



The Biomedicine Abbreviated Content Outline

(Effective January 1, 2012)

Note to Candidate: This document serves as a guide to assist in examination preparation for candidates who have met NCCAOM eligibility requirements. Below is the abbreviated content outline for the Biomedicine module.

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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).

Domain A: Western Medical Assessment (55% of total exam)

Sub Domain A1: History-taking (5%)

- A 1 (a): Identifying information
- A 1 (b): Chief complaint and present illness
- A 1 (c): Past medical history
- A 1 (d): Family history
- A 1 (e): Personal and social history
- A 1 (f): System review

Sub Domain A2: Physical assessment, pathology and diagnostics (35%)

- A 2 (a): Vital signs, weight, and nutritional status
- A 2 (b): Organ assessment and system pathology
- A 2 (c): Orthopedic evaluation
 - A 2 (c) (1): Measurement of strength
 - A 2 (c) (2): Reproduction of pain or other signs that reproduces symptoms
 - A 2 (c) (3): Trigger and motor points
 - A 2 (c) (4): Assessment of range of motion
- A 2 (d): Neurological evaluation
- A 2 (e): Diagnostic testing
 - A 2 (e) (1): Imaging studies
 - A 2 (e) (2): *Laboratory studies



Sub Domain 3: Ominous signs and patient referral (15%)

A 3 (a): Medical

A 3 (b): Mental health

A 3 (c): Abuse

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Domain B: Pharmaceuticals and Supplementations (15% of total exam)

Sub Domain B1: Pharmaceuticals

B 1 (a): Classification of prescription and non-prescription (OTC) medications

B 1 (b): Common mechanisms of action, action and side effects of prescription and non-prescription (OTC) medications, including drugs of abuse

Sub Domain B2: Supplements

B 2 (a): Classification of dietary supplements

B 2 (b): Known mechanisms of action and side effects of supplements

Domain C: Safety (15% of total exam)

Sub Domain C1: CPR and office emergencies

Sub Domain C2: Bloodborne pathogens and communicable diseases

Domain D: Practice Management Issues (15% of total exam)

Sub Domain D1: Legal and ethical issues

D 1 (a): Federal and state regulations

D 1 (a) (1): Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA)

D 1 (a) (2): Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)

D 1 (a) (3): Reporting requirements

D 1 (a) (4): Business operations

D 1 (a) (5): Maintenance of proper medical records

D 1 (a) (6): Licensure requirements

D 1 (b): Ethical issues

Sub Domain D2: Other practice management issues



D 2 (a): Communication with patients and other professionals (e.g., third party payers, other healthcare providers, attorneys, etc.)

D 2 (b): NCCAOM rules and regulations



Biomedicine Examination 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.

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There is no single 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.

Anzaldua, David. *An Acupuncturist's Guide to Medical Red Flags & Referrals*. Boulder, CO: Blue Poppy Enterprises, Inc., 2010.

Beers, Mark H. *The Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy*. 18th ed. Whitehouse Station, NJ: Merck Research Laboratories, 2006.

Bickley, Lynn S. *Bates' Guide to Physical Examination and History Taking*. 10th ed. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins Publishers, 2008.

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Kailin, David C. *Quality in Complementary and Alternative Medicine*. Corvallis, OR: CMS Press, 2006.

Katzung, Bertram G., Susan B. Masters, and Anthony J. Trevor, eds. *Basic and Clinical Pharmacology*. 11th ed. New York: McGraw Hill Medical, 2009.

MacPhee, Stephen J. and Maxine A. Papadakis. *Current Diagnosis and Medical Treatment*. Columbus: McGraw-Hill Medical. (Current Edition)

Magee, David J. *Orthopedic Physical Assessment*, 5th ed. St. Louis, MO: Saunders Elsevier, 2008.

Mahan, L. Kathleen and Sylvia Escott-Stump. *Krause's Food & Nutrition Therapy*. 12th ed. Philadelphia: Saunders Elsevier, 2008.

NCCAOM®. "Code of Ethics."2008.

<http://www.nccaom.org/wp-content/uploads/pdf/Code%20of%20Ethics.pdf>.



“*Grounds for Professional Discipline.*” 2008.

<http://www.nccaom.org/wp-content/uploads/pdf/Grounds%20for%20Professional%20Discipline.pdf> .

“*Procedures for Upholding Professional Conduct.*” 2006.

<http://www.nccaom.org/wp-content/uploads/pdf/Procedures%20for%20Upholding%20Professional%20Conduct.pdf> .

National Acupuncture Foundation. *Clean Needle Technique Manual for Acupuncturists. Guidelines and Standards for a Clean and Safe Clinical Practice of Acupuncture.* 6th ed. Chaplin, CT: National Acupuncture Foundation, 2009.

Sperber, Greg with Bob Flaws. *Integrated Pharmacology Combining Modern Pharmacology with Chinese Medicine.* Boulder, CO: Blue Poppy Press, 2007.



Notes