



Guide to Writing Part II MOC Self-Assessments

Self-assessment questions are reviewed by the American Board of Pediatrics prior to being approved for use in a Part II Maintenance of Certification Activity. The number of accepted questions determines the points assigned to a self-assessment. The Ohio AAP recommends the following number of questions be drafted for each points level:

- 10 Point Self-Assessments – 25 ABP approved questions required
- 20 Point Self-Assessments – 50 ABP approved questions required

Self-Assessment Resources

The Medical Director selects resources used in the development of the self-assessment. Resources:

- Can include peer-reviewed articles
- Can include AAP Policy Statements
- Can be from any timeframe the Medical Director deems appropriate; there are no required publishing dates
- Will be reviewed by the Child Health Pillar at least once annually

Self-Assessment Questions

Through conversations with the ABP and other organizations that have created approved Part II MOC Activities, the Ohio AAP has developed the following suggestions for writing questions that are likely to be approved for use in a Part II MOC Self-assessment. Assessment questions should:

- Be multiple choice
- Have 4 or 5 answer options
- Be single-best answer
- Not offer “All of the above” or “None of the above” as answer options
- Not be misleading or have “trick” answers
- Not offer answer options such as “Both A and B”
- Avoid using the format “All answers except A” (or equivalent)

Sample Questions

Encouraged Question Format	Discouraged Question Format	Discouraged Question Format
Based on the reference cited, which of the following contraceptive methods is optimal for an adolescent female who has PCOS? A. Combined oral contraceptive pill B. Condoms C. Depot medroxyprogesterone acetate D. Progestin-only implant E. Progestin-only pill	Based on the reference cited, which of the following contraceptive methods is optimal for an adolescent female who has PCOS? A. Combined oral contraceptive pill B. Condoms C. Both A and B D. All of the above E. None of the above (Discouraged answer formats used)	Based on the reference cited, condoms are the optimal contraceptive methods for an adolescent female who has PCOS. A. True B. False C. Both true and false (Not enough answer options provided; possibly misleading answer option)

Additional Resource



Rules for Writing Multiple-Choice Questions

Timothy W Bothell, PhD

Brigham Young University

<https://testing.byu.edu/handbooks/14%20Rules%20of%20for%20Writing%20Multiple-Choice%20Questions.pdf>