

Content Blueprint for the Occupational Medicine CAQ Examination

The Occupational 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

A. Occupational Health Practice	12%
B. Health Screening, Surveillance, and Exposures	20%
C. Workplace Injuries and Illnesses	35%
D. Immunization and Travel Medicine	8%
E. Occupational Clearance Examinations	25%

Task Categories

A - History and Physical	25%
B - Formulating a Diagnosis	15%
C - Patient Case Management	30%
D - Program Management and Administration	20%
E - Scientific Concepts	5%
L - Legal/Ethical Issues & Emerging Topics	5%

Medical Content Categories

A. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH PRACTICE

1. Disability management and prevention
 - ADA guidelines
 - Employee assistance programs
 - Impairment ratings
2. Emergency and disaster management
3. Ergonomics
4. Workers' compensation
 - Determination of work relatedness
 - Disability vs. impairment
 - Guidelines
 - Malingering
 - Recordability vs. first aid

B. HEALTH SCREENING, SURVEILLANCE, AND EXPOSURES

1. Environmental
 - Altitude
 - Asbestos
 - Building-related illness (HVAC, methylenedianiline, etc)
 - Coal
 - Industrial magnets
 - Ionizing radiation
 - Lasers
 - Latex
 - Noise
 - Organic
 - Cotton

- Dust
 - Grain
- Pesticides
- Silica
- Thermal
- Vibrational
- 2. Infectious diseases
 - Tuberculosis
- 3. Chemicals
 - Carbon monoxide
 - Coke oven emission
 - Heavy metal
 - Arsenic
 - Cadmium
 - Lead
 - Hydrofluoric acid
 - Organic carbon
 - Benzene
 - Formaldehyde
 - Polychlorinated biphenyls
 - Vinyl chloride
 - Xylene
- 4. Hazardous drugs
 - Antineoplastics
 - Radiation therapy medications
 - Waste anesthetic gases

C. WORKPLACE INJURIES AND ILLNESSES

1. Orthopedic/Musculoskeletal
 - Spine
 - Chest
 - Upper extremities
 - Hand
 - Wrist/forearm
 - Elbow
 - Shoulder
 - Lower extremities
 - Hip
 - Knee
 - Ankle
 - Foot
2. Dermatologic
 - Bite/puncture wound
 - Burns
 - Contusions
 - Dermatitis

- Foreign bodies
- Infections
- Lacerations
- 3. Eyes
 - Abrasions
 - Chemical exposures
 - Foreign bodies
 - Globe injuries
 - Photokeratitis
 - Subconjunctival hemorrhage
- 4. Ears
 - Acute acoustic trauma
 - Barotrauma
 - Cerumen impaction
 - Noise-induced hearing loss
- 5. Neurologic
 - Concussion
 - Migraine/headache
 - Post concussion syndrome
 - Skull fracture
 - Traumatic brain injury
- 6. Gastrointestinal/Genitourinary
 - Abdominal wall injuries
 - Hernias
 - Infections
- 7. Psychiatric
 - Acute stress reaction
 - Anxiety/depression
 - Burnout
 - Post-traumatic stress disorder
 - Suicidal ideation
- 8. Systemic
 - Electrocutation
 - Frostbite
 - Heat illness
 - Infectious diseases and blood-borne pathogens
- 9. Trauma
 - Gunshot wounds
 - Motor vehicle collisions
 - Multi-system injuries
 - Sexual violence

D. IMMUNIZATIONS AND TRAVEL MEDICINE

1. Standard immunizations
 - COVID

- Hepatitis B
- Influenza
- Meningitis
- MMR
- Polio
- Td/Tdap
- Varicella
- 2. Travel immunizations
 - Hepatitis A
 - Rabies
 - Typhoid
 - Yellow fever/Japanese encephalitis
- 3. Travel medications
 - Malaria
 - Traveler's diarrhea
- 4. Pre-travel screening and post-travel follow-up
- 5. Environmental controls/education
 - DEET/permethrin
 - Food safety
 - Tents
 - Travel safety
 - Water purification

E. OCCUPATIONAL CLEARANCE EXAMINATIONS

1. Pre-employment baseline evaluations
 - Electrocardiography
 - Exercise tolerance testing
 - Health risk assessment (medications, health history)
 - Hearing conservation program-audiogram
 - Laboratory studies
 - Drug and alcohol screening
 - Titers
 - Tuberculosis screening
 - Urinalysis
 - OSHA respirator questionnaire and fit testing

- Physical demand analysis
- Psychological evaluations
- Spirometry
- Vision testing
- X-ray studies
 - Chest
- 2. Routine examinations
 - DOT
 - Hearing requirements
 - Vision requirements
 - Firefighter
 - Hazardous drug questionnaire
 - Hearing conservation program
 - OSHA respirator questionnaire and fit testing, spirometry
 - Police
 - Other
 - Border patrol
 - Childcare worker
 - ROTC/military
 - Tower climber
- 3. Fitness for duty
 - Acute/chronic illness
 - Allergies
 - Cardiac disorders
 - Diabetes
 - Seizure disorders
 - Behavioral health
 - Burnout
 - Dementia
 - Homicide
 - Mood disorders
 - Psychosis
 - Suicide
 - Workplace violence
 - Substance use/disorders and impairment
 - Sleep disorders
 - Shift work
 - Sleep apnea