): Scraping

- Knowledge of arrival of Qi
- Knowledge to achieve arrival of Qi by scraping
- Ability to administer arrival of Qi by scraping
- Skills to administer arrival of Qi by scraping

B 3 (e): Shaking

- Knowledge of arrival of Qi
- Knowledge to achieve arrival of Qi by shaking
- Ability to administer arrival of Qi by shaking
- Skills to administer arrival of Qi by shaking

B 3 (f): Trembling

- Knowledge of arrival of Qi
- Knowledge to achieve arrival of Qi by trembling
- Ability to administer arrival of Qi by trembling
- Skills to administer arrival of Qi by trembling



Sub Domain B4: Reinforcing and reducing techniques by:

B 4 (a): Lifting and thrusting

- Knowledge of theories, purpose and techniques of lifting and thrusting
- Knowledge to apply reinforcing and reducing techniques by lifting and thrusting
- Ability to administer techniques by lifting and thrusting
- Skills to administer techniques by lifting and thrusting

B 4 (b): Twirling or rotating

- Knowledge of theory, purpose and technique of rotating or twirling
- Knowledge to apply reinforcing and reducing techniques by rotating or twirling
- Ability to administer correct techniques using rotating or twirling
- Skills to administer correct techniques using rotating or twirling

B 4 (c): Rapid and slow insertion and withdrawal of needle

- Knowledge of theory, purpose and technique of rapid and slow insertion and withdrawal of needle
- Knowledge to apply reinforcing and reducing techniques by rapid and slow inserting and withdrawal of needles
- Ability to administer correct techniques using rapid and slow inserting and withdrawal of needles
- Skills to administer correct techniques using rapid and slow inserting and withdrawal of needles
- Skills to manipulate the needle to reduce or reinforce using rapid and slow inserting and withdrawal of needles

B 4 (d): Keeping acupuncture hole open

- Knowledge to apply reinforcing and reducing techniques by keeping the acupuncture hole open or closed
- Ability to administer correct techniques by keeping the acupuncture hole open or closed
- Ability to reinforce or reduce using the technique of keeping the acupuncture hole open or closed



- Skills to manipulate the needle to reduce or reinforce by keeping the acupuncture hole open or closed
- Skills to apply correct techniques keeping the acupuncture hole open or closed

B 4 (e): Means of respiration

- Knowledge of theories, purpose and techniques of reinforcing and reducing by means of respiration
- Knowledge to apply reinforcing and reducing techniques by means of respiration
- Ability to apply correct technique via respiration
- Ability to reinforce or reduce using the technique of respiration
- Skills to manipulate needle to reduce or reinforce by respiration
- Skills to apply correct technique via respiration

B 4 (f): Setting the Mountain on Fire

- Knowledge of purpose, theory, contraindications of *Setting the Mountain on Fire*
- Knowledge to apply reinforcing technique of *Setting the Mountain on Fire*
- Ability to administer *Setting the Mountain on Fire*
- Ability to reinforce using the technique of *Setting the Mountain on Fire*
- Skills to administer *Setting the Mountain on Fire*
- Skills to manipulate the needle to reinforce by *Setting the Mountain on Fire*

B 4 (g): Penetrating Heaven coolness

- Knowledge of techniques, purpose, cautions, contraindications of Penetrating Heaven Coolness
- Knowledge to apply reducing technique of Penetrating Heaven Coolness
- Ability to reduce using the technique of Penetrating Heaven Coolness
- Ability to administer Penetrating Heaven Coolness
- Skills to administer Penetrating Heaven Coolness
- Skills to manipulate the needle to reduce by Penetrating Heaven Coolness



Sub Domain B5: Precautions based upon anatomy

- Knowledge of human anatomy
- Knowledge of acupuncture treatment technique, concepts
- Knowledge to consider anatomy to determine depth, precautions, and contraindications
- Ability to apply knowledge of human anatomy to safely administer acupuncture treatment techniques
- Skills to apply knowledge of human anatomy to safely administer acupuncture treatment techniques

Sub Domain B6: Removal of needles

- Knowledge of safe and correct removal of acupuncture needle(s)
- Ability to remove needles with correct techniques
- Skills to remove needles with correct techniques

Domain C: Use of Modalities or Agents (25% of total exam)

Sub Domain C1: Cupping

- Knowledge of theories and purpose of cupping
- Knowledge to treat patient using cupping
- Knowledge of techniques, cautions and contraindications of cupping
- Ability to administer cupping
- Skills to administer cupping

Sub Domain C2: Guasha

- Knowledge of theories and purposes of Guasha techniques
- Knowledge of different types of Guasha devices and their purposes
- Knowledge of techniques, cautions and contraindications of Guasha
- Knowledge to treat patient using Guasha
- Ability to apply Guasha treatment
- Skills to administer Guasha techniques



