

AMERICAN BOARD OF PROLOTHERAPY, INC

PROTOCOL

Definition of Specialty Practice

For the purpose of the operation of the American Board of Prolotherapy, Inc., the following division of practice is defined.

Prolotherapy is an art and science of the stimulation of the formation of fibrous connective tissue for the purpose of: strengthening fibro-osseous attachments, or, obliterating real or potential spaces to reduce or completely eliminate the pain associated with these conditions.

Subspecialty practice shall be defined as an area of prolotherapeutic practice in which knowledge and performance are an extension beyond that recognized in the practice of general sclerotherapy and shall consist of:

1. Musculo-skeletal
2. Vascular
 - a. Endoscopic
 1. Gastro-esophageal varices
 2. Rectal varices
 - b. Superficial Varicosities
 - c. Other, specified
3. Hernia
4. Intra-cavitary
 - a. Cardiac
 - b. Pleural
 - c. Other, specified

Requirement for Certification

Section 1. The minimum requirements to be eligible to receive certification from the American Board of Prolotherapy, Inc. are as follows:

- a. The applicant must be a licensed practitioner of the healing art (i.e., fully qualified physicians, dentists, podiatrists) in the state or territory where his practice is conducted.
- b. The applicant must be a graduate of a professional school accredited by the appropriate state, national, and Federal accrediting bodies, as well as by the appropriate professional accrediting body (eg. American Osteopathic Association).

- c. The applicant must be able to show evidence of conformity to the standards set forth in the Code of Ethics of his representative professional body (eg. AOA).
- d. The applicant must have been a member in good standing of his representative professional body for the three years immediately prior to certification. (e.g.AOA).
- e. The applicant must produce evidence of having satisfactorily completed an approved residence or preceptor ship of no less than one year. Where no residency or preceptor ship has been taken, the Board may grant dispensation upon request, and demonstration of equivalent experience and training of no less than 5 years.
- f. The applicant for examination shall have practiced as a prolotherapist for a period of at least 3 years, subsequent to the required period of training, prior to three months before the date of examination.
- g. Following acceptance by the Board of an application, the applicant will be scheduled for an examination. The examination is planned to evaluate the ability of the applicant to understand the scientific bases of problems involved in prolotherapy, familiarity with current advances in sclerotherapy, possession of sound judgment, and a high degree of skill in the diagnostic and therapeutic procedures involved in the practice of sclerotherapy.
 - 1. Written, oral, and clinical examinations are conducted and required in the case of each applicant. (The clinical examination may be deferred to those applicants who have been in practice for 10 years or more. This dispensation will not be granted after January 1, 1990.)
 - 2. Each applicant must submit three case histories illustrative of his use of prolotherapy, with his application. A defense of these cases may be part of the oral examination of the applicant.
 - 3. The members of this Board shall review, if not perform, the grading of each examination. The conduct of the clinical, written, and oral examination will be performed by no fewer than two Board members or designees (at least one of whom is certified by the Board), one of whom is of the same professional background as the applicant).
 - 4. A description of the method of conducting the examination is contained in the rules and regulations.

5. Applicants desiring examination for certification are required to fill an application, on a form provided by the Board, which sets forth the qualifications of the applicant (as well as providing other information) as stated in paragraphs a thru f of Section 1 of this article. The procedures for filling applications will be provided by the Board upon request.

Section 2. Subspecialty Recognition

To be eligible for special recognition in a subspecialty of prolotherapy of general prolotherapy, the applicant must meet the minimum requirements for certification in general sclerotherapy/prolotherapy as well as additional requirements pertinent to the subspecialty recognition being requested.

After April 1, 1990, all applicants for certification in prolotherapy must request subspecialty certification. No certification in general prolotherapy will be issued after June 1, 1990.

The Board may require such further training in each of the fields coming under its jurisdiction as, in its judgment, such field may require, provided that additional requirements for each field is clearly set for the in the regulations and requirements of this Board. Additions to requirements shall go into effect one year subsequent to the announcement of such change.

