

## **Content Blueprint for the Hospital Medicine CAQ Examination**

The Hospital Medicine 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. Cardiovascular	17%
2. Pulmonology	13%
3. Gastroenterology	9%
4. Endocrinology	6%
5. Nephrology/Genitourinary	9%
6. Hematology/Oncology	8%
7. Neurology	8%
8. Psychiatry	5%
9. Infectious Diseases	12%
10. Allergy/Immunology/Rheumatology	3%
11. Perioperative Medicine	4%
L - Professional Practice	6%

### **Task Categories**

A - History Taking, Performing Physical Examination	10%
B - Ordering and Interpreting Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies	16%
C - Formulating a Most Likely Diagnosis	16%
D1 - Patient Education and Preventive Measures	6%
D2 - Patient Management	20%
D3 - Pharmaceutical Therapeutics	16%
E - Applying Scientific Concepts	10%
L - Professional Practice	6%

### **Medical Content Categories**

- |                               |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. <b>CARDIOVASCULAR</b>      |                             |
| A. Heart failure              | ○ Reduced ejection fraction |
| ○ Preserved ejection fraction | ○ Coronary artery disease   |
|                               | ○ Arrhythmias               |

- Atrial fibrillation/flutter/supraventricular tachycardia
  - Cardiac devices
  - Ventricular arrhythmia
- D. Vascular disease
  - Peripheral vascular disease
  - Aortic dissection/aneurysm
- E. Hypertension
- F. Structural disease
  - Valvular
  - Pericardial
  - Myocardial
  - Septal
- G. Cardiomyopathy
- H. Syncope
- I. Shock
  - Distributive
  - Obstructive
  - Hypovolemic
  - Cardiogenic

## 2. PULMONOLOGY

- A. Respiratory failure
  - Acute/chronic
  - Hypoxic/hypercarbic
  - Mechanical ventilation
  - Noninvasive ventilation
  - Blood gas analysis
- B. Obstructive disease
  - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
  - Asthma
  - Bronchiectasis
- C. Restrictive lung disease
  - Interstitial lung disease
- D. Parenchymal disease
  - Alveolar hemorrhage
  - ARDS
  - Noninfectious pneumonia/pneumonitis
- E. Pleural disease
  - Pleural effusion
  - Empyema
- F. Pulmonary hypertension
- G. Pneumothorax
- H. Sleep disorders
  - Sleep apnea
  - Obesity hypoventilation

## 3. GASTROENTEROLOGY

- A. Gastrointestinal bleeding
- B. Upper gastrointestinal disorders
  - Esophageal disorders
  - Gastroparesis
  - Gastroesophageal reflux disease
  - Peptic ulcer disease

- C. Lower gastrointestinal disorders
  - Obstruction/ileus
  - Constipation
  - Toxic megacolon
- D. Ischemia
- E. Inflammatory bowel disease
  - Crohn disease
  - Ulcerative colitis
- F. Hepatic disorders
  - Acute/chronic hepatitis
  - Cirrhosis
  - Hyperbilirubinemia
- G. Pancreatic disorders
  - Pancreatitis
  - Pancreatic insufficiency
- H. Biliary disease
  - Cholecystitis
  - Choledocholithiasis
  - Cholangitis
- I. Nutritional disorders
  - Vitamin deficiencies
  - Malabsorption
  - Artificial nutrition and hydration

## 4. ENDOCRINOLOGY

- A. Diabetes mellitus/hyperglycemia
  - Diabetic ketoacidosis
  - Hyperosmolar nonketotic coma
  - Hypoglycemia
- B. Adrenal gland disease
  - Cushing syndrome
  - Addison disease
  - Pheochromocytoma
- C. Thyroid/parathyroid gland disease
  - Thyrotoxicosis
  - Myxedema coma
  - Bone mineralization disorders
- D. Pituitary disorders
  - Diabetes insipidus
  - Syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone secretion (SIADH)

## 5. NEPHROLOGY/GENITOURINARY

- A. Electrolyte disorders
- B. Acute kidney disorders
  - Acute kidney injury
  - Nephrotic syndrome
  - Glomerulonephritis
- C. Acid-base disorders
- D. Obstructive disorders
  - Benign prostatic hypertrophy
  - Nephrolithiasis
  - Urinary retention
- E. Chronic kidney disease/end stage renal

