A Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties

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Personalized Study Guide (ITE Descriptors)



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One of the best ways to prepare for the ABNM Certifying exam (CE) or Maintenance of Certification exam (MOC) is to take the In-Training exam (ITE). The major difference between the ITE and the CE and MOC exams is that the ITE exam is paper-based whereas the CE and MOC exams are computer-based. The content is similar.

In order to enhance the utility of the ITE exam in 2014, the Board will provide an individualized list of descriptors for items (questions) answered incorrectly. The descriptors are short (1-3 word) descriptions of the concept that the item is testing. The items themselves are confidential; the items or recalls of the items must not be shared. The content manual provides an overall description of the content of the exam; the descriptors will provide a personalized study guide of topics that need further review.

The ACGME requires all residents to take the ITE exam. Diplomates studying for the MOC exam may also take the ITE exam. Diplomates wishing to take the ITE exam need to pay a \$215 fee and identify a training program willing to proctor the exam.