



PEDIATRIC NURSING
CERTIFICATION BOARD

Primary Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Certification Exam



Detailed Content Outline

Description of the Speciality

This exam is for the pediatric nurse practitioner (PNP) who has graduated from a master's degree or DNP degree program or postgraduate certificate program for primary care pediatric nurse practitioners (PNPs). The Primary Care CPNP® role is designed to meet the specialized physiologic and psychological needs of children in the areas of health maintenance and promotion, and management of disease processes.

Credential

A PNP who passes this exam is called a **Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner** and earns the **CPNP** credential. CPNPs are entitled to use this credential as long as they actively maintain their certification. Primary care CPNPs may choose to use the credential CPNP-PC. Both are acceptable by the PNCB. Your employer or state board may have a global acronym that you are expected use in your practice.

Exam

150 scored test and 25 non-scored pre-test questions will be distributed among the exam content areas as follows (full content outline on subsequent pages). You will not be able to distinguish between scored and non-scored questions. Non-scored questions help PNCB pilot test newly written questions for future exam forms. Your total testing time is 3 hours.

Health Promotion	(30%) = 45 test questions
Assessment and Diagnosis	(35%) = 52 test questions
Management	(30%) = 45 test questions
Professional Issues	(5%) = 8 test questions

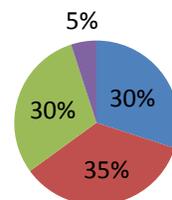
How to use this Content Outline

The CPNP-PC exam content outline (also known as a test blueprint) is an essential tool as you study for your test. It describes all of the subject areas covered by the exam and number of questions per category. PNCB certification exams are comprehensive tests, so be sure to study all areas of the content outline, including areas with which you may not be familiar.

Questions will not simply include knowledge recall. This exam tests your ability to apply knowledge and use critical thinking skills to determine **one best answer** among answer choices.

Exam Content (Scored Items)

- Health Promotion
- Assessment and Diagnosis
- Management
- Professional Issues





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**Total
%**

I. Health Promotion

30%

A. Counsel patients/caregivers about growth and development for:

1. Infants
2. Toddlers and preschoolers
3. School-age children
4. Adolescents
5. Young adults

B. Provide patients/caregivers with age/developmentally appropriate anticipatory guidance

C. Counsel patients/caregivers about age/developmentally appropriate health promotion and illness prevention

D. Counsel about age appropriate injury prevention and safety for each of the following topics:

1. Animal and insect
2. Environmental (e.g., toys, smoking, sun exposure, poisoning)
3. Risk taking behavior (e.g., piercings, tattoos, sexual activity, substance abuse)
4. Social situations (e.g., date rape, strangers, bullying, gangs, social media)
5. Sports (e.g., contact sports, swimming)
6. Supervision and childcare
7. Vehicles (e.g., automobile, boat, car seats)
8. Weapons

E. Educate caregivers to recognize early warning signs of pediatric illness or emergencies

F. Counsel about young adult concerns (e.g., homelessness, college and vocational issues)

G. Counsel about age appropriate transition to adult care

H. Counsel child/family regarding age appropriate response to death, dying, and loss

I. Educate the community regarding pediatric health and wellness

II. Assessment and Diagnosis

35%

A. Growth and Development

1. Evaluate and interpret growth parameters
2. Perform developmental surveillance
3. Perform developmental screening with standardized assessment tools



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**Total
%**

B. History and Physical Examination

1. Obtain a comprehensive health history for new patients
2. Complete an interval history for established patients
3. Review nutritional status
4. Review family medical history
5. Review social history
6. Review school performance and behavior
7. Review the use of complementary and alternative therapies
8. Assess for genetic variations
9. Perform a complete physical examination

C. Diagnostic Testing and Screening

1. Order and interpret office/clinic based screening tests
2. Order and interpret diagnostic laboratory tests
3. Order and interpret the results of diagnostic imaging tests
4. Perform behavioral and mental health screening

D. Analyzing Information

1. Integrate evidence based practice and individual findings in the plan of care
2. Perform telephone triage
3. Interpret and integrate information from consulting services in the plan of care

E. Diagnosis

1. Develop differential diagnoses
2. Establish a diagnosis based on evaluation of patient data

III. Management

30%

A. Therapeutic Interventions

1. Recommend immunizations according to guidelines
2. Prescribe pharmacologic agents (prescriptive and over-the-counter)\
3. Recommend non pharmacologic treatments for the management of symptoms (e.g., rest, ice, fluids, diet)
4. Recommend complementary and alternative therapies (e.g., herbs, nutrition supplements, biofeedback)



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B. Procedures

1. Perform the following procedures:
 - a) *Audiometry*
 - b) *Cerumen removal*
 - c) *Fluorescein staining*
 - d) *Incision and drainage*
 - e) *Rapid tests*
 - f) *Reduction of nurse maid's elbow*
 - g) *Removal of foreign body*
 - h) *Removal of sutures and staples*
 - i) *Visual acuity*
2. Performing life-saving techniques (e.g., BLS)

C. Counseling and Education

1. Educate child and caregiver regarding non-pharmacological interventions
2. Educate about prescribed pharmacological interventions
3. Educate on the recognition and treatment of allergic reaction
4. Counsel regarding the threshold for seeking follow-up care
5. Counsel about issues related to family stressors (e.g., divorce, poverty, change in caregiver)
6. Provide guidance for mental health issues
7. Provide guidance regarding substance use/abuse issues

D. Collaboration and Referral

1. Refer child and/or caregiver to community resources
2. Refer to specialist for evaluation, counseling, and/or treatment
3. Contact child protective services to report suspected maltreatment or neglect
4. Collaborate with other health professionals to meet patient care needs

E. Case Management

1. Coordinate care for children with chronic illnesses
2. Coordinate care for children with special needs
3. Coordinate care for technology dependent children

F. Evaluation and Follow-Up

1. Evaluate response to treatment plan and modify as needed
2. Identify situations that may require follow up

IV. Professional Issues

5%

A. Leadership and Professional Development

1. Serve as a clinical resource for other health care personnel
2. Develop patient education materials
3. Participate in professional organizations and activities (e.g. Legislative)
4. Participate in conflict resolution



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%**

B. Research

1. Critically evaluate research
2. Apply research findings to clinical practice
3. Participate in research

C. Business Management

1. Apply billing and coding to ensure reimbursement
2. Participate in quality monitoring and evaluation to improve clinical outcomes

D. Legal and Ethical Issues

1. Follow Federal and state legal regulations (e.g., confidentiality and consent)
2. Adhere to mandated reporting (e.g., non-accidental trauma, communicable disease)
3. Incorporate cultural sensitivity into all aspects of practice
4. Maintain ethical practices
5. Prepare and maintain materials for credentialing and privileging
6. Recognize the implication of adverse and sentinel events to practice

Exam Content: Clinical Problems

Items that address a specific condition will be represented within the exam, by volume, in the following rank order:

Rank Order	Clinical Problem
1	Eyes/Ears/Nose/Throat
2	Respiratory
3	Gastrointestinal
4	Dermatology
5	Behavioral/Psychological
6	Nutrition
7	Allergy
8	Musculoskeletal
9	Genitourinary
10	Cardiovascular
11	Neurology
12	Endocrinology
13	Hematology
14	Pain
15	Environmental Health (e.g., smoke, lead, radiation, poison)
16	Oncology
17	Genetics
18	Immunology/Rheumatology