

SETUP

Follow the timeline

- Apply for the exam
- ABPMR Admissibility Email
- Schedule Notice Email (date and time of your examination)
- Take your virtual exam

Virtual Exam Setup

To take the Part II Examination, all candidates will need:

- A laptop or desktop computer
- Internal or external webcam
- Headphones or earbuds with microphone
- Fast, reliable internet connection

Remove Distractions



Consider sending family members, pets, roommates, or office mates away during your examination time. Unintended sounds and interruptions may affect your focus.

ETC.

- **Dress professionally.** It certainly doesn't affect your score, but we strongly recommend professional attire (suit).
- Some candidates find them helpful, but remember: **the ABPMR is not affiliated with any board review course**; we do not develop or review their content.
- ABPMR staff is **here to help**. If you're concerned about something not covered on abpmr.org or the materials you've received, please email or call the board office.

STUDY

Review the Exam Domains

Each patient vignette during the examination will go through the same format:

- A. Data Acquisition
- B. Problem Solving
- C. Patient Management
- D. Systems-based Practice
- E. Interpersonal and Communication Skills

(For more details, see the Part II Examination page on abpmr.org.)

Use abpmr.org

Review these resources on the ABPMR website:

- Instructional Vignette Videos
- Part II Exam Day logistics information
- Part II Exam Outline
- Test-taking tips and performance FAQ

Practice with Peers/Mentors

- Connect with your residency cohort and form a virtual study group
- Ask a mentor or colleague to practice with you
- Identify patient cases and take them through Domains A-E, providing rationale (why) behind your decisions for each
- Evaluate each other on completeness and accuracy of answers

THE EXAM

Domain A

NEW for 2020, examiners will no longer be providing responses OR "this information is not available" during the exam.

Why? **You don't actually need the data** — any relevant information will be provided in later domains. Domain A evaluates **how accurately you target the relevant data you would need** to manage the case, just as you already do with your patients.

Scoring

All domains are scored **independently**. Think of it like a golf course. Each hole on the course is scored by itself; once you finish #1, you leave it behind — it has no bearing on later holes. Then at the start of #2, you're given all the relevant information you need for that hole: yardage, par, layout, etc.

Similarly as you proceed through the vignette, the examiner will provide all of the information you need to answer the questions within each domain.



Tips from Examiners

Don't worry about the time. Examiners are trained to move you through each case in a timely manner.

If an examiner redirects you, **follow their lead** — sometimes candidates get frustrated, but the examiner is likely trying to get you back on track.

Remember, **examiners have been trained NOT to provide feedback**, nonverbal or otherwise, during the exam. Lack of feedback doesn't mean you're doing poorly.

Be prepared to provide a rationale for your answers. Examiners will ask 'why' to understand your thought process.

There are no tricks, hidden information, or "gotcha" questions.