

Test Content Outline
Effective Date: June 11, 2017

Ambulatory Care Nursing
Board Certification Examination

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 used 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.

Category	Domains of Practice	No. of Questions	Percent
I	Clinical Practice	76	50.67%
II	Communication	34	22.67%
III	Professional Role	9	6.00%
IV	Systems/Legal and Regulatory	16	10.67%
V	Education	15	10.00%
Total		150	100.00%



I. Clinical Practice (50.67%)

A. Assessment, Medication Management, and Disease Process/Pathophysiology

Knowledge of:

1. Medication management (e.g., reconciliation, interactions, education, polypharmacy)
2. Evidence-based practice
3. Disease process/pathophysiology

Skills in:

4. Assessment (including triage, psychosocial)
5. Nursing diagnosis (e.g., critical thinking, nursing process)

B. Protocols, Algorithms, Pathways, and Telehealth

Knowledge of:

1. Protocols, algorithms, pathways (e.g., clinical practice guidelines)

Skills in:

2. Performing telehealth (e.g., telephone triage, videoconferencing, telemedicine)

C. Plan of Care, Care Management, and Outcome Evaluation

Knowledge of:

1. Care management (e.g., case management, care coordination, resources)
2. Plan of care (e.g., individual/family/community, self-care management)
3. Outcome evaluation (e.g., timelines, treat to target)

D. Technical and Clinical Skills

Skills in:

1. Operating medical equipment (e.g., glucometers, defibrillators, nebulizer machines, electrocardiogram machines)
2. Maintaining medical equipment (e.g., daily crash cart checks, cleaning scopes/instruments)
3. Performing clinical tasks (e.g., procedures, point of care testing, wound care)
4. Accessing reliable information (e.g., identification of sources, evaluating information, querying information)

II. Communication (22.67%)

A. Interpersonal Skills and Customer Services

Skills in:

1. Establishing therapeutic relationships (e.g., active listening, motivational interviewing)
2. Developing/maintaining customer service excellence (e.g., conflict resolution, managing expectations, service recovery, de-escalation skills)

B. Communication Barriers and Cultural Competency

Knowledge of:

1. Cultural competency (e.g., religious beliefs/traditions)
2. Communication barriers (e.g., language, technology, cognitive/sensory disabilities, health literacy)

C. Documentation and Informatics

Skills in:

1. Documenting accurately and appropriately (e.g., approved abbreviations, timeliness)
2. Utilizing informatics (e.g., electronic medical record, telecommunication, video equipment, e-learning, email, emerging technologies)

III. Professional Role (6.00%)

A. Professional Development and Leadership

Knowledge of:

1. Leadership (e.g., leadership styles, project management, benchmarking, retention and recruitment)
2. Professional development (e.g., individual and staff, peer review, mentoring, coaching, self-assessment, certification)

B. Ethics and Advocacy

Knowledge of:

1. Ethics (e.g., end-of-life care, advance directives, whistleblowing, patient bill-of-rights)

Skills in:

2. Advocating for patients, families, and staff (e.g., referrals and resources, employee assistance program)

C. Scope of Practice

Knowledge of:

1. Scope of practice (e.g., delegation of tasks, assignments)

D. Scientific Research

Skills in:

1. Participating in scientific research

IV. Systems/Legal and Regulatory (10.67%)

A. Legal and Regulatory

Knowledge of:

1. Legal issues (e.g., risk management, patient complaints, failure to act)
2. Compliance (e.g., regulatory, coding, competency validation)
3. Standards of care (e.g., accreditation and regulatory standards)

B. Systems

Knowledge of:

1. Operations (e.g., scheduling, clinical workflow, policies and procedures, biohazard waste management)
2. Quality management (e.g., database registries, performance improvement, near miss, root cause analysis)
3. Reimbursement (e.g., CMS, coding, prior authorization, advanced beneficiary notice)

Skills in:

4. Applying fiscal management (e.g., budgeting, resources, staffing)
5. Monitoring for safety and security (e.g., incident reporting, disaster training, safety rounds)

V. Education (10.00%)

A. Teaching and Learning Principles

Knowledge of:

1. Teaching and learning principles (e.g., readiness to learn, techniques, evaluation, care-based learning)
2. Modes of educational delivery (e.g., face-to-face, teach-back, electronic learning)

B. Health Promotion and Disease/Injury Prevention

Knowledge of:

1. Consumer relations (e.g., patient/family orientation, community resources, information education)
2. Health promotion and disease/injury prevention (e.g., lifestyle change, levels of preventions)

Skills in:

3. Practicing population care management (e.g., outreach, health fairs, anticipatory guidance, shared medical appointments)