

A Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)

## CONTINUING CERTIFICATION/MOC COMBINED EXAMINATION IN FORENSIC PSYCHIATRY

#### **Content Blueprint**

Numb	Number of questions: 100					
01.	Legal regulation of psychiatry	17-21%				
02.	Civil	17-21%				
03.	Criminal	17-21%				
04.	Death penalty	4-6%				
05.	Corrections/correctional health care	8-10%				
06.	Legal systems/basic law	7–9%				
07.	Children/families	7–9%				
08.	Special issues in forensic psychiatry	12-14%				
TOTAL	TOTAL 100%					

**Note:** A more detailed content outline is shown below.



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# CONTINUING CERTIFICATION/MOC COMBINED EXAMINATION IN FORENSIC PSYCHIATRY Content Outline

100 c	questio	ns		
01.	Lega	Legal regulation of psychiatry		
	Α.	Hosp	italization	
		01.	Involuntary	
			a. Standard of proof (Addington v. Texas)	
			b. Due process/dangerousness (Jackson v. Indiana)	
			c. Least restrictive alternative (Lake v. Cameron)	
		02.	Voluntary (Zinermon v. Burch)	
		03.	Procedural due process (Lessard v. Schmidt)	
		04.	Patients' rights	
			a. Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act (CRIPA)	
			b. Protection and Advocacy of Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI)	
		05.	Outpatient commitment/alternatives to hospitalization	
		06.	Failure to place mentally ill in community is discriminatory (Olmstead v. L.C.)	
	B.	Conf	identiality/privilege/privacy	
		01.	Definitions	
			a. Privilege ( <i>In re Lifschutz</i> )	
			b. Confidentiality ( <i>Doe v. Roe</i> )	
		02.	HIPAA	
		03.	Psychotherapist-patient privilege (Jaffee v. Redmond)	
		04.	Federal Rules of Evidence (FRE) 501	
		05.	Exceptions to confidentiality/privilege	
			a. Police powers versus confidentiality	
			b. Limitations in fraud investigation	
		06.	Reporting statutes	
			a. Reporting acts override federal confidentiality law (State v. Andring)	
			b. Degree of reporting required ( <i>People v. Stritzinger</i> )	
	C.	Right	t to mental health treatment	
		01.	Constitutional right to treatment (O'Connor v. Donaldson)	
		02.	Professional judgment ( <i>Youngberg v. Romeo</i> )	
		03.	Based on statute, not Constitution	
		04.	Consent decree/minimal hospital standards (Wyatt v. Stickney)	



D.	Right	t to refuse mental health treatment
	01.	Standards/procedures
		a. Proxy decision making
		i. Judicial model (Rogers v. Commissioner)
		ii. Professional model (Rennie v. Klein)
		iii. Override of treatment approval (Application of the President and
		Directors of Georgetown College)
		iv. Prisoners (Washington v. Harper)
		b. Guardianship/conservatorship
		c. Substituted judgment
E.	Duty	to warn/protect
	01.	Law
		a. Statutes
		b. Case law
		i. Initial precedent (Tarasoff v. Regents of the University of California)
		ii. Duty to detain ( <i>Lipari v. Sears</i> )
		iii. Foreseeable victim ( <i>Jablonski v. US</i> )
		iv. Driving
	02.	Practice
F.	Infor	med consent
	01.	Elements of informed consent
		a. Standard set by law (Canterbury v. Spence)
		b. Reasonable person standard
	02.	Exceptions
	03.	Advance directives
	04.	Research (Kaimowitz v. Michigan)
	05.	Withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment (Cruzan v. Director, Missouri Department
		of Mental Health)
G.	Medi	cal board issues/licensure
	01.	National Practitioner Data Bank
	02.	Professional health issues/impaired physicians
	03.	Out-of-state licensure
		a. Forensic experts
		b. Telemedicine
	04.	Physician-assisted suicide (Washington v. Glucksberg)
H.	Rese	arch
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		01	Communication Production (AF.C.F.D. AC)
		01.	Common Rule (45 C.F.R. 46)
			a. Institutional review board
			b. Vulnerable populations
	<u> </u>	02.	Ethics
02.	Civil		
	Α.	•	ractice
			dards of care
			ents of malpractice
	0.	3. Dam	
		a.	Punitive
		b.	
		04.	Burden/standard of proof
			a. Reasonable medical certainty
			b. Res ipsa loquitur
		05.	Types of negligence
			a. Comparative
			b. Contributory
			c. Negligence per se
			d. Gross negligence
		06.	Malpractice insurance/types of policies
			a. Occurrence
			i. Punitive damages excluded from insurance coverage
			ii. Policy language determines coverage
			b. Claims made/tail coverage
		07.	Types of malpractice claims
			a. Suicide/homicide and risk assessment
			b. Boundary violations <i>(Roy v. Hartogs)</i>
			c. Medical management
			i. Tardive dyskinesia <i>(Clites v. Iowa)</i>
			ii. Other issues
	В.	Perso	onal injury
		01.	Legal principles
			a. Eggshell plaintiffs
			b. Zone of danger (Dillon v. Legg)
		02.	Causation
		03.	Damages