Sub Domain C3: Bleeding

- Knowledge of theories and purposes of bleeding techniques
- Knowledge of different types of bleeding devices and their purposes
- Knowledge of techniques, cautions and contraindications of bleeding techniques
- Ability to administer bleeding techniques for patient treatment
- Skills to provide appropriate bleeding procedure for patient treatment

Sub Domain C4: Intradermal needles

- Knowledge of theories and purposes of intradermal needles
- Knowledge of techniques, cautions and contraindications of intradermal needles
- Knowledge of different types of intradermal needles
- Knowledge to treat patient using intradermal needles
- Ability to administer intradermal needles
- Skills to administer intradermal needles

Sub Domain C5: Ear balls, seeds, pellets, ear tack

- Knowledge of theories and purposes of ear balls/seeds/pellets/ear tack
- Knowledge of the ear balls/seeds/pellets/ear tacks procedure, technique and safety procedures
- Ability to administer ear balls/seeds/pellets/ear tacks
- Skills to administer ear balls/seeds/pellets/ear tacks

Sub Domain C6: Electro acupuncture

Sub Domain C7: Electricity

C 7 (a): Micro current

- Knowledge of theories and purposes of micro current
- Knowledge of techniques, cautions and contraindications of micro current
- Knowledge of applying electricity using micro current
- Knowledge to treat the patient by applying electricity using micro current
- Ability to administer micro current
- Skills to administer micro current



C 7 (b): Auricular micro system points

- Knowledge of auricular micro system point
- Knowledge to treat patient by applying electricity using auricular micro system points

C 7 (c): TENS

- Knowledge of theories and purposes of TENS
- Knowledge of techniques, cautions and contraindications of TENS
- Knowledge of applying electricity using TENS procedure, technique and safety procedures
- Knowledge of different types of TENS
- Knowledge to treat the patient using TENS
- Ability to administer TENS
- Skills to administer TENS

Sub Domain C8: Moxibustion

C 8 (a): Direct moxibustion (e.g., thread moxibustion)

- Knowledge of theories and purposes of moxibustion using direct moxa
- Knowledge of techniques, cautions and contraindications of direct moxa
- Knowledge to apply moxibustion using direct moxa
- Ability to administer direct moxa
- Skills to administer direct moxa

C 8 (b): Indirect moxibustion (stick or pole moxa)

- Knowledge of theories and purposes of indirect moxibustion using stick or pole moxa
- Knowledge of techniques, cautions and contraindications of indirect moxibustion using stick or pole moxa
- Knowledge to apply moxibustion using indirect moxibustion using stick or pole moxa
- Ability to administer indirect moxibustion using stick or pole moxa
- Skills to administer indirect moxibustion using stick or pole moxa

C 8 (c): Moxa on medium (e.g., garlic, ginger)

- Knowledge of theories and purposes of indirect moxibustion using a medium



- Knowledge of techniques, cautions and contraindications of indirect moxibustion using a medium
- Knowledge to apply moxibustion using indirect moxibustion using a medium
- Ability to administer indirect moxibustion using a medium
- Skills to administer indirect moxibustion using a medium

C 8 (d): Moxa on needle handle

- Knowledge of techniques, cautions and contraindications by applying moxibustion on needle handle
- Knowledge to use moxibustion on needle handle
- Knowledge to apply moxibustion on the needle handle
- Ability to administer moxibustion on the needle handle
- Skills to administer moxibustion on the needle handle

C 8 (e): Moxa box/can

- Knowledge of theories and purpose of using moxa box/can
- Knowledge of techniques, cautions and contraindications of using moxa box/can
- Ability to use moxa box/can
- Skills to use moxa box/can

C 8 (f): Navel moxa

- Knowledge of using moxa on the navel
- Knowledge of techniques, cautions and contraindications by using moxa on the navel
- Ability to use moxa on the navel
- Skills to use moxa on the navel

C 8 (g): Stick-on moxa

- Knowledge of theories and purpose of stick-on moxa
- Knowledge of techniques, cautions and contraindications of stick-on moxa
- Ability to administer stick-on moxa
- Skills to administer stick-on moxa



C 8 (h): Smokeless moxa

- Knowledge of theories and purpose of using smokeless moxa
- Knowledge of techniques, cautions and contraindications of using smokeless moxa
- Knowledge to use smokeless moxa
- Ability to administer smokeless moxa

Sub Domain C9: Physical agents

- Knowledge to administer physical agents such as heat for patient condition
- Knowledge of heat as a physical agent
- Knowledge of techniques, cautions and contraindications by applying using heat as a physical agent
- Knowledge of theories and purpose of using heat as a physical agent
- Skills to administer physical agents such as heat
- Ability to administer physical agents such as heat

