

Achieving Consistent Clinical Education Outcomes: Assessment of AuD Students

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*Gold Standards Summit 2009:
Transforming Clinical Education in Audiology*

AuD Assessment

- 2 Comprehensive Examinations:
 - Qualifying Examination
 - Professional Doctoral Examination

Qualifying Examination

□ Description:

- Designed to assess student competence in the knowledge and skill areas that are prerequisite to continuation in the program. Emphasis is given to integration of material across courses (e.g., how science influences clinical applications, case studies, etc.).

□ Timing:

- At the end of Spring quarter of the 1st year

Qualifying Examination

- Content: from courses taken during the 1st three quarters, including:
 - Anatomy & physiology
 - Neurology
 - Acoustics & instrumentation
 - Pure tone & speech audiometry
 - Hearing aids
 - Tympanometry
 - Otoacoustic emissions
 - Research methods

Qualifying Examination

- Components:
 - 6 hours of written examination
 - 2 days, 3 hours/day

 - 5 ½ hour practical examinations
 - Case history
 - Pure tone audiometry
 - Speech audiometry
 - Tympanometry & otoacoustic emissions
 - Hearing aid electroacoustical analysis

Qualifying Examination

Results

■ Pass:

- Continuation in the program and entrance into clinic practicum.

■ Fail:

- The student is given the opportunity to re-take the exam 6-weeks later.
 - (while being withheld from clinic and courses).

■ Fail on the re-take:

- The student is denied further enrollment in the AuD program.

Our Experience to date . . .

- ❑ Format/content remains the same;
- ❑ Of 34 students that have taken the exam:
 - 27 passed (80%)
 - 7 failed (20%)
 - 4 passed on the retake
 - 3 failed the retake

Professional Doctoral Examination

□ Description:

- This examination is designed to test the student's fundamental knowledge of the field of audiology and the student's ability to think and express ideas clearly. Successful completion will indicate student preparedness for the 4th year professional experience and completion of a capstone project.

□ Timing:

- During Winter quarter of the 3rd year

Professional Doctoral Examination

- Content:
 - Written examination using a 'case study' style, where students are provided with a case history and audiometric information.
 - Format: take-home essay style examination in which 3 cases are given, 1 per week.
 - University-required examination with a strong clinical foundation
 - Questions are based on the specific case and cover the following areas:
 - Professional issues
 - Clinical applications
 - Basic science

Professional Doctoral Examination

- Example questions from an “otosclerosis” case:
 - Given the degree of conductive hearing loss present, explain why you obtained normal tympanometry results.
 - Define the 3 modes of bone conduction transmission. Discuss why the patient’s bone conduction thresholds are elevated at 2000 Hz.
 - The patient has been looking for additional information regarding hearing loss and has found information on a surgically implantable hearing aid which might work for his hearing loss. He has raised questions regarding this information and has shared his belief that “traditional” hearing aids will not work for his hearing loss. Provide information regarding potential pros and cons for a surgically implanted hearing aid for this loss and address his concerns.

Professional Doctoral Examination

□ Results:

- Pass
- Re-write – during the same quarter
- Re-take – during spring quarter

□ Results to date:

- Pass: 100%

Things we've learned . . .

- To place limitations in order to promote success.

- To better coordinate our classroom instruction with clinical instruction;
 - Making the connection between the underlying foundation and the application.

Acknowledgements

- Larry Feth
- Eric Healy
- Gail Whitelaw
- Christie Goodman
- Julie Hazelbaker

- (Stephanie Davidson & Wayne King)

Questions?

Thank you!