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## **Injection Skills to be Pilot-Tested on April 2010 Clinical Skills Examination**

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Two injection skills will be pilot-tested during the April 2010 administration of Part III-Clinical Skills Examination (CSE). The Pilot is designed to facilitate Board preparation for potentially including these skills in the expanded CSE that will comprise all of the restructured Part III, beginning in 2011.

Injection skills were successfully pilot-tested at one CSE site in August 2009, five CSE sites in April 2009, three CSE sites in April 2008 and one CSE site in August 2008 involving volunteer candidates. The outcomes of the April and August injection skills pilots have been analyzed and used to design the April 2010 pilot. Here are the details.

### **Why**

Injection skills are being considered for the restructured Part III at the request of multiple state licensure boards. Most state licensure boards have a practice statute that permits Doctors of Optometry to administer certain drugs by injection. The related knowledge and skills are therefore considered to be entry-level and, thus, appropriate for potential inclusion on National Board examinations.

### **What**

The two injection skills being pilot-tested in April are intravenous and intramuscular. These techniques were selected because they are viewed to be representative of the injection techniques performed by Doctors of Optometry and assessable in a standardized fashion consistent with CSE. .

[Click Here for the April 2010 Pilot Candidate Guide and links to the April 2010 Pilot Evaluation Forms](#)

### **Where and When**

Participation in the April 2010 Injection Skills Pilot **is limited to invited** volunteer candidates taking the April 2010 CSE at the following test centers: Bloomington, Boston, Ft. Lauderdale, New York, Philadelphia, Portland, St. Louis, and San Juan.

The Injection Skills Pilots will be conducted on the Sunday of the CSE weekend scheduled for each site. At the conclusion of the April administration of Part III, all 17 of the CSE Test Centers will have administered the Injection Skills Pilot.

## **How**

Selected volunteer candidates will demonstrate their skill in administering injections on a simulated arm. Please note that the National Board does not provide on-site training for volunteer candidates. Of the four simulated arms used in the August 2007 Pre-Pilot comparative study, the Life/form<sup>®</sup> arm was selected as most suitable overall to the intravenous and intramuscular injection techniques for the future pilots. The National Board will provide the simulated arms to the test center. Candidates considering participation in the Injection Skills Pilot can obtain information about this simulated arm from the following website.

<http://www.enasco.com/action/ProductDetail?sku=LF01126U>

## **Effect on Part III Scoring**

Very simply, there is no effect. During the April 2010 administration, the Pilot Injection Skills will *not* be scored as part of Part III-CSE. No points will be given for participation, and neither strong nor weak performance on the Pilot assessment will impact scoring of Part III-CSE.