



## COMAT-INTERNAL MEDICINE

### Content Outline and Assessment Objectives

The **COMAT-Internal Medicine** examination is designed for end-of-course assessment or end-of-clinical rotation/clerkship assessment for students enrolled at a college of osteopathic medicine. This examination emphasizes core knowledge and elements of osteopathic principles and practice that are essential at the advanced beginner level (osteopathic medical student) for the discipline of **Internal Medicine**.

### General Learner-Centered Objectives

Based on general learner-centered objectives, as outlined in the **COMAT-Internal Medicine** Examination Blueprint ([http://www.nbome.org/docs/COMAT-Internal Medicine.pdf](http://www.nbome.org/docs/COMAT-Internal%20Medicine.pdf)), the examinee will be required to demonstrate the ability to apply:

- 1) Foundational content knowledge to situations and patient presentations encountered in clinical settings and important to **Internal Medicine**.
- 2) Foundational content knowledge and clinical problem-solving ability as related to particular physician tasks critical to **Internal Medicine**.
- 3) Knowledge and clinical problem-solving as related to the *Fundamental Osteopathic Medical Competency Domains*, including osteopathic principles and practice and OMT, osteopathic medical knowledge, interpersonal and communication skills, practice-based learning and improvement, systems-based practice, professionalism and patient care.  
([http://www.nbome.org/docs/NBOME Fundamental Osteopathic Medical Competencies.pdf](http://www.nbome.org/docs/NBOME%20Fundamental%20Osteopathic%20Medical%20Competencies.pdf))
- 4) Osteopathic principles and practice in commonly encountered patient care scenarios.

### Selected Specific Objectives for COMAT-Internal Medicine

For **COMAT-Internal Medicine**, the examinee will be required to demonstrate the ability to diagnose and manage selected patient presentations and clinical situations involving, but not limited to:

- 1) **Infectious diseases:** commonly encountered infectious and immunological diseases and host responses, HIV infections, bioterrorism, and infectious disease treatment and prevention/prophylaxis
- 2) **Gastrointestinal:** diseases of the upper and lower gastrointestinal tract, liver, gallbladder and pancreas; gastrointestinal disease prevention, gastrointestinal tract cancer and other gastroesophageal issues
- 3) **Respiratory:** respiratory tract cancer, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, pneumonia, pulmonary embolism, critical care medicine and respiratory failure
- 4) **Cardiovascular:** acute coronary syndromes, arrhythmias, chronic ischemic disease of the heart, congenital heart disease, hyperlipidemia, peripheral vascular disease, congestive heart failure, aortic dissection, valvular heart disease, pericarditis and endocarditis
- 5) **Renal/Hypertension:** fluid and electrolyte disorders, acute renal injury, chronic kidney disease, renal calculi, glomerular and tubulointerstitial disorders, obstructive uropathy and arterial hypertension
- 6) **Endocrine:** weight gain/loss, adrenal disorders, diabetes mellitus, parathyroid and thyroid disturbances, pituitary disorders, disorders of the testes and women's health
- 7) **Musculoskeletal:** osteoporosis, somatic dysfunction, viscerosomatic relationships, inflammatory and non-inflammatory rheumatic diseases, vasculitis, and disorders of bone and muscle
- 8) **Neurology:** brain anatomy/function, stroke, disorders of the spinal cord and peripheral nerves, disorders of cerebral function and central nervous system neoplasms

(Continued on page 2)



- 9) **Hematology/Oncology:** coagulation disorders, anemia, solid tumors, hematologic malignancies and screening and disease prevention
- 10) **Allergy/Skin/Miscellaneous:** atopic diseases, anaphylaxis, drug allergy, common dermatological conditions and skin lesions and chemical exposure

### **Selected Student and Faculty Learning Resources for COMAT-Internal Medicine**

In addition to the aforementioned objectives, examples of supplementary resources used by the NBOME to inform the development of the **COMAT-Internal Medicine** examination are listed below:

- Clerkship Directors In Internal Medicine Curriculum Guide:  
(<http://www.im.org/AAIM/Pubs/Docs/CDIMCurriculumGuide/TableofContents.htm>)
- Course and Clerkship Objectives as Outlined by each College of Osteopathic Medicine:  
(<http://www.aacom.org/people/colleges/Pages/default.aspx>)
- Basic Standards for Residency Training in Internal Medicine:  
(<http://www.osteopathic.org/inside-aoa/accreditation/postdoctoral-training-approval/postdoctoral-training-standards/Pages/internal-medicine.aspx> )

Sample **COMAT-Internal Medicine** examination items will soon be available on the NBOME's website. Although not expressly designed for or intended to prepare examinees for COMAT examinations, sample COMLEX-USA test items are available at (<http://www.nbome.org/intro/index.html>), and the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Self-Assessment Examination (COMSAE) Phase 2 is available at (<http://www.nbome.org/comsae.asp?m=can>).

A select number of resources related to the discipline of **Internal Medicine** are as follows:

<b>Cecil Textbook of Medicine</b>	Goldman	23 <sup>rd</sup> Edition	2007
<b>Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine</b>	Fauci	17 <sup>th</sup> Edition	2008
<b>Current Medical Diagnosis and Treatment</b>	McPhee	50 <sup>th</sup> Edition	2010
<b>UpToDate</b>	Inc	Version 18.3	2011
<b>An Osteopathic Approach to Diagnosis and Treatment</b>	DiGiovanna	3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition	2004
<b>Foundations for Osteopathic Medicine</b>	AOA	3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition	2010

### **NBOME COMAT Committees**

Membership of the **COMAT-Internal Medicine** committee was formulated by the NBOME with input provided by board-certified specialty experts in **Internal Medicine** from across the nation. This team consists of department chairs, clerkship/clinical rotation directors, and faculty members from colleges of osteopathic medicine, as well as representatives from graduate medical education (residency) programs and private clinical practice.