



**GUIDELINES FOR  
ABP  
QUALIFYING EXAMINATION  
ORAL EXAMINATION  
AND  
RECERTIFICATION**

**THE AMERICAN BOARD  
OF PERIODONTOLOGY**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents.....	2
Composition of Board.....	3
Directors of the Board.....	3
Examiners of the Board .....	4
Periodontology as a Specialty.....	4
Mission Statement.....	4
Fees .....	5
Qualifying Examination Process .....	6
Composition .....	6
When Examination Is Conducted.....	6
Qualifying Examination Application Procedures.....	6
Registration for Examination .....	7
Scoring of Qualifying Examination .....	7
Completion of Certification Process .....	8
Extension of Board Eligibility Period .....	8
Qualifying Examination Outline .....	9
Oral Examination Process.....	12
Procedures for Application.....	12
Location.....	12
Orientation Session.....	12
Length of Exam.....	13
Examiners .....	13
Scoring of Examination.....	13
Failure of Oral Examination.....	13
Hypothetical Protocol.....	13
Protocol Content Areas .....	16
Evaluation Rating Scale Definitions .....	17
Evaluation Form.....	18
Certificates.....	19
Use of Terms .....	19
ABP Support for Diplomates .....	19
Recertification Process .....	20
General Information	
Statement of Confidentiality .....	21
Appeal Process .....	22
Accommodation Policy and Procedures for Candidates with Disabilities.....	22
Policy on Sexual Harassment .....	23
Standard of Conduct Policy.....	23
Non-Discrimination Policy.....	24
English as Official Language .....	24
Cancellation Policy.....	24
Future Examination Dates .....	24
Annual Registration.....	24

## The American Board of Periodontology Guidelines for Certification

This informational packet is published by the American Board of Periodontology to inform prospective candidates about Board policies, requirements and procedures for the examination process, certification, and recertification. Correspondence may be directed to the Board office:

Dr. Kent G. Palcanis, Executive Director  
Brenda J. Mayes, Executive Secretary  
Barbara Robinette, Executive Assistant

4157 Mountain Road, PBN249  
Pasadena, MD 21122  
Phone: 410-437-3749  
Fax: 410-437-4021  
E-Mail: [abperio@msn.com](mailto:abperio@msn.com)  
[www.abperio.org](http://www.abperio.org)

### COMPOSITION OF BOARD

The Board consists of 10 voting Directors. All are active or life members of the American Academy of Periodontology and Diplomates of the ABP. Directors serve for staggered six-year terms and hold office for no more than one term. Directors are elected by mail ballot sent to all voting members of the Academy from a slate of candidates chosen by the Academy's Nominating Committee for the American Board of Periodontology or nominated by petition in accordance with the Academy's Bylaws. The election procedures are governed by the provisions set forth in Chapter II, Section 7 of the Academy's Bylaws. Each Director holds office until a successor is elected and installed, or until such Director's earlier death, resignation or removal. Former Directors or Examiners of the Board may be elected to assist the Directors with the Oral Examination based on the number of candidates participating in the exam.

### DIRECTORS OF THE BOARD

	<u>Term</u>
Dr. Cary Shapoff, Co-Chairman	2010*
Dr. Hom-Lay Wang, Co-Chairman	2010
Dr. Henry Greenwell, Co-Vice-Chairman	2011
Dr. Louis F. Rose, Co-Vice Chairman	2011
Dr. Brian L. Mealey	2012
Dr. Georgia Johnson	2012
Dr. Thomas Kepic	2013
Dr. Robert Sabatini	2013
Dr. Bryan Pearson	2014
Dr. Steven Blanchard	2015

\* Expiration date for term of office

## EXAMINERS OF THE BOARD

Daniel Assad	Thu Getka	Mark Reynolds
Mary Beth Aichelmann-Reidy	James Hinrichs	Paul Rosen
Clark Barco	David Kerns	Jeffrey Rossmann
Leslie Batnick	Paul Levi	Leslie Salkin
Grishondra Branch-Mays	Angelo Marriotti	Surendra Singh
Lewis Claman	Jose Mellado	Ahmad Soolari
Joseph Califano	Michael McQuade	Stephen Soehren
Steven Detsch	Michael Mills	Hank Towle
John Dmytryk	Robert O'Neal	Byron Wade
Bryan Frantz	David Paquette	
Sylvan Feldman	Michael Reddy	

Examiners are selected by the Board of Directors to conduct the Oral Examination and perform other duties as the Board may assign.

