



American
Board of
Psychiatry and
Neurology, Inc.

2010 Child Neurology Certification Examination

Format

The 2010 Child Neurology Certification examination is comprised of two sections: one that is delivered in a morning session and one that is delivered in an afternoon session. Both sessions are three-and-a-half hours in duration with a mandatory fifty-five minute scheduled break in between the morning and afternoon sessions, followed by five minutes on-screen instructions, totaling eight hours for the entire examination.

Morning Session:

The morning session is comprised of 210 items that are derived from the Child Neurology A (Basic Neuroscience) and Child Neurology B (Behavioral Neurology, Cognition, and Psychiatry) content outlines. These items are all stand-alone, multiple-choice items, and as such, all will be available to be flagged for review.

Afternoon Session:

The afternoon session is comprised of 210 items that are derived from the Child Neurology C (Clinical Neurology) content outline. The majority of the items in this section are linked to a common case that may be presented in a video clip, which may vary in length from 30 seconds to one and a half minutes, or text vignette that utilizes associated images (i.e., CT, MRI, or EMG scans). The video clip items require the use of headphones to be provided by Pearson VUE. This means that a single case may have as many as five or six associated items. Because of this format, answers to already-answered items may be revealed in subsequent questions; hence, there will be no review of items in the afternoon session. Once you have answered a given item, you will not be able to go back to that item or flag that item for review. Additionally, you will be forced to answer the displayed item before moving on to the next item.

The content outlines may be obtained at: <http://www.abpn.com>. Sample items may be viewed on the candidates' page at: <http://www.abpn.com>.

Scoring

In addition to subtest scores, candidates will receive a total percent correct score (percentage of items answered correctly, rounded to the nearest whole number). An acceptable level of performance must be achieved on the total score to pass the examination. The standards are not norm-referenced; there is no predefined passing rate for any group of candidates.

No candidate is expected to obtain a perfect score. However, in the opinion of the ABPN, each candidate should have some degree of familiarity with the subject matter of each question. Even though the candidate may be in doubt about the correct answer to a particular question, he or she should answer every question. This will increase the likelihood that the candidate's examination score will reflect the breadth of his or her knowledge of the field. There is no penalty for guessing.

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