The Acupuncture with Point Location Abbreviated Content Outline
(Effective as of February 1, 2014)

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 content outline for the Acupuncture with Point Location examination, along with the competency statements.

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

DOMAIN I: Safety and Professional Responsibilities (10% of Total Exam)
Apply standards of safe practice and professional conduct.

A. Management of Acupuncture Office Emergencies
B. Infection Control/Precautions
C. Patient Education and Communication

DOMAIN II: Treatment Plan (70% of Total Exam)
Develop a comprehensive treatment plan using acupuncture points based on patient presentation and initial assessment.

A. Treatment Plan: Develop an Initial Treatment Plan
   1. Point selection based on differentiation and/or symptoms (35%)
      a. Cautions and contraindications
      b. Point category
      c. Channel theory
      d. Function and/or indication of points and point combinations
      e. Ashi points
      f. Extra points (Refer to Appendix of Extra Points)
      g. Auricular points
      h. Scalp areas
   2. Treatment techniques and mode of administration (25%)
      a. Cautions and contraindications
b. Patient position
c. Point locating techniques
d. Needle selection
e. Needling technique
f. Moxibustion
   1.) Direct
   2.) Indirect
   3.) On needle handle
g. Additional acupuncture modalities
   1.) Cupping
   2.) Guasha
   3.) Bleeding
   4.) Intradermal needles, ear balls, seeds, pellets, tacks
   5.) Electro acupuncture
   6.) Heat
   7.) Topical applications
h. Related modalities
   1.) Asian bodywork therapy and other manual therapies
   2.) Exercise/breathing therapy
   3.) Dietary recommendations according to Traditional Chinese Medicine theory

B. Patient Management (10%)
   1. Re-assessment and modification of treatment plan
   2. Referral and/or discharge of patient as appropriate

DOMAIN III: Point Identification/Location (20% of total exam)
(To include both image based questions and questions describing point location measurements by description.)

A. Identification of Points by Images (10%)
B. Identification of Points by Description (10%)
Appendix: Extra Points

(Please Note: Additional Extra Points not listed in the Appendix may appear on the exam as distractors to the correct answer)

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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 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 guides.*

**Primary Sources**


(http://www.ccaom.org/cntmanual.asp)


**Secondary Sources**


