



*ABOS Orthopaedic  
Sports Medicine Subspecialty  
Certification Examination  
Blueprint*

*[www.abos.org](http://www.abos.org)*

# ABOS Orthopaedic Sports Medicine Subspecialty Certification Examination Blueprint

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<b>General Principles</b>	<b>4-10%</b>
Biostatistics/epidemiology	1-3%
Legal/ethical	1-3%
Basic Science Principles	2-4%
<b>Spine</b>	<b>2-6%</b>
Cervical	1-3%
Thoracic/ Lumbar	1-3%
<b>Upper Extremities</b>	<b>20-38%</b>
Clavicle	1-3%
Scapula	0.5-1.5%
Glenohumeral joint	13-19%
Elbow joint	2.5-7.5%
Wrist joint	1-3%
Hand	2-4%
<b>Lower Extremities</b>	<b>31-56%</b>
Pelvis	0.5-1.5%
Hip joint	4-8%
Tibiofemoral joint	17-23%
Patellofemoral joint	3-7%
Leg	1-3%
Ankle joint	3.5-8.5%
Foot	1.5-4.5%
<b>Multiple sites/systemic/other</b>	<b>8-22%</b>
Multiple trauma, nonorthopaedic	0.5-1.5%
Complications following surgical procedures	2.5-5.5%
Medical aspects of sports medicine	7-10%
Physcal injury and growth arrest	0.5-1.5%
Neoplasms	0.5-1.5%

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<b><i>General Principles</i></b>	<b><i>4-10%</i></b>
<b>Biostatistics/epidemiology</b>	<b>1-3%</b>
<b>Legal/ethical (including team physician issues)</b>	<b>1-3%</b>
<b>Basic Science Principles (including biologic therapy)</b>	<b>2-4%</b>

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*(continued)*

<b>Spine</b>	<b>2-6%</b>
<b>Cervical</b>	<b>1-3%</b>
<b>Thoracic/ Lumbar</b>	<b>1-3%</b>

<b>Upper Extremities</b>	<b>20-38%</b>
<b>Clavicle/Acromioclavicular joint/Sternoclavicular joint</b>	<b>1-3%</b>
<b>Scapula (fracture, neuropathy, os acromiale, scapular dyskinesia)</b>	<b>0.5-1.5%</b>
<b>Glenohumeral joint</b>	<b>13-19%</b>
• Dislocation/instability/labral injuries	6-8%
• Rotator cuff	4-6%
• Nerve injury, proximal humerus fracture, proximal biceps tendinitis/tear	3-5%
<b>Elbow joint</b>	<b>2.5-7.5 q%</b>
• Dislocation/instability	1-3%
• Tendon/muscle tears (including epicondylitis)	1-3%
• Cartilage, arthritis, nerve injury, fracture	0.5-1.5%
<b>Wrist joint (dislocation/instability, nerve injury, fracture [eg, distal radius, carpus])</b>	<b>1-3%</b>
<b>Hand (dislocation/instability, tendon/muscle, fracture)</b>	<b>2-4%</b>

<b>Lower Extremities</b>	<b>31-56%</b>
<b>Pelvis</b>	<b>0.5-1.5%</b>
<b>Hip joint</b>	<b>4-8%</b>
• Dislocation/instability, fracture, tendon/tear, cartilage	3-5%
• Femoral acetabular impingement	1-3%
<b>Tibiofemoral joint</b>	<b>17-23%</b>
• Dislocation/instability/ligament	10-12%
• Cartilage/meniscus	4-6%
• Fracture (including distal femur, proximal tibia), arthritis, osteonecrosis, nerve injury, infection, heterotopic ossification, synovitis, Osgood-Schlatter disease, Baker cyst	3-5%
<b>Patellofemoral joint</b>	<b>3-7%</b>
• Dislocation/instability	1-3%
• Fracture, arthritis, tendon/muscle, cartilage, nerve injury, infection, heterotopic ossification	2-4%
<b>Leg (compartment syndrome, stress fracture, shin splints)</b>	<b>1-3%</b>
<b>Ankle joint</b>	<b>3.5-8.5%</b>
• Dislocation/instability	1-3%
• Tendon/muscle (including Achilles and peroneal tendons)	0.5-1.5%
• Fracture (including pilon fracture), cartilage, osteonecrosis, nerve injury, infection	2-4%
<b>Foot</b>	<b>1.5-4.5%</b>
• Fracture	0.5-1.5%
• Dislocation/instability, tendon/muscle, arthritis, cartilage, osteonecrosis, nerve injury, infection, tarsal coalition, flatfoot, sesamoid	1-3%

<b>Multiple sites/systemic/other</b>	<b>8-22%</b>
<b>Multiple trauma, nonorthopaedic (eg., chest/abdominal blunt trauma)</b>	<b>0.5-1.5%</b>
<b>Complications following surgical procedures</b>	<b>2.5-5.5%</b>
• Deep venous thrombosis/pulmonary embolism	0.5-1.5%
• Infection, mechanical failure, anesthetic complications, other (eg., nerve injury)	2-4%
<b>Medical aspects of sports medicine</b>	<b>7-10%</b>
• Concussion	0.5-1.5%
• Cardiology	0.5-1.5%
• Environmental exposure	0.5-1.5%
• Infectious disease	0.5-1.5%
• Endocrine (including female athlete triad, diabetes)	0.5-1.5%
• Pain management	0.5-1.5%
• Head and face, pulmonary, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, skin, Marfan syndrome	1-3%
<b>Physeal injury and growth arrest</b>	<b>0.5-1.5%</b>
<b>Neoplasms (benign or malignant)</b>	<b>0.5-1.5%</b>