COM STUDENT UPDATE

John R. Gimpel, DO, MEd
President & CEO
The NBOME’s mission is to protect the public by providing the means to assess competencies for osteopathic medicine and related health care professions.
NBOME National Offices - Come Visit!

Chicago

Philadelphia
COM STUDENT UPDATE 2017

NBOME Board of Directors
NBOME Board of Officers
Board Member & COM Locations
WHAT DOES THE NBOME DO FOR ME?

Services to DO Students

- “Protect the Public”- quality and patient safety
- Helping to honor sacred trust for key self-regulation mandate for a profession; entrustability
- Examinations for Licensure (COMLEX-USA, COMVEX) that have validity for the practice of osteopathic medicine
- Free and low-cost resources for self-assessment and test prep for COMLEX-USA (e.g., COMSAE)
- COMAT subject examinations
- Global advocacy for DOs for licensure and registration, and also with Residency Program Directors
- Faculty development – supporting AACOM and improving teaching, learning and assessment within the profession
Medical Regulation in the United States

- **MEDICAL EDUCATION**
  - 180 MD and DO Schools
  - Accreditors: LCME, COCA

- **RESIDENCY TRAINING**
  - >10,000 Programs
  - Accreditors: ACGME, AOA

- **MEDICAL LICENSING**
  - 69 State Medical and Osteopathic Boards

- **SPECIALTY CERTIFICATION**
  - 42 Boards
  - ABMS, AOA-BOS

- State-based system
- License issued by individual state boards
- Licensed for undifferentiated practice
- License renewal required every 2-3 years
- > 900,000 physicians
- > 80% are specialty certified
- 23% are international medical graduates

Assessment Across the Continuum

EDUCATION
- COMAT
- COMSAE

LICENSURE
- COMLEX-USA

PRACTICE
- OPAIM
- COMVEX
- CATALYST
- CLIENT EXAMS

700+ NATIONAL FACULTY MEMBERS
116,000 ACTIVE LICENSED DOs
225+ FULL-TIME STAFF
10,000+ RESIDENCY PROGRAMS
70 STATE LICENSING BOARDS
35 COMs
48 CAMPUSES
COMLEX-USA Overview

- Is the only licensure examination for osteopathic medical practice created by osteopathic physicians, basic scientists and other osteopathic medical educators

- Contains a distinctive examination blueprint and unique testing formats and content that address osteopathic principles, practices, osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT) and the actual practice of osteopathic medicine

- Is a maturation-linked examination; each Level must be passed in order to take the next Level, and Levels 1 and 2 must be passed to earn the US DO degree (COCA Standard)
• The Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States (www.fsmb.org) has found evidence for COMLEX-USA validity to be “exemplary”

• Accepted and entrusted in all 50 states for licensure, and in increasingly recognized internationally (e.g., Canada, UK, New Zealand, Australia)

• ACGME reports “COMLEX-USA and USMLE are both acceptable for ACGME-accredited residency programs” and with Fellowship Program applications; widespread acceptance in GME
COMLEX-USA Level 1

COMLEX-USA Level 2 - Cognitive Evaluation (CE)

COMLEX-USA Level 2 - Performance Evaluation (PE)

COMLEX-USA Level 3
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COMLEX-USA Current Blueprint for Testing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimension 1: Patient Presentation</th>
<th>Level 1, Level 2 CE, Level 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population Health Concepts and Patients with Presentations Related to Health Promotion, Chronic Disease Management, and Human Development</td>
<td>8 - 16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patients With Presentations Related to Digestion and Metabolism</td>
<td>4 - 10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patients With Presentations Related to Cognition, Behavior, Sensory &amp; Central Nervous Systems, Substance Abuse, and Visceral and Sensory Pain</td>
<td>28 - 38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patients With Presentations Related to the Musculoskeletal System, including Somatic Pain</td>
<td>6 - 12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patients With Presentations Related to the Genitourinary System and Human Sexuality</td>
<td>3 - 8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patients With Presentations Related to Circulation and the Respiratory System</td>
<td>8 - 16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patients With Presentations Related to Thermoregulation</td>
<td>2 - 6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patients With Presentations Related to Trauma, Masses, Edema, Discharge, and the Skin, Hair and Nails</td>
<td>8 - 16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patients With Presentations Related to Pregnancy, the Peripartum, and the Neonatal Period</td>
<td>3 - 8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimension 2: Physician Tasks</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Level 2 CE</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Promotion &amp; Disease Prevention</td>
<td>1 - 5%</td>
<td>15 - 20%</td>
<td>15 - 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History &amp; Physical Examination</td>
<td>5 - 15%</td>
<td>30 - 40%</td>
<td>10 - 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic Technologies</td>
<td>1 - 5%</td>
<td>10 - 20%</td>
<td>15 - 25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>2 - 7%</td>
<td>10 - 20%</td>
<td>25 - 40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Understanding of Health &amp; Disease Mechanisms</td>
<td>70 - 85%</td>
<td>5 - 15%</td>
<td>5 - 10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care Delivery Issues</td>
<td>1 - 3%</td>
<td>5 - 10%</td>
<td>5 - 10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COMLEX-USA Level 1

A one day, 8 hour, 400 question computer-based multiple choice examination, designed as a problem-based and symptom-based assessment integrating the foundational and basic biomedical sciences of anatomy, behavioral science, biochemistry, microbiology, osteopathic principles, pathology, pharmacology, physiology and other areas of medical knowledge relevant to solving clinical problems and promoting and maintaining health in providing osteopathic medical care to patients.
COMLEX-USA Level 2-Cognitive Evaluation (CE)

A computer-based, cognitive evaluation that emphasizes the medical concepts and principles necessary for making appropriate medical diagnoses for the practice of osteopathic medicine through patient history and physical examination findings. Level 2-CE integrates the clinical disciplines of emergency medicine, family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, osteopathic principles, pediatrics, psychiatry, surgery, and other areas relevant to solving clinical problems and promoting and maintaining health in providing osteopathic medical care to patients.
COMLEX-USA Level 2-Performance Evaluation (L2-PE)

