N A E C B

NATIONAL ASTHMA EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION BOARD

CERTIFIED A S T H M A EDUCATOR **AE-C**

CANDIDATE HANDBOOK

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The National Asthma Educator Certification Board, Inc. (NAECB) is a voluntary health certifying board created in 2001 to evaluate the professional competence of asthma educators. The primary purposes of the NAECB are to prepare and conduct examinations to test the qualifications of candidates for certification as asthma educators.

The NAECB is governed by no less than 9 and no more than 17 voting members. The Directors represent the multiple disciplines involved in asthma education, counseling, and coordination of care and include at least

- one (1) behavioral scientist;
- one (1) health educator;
- one (1) nurse;
- one (1) pharmacist;
- one (1) physician; and
- one (1) respiratory therapist.

Representation is by discipline and competency, not by organizational membership. The Board of Directors also includes a Public Member and an At-Large Member.

NAECB's Mission: To promote optimal asthma management and quality of life among individuals with asthma, their families and communities, by advancing excellence in asthma education through the Certified Asthma Educator process.

Asthma Educator Definition: An asthma educator is an expert in teaching, educating, and counseling individuals with asthma and their families in the knowledge and skills necessary to minimize the impact of asthma on their quality of life. The educator possesses comprehensive, current knowledge of asthma pathophysiology and management including developmental theories, cultural dimensions, the impact of chronic illness, and principles of teaching-learning. The educator is knowledgeable about objective and subjective evaluations used to diagnose asthma and assess its control. The educator capably instructs individuals with asthma on the optimal use of medications and delivery devices particularly explaining technical concepts to individuals in language each can understand. The educator conducts thorough assessments of individuals and families to identify strengths and resources as well as negative psychological factors, the social and economic impact of asthma, educational needs, and barriers to optimal healthcare and self-management. The educator works with an individual with asthma, his/her family, and other healthcare professionals to develop, implement, monitor, and revise an asthma action plan customized to the individual's needs, environment, disease severity, and lifestyle to optimize the individual's self-management skills. The educator monitors asthma education program outcomes and recommends modifications to improve quality and effectiveness. The educator serves as a resource to the community by providing information about asthma as well as healthcare and community resources.

A primary job responsibility of the certified asthma educator is the provision of asthma coordination and counseling services.

ABOUT THIS HANDBOOK

This handbook provides information that you will need to register for the NAECB Examination, including eligibility requirements, examination policies, an examination content outline and an examination application. Be sure to keep the handbook until you take the examination; you may wish to refer to it later.

TESTING AGENCY

The NAECB has contracted with PSI Services to assist in the development, administration, scoring and analysis of its examination. PSI services also include the processing of examination applications and the reporting of scores to candidates who take the examination.

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

The NAECB does not discriminate among candidates on the basis of age, gender, race, color, religion, national origin, disability or marital status.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Individuals may be admitted to the examination based on either of the two following qualifications:

1. The following U.S.* currently licensed or credentialed active and unrestricted health care professionals may be admitted to the examination:

Physicians (MD, DO) Physician Assistants (PA-C) Nurses (RN, LPN, NP) Respiratory Therapists (RRT, CRT) Pulmonary Function Technologists (CPFT, RPFT) Pharmacists (RPh) Social Workers (CSW) Health Educators (CHES) Physical Therapist (PT) Occupational Therapist (OT)

- 2. Individuals providing direct patient asthma education, counseling or coordinating services with a minimum of 1000 hours experience in these activities.
- * Those candidates without an active U.S. license or credential will only be allowed to take this examination if they meet the criteria set forth in #2 (1000 Hours).

The NACEB will verify eligibility requirements of all candidates for the exam before the candidate can schedule a time to take the examination.



EXAMINATION ADMINISTRATION

The NAECB Examination is delivered by computer at approximately 300 PSI Test Centers geographically located throughout the United States. There are no application deadlines and a candidate who meets eligibility requirements may submit an application and fee at any time. The examination is administered by appointment only Monday through Saturday. Appointment starting times may vary by location. Candidates are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis.

EXAMINATION FEES

You must submit the appropriate fee with a complete examination application according to the following schedule. Payment may be made by credit card (VISA, MasterCard, American Express or Discover), cashier's check or money order made payable to PSI Services Inc. **Cash, company and/or personal checks are not accepted. All fees are non-refundable and non-transferrable.**

	Location of Candidate		
Application Status	United States	U.S. Territories and	
		Outside the U.S.	
First attempt	\$350	\$495	
Repeat attempt	\$250	\$395	
Recertification	\$300	\$445	

TEST CENTER LOCATIONS

A current list of Test Centers can be viewed at <u>http://schedule.psiexams.com</u>. Specific address information will be provided when a candidate schedules an examination appointment.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR CANDIDATES WITH DISABILITIES

NAECB and PSI comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and strive to ensure that no individual with a disability is deprived of the opportunity to take the examination solely by reason of that disability. PSI will provide reasonable accommodations for candidates with disabilities.

Wheelchair access is available at all established test centers. Candidates with visual, sensory or physical disabilities that would prevent them from taking the examination under standard conditions may request special accommodations and arrangements. To request special accommodations, complete the two-page REQUEST FOR SPECIAL EXAMINATION ACCOMMODATIONS form included in this handbook and submit it with your application and fee at least 45 business days prior to your desired examination date. You also may submit a request online at <u>https://psi-cdexp.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket form id=360000150872</u>. Please inform PSI of your need for special accommodations when scheduling your examination.

APPLYING FOR AN EXAMINATION

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

There are two ways to apply for the NAECB Examination after eligibility requirements are satisfied. All candidates may access the application process through the NAECB at <u>www.naecb.org</u>. Applications that are incomplete will be returned, along with any fees submitted minus a \$50 processing fee.

 Online Application/Scheduling: You may complete the application and scheduling process in one online session by visiting <u>www.naecb.org</u> and clicking Register Online. The computer screens will guide you through the complete process. After the application information and payment using a credit card (VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Discover) have been submitted, eligibility will be confirmed or denied and you will be prompted to schedule an examination appointment or supply additional eligibility information. If special accommodations are being requested, please contact PSI at 800-367-1565 ext. 6750.

