

Overview of the New Recertification Exam Model

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Why Explore a New PANRE Model?

- **PA practice has changed**
 - Currently 73% practicing in specialties other than primary care
 - Are we still most effectively fulfilling our obligation to the public with today's generalist exam?
- **PAs have asked for change**
 - Desire to be tested on content relevant to their current role
 - Questions about the difficulty of PANRE
 - Cost and time required to prepare for today's PANRE

NCCPA's Challenge

- Maintain the generalist nature of the PA-C
 - Protect PAs' flexibility to change specialties
- Improve the relevance and value of the exam by addressing its content and its educational value
 - Should facilitate lifelong learning
- Maintain the integrity and appropriate rigor of the process
 - Validity in the eyes of external stakeholders to the certification process

What is the Model?

1. Assessment of **core medical knowledge** through “open book,” take-at-home exams during the 10-year certification maintenance cycle
 - Opportunity for remediation through CME for those whose performance is below the passing standard but within a defined performance range
2. Assessment of **specialty-related knowledge** through secure, proctored, timed exams at the end of the 10-year certification maintenance cycle
 - 10-12 exam options at the start
 - Multiple performance levels to allow remediation through CME for some

Benefits of this PANRE Model

- Responds to concerns raised by PAs who have asked for:
 - More relevant exams
 - Relief from the significant time and cost of preparing for a generalist timed exam
 - A take-at-home exam
- Maintains the generalist nature of the PA-C credential
 - Critical to flexibility
- Promotes continuing professional development and better knowledge retention
- Maintains the level of rigor stakeholders expect

Myth Busting

- **MYTH:** This new model will force all PAs to earn a CAQ.
 - **FACT:** CAQs will still be entirely optional – available for those who want them.
- **MYTH:** Specialty exams will only be offered in family medicine and general surgery
 - **FACT:** We estimate 10-12 specialty exams will be offered at the start, with the possibility of more over time.
 - **FACT:** Much more choice for all PAs!
- **MYTH:** This will go into effect soon and we are still sorting out PI-CME.
 - **FACT:** This will take at least five years to implement.

Myth Busting

- **MYTH:** Standardized exams have no real value.
 - **FACTS:** Recertifying by exam...
 - Supports knowledge retention.
 - Improves patient outcomes.
 - Illuminates areas of knowledge deficiency that many are unable to self-identify.
 - Matters to the public and other stakeholders.
 - Represents the high standards of the PA profession that have contributed to the profession's success for 40 years.



For More Information ...

- <https://www.nccpa.net/panre-model>
- Survey coming Feb. 8 – best way for all PAs to provide feedback directly to NCCPA!
- Comment period scheduled to end in March (though this weekend Board considering extension requested by AAPA)
- Contact: newpanre@nccpa.net