A standardized patient-based clinical skills examination that assesses fundamental clinical skills, including physician-patient communication, interpersonal skills and professionalism; medical history-taking and physical examination skills; osteopathic principles and osteopathic manipulative treatment; and documentation skills, including synthesis of clinical findings, integrated differential diagnosis, and formulation of a diagnostic and treatment plan.
COMLEX-USA Level 2-Performance Evaluation

- One-day clinical skills examination (7 hours)
- AM and PM sessions throughout the year 6 days/week
- NBOME National Centers for Clinical Skills Testing (suburban Philadelphia and Chicago)
- 12 encounters with standardized patients
- Timed stations (14-minute encounters, 9 minutes for SOAP Note)
- Integrates and assesses OPP and OMT; SOAP Note Integrity
- Orientation Guide and Instructional Program on-line
COMLEX-USA Level 3

A computer-based, cognitive evaluation that emphasizes the medical concepts and principles required to make appropriate patient management decisions. Level 3 integrates the clinical disciplines of emergency medicine, family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, osteopathic principles, pediatrics, psychiatry, surgery, and other areas relevant to solving clinical problems and promoting and maintaining health in providing osteopathic medical care to patients.

- New examination blueprint coming in 2018, with 2-day administration and PD attestation of “good academic and professional standing”
Features of COMLEX-USA Cognitive Testing

- Level 1, Level 2-CE and Level 3 each feature one-day computer-delivered examinations (8 hours)
- ~400 Test items (including pre-test items)
- Eight (8) separate sections with 50 test items in each
- Level 3 includes Clinical Decision-Making (key features) items
- Level 3 reverts to a two-day exam format in September 2018 to assess across 7 competency domains (Note: black out period May-August 2018)
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COMLEX-USA Cognitive Testing

NBOME-Prometric Professional Test Sites in the U.S. & Canada

More than 350 labs/280 locations
More than 4,700 work stations
Recently expanded sites!
COMLEX-USA Common Question Designs: Levels 1, 2-CE, 3

• Stand-alone multiple choice
  • Contains a stem, usually with a clinical presentation
  • Interrogatory – the question
  • Only one best/correct answer
  • 5 possible answers in most cases

• Matching
  • Simple choice that may be used once, multiple times or not at all
  • Extended match
COMLEX-USA Common Question Designs: Levels 1, 2-CE, 3

- Clinical Case Scenarios
  - Frequently require interpretation of clinical patient presentations- history and physical/structural findings, laboratory data, x-ray, EKG, graphs, diagrams, other images or videos
  - Characteristically have 2-3 questions based on clinical case presented

Note: Test item types are not mixed during the exam.
COMLEX-USA Common Question Designs: Cognitive Examinations - Level 3

Clinical Decision-making items

• Clinical scenarios with directive for constructed responses (e.g., short answers), or extended matching
• Only found currently in Level 3
• Incorrect answers that effect patient safety (i.e., “killer items”) result in points lost
• See tutorials on website
Typical Screens Seen During the COMLEX-USA Cognitive Testing
A 68-year-old male is brought to the emergency department after being found lying on the sidewalk next to an empty bottle of whiskey. He complains of a headache, he is somewhat confused, and he has the odor of alcohol on his breath. Examination reveals a hematoma to the right side of the parietal skull. CT scan of the head is obtained as shown in the exhibit.

The most likely diagnosis is

A. cerebral contusion
B. epidural hematoma
C. normal pressure hydrocephalus
D. subarachnoid hemorrhage
E. subdural hematoma

Show Answer

Typical Screens Seen During the COMLEX-USA Cognitive Testing
Typical Screens Seen During the COMLEX-USA Cognitive Testing
A 29-year-old male presents to the office with a non-pruritic rash. The initial lesion appeared over the left chest area, as shown in the exhibit a generalized eruption. VDRL test and serum Lyme titer are negative.

**Question 2 of 2 in set**

The most appropriate management is

- A. Intramuscular penicillin
- B. Systemic ketoconazole
- C. Systemic steroid therapy
- D. Topical steroid therapy
- E. Ultraviolet light therapy

Show Answer
Sample COMLEX-USA-style Question Program:

Disclosure: While sample test items are intended to be written in the style typically found in COMLEX-USA examinations, this item is not currently found nor will it be found in any actual COMLEX-USA examination.

A 32-year-old female executive has been under your care for peptic ulcer disease. Repeat esophagogastroduodenoscopy reveals a 0.5-cm gastric ulcer. Biopsy is negative for carcinoma, and testing for Helicobacter pylori is negative. Her medications include standard antacid therapy and an H2-blocker. The most appropriate next step in management is to add:

A  calcium carbonate
B  cimetidine
C  famotidine
D  nizatidine
E  rabeprazole
A 48-year-old female presents to the office with a 3-week history of head, back, and neck pain. She has not been sleeping well and is tired all the time. She states that she “just aches all over,” but she cannot be more specific about the pain. She has been healthy and is on no medications. Physical examination reveals bilateral tenderness over the suboccipital triangle, sternum, medial scapulae, PSIS, low back, and pes anserine bursae. The most appropriate recommendation to help relieve her symptoms is:

A. low-impact exercise program
B. long-acting opioid analgesics
C. myofascial release to affected areas
D. nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs
E. oral corticosteroids
Novel Item Formats in COMLEX-USA

• Multimedia - Video, Audio, avatar with heart or lung sounds, structural findings
• Mock pharma ad items
• Research abstract items
• Clinical decision-making (Key Features) cases (L3)
• These items help to assess elements of competency domains other than application of osteopathic medical knowledge
A 55-year-old female presents with a chief complaint of frequent stumbling and tripping. There has been no history of trauma to her extremities or her head. The patient reports that her brother was similarly affected 2 years ago. She has also noted fasciculations, and an ankle jerk reflex is noted to be absent on the right. The patient is not experiencing any pain. The patient is asked to walk across the room and presents with the gait demonstrated in the exhibit. Which muscle group is affected based on the demonstrated gait?

