HANDBOOK FOR EXAMINERS FOR BOARD CERTIFICATION



American Osteopathic Board of Orthopedic Surgery 805 Sir Thomas Court • Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17109 (717) 561-8560 • FAX (717) 652-9297

website: www.aobos.org

AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC BOARD OF ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY

805 Sir Thomas Court Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17109 (717) 561-8560 • FAX (717) 652-9297 website: www.aobos.org

Robert L. Green, D.O., Chairman Steven J. Heithoff, D.O., Vice-Chairman Ronald O. Royce, D.O., Secretary-Treasurer Frank H. Swords, D.O. Paul J. Deppisch, D.O. Gina D. Carcella, Exec. Secretary

TEST COMMITTEE AOBOS

Brian Ceccarelli, D.O., Chairman John Flood, D.O. Jack Lennox, D.O. Corey Welchin, D.O. Ronald O. Royce, D.O. Mark Gittins, D.O. Robert Falconiero, D.O. Joel Rush, D.O. Craig A. Sullivan, D.O. Craig C. McKirgan, D.O.

STANDARD SETTING COMMITTEE

Howard A. Pinsky, D.O. Terry J. Weis, D.O. H. Brent Bamberger, D.O. John Theil, D.O.

Robert L. Green, D.O. Jeffrey Cochran, D.O. Theodore Suchy, D.O.

This edition of the Handbook for Candidates for Board Certification (circa 12/97) supersedes all previous publications of this Handbook.

Copyright ®1998 by American Osteopathic Board of Orthopedic Surgery

All rights reserved. No part of the Booklet for Candidates for Board Certification may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise without the prior written permission of the publisher.

Printed in the United States of America

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PA	GE
Oral Examination	. 1
Clinical Examination	. 2
Scheduling the Examination	. 2
Chart Review	. 3
Audited Charts	. 3
Individual Chart Survey	. 4
Individual Chart Survey Form	. 5
Chart Summary	. 6
Chart Summary Form	. 7
Mortality Review	. 8
Mortality Review Form	. 9
Surgical Observation	10
Surgical Observation Forms (Procedure 1)	11
Surgical Observation Forms (Procedure 2)	18
Grade Sheet	25
Expense Documentation	26
Completion of the Exam	27

ORAL EXAMINATION

The oral examination of the American Osteopathic Board of Orthopedic Surgery is given in the fall of each year the day preceding the opening day of the Annual Assembly of Osteopathic Specialists. The examination begins at 8 AM and usually concludes at 5 PM. Breakfast will be provided for the examiners starting at 7 AM in the same room as the exam. Luncheon will be served in between sessions.

Several weeks prior to the exam you will be sent a copy of your question with accompanying literature and bibliography to review.

At least one examiner will be assigned per question. If there is a conflict with an individual examinee, because of preparation in training or association in practice, a substitute examiner will be available.

The examinees will be asked to PRINT their name on the score sheet. Scoring is done on a 10 point scale in increments of 0.5. It may be necessary to assist the examinee in managing his/her time to allow completion of the question in the allowed time. Approximately 10 minutes will be allowed per question with a warning given when one minute remains.

Following the examination we ask that all examiners complete the critique form regarding your assigned question so that we can review them to improve the examination.

SCHEDULING THE EXAMINATION

The American Osteopathic Board of Orthopedic Surgery will notify clinical examiners of their clinical assignment by April 1st. It is the responsibility of the senior examiner to contact the junior examiner and the candidate to establish a date for the clinical examination. The date of the examination must be established by April 15 or sixty (60) days prior to the exam. Additional time may be necessary to complete the exam if the candidate practices at more than one hospital. The examination may be scheduled any time after June 1 and MUST be completed by August 15.

Examiners will make their own travel arrangements. You may request the candidate make hotel reservations but the expenses are to be paid by the examiners. The Board will reimburse the examiners for expenses incurred for transportation, lodging, and meals. These expenses **MUST** be submitted on the reimbursement form in this booklet and **MUST** include receipts. Air fare will be reimbursed for a coach rate ticket and the use of a personal car will be reimbursed at a rate of 32.5 cents per mile.

The candidate's logs will be sent to the senior examiner by the Board. The senior examiner should review the logs and request additional cases. These cases should be in areas not covered by the audited medical records screening. The junior examiner can review the logs at the time of the exam and request additional cases if necessary.