C 9 (a): Heat

C 9 (b): TDP/infrared heat lamp

C 9 (c): Cold

Sub Domain C10: Precautions related to treatment modalities (e.g., intradermal needles, moxibustion, electricity, guasha, bleeding, cupping, 7 Star Hammer)

- Knowledge of techniques for each modality
- Knowledge of precautions and contraindications related to treatment with each modality
- Ability to administer correct treatment with each modality
- Skills to administer correct treatment with each modality

Sub Domain C11: State regulation(s) and law(s) for use of different modalities for acupuncture

- Knowledge of the different acupuncture modalities
- Knowledge of state regulations and laws for use of different acupuncture modalities



- Ability to recall the state regulations and laws for use of different acupuncture modalities
- Skills to administer acupuncture modalities according to state regulations and laws

Domain D: Assess Treatment Outcomes and Modify Treatment (15% of total exam)

Sub Domain D1: Treatment evaluation

D 1 (a): Assess effectiveness of treatment by re-examining patient

- Knowledge to evaluate treatment
- Knowledge to assess the effectiveness of treatment by re-examining the patient
- Ability to assess the effectiveness of treatment by re-examining the patient
- Skills to assess the effectiveness of treatment by re-examining the patient

Please note that the following domain is covered in the Biomedicine Content Outline under Domain A2(e)2.

~~D 1 (b): Assess clinical lab work and physical examination~~

- ~~▪ Knowledge to provide physical exam~~
- ~~▪ Knowledge to review patient's progress by using physical exam (e.g., orthopedic, etc.)~~
- ~~▪ Knowledge to evaluate patient progress~~
- ~~▪ Ability to evaluate patient progress via physical examination~~
- ~~▪ Skills to evaluate patient progress via physical examination~~
- ~~▪ Knowledge of clinical lab work for patients~~
- ~~▪ Knowledge to review progress of patient using clinical lab work for assessment of signs and symptoms~~
- ~~▪ Skills to analyze clinical lab work~~
- ~~▪ Skills to assess patient signs and symptoms~~
- ~~▪ Knowledge of patient history, medical history~~
- ~~▪ Ability to report patient progress~~
- ~~▪ Skills to report patient progress~~



D 1 (c): Appropriately continue, discontinue, modify treatment, or refer to another healthcare provider

- Knowledge of patient's history
- Knowledge to evaluate the results of treatment by comparing the patient's condition with prior assessment(s) in order to continue, modify or terminate treatment
- Ability to evaluate treatment and assess whether to continue, modify, or terminate treatment
- Skills to evaluate treatment and decide on further course of action
- Knowledge to assess outcome in order to modify treatment strategy
- Knowledge to analyze patient's outcome in order to modify treatment
- Knowledge of different treatment strategies
- Ability to analyze outcome in order to modify treatment
- Skills to administer different treatment strategies based on patient's results

D 1 (d): Point selection modification

- Knowledge of acupuncture points
- Knowledge to modify choice of points
- Ability to modify choice of points
- Skills to modify choice of points

D 1 (e): Treatment strategy modification

- Knowledge of treatment strategy
- Knowledge of modifications of treatment strategy
- Ability to modify treatment strategies
- Skill to modify treatment strategies

D 1 (f): Modality and manipulation modification

- Knowledge of modalities and manipulation techniques, cautions and contraindications
- Knowledge to modify modalities and manipulation techniques
- Ability to modify modalities and manipulation techniques
- Skills to modify modalities and manipulation techniques



Sub Domain D2: Ensure clean needle technique

- Knowledge of clean needle theories, techniques, safety rules and procedures
- Knowledge to ensure clean needle technique
- Ability to administer clean needle techniques
- Skills to administer clean needle techniques

Sub Domain D3: Management of acupuncture related emergencies (fainting, shock, bleeding, broken needles, stuck needles, diabetic issues, burns, etc.)

- Knowledge of emergency situations
- Knowledge of needle techniques and safety rules/guidelines
- Knowledge to manage acupuncture related emergencies
- Ability to manage acupuncture related emergencies
- Skills to manage acupuncture related emergencies



Bibliographies

In addition to the updated NCCAOM content outlines, the suggested bibliographies have also been updated. Attached are the new bibliographies for the certification in Oriental Medicine examinations. These bibliographies will be effective beginning in 2012.

Acupuncture with Point Location Bibliography

The Content Outline is the primary resource for studying for this examination. The purpose of this Bibliography is only to provide the candidate with suggested resources to utilize in preparation for the examination. Candidates should feel free to consider other resources that cover the material in the Content Outline.

There is no simple text recommended by NCCAOM. All NCCAOM modules and examinations reflect practice in the United States as determined by the most recent job analysis. NCCAOM's item writers and examination development committee members frequently use the following texts as resources; however, the sources used are not limited to the books listed here. The NCCAOM does not endorse any third-party study/preparation guide(s).

Primary Sources

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