

## CLINICIAN CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION INFORMATION SHEET

### Clinician Certification Examination

Certified Clinical Densitometrist (CCD) is a professional certification in the field of densitometry. It recognizes practitioners who meet specified knowledge requirements measured through a standardized testing process. Successful candidates can use the CCD designation after their names.

### Prerequisites to become certified through ISCD

Certification is open to clinicians who interpret bone densitometry examinations per reimbursement requirements and includes physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, fellows and PhD. Clinicians must be in good standing with their state medical licensing board. Fellows/Residents must have their Program Director acknowledge their good standing in the Fellow/Resident program. Eligibility to become certified varies internationally and will be addressed by ISCD panels.

The course is not a requirement to take the certification examination.

### Body of Knowledge

The ISCD Clinician Body of Knowledge covers the principles and concepts of bone density testing, diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis and metabolic bone disease. The Content Outline developed covers the knowledge on these topics and is the basis for the certification examination.

### Content Outline

- I. Overview of Osteoporosis
- II. Basic Science of Bone Densitometry and Device Operating Principles
- III. X-Ray Science, Radiation Safety and Quality Assurance
- IV. Clinical Utility of Bone Densitometry
- V. Use of Bone Densitometry for Diagnosis of Osteoporosis
- VI. Assessment of Fracture Risk
- VII. Monitoring with Bone Densitometry
- VIII. Clinical Management of Osteoporosis
- IX. Principles of DXA Scan Interpretation
- X. Principles of Reporting DXA Scans

### References

The following references are used for the body of knowledge. All questions on the exam are mapped to the references below. **To prepare for the examination it is recommended that you read and review the references.**

- 1) Bonnick, Sydney Lou *Bone Densitometry in Clinical Practice: Application and Interpretation - Second Editions* by Sydney Lou Bonnick ISBN-10: 1588292754 ISBN-13: 9781588292759  
Publisher: Springer-Verlag New York, LLC - January 2004
- 2) *ISCD Clinician Course Syllabus and Associated Reading Materials, Versions 7.1 – 8.1.2*, The International Society for Clinical Densitometry, 2007.
- 3) *2007 International Society for Clinical Densitometry Position Statements*, International Society for Clinical Densitometry, October 2007

The ISCD Web site has information on how to obtain these products  
<http://www.iscd.org/Visitors/publications/boneyard.cfm?fromhighlights=2>

### **Certification Examination**

- There are 75 multiple choice questions (closed book)
- It is a two hour examination
- Ten of the questions require analysis of scan images
- 80% of the answers (60 questions) must be correct in order to pass the examination
- A calculator is not allowed nor is it required for the examination
- Approximately 75% of the candidates pass the exam the first time
- Cell phones are not permitted in the examination room
- All examination materials must be returned to the proctor before leaving the room for your examination to be graded
- A practice test is available on line at:  
<http://www.iscd.org/visitors/pdfs/PracticeQuestionsClinician.pdf>

If you do not pass the examination, you have one year to retake the exam for a reduced fee. Contact the ISCD office for further information at [certification@ISCD.org](mailto:certification@ISCD.org).

### **Recertification**

Recertification is required every five (5) years to maintain the CCD credential. To recertify the clinician must provide official documentation showing 35 Category 1 CME obtained from a minimum of two sources on osteoporosis, bone densitometry or metabolic bone disease. An individual may choose to recertify by retaking the certification exam. For further information on recertification, go to <http://www.iscd.org/Visitors/certification/recertification.cfm>