

## Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Board Certification Examination

### Test Content Outline

Effective Date: September 13, 2023

There are 175 questions on this examination. Of these, 150 are scored questions and 25 are pretest questions that are not scored. Pretest questions are included to determine how well these questions will perform before they are used on the scored portion of the examination. The pretest questions cannot be distinguished from those that will be scored, so it is important for a candidate to answer all questions. A candidate's score, however, is based solely on the 150 scored questions. Performance on pretest questions does not affect a candidate's score.

This Test Content Outline identifies the areas that are included on the examination. The percentage and number of questions in each of the major categories of the scored portion of the examination are also shown. *Note: The examples in parentheses are not all-inclusive and do not indicate importance.*

Category	Content Domain	Number of Questions	Percentage
I	Patient Assessment Process	36	24%
II	Plan of Care	90	60%
III	Professional Practice	24	16%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>150</b>	<b>100%</b>

This examination will be developed in consideration of the below secondary classifications, whenever applicable.

Body Systems	Drug Agents	Age Group
1. Cardiovascular	1. Analgesic	1. Adolescent
2. Endocrine	2. Anti-Infective	2. Young Adult (including late adolescent and emancipated minors)
3. Gastrointestinal	3. Cardiovascular	3. Adult
4. Genitourinary and Renal	4. Endocrine	4. Older Adult
5. Head, Eyes, Ears, Nose, and Throat	5. Eye, Ear, Nose, and Skin	5. Frail Elderly
6. Hematopoietic	6. Gastrointestinal	
7. Immune	7. Genitourologic	
8. Integumentary	8. Musculoskeletal	
9. Musculoskeletal	9. Neurological	
10. Neurological	10. Psychiatric	
11. Psychiatric	11. Reproductive	
12. Reproductive	12. Respiratory	
13. Respiratory		

## **I Patient Assessment Process**

### **A. Assessment**

*Knowledge of:*

1. Differentiation between normal and pathophysiological changes

*Skill in:*

2. Comprehensive health history collection (eg, medical, surgical, medication, family/genetic)
3. Physical examination
4. Functional assessment (eg, ADLs, IADLs, DME)
5. Psychosocial assessment (eg, health literacy, lifestyle, nutritional, caregiver/support, cultural, spiritual)
6. Cognitive and mental health assessment (eg, screening tools)

## **II Plan of Care**

### **A. Diagnosis**

*Knowledge of:*

1. Evidence-based practice and treatment guidelines
2. Effects of development and aging on physiology and pathophysiology

*Skill in:*

3. Synthesis of assessment findings and differential diagnosis development
4. Laboratory and diagnostic test selection and results interpretation

### **B. Pharmacology**

*Knowledge of:*

1. Effects of development and aging on pharmacology (eg, Beers criteria, physiological considerations)
2. Pharmacogenetics (eg, responses to medications)
3. Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics

*Skill in:*

4. Pharmacotherapeutic decision making
5. Pharmacology management (eg, reconciliation, monitoring, interactions, side effects, polypharmacy, deprescribing, allergies)

### **C. Implementation and Evaluation**

*Knowledge of:*

1. Behavioral change (eg, motivational interviewing, models, theories)
2. Advance care planning

3. Palliative and hospice care

*Skill in:*

4. Non-pharmacologic intervention selection (eg, procedures, referrals)
5. Chronic condition management (eg, consideration of comorbidities and treatment)
6. Education and counseling (eg, diagnosis, prognosis, treatment options)
7. Reassessment and modification of treatment plan

### **III Professional Practice**

#### **A. Professional Practice**

*Knowledge of:*

1. Scope of practice and regulatory guidelines
2. Legal and ethical issues (eg, consent, assent, privacy, advocacy, abuse, exploitation, neglect)
3. Environmental and social determinants of health, including principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion
4. Health promotion and disease prevention (eg, population health, epidemiology)

*Updated: August 29, 2025*