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>anterior tibial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>gastrocnemius</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>peroneal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>quadriceps femoris</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>soleus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*not in COMLEX-USA format*
Novel Item Formats in COMLEX-USA

• Add to authenticity and validity
• Broaden the assessment over an expanded competency subset, across 7 competency domains
• Include use of multimedia test items (e.g., audio, video, patient scenarios, heart and lung sounds) - in COMLEX-USA since 2007
• Newer prototype formats exploring assessment of information-mastery skills, biostatistics, evidence-based medicine (following FOMCD)
• Clinical decision-making (CDM)/Key Features cases are now in COMLEX-USA Level 3
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COMLEX-USA Videos
TEST ITEM PATHWAY: CONCEPTION TO SCORE

1. Blueprint Specs ➔ Item-Writing Assigned ➔ New Item Written
2. Selected for Pre-testing
3. Preliminary Exam Review ➔ New Item Review Committee ➔ Staff Review
4. Sent to CBT Vendor for pre-publishing review ➔ Proofed in multiple media
5. Item Pre-Tested Live
6. Item Bank ➔ Key Validation
7. Exam Review Committee ➔ Exam Published
8. Exam Published ➔ Exam Administered
9. Items Rotated ➔ Item Scored
COMLEX-USA Level 2-Performance Evaluation

- One-day clinical skills examination (7 hours); AM and PM sessions throughout the year 6 days/week
- NBOME’s National Centers for Clinical Skills Testing (Philadelphia and Chicago)
- 12 encounters with standardized patients
- Timed stations (14-minute encounters, 9 minutes for electronic SOAP Note)
- Integrates and assesses OPP and OMT
- Orientation Guide, Instructional Program Video, eSOAP Practice module online
Clinical Skills in COMLEX-USA Performance Evaluation

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COMLEX-USA Bulletin of Information (BOI)

• Available online at www.nbome.org
• The BOI is a legally binding document
• Provides detailed information regarding policies, rules, procedures and obligations of candidates taking the COMLEX-USA sequence of exams
• Clearly stipulates that you may not bring notes or electronic resources, etc., into testing stations, or share content-specific information from exams
• Make sure to familiarize yourself with information herein and avoid irregular conduct
Candidates requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended

- Application and Guidelines are downloadable from the NBOME website
- Apply early, as it may take 8-12 weeks for review, verification and approval to take place before an administrative accommodation can be given
- While considerable weight is given to prior testing accommodations, documentation is required
COMLEX-USA Scoring and Reporting

COMLEX-USA uses “criterion-referenced” methodology.

COMLEX-USA exams are “Pass/Fail”

- “Pass” if meets or exceeds the established passing score
- Passing means having met or exceeded the standard for competency (minimum competency required)
- Passing Candidates cannot retake the test for a higher score
# COMLEX-USA Scoring and Reporting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMLEX-USA Cognitive Examinations</th>
<th>Passing Score</th>
<th>Mean Score</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>500-550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2-CE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3</td>
<td>350</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMLEX-USA Performance Evaluation</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 2-PE</td>
<td>Pass/Fail</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COMLEX-USA Scoring and Reporting

- Score Reporting: Pass/Fail, 3-digit standard scores
  *2-digit standard scores phased out in 2015
- L2-PE Score Reporting: Pass-fail only
- Percentile conversion tool available on website, ALL ACCESS
- Reported on ERAS for all DO applicants
- Smart phone app available! (NBOME App…iPhones)
Percentile Score Converter in App Store and on Website

### COMLEX-USA Level 1 (May 2015 - April 2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Percentile</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>400</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>450</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>550</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>650</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vary by testing cycle
COMLEX-USA LEVEL 1 FIRST-TIME TAKER PASSING RATES

The yellow bar indicates the admin year when a new/revalidated pass standard is applied.
COMLEX-USA LEVEL 2-CE FIRST-TIME TAKER PASSING RATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Pass Rate</th>
<th>1st-timers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>92.3%</td>
<td>4,973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>92.6%</td>
<td>5,423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>92.2%</td>
<td>5,416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>93.2%</td>
<td>6,084</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The yellow bar indicates the admin year when a new/revalidated pass standard is applied.
COMLEX-USA LEVEL 3 FIRST-TIME TAKER PASSING RATES

The yellow bar indicates the admin year when a new/revalidated pass standard is applied.
The yellow bar indicates the admin year when a new/revalidated pass standard is applied.
Clinical Skills in COMLEX-USA Performance Evaluation


COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE First Time-Taker Fail Rates

Overall Percent Fail
- 2013-14 (5540)
- 2014-15 (3577)
- 2015-16 (5417)
- 2016-2017 (6211)

Both Domains Fail

Humanistic Domain Fail

Biomed/Biomech Domain Fail

Standard
When are COMLEX-USA results available?

• Computer-based Examinations (Levels 1, 2-CE, 3): 4-6 weeks after examination
• Level 2-Performance Evaluation: 8-10 weeks after examination
• Score reporting subject to delays when new passing standards implemented or other circumstances
Examination Integrity and Security

• NBOME Bulletin of Information
• Test Center Protocols and Monitoring
• Irregular Conduct
• Confidentiality Agreements (Candidates, National Faculty)
• Investigation and Forensics
• Unprofessional Language and other behavior
• Level 2-PE SOAP Note Integrity
Test Preparation Material

- Free tutorials for all COMLEX-USA examinations are available for viewing and download from the NBOME website [www.nbome.org](http://www.nbome.org)
- The NBOME does not recommend any one review book, review system, or prep course to prepare for COMLEX-USA examinations (Be wary of confidentiality issues and breaches)
- Studies have concluded that best preparation is active engagement with the COM curriculum. And the best predictors of performance are COM GPA (and undergrad GPA; MCAT scores are not good predictors of medical licensure exam scores)
- Low-cost COMSAE-self assessment created in response to student input, widely used now. Connect with FACEBOOK for free QOM!
Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Self-Assessment Examination

- Phase 1, Phase 2 and Phase 3 have distinct test forms
- School bulk purchase program for assisted self assessment
  - Phase 1, three forms for student use; two forms for COM bulk purchase
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COMSAE and COMLEX-USA Performances
November 2014 - January 2016*