		04.	Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD)/Traumatic brain
			injury (TBI)
	C.		splace issues (AAPL Practice Guideline for the Forensic Evaluation of Psychiatric
			pility)
		01.	Workers' compensation
		02.	Social Security/Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
		03.	Disability
			a. Private
			b. Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
		04.	Harassment
			a. Definition (Meritor Savings Bank v. Vinson)
			b. Hostile work environment (Harris v. Forklift Systems)
			c. Same-sex harassment (Oncale v. Sundowner Offshore Services)
		05.	Discrimination/Title VII
		06.	Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
			a. HIV (Bragdon v. Abbott)
			b. ADA applies to prisons (US v. Georgia)
		07.	Fitness-for-duty evaluations
			a. Dangerousness
			b. Work impairment
	D.	Com	petency for medical treatment and finance
		01.	Guardianship/conservatorship of person and property
		02.	Assessment of capacity
	E.	Testa	amentary capacity
		01.	Elements
		02.	Undue influence
		03.	Insane delusions
	F.	Com	petency to enter into contracts
03.	Crim	inal	
	A.	Com	petency
		01.	Stand trial (AAPL Competency to Stand Trial Practice Guideline)
			a. Assessment of competency to stand trial
			i. Standards (Dusky v. US, Godinez v. Moran, Wilson v. US)
			ii. Procedural due process (Cooper v. Oklahoma)
			b. Restoration of competency
			i. Involuntary treatment (Riggins v. Nevada, Sell v. US)
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			ii. Confinement for restoration (Jackson v. Indiana)
			c. Competency to represent oneself (Indiana v. Edwards)
		02.	Testimonial
		02.	a. FRE 601
			b. Other
		03.	Waive rights
			a. Confessions (Colorado v. Connelly)
			b. Jury/counsel/appeals
			i. Standards (knowing, intelligent, voluntary)
			ii. Alford plea (North Carolina v. Alford)
			c. Silence
		04.	Forensic assessment instruments
	В.		nal responsibility (Insanity Defense Guideline)
		01.	Diminished capacity (Montana v. Egelhoff)
		02.	Mens rea (Clark v. Arizona)
		03.	Insanity defense
			a. Standards
			i. Cognitive prong ( <i>M'Naghten</i> )
			ii. American Law Institute Model Penal Code
			iii. Federal Insanity Defense Reform Act
			iv. Product test/Durham rule (Durham v. US, Washington v. US)
			b. Waiving the defense (Frendak v. US)
			c. Disposition/outcome
			i. Length of confinement (Jones v. US)
			ii. Criteria for confinement (Foucha v. Louisiana)
		04.	Postacquittal/Psychiatric Security Review Board
		05.	Guilty but mentally ill
	C.	Alcoh	ol and drug prosecution
		01.	Status (Robinson v. California)
		02.	Intoxication (Powell v. Texas)
	D.	Preser	ntencing/diversion programs
		01.	Diversion programs
		02.	Mental health/drug courts
04.		n penalt	у
	A.	Ethics	
		01.	Physician participation  Page 6 of 12  Posted July 29, 2021