OR

2. **Paper Application and Scheduling:** Complete and submit to NAECB/PSI the paper application included in this handbook and appropriate fee (credit card, cashier's check or money order). A paper application is considered complete only if all information requested is complete, legible and accurate; if the candidate is eligible for the examination; and if the appropriate fee accompanies the application.

NAECB and PSI will process the paper application and within approximately two weeks will send a confirmation notice including a website address and toll-free telephone number to contact PSI to schedule an examination appointment (see table below).

If you contact PSI by 3:00 p.m. Central Time on	Your examination may be be scheduled as early as
Monday	Wednesday
Tuesday	Thursday
Wednesday	Friday (Saturday if open)
Thursday	Monday
Friday	Tuesday

Be prepared to confirm a location and a preferred date and time for testing and to provide your Social Security number as a unique identification number. If a confirmation notice is not received within 4 weeks, contact NAECB/PSI at 833-518-7455. When you call to schedule an appointment for examination, you will be notified of the time to report to the Test Center. Please make a note of it because you will NOT receive an admission letter.

Your application is valid for one year, during which you must schedule an appointment to test on the computer and take the examination. If you fail to schedule an appointment within the one-year eligibility period, you will forfeit the application and all fees paid to take the examination. A complete application and examination fee are required to reapply for examination. You are allowed to take only the examination for which application is made and a confirmation notice is received. **Unscheduled candidates** (walk-ins) are not tested.

EXAMINATION APPOINTMENT CHANGES

You may reschedule an appointment for examination at no charge **once** by calling PSI at 833-518-7455 **AT LEAST TWO BUSINESS DAYS** prior to the scheduled examination session. (See following.)

If your Examination is scheduled on	You must contact PSI by 3:00 p.m. Central Time to reschedule the Examination by the previous
Monday	Wednesday
Tuesday	Thursday
Wednesday	Friday
Thursday	Monday
Friday	Tuesday

If you wish to reschedule an examination but fail to contact PSI at least two business days prior to the scheduled examination session, reschedule a second time, appear more than 15 minutes late for an examination and cannot be seated, or fail to report for an examination appointment, you will forfeit the application and all fees paid to take the examination. A complete application and examination fee are required to reapply for examination.

EXAMINATION CONTENT

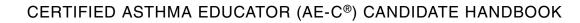
The examination is based upon four major content areas. Each of the content areas is briefly described and followed by an outline of the topics included in the area. In addition, the number of examination questions devoted to each major content area is noted. The examination is composed of 175 questions (150 scored questions, 25 pretest questions). Performance on the pretest questions does not affect your score. The pretest questions are not identified.

Each question on the examination is categorized by a cognitive level that a candidate would likely use to respond. These categories are:

- 1. <u>Recall (RE)</u>: The ability to recall or recognize specific information is required.
- 2. <u>Application (AP)</u>: The ability to comprehend, relate or apply knowledge to new or changing situations is required.
- 3. <u>Analysis (AN)</u>: The ability to analyze and synthesize information, determine solutions and/or to evaluate the usefulness of a solution is required.

Effective September 1, 2018 Major Category	Percentage of Examination Questions
1. The Asthma Condition	20%
2. Patient and Family Assessment	23%
3. Asthma Management	47%
4. Organizational Issues	10%

CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION FOR ASTHMA EDUCATORS DETAILED CONTENT OUTLINE Effective September 1, 2018 **Cognitive Levels** 5 TOTALS Analysis Applicati Recall 1. THE ASTHMA CONDITION 9 18 3 30 10 6 0 A. Pathophysiology 4 1. Teach an individual with asthma and their family using simple language by illustrating the following with appropriate educational aids a. normal pulmonary anatomy and physiology b. alterations in lung anatomy and physiology that characterize asthma e.g., inflammation bronchial hyperresponsiveness bronchial wall edema • excess mucus secretion · smooth muscle contractions c. the processes occurring in the lungs during an asthma exacerbation d. potential long-term sequelae of airway inflammation e.g., • hyperresponsiveness • airway remodeling 2. Explain terms used to characterize asthma e.g., severity • control impairment risk 3. Explain how asthma severity and its control affect lung function measurements 4. Teach an individual with asthma that asthma is a chronic airway disease with varying levels of severity and characterized by exacerbations 5. Associate signs and symptoms of asthma with its underlying pathophysiology 6. Compare asthma characteristics across age groups e.g., • infants • children adults elderly B. Factors Contributing to Acute and Chronic Asthma 5 12 3 20 1. Describe to an individual with asthma: a. differences between an allergen and an irritant b. common triggers that provoke asthma c. how triggers (e.g., allergens, irritants, exercise, infections) can be distinct and synergistic for each individual with asthma d. the role of tobacco smoke exposure (in all forms) in the development and control of asthma e. the role of family history (including genetics) and environmental factors (e.g., infections, diet, exposures) in the development of asthma f. potential occupational risks in the development and control of asthma medications (e.g., β-blockers, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, anesthetics) that may exacerbate g. asthma 2. Explain how to identify factors (e.g., allergens, pollutants) in the environment contributing to symptoms experienced by an individual with asthma: e.g., home school work place • outdoors



