



BOARD OF CERTIFICATION
FOR THE ATHLETIC TRAINER

Practice Analysis, 8th Edition Comparison to Practice Analysis, 7th Edition

THIS OUTLINES WHAT CHANGED AND WHAT REMAINED THE SAME
WHEN COMPARING PA7 TO PA8.

Difference in Domain Names

PA7 Domain Names	PA8 Domain Names
Domain 1: Injury and Illness Prevention and Wellness Promotion	Domain 1: Risk Reduction, Wellness and Health Literacy
Domain 2: Examination, Assessment, and Diagnosis	Domain 2: Assessment, Evaluation and Diagnosis
Domain 3: Immediate and Emergency Response	Domain 3: Critical Incident Management
Domain 4: Therapeutic Intervention	Domain 4: Therapeutic Intervention
Domain 5: Health Care Administration and Professional Responsibility	Domain 5: Health Care Administration and Professional Responsibility

Difference in Task Statements

PA7 Domain 1 Task Statements	PA8 Domain 1 Task Statements
Identify risk factors by administering assessment, pre-participation examination, and other screening instruments and reviewing individual and group history and injury surveillance data.	Identify risk factors by administering assessment, pre-participation exam and other screening instruments, and reviewing individual and group history and surveillance data.
Implement plans to aid in risk reduction using currently accepted and applicable guidelines.	Implement plans to aid in risk-reduction in accordance with evidence-based practice and applicable guidelines.
Educate all stakeholders about the appropriate use of personal equipment.	Promote health literacy by educating patients and other stakeholders in order to improve their capacity to obtain, process, and understand basic health information needed to make appropriate health decisions.
Minimize the risk of injury and illness by monitoring and implementing plans to comply with regulatory requirements and standard operating procedures for physical environments and equipment.	Optimize wellness (e.g., social, emotional, spiritual, environmental, occupational, intellectual, physical) for individuals and groups.
Facilitate personal and group safety by monitoring and responding to environmental conditions (e.g., weather, surfaces, client work setting).	Facilitate individual and group safety by monitoring and responding to environmental conditions (e.g., weather, surfaces, work setting).
Optimize wellness (e.g., social, emotional, spiritual, environmental, occupational, intellectual, physical) for individuals and groups.	

PA7 Domain 2 Task Statements	PA8 Domain 2 Task Statements
Obtain an individual's history through observation, interview, and review of relevant records to assess injuries and illnesses and to identify comorbidities.	Obtain a thorough and individualized history using observation and appropriate interview techniques to identify information relevant to the patient's current condition.
Perform a physical examination that includes diagnostic testing to formulate differential diagnoses.	Perform a physical examination using diagnostic techniques.
Formulate a clinical diagnosis by interpreting history and the physical examination to determine the appropriate course of action.	Formulate a clinical diagnosis by interpreting the information obtained during the history and physical examination.
Interpret signs and symptoms of injuries, illnesses, or other conditions that require referral using medical history and physical examination to ensure appropriate care.	Establish a plan of care based on the clinical diagnosis and evidence-based practice.
Educate patients and appropriate stakeholders about clinical findings, prognosis, and plan of care to optimize outcomes and encourage compliance.	Educate the patient and stakeholders on the clinical diagnosis, prognosis, and plan of care.

PA7 Domain 3 Task Statements	PA8 Domain 3 Task Statements
Establish, review and/or revise emergency action plans to guide appropriate and unified response to events and optimize outcomes.	Implement Emergency Action (Response) Plans for all venues and events to guide appropriate and unified response in order to optimize outcomes.
Triage to determine if conditions, injuries, or illnesses are life-threatening.	Triage the severity of health conditions.
Implement appropriate emergency and immediate care procedures to reduce the risk of morbidity and mortality.	Implement appropriate evidence-based emergent care procedures to reduce the risk of morbidity and mortality (e.g., c-spine, airway management, heat illness, pandemics, suicides, other emergent conditions).
Implement referral strategies to facilitate the timely transfer of care.	Assess the scene to identify appropriate courses of action.

PA7 Domain 4 Task Statements	PA8 Domain 4 Task Statements
Optimize patient outcomes by developing, evaluating, and updating the plan of care.	Optimize patient outcomes by developing, evaluating, and updating the plan of care.
Educate patients and appropriate stakeholders using pertinent information to optimize treatment and rehabilitation outcomes.	Educate patients and appropriate stakeholders using pertinent information to optimize patient-centered care and patient engagement throughout the therapeutic intervention process.
Administer therapeutic exercises to patients using appropriate techniques and procedures to aid recovery to optimal function.	Prescribe therapeutic exercises following evidence-based practices to address impairments and enhance activity and participation levels.
Administer therapeutic devices to patients using appropriate techniques and procedures to aid recovery to optimal function.	Administer therapeutic modalities and devices using evidence-based procedures and parameters to address impairments and enhance activity and participation levels.
Administer manual techniques to patients using appropriate methods and procedures to aid recovery to optimal function.	Administer manual therapy techniques using evidence-based methods to address impairments and enhance activity and participation levels.
Administer therapeutic interventions for general medical conditions to aid recovery to optimal function.	Determine patients' functional status using appropriate techniques and standards to inform decisions about the return to optimal activity and participation levels.
Determine patients' functional status using appropriate techniques and standards to return to optimal activity level.	Manage general medical conditions to optimize activity and participation levels.

PA7 Domain 5 Task Statements	PA8 Domain 5 Task Statements
Evaluate organizational, individual, and stakeholder goals and outcomes.	Assess organizational and individual outcomes using quality improvement analyses.
Develop, review and/or revise policies, procedures, and strategies to address risks and organizational needs.	Develop policies, procedures, and plans to address organizational needs.
Practice within local, state, and national regulations, guidelines, recommendations, and professional standards.	Practice within federal, state, and local laws, regulations, rules, and requirements, and professional standards.
Use established documentation procedures to ensure best practice.	Use standardized documentation procedures to ensure best practices.

Copyright © 2021 Board of Certification (BOC) for the Athletic Trainer

All rights reserved. The BOC logo is registered trademarks of the BOC and this document may not be used, reproduced, or disseminated to any third party without written permission from the BOC.

Non-profit education programs have permission to use or reproduce all or parts of this document for educational purposes only.

Use or reproduction of this document for commercial or for-profit use is strictly prohibited.

Any authorized reproduction of this document shall display the notice: “Copyright by the Board of Certification, Inc. All rights reserved.” Or, if a portion of the document is reproduced or incorporated in other materials, such written materials shall include the following credit: “Portions copyrighted by the Board of Certification, Inc. All rights reserved.”

Address inquiries in writing to Board of Certification, 1415 Harney St. Suite 200, Omaha, NE 68102