The senior examiner should contact the candidate as frequently as necessary to assure that the candidate is properly prepared and has scheduled the necessary surgical cases for observation. The candidate MUST confirm with the senior examiner 72 hours prior to the examination that the appropriate paperwork is completed and the cases are scheduled for surgical observation. The Board requests that you provide us with a copy of any written correspondence that you may have with the candidate. You may consider having the candidate fax a copy of a portion of the chart audit if there is a question about the candidate readiness. If the senior examiner has any question regarding the examination, or preparation thereof, please contact the American Osteopathic Board of Orthopedic Surgery office IMMEDIATELY.

CHART REVIEW—AUDITED CHARTS

The candidate is instructed to have an accredited medical records technician screen the records in the following categories: Ankle Fracture, Arthroscopic Surgery, Hip Fracture, Spinal Surgery, Total Hip Replacement, and Total Knee Replacement. Fifteen (15) consecutive cases in each category are to be screened. If the logs submitted have less than fifteen (15) cases in a particular category, all cases in that category will be screened. If more than fifteen (15) cases are present in a category the last fifteen (15) consecutive cases will be screened.

It is not acceptable to have a member of the candidate's family or office staff perform the records screen.

The candidate will provide the chart and x-rays on all records screened.

You will have a records screening form for each category noted above and a data analysis worksheet for each chart that does not meet all the criteria. Complete the data analysis worksheet by reviewing the chart to note if the variation is justified and record comments as needed.

If all cases submitted meet all criteria, i.e. there are no variations, review randomly at least one half cases submitted and record comments under chart summary. The x-rays should be reviewed in all cases where they may indicate the quality of patient care.

CHART REVIEW—INDIVIDUAL CHART SURVEY

The candidate's logs will be sent directly to the senior examiner by the American Osteopathic Board of Orthopedic Surgery. The senior examiner is to accumulate a list of approximately thirty (30) cases to review individually. These cases are to be in areas NOT covered by the audited medical records screening. If a candidate's practice is in a subspecialty area, not well covered by the audited medical records screening, the senior examiner is to choose at least 50 cases to review. Example: A candidate specializing in sports medicine, who does not do total joint replacement, spine surgery, or fractures, will need to have the majority of the cases reviewed individually. The Board requests a total of 100 charts be reviewed combining the audited medical records and the individual charts surveyed. The list should be sent to the candidate prior to the date of the exam to allow the candidate sufficient time to pull the charts and x-rays. The junior examiner should review the log at the time of the exam and request additional charts as necessary.

A separate Individual Chart Survey is filled out for **EACH** chart reviewed. Copy the following form as needed to complete the review. Copies may be made at the time of the examination.

Documentation must be present that the surgeon is managing the case. This requires notes and reports dictated and written by the candidate. Cosigning notes or reports by the resident staff is *NOT* acceptable.

INDIVIDUAL CHART American Osteopathic SURVEY

Board of Orthopedic Surgery

Candidate	D.O.	Hospital
Patient's Initials	Age	Case #
Final Diagnosis		
Surgical Procedure		
workup, failure of conservative care,	ration	rative evaluation, including diagnostic nal for surgery by the surgeon?
Was the surgery indicated? \square Yes	□ N	10
Was the postoperative management	satisfa	factory? Yes No
Comments		
Were the chart mechanics satisfacto	ry? [□ Yes □ No
H and P? \square Yes \square No		Progress notes? \square Yes \square No
Consults? ☐ Yes ☐ No		OP report? \square Yes \square No
Discharge Summary? \Box Yes \Box	No	
Additional comments		
Fyaminer		D.O. Date

CHART REVIEW—CHART SUMMARY

The chart summary form is to be completed after the audited medical records and the individual charts are examined. Each examiner must complete the form explaining any deficiencies in detail under additional comments. If necessary, please dictate your comments with specific references to the charts that are deficient.

The history and physical and/or preoperation evaluation may be part of the outpatient record. The candidate is instructed to provide this information but you should inquire if a consistent pattern of deficiency is present.

Progress notes are not required daily if the candidate's practice situation has coverage by other orthopedic surgeons. Resident notes cosigned are still not acceptable. However, if any untoward event occurs or change in normal post-operative management is required, the candidate **MUST** document this fact on the record.

Operative reports must be dictated by the candidates.

Discharge summaries should be dictated by the candidate; however, a written discharge note that outlines the post discharge plan is acceptable. However, a check form signed by the candidate is not acceptable.