* Included in analysis are candidates who took the COMSAE for the first time in a timed environment, and prior to their respective COMLEX-USA examinations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMLEX-USA</th>
<th>COMSAE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>5,446</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2-CE</td>
<td>3,548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3</td>
<td>695</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Enhanced COMLEX-USA Blueprint 2018-2019
Enhancements to COMLEX-USA

1. Embedded Test Item Lab Values and Calculator - 2017-2018
2. Optional AM and PM Sessions Breaks (Clock Stopped) - 2017-2018
3. Eligibility Modification: Level 3 - Attestation of Resident being in “Good Academic and Professional Standing” by an AOA or ACGME- Accredited Residency PD - 2018-2019
5. Two-day Level 3 in 2018-2019 (likely September after blackout May-August 2018); expanded Clinical Decision-Making scenarios and other novel item formats
6. Updated and detailed COMLEX-USA Test Specifications and Guides published to www.nbome.org by July 2017
Enhanced COMLEX-USA Blueprint Recent Publications


Enhanced COMLEX-USA Blueprint 2018-2019

Focuses the assessment on two dimensions that continue to integrate:

- Osteopathic philosophy of whole person healthcare
- Underlying structure-function relationships
- Interdependence of body systems
- Self-healing and self-regulatory mechanisms, and
- Osteopathic approach to patient care, including osteopathic manipulative medicine and OMT
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**Assessment Purpose**

**Decision Point 1**
Graduation/DO Degree

- **Entry into GME**
  - Level 1
  - Level 2-CE
  - Level 2-PE

**Decision Point 2**
State Licensure

- **Entry into Independent Practice**
  - Level 3A
  - Level 3B
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL 1</th>
<th>LEVEL 2-CE</th>
<th>LEVEL 2-PE</th>
<th>LEVEL 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One-day computer-based examination 400 predominantly multiple-choice test questions</td>
<td>One-day computer-based examination 400 predominantly multiple-choice test questions</td>
<td>One-day 12 station standardized patient-based performance evaluation of fundamental clinical skills</td>
<td>Two-day computer-based examination 500-550 MCQs, clinical decision-making cases, and other novel test item formats (up to 30 additional clinical cases)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAY 2019</th>
<th>JUNE 2019</th>
<th>MAR. 2019</th>
<th>SEPT. 2018</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE</td>
<td>IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE</td>
<td>IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE</td>
<td>IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COMLEX-USA EXAMINATION PROGRAM**
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MASTER BLUEPRINT SCHEMATIC

PATIENT PRESENTATIONS RELATED TO:
- Community Health and Patient Presentations Related to Wellness
- Human Development, Reproduction, and Sexuality
- Endocrine System and Metabolism
- Nervous System and Mental Health
- Musculoskeletal System
- Genitourinary/Renal System and Breasts
- Gastrointestinal System and Nutritional Health
- Circulatory and Hematologic Systems
- Respiratory System
- Integumentary System

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# COMLEX-USA Master Blueprint

## Test Specifications for Each Examination

### Dimension 1: Competency Domains

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimension</th>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Level 2-CE</th>
<th>Level 2-PE HUM*</th>
<th>Level 2-PE BM/BM*</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Series Minimum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Osteopathic Principles, Practice, and Manipulative Treatment</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Osteopathic Patient Care and Procedural Skills</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Application of Knowledge for Osteopathic Medical Practice</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>Foundational Biomedical Sciences Knowledge Base</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Practice-Based Learning and Improvement in Osteopathic Medical Practice</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Interpersonal and Communication Skills in the Practice of Osteopathic Medicine</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Professionalism in the Practice of Osteopathic Medicine</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Systems-Based Practice in Osteopathic Medicine</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>5%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Dimension 2: Clinical Presentations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimension</th>
<th>Presentation</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Level 2-CE</th>
<th>Level 2-PE</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Series Minimum</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Community Health and Patient Presentations related to Wellness</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Patient Presentations Related to Human Development, Reproduction, and Sexuality</td>
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<td>5%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Patient Presentations Related to Endocrine System and Metabolism</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Patient Presentations Related to Gastrointestinal System and Nutritional Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Patient Presentations Related to Circulatory and Hematologic Systems</td>
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<td>14%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Patient Presentations Related to Respiratory System</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Patient Presentations Related to Integumentary System</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*HUM: Humanistic Domain | BM/BM: Biomedical/Biomechanical Domain
Dimension 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPETENCY DOMAINS: DIMENSION 1</th>
<th>MINIMUM</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Osteopathic Principles, Practice, and Manipulative Treatment</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Osteopathic Patient Care and Procedural Skills</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Application of Knowledge for Osteopathic Medical Practice</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Practice-Based Learning and Improvement in Osteopathic Medical Practice</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Interpersonal and Communication Skills in the Practice of Osteopathic Medicine</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Professionalism in the Practice of Osteopathic Medicine</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Systems-Based Practice in Osteopathic Medicine</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Guidelines for Assessment for Osteopathic Medical Licensure and the Practice of Osteopathic Medicine
MASTER BLUEPRINT
EXAMPLE: COMPETENCY DOMAIN 3
APPLICATION OF KNOWLEDGE FOR OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL PRACTICE

overview

Osteopathic physicians must demonstrate the understanding and application of established and evolving principles of foundational biomedical and clinical sciences integral to the practice of patient-centered osteopathic medical care. As with the other competency domains, application of knowledge is about ability (i.e., knowledge put into action). Cognitive and other learning science theorists explain that the acquisition of declarative knowledge in biomedical and clinical sciences, the conscious knowledge that something is the case, progressively transforms into procedural knowledge (knowing how to do something). This gradual transformation leads the osteopathic physician to develop a problem and task-specific knowledge base that is integrated across individual disciplines. It is this knowledge base that provides a foundation for competent patient-centered osteopathic medical care. An osteopathic physician with a fluent knowledge base in foundational biomedical and clinical sciences, for example, would be able to explain principles of health, disease, and diagnostic and treatment options to patients. Included in this knowledge base is the articulation of core scientific and clinical practice principles relevant to osteopathic medical practice (e.g., health and the body’s innate capacity to heal, differential diagnoses, disease etiologies, indications and contraindications, assessment of the risks and benefits of diagnostic and therapeutic interventions).