Effective September 1, 2018 **Cognitive Levels** Application Analysis **FOTALS** Recall 3. Identify conditions that may mimic asthma or affect asthma control: e.g., obesity obstructive sleep apnea vocal cord dysfunction • stress • depression 4. Explain how specific conditions may relate to the development and control of asthma: a. pregnancy b. gastroesophageal reflux disease c. allergic conditions e.g., rhinitis • sinusitis • eczema d. infections (e.g., sinusitis, pneumonia) e. COPD 2. ASSESSMENT OF AN INDIVIDUAL WITH ASTHMA AND FAMILY 7 20 7 34 2 A. History from an Individual with Asthma 6 2 10 1. Interview an individual about the pattern of current symptoms 2. Interview an individual about the impact of asthma on the quality of life, activity level, and social / functional roles for an individual with asthma 3. Interview an individual about signs and symptoms requiring medical care 4. Interview an individual about high-risk asthma signs and symptoms e.g., • past intubations • over-use of β-agonists "poor perceivers" · frequent use of systemic corticosteroids 5. Interview an individual about reason(s) for loss of control 6. Define an individual's asthma severity and control (e.g., impairment, risk) from available information 7. Identify the criteria for appropriate referral of an individual to an asthma specialist 8. Identify triggers (e.g., irritants, allergens) 9. Identify association of exercise with asthma symptoms 10. Identify co-morbid conditions (e.g., sinusitis, nasal polyps, gastroesophageal reflux disease, obesity, obstructive sleep apnea) 11. Solicit information about medications and alternative and complementary therapies: e.g., over-the-counter prescription medications · herbal and nutritional supplements natural food products • physical therapies (e.g., yoga, acupuncture) 12. Integrate information from the medical record into an assessment: e.g., • family, clinical and past medical history • physical examination vital signs findings · laboratory, pulmonary function, and radiological results • current and past therapies · diagnostic interpretations of objective measures



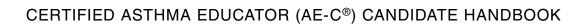
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В.		Recall	Application	Analysis	
	Physical Signs in an Individual with Asthma	1	 2	 1	+
	1. Recognize signs of an acute exacerbation e.g.,	•	-	•	
	• cyanosis				
	accessory muscle use				
	labored breathing				
	clipped speech				
	 2. Recognize the significance of auscultated breath sounds e.g., • crackles 				
	• wheezes				
	• silent chest				
	3. Direct an individual to emergent care based on current presentation				
C.	Objective Measures	2	6	2	
	 Emphasize to an individual the importance of using objective measures to identify asthma and assess control (e.g., Asthma Control Test[®], symptom monitoring) 				
	2. Explain to an individual with asthma the importance of testing for allergies and comorbidities				
	3. Explain to an individual with asthma the purpose, technique, or results for				
	a. spirometric measures				
	b. pre-bronchodilator and post-bronchodilator pulmonary function testing				
	c. pulse oximetry				
	d. exhaled nitric oxide				
	e. in vitro specific IgE or skin prick tests				
	4. Explain to an individual with asthma the purpose of bronchoprovocation (e.g., methacholine challenge, cold-air challenge, exercise challenge)				
	5. Assess whether an individual's peak flow or spirometric results are valid				
D.	Educational Needs	2	6	2	1
	1. Assess the knowledge and skills of an individual with asthma and his or her family regarding asthma and treatment				
	 Assess adherence barriers regarding self-assessment and self-management e.g., financial 				
	• cultural				
	• attitudes				
	3. Assess knowledge of potential and known triggers in an individual's home, school, or work environments				
	4. Assess readiness and ability to learn, and learning style in an individual with asthma				
	5. Assess coping strategies used by an individual with asthma and his or her family				
	6. Assess the primary source of healthcare for an individual with asthma				
	7. Assess how an individual with asthma is currently recognizing and acting on changes in his or her symptoms				
	8. Elicit goals and concerns of an individual with asthma and his or her family				
	9. Employ effective interviewing skills (e.g., ask open-ended questions, maintain eye contact)				
	 10. Conduct a multidimensional assessment of an individual with asthma and his or her family: e.g., socioeconomic 				
	 psychosocial health literacy level 				
	• culture				
	• language				
	healthcare beliefs and practices				



Effective September 1, 2018			Cognitive Le				
		Recall	Application	Analysis			
ASTHM	IA MANAGEMENT	13	32	26	7		
A. Mee	dications and Delivery Devices	5	16	4	2		
	Explain how medications are prescribed based on asthma severity and control	5		4			
5.	 Assess whether an individual with asthma correctly demonstrates techniques for inhaled delivery devices: e.g., MDI DPI soft-mist inhaler nebulizers valved holding chambers a. assembly b. administration c. cleaning d. replacing or refilling e. troubleshooting 						
6.	 Recommend devices to optimize inhaled medication delivery for an individual with asthma e.g., elderly child disabled 						
7. 8.	Summarize potential benefits and risks associated with alternative therapies and over-the-counter medications Emphasize importance of taking medications as prescribed when alternative and over-the-counter medications are available						
9.	 Discuss the purpose of a. controlling atopic diseases (e.g., immunotherapy, immunomodulating biologicals, intranasal therapies) b. preventive immunizations (e.g., influenza vaccination, pneumococcal vaccination) c. treatment of comorbid conditions d. smoking cessation medications 						

Application	s	
<	Analysis	
4	7	1
4		
		_
4	12	



ec	tive September 1, 2018	C	ognitiv	e Leve	ls
		Recall	Application	Analysis	
D.	Written Asthma Action Plan	2	6	2	
	1. Create an individualized, written asthma action plan that addresses				
	a. daily management (e.g., medications, environmental control, self-monitoring)				
	b. recognition of worsening asthma				
	c. control of worsening asthma and appropriate follow-up care				
	2. Review written asthma action plan with clinician and other team members				
	3. Clarify a clinician's instructions for an individual with asthma				
	4. Encourage integration of the written asthma action plan into childcare, home, workplace, and / or school				
	5. Instruct an individual with asthma to assess control using symptoms and peak expiratory flows				
	 Review an individual's decision-making skills and confidence for implementing his or her written asthma action plan 				
	7. Demonstrate use of peak expiratory flow equipment with return demonstration				
Ε.	Periodic Reevaluation of the Written Asthma Action Plan	0	2	1	
	1. Reassess the level of asthma control				Τ
	 Review decision-making criteria with an individual with asthma and his or her family, particularly looking for what he or she can do differently 				
	3. Reassess adherence to the written asthma action plan				
	 Revise an asthma management plan after regular reassessment based on individual goals, expectations, and outcomes 				
	5. Use monitoring tools to assist in reevaluation of asthma control: symptoms diaries and checklists				
	6. Use monitoring tools to assist in reevaluation of asthma control: peak expiratory flow results				
	7. Establish a personal best and revise zones				
	8. Coordinate follow-up care at each visit to check skill in self-monitoring and self-management				
OF	IGANIZATIONAL ISSUES	5	8	2	
Α.	Needs Assessment	1	2	0	
	1. Identify outcome indicators				
	2. Obtain information (e.g., methods, data sources) about the asthma population and healthcare providers				
	3. Use findings to make recommendations				
В.	Program Development	1	2	1	
	 Identify program resources e.g., funding facilities personnel 				
	2. Prioritize program features based on resources and characteristics of the target population (e.g., asthma severity, risk factors)				
	3. Compare evidence-based solutions to program needs				
	4. Create goals of program and specific objectives to meet those goals				
	5. Select teaching methods and settings that will best meet objectives for the target population				
	6. Critique educational materials for cost, readability, accuracy, specificity, illustrations, and source credibility				
C.	Program Implementation	1	1	0	T
	1. Ensure safety and privacy of individuals with asthma (e.g., HIPAA, FERPA, OSHA, infection control)				T
	2. Maintain a program database				
	3. Coordinate training for program staff				
D.	Program Evaluation	1	1	1	t
	1. Select validated program evaluation tools				+