CHART SUMMARY

Candidate	D.O.	Hospita	1
Number of charts reviewed			
Number of charts incomplete			
Deficiencies in the following areas:			
History and Physical			
Physician Orders			
Preoperative Evaluation			
Progress Notes			
Operative Report			
Consultations			
Discharge Summary			
Comments			
Fxaminer	D	ιΟ Dat	e

CHART REVIEW—MORTALITY REVIEW

ALL mortalities MUST be reviewed separately. The Board is particularly interested in evaluating if the candidate appreciated the critical nature of the case, if consultations were obtained and if any preventable measures could have been taken. Record your conclusions on the following form. This form can be copied at the time of the examination as needed.

MORTALITY REVIEW

Candidate		D.O.	Hospital
Patient's Initials	Age		Sex
Medical Records Number			
Final Surgical Diagnosis			
Surgical Procedure			
Comments			
Examiner		D	.0.

SURGICAL OBSERVATION

The senior examiner is to contact the candidate directly regarding the cases scheduled for surgical observation. The candidate is instructed that two (2) procedures will be observed. The Board recommends scheduling three (3) cases, different in character and of the type commonly known as heavy cases. The Board recommends scheduling three (3) cases in the event one is canceled. Should there be any question if the nature of the procedures are appropriate for the exam, contact the American Osteopathic Board of Orthopedic Surgery immediately.

The examiners are to be present at the beginning of the procedure. Review the patient's chart and applicable x-rays for completion of the surgical observation form. Be sure to explain in **DETAIL** all number III-problematic areas in the space provided for in the post observation comments at the end of the form. The examiners may interact with the candidate during the procedure as necessary to view pathology or visualize anatomy, but are cautioned against distracting the candidate.

The post observation comments are used to clarify observations made during the procedure and explain in detail any problem areas or concerns. Two complete sets of the surgical observation forms have been supplied. These are indicated as <u>Procedure 1</u> and <u>Procedure 2</u>.

American Osteopathic Board of Orthopedic Surgery

Candidate		D.O.
Candidate Signature		D.O.
Hospital	Date	
Medical Records Number		
Patient's Initials Age	Sex	
Surgical Procedure		
Examiner		D.O.
Examiner Signature		D.O.

SURGICAL **PROCEDURE**

FORM

Candidate					D.C)
Hospital						_
Medical Records Number			_ Pat	ient's Ini	tials	_
Examiner					D.C)
RELATIONSHIPS IN OR	II :	= Pro	eptab oblem		Explain ALL III	
Anesthesiologist demonstrates knowledge of case prior to the procedure	I	II	III	NA		
Provides anesthesia with patient progress information during case	I	II	III	NA		
Seeks patient status information during case as needed	I	II	III	NA		
Pays attention to anesthesia warnings and takes action when appropriate	Ι	II	III	NA		
Scrub nurse demonstrates awareness of surgeons' needs prior to/during procedure	I	II	III	NA		
Communicates needs to scrub nurse	I	II	III	NA		
Positions assistants for maximum and efficient performance	Ι	II	III	NA		
Gives assistants specific instructions	I	II	III	NA		

FORM

Candidate					D.O
Hospital					
Medical Records Number			_ Pat	ient's Ini	tials
Examiner					D.O
	I = Superior II = Acceptable III = Problematic NA = Not Applicable				Explain ALL III
CONDUCT IN OR	_				
Adheres to aseptic procedures i.e. gowning, draping, etc.	Ι	II	III	NA	
Treats OR staff courteously and professionally	I	II	III	NA	
Responds to crises calmly and efficiently	I	II	III	NA	
Conducts self in a manner which does not interfere with assistants	I	II	III	NA	
SURGICAL TECHNIQUE					
Positions patient for maximum surgical exposure and checks to see all pressure points are protected	I	II	III	NA	
Recognizes pathology	I	II	III	NA	
Recognizes associated disease	I	II	III	NA	
Recognizes complications and responds appropriately	I	II	III	NA	
Selects proper incision	I	II	III	NA	

FORM

Candidate					D.O
Hospital					
Medical Records Number			_ Pat	ient's Ini	tials
Examiner					D.O
SURGICAL TECHNIQUE (CONT.)	II :	= Acc = Pro	erior eptab oblem ot App		Explain ALL III
Explores operative field manually and visually as necessary	I	II	III	NA	
Achieves exposure of anatomy sufficient to operate by direct visualization	I	II	III	NA	
Selects proper needle and suture	I	II	III	NA	
Selects proper dressing	Ι	II	III	NA	
Obtains intraoperative consults as needed	I	II	III	NA	
Performs specific procedure appropriate to pathology	I	II	III	NA	
Utilizes drains as necessary	I	II	III	NA	
Handles instruments with dexterity and efficiency	Ι	II	III	NA	
Achieves traction-countertraction consistent with patient safety and sufficient to perform proper dissection	I	II	III	NA	