Knowledge fluency is fundamental to a generalist osteopathic physician’s competency to practice osteopathic medicine. Knowledge fluency is demonstrated by the ability to efficiently interpret, process, and skillfully apply principles of foundational biomedical and clinical sciences in a timely manner. Also important to an osteopathic physician’s knowledge competency is the ability to formulate appropriate clinical questions, retrieve evidence to inform patient care, acquire additional and evolving knowledge for lifelong learning, and apply this knowledge for continuous practice improvement. Demonstration of the understanding and application of core knowledge is fundamental to the incorporation of new knowledge. Continuous quality improvement, however, is primarily addressed in the practice-based learning and improvement domain (Domain 4).

As osteopathic medical knowledge provides the foundation for many physician competency domains, considerable overlap exists between this competency domain and the other six. Testing concepts are mapped here when the primary component being assessed is application of knowledge (e.g., the knowledge of the scientific understanding of mechanisms of action; molecular and macro systems including biomolecules, molecules, cells, and organs; origins of disease processes; why certain diagnostic tests and treatments are used).

The principles that underlie the human condition, including its biologic complexity, genetic diversity, homeostatic mechanisms, structure-function interrelationships, development, and interactions of systems and environmental influences, guide the osteopathic physician in the understanding of health and the diagnosis and treatment of disease. While these foundational principles often cross biomedical science and clinical disciplines in the practice of osteopathic medicine, they are mapped here for primary characterization.
REQUIRED ELEMENT 3.1
FOUNDATIONAL BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES KNOWLEDGE BASE

DEFINITION
Given the various clinical presentations common and important to osteopathic medical practice and described herein, the osteopathic physician must be able to demonstrate the application of knowledge of clinically applicable foundational biomedical science concepts related to patient care and health, homeostasis, structure-function relationships, prevention, and disease, and do so in an integrated, patient-centered, osteopathic manner.

MEASURED OUTCOMES
The osteopathic physician must effectively apply clinically relevant foundational biomedical science knowledge related to:
- the molecular, biochemical, tissue, and cellular bases of health and disease.
- medical genetics.
- the anatomic and structural bases of health and disease.
- the physiologic and pathologic bases of health and disease.
- the microbiologic and immunologic bases of health and disease.
- pharmacologic principles and pharmacotherapeutics in health and disease.
- neurosciences.
- biopsychosocial sciences.
- epidemiology and population sciences.
- medicolegal and governing regulatory principles in medical practice.

REQUIRED ELEMENT 3.2
CLINICAL SCIENCES KNOWLEDGE BASE

DEFINITION
Given the various clinical presentations common and important to osteopathic medical practice and described herein, the osteopathic physician must be able to demonstrate the application of knowledge of established and evolving clinical science concepts related to patient care and health, homeostasis, structure-function relationships, prevention, and disease and do so in an integrated, patient-centered, osteopathic manner.

MEASURED OUTCOMES
The osteopathic physician must effectively apply clinical science knowledge related to disciplines pertaining to the primary-care-oriented focus of osteopathic medical practice, including generalist concepts from the following specialties:
- emergency and acute care medicine.
- family medicine.
- general internal medicine and its subspecialties (e.g., allergy/immunology, cardiology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, hematology, infectious diseases, nephrology, oncology, pulmonary medicine, rheumatology).
- preventive and occupational medicine.
- neurology.
- obstetrics and gynecology.
- osteopathic neuromusculoskeletal medicine.
- pain medicine, hospice, and palliative care.
- physical medicine and rehabilitation.
- pediatrics and adolescent medicine.
- geriatrics.

- psychiatry and behavioral medicine.
- general surgery and its subspecialties (e.g., colon and rectal, neurologic, pediatric, plastic, thoracic, urologic, and vascular).
- orthopedics and sports medicine.
- anesthesiology.
- otorhinolaryngology and ophthalmology.
- radiology.
- pathology.
- dermatology.
- other clinical discipline areas relevant to primary care in osteopathic medicine.

REQUIRED ELEMENT 3.3
CONTINUOUS KNOWLEDGE-BASED DEVELOPMENT AND LIFELONG LEARNING

DEFINITION
The osteopathic physician must demonstrate that he/she acquires and sustains knowledge of applicable foundational biomedical and clinical science concepts appropriate for clinical practice for lifelong learning, including, as applicable, at the point of care.

MEASURED OUTCOMES
The osteopathic physician must demonstrate that he/she:
- incorporates new developments in foundational biomedical and clinical science knowledge relevant to the practice of osteopathic medicine into his/her practice.
### Dimension 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinical Presentations</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>12%</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient Presentations Related to: Integumentary System</td>
<td>5%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CLINICAL PRESENTATIONS represent the manner in which a particular patient, group of patients, or community present(s) to osteopathic physicians. These are high-frequency, high-impact categories based on evidence from osteopathic medical practice and are further categorized as topics.

Clinical presentations may include, but are not limited to, presentations of patients across all relevant age categories, from special populations, and in varied clinical settings, and the following ways in which patients present for osteopathic medical care:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimension 2</th>
<th>CLINICAL PRESENTATIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Community Health and Patient Presentations Related to Wellness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Human Development, Reproduction, and Sexuality</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Endocrine System and Metabolism</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Nervous System and Mental Health</td>
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<td>5.</td>
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<td>Respiratory System</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Integumentary System</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Patient presentations span all relevant age categories, special populations, and varied clinical settings.