ffective September 1, 2018		Cognitiv	ve Leve	ls
	Recall	Application	Analysis	TOTAL S
 Assess program processes: e.g., adherence (e.g., attendance, diary completion) of participant the influence of the program on participants' knowledge, skills, or attitudes (e.g., confidence, outcome expectations) procedure and task implementation 				
 3. Assess program outcomes: e.g., key outcomes (e.g., quality-of-life, functional status, asthma control, healthcare utilization, participant satisfaction) measures for key program outcomes program effectiveness 				
Use findings to assess program impact and need for modifications				
E. Professional Partnerships	1	2	0	3
1. Identify community resources that may be beneficial to the needs of individuals with asthma				
2. Organize family support / education activities				
3. Collaborate with other providers and between systems				
4. Provide education and technical assistance to				
 third-party payers 				
 community and health care professionals 				
work sites				
• schools				
faith-based groups				
Total	34	78	38	15

TESTING OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES

Individuals who reside in U.S. Territories or outside the United States may apply to take the examination to achieve the AE-C credential. Scheduling for examinations at test centers outside the United States may be available online or by phone. Please contact Candidate Services at 833-518-7455 for information about international scheduling.

NAECB SAE

The NAECB SAE is a 75-item multiple choice online practice examination. It was developed to be parallel in content and difficulty to the actual asthma educator certification examination. Items are based on the four major content areas and detailed content outline that details the knowledge, skills, and ability consistently used to provide asthma education. The content outline is available in the Candidate Handbook on the NAECB website. Each item includes rationale statements for both correct and incorrect answers. The actual examination time allotted is 3½ hours; consider completing the SAE in half that time because it contains half the number of items. The SAE should be regarded as a diagnostic tool to assess a candidate's strengths and weaknesses, rather than a study guide for the examination. A passing score on the SAE does not, in any way, guarantee a passing score on the NAECB examination. Utilization of this SAE tool is not a requirement for eligibility or for success in passing the certification examination. Certified practitioners can use the SAE to see if they are remaining current with the profession. The SAE will provide experience in computer-based testing as well as the NAECB-type items.

The SAE will be available online to you for a period of 90 days from the date the order is placed. After you receive your score report, you cannot access the examination again. Your individual results will be anonymous and are not reported back to the NAECB. You will receive a report with a total score report and subscores by major content area.

SAMPLE EXAMINATION QUESTIONS

Sample question 1. Matrixed at 1A1b application (answer: B)

Which of the following should be included when educating an adult female regarding the characteristics of asthma?

- A. Airway inflammation is the main cause of her exercise-induced asthma symptoms
- B. Bronchoconstriction is the main cause of her increased coughing during exertion
- C. Airway inflammation causes her initial symptoms when she is exposed to cigarette smoke
- D. Bronchoconstriction causes her symptoms that do not respond to quick relief medications

Sample question 2. Matrixed at 2A6 application (answer: C)

A six year old with asthma was seen by her clinician with recurrent cough and wheeze. She admits to waking twice per month with a cough the past three months and requiring albuterol twice per week. The asthma educator knows that according to the EPR-3 guidelines, this child's level of asthma control would be classified as:

- A. Very well Controlled
- B. Well controlled
- C. Not well controlled
- D. Very poorly controlled

Sample question 3. Matrixed at 1A5 application (answer: A)

An adolescent presents with wheezing, coughing, and shortness of breath after aerobic exercise. Which of the following is the MOST likely cause of these symptoms?

- A. Bronchospasm
- B. Airway inflammation
- C. Mucus production
- D. Airway edema

Sample question 4. Matrixed at 3A2b application (answer: C)

An adolescent male with persistent asthma tells his asthma educator that his current medications are not controlling his symptoms. He is using albuterol four times daily with a valved-holding chamber. He stopped using his budesonide because he "did not feel better after using it." Which of the following actions by the asthma educator would MOST likely improve his asthma control over the short term?

- A. Verify the adequacy of his inhaler technique with a valved-holding chamber
- B. Recommend changing budesonide to a different medication
- C. Discuss the differences between the use of quick-relief and long-term control medications
- D. Advise him about environmental modifications he can employ to avoid asthma triggers.

Sample question 5. Matrixed at 3D5 application (answer: C)

A person with asthma has a predicted peak flow reading of 400 L/min. Today the peak flow reading is 450 L/min. Based on the predicted reading, what is the BEST interpretation of today's peak flow?

- A. Red zone
- B. Yellow zone
- C. Green zone
- D. Personal best zone

Sample question 6. Matrixed at 2D9 application (answer: D)

Which of the following communication techniques should be used by an asthma educator to improve rapport when interviewing a woman with asthma?

