

July 8, 2014

NBOME Update on DSM5

Since the American Psychiatric Association's publication of the fifth edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5)* in the spring of 2013, the NBOME has carefully reviewed the new version of the manual and consulted with a team of subject matter experts from across the country on its revisions and usage in clinical practice and in assessment. As a result of this effort, the NBOME has decided to gradually transition relevant examination content to DSM-5's nomenclature and classification through the following phases:

2014-2015 Testing Cycles

COMLEX-USA Levels 1, 2-CE, 2-PE, and 3, as well as the COMAT examinations, will include diagnostic criteria and terminology from fourth edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV-TR)*.

2015-2016 Testing Cycles

- COMLEX-USA Levels 1 and 2-CE will include diagnostic criteria and terminology from *both* DSM-IV-TR and DSM-5. For items that include respective terminology, the DSM-IV-TR term will appear first, followed by the revised terminology provided by the DSM-5 parenthetically.
 - Example: Asperger disorder (autism spectrum disorder)
- COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE and Level 3 will include diagnostic criteria and terminology from only DSM-IV-TR.
- COMAT examinations will include diagnostic criteria and terminology from only DSM-5.

2016-2017 and Subsequent Testing Cycles

COMLEX-USA Level 1, 2-CE, 2-PE, and 3, as well as COMAT examinations, will include diagnostic criteria and terminology from the DSM-5.

A table summarizing the transition is below.

Assessment Product	Testing Cycle*		
	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
COMLEX-USA Level 1	DSM-IV-TR	DSM-IV-TR (DSM-5)	DSM-5
COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE	DSM-IV-TR	DSM-IV-TR (DSM-5)	DSM-5
COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE	DSM-IV-TR	DSM-IV-TR	DSM-5
COMLEX-USA Level 3	DSM-IV-TR	DSM-IV-TR	DSM-5
COMAT	DSM-IV-TR	DSM-5	DSM-5

*Annual Level 1 Testing Cycle is May 1-April 30th



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Annual Level 2-CE Testing Cycle is June 1-May 30

Annual Level 2-PE Testing Cycle is July 1-February 28 for 2014-2015, thereafter is March 1-February 28/29

Annual Level 3 Testing Cycle is March 1-February 28/29

Annual COMAT Testing Cycle is July 1-June 30

Further information about DSM-5 is available from the American Psychiatric Association at

<http://www.dsm5.org/about/Pages/DSMVOverview.aspx>.