4.1 ANXIETY
4.2 DISTURBANCES OF MOOD/DEPRESSIVE DISORDERS
4.3 COGNITIVE DISTURBANCES
4.4 DISTURBANCES OF BEHAVIOR AND PERCEPTION
4.5 LIFE ADJUSTMENT AND STRESSORS
4.6 DISTURBANCES OF THE SPECIAL SENSES
4.7 HEADACHE
4.8 SPEECH AND LANGUAGE DISTURBANCES
4.9 MOVEMENT DISTURBANCES
4.10 SEIZURES
4.11 SENSORY DISTURBANCES AND PAIN
4.12 SLEEP DISTURBANCES
4.13 SUBSTANCE ABUSE
4.14 NERVOUS SYSTEM TRAUMA
4.15 WEAKNESS AND PARALYSIS
4.16 PHYSICAL EXAM FINDINGS RELATED TO THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND MENTAL HEALTH
4.17 LABORATORY TEST FINDINGS AND DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING RELATED TO THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND MENTAL HEALTH

The Guide to clinical presentations in this category may include, but is not limited to, the following ways in which patients present for osteopathic medical care:

- Abuse and neglect, child or elder
- Acalculia
- Acoustic tremors
- Adjustment disorder
- Agnosia
- Agraphia
- Akinesia
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
- Anomia
- Anxiety disorders, including generalized anxiety, anxiety secondary to another medical condition, anxiety secondary to another mental disorder or induced by illicit, prescribed, or over-the-counter drugs or other substances
- Apraxia
- Arteriovenous malformations
- Astereognosis (tactile agnosia)
- Athetosis
- Atrophy of extremity muscles
- Ballism (ballismus)
- Behavioral abnormalities, including avoidance, dependency, and obsessive-compulsive disorder
- Bipolar and related disorders
- Brain tumors, including sellar/pituitary masses, neoplasms, and metastatic tumors; paraneoplastic syndromes
- Cerebral concussion/mild traumatic brain injury
- Cerebral palsy
- Cerebral vascular disorders, including aneurysms and vasculitis (eg, temporal arteritis)
- Cerebrospinal fluid abnormalities
- Chalazion
- Chronic fatigue syndrome
- Fibromyalgia
- Cognitive impairments, including altered level of consciousness, mild cognitive impairment, amnesia, coma, confusion, delirium, disorientation, subcortical and cortical dementia (eg, Alzheimer disease, Huntington disease, Parkinson disease)
- Cogwheel rigidity
- Cyclothymic disorder
- Depressive disorders
- Disruptive behaviors, including attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, pediatric anxiety (eg, disruptive mood dysregulation disorder, selective mutism, separation anxiety)
- Dizziness and true vertigo, including peripheral or central vestibular dysfunction, benign paroxysmal positional vertigo, labyrinthitis, Meniere disease
- Dysautonomia
- Dyskinesias
- Dystonias
- Ear and hearing disorders, including acoustic neuroma and other neoplasms; conductive, sensorineural, or neurogenic hearing loss; presbycusis; otosclerosis; ototoxic drugs; Meniere disease
Patient presentations span all relevant age categories, special populations, and varied clinical settings.

4.1 ANXIETY
4.2 DISTURBANCES OF MOOD/DEPRESSIVE DISORDERS
4.3 COGNITIVE DISTURBANCES
4.4 DISTURBANCES OF BEHAVIOR AND PERCEPTION
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4.17 LABORATORY TEST FINDINGS AND DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING RELATED TO THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND MENTAL HEALTH

The Guide to clinical presentations in this category may include, but is not limited to, the following ways in which patients present for osteopathic medical care:

eating and feeding disorders (e.g., anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, pica, binge-eating) • elimination disorders (e.g., enuresis, encopresis) • encephalopathies (e.g., Reye Syndrome, Wernicke-Korsakoff encephalopathy, shock) • epidural hematoma • eye and vision disorders, including discharge, pain, lacrimal drainage, blepharitis, iritis, subconjunctival hemorrhage, hordeolum, floaters, cataracts, glaucoma, red eye(s), eye trauma (e.g., orbital floor fracture), diplopia, amblyopia, nystagmus, strabismus, refractive error, ptosis, optical migraine, photophobia, blurred vision (e.g., acute narrow-angle glaucoma), unilateral and bilateral vision loss, acute vision loss (e.g., amaurosis fugax [temporary blindness]) • fasciculation • gambling disorder • gender dysphoria • grieving and normal bereavement • head and spinal cord injury • headache (acute and chronic), including cluster, migraine, tension; episodic and constant; unilateral and bilateral; primary and secondary, with and without red flag symptoms (e.g., aura); trigeminal autonomic cephalalgia; headache attributed to a substance or its withdrawal; headache from trauma/traumatic brain injury • hoarding disorder • Huntington disease • hypomania • infantile and pediatric seizures and spells • infections (e.g., systemic, central nervous system, sinusitis, encephalitis, meningitis) • learning disorders • malingering • mood disorders, including depressed mood, elevated mood, elevated mood with or without depressed mood, mania, cyclothymia • mouth and jaw disorders, including taste disorders, mastication pain • movement disorders, including voluntary and involuntary abnormal movements, such as cerebellar and sensory ataxias, chorea, and other hyperkinetic (e.g., Tourette syndrome) and bradykinetic (e.g., Parkinson disease) disorders and diseases • myoclonus • nerve-, muscle-, and pain-related syndromes, including complex regional pain syndrome, post-herpetic neuralgia, meralgia paresthetica,
Patient presentations span all relevant age categories, special populations, and varied clinical settings.

4.1 ANXIETY
4.2 DISTURBANCES OF MOOD/DEPRESSIVE DISORDERS
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4.17 LABORATORY TEST FINDINGS AND DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING RELATED TO THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND MENTAL HEALTH

The Guide to clinical presentations in this category may include, but is not limited to, the following ways in which patients present for osteopathic medical care:

