



TRANSPLANT HEPATOLOGY Blueprint

For Certification Examination (CERT)

Content development: How ABIM Board Certified physicians inform the process

The American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) regularly invites board certified physicians in each specialty to provide ratings of the relative frequency and importance of blueprint topics in practice. This review process helps to ensure that the topics included on ABIM’s assessment are informed by practicing clinicians.

Assessment format

The blueprint is used to develop the certification exam. Most questions describe patient scenarios and ask about the work done (that is, tasks performed) by physicians in the course of practice within major medical content categories.

TASK	TARGET %
Diagnosis/Testing	30%
Treatment/Care Decisions	45%
Risk Assessment/Prognosis/Epidemiology	18%
Pathophysiology/Basic Science	7%

To determine the content distribution, physician governance analyzes practicing physician ratings of topic frequency and importance. Informed by these data, the Approval Committees and Specialty Board have determined the content category targets shown below.

CONTENT CATEGORY	TARGET %
Advanced Hepatology and Pretransplant	55%
Peritransplant	14%
Post-transplant	20%
Transplant Immunology	6%
Ethics and Regulatory Issues	5%
Total	100%

Clinical information presented may include patient photographs, radiographs, computed tomograms, photomicrographs, magnetic resonance images, equianalgesic tables, bone scans, family pedigree charts, nomograms and other media to illustrate relevant patient findings. Exam tutorials, including examples of question format, can be found at abim.org/about/abim-exams/exam-tutorials/.

ABIM is committed to working toward health equity and believes that board certified physicians should have an understanding of health care disparities. Therefore, health equity content that is clinically important to each discipline will be included in assessments.

Health equity functions as a cross-content category spanning multiple content areas of the blueprint. Clinically relevant factors such as, but not limited to, the following may appear on the assessment: low health literacy and language barriers affecting care comprehension; food insecurity influencing nutrition and disease management; and cost or insurance constraints limiting continuity of care.

Get Involved

ABIM Board Certified physicians contribute to every aspect of the blueprint, from content and distribution to layout and visual aids. Most importantly, practicing physicians in each specialty are invited to participate in blueprint review surveys when those specialties are due for an update. A complete schedule of blueprint reviews is available on ABIM.org. If you are invited to participate, please do so to ensure your perspective is heard in your specialty.

If you are interested in additional volunteer opportunities, visit [ABIM’s website](http://ABIM's website) for a complete list of openings.

Content outline for the Transplant Hepatology Certification Examination

 – High Relevance: Topics are very likely to appear on the assessment	 – Medium Relevance: Topics are moderately likely to appear on the assessment	 – Low Relevance: Topics will not appear on the assessment
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Blueprint Code and Topic	Diagnosis/Testing (30%)	Treatment/Care Decisions (45%)	Risk Assessment/ Prognosis/ Epidemiology (18%)	Pathophysiology/ Basic Science (7%)
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1 ADVANCED HEPATOLOGY AND PRETRANSPLANT (55% of exam)

1.1	Biliary atresia (<2% of exam)	LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	LOW
1.2	Genetic liver disease (4% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
1.3	Autoimmune disorders (7% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM
1.4	Viral hepatitis (3% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM
1.5	Congestive hepatopathy, including Budd-Chiari syndrome, sinusoidal obstruction syndrome, Fontan-associated liver disease, and sickle cell hepatopathy (3% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
1.6	Portosinusoidal vascular disease, including nodular regenerative hyperplasia (<2% of exam)	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
1.7	Splanchnic vascular disorders, including portal vein thrombosis and portosystemic shunts (2% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM
1.8	Portal hypertension complications (7% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH
1.9	Liver tumors (5% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM
1.10	Selection and evaluation for transplantation (3% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM
1.11	Acute liver failure (4% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH
1.12	Alcohol-associated liver disease, including complications and liver transplantation (3% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM
1.13	Metabolic dysfunction–associated steatotic liver disease, including metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis and metabolic dysfunction– and alcohol-associated liver disease (4% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH
1.14	Liver diseases of pregnancy (<2% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
1.15	Drug-induced liver injury (<2% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM
1.16	Acute-on-chronic liver failure (<2% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM
1.17	Palliative care (2% of exam)	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	LOW
1.18	Health maintenance, including vaccination, cancer screening, metabolic health, and reproductive health (3% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	LOW

■ – High Relevance: Topics are very likely to appear on the assessment

■ – Medium Relevance: Topics are moderately likely to appear on the assessment

□ – Low Relevance: Topics will not appear on the assessment

Blueprint Code and Topic	Diagnosis/Testing (30%)	Treatment/Care Decisions (45%)	Risk Assessment/ Prognosis/ Epidemiology (18%)	Pathophysiology/ Basic Science (7%)
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2 PERITRANSPLANT (14% of exam)

2.1	Deceased-donor selection (3% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM
2.2	Living-donor selection (2% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	LOW
2.3	Donor considerations, including split-graft, vascular, and ABO compatibility (2% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
2.4	Perioperative complications (5% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM
2.5	Donor transmission of infectious and noninfectious diseases (2% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM	MEDIUM

3 POST-TRANSPLANT (20% of exam)

3.1	Immune complications (4% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM
3.2	Nonimmune graft complications (2% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM
3.3	Extrahepatic complications (5% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
3.4	Infectious complications (3% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM
3.5	Recurrence of disease, including immune, infectious, cancer, metabolic, and lifestyle-related (3% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
3.6	Health maintenance, including vaccination, cancer screening, metabolic health, and reproductive health (3% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW

4 TRANSPLANT IMMUNOLOGY (6% of exam)

4.1	Clinically relevant immunology (<2% of exam)	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
4.2	Immunosuppressive medications, including mechanism of action, pharmacokinetics, adverse effects, and drug-drug interactions (5% of exam)	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH

5 ETHICS AND REGULATORY ISSUES (5% of exam)

5.1	Ethics (2% of exam)	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	LOW
5.2	Organ transplant policy (3% of exam)	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	LOW

Expanded Blueprints: For the most detailed content outline, including third-level subtopics, visit [ABIM's website](#).