- A. Address the woman by her first name
- B. Maintain continuous eye contact
- C. Speak clearly and authoritatively
- D. Encourage her to set her own asthma goals

Sample question 7. Matrixed at 2C3b analysis (answer: C)

A 16-year-old boy is referred to an asthma educator for review of his asthma. He is currently a quarterback for his high school football team and is hoping to receive a college scholarship to play football. He states that he never coughs, wheezes, or experiences chest tightness or shortness of breath while playing football. He does have an albuterol inhaler which he rarely uses. He states that his asthma is "not that bad." The asthma educator reviews a pulmonary function test the boy recently completed and notices an FEV₁ of 70%. The report shows an improvement of 15% following nebulized albuterol. The asthma educator should recognize that the boy

- A. does not need medication to control asthma due to his infrequent symptoms.
- B. does not need to take his albuterol unless he has symptoms of coughing or wheezing.
- C. has uncontrolled asthma despite not displaying any symptoms.
- D. should be taught to recognize subtle symptoms that he may be ignoring now.

Sample question 8. Matrixed at 3B6 application (answer: C)

Which of the following environmental changes would most likely improve the symptoms of a person with dust mite sensitivity?

- A. Using a HEPA filter in the living room
- B. Running a room ionizer in the bathroom
- C. Encasing the mattress and pillows in the bedroom
- D. Installing new carpet in the bedroom

Sample question 9. Matrixed at 4D3 analysis (answer: A)

An asthma educator is evaluating the effectiveness of a local asthma program over the last year. There is a discrepancy between patient-reported asthma severity and provider-assessed asthma severity among the program's participants. The asthma educator wishes to evaluate what impact this discrepancy is having on asthma morbidity of the participants in the program. Which of the following would be the BEST measure of asthma morbidity to use?

- A. asthma-related emergency department visits
- B. prescribing patterns of long-term control asthma medications
- C. use of national asthma guidelines by clinicians
- D. asthma quality of life survey results

Sample question 10. Matrixed at 3A4d recall (answer D)

The nebulizer cup for a home Pari-nebulizer® should be replaced every:

- A. One month
- B. Two months
- C. Four months
- D. Six months

Sample question 11. Matrixed at 4E1 application (answer: A)

An asthma educator is meeting with the parents of a 3-year-old girl with persistent asthma. The parents appear to understand the girl's asthma action plan from her provider, but admit they often do not follow it. Levalbuterol and budesonide nebulizer treatment are given about four times per week and seem to control her symptoms. They do not have medical insurance and sometimes struggle with paying utility and other bills. Currently, medications are obtained through a combination of patient assistance programs and occasional samples. A referral to which provider would likely be most beneficial at this time?

- A. Social worker
- B. Pharmacist
- C. Primary care physician
- D. Asthma specialist

Sample question 12. Matrixed at 3B5 application (answer: A)

An asthma educator is volunteering with her local asthma coalition which is addressing asthma triggers in local schools. Which issue would be most appropriate for the group to pursue?

- A. Removal of rabbits and guinea pigs from the science classrooms
- B. Obtaining high efficiency filters for the ventilation systems
- C. Promoting non-dairy substitutions in the cafeteria
- D. Recommending non-aerobic exercises during gym classes

REVIEW REFERENCES

Journals:

Allergy Allergy & Asthma Proceedings American Journal of Respiratory & Critical Care Medicine American College of Chest Physicians (CHEST) European Respiratory Journal Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology Journal of Asthma Pediatrics Pediatric Allergy, Immunology & Pulmonology Pediatric Pulmonology **Respiratory Care** Thorax

Books:

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Wanger, J, Clausen, J, Coates, A, Standardization of the measurement of lung volumes, Eur Resp J 2005; 26:511-522.

Weiler, JM, Brannan JD, SD, Randolph, C et al. Practice Parameter: Exercise induced bronchoconstriction Update 2016. J Allergy Clin Immunol. 2016; 4.e1-36.

Websites:

American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology https://www.aaaai.org

American Association for Respiratory Care https://www.aarc.org

American College of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology https://acaai.org

American Lung Association https://www.lung.org

American Thoracic Society https://www.thoracic.org

Association of Asthma Educators https://asthmaeducators.org

Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America http://www.aafa.org

Asthma & Allergy Network/ Mothers of Asthmatics https://www.allergyasthmanetwork.org

Environmental Protection Agency (Managing asthma in school) https://www.epa.gov/iag-schools/managing-asthma-schoolenvironment

Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Asthma https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health-pro/guidelines/current/ asthma-guidelines

Physician Asthma Care Education (PACE) https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health-pro/resources/lung/physician-asthma-care-education/index.htm

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Office for Civil Rights) HIPPA Privacy and Security Rules https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/index.html



ON THE DAY OF YOUR EXAMINATION

On the day of your examination appointment, report to the Test Center 30 minutes before your scheduled time. Once you enter the test center, look for the signs indicating PSI Test Center Check-In. **IF YOU ARRIVE MORE THAN 15 MINUTES AFTER THE SCHEDULED EXAMINATION TIME, YOU WILL NOT BE ADMITTED.**

To gain admission to the test center, you must present two forms of identification. The primary form must be government issued, current and include your name, signature and photograph. No form of temporary identification will be accepted. You will also be required to sign a roster for verification of identity.

- Examples of valid primary forms of identification are: driver's license with photograph; state identification card with photograph; passport; military identification card with photograph.
- The secondary form of identification must display your name and signature for signature verification (e.g., credit card with signature, social security card with signature, employment/student ID card with signature).
- If your name on your registration is different than it appears on your identification, you must bring proof of your name change (e.g., marriage license, divorce decree or court order).

You are prohibited from misrepresenting your identity or falsifying information to obtain admission to the Test Center. YOU MUST HAVE PROPER IDENTIFICATION TO GAIN ADMISSION TO THE TEST CENTER.

