

## **General Examination Information**

The following subject areas are tested to determine Board Qualified or Board Certified status, along with their approximate proportional representation in the qualification examination. Categories may include imaging, laboratory (including gait studies), pharmacology and special considerations in pediatric and geriatric patients. Both local and systemic manifestations of relevant podiatric pathology are assessed. Subject areas include:

1. Podiatric Medicine
  - 1.1 Pathomechanics
    - 1.1.1 Interpretation of a biomechanical and gait exam
    - 1.1.2 Orthotics and Prosthetics
    - 1.1.3 Footwear/Pedorthics
  - 1.2 Podopediatrics
  - 1.3 Podiatric trauma & sports medicine
2. Medical Imaging
  - 2.1 Plain radiography
  - 2.2 Advanced imaging (nuclear imaging, CT, MRI, PET, bone densitometry)
  - 2.3 Diagnostic ultrasound
  - 2.4 Vascular imaging and diagnostics
3. Pathology
  - 3.1 Laboratory studies
    - 3.1.1 Hematology, blood chemistries, coagulation studies, urinalysis
    - 3.1.2 Serology/immunology, synovial fluid analysis
    - 3.1.3 Toxicology/Drug screens
    - 3.1.4 Blood gas analysis
    - 3.1.5 Microbiology
  - 3.2 Anatomic and cellular pathology
4. Public health
  - 4.1 Behavioral Science
  - 4.2 Professionalism (legal and ethical obligations)
  - 4.3 Research and biostatistics
  - 4.4 Addiction medicine
5. Internal Medicine & Medical Subspecialties
  - 5.1 Endocrine
  - 5.2 Cardiology & Pulmonology
  - 5.3 Critical Care
  - 5.4 Gastroenterology
  - 5.5 Geriatrics
  - 5.6 Hematology & Oncology
  - 5.7 Infectious disease
    - 5.7.1 Systemic
    - 5.7.2 Lower extremity (soft tissue and bone infection)
  - 5.8 Nephrology
  - 5.9 Neurology
    - 5.9.1 Electrodiagnostic studies
    - 5.9.2 CNS disorders
    - 5.9.3 PNS disorders

- 5.10 Rheumatology
- 5.11 Dermatology
  - 5.11.1 General dermatology
  - 5.11.2 Lower extremity dermatology
- 5.12 Pain management
- 5.13 Physical medicine and rehabilitation

- 6. Wound Care
  - 6.1 Evaluation
  - 6.2 Principles (including debridement, offloading, dressings)
  - 6.3 Adjunctive therapies (including NPWT and HBOT)

- 7. Emergency Medicine
  - 7.1 General emergencies
  - 7.2 Lower extremity emergencies

- 8. Anesthesiology
  - 8.1 Perioperative evaluation and risk assessment
  - 8.2 Local anesthesia
  - 8.3 General, spinal, and regional anesthesia
  - 8.4 Conscious sedation

- 9. Podiatric Surgery
  - 9.1 Surgical indications
  - 9.2 Identification and management of complications

- 10. General Surgery and Subspecialties
  - 10.1 Perioperative management
  - 10.2 General surgery principles
  - 10.3 Vascular surgery principles
  - 10.4 Plastic surgery principles
  - 10.5 Orthopedic surgery principles

**The Qualification Examination** is primarily designed to assess a candidate's breadth of knowledge. The qualification examination consists of multiple-choice questions and clinical scenarios (see certification examination below). Key words in the question stem, such as **most**, **least**, **only**, or **except** are highlighted to facilitate comprehension.

**The Certification Examination** consists of a variety of separate clinical scenarios that need to be worked through by the candidate. The clinical scenarios and related questions may involve any of the areas listed in the subjects listed above. Candidates are provided with patient and clinical information from which to work through the case. Each segment of the question is assigned specific scoring criteria. Separate credit may be received for completing an appropriate history and physical examination, requesting appropriate additional laboratory and/or imaging studies, making the proper diagnosis, determining the appropriate treatment plan, etc. The particular scoring requirements of each case vary based on the presented information.