## PERIODONTOLOGY AS A SPECIALTY

Periodontology is one of the nine dental specialties recognized by the American Dental Association. Periodontics is that specialty of dentistry, which encompasses the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases of the supporting and surrounding tissues of the teeth or their substitutes and the maintenance of the health, function and esthetics of these structures.

The specialist in Periodontology is an expert in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases of the supporting and surrounding tissues of the teeth or their substitutes, regeneration of lost components of the periodontium, and the maintenance of the health, function and esthetics of these structures and tissues.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The American Board of Periodontology (ABP) was organized by The American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) in 1939. The purpose of the ABP shall be:

- To elevate the standards and advance the science and art of periodontology by encouraging its study and improving its practice;
- To conduct examinations to determine the qualifications and competence of dentists who voluntarily apply to the Board for certification as Diplomates;
- To grant and issue Diplomate certificates in the field of periodontology to qualified applicants and to maintain a registry of holders of such certificates; and
- To serve the health professions and health institutions by preparing and furnishing, on request, lists of periodontists certified as Diplomates by the Board.
- To serve the public by ensuring continued competency of Diplomates through a recertification process.

To accomplish its major mission the ABP Certification process is divided into three phases:

1. Periodontists must pass the ABP Qualifying Examination to become eligible to apply for the Oral Examination.
2. Candidates become Board Certified and Diplomates of the Board when they successfully complete the ABP Qualifying and Oral Examination.

3. In order to maintain a high level of competency and active certification. Diplomates of the Board must recertify every six years by obtaining 60 points of Continuing Education and completion of the on-line Self Study Recertification Program.

The activities of the American Board of Periodontology conform to the “Requirements for Recognition of Dental Specialties and National Certifying Boards for Dental Specialists” of the Council on Dental Education and Licensure of the American Dental Association.

<b>FEES</b>
-------------

- The total fee for the Examination is \$1,250 (\$450 ABP Qualifying Examination, \$800.00 Oral Examination).
- The ABP Qualifying Examination fee of \$450 shall accompany the completed application, attestation, and credentials forms and must be submitted by June 15<sup>th</sup> of the year candidate plans to take the examination.
- The Oral Examination fee of \$800 must be submitted by October 31<sup>st</sup> in the prior year the candidate plans to take the Oral Examination (i.e. application submitted by October 31, 2010 for May 2011 oral examination).
- Candidates who request to withdraw from the ABP Qualifying Examination with valid reason and have paid the Examination Fee must submit their request in writing to the Board office and may request to keep their application on file for the next date the ABP Qualifying Examination will be administered by submitting the request in writing to the Board office with payment of a \$150.00 re-application fee.
- Candidates who fail to appear (“no show”) for a scheduled test with Pearson Vue Testing Centers; arrive more than fifteen minutes after the scheduled test start time and cannot be accommodated at the testing center; cancel a test less than 24 hours prior to the scheduled test start time will void their application status and must re-start the application process by submitting a new completed application, attestation, and credential forms and fee of \$450.00 to the Board office.
- Candidates who fail to attend the mandatory Orientation Session prior to the Oral Examination; or who fail to show for the Oral Examination; arrive more than fifteen minutes after the scheduled exam start time and cannot be accommodated, must restart the application process by a new completed application, attestation, and credential forms and fee of \$800.00 to the Board office.
- Candidates who request to withdraw from the oral examination must submit their request in writing to the Board office. Candidates who withdraw and whose eligibility has not expired may transfer their oral examination fee to a subsequent examination for a re-application fee of \$400.00. Candidates withdrawing with special circumstances, (i.e. illness, family death, national disaster) may submit written request to the Board that the Oral Examination re-application fee be waived. The decision will be at the sole discretion of the Board and candidates will be notified in writing of the Board’s decision.
- An annual registration fee is required of all Diplomates by January 1st of each year. The current annual registration fee is \$250.00.
- The on-line Self Study Recertification Program cost is \$90.00.
- Fees are subject to change. Fees current at the time shall apply when fees are due.
- All fees are payable in U.S. Funds, drawn on a U.S. Bank, payable to the American Board of Periodontology. Money Orders and Bank Drafts are accepted. Fees are non refundable.