FORM

Candidate					D.O.
Hospital					
Medical Records Number			_ Pat	ient's Ini	itials
Examiner					D.O.
SURGICAL TECHNIQUE (CONT.)	II :	= Acc = Pro	eptab oblem		Explain ALL III
Proceeds with confidence at a steady and efficient rate	I	II	III	NA	
Preserves natural tissue structure and avoids unnecessary damage	I	II	III	NA	
Demonstrates proper suture techniques	I	II	III	NA	
NON SPECIFIC INDICATORS					
Completes surgery in time appropriate for the procedure	I	II	III	NA	
Achieves satisfactory control of intraoperative bleeding	I	II	III	NA	
Observes and verifies sponge count	I	II	III	NA	
Follows needle control procedures	I	II	III	NA	
Neutralizes contaminants appropriately	I	II	III	NA	
Demonstrates awareness of potential electrical, mechanical,	Ι	II	III	NA	

FORM

Candidate					D.O
Hospital					
Medical Records Number			_ Pat	ient's Ini	tials
Examiner					D.O
PREOPERATIVE EVALUATION	II :	= Acc = Pro	erior eptab oblem ot App	Explain ALL III	
Diagnostic Procedure	I	II	III	NA	
Consultation	I	II	III	NA	
Preparation	I	II	III	NA	
Justification	I	II	III	NA	
OPERATIVE EVALUATION					
Choice of technique	I	II	III	NA	
Technical adeptness	I	II	III	NA	
Finesse	I	II	III	NA	
Surgical judgment	I	II	III	NA	
Recognition of pathology	I	II	III	NA	
POSTOPERATIVE EVALUATION					
Condition of patient on completion of surgery	I	II	III	NA	
Complications	I	II	III	NA	
Overall Management	Ι	II	III	NA	

FORM

Candidate		D.O.
Hospital		
Medical Records Number	_ Patient's Initials	
Examiner		D.O.
POST OBSERVATION COMMENTS		

American Osteopathic Board of Orthopedic Surgery

Candidate		D.O.
Candidate Signature		D.O.
Hospital	Date	
Medical Records Number		
Patient's Initials Age	Sex	
Surgical Procedure		
Examiner		D.O.
Examiner Signature		D.O.

SURGICAL **PROCEDURE**

FORM

Candidate					D.0	0
Hospital						
Medical Records Number			_ Pat	ient's Ini	tials	
Examiner					D.	O
RELATIONSHIPS IN OR	III	= Pro	eptab oblem		Explain ALL III	
Anesthesiologist demonstrates knowledge of case prior to the procedure	Ι	II	III	NA		
Provides anesthesia with patient progress information during case	I	II	III	NA		
Seeks patient status information during case as needed	I	II	III	NA		
Pays attention to anesthesia warnings and takes action when appropriate	Ι	II	III	NA		
Scrub nurse demonstrates awareness of surgeons' needs prior to/during procedure	Ι	II	III	NA		
Communicates needs to scrub nurse	I	II	III	NA		
Positions assistants for maximum and efficient performance	I	II	III	NA		
Gives assistants specific instructions	I	II	III	NA		

FORM

Candidate					D.0	Э
Hospital						_
Medical Records Number			_ Pat	ient's Ini	tials	_
Examiner					D.0	Э
CONDUCT IN OR	III	= Acc = Pro	eptab oblem		Explain ALL III	
CONDUCT IN OR	I	II	III	NA		
Adheres to aseptic procedures i.e. gowning, draping, etc.	1	11	111	NA		
Treats OR staff courteously and professionally	I	II	III	NA		
Responds to crises calmly and efficiently	I	II	III	NA		
Conducts self in a manner which does not interfere with assistants	I	II	III	NA		
SURGICAL TECHNIQUE						
Positions patient for maximum surgical exposure and checks to see all pressure points are protected	I	II	III	NA		
Recognizes pathology	I	II	III	NA		
Recognizes associated disease	I	II	III	NA		
Recognizes complications and responds appropriately	I	II	III	NA		
Selects proper incision	I	II	III	NA		

FORM

Candidate					D.O
Hospital					
Medical Records Number			_ Pat	ient's Ini	tials
Examiner					D.O
SURGICAL TECHNIQUE (CONT.)	III	= Pro	eptab oblem		Explain ALL III
Explores operative field manually and visually as necessary	I	II	III	NA	
Achieves exposure of anatomy sufficient to operate by direct visualization	I	II	III	NA	
Selects proper needle and suture	Ι	II	III	NA	
Selects proper dressing	I	II	III	NA	
Obtains intraoperative consults as needed	I	II	III	NA	
Performs specific procedure appropriate to pathology	I	II	III	NA	
Utilizes drains as necessary	Ι	II	III	NA	
Handles instruments with dexterity and efficiency	I	II	III	NA	
Achieves traction-countertraction consistent with patient safety and sufficient to perform proper dissection	I	II	III	NA	