Requirements for examination

Section 1. Each applicant for examination for certification in prolotherapy shall:

- a. Make a written request on a form provided by the Board, and pay an application examination fee determined by the Board.
- b. Be available for a personal interview upon receiving notice from the Executive Secretary that such an interview is required.
- c. Demonstrate eligibility for examination in any other manner required by the Board.
- d. Submit an application, required documentary evidence, case histories, and required fees to the Executive Secretary no-less than 3 months prior to the date of the requested examination. The signed application and all evidence submitted by an applicant shall remain the property of the Board, even though the application may be withdrawn. No part of the fee may be returned.

- e. Each applicant who is required to submit for an examination of his clinical knowledge and skill, must provide his own live subject. The subspecialty nature of the demonstration shall have previously been indicated to the Board in the application documents.
- f. Provide evidence to verify statements made in the application. Such verification shall include, but not be limited to: three letters of professional recommendation attesting to the fact that the applicant is known and respected as a sclerotherapist, copies of: professional school diploma, and state license to practice, a color photograph taken within the previous year, and copies of advertising/professional listings, etc.
- g. Have the application affidavit of veracity signed by the applicant, and such statement notarized.
- h. Present three detailed case reports managed by the applicant within the past year, demonstrating his knowledge and use of prolotherapy.
- i. Demonstrate eligibility for examination in any other manner required by the Board.
- j. Submit the application, case reports, fee, and all other requested material to the Executive Secretary no-less than three months prior to the date of the examination.
- k. All submitted material shall remain the property of the Board, even though the application may be withdrawn.
- l. All fees are non-refundable.

Rules for the conduct of the examination

All applicants shall be required to pass appropriate examinations planned to evaluate their understanding of the scientific bases of the problems involved, familiarity with current advances, possession of sound judgment and a high degree of skill in the diagnostic and administrative procedures involved in the practice of prolotherapy. The examination shall be designed, constructed, and conducted in such a manner as to evaluate the applicants' knowledge of the basic sciences, sclerotherapy principles, and to determine the applicants' ability within a clinical setting.

Section 1. Written examination.

The written examination shall be designed to evaluate academic knowledge.

Section 2. Oral examination

The oral examination shall be designed and conducted to evaluate thought processes and ability to solve problems. The case histories presented by the applicant may be used here.

Section 3. Clinical examination

The clinical examination shall be an evaluation of actual performance to determine the level of prolotherapy specialty practice in relation to the standards expected of a diplomat of the Board. The clinical examination shall be conducted by at least two Board members or their designees (at least one of whom is certified by the Board, one of whom is of the same professional background as the applicant, i.e. , D.O. for D.O., D.P.M. for D.P.M. etc).

For the clinical examination, the applicant shall administer two sclerosants of a diversified character to a live subject(s), which the applicant shall provide. The administration of the sclerosant shall be in accordance with an appropriately demonstrated evaluation and diagnosis, which indicates the use of sclerotherapy.

Section 4. Location

The location of the examination shall be that as determined by the board, and announced to the applicants.

Those applicants whose examination requires (or, they request) that the examination be performed at a site other than that announced by the Board, shall be responsible for the costs incurred by the examiners performing the evaluation.

Section 5. Results

The results and recommendations of the examiners shall be reported to the Executive Secretary in writing, within, one week of the examination.

Notification of Applicant of Examination Results

Section 1. Board Action

The Executive Secretary shall submit, for action, applications of examinees, along with the results of their examinations and the examiners recommendation, to the Board at the first Board Meeting following the examination. Action on these examinees shall be taken at this meeting, with the results reported to the candidate by the Executive Secretary within 2 weeks of the meeting.

Retesting

Any applicant who fails the examination (in total, or, in part) shall be entitled to be given another complete examination at the next scheduled examination, upon payment of a re-examination fee (which shall be 50% of the prevailing application-examination fee). No further re-examination shall be permitted.