



American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc.

A Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)

SUBSPECIALTY CONTINUING CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION IN ADDICTION PSYCHIATRY

The American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc. (ABPN) is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to serving the public interest and the professions of psychiatry and neurology by promoting excellence in practice through certification and continuing certification processes.

The ABPN designs and develops the addiction psychiatry continuing certification examination to assess the knowledge and reasoning skills needed to provide high quality patient care in the broad domain of the subspecialty.

Candidates should use the detailed content outline as a guide to prepare for the examination. Please note that no single examination tests everything on the content outline.

For more information, please contact us at questions@abpn.org or visit our website at www.abpn.org.



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SUBSPECIALTY CONTINUING CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION IN ADDICTION PSYCHIATRY Content Blueprint

Number of questions: 150		
01.	Scientific foundations of addiction psychiatry	9–11%
02.	Evaluation	23–27%
03.	Treatment	55–65%
04.	Systems-based practice	4–6%
TOTAL		100%

Note: A more detailed content outline is shown below.



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SUBSPECIALTY CONTINUING CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION IN ADDICTION PSYCHIATRY Content Outline

01. Scientific foundations of addiction psychiatry
A. Epidemiology
B. Genetics
C. Behavior
D. Pharmacology
1. Alcohol
2. Sedatives, hypnotics, anxiolytics
3. Cocaine and stimulants
4. Opioids
5. Cannabinoids
6. Tobacco/nicotine
7. PCP, hallucinogens, and inhalants
8. Caffeine
9. Other
E. Neurobiology
F. Other
02. Evaluation
A. Screening
B. Comprehensive assessment and diagnosis
1. DSM diagnostic criteria
2. Signs and symptoms of intoxication and withdrawal
a. Alcohol
b. Sedatives, hypnotics, anxiolytics
c. Cocaine and stimulants
d. Opioids
e. Cannabinoids
f. Tobacco/nicotine
g. PCP, hallucinogens, and inhalants
h. Caffeine
i. Other
3. Comorbidity
a. Psychiatric
b. Medical



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4.	Other
C.	Laboratory testing
D.	Psychometric testing
03.	Treatment
A.	Pharmacotherapy
1.	Management of intoxication (toxicity) and withdrawal
a.	Alcohol
b.	Sedatives, hypnotics, anxiolytics
c.	Cocaine and stimulants
d.	Opioids
e.	Cannabinoids
f.	Tobacco/nicotine
g.	PCP, hallucinogens, and inhalants
h.	Other
2.	Relapse prevention
a.	Alcohol
b.	Opioids
c.	Tobacco/nicotine
d.	Other
3.	Management of co-occurring conditions
a.	Psychiatric
b.	Medical (including pain, HIV)
B.	Psychotherapy and psychosocial treatment
1.	Brief intervention
2.	Motivational enhancement
3.	Cognitive behavior therapy
4.	Twelve-step facilitation
5.	Behavioral/contingency management
6.	Couples, family, and network therapies
7.	Mutual help approaches
8.	Other
C.	Other
04.	Systems-based practice
A.	Special populations
1.	Children and adolescents
2.	Geriatric
3.	Women (including pregnancy issues)



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4.	Professionals (e.g., health care workers, athletes, pilots)
5.	Ethnic and cultural groups
6.	Gay and lesbian
7.	Homeless
8.	Forensics/incarcerated patients
9.	Other
B.	Legal issues (e.g., laws, regulations)
C.	Public health and prevention, and public policy
D.	Health services
E.	Ethics and professionalism (e.g., privacy and confidentiality)