

COMAT-PSYCHIATRY

Content Outline and Assessment Objectives

The **COMAT-Psychiatry** 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 **Psychiatry**.

General Learner-Centered Objectives

Based on general learner-centered objectives, as outlined in the **COMAT-Psychiatry** Examination Blueprint (<http://www.nbome.org/docs/COMAT-Psychiatry.pdf>), the examinee will be required to demonstrate the ability to apply:

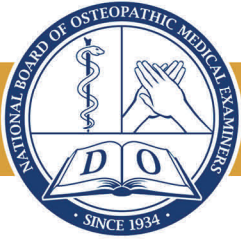
1. Foundational content knowledge to situations and patient presentations encountered in clinical settings and important in **Psychiatry**.
2. Foundational content knowledge and clinical problem-solving ability as related to particular physician tasks critical in **Psychiatry**.
3. Knowledge and clinical 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_Fundamental_Osteopathic_Medical_Compencies.pdf))
4. Osteopathic principles and practice in commonly encountered patient care scenarios.

Selected Specific Objectives for COMAT-Psychiatry

For **COMAT-Psychiatry**, 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. **Health Promotion Disease Prevention/Health Care Delivery:** assessment of dangerousness, genetic counseling, cross-cultural issues, physician-patient relationship, health care financing and cost effectiveness, and medical ethics
2. **History and Physical Examination:** assessment methods (laboratory, neuroimaging, neurophysiologic, and psychological testing), interviewing, rating scales, assessment of physical findings and historical information, mental status examination, structural examination and DSM diagnosis
3. **Management:** evidence-based decision-making, psychosocial interventions, clinical psychopharmacology, treatment complications, osteopathic manipulative treatment and treatment guidelines/best practices
4. **Scientific Understanding of Mechanisms:** mental health epidemiology, psychosocial foundations, neurobiological foundations, epigenetics, viscerosomatic relationships and other osteopathic principles
5. **Common Psychiatric Conditions:** disorders presenting in the pediatric age group; delirium, dementia, amnesic and related disorders; psychiatric illness due to a general medical condition, somatic dysfunction in psychiatric conditions, substance-related disorders, eating disorders, sexual disorders, mood disorders, anxiety disorders, somatoform disorders, adjustment disorders and personality disorders

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Selected Student and Faculty Learning Resources for COMAT-Psychiatry

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

- Association of Directors of Medical Student Education in Psychiatry (ADMSEP): (www.admsep.org/academic.html)
- Educational Objectives for a Junior Psychiatry Clerkship: (<http://www.admsep.org/appendix.html>)
- Educational Council on Osteopathic Principles: (<http://www.aacom.org/people/councils/Pages/ECOP.aspx>)
- 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 Psychiatry: (<http://www.osteopathic.org/inside-aoa/accreditation/postdoctoral-training-approval/postdoctoral-training-standards/Pages/neurology-and-psychiatry.aspx>)

Sample **COMAT-Psychiatry** 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 **Psychiatry** are as follows:

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders	4 th Edition (Text Revision) (DSM-IV-TR)	APA	2004
Synopsis of Psychiatry	Kaplan & Saddock	10 th Edition	2007
Introductory Textbook of Psychiatry	Andreasen & Black &	5 th Edition	2010
UpToDate	Inc	Version 18.3	2011
An Osteopathic Approach to Diagnosis and Treatment	DiGiovanna	3 rd Edition	2004
Foundations for Osteopathic Medicine	AOA	3 rd Edition	2010

NBOME COMAT Committees

Membership of the **COMAT-Psychiatry** committee was formulated by the NBOME with input provided by board-certified specialty experts in **Psychiatry** 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.