		02.	Treatment on death row
	В.		petence to be executed (Panetti v. Quarterman)
		01.	Definition (Ford v. Wainwright)
		02.	Restoration issues (State v. Perry)
	C.	Excep	
		01.	Intellectual disability (Atkins v. Virginia, Hall v. Florida)
		02.	Juveniles (Roper v. Simmons)
		03.	Mental illness
	D.	Epide	miology
	E.	Aggra	vating circumstances
		01.	Due process protections (Estelle v. Smith)
		02.	Hypothetical questions about dangerousness (Barefoot v. Estelle)
	F.	Mitiga	ating circumstances (Ake v. Oklahoma)
	G.	Victim	n impact testimony <i>(Payne v. Tennessee)</i>
05.	Corr	ections/	correctional health care
	A.	Epide	miology
		01.	Prevalence of mental disorders and substance abuse
		02.	Demographics of correctional populations
			a. Gender
			b. Race
			c. Age
			d. Economic status
			e. Jail and prison census
	В.	Settin	ngs
		01.	Differences among lockups, jails, and prisons
		02.	Community corrections
		03.	Different custody classification settings (e.g., camps, minimum security,
			supermax)
	C.		al treatment programs
		01.	Residential treatment units (e.g., SNU, ICU, ICP, RTP) for inmates with mental
			illnesses
		02.	Inmates who exhibit inappropriate sexual behaviors (e.g., public masturbation,
			exposure of genitals)
		03.	Inmates who self-harm (e.g., cutters, swallowers)
		04.	Programs for inmates with developmental disabilities
		05.	Geriatric inmates



	06. End-of-life issues
D.	Treatment of the seriously mentally ill
	01. Understanding levels of care (e.g., crisis stabilization, residential treatment, outpatient, hospital)
	02. Service delivery issues
	a. Medication management/issues
	b. Continuity of care with clinicians
	c. Physical plant issues (e.g., need for adequate programming space, sound
	privacy, safety)
	d. Staffing issues
	03. Practice guidelines
	a. Psychiatric Services in Correctional Facilities, Third Edition. American
	Psychiatric Association
	i. Screening assessment process
	ii. Sick call process
	iii. Custody interface
	iv. Confidentiality/dual agency
	v. Other
	b. National Commission on Correctional Health Care guidelines on mentally
	ill inmates in segregation (locked-down settings)
	c. APA resource document on the use of restraints and seclusion in
	correctional settings
E.	Suicide prevention
F.	Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)
G.	Due process issues, including role of mental health clinician in disciplinary process
	01. Involuntary hospitalization ( <i>Vitek v. Jones</i> )
	02. Involuntary medication ( <i>Washington v. Harper</i> )
	03. Undue hardship
	04. Civil commitment following incarceration ( <i>Baxstrom v. Herold</i> )
Н.	Sociology of correctional institutions
	01. Gangs
	02. Protective custody issues
	03. Prison culture (e.g., snitching, correctional officer wall of silence)
l.	Conditions of confinement
	01. Segregation settings
	02. Supermax settings



