

Content Blueprint for the Psychiatry CAQ Examination

The Psychiatry CAQ content blueprint provides information on how exam questions are allocated to the different task categories and medical content categories that have been deemed important for PAs working within the specialty area.

The examples provided for each task and medical content category are indicative of the types of information that will be included on the examination. It is not possible to include all topics on a single examination, and it may be possible that some questions on a single examination cover content that is not listed in the examples.

Medical Content Categories

1. Depressive Disorders	13%
2. Bipolar and Related Disorders	13%
3. Anxiety Disorders	11%
4. Trauma- and Stressor-Related Disorders	6%
5. Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders	2%
6. Feeding and Eating Disorders	5%
7. Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders	4%
8. Disruptive, Impulse-Control, and Conduct Disorders	2%
9. Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders	12%
10. Dissociative Disorders	1%
11. Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders	12%
12. Neurodevelopmental Disorders	5%
13. Neurocognitive Disorders	7%
14. Personality Disorders	1%
15. Sexual Dysfunction and Paraphilic Disorders	1%
16. Gender Dysphoria	1%
17. Sleep-Wake Disorders	4%

Task Categories

A - History Taking, Physical Examination, Mental Status Examination, Scales, and Screening Tools	10%
B - Ordering and/or Interpreting Diagnostic, Laboratory, and Neuroimaging Studies	10%
C - Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis	20%
D1 - Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventive Measures	5%
D2 - Non-pharmaceutical Treatments	10%
D3 - Pharmaceutical Treatments	30%
G - Risk Assessment and Psychosocial Issues	10%
L - Legal and Ethical Issues	5%

Medical Content Categories

1. DEPRESSIVE DISORDERS (13%)

- A. Disruptive mood dysregulation disorder
- B. Major depressive disorder
- C. Persistent depressive disorder
- D. Premenstrual dysphoric disorder
- E. Substance/medication-induced depressive disorder
- F. Depressive disorder due to another medical condition

2. BIPOLAR AND RELATED DISORDERS (13%)

- A. Bipolar I disorder
- B. Bipolar II disorder
- C. Cyclothymic disorder
- D. Substance/medication-induced bipolar and related disorder
- E. Bipolar and related disorder due to another medical condition

3. ANXIETY DISORDERS (11%)

- A. Separation anxiety disorder
- B. Selective mutism
- C. Specific phobia
- D. Social anxiety disorder
- E. Panic disorder
- F. Agoraphobia
- G. Generalized anxiety disorder
- H. Substance/medication-induced anxiety disorder
- I. Anxiety disorder due to another medical condition

4. TRAUMA- AND STRESSOR-RELATED DISORDERS (6%)

- A. Reactive attachment disorder
- B. Disinhibited social engagement disorder
- C. Post-traumatic stress disorder
- D. Acute stress disorder
- E. Adjustment disorders
- F. Prolonged grief disorder

5. SOMATIC SYMPTOM AND RELATED DISORDERS (2%)

- A. Somatic symptom disorder
- B. Illness anxiety disorder
- C. Functional neurological symptom disorder (conversion disorder)
- D. Psychological factors affecting other medical conditions
- E. Factitious disorder
 - Factitious disorder imposed on another

- Factitious disorder imposed on self

6. FEEDING AND EATING DISORDERS (5%)

- A. Pica
- B. Rumination disorder
- C. Avoidant/restrictive food intake disorder
- D. Anorexia nervosa
- E. Bulimia nervosa
- F. Binge-eating disorder
- G. Other specified feeding or eating disorder

7. OBSESSIVE-COMPULSIVE AND RELATED DISORDERS (4%)

- A. Obsessive-compulsive disorder
- B. Body dysmorphic disorder
- C. Hoarding disorder
- D. Trichotillomania (hair-pulling disorder)
- E. Excoriation (skin-picking) disorder
- F. Substance/medication-induced obsessive-compulsive and related disorder

8. DISRUPTIVE, IMPULSE-CONTROL, AND CONDUCT DISORDERS (2%)

- A. Oppositional defiant disorder
- B. Intermittent explosive disorder
- C. Conduct disorder
- D. Pyromania
- E. Kleptomania

9. SCHIZOPHRENIA SPECTRUM AND OTHER PSYCHOTIC DISORDERS (12%)

- A. Delusional disorder
- B. Brief psychotic disorder
- C. Schizophreniform disorder
- D. Schizophrenia
- E. Schizoaffective disorder
- F. Catatonia
 - Catatonia associated with another mental disorder (catatonia specifier)
 - Catatonic disorder due to another medical condition
- G. Substance/medication-induced psychotic disorder
- H. Psychotic disorder due to another medical condition

