



AMERICAN BOARD OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY, INC.

SUBSPECIALTY CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION
IN GERIATRIC PSYCHIATRY
2010 Content Outline

200 questions	Percent
I. Aspects of aging—developmental, psychological, and social	7.5%
A. Life course—developmental and transitional events, e.g., retirement, death of a spouse	
B. Demography and epidemiology	
C. Culture and gender	
D. Family and community, e.g., caregiver stress, support networks	
E. Ethics and forensics	
F. Economics and health policy, e.g., reimbursement, service systems, personal finances	
II. Aspects of aging—biological	7.5%
A. Neuroanatomy and neuropathology	
B. Biochemistry and neuropharmacology	
C. Anatomy and physiology	
III. Psychopathology and psychiatric diagnosis	20%
A. Psychiatric disorders as listed in <i>DSM-IV-TR</i>	
1. Cognitive disorders	
2. Substance-related disorders	
3. Schizophrenia/other psychotic disorders	
4. Mood disorders	
5. Anxiety disorders	
6. Somatoform disorders	
7. Sexual disorders	
8. Adjustment disorders	
9. Personality disorders	
10. Personality change due to a general medical condition	
11. Suicide, pathological grief, and other diagnostic issues	
IV. Diagnostic methods	10%
A. Interviewing and history taking (patients, family, staff)	
B. Mental status examination, including quantitative	



AMERICAN BOARD OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY, INC.

	cognitive screening	
C.	Functional assessment, e.g., activities of daily living, instrumental activities of daily living	
D.	Psychological and neuropsychological testing, including normative and pathologic changes	
E.	Neurologic examination	
F.	Clinical laboratory testing	
G.	Structural and functional imaging	
V.	Treatment	35%
A.	Pharmacology and psychopharmacology, e.g., pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, drug interactions	
B.	Electroconvulsive therapy	
C.	Psychotherapy	
	1. Individual therapies	
	2. Family and couples	
	3. Group	
D.	Interdisciplinary approaches	
E.	Setting-specific treatment issues, e.g., nursing homes, day care, special care units, hospital	
F.	Special management problems, e.g., wandering, use of restraints, dangerous/ assaultive behavior	
VI.	Neuropsychiatric and neurologic aspects of aging	10%
A.	Normative changes, e.g., memory, gait, information processing, motor and sensory function	
B.	Clinical disorders, e.g., degenerative diseases, movement disorders, vascular diseases, head trauma, metabolic encephalopathies, seizure disorders, brain tumors, sleep disorders, headaches	
C.	Behavioral and personality alterations associated with structural pathology	
D.	Mental retardation in the elderly	
VII.	General medicine/psychiatry interface	10%
A.	Psychiatric disorders due to general medical conditions	
B.	Complications of medical treatment for systemic disease, e.g., side effects of medication, drug interactions	
C.	Psychological factors affecting physical illness	
TOTAL		100%