- compression or diabetic neuropathy, spinal stenosis, Guillain-Barré syndrome, multiple sclerosis, Bell palsy, myasthenia gravis
- neurocognitive disorders
- neurologic gait disorders (eg, hemiplegic gait, spastic diplegic gait, neuropathic gait, myopathic gait, Parkinsonian gait, choreiform gait, ataxic [cerebellar] gait, sensory gait)
- obsessive-compulsive and related disorders (eg, body dysmorphic disorder, trichotillomania, excoriation disorder)
- olfactory disorders
- pain, chronic nonmalignant pain, neuropathic, nociceptive, mixed, sympathetic
- panic disorder, phobias (eg, specific phobias, agoraphobia), social anxiety disorder
- paraphilias
- personality disorders (eg, paranoid, schizoid, schizotypal, antisocial, histrionic, borderline, narcissistic)
- postpartum depression or psychosis
- premenstrual dysphoric disorder, dissociative disorders
- psychogenic and illicit, prescribed, or over-the-counter drug or substance-induced seizures
- psychotic disorders, hallucinations, delusions, and disturbances of perception
- psychotic disorders, brief, including schizophreniform disorder, schizophrenia spectrum, and other psychotic disorders
- psychotic disorders, specific, including delusional disorders; shared psychotic disorder, psychosis secondary to illicit, prescribed, and over-the-counter drugs and substances; psychosis secondary to medical conditions
- pupillary abnormalities (eg, isocoria, anisocoria, mydriasis, miotic pupils)
- relational problems
- resting tremors
- seizures, atonic or convulsive, including epilepsies and secondary seizures
- seizures, including focal and generalized
- sleep disorders, including obstructive sleep apnea, somnambulism, insomnia, excessive daytime sleepiness, sleep-wake disorders, narcolepsy, night terrors, parasomnias
- somatic symptoms and related disorders (eg, conversion disorder, factitious disorders, psychological factors affecting other conditions)
The Guide to clinical presentations in this category may include, but is not limited to, the following ways in which patients present for osteopathic medical care:

- speech/language-related disorders, including alexia, aphasia (fluent and nonfluent), dysphasia, and dysarthria
- stereotypy
- stroke (e.g., transient ischemic attack, hemorrhagic stroke)
- subarachnoid hemorrhage
- subdural hematoma
- substance-related and addictive disorders, including oral and intravenous abuse of tobacco, alcohol, opioids, cocaine, and cannabis; intoxication; withdrawal symptoms (e.g., delirium tremens)
- suicidal ideation
- tactile disturbances, including sensory loss, numbness, vibration/temperature/proprioception loss, tingling, and paresthesia
- tics and tic disorders (e.g., Tourette syndrome)
- tinnitus, unilateral or bilateral, with or without hearing loss, including tinnitus secondary to ototoxic medications, tinnitus with somatic triggers (e.g., labyrinthitis, Morieru disease)
- trauma and e stressor-related disorders (e.g., adjustment disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder)
- vascular and inflammatory masses
- weakness and paralysis, focal (e.g., hemiplegia); postural instability or tremors

**CONSTITUTIONAL SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS**
- fatigue
- fever
- generalized weakness
- involuntary weight loss
- malaise
- night sweats
- pallor

**PHYSICAL EXAM FINDINGS**
- abdominal reflex
- Chvostek test
- clonus, Glasgow coma score, mini-cog testing
- corneal reflex, nystagmus
- cranial nerve examinations
- cremasteric reflex
- decreased muscle tone
- dysdiadochokinesia
- fundoscopic findings and cup
- disc ratios
- heel to shin test
- Hoffman reflexes
Patient presentations span all relevant age categories, special populations, and varied clinical settings.

The Guide to clinical presentations in this category may include, but is not limited to, the following ways in which patients present for osteopathic medical care:

- increased muscle tone
- light reflex
- micro-aneurysms
- mini-mental status examination
- ptosis
- nuchal rigidity, Kernig sign, Brudzinski sign
- deep tendon (stretch) reflexes and grading
- papilledema, cotton wool spots
- plantar (Babinski) reflex
- proliferative changes
- red reflex
- Romberg test
- slitlamp exam findings
- tuning-fork testing
- visual-acuity testing

LABORATORY TEST FINDINGS AND DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING

- angiography
- cerebrospinal fluid evaluation
- computed tomography imaging
- electroencephalography patterns
- elevated serum creatine kinase
- lab findings, vitamins (eg, B12 deficiency)
- magnetic resonance imaging
- nuclear medicine imaging
- radiography
- sonography
A 72-year-old male presents to the office with increasing shortness of breath over the past 6 months. He admits to smoking 2 packs of cigarettes per day for 40 years. He denies coughing up blood, fever, or weight loss. Physical examination reveals a chest wall with increased AP diameter and muffled breath sounds in all fields. Clubbing of fingernails is noted. Which of the following will most likely be decreased in his pulmonary function studies?

A  end-expiratory lung volume
B  forced expiratory volume in 1 second  **
C  functional residual capacity
D  residual volume
E  total lung capacity
After undergoing coronary artery bypass surgery six months ago, a 58-year-old male gradually develops right-sided pain in the upper chest wall. When the patient exerts himself, the pain is exacerbated, but is not excruciating. He denies shortness of breath, palpitations, and lightheadedness. Palpation elicits pain at the right coracoid process and right costochondral articulations. The somatic dysfunction most likely to be present is

A. long head of biceps spasm
B. pectoralis minor spasm  **
C. short head of biceps tendinitis
D. sternocleidomastoid spasm
E. trigger point at xiphoid
Competency Domain 6: Professionalism
Clinical Presentation 1: Community Health and Presentations Related to Wellness

An alert and oriented 78-year-old female has become very ill from side effects of treatment for breast cancer metastatic to lung and bone. She has requested to discontinue treatment, but the family wishes to pursue any chance of cure. It is the duty of her physician to

- [A] agree with the family since they have the patient’s best interests in mind
- [B] convince the patient to accept the family’s wishes and continue treatment
- [C] consider the family’s wishes if the patient becomes incompetent
- [D] uphold the patient’s decision to discontinue treatment **
- [E] withhold further treatment until all family conflicts are resolved
Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Achievement Tests
COMAT Program Features:

• Virtually every COM now enrolled in COMAT Program!
• Eight (8) Core Clinical Disciplines – designed for end of clerkship/clinical rotation or course evaluations
  
  - Emergency Medicine
  - Internal Medicine
  - OPP
  - Psychiatry
  - Family Medicine
  - OB-GYN
  - Pediatrics
  - Surgery

• COMAT-Foundational Biomedical Sciences Examination – exam development targeted for 2018!
COMAT Program Features:

• Osteopathically distinctive assessments; content reflects the latest development of the subject and consensus “best-practice” guidelines- blueprints on NBOME website

• Features learner-centered objectives and teaching and learning resources

• On-line adaptability and flexibility; proctored and secure
New iPad Platform

eCOMAT - since 2015!
COM STUDENT UPDATE 2017

COMAT at Prometric
Now available!
Applying to Residency Programs

- Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS)

- Pass-fail and 3-digit scoring is recorded - link to percentile calculator (Get the App)

- Used by AOA-approved and ACGME-accredited residency and fellowship program applications

- Updated resources for Residency PDs: www.nbome.org
ACGME Residency Program Directors Use COMLEX-USA for DOs (same as 2012 and 2014 PD Surveys)...