10. DISSOCIATIVE DISORDERS (1%)

- A. Dissociative identity disorder
- B. Dissociative amnesia
 - Dissociative amnesia with dissociative fugue

- C. Depersonalization/derealization disorder

11. SUBSTANCE-RELATED AND ADDICTIVE DISORDERS (12%)

- A. Alcohol-related disorders
 - o Alcohol use disorder
 - o Alcohol intoxication
 - o Alcohol withdrawal
- B. Caffeine-related disorders
 - o Caffeine intoxication
 - o Caffeine withdrawal
- C. Tobacco-related disorders
 - o Tobacco use disorder
 - o Tobacco withdrawal
- D. Cannabis-related disorders
 - o Cannabis use disorder
 - o Cannabis intoxication
 - o Cannabis withdrawal
- E. Hallucinogen-related disorders
 - o Phencyclidine use disorder
 - o Other hallucinogen use disorder
 - o Phencyclidine intoxication
 - o Other hallucinogen intoxication
 - o Hallucinogen persisting perception disorder
- F. Inhalant-related disorders
 - o Inhalant use disorder
 - o Inhalant intoxication
- G. Opioid-related disorders
 - o Opioid use disorder
 - o Opioid intoxication
 - o Opioid withdrawal
- H. Sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic-related disorders
 - o Sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic use disorder
 - o Sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic intoxication
 - o Sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic withdrawal
- I. Stimulant-related disorders
 - o Stimulant use disorder
 - o Stimulant intoxication
 - o Stimulant withdrawal
- J. Non-substance-related disorders

12. NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS (5%)

- A. Intellectual developmental disorders
 - o Intellectual developmental disorder (intellectual disability)
 - o Global developmental delay
- B. Communication disorders
 - o Language disorder
 - o Speech sound disorder
 - o Childhood-onset fluency disorder (stuttering)

- o Social (pragmatic) communication disorder
- C. Autism spectrum disorder
- D. Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder
- E. Specific learning disorder
 - o With impairment in reading
 - o With impairment in written expression
 - o With impairment in mathematics
- F. Motor disorders
 - o Developmental coordination disorder
 - o Stereotypic movement disorder
 - o Tic disorders
 - Tourette disorder
 - Persistent (chronic) motor or vocal tic disorder
 - Provisional tic disorder
- G. Elimination disorders
 - o Enuresis
 - o Encopresis

13. NEUROCOGNITIVE DISORDERS (7%)

- A. Delirium
 - o Substance intoxication delirium
 - o Substance withdrawal delirium
 - o Medication-induced delirium
 - o Delirium due to another medical condition
 - o Delirium due to multiple etiologies
- B. Neurocognitive disorder due to Alzheimer disease
- C. Frontotemporal neurocognitive disorder
- D. Neurocognitive disorder with Lewy bodies
- E. Vascular neurocognitive disorder
- F. Neurocognitive disorder due to traumatic brain injury
- G. Substance/medication-induced neurocognitive disorder
- H. Neurocognitive disorder due to HIV infection
- I. Neurocognitive disorder due to prion disease
- J. Neurocognitive disorder due to Parkinson disease
- K. Neurocognitive disorder due to Huntington disease
- L. Neurocognitive disorder due to multiple etiologies
- M. Neurocognitive disorder due to another medical condition

14. PERSONALITY DISORDERS (1%)

- A. Paranoid personality disorder
- B. Schizoid personality disorder
- C. Schizotypal personality disorder
- D. Antisocial personality disorder
- E. Borderline personality disorder
- F. Histrionic personality disorder

- G. Narcissistic personality disorder
- H. Avoidant personality disorder
- I. Dependent personality disorder
- J. Obsessive-compulsive personality disorder

15. SEXUAL DYSFUNCTION AND PARAPHILIC DISORDERS (1%)

- A. Sexual dysfunctions
 - Substance/medication-induced sexual dysfunction
- B. Paraphilic disorders

16. GENDER DYSPHORIA (1%)

- A. Gender dysphoria in children
- B. Gender dysphoria in adolescents and adults

17. SLEEP-WAKE DISORDERS (4%)

- A. Insomnia disorder
- B. Hypersomnolence disorder
- C. Narcolepsy
- D. Breathing-related sleep disorders
- E. Circadian rhythm sleep-wake disorders
- F. Parasomnias
 - Non-rapid eye movement sleep arousal disorders
 - Sleep terrors
 - Sleepwalking disorder
 - Nightmare disorder
 - Rapid eye movement sleep behavior disorder
- G. Restless legs syndrome
- H. Substance/medication-induced sleep disorder