		03.	Call various darmitary cattings
			Cell versus dormitory settings  Conoral environment (physical conditions, recreational time) (Prown v. Plata)
		04.	General environment (physical conditions, recreational time) (Brown v. Plata)
	J.		urity versus treatment issues
		01.	Impact on delivery of mental health services
		02.	Medical autonomy
		03.	Deliberate indifference (Estelle v. Gamble, Farmer v. Brennan)
	K.		pation/parole
		01.	Definitions
		02.	Role of mental health system in probation/parole
			a. Dangerousness assessments
			b. Treatment recommendations
			c. Treatment/monitoring
			d. Coordination with probation/parole officers
	L.		offenders
		01.	Treatment programs
			a. Elements of treatment
			b. Problems in treatment
			c. Assessment issues re recidivism
			d. Treatment setting (e.g., outpatient, residential, institutional)
			e. Penile plethysmography
		02.	Protective custody issues—inmate cultural issues re sex offenders
		03.	Due process
			a. Indefinite commitment (Specht v. Patterson)
			b. Civil versus criminal proceeding (Allen v. Illinois)
			c. Definition of mental abnormality (Kansas v. Hendricks)
			d. Volitional control (Kansas v. Crane)
			e. Adequacy of treatment
			f. Federal sex offender commitment (US v. Comstock)
		04.	Sex offender recidivism
		05.	Paraphilic disorders
		06.	Juvenile sex offenders
	М.	Clas	s actions/consent decrees
06.	Lega	l syste	ms/basic law
	Α.	Sour	rces of law
		01.	Constitution
		02.	Statutes
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		03.	Regulations/administrative law
		04.	Case law
	В.	Court	system
	C.	Adjud	icative process
		01.	Civil procedure
		02.	Criminal procedure
		03.	Evidence (including subpoenas)
			a. General acceptance ( <i>Frye v. US</i> )
			b. Standards for expert testimony (Daubert v. Merrell Dow)
			c. Judicial discretion
		d.	Judge as gatekeeper (Kumho Tire v. Carmichael)
			urden/standard of proof
07.		dren/fan	nilies
	Α.	Civil	
		01.	Abuse/neglect/foster care
		02.	Child abuse reporting statutes
			a. Battered child syndrome ( <i>Landeros v. Flood</i> )
			b. State has no constitutional duty to protect (DeShaney v. Winnebago)
		03.	Divorce/custody/visitation (Painter v. Bannister)
		04.	Guardian ad litem
		05.	Termination of parental rights (Santosky v. Kramer)/fitness to parent
		06.	Competency—emancipation, mature minor
		07.	Commitment (Parham v. JR and JL)
		08.	Informed consent/assent
		09.	Adoption
		10.	Evaluation of child sexual abuse
		11.	Children as witnesses/evaluation of psychic harm/PTSD claims in children
			(People v. Stritzinger)
		12.	Malpractice/ethics/confidentiality
	В.	Crimir	nal
		01.	Juvenile court (In re Gault)
		02.	Children in Need of Services (CHINS)/ Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS)
		03.	Waiver
		04.	Competence to be a witness
		05.	Delinquency



		06. Sentencing
		a. Graham v. Florida
		b. <i>Miller v. Alabama</i>
	C.	Forensic evaluation of children, adolescents, and their families
	D.	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)/ADA (Irving Independent School District v. Tatro, Board of Education v. Rowley)
08.	Spe	cial issues in forensic psychiatry
	Α.	Hypnosis
		01. Use of hypnosis in a forensic context
		a. Orne criteria ( <i>State v. Hurd</i> )
		b. Per se exclusion of testimony not allowed
		(Rock v. Arkansas)
	В.	Polygraphy
	C.	Syndromes (battered woman, rape trauma) (Ibn-Tamas v. US)
	D.	Malingering, factitious disorder imposed on self, factitious disorder imposed on another
	E.	Neuropsychological assessments of malingering
	F.	Psychological/neuropsychological testing
		01. Uses in forensic evaluations
		02. Uses in malingering (SIRS, TOMM, MMPI-2)
	G.	Psychopathy/antisocial personality disorder
	Н.	Neuroimaging
	l.	Prosecution for drug and alcohol use (Robinson v. California, Powell v. Texas)
	J.	Psychological autopsies
		01. Suicide by cop
		02. Cause of death—accident, homicide, or suicide
	K.	Ethics
		01. AAPL ethical guidelines
		02. AMA Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs (CEJA)



	03.	APA guidelines
L.	Prac	tice
	01.	Videotape/audiotape
	02.	Confidentiality
	03.	Dual agency
M.	Expe	ert witness
	01.	Conflicts that might influence opinion
	02.	Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 26 (Rule 26)
	03.	Federal Rule of Evidence (FRE) 702
N.	Risk	assessment
	01.	Suicide
	02.	Violence to others
		a. Sex offenders
		b. Stalking
		c. Fire setting
		d. Other (e.g., fitness for duty)
	03.	Standardized assessment instruments