

A summary of the changes to the ANCC PMHNP board exam: Effective April 28, 2023

An analysis made by [Georgette's PMHNP Certification Review Courses \(www.pmhnpcourses.com\)](http://www.pmhnpcourses.com).

Currently: There are 175 questions on the ANCC PMHNP certification examination; 150 are scored questions, and 25 are pretest questions that are not scored.

Effective April 2023

- No changes in the total number of exam questions, scored questions, and pretest questions.
- No changes in the **body system, drug agents, and age group.**

Domain I: Scientific Foundation

Currently: 30 scored questions (20%)

Effective April 2023

- 33 scored questions (22%).
- No changes in topics.

Domain II: Advanced Practice Skills

Currently: 38 scored questions (25%)

Effective April 2023

- 41 scored questions (27%).
- Motivational interviewing moved from Domain IV to Domain II.
- **Add-ons:** Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test [AUDIT] and Drug Abuse Screening Test [DAST].

Domain III: Diagnosis and Treatment

Currently: 37 scored questions (25%)

Effective April 2023

- 33 scored questions (22%).
- No changes in topics.

Domain IV: Psychotherapy and Related Theories

Currently: 22 scored questions (15%)

Effective April 2023

- 17 scored questions (11%).
- Grief and loss have been removed.
- **Add-ons:** Humanistic, interpersonal, and behavioral therapies.

Domain V: Ethical, Legal Principles, and Cultural Care

Currently: 23 scored questions (15%)

Effective April 2023

- 26 scored questions (17%)
- Add-ons:**
- Cultural and spiritual competence (e.g., differences in belief systems, existentialism, social determinants of mental health, risk factors, barriers).
 - Equity, diversity, and inclusion (e.g., specific populations, sexual orientation, and gender identity).
 - Cultural and spiritual competence moved from "knowledge" and placed under "skill".

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After reviewing the updates, we are already covering a majority of the new topics that have been added. For example, we already cover **Humanistic, interpersonal, and behavioral therapies** which were new topics added to Module IV. We currently also cover **culturally competent care** which was a new topic added to Module V. Some topics were moved from one domain to the other. Our team is working on updating our syllabus to include the new topics.

- As of January 1, 2023, our syllabus for **Modules 1-5** will reflect the following new topics that have been added to the new exam.
 - **Note: The new exam topics will be included in the Last-Minute Review (LMR) from April 1, 2023.**
- **Module II:** Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test [AUDIT] and Drug Abuse Screening Test [DAST].
- **Module V**
 - Differences in belief systems, existentialism, social determinants of mental health, risk factors, and barriers).
 - Equity, diversity, and inclusion (e.g., specific populations, sexual orientation, and gender identity).
- We will keep reviewing some old topics in Modules 1-5 classes that have been removed from the new exam until April 28, 2023 (so that our students that plan on taking the exam before April 28, 2023, are not affected).
- Changes to [Georgette's PMHNP Certification Review Courses](#) will be made as needed.