



ABOS General Orthopaedic Surgery Recertification Examination Blueprint

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General Principles	3-8%
Biostatistics/epidemiology	0.5-1.5%
Legal/ethical	1-3%
Basic Science Principles	1-3%
Spine	3-8%
Cervical	1-3%
Thoracolumbar	1-3%
Nonspecific site	0.5-1.5%
Upper Extremities	19-55%
Clavicle/Acromioclavicular joint/Sternoclavicular joint	1-3%
Scapula	0.5-1%
Shoulder joint	4.5-11.5%
Humerus	3-9%
Elbow joint	2.5-7.5%
Radius/ulna	4-12%
Wrist joint	1.5-4.5%
Hand	2-6%
Lower Extremities	24-56%
Hip joint	4-10%
Femur fractures	2.5-7.5%
Knee joint	8.5-16.5%
Pediatric knee injuries	0.5-1.5%
Tibia/fibula fractures	2.25-5.25%
Ankle joint	3.5-7.5%
Foot	4.25-7.25%
Multiple Sites	4-12%
Multiple trauma	0.5-1.5%
Compartment syndrome	0.5-1.5%
Complications following surgical procedures	1-3%
Medical aspects of sports medicine	0.5-1.5%
Inflammatory disease	1-3%
Metabolic bone disease/osteoporosis	0.5-1.5%
Outcome Management	2-3%
Infection and medical optimization	2-3%
Neoplasms	2-5%
Benign	0.5-1.5%
Malignant	1-3%

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General Principles	3-8%
Biostatistics/epidemiology (interpretation of epidemiologic information, study design and interpretation, hypothesis testing and statistical interference)	0.5-1.5%
Legal/ethical	1-3%
Basic Science Principles (biology, biomechanics)	1-3%

Spine	13-15%
Cervical (fracture/dislocations/instability, herniated nucleus pulposus, arthritis)	4-6%
Thoracolumbar (fracture/dislocations/instability, herniated nucleus pulposus, arthritis)	2-4%
Nonspecific site (infection, scoliosis not otherwise classified)	3-5%

Upper Extremities	28-30%
Clavicle/Acromioclavicular joint/Sternoclavicular joint	1-3%
Scapula	0.5-1.5%
Shoulder joint	4.5-11.5%
• Dislocations/Instability	1-3%
• Arthritis	1-3%
• Muscle/tendon/ adhesive capsulitis	2-4%
• Osteonecrosis, nerve injury/compression, infection	0.5-1.5%
Humerus (fracture)	3-9%
• Proximal	1-3%
• Shaft	0.5-1.5%
• Distal	
• Pediatric	1-3%
• Adult	0.5-1.5%
Elbow joint	2.5-7.5%
• Dislocations/Instability	0.5-1.5%
• Arthritis	0.5-1.5%
• Muscle/tendon/ligament/tendinitis	1-3%
• Osteochondritis, nerve injury/compression	0.5-1.5%
Radius/ulna (fracture)	4-12%
• Proximal	
• Pediatric	0.5-1.5%
• Adult	0.5-1.5%
• Shaft	
• Pediatric	1-3%
• Adult	0.5-1.5%
• Distal	
• Pediatric	0.5-1.5%
• Adult	1-3%

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(continued)

Wrist joint	1.5-4.5%
• Dislocations/Instability/fracture	0.5-1.5%
• Arthritis	0.25-.75%
• Tendon/muscle	0.25-.75%
• Nerve compression/injury	0.5-1.5%
Hand	2-6%
• Dislocations/Instability/fracture	0.5-1.5%
• Arthritis	0.25-.75%
• Tendon/muscle/nerve compression/injury	0.25-.75%
• Other (human bite, Dupuytren's, nail bed injuries, amputations, infection)	1-3%

Lower Extremities	24-56%
Hip joint	4-10%
• Dislocations/Fracture (pelvis, acetabular)	0.5-1.5%
• Arthritis/osteonecrosis	2-4%
• Other (bursitis, femoral acetabular impingement, labrum, tendon/tear)	0.5-1.5%
• Pediatric hip (Infection, slipped capital femoral epiphysis, developmental dislocation of the hip)	1-3%
Femur fractures	2.5-7.5%
• Proximal (neck, peritrochanteric, subtrochanteric)	1-3%
• Shaft	0.5-1.5%
• Distal	0.5-1.5%
• Periprosthetic	0.5-1.5%
Knee joint	8.5-16.5%
• Instability/ligamentous injury	2-4%
• Dislocations	.5-1.5%
• Arthritis/osteonecrosis	3-5%
• Tendon/muscle	.5-1.5%
• Cartilage/meniscal	.5-1.5%
• Patellofemoral (dislocations/instability/fracture)	1-3%
Pediatric knee injuries (bony and ligamentous)	0.5-1.5%
Tibia/fibula fractures	2.25-5.25%
• Proximal	1-3%
• Shaft (includes stress)	0.5-1.5%
• Distal	0.25-9.75%
Ankle joint	3.5-7.5%
• Fractures/dislocations (malleolar, pilon)	2-4%
• Instability/sprains	0.25-0.75%
• Arthritis/OCD	0.25-0.75%
• Tendon/muscle	1-2%

Foot	4.25-7.25%
• Hindfoot/midfoot/forefoot fracture/dislocations	2-3%
• Neuropathic foot (inc diabetes and infection)	1-2%
• Forefoot pathology (eg, hallux valgus, hallux rigidus, hammertoe, Morton's neuroma)	0.5-1.5%
• Other/multiple sites (eg, puncture wounds, plantar fasciitis)	0.25-.75%

Multiple Sites	4-12%
Multiple trauma (Blood loss, pneumothorax)	.5-1.5%
Compartment syndrome (upper and lower, exertional)	.5-1.5%
Complications following surgical procedures (includes deep vein thrombosis, PE, fat emboli)	1-3%
Medical aspects of sports medicine (including concussion, asthma, sudden cardiac death, environmental exposure)	.5-1.5%
Inflammatory disease (including Lyme, gout, septic arthritis, JRA)	1-3%
Metabolic bone disease/osteoporosis	.5-1.5%

<i>Outcome Management</i>	<i>2-3%</i>
Infection and medical optimization, including nutrition, smoking cessation, glucose management/diabetes, weight loss, MRSA screening, multimodal/opioid pain management, prehabilitation, inflammatory arthritis evaluation and management	2-3%

Neoplasms	2-5%
Benign	0.5-1.5%
Malignant	1-3%
• Primary	0.5-1.5%
• Metastatic	0.5-1.5%