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>disease</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Dialysis</li> </ul> <p><b>6. HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Anemias           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Hemolytic/sickle cell</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Macrocytic/microcytic</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Blood loss</li> </ul> </li> <li>B. Coagulopathies           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Disseminated intravascular coagulation</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Thrombocytopenia</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Factor deficiencies</li> </ul> </li> <li>C. Thrombosis and embolism           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Pulmonary embolism</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Deep vein thrombosis</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Arterial thrombosis</li> </ul> </li> <li>D. Hematologic malignancies           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Leukemia</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Lymphoma</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Tumor lysis syndrome</li> </ul> </li> <li>E. Bone marrow disorders           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Myelodysplastic syndrome</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Myeloma</li> </ul> </li> <li>F. Nonhematologic malignancies           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Tumor markers</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Lung cancer</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Hepatocellular carcinoma</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Pancreatic cancer</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Colon cancer</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>7. NEUROLOGY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Stroke           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Ischemic</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Hemorrhagic</li> </ul> </li> <li>B. Structural and degenerative neurologic disorders           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Multiple sclerosis</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Guillain-Barré syndrome</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Myasthenia gravis</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Movement disorders</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Peripheral neuropathy</li> </ul> </li> <li>C. Spinal cord disorders           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Paraplegia/quadriplegia</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Spinal cord syndromes</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Autonomic dysreflexia</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Nerve impingement syndromes</li> </ul> </li> <li>D. Brain injury           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Traumatic</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Anoxic</li> </ul> </li> <li>E. Seizure disorders</li> <li>F. Neurocognitive disorders           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Delirium</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Dementia</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Altered mental status/encephalopathy</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <p>G. Headache</p> <p><b>8. PSYCHIATRY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Anxiety disorders</li> <li>B. Depressive and bipolar disorders</li> <li>C. Psychotic disorders           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Schizophrenia</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Acute psychosis</li> </ul> </li> <li>D. Substance use disorders           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Overdose</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Withdrawal</li> </ul> </li> <li>E. Alcohol use disorder           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Intoxication</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Withdrawal</li> </ul> </li> <li>F. Suicidal ideations/attempted suicide</li> <li>G. Cognitive disorder/capacity</li> </ul> <p><b>9. INFECTIOUS DISEASES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Cardiac infections           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Endocarditis</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Myocarditis</li> </ul> </li> <li>B. Pulmonary infections           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Pneumonia</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Pulmonary abscess</li> </ul> </li> <li>C. Sepsis</li> <li>D. Genitourinary infection           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Cystitis</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Pyelonephritis</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Prostatitis</li> </ul> </li> <li>E. Skin/soft-tissue infections           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Cellulitis</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Necrotizing fasciitis</li> </ul> </li> <li>F. Bone Infections           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Osteomyelitis</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Discitis</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Septic arthritis</li> </ul> </li> <li>G. Neurologic infections           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Meningitis</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Encephalitis</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Epidural abscess</li> </ul> </li> <li>H. Gastrointestinal infections           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Diverticulitis</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Infectious colitis</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Food-borne infections</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Intra-abdominal abscess</li> </ul> </li> <li>I. Immunocompromised host           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> HIV/AIDS</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Neutropenic fever</li> <li><input type="radio"/> <i>Pneumocystis jirovecii</i> pneumonia</li> </ul> </li> <li>J. Atypical infections           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Tuberculosis</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Travel-related illnesses</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Fungal infections</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Tick-borne infection</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

- K. Iatrogenic infections
- 10. ALLERGY/IMMUNOLOGY/RHEUMATOLOGY**
  - A. Anaphylaxis/angioedema
  - B. Autoimmune disorders
    - Sarcoidosis
    - Systemic lupus erythematosus
    - Rheumatoid arthritis
    - Scleroderma
    - Polymyalgia rheumatica
  - C. Adverse drug effects
    - Stevens-Johnson syndrome
- 11. PERIOPERATIVE MEDICINE**
  - D. Vasculitis
    - Toxic epidermal necrolysis
    - Drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS)
  - E. Anticoagulation
  - F. Venous thromboembolism prophylaxis
  - G. Comorbid conditions