



410.581.6222
877.776.2200
Fax: 410.581.6228

www.bocusa.org

10451 Mill Run Circle, Suite 200
Owings Mills, Maryland 21117

How to Use the Detailed Content Outline to Prepare for the BOC Pedorthist (BOCPD) Multiple Choice Examination

The ***BOC Pedorthist Detailed Content Outline*** is a schedule of the tasks involved and the domains of the practice of a Pedorthist. The Detailed Content Outline is derived from a Job Analysis, a careful description of the tasks performed by practitioners. A randomized national survey of Pedorthists is conducted by BOC every five years to determine what changes, if any, have occurred in the practice. From this survey the Detailed Content Outline is updated and the exam questions revised.

Each question on the exam is based on this outline. In fact, ***none*** of the BOC certification exams can contain any question, case simulation or demonstration that cannot be directly linked to a specific item in the relevant Detailed Content Outline. Therefore, to prepare to take the exam, we suggest that you study this Outline and especially consider what the underlying knowledge, skills and abilities you need to be able to serve patients.

The format of the exam is such that it does not follow this outline in order; rather, questions regarding outline sections are placed randomly throughout the exam. In order to understand how to explain the purpose/objective of footwear or orthosis or foot prostheses, as examples, one has to comprehend the relevant anatomy, the pathophysiology, the material and engineering sciences, etc.

A practitioner must be a complete instrument for patient care, providing maximum benefit, not just fabrication, adjustment or placement. This, then, is the basis for the examinations that test the knowledge, skills and abilities of a competent practitioner. It is not sufficient just to know how to fit a patient with a device – your patient has to be able to benefit from your service. You will not get all your preparation at one school (e.g. NCOPE-approved schools)--you will learn the fundamentals and then sharpen them during patient care practice. To study, review your original training materials. Bring your patient experience into play; it is indispensable.

Specifics of the BOC Pedorthist Detailed Content Outline are on the back.

Performance Levels

There are three Performance Levels, or levels of difficulty, for exam questions: Recall (RE), Application (AP), and Analysis/Evaluation (AN).

RECALL (RE) questions require only the recognition of specific factual information, which generally does not vary, relative to the situation.

APPLICATION (AP) questions require the comprehension, interpretation or manipulation of concepts or data, in which the response or outcome is situationally dependent, but not overly complex (i.e., application of knowledge which varies based on patient and environmental characteristics).

ANALYSIS/EVALUATION (AN) questions require integration or synthesis of a variety of concepts or elements to solve a specific problem situation (i.e., evaluating and rendering judgments on complex problems with many situational variables).

Now, examine the Detailed Content Outline. Note the three **bold face numbers on the top right** of the Outline: these indicate the number of questions in each section by performance level. The total number of questions, by performance level is summed at the end of the Content Outline (i.e., 24 RE, 60 AP, 16 AN, total 100 questions). Note the majority of questions (60) are at the Application (AP) level, which is testing your understanding, analysis and management of concepts or data from a patient in a particular situation. Both AP and AN questions require clinical patient care experience.