



*ABOS Surgery of the Hand  
Subspecialty Examination,  
Surgery of the Hand  
Combined Examination,  
and Surgery of the Hand  
Practice-Profiled Examination  
Blueprint*

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# ***ABOS Surgery of the Hand Examination Blueprint***

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## *ABOS Surgery of the Hand Examination Blueprint*

| <b><i>Bone</i></b>  | <b><i>13-27%</i></b> |
|---|----------------------|
| <b>Hand fracture</b>  | <b>4-6%</b>          |
| <b>Forearm fracture</b>   | <b>0.5-1.5%</b>      |
| <b>Distal radius fracture</b>   | <b>2-4%</b>          |
| <b>Carpal fracture</b>  | <b>1-3%</b>          |
| <b>Malunion/nonunion</b> (includes bone grafting, osteotomy)  | <b>1-3%</b>          |
| <b>Infection/osteonecrosis</b>  | <b>1-3%</b>          |
| <b>Physeal/growth plate</b>   | <b>0.5-1.5%</b>      |
| <b>Anatomy/physiology/metabolic/biomechanics</b><br>(includes osteoporosis, bone healing, bone graft) | <b>3-5%</b>          |

| <b>Joint/ligament</b>  | <b>14-26%</b>   |
|--|-----------------|
| <b>Acute dislocations and fracture dislocations</b><br>(wrist, carpus, hand)   | <b>3-5%</b>     |
| <b>Infection</b>   | <b>0.5-1.5%</b> |
| <b>Degenerative and posttraumatic arthritis</b><br>(wrist and carpometacarpal, metacarpophalangeal, proximal interphalangeal, and distal interphalangeal joints)                       | <b>4-6%</b>     |
| <b>Joint contractures/stiffness</b><br>(includes heterotopic ossification of the elbow)  | <b>0.5-1.5%</b> |
| <b>Inflammatory arthritis</b><br>(includes rheumatoid, crystalline deposits, medical management, systemic lupus erythematosus, psoriatic, scleroderma)                                 | <b>2-4%</b>     |
| <b>Ligament injury/instability</b><br>(includes distal radioulnar joint/triangular fibrocartilage complex, carpus, thumb, and metacarpophalangeal and proximal interphalangeal joints) | <b>3-5%</b>     |
| <b>Anatomy</b>   | <b>1-3%</b>     |

| <i>Muscle/tendon</i>  | <i>8-18%</i>    |
|---|-----------------|
| <b>Flexor tendon injuries/reconstruction</b>  | <i>2-4%</i>     |
| <b>Extensor tendon injuries/reconstruction</b>  | <i>2-4%</i>     |
| <b>Compartment syndrome/Volkmann ischemic contracture</b>   | <i>0.5-1.5%</i> |
| <b>Tendinosis/tendinopathies</b> (includes lateral and medial epicondylitis, De Quervain tenosynovitis, intersection syndrome, stenosing tenosynovitis) | <i>2-4%</i>     |
| <b>Infection</b> (chronic, acute, mycobacterial, fungal)  | <i>0.5-1.5%</i> |
| <b>Anatomy/physiology/biomechanics</b>  | <i>1-3%</i>     |

| <b><i>Nerve</i></b>   | <b><i>10-20%</i></b> |
|---|----------------------|
| <b>Acute nerve injury</b> (nerve repair, grafting, nerve transfer)  | <b>2-4%</b>          |
| <b>Radial, median, ulnar nerve tendon transfers</b>   | <b>1-2%</b>          |
| <b>Chronic nerve injury</b> (neuroma, complex regional pain syndrome)   | <b>1-2%</b>          |
| <b>Compression neuropathies</b> (median, ulnar, radial)   | <b>4-6%</b>          |
| <b>Anatomy/physiology</b> (EMG, variants)   | <b>1-3%</b>          |
| <b>Neuromuscular</b> (includes stroke, cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury, tetraplegia, Charcot-Marie-Tooth, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis) | <b>0.5-1.5%</b>      |
| <b>Brachial plexus</b> (pediatric, adult, anatomy, neuritis)  | <b>0.5-1.5%</b>      |

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| <b><i>Circulatory system</i></b>                       | <b><i>4-10%</i></b>    |
| <b><i>Anatomy/physiology</i></b>                       | <b><i>0.5-1.5%</i></b> |
| <b><i>Revascularization/replantation</i></b>           | <b><i>1-3%</i></b>     |
| <b><i>Vasospastic disease and chronic ischemia</i></b> | <b><i>1-3%</i></b>     |
| <b><i>Thrombosis/embolism/aneurysm</i></b>             | <b><i>0.5-1.5%</i></b> |
| <b><i>Vascular malformations</i></b>                   | <b><i>0.5-1.5%</i></b> |

| <b><i>Skin/fascia/nails</i></b>  | <b><i>6-18%</i></b>    |
|--|------------------------|
| <b>Fingertip/nailbed trauma</b>  | <b><i>1-3%</i></b>     |
| <b>Coverage</b> (includes grafts, flaps, negative pressure wound therapy, and dermal skin substitutes)                                     | <b><i>2-4%</i></b>     |
| <b>Frostbite/burns</b> (electrical, chemical, thermal)   | <b><i>0.5-1.5%</i></b> |
| <b>Infection</b> (includes bites, envenomation, necrotizing fasciitis, and fungal, viral, and surgical site infection, olecranon bursitis) | <b><i>1-3%</i></b>     |
| <b>Injection/extravasation injuries</b>  | <b><i>0.5-1.5%</i></b> |
| <b>Anatomy/physiology/wound healing</b>  | <b><i>0.5-1.5%</i></b> |
| <b>Dupuytren disease/contracture</b>   | <b><i>1-3%</i></b>     |



| <b>General principles/other</b>   | <b>7-19%</b> |
|---|--------------|
| <b>Ethics</b> (includes professionalism, consent/communications, cultural competence, diversity, billing, death/dying, durable power of attorney, doctor-patient relationships) | 1-3%         |
| <b>Pain management</b> (opioid management, anesthesia, pain syndromes)  | 1-3%         |
| <b>Prosthetics/rehabilitation</b> (adult/pediatric)   | 0.5-1.5%     |
| <b>Patient/physician safety</b> (includes polytrauma, deep vein thrombosis, coagulopathy)   | 0.5-1.5%     |
| <b>Benign</b> (includes ganglion, giant cell, lipoma, inclusion cyst, osteochondroma, enchondroma)  | 1-3%         |
| <b>Skin tumors</b>  | 0.5-1.5%     |
| <b>Metastatic and sarcoma</b>   | 0.5-1.5%     |
| <b>Hand plate</b> (includes trigger thumb, camptodactyly, clinodactyly, syndactyly, polydactyly, symbrachydactyly)  | 1-2%         |
| <b>Radial/thumb deficiency</b> (includes absent and hypoplastic disorders)  | 0.5-1.5%     |
| <b>Common syndromes</b> (includes multiple hereditary exostoses, constriction band syndrome, Madelung, and Apert, Poland, and Down syndromes)                                   | 0-1%         |