# ABP QUALIFYING EXAMINATION PROCESS

## COMPOSITION

The ABP Qualifying Examination is a multiple choice, computer-based test that covers a broad range of information relating to the science and practice of periodontology. Subject areas include basic science, oral medicine/oral pathology, periodontal histology/periodontal pathology, epidemiology/statistics, and evidence-based clinical practice. See ABP Qualifying Exam Outline on pages 9-11. A computer Based Test Tutorial is available at [www.MeasurementResearch.com](http://www.MeasurementResearch.com). Click the “Specialty Board Exams and Computer Based Testing” link to obtain general information about computer based testing and answers to frequently asked questions, as well as practice taking an exam using Computer Based Testing.

## WHEN EXAMINATION IS CONDUCTED

The ABP Qualifying Exam will be conducted yearly. It may be taken on one day at regional testing centers. Information regarding current available testing center locations can be found on the web at [www.pearsonvue.com](http://www.pearsonvue.com) or by calling the Board office at 410-437-3749. When possible, the examination will be offered on two consecutive days and candidates may select their testing center on a first come, first serve basis.

## ABP QUALIFYING EXAMINATION APPLICATION

- How to Apply:

You will need to complete the ABP Qualifying Examination Application Form, ABP Qualifying Examination Attestation Form, and ABP Qualifying Examination Credentials Form which may be downloaded from the Board’s website [www.abperio.org](http://www.abperio.org). Make sure all documents are signed and dated and all questions are answered. The Application, Attestation, Credentials Form and evidence of completion of an accredited program must accompany the application fee of Four Hundred and Fifty Dollars and must be mailed to the Board office by June 15<sup>th</sup>. Evidence of successful completion of an ADA accredited program in Periodontics must be submitted with your application. This consists of a copy of your certificate or an official letter signed by the program director that specifies “successful completion of an educational program in Periodontology, which is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation”.

Candidates unable to obtain verification of successful completion of their program due to research requirements (M.S., M.S.D.) or clinical requirements must have their program director submit the following statement with the program director’s signature, “It is anticipated that Dr. \_\_\_\_\_ will satisfy all requirements and successfully complete the program in Periodontics prior to the ABP Qualifying Examination”. Under these circumstances candidates will be permitted to take the ABP Qualifying Examination and receive their results. However, candidates must submit evidence of successful completion of their program (certificate or letter stating they HAVE successfully completed their program signed by **BOTH** the Program Director and the Dean (or equivalent administrative officer) **before applying for and taking the Oral Examination.**

- Obtaining Forms:

Additional Forms may be obtained from one of the following:

1. Download at ABP website at [www.abperio.org](http://www.abperio.org)
2. Calling the Board office at (410) 437-3749
3. Request via email [abperio@msn.com](mailto:abperio@msn.com)

- Notification:

- Candidates will receive written notification of receipt of application, fees, and enclosures.

**ABP QUALIFYING EXAMINATION  
REGISTRATION FOR EXAMINATION**

The Board will provide Pearson Vue with the names of accepted candidates. Accepted candidates will be able to register at specific testing centers after June 15<sup>th</sup> prior to the examination date. Candidates may schedule their examination by calling the toll free number 1-877-392-3926 or via Internet at [www.pearsonvue.com](http://www.pearsonvue.com) . Program reference name is MRA Specialty Board Exams.

A. Registration by telephone:

1. Dial 1-877-392-3926; Monday-Friday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. CST
2. Candidate will hear “Thank you for calling Pearson VUE, MRA Certification Exams”. From