



Board Certification in Advanced Diabetes Management (BC-ADM)

Summary Report Prepared on April 24, 2012

History

Board Certification – Advanced Diabetes Management (BC-ADM) is been a recognized advanced practice certification examination since 2001 under the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). The American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE) entered a joint sponsorship with ANCC from the inception and implementation of the examination from 2001 to 2010. The BC-ADM examination has been fully accredited as a national certifying examination since 2001 while under ANCC and then with ANCC/AADE.

This examination was developed and administered as four separate examinations to clinical nurse specialists, nurse practitioners, registered dietitians and registered pharmacists. In 2009, a new combined examination was designed where it was converted into a combined examination for all four roles. As a result of the new combined exam format, ANCC conducted a comprehensive Logical Job Analysis for Advanced Diabetes Management was conducted on February 25-27, 2008.

Any applicant who obtained initial BC-ADM sat for the examination under the authority and standards of ANCC/AADE. When the examination was combined in 2009, the following comprehensive role delineation study was performed on the roles of CNS, NPs, RDs and RPhs. In each role, including the NPs role, it was found to be appropriate and applicable to each role.

The comprehensive Role Delineation Study was conducted on the current BC-ADM examination on behalf of the American Nurses Credentialing Center and the American Association of Diabetes Educator by Parsa International, Inc. based in Annandale, Virginia.

Description

The content of the BC-ADM certification examination is an advanced practice examination in diabetes care that focuses on advanced clinical diabetes management across the life span of infants to older adults. It includes glycemic abnormalities of types 1, type 2 and gestational diabetes and impaired glucose tolerance. It addresses individuals, families and /or support systems, groups, and communities. In addition it assess whether or not the clinical nurse specialist exam candidate has knowledge and skills in performing complete and/or focused assessments; and can recognize and prioritize complex data to identify needs of patients with diabetes.

The depth of knowledge and competence in advance clinical practice and diabetes skills affords an increased complexity of decision-making, thereby expanding the transition discipline-specific practice. Therefore the examination includes research, publication, mentoring and continuing professional development skills.

Role Delineation Survey Study

Survey items were developed to reflect the test content outline. Survey forms were administered to samples that included clinical nurse specialists, **nurse practitioner**, registered dietitians and registered pharmacists. A total of 2,853 forms were sent out with 804 forms being completed and returned yielding a return rate of 28%.

Specifically, test content includes knowledge and skills in the following areas:

- Clinical practice
- Assessment
- Diagnosis/problem identification
- Planning and intervention
- Collaboration
- Clinical coordination and case management
- Consultant role
- Health promotion and health education
- Research
- Leadership and professional development
- Organization issues
- Continuous quality improvement
- Legal and ethical issues
- Scope and standards of practice
- Professional development
- Regulatory, accreditation, recognition and reimbursement programs

Content and Exam Domains

The BC-ADM consists of 175 multiple choice items of which 150 are scored and 25 are experimental items. The examination includes the following domains:

The Domains of Practice includes the following:

Foundational Knowledge:

Physiology: normal metabolism, pathophysiology of diabetes, comorbidities, associated conditions and complications.

Nutrition: normal and abnormal digestion, absorption and fuel metabolism

Behavioral/Mental Health: normal and abnormal coping mechanisms, behavioral change theory and psychiatric/mental illness issues related to diabetes

Pharmacology: pharmacokinetics, mechanism of action, adverse effects and contradictions and drug interactions.

Assessment and Data Collection:

AADE7 Self-Care behaviors, normal physical examination findings, conducting therapeutic interventions, performing comprehensive health history and physical examination and conducting health care resource assessment

Diagnosis/Problem Identification:

Knowledge of screening and diagnostic criteria for diabetes, diagnostic criteria for complications and comorbidities of diabetes and clinical practice guidelines. Skills in synthesizing assessment and diagnostic findings, formulating differential diagnoses/problem lists, prioritizing problems related to multiple diagnoses and documenting diagnoses.

Planning and Intervention:

Using pharmacotherapy options and interventions with knowledge of clinical practice guidelines and prescribing information.

Skills in initiating and adjusting medication therapies and using non-pharmacological and lifestyle options and interventions

Skills in medical nutrition therapy, exercise prescription, mental health issues, weight management and self-monitoring

Evaluation:

Knowledge and skills in expected treatment results, possible adverse outcomes, regulatory guidelines, analyzing complex data, monitoring and interpreting patient outcomes, applying research findings and modifying plans of care.

Public and Community Health:

Knowledge and skills in public health trends, national health initiatives, prevention strategies and programs, cultural competency; using local, state and national databases for trending, conducting a population community assessment; performing program planning, implementation, evaluation and influencing public policy.

Quality Improvement and Research:

Knowledge and skills in identifying opportunities for improvement in process or outcomes, formulating plausible research question; conduction a literature search, critiquing the appropriateness of data sources Knowledge of validity and reliability, research design and statistical tests, determining significance, collection and organization of data and analyzing results.

Leadership and Professional Practice:

Knowledge of healthcare delivery systems, building teams and partnerships Law of protecting individuals with disabilities, conflict of interest and abuse issues. Incorporating ethical principles into practice Knowledge of regulatory agencies.

Current / New BC-ADM Examination for 2011:

The American Association of Diabetes Educators has obtained sole ownership of the BC-ADM (Board Certification- Advanced Diabetes Management). The transfer of ownership took place in January 2010. At that time we held the initial examination so that a new psychometric, item writing, etc. could be conducted on the examination. AADE hired Castle World Wide and our test vendor. Information on the new test is included in this report on the following:

How the exam is being reviewed for content validity, cultural sensitivity, scoring
Information on psychometric performance and evaluation process and passing standard
Maintenance on examination security

Registered Nurse Eligibility Criteria:

1. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or the professional, Legally-recognized equivalent in another country.
2. Hold a master's, post-master's, or doctoral degree from a nursing program accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC), or the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). A minimum of 500 faculty supervised clinical hours in the CNS or NP advanced diabetes management role and specialty must be included in the educational program.
3. Within 48 months prior to applying for this certification exam, complete a minimum of 500 clinical practice hours in advanced diabetes management.

RECERTIFICATION

Certification renewal must be completed every five (5) years to maintain your certification. Castle will send out reminders by email and U.S. mail six (6) months prior to certification expiration. It is the candidate's responsibility to update Castle with any changes in contact information. You must submit your certification renewal application no later than 45 days prior to your certification expiration.

Recertification Requirements

Professional Development *plus* Practice Hours:

- Hold a current, active RN, license in a state or territory of the U.S. or the professional, legally-recognized equivalent in another country;
- Hold a current BC-ADM certification;
- Complete the professional development requirements for your certification specialty (must be completed within the five (5) years preceding your renewal application submission);
- Complete a minimum of 1,000 practice hours in your certification role and population/specialty (Must be completed within the five (5) years preceding your renewal application submission);
- Pay the renewal fee.

(Leslie E. Kolb, RN, BSN, MBA, Director of Accreditation & Quality Initiatives April 24, 2012)