2016 NRMP Program Director Survey

- 1,435 of 3,599 Total Programs Responded
  - 39.9 Percent Overall Response Rate
  - 22 Specialties + Transitional Year
  - (≥10 responses included in report)

- 77 Percent of ACGME Program Directors
  - Reported Using COMLEX-USA for DOs
  - No Change from 2014

www.nrmp.org
**2016 NRMP Program Director Survey**

Over 80 percent of ACGME Program Directors Report Using COMLEX-USA Level 1 Scores in 12 Specialties

- Anesthesiology
- Diagnostic Radiology
- Emergency Medicine
- Family Medicine
- General Surgery
- Internal Medicine

- Neurology
- Obstetrics-Gynecology
- Pathology
- Pediatrics
- Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
- Psychiatry
2016 NRMP Match Osteopathic Outcomes

Charting Outcomes in the Match for U.S. Osteopathic Students and Graduates

Characteristics of U.S. Osteopathic Students and Graduates Who Matched to Their Preferred Specialty in the 2016 Main Residency Match

1st Edition

Prepared by:
National Resident Matching Program
www.nrmp.org
2016 NRMP Osteopathic Match Rates in Top 12 Osteopathic Specialties

- Anesthesiology: Osteopathic Applicants 89%, All Applicants 96%
- Diagnostic Radiology: Osteopathic Applicants 90%, All Applicants 96%
- Emergency Medicine: Osteopathic Applicants 76%, All Applicants 83%
- Family Medicine: Osteopathic Applicants 75%, All Applicants 88%
- General Surgery: Osteopathic Applicants 51%, All Applicants 67%
- Internal Medicine: Osteopathic Applicants 75%, All Applicants 87%
- Neurology: Osteopathic Applicants 79%, All Applicants 82%
- Obstetrics and Gynecology: Osteopathic Applicants 76%, All Applicants 86%
- Pathology: Osteopathic Applicants 77%, All Applicants 82%
- Pediatrics: Osteopathic Applicants 86%, All Applicants 90%
- Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation: Osteopathic Applicants 77%, All Applicants 77%
- Psychiatry: Osteopathic Applicants 65%, All Applicants 77%
“Twitter Feed…”
From ACGME Leaders, PDs, DIOs…

“COMLEX and USMLE are both acceptable to the ACGME. The Single Accreditation System does nothing to alter that. We recognize the important role that COMLEX plays in quality for osteopathic medical education and training.”

Thomas J. Nasca, MD, MACP
Chief Executive Officer, ACGME
2015
“Twitter Feed…”
From ACGME Leaders, PDs, DIOs…

“In contrast to USMLE scores, which are difficult to interpret, and for which there is no published mean, COMLEX scores are easy to interpret. Additionally, the NBOME website provides a formula to convert COMLEX scores into a percentile at the time the examination results are released.”

Paul J. Schenarts, MD
Professor of Surgery and Program Director
University of Nebraska College of Medicine
Journal of Graduate Medical Education
2014
“Twitter Feed…”
From ACGME Leaders, PDs, DIOs…

“COMLEX-USA is the gold standard that I use as a program director for evaluating applications for our residency program”

Joseph A. Greco, MD
Family Medicine Residency Program Director and Designated Institutional Official (DIO)
Bryn Mawr Hospital, Pennsylvania
2015
UNLEASHING THE POWER OF OUR INFORMATION

Initiatives to Reach Residency Program Directors

- Website, “COMLEX-USA for PDs”, Annual Report to PDs
- Organization of Program Director Associations/Council of Medical Specialty Societies- presentations twice annually
- ACGME Annual Meeting Exhibit, Presentation at ACGME Annual Educational Conference 2017; ACGME on Board’s Liaison Committee; Outreach to AODME
- Research: presentations and publications for PDs; e.g. CORD (EM), SAEM (EM), ACP (IM), JAOA, JGME, Academic Med, etc.
- ERAS links regarding interpretation of COMLEX-USA scores
- Smart Phone App with Percentile Converter
- Grass-roots efforts – DOs and Students have a key role!
Evidence was found that the COMLEX-USA can assist family medicine residency program directors in predicting later resident performance on the ABFM’s ITE and MC-FP, which is becoming increasingly important as graduate medical education accreditation moves toward a single aligned model.
Predictive Validity and Score Concordance

Sandella, Jeanne M., DO, Gimpel, John R., DO, MEd, Smith, Larissa L., PhD, and Boulet, John R., PhD. The Use of COMLEX-USA and USMLE for Residency Applicant Selection. Journal of Graduate Medical Education (July 2016)

- The comparability of performance is useful in further validating both examinations in context of allopathic and osteopathic students “crossing over” into their choice of training programs.
Important Take-Home Messages

• Register/Schedule Early; Prepare well in advance of the test – most importantly by engaging fully in COM curriculum

• Avoid “irregular conduct” or “unprofessional conduct” at all costs – this could significantly impact your career (*Bulletin of Information*)

• Be Proactive: Provide information about COMLEX-USA to the uninformed

• Scoring FAQs, Tutorials, Video Programs and other resources are on NBOME website: [www.nbome.org](http://www.nbome.org)
COMLEX-USA is YOUR licensure examination-assuring enhanced patient protection and the distinctiveness of YOUR chosen profession.

Check the NBOME website (www.nbome.org) for updates and notices.

“Like Us” on Facebook and Follow us on Twitter!
And Remember…

COMLEX-USA is your pathway for medical licensure in all 50 states and many other jurisdictions

NBOME: “Over 82 years of ensuring competence in osteopathic medicine for patients”
THANK YOU!