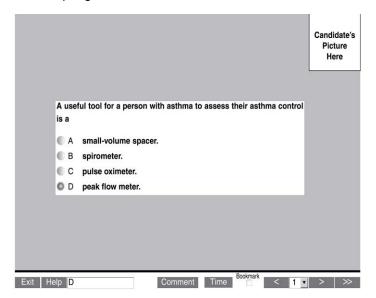
After your identification has been confirmed, you will be directed to a testing carrel. You will be prompted on-screen to enter your Social Security number. Your photograph, taken before beginning the examination, will remain on-screen throughout your examination session. This photograph will also print on your score report.

PRACTICE EXAMINATION

Prior to attempting the timed examination, you will be given the opportunity to practice taking an examination on computer. The time you use for this practice examination is NOT counted as part of your examination time. When you are comfortable with the computer testing process, you may quit the practice session and begin the timed examination.

TIMED EXAMINATION

Following the practice examination, you will begin the timed examination. Before beginning, instructions for taking the examination are provided on-screen. The examination contains 175 questions. Three and one-half hours are allotted to complete the examination. The following is a sample of what the computer screen will look like when you are attempting the examination.



The computer monitors the time you spend on the examination. The examination will terminate if you exceed the time limit. You may click on the "Time" button in the lower right portion of the screen to monitor your time. A digital clock indicates the time remaining for you to complete the examination. The time feature may also be turned off during the examination.

Only one examination question is presented at a time. The question number appears in the lower right portion of the screen. The entire examination question appears on-screen (i.e., stem and four options labeled – A, B, C and D). Indicate your choice by either entering the letter of the option you think is correct (A, B, C or D) or clicking on the option using the mouse. To change your answer, enter a different option by typing the letter in the response box or by clicking on the option using the mouse. You may change your answer as many times as you wish during the examination time limit.

To move to the next question, click on the forward arrow (>) in the lower right portion of the screen. This action will move you forward through the examination question by question. If you wish to review any question or questions, click the backward arrow (<) or use the left arrow key to move backward through the examination.

A question may be left unanswered for return later in the examination session. Questions may also be bookmarked for later review by clicking in the blank square to the right of the Time button. Click on the double arrows (>>) to advance to the next unanswered or bookmarked question on the examination. To identify all unanswered and bookmarked questions, repeatedly click on the double arrows (>>). When the examination is completed, the number of questions answered is reported. If not all questions have been answered and there is time remaining, return to the examination and answer those questions. Be sure to answer each question before ending the examination. There is no penalty for guessing.

You may make comments for any question by clicking on the Comment button to the left of the Time button. This opens a dialogue box where comments may be entered. Comments will be reviewed, but individual responses will not be provided.

INCLEMENT WEATHER, POWER FAILURE OR EMERGENCY

In the event of inclement weather or unforeseen emergencies on the day of an examination, PSI will determine whether circumstances warrant the cancellation, and subsequent rescheduling, of an examination. The examination will usually not be rescheduled if the Test Center personnel are able to open the Test Center.

You may visit <u>http://schedule.psiexams.com</u> prior to the examination to determine if PSI has been advised that any Test Centers are closed. Every attempt is made to administer the examination as scheduled; however, should an examination be canceled at a Test Center, all scheduled candidates will receive notification following the examination regarding rescheduling or reapplication procedures.

If power to a Test Center is temporarily interrupted during an administration, your examination will be restarted. The responses provided up to the point of interruption will be intact, but for security reasons the questions will be scrambled.

SECURITY

The NAECB and PSI maintain examination administration and security standards are designed to ensure all candidates are provided the same opportunity to demonstrate their abilities. The Test Center is continuously monitored by audio and video surveillance equipment for security purposes. The following security procedures apply during the examination:

- Examinations are proprietary. No cameras, notes, tape recorders, pagers or cellular/smart phones are allowed in the testing room. Possession of a cellular/smart phone or other electronic devices is strictly prohibited and will result in dismissal from the examination.
- Only silent, non-programmable calculators without alpha keys or printing capabilities are allowed in the testing room.
- No guests, visitors or family members are allowed in the testing room or reception areas.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

No personal items, valuables, or weapons should be brought to the Test Center. Only wallets and keys are permitted. Coats must be left outside the testing room. You will be provided a soft locker to store your wallet and/or keys with you in the testing room. The proctor will lock the soft locker prior to you entering the testing room. You will not have access to these items until after the examination is completed. Please note the following items will not be allowed in the testing room except securely locked in the soft locker.

- watches
- hats
- wallets
- keys

Once you have placed your personal belongings into the soft locker, you will be asked to pull your pockets out to ensure they are empty. If all personal items will not fit in the soft locker you will not be able to test. The site will not store or be responsible for your personal belongings.

If any personal items are observed or heard (e.g., cellular/ smart phones, alarms) in the testing room after the examination is started, the administration will be forfeited.

EXAMINATION RESTRICTIONS

- Pencils will be provided during check-in.
- You will be provided with one piece of scratch paper at a time to use during the examination, unless noted on the sign-in roster for a particular candidate. You must return the scratch paper to the supervisor at the completion of testing, or you will not receive your score report.
- No documents or notes of any kind may be removed from the Test Center.
- No questions concerning the content of the examination may be asked during the examination.

- Eating, drinking or smoking is not permitted in the Test Center.
- You may take a break whenever you wish, but you will not be allowed additional time to make up for time lost during breaks.

MISCONDUCT

If you engage in any of the following conduct during the examination you may be dismissed, your scores will not be reported and examination fees will not be refunded. Examples of misconduct are when you:

- create a disturbance, are abusive, or otherwise uncooperative;
- display and/or use electronic communications equipment such as pagers, cellular/smart phones;
- talk or participate in conversation with other examination candidates;
- give or receive help or are suspected of doing so;
- · leave the Test Center during the administration;
- · attempt to record examination questions or make notes;
- · attempt to take the examination for someone else;
- · are observed with personal belongings, or
- are observed with notes, books or other aids without it being noted on the roster.

COPYRIGHTED EXAMINATION QUESTIONS

All examination questions are the copyrighted property of NAECB. It is forbidden under federal copyright law to copy, reproduce, record, distribute or display these examination questions by any means, in whole or in part. Doing so may subject you to severe civil and criminal penalties.

