

NATIONAL BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
3930 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19104



Announcement of the

**1973
Certifying
Examination
for
Primary Care
Physician's
Assistants**

**Wednesday
December 12, 1973**

This certifying examination has been designed to assess the competence of the assistant to the primary care physician in carrying out a variety of health care functions. These functions have been identified as ones that the primary care physician's assistant should definitely be skilled in performing, and are summarized on the last page of this brochure.

Examination Schedule

The certifying examination scheduled for December 12, 1973 will consist of a one-day written examination.

Morning Session

A multiple-choice examination designed to assess the candidate's knowledge and skill in applying knowledge related to clinical material presented in printed and pictorial form.

Afternoon Session

A programmed testing technique involving simulated clinical cases in adult and pediatric medicine designed to assess the candidate's skill in gathering pertinent information about patients and in making appropriate management decisions.



Eligibility Requirements

An individual is eligible to register for the first administration of this examination if he has graduated or will have graduated by January 31, 1974 from:

1. A program that has been approved by the AMA Council on Medical Education for training assistants to the primary care physician.
2. A program that has received preliminary approval by the AMA Council on Medical Education for training assistants to the primary care physician.
3. A program that has been funded by the Bureau of Health Manpower Education (not included in the above categories) that trains assistants to the primary care physician.
4. A program of at least four months' duration within a nationally accredited school of medicine or nursing that trains pediatric or family nurse practitioners.

Registration Procedures

1. The deadline date for receipt of applications for the certifying examination for primary care physician's assistants is October 10, 1973. (The official application form accompanies this announcement.)
2. A passport-type photograph of the registrant must be affixed to the form provided.
3. The fee for this examination is \$55. Check or money order for this amount, made payable to the National Board of Medical Examiners must accompany the application.
4. Detailed instructions are included with the application.

Withdrawals and Cancellations

Any candidate who is registered for the examination, and who fails to appear, forfeits his fee unless his absence is due to illness or some other reason acceptable to the Board, or unless he cancels his registration two weeks in advance of the examination date.

If a candidate cancels or fails to appear for the examination, he must reapply at the time he wishes to register for a subsequent administration.

Examination Results

Candidates will be advised of examination results during the latter part of February. In the event of failure on the December examination, candidates may apply for reexamination at the time of the second administration that is expected to be held in late 1974. Applications and announcement of the next administration of the certifying examination will be sent to any candidate who fails the December examination.

Certification

Candidates who have successfully passed the certifying examination for primary care physician's assistants and who have graduated from a training program falling into one of the four categories for eligibility will receive certification by the National Board as of the date of satisfactory completion of the training program.

Choice of Examining Center

A list of provisional examining centers for December 12, 1973 is given on the next page.

Applications are processed in the order in which they are received. If the center selected is filled when the application is received, the candidate will be assigned to the nearest center with available space. He will be advised of such a revised assignment and will be given the opportunity to seek an alternative.

At the close of registration, in the event that too few candidates have requested a given center, it may be necessary to cancel the 1973 examination in that center. Candidates will then be assigned to the nearest center with available space.

**Provisional Center List
Primary Care Physician's Assistant
Certifying Examination, December 12, 1973**

NORTHEAST

- Connecticut**
302 New Haven
- Delaware**
303 Newark
- Maine**
349 Augusta
304 Portland
- Massachusetts**
305 Boston
- New Hampshire**
311 Hanover
- New Jersey**
313 New Brunswick
- New York**
314 Albany
316 Buffalo
318 New York City
319 Rochester
328 Stony Brook
- Pennsylvania**
331 Hershey
332 Philadelphia
339 Pittsburgh

SOUTHEAST

- Alabama**
380 Birmingham
- District of Columbia**
384 Washington, D.C.
- Florida**
388 Gainesville
415 Lake Worth
- Georgia**
394 Atlanta
395 Augusta
- Maryland**
400 Baltimore

SOUTHEAST (CONT.)

- Mississippi**
403 Jackson
- North Carolina**
407 Durham
408 Winston-Salem
- South Carolina**
409 Charleston
- Virginia**
401 Charlottesville
- West Virginia**
402 Elkins
404 Morgantown

CENTRAL

- Arkansas**
430 Little Rock
- Illinois**
433 Chicago
- Indiana**
442 Indianapolis
- Iowa**
444 Iowa City
- Kansas**
479 Wichita
- Kentucky**
446 Lexington
480 Hyden
- Michigan**
449 Detroit
481 Kalamazoo
- Minnesota**
452 Minneapolis
482 Rochester
- Missouri**
455 Kansas City
456 St. Louis
- North Dakota**
460 Grand Forks

CENTRAL (CONT')

- Ohio**
462 Cincinnati
483 Cleveland
- Oklahoma**
470 Oklahoma City
484 Tulsa
- Tennessee**
472 Memphis
473 Nashville
- Wisconsin**
485 Marshfield

SOUTHWEST & WEST

- Arizona**
558 Phoenix
513 Tucson
- California**
515 Davis
519 Los Angeles
517 Loma Linda
529 San Francisco
527 Stanford
- Colorado**
536 Denver
- Montana**
559 Bozeman
- New Mexico**
560 Gallup
- Texas**
541 Dallas
543 Galveston
548 San Antonio
561 Sheppard AFB
- Utah**
550 Salt Lake City
- Washington**
551 Seattle

Summary of Health Care Functions

The certifying examination is designed to assess the candidate's knowledge and skill in applying knowledge related to health care functions that have been identified as ones that the primary care physician's assistant should be skilled in performing. The following list is to be viewed as a guide to the content of the examination. It is not intended to be specific or all-inclusive.

1. screen patients to determine need for medical attention
2. review patient records to determine health status
3. follow a protocol for data gathering and appropriate management and treatment of patients being seen for the initial evaluation of a problem or the follow-up evaluation of a previously diagnosed and stabilized condition.
4. take a patient history
5. perform a physical examination
6. perform developmental screening examination on children
7. record pertinent patient data
8. prepare patient summaries
9. initiate requests for commonly performed initial laboratory studies
10. collect specimens for and carry out commonly performed blood, urine, and stool analyses, and cultures
11. identify normal and abnormal findings on history, physical examination, and commonly performed laboratory studies

12. initiate appropriate evaluation and emergency management for emergency situations. (e.g. cardiac arrest, respiratory distress, injuries, burns, hemorrhage)
13. perform clinical procedures such as:
 - a. venipuncture
 - b. intradermal tests
 - c. electrocardiogram
 - d. spirometry
 - e. care and suturing of minor lacerations
 - f. casting and splinting
 - g. control of external hemorrhage
 - h. application of dressings and bandages
 - i. administration of medications, intravenous fluids, and transfusion of blood or blood components
 - j. removal of superficial foreign bodies
 - k. cardio-pulmonary resuscitation
 - l. audiometry screening
 - m. visual screening
 - n. carry out aseptic and isolation techniques
14. provide counselling and instruction regarding common patient problems.