FORM

Candidate						D.O.
Hospital						
Medical Records Number			_ Pat	ient's Ini	itials	
Examiner						D.O.
SURGICAL TECHNIQUE (CONT.)	III	= Pro	eptab oblem		Explain ALL II	I
Proceeds with confidence at a steady and efficient rate	I	II	III	NA		
Preserves natural tissue structure and avoids unnecessary damage	I	II	III	NA		
Demonstrates proper suture techniques	I	II	III	NA		
NON SPECIFIC INDICATORS						
Completes surgery in time appropriate for the procedure	I	II	III	NA		
Achieves satisfactory control of intraoperative bleeding	I	II	III	NA		
Observes and verifies sponge count	I	II	III	NA		
Follows needle control procedures	I	II	III	NA		
Neutralizes contaminants appropriately	I	II	III	NA		
Demonstrates awareness of potential electrical, mechanical, and radiation hazards	I	II	III	NA		

FORM

Candidate					D.O
Hospital					
Medical Records Number			_ Pat	ient's Ini	tials
Examiner					D.O
PREOPERATIVE EVALUATION	III	= Acc = Pro	erior eptab oblem ot App		Explain ALL III
Diagnostic Procedure	I	II	III	NA	
Consultation	I	II	III	NA	
Preparation	I	II	III	NA	
Justification	I	II	III	NA	
OPERATIVE EVALUATION					
Choice of technique	I	II	III	NA	
Technical adeptness	I	II	III	NA	
Finesse	I	II	III	NA	
Surgical judgment	I	II	III	NA	
Recognition of pathology	I	II	III	NA	
POSTOPERATIVE EVALUATION					
Condition of patient on completion of surgery	I	II	III	NA	
Complications	I	II	III	NA	
Overall Management	Ţ	II	Ш	NA	

FORM

Candidate		D.O.
Hospital		
Medical Records Number	Patient's Initials	
Examiner		D.O.
POST OBSERVATION COMMENTS		

GRADE SHEET

Candidate		
Hospital		
□ PASS □ FAIL		
Each examiner must complete a grade sheet. explain, in as much detail as possible, all aspecthat conclusion. The Board requests that you d	ts of the	e examination that led to
Examiner	D.O.	Date

REIMBURSEMENT

FORM

American Osteopathic Board of Orthopedic Surgery

805 Sir Thomas Court Harrisburg, PA 17109 (717) 561-8560 FAX (717) 652-9297

ATTACH RECEIPTS TO THIS FORM

Name				Date
Address				
				Phone
Expenses incur	red for:			
Test Committe	ee Meeting			
Test Committe	ee Workshop			
CAQ Meeting				
Recertification	Committee Wo	rkshop		
Lodging	\$	I	Postage/Shipping	\$
Meals			Supplies	
Air Fare		(Copying	
Transportation		(Other (Explain)	
Rental Car				
Personal Car (3	2.5¢/mile)		Total Expenses	\$
(FOR BOARD USE C	ONLY)			
Amount Paid	\$	Check	No.	Date

COMPLETION OF THE EXAMINATION

The senior examiner has the option of conferring with the junior examiner and the candidate once the examination is completed. If the examiners feel it would be beneficial to review certain areas of the exam, this is the opportunity to do so. The examiners are reminded, however, that this examination is conducted on behalf of the American Osteopathic Board of Orthopedic Surgery and the final grade is determined by the Board **AFTER** their review of the information provided by the examiners. The examiners should refrain from, and the candidates should not expect, any opinion regarding the final grading of the examination.

Immediately following the examination the examiners should complete the enclosed forms. The examiners should submit their reports by **SEPTEMBER FIRST** and should send them certified mail.

Return receipt requested to: Gina D. Carcella

Executive Secretary

AOBOS

805 Sir Thomas Court Harrisburg, PA 17109

(717) 561-8560 FAX (717) 652-9297

Please be sure to include the reimbursement form, with your receipts, supplied by the Board to allow for prompt reimbursement of your expenses.

The Board may contact the examiners following their review of the examination. Please make copies of your documents and maintain it in your files for one year following the examination.

Thank you for taking the time to assist the Board. We ask that you contact us with any questions or comments regarding the examination.