

MDCB Completes Job Task Analysis

The MDCB has completed the 2009 Job Task Analysis (JTA). Every 5 years, the MDCB conducts a Job Task Analysis or Practice Analysis to ensure the MDCB exam maintains relevance to current medical dosimetry practice and to update the content areas of the certification exam with new information about the dosimetry tasks that dosimetrists perform and the essential knowledge and/or skills needed to competently perform those tasks.

The Practice Analysis was conducted by the MDCB test development company, Prometric. Prometric conducted several activities in adherence with professional standards outlined in *The Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing*. (*The Standards*) is a comprehensive technical guide that provides criteria for the evaluation of tests and testing practices, and has come to define the necessary elements for quality testing. It was developed jointly by the American Psychological Association (APA), the American Educational Research Association (AERA), and the National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME).

The activities included survey development, survey dissemination, compilation of survey results, and test specifications development. The development of the survey was based on the previous job analysis conducted in 2004 and input from a group of medical dosimetrists, representative subject-matter experts who reflect the diversity within the profession. Subject-matter experts were selected for diversity in regional and job factors, as well as, experience, gender, and race/ethnicity.

As a result of the 2009 JTA, the following test matrix was determined:

CONTENT AREAS	TEST %AGE
1. Radiation Physics	16%
2. Localization	10%
3. Treatment Planning	30%
4. Dose Calculation Methods	20%
5. Brachytherapy	6%
6. Radiation Protection	5%
7. Quality Assurance	5%
8. Professional Responsibilities	2%
9. Fundamentals of Computers	6%
Total	100%

The MDCB thanks the medical dosimetry community who served as volunteers on the Task Force and participated in the survey process.