

AMERICAN BOARD OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY
Content Categories
(Final January 2016)

CATEGORY A - NEUROANATOMY

The Structure of:

- 01 Embryology
- 02 Cerebrum
- 03 Cerebellum
- 04 Basal Ganglia
- 05 Thalamus
- 06 Hypothalamus & Pituitary
- 07 Brain Stem
- 08 Cranial Nerves
- 09 Spinal Cord
- 10 Nerve Root
- 11 Plexi
- 12 Peripheral Nerve
- 13 Muscle & Peripheral Receptor
- 14 Vascular, Including BBB
- 15 Cytoarchitecture & Subcellular Anatomy
- 16 CSF Pathway
- 17 Skeletal (including skull)
- 18 Meninges
- 19 Autonomic
- 20 Other, Including Structures Related to the Nervous System

- 04.I Pain
- 04.J Autonomic
- 05 Glia
- 05.A Function
- 05.B Cell biology
- 06 Cerebral Vascular System
- 06.A Vascular physiology
- 06.B Physiology of CBF
- 06C Pathophysiology of CBF in SAH & Head Injury
- 06D Blood-brain barrier
- 07 Responses to Injury
- 07.A Neurons
- 07.B Glia
- 07.C Injury cascades
- 08 Nervous System Development & Plasticity
- 08.A Brain
- 08.B Spinal cord
- 08.C Peripheral nerves
- 08.D Neurons
- 08 E Glia
- 08.F Stem Cell Biology
- 09 Cerebrospinal Fluid
- 9.A Anatomy
- 9.B Physiology
- 9.C Biochemistry

CATEGORY B - NEUROSCIENCES

- 01 Neurons & Axons
 - 01.A Synapses
 - 01B Membrane Physiology
 - 01.C Transmitters
 - 01D Genetics
- 02 Muscles
 - 02.A muscle structure
 - 02.B muscle function
- 03 Pharmacology
- 04 Functional Systems
 - 04.A Motor
 - 04.B Somatosensory
 - 04.C Visual
 - 04.D Auditory/vestibular
 - 04.E Taste & smell
 - 04.F Memory
 - 04.G Emotional
 - 04.H Language & other higher cognitive functions

- 10 Spine
 - 10.A Anatomy
 - 10.B Bone physiology & molecular biology
 - 10.C Response to injury
 - 10.D Genetics
 - 10.E Biomechanics
- 11 Cell & Viral Biology
 - 11.A Control of cell fate
 - 11.B Viral vectors
 - 11.C Mechanisms of neoplasia

CATEGORY C - NEUROPATHOLOGY

Lesions that are:

- 01 Developmental & Genetic
- 02 Vascular
- 03 Neoplastic
- 04 Traumatic
- 05 Infectious
- 06 Metabolic
- 07 Demyelinating
- 08 Degenerative
- 09 Neuromuscular
- 10 Toxic
- 11 Other

CATEGORY D - NEUROIMAGING

Study by:

- 01 Radiography
- 02 Angiography
- 03 Myelography
- 04 Computed tomography
- 05 Magnetic resonance imaging
- 06 Radioisotope imaging
- 07 Ultrasonography
- 08 Positron emission tomography
- 09 Other

Implicit in each group in this category is distribution among cranial, spinal and extremity studies, as well as infections, trauma, tumors and vascular lesions in the major categories like CT scans, angiograms, myelograms and radiographs

CATEGORY E – CLINICAL NEUROLOGY

- 01 Epilepsy
- 02 Demyelinating
- 03 Degenerative
- 04 Behavioral
- 05 Developmental
- 06 Infection
- 07 Metabolic
- 08 Endocrine
- 09 Electrical Studies, including EMG, NCV, & EEG, etc.
- 10 Muscle & Nerve
- 11 Pain
- 12 Pharmacology
- 13 Toxic
- 14 Neuro-ophthalmology

- 15 Neurologic Signs & Examinations
- 16 Vascular
- 17 Movement Disorders
- 18 Genetic
- 19 Autoimmune
- 20 Other

CATEGORY F - NEUROSURGERY

- 01 Cranial - Infection
- 02 Cranial - Congenital
- 03 Cranial - Trauma
- 04 Cranial - Tumor
- 05 Cranial - Vascular
- 06 Cranial - Other
- 07 Extracranial Vascular
- 08 Spinal - Congenital
- 09 Spinal - Degenerative
- 10 Spinal - Infection
- 11 Spinal - Trauma
- 12 Spinal - Tumor
- 13 Spinal - Vascular
- 14 Spinal – Biomechanics
- 15 Spinal - Deformity
- 16 Spine - Other
- 17 Complications - Cranial & Spinal
- 18 Cranial Nerves
- 19 Peripheral Nerve
- 20 Pain
- 21 Endocrine
- 22 Surgical Technique
- 23 Autonomic
- 24 Pharmacology
- 25 Movement Disorders
- 26 Radiosurgery
- 27 Endovascular
- 28 Surgical Epilepsy
- 29 Other

CATEGORY G - FUNDAMENTAL CLINICAL SKILLS/CRITICAL CARE

- 01 Fluid & Electrolytes
- 02 Shock
- 03 Cardiovascular
- 04 Multiple Trauma
- 05 Hematology & Coagulopathies
- 06 Nutrition
- 07 Pulmonary
- 08 Endocrine
- 09 Gastrointestinal
- 10 Genito-urinary
- 11 Pharmacologic
- 12 Infection & Immunologic
- 13 Toxicology
- 14 Wound Healing
- 15 Anesthesia
- 16 Cerebral Metabolism
- 17 Other

CATEGORY H - CORE COMPETENCIES

- 01 Medical Knowledge
- 02 Patient Care
- 03 Interpersonal Skills and Communications
- 04 Professionalism
- 05 Practice Based Learning and Improvement
- 06 Systems Based Practice
- 07 Medical Errors & Safety
- 08 Ethical and Legal
- 09 Administrative
- 10 Other