FAILING TO REPORT FOR AN EXAMINATION

If you fail to report for an examination, you forfeit the application and all fees paid to take the examination. A completed application and examination fee are required to reapply for examination.

FOLLOWING THE EXAMINATION

After completing the examination, you are asked to answer a short evaluation of your examination experience. You are then instructed to report to the examination proctor to receive your score report. Scores are reported in printed form only, in person or by U.S. mail. Scores are not reported over the telephone, by electronic mail or by facsimile.

Your score report will indicate a "pass" or "fail." Additional detail is provided in the form of raw scores by major content category. A raw score is the number of questions you answered correctly. Your pass/fail status is determined by your raw score. Even though the examination consists of 175 questions, your score is based on 150 questions; 25 questions are "pretest" questions.

SCORING THE EXAMINATION

The methodology used to set the minimum passing score is the Angoff method, in which expert judges estimate the passing probability of each examination question. These ratings are averaged to determine the minimum passing score (i.e., the number of correctly answered questions required to pass the examination).

The performance standard, meaning the skills and abilities required to pass the NAECB exam, is the same. However, candidates may be administered different forms, or groups of items, of the NAECB exam. Because items may differ in how hard or easy they are, the passing score, or the score required to pass the exam, may differ slightly from one form to the next. Standard setting is the process by which the passing performance, or passing score, is determined on an exam. Standard setting for the NAECB exam was completed by a group of subject matter experts (SMEs) selected to represent the field of Asthma educators representing different disciplines. This group was guided through a formal process that included discussing the meaning of passing the exam in regard to the minimum knowledge skills and abilities required of a candidate and then translating that information into performance on the NAECB exam.

As is common practice, the standard setting included one form of the NAECB exam. To apply the passing score to subsequent forms of the exam, a statistical process called equating is employed. Equating accounts for the differences in items and item difficulties on forms and makes adjustments such that the passing score on each form reflects equivalent performance on the exam. This process of equating is essential to the fairness of the NAECB exam program as it provides equivalent expectations of "passing" performance over time and across forms of the exam.

IF YOU PASS THE EXAMINATION

If you pass the NAECB Examination, you are allowed to use the designation AE-C[®]. Passing candidates will receive a certificate signed by the Chairman of the NAECB by the end of the month following the examination month.



IF YOU DO NOT PASS THE EXAMINATION

If you do not pass the examination, you may reapply by using the re-application form from your score report, by completing the paper application included in this handbook or by submitting an application online and registering for a new testing appointment at www.naecb.org. Repeat candidate fees apply (\$250) for each time the examination is reattempted. There is a waiting period of ninety (90) days between examination attempts with a maximum of three (3) attempts in a one (1) year period. In the case of extenuating circumstances, candidates may petition the NAECB. If the time has exceeded one year since the date of your application to NAECB, you will need to apply to the NAECB again for permission to take the NAECB examination with all the associated fees (\$350). An additional \$145 fee is required to schedule an examination appointment outside of the U.S. or at a U.S. Territory.

SCORES CANCELED BY THE NAECB OR PSI

The NAECB is responsible for the integrity of the scores they report. On occasion, occurrences, such as computer malfunction or misconduct by a candidate, may cause a score to be suspect. The NAECB is committed to rectifying such discrepancies as expeditiously as possible. The NAECB may void examination results if, upon investigation, violation of its regulations is discovered.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Information about candidates for testing or renewal of certification and their examination results are considered confidential; however, the NAECB reserves the right to use information supplied by or on behalf of a candidate in the conduct of research. Studies and reports concerning candidates will contain no information identifiable with any candidate, unless authorized by the candidate.

DUPLICATE SCORE REPORT

You may purchase additional copies of your score report at a cost of \$25 per copy. Requests must be submitted to PSI, in writing, within 12 months after the examination. The request must include your name, Social Security number, mailing address, telephone number, date of examination and examination taken. Submit this information with the required fee payable to PSI Services Inc. Duplicate score reports will be mailed within approximately five business days after receipt of the request and fee.

RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATION

Attaining certification is an indication of mastery of a welldefined body of knowledge at a point in time. Periodic renewal of the certification is required to maintain certified status. Certification by examination is valid for five (5) years. Certificants may renew their certification only up to one year prior to the expiration of the certification. The recertification examination fee is \$300.

Recertification can be obtained in two ways:

1) By re-examination which provides five (5) additional years of certification upon passing; 2) Through earning 35 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) which provides five (5) additional years of certification upon meeting all the requirements. Information about recertification by CEUs is found on the website at <u>www.naecb.com</u> in the certificant corner section.

<u>Failure To Renew</u>: A certificant who fails to renew his/her certification is no longer considered certified and may not use the credential awarded for certification in professional communications, such as on letterhead, stationery and business cards, in directory listings and in signature.

NAECB EXAMINATION APPLICATION

Applicants may complete the application process online at <u>www.naecb.org</u> by selecting Examination Application. If you prefer to submit the paper application, please complete all sections of this two-page form. Include credit card information or enclose a cashier's check or money order payable to PSI Services Inc. for the appropriate amount. Mail the application and fee to:

NAECB Examination, PSI, 18000 W. 105th St., Olathe, KS 66061-7543. For further information, call Candidate Services at 833-518-7455.

PERSONAL INFORMATION (please print using black or blue ink)

Name:				
(Last, First, Middle)				
Social Security Number:		Date of Birth:		
If you do not wish to provide your	SSN, leave this area blank and PSI v	will assign an ID number to yo	ou.	
Daytime Telephone Number:		_ Evening Telephone Nur	mber:	
Fax Number:	Email Address	S:		
Street Address:				
City:	State:	Zip Code/Postal Code:	Cou	ntry:
,				,
Eligibility Requirements following eligibility requirement	- Please complete one of the	EXAMINATION	I INFORMAT	ON
International candidates are of		I am including a Spe	cial Accommodati	ons Request:
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category.		\Box Yes (Complete the	ne form included in	this handbook.)
\Box I am a currently licensed	or credentialed U.S. health	I am a: 🗌 New App	olicant	
care professional active a	and unrestricted in the following	□ Reapplic		
profession (please indication	te by checking box):	□ Recertifie		
🗌 Physician (MD, DO)				
🗌 Physician Assistant (P	A-C)	EXAMINATION	I FEE	
🗌 Nurse (RN, LPN, NP)		Payment may be ma		
Respiratory Therapist	(RRT, CRT)	money order payable	e to PSI Services I	nc.
Pulmonary Function T	echnologist (CPFT, RPFT)			of Candidate
Pharmacist (RPh)		Application Status	United States	U.S. Territories and
□ Social Worker (CSW)		First attempt	\$350	Outside the U.S. \$495
Health Educator (CHE	S)	Repeat attempt	\$250	\$395
Physical Therapist (PT)	Γ)	Recertification	\$300	\$445
Occupational Therapis	st (OT)	Total Fee:		
	OR	If payment is made b	y credit card, com	plete the following;
		□ VISA	□ Ma	sterCard
I am applying for the NAE	CB Examination with a experience providing direct	🗌 Americar	n Express 🛛 Dis	cover
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Inited States Test Cente	r	Name on Card		

Signature

- United States Test Center
- \Box U.S. Territory or outside the U.S. Test Center

NAECB Handbook, page 20 DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS

1. Nature of the Practice setting in which you work: □ Academic □ University □ Private Practice Hospital □ Nursing Home/Extended Care Facility □ Multispecialty Clinic □ Home Health Agency □ Physician Office Emergency Department 2. Number of Hours (per week) in Asthma Education, Other____ Coordination or Counseling Services: 5. Location of Primary Practice Setting: □ Less than 8 hours 🗌 Urban □ 8-16 hours Rural □ 17-24 hours □ Suburban 25-32 hours □ 33-40 hours 6. Highest Education Level Achieved: □ More than 40 hours Diploma (college) □ Associate Degree 3. Experience as an Asthma Educator, Coordinator or Counselor: □ Baccalaureate Degree □ Master's Degree 0-1 year □ Doctoral or Medical Degree 2-3 years 4-5 years 7. How did you hear about Certification? \Box 6-10 years (check all that apply) □ 11-15 years Professional Journal (specify) □ 16 years or more Regional Meeting (specify) _____ National Meeting (specify)_____ 4. Type of Primary Practice Setting: (check all that apply to your ONE primary practice setting) □ NAECB Mailing □ NAECB website □ Hospital Inpatient Hospital Outpatient Colleague Both Hospital Inpatient/Outpatient Other_____ Physician's Office □ Community Health Agency

CODE OF CONDUCT AND SIGNATURE

AE-C® Applicants/Certificants shall abide by the rules and regulations promulgated by the NAECB with regard to applying for and taking the examination. Once notified of successful completion of the examination, applicants shall promptly adopt the designation AE-C® and utilize it as part of their professional activities.

AE-C® Certificants shall immediately cease and desist using the designation in any and all forms in the event they (1) decide not to seek re-certification, or (2) are no longer eligible for any reason including termination by the NAECB. No one shall adopt the designation that has not been so notified by the NAECB.

Applicants and Certificants will hold confidential information regarding the examination that could assist another applicant seeking certification.

Certificants will conduct themselves in a professional manner and provide asthma coordination, counseling and education in a manner that will be in furtherance of the mission of the NAECB and in no way be harmful to the public. Certificants will not engage in any inappropriate or unethical behavior, nor provide asthma coordination, counseling or education while experiencing any physical impairment affecting their performance.

Applicants, through the act of applying for and paying their examination fee, agree to abide by this Code of Conduct, the NAECB Disciplinary Policies, and all rules and regulations of the NAECB.

I certify that I agree to abide by regulations of the NAECB Program and the Code of Conduct described above. I believe that I comply with all admission policies for the NAECB Examination. I certify that the information I have submitted in this application is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that, if the information I have submitted is found to be incomplete or inaccurate, my application may be rejected or my examination results may be delayed or voided.

(Sign and date in ink.)

Name (Please Print):

Signature: _____ Date: _____



REQUEST FOR SPECIAL EXAMINATION ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a disability covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act, please complete this form and provide the Documentation of Disability-Related Needs on the next page so your examination accommodations can be processed efficiently. The information you provide and any documentation regarding your disability and your need for examination accommodations will be treated with strict confidentiality.

Candidate Information

Social Security #		
Name (Last, First, Middle Initial, Former Name)		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Unity Conty	State	
Daytime Telephone Number		
Special Accommodations		
I request special accommodations for the		examination.
Please provide (check all that apply):		
Reader		
Extended examination	time (time and a half)	
Reduced distraction er	nvironment	
Other special accomm	odations (Please specify.)	
Comments:		
PLEASE READ AND SIGN: I give my permission for my diagnosing profess the requested accommodation.	sional to discuss with PSI staff my records a	and history as they relate to
Signed:	Date:	
	vith your examination application and fee to St., Olathe, KS 66061-7543, Fax: 913-895-4	

or submit your accommodations request online at

https://psi-cdexp.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket_form_id=360000150872.

If you have questions, call Candidate Services at 800-367-1565 ext. 6750.



DOCUMENTATION OF DISABILITY-RELATED NEEDS

Please have this section completed by an appropriate professional (education professional, physician, psychologist, psychiatrist) to ensure that PSI is able to provide the required examination accommodations.

Professional Documentation	
I have known	since / in my capacity
Candidate Name	Date
Professional Title	·
	nination to be administered. It is my opinion that, because of this accommodated by providing the special arrangements listed on orm.
Description of Disability:	
Signed:	Title:
Printed Name:	
Telephone Number:	
Date:	License # (if applicable):

Return this form with your examination application and fee to: PSI, 18000 W. 105th St., Olathe, KS 66061-7543, Fax: 913-895-4651 or attach this form to your online request at <u>https://psi-cdexp.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket_form_id=360000150872</u>. If you have questions, call Candidate Services at 800-367-1565 ext. 6750.