

CANDIDATE INSTRUCTIONS FOR TMOD EXAMINATION

<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Total Number of Cases /Items</i>	<i>Exam Segments / Length</i>	<i>Test Time</i>
April 3, 2012	TMOD (Treatment and Management of Ocular Disease)	21 patient cases 125 items*	NDA & Tutorial / 30 minutes Examination / 3.5 hours	4 hours total (240 minutes) Actual start and end time varies based on appointment

*100 – 120 of these items are considered TMOD items

WHERE / WHEN TO REPORT

All candidates receive a verification email from Pearson VUE indicating the date, time and location of the examination. Please confirm that all the information in the verification email is correct. The TMOD examination is offered on a single date (April 3, 2012). The starting time for the exam varies depending on the appointment you scheduled with Pearson VUE. Candidates should **arrive at the test center 30 minutes prior to their scheduled appointments** to allow adequate time for the check-in procedures. Candidates who arrive more than 15 minutes after their scheduled appointment times will be denied admission and are not eligible for a refund of the exam fee.

The test center location is indicated in the verification letter; directions and telephone contact information are also included.

WHAT TO BRING TO THE EXAM

You will be required to show two (2) valid forms of personal identification. Both forms must contain your signature, must be current (not expired), and at least one form must contain your photo. In order to be considered valid, the ID must match the name used to register for the exam. Candidates who do not have proper ID will be denied admission and are not eligible for a refund of the exam fee.

No personal items may be taken into the testing room. This includes all bags, books, notes, phones, pagers, watches and wallets. Lockers are provided for storage of personal belongings. Food and drink are not permitted in the exam room.

WHAT TO EXPECT ON TEST DAY

Candidates are encouraged to log on to the Pearson VUE website at <http://www.pearsonvue.com/nbeo/> and click on the Pearson Professional Center Online Tour link. This brief video will familiarize candidates with the test center and what to expect on exam day.

During check-in at the center, candidates will have a digital photograph and palm vein scan taken (candidates assigned to test centers other than Pearson Professional Centers may have a fingerprint scan in lieu of a palm vein scan).

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING THE EXAMINATION

Information regarding the format and content of the TMOD examination may be found under the Part II (PAM / TMOD) tab on the NBEO's web site at <http://www.optometry.org>. There are also links to sample cases and items, as well as an interactive tutorial designed to familiarize candidates with the computer-based testing format. Candidates are encouraged to thoroughly review these resources prior to the exam.

TYPES OF ITEMS

The vast majority of the items (approximately 90%) are traditional multiple choice items, which consist of a stem (a question or an incomplete statement) followed by three to ten options, one of which is the correct or best response.

Approximately 10% of the items are multiple response (MR) items, which consist of a stem followed by four to ten options. An MR item will have two to four correct options and the candidate is required to select ALL of the appropriate options in order to get the item correct. The stem of the MR item indicates how many of the options are required. For example, if there are three correct options, the phrase (SELECT 3) will appear in the stem. If fewer than the required number of options is selected for an MR item, that item will show up as "incomplete" on the item review screen at the end of the session.

Since there is no penalty for choosing an incorrect response, it is to your advantage to answer all items.

RESTROOM BREAKS

Candidates are allowed restroom breaks during the examination although no additional testing time is allotted. If you need a break, raise your hand and a proctor will escort you out of the testing room. Additional instructions will be reviewed at the testing center prior to the exam.

The TMOD examination is administered in a single session, so there is no scheduled break.

IRREGULARITIES

Collaboration, pirating, copying, talking (even to oneself), and other disruptive behavior during an examination is strictly prohibited and subject to disciplinary actions.

Any Candidate found guilty of cheating on any National Board examination will receive a score of zero (0) on the examination Part(s) in which the cheating occurred, or otherwise have their score(s) canceled. Further, the Candidate may be prohibited from taking future National Board examinations.

In the event of an emergency (e.g., fire, electrical blackout, weather), Candidates are required to follow Proctor directions. Not following such directions will be considered disruptive behavior.

TEST CRITIQUE FORM

During the examination, a “Comment” button can be found on every screen. If you have a critique regarding a case, an image, or an item, click on the Comment button on that screen. This will open a Comment box, which provides a space for typing in your critique. Please be as specific as possible and substantiate your comments. For example, if you say that “For Item #5, both a and b are correct,” explain why you feel this is so. The “why” portion of the critique is the substantiation that will flag the item for re-review by the Examination Development Council, in conjunction with the item analysis statistics. Your comments will be returned to the National Board office and sent to the members of the appropriate Examination Development Council for review.

Please note you will not receive further communication regarding a critique unless it is determined that additional testing may be required as a result of the circumstances presented.

Pearson VUE will provide a brief survey for candidates to complete at the end of the examination. This survey gives you the opportunity to comment on administrative details such as facility conditions, proctors, testing center location and parking, etc.

SCORES

Once scores are released and able to be viewed online (<https://www.optometry.org/scores/>), we will immediately post an announcement on our homepage (<http://www.optometry.org/>) under “News and Notes”; scores are not available until this announcement is made. Scores will be available for Candidates to view no later than **May 23, 2012**. The NBEO anticipates that the use of computer-based testing will reduce the amount of time needed to complete the scoring and quality control processes, so it is likely that scores will be released prior to the May 23 deadline. Candidates are urged not to call the NBEO office to inquire about score release; rather, they are encouraged to check the NBEO homepage for an announcement.

COLLEGE LIAISONS

All questions regarding policies and practices of the National Board are to be directed to the College Liaison Administrator on your campus. Their names can be found on the NBEO web site (<http://www.optometry.org/liaisons.cfm>). If this person is unable to answer your questions, (s)he will contact the National Board office for clarification.

THE 2012 NATIONAL BOARD EXAMINATIONS

The 2012 National Board examinations are the culmination of many hours of work by hundreds of people, including faculty, state board members, and private practitioners who originally submitted items; Examination Development Committee members; National Board staff; and the Board of Directors. Every attempt has been made to present a relevant and valid examination based on the Content Matrix and Content Outline as published on the NBEO web site (<http://www.optometry.org/>).

Pass/fail standards on National Board examinations are set by criterion-referenced procedures. Consequently, you will be assessed on the knowledge base that you have developed, rather than on your performance compared to the other people taking the examinations at the same time.

Everyone involved in the preparation of these examinations extends their collective best wishes for your success.