

STUDY GUIDE

Component A

This exam is the first of three required to be awarded a Certificate of Registration by the CCEB. These exams are designed to evaluate your competence for practicing chiropractic in Canada.

You will be tested on

- Your understanding of terminology (or vocabulary);
- Your understanding of fact and principle (or generalization);
- Your ability to make evaluative judgments;
- Your ability to arrive at an appropriate diagnosis on the basis of the information provided in a clinical vignette; and
- Your ability to make appropriate patient management recommendations on the basis of information provided in a clinical vignette.

The exam has two sections. Each section is allowed three hours. All questions have one best answer and have equal marking value. Up to approximately 10% of the questions appearing on the exam may be used for the purposes of pre-testing new items and may not be applied towards a candidate's overall score.

The number of questions in each content area of each examination varies from examination to examination. This table is a basic overview of the importance that the CCEB exams place on various topics. For further information regarding content, please refer to the [*Examination Content - Candidate Information*](#) document.

Exam Content

Patient Presentations

Presentation	Frequency of patients
lowback	19% - 25%
neck	13% - 19%
midback/thoracic	9% - 15%
dizziness/headache/head trauma	7% - 11%
hip/pelvis	6% - 10%
shoulder	6% - 10%
knee/leg	3% - 7%
foot	2% - 6%
arm/elbow	2% - 6%
Chest/abdomen	1% - 5%
hand	1% - 5%
face/jaw	1% - 5%
Other	0% - 4%

Content

Content Area	Total Percentage of Items	Knowledge of Fact (for each category +/- 1%)	Understanding (for each category +/- 1%)	Application (for each category +/- 1%)
Anatomy	22% +/- 2%	8 %	7 %	7 %
Biochemistry	4% +/- 1%	2 %	1 %	1 %
Biomechanics	12% +/- 2%	4 %	4 %	4 %
Embryology	2% +/- 1%	1 %	1 %	0 %
Histology	2% +/- 1%	1 %	1 %	0 %
Immunology	3% +/- 1%	1 %	1 %	1 %
Microbiology	3% +/- 1%	1 %	1 %	1 %
Neurology	12% +/- 2%	4 %	4 %	4 %
Nutrition	6% +/- 2%	1 %	2 %	3 %
Pathology	8% +/- 2%	2 %	3 %	3 %
Physiology	10% +/- 2%	3 %	3 %	4 %
Psychology	4% +/- 1%	1 %	1 %	2 %
Public Health & Health Promotion	5% +/- 1%	1 %	2 %	2 %
Research Methods	3% +/- 1%	1 %	1 %	1 %
Toxicology & Pharmacology	4% +/- 1%	2 %	1 %	1 %
TOTAL	100%	33% +/- 5%	33% +/- 5%	34% +/- 5%

Question Types

All questions are either vignette based including a patient presentation followed by an appropriate lead-in, or are clinical and straight forward involving the recall of fact or knowledge. Examples:

1. A 28-year-old man complains of lower leg pain after playing a football game. During examination, the chiropractor notices weakness in the extensor hallucis longus and decreased sensation in his first interdigital space of the foot. Which nerve is primarily involved?
 - A. deep fibular (peroneal)
 - B. medial plantar
 - C. saphenous
 - D. superficial fibular (peroneal)

2. A 21 year old male, 178 cm, 67 kg, week-end athlete presents with weakness in the arm. The weakness was first noticed the morning after an all night bus ride returning from a slow pitch tournament. The patient had fallen asleep with his arm over the seat in front of him. If the patient is unable to laterally abduct the arm, which is the muscle most likely involved?
 - A. coracobrachialis
 - B. deltoid
 - C. subscapularis
 - D. triceps brachii, longhead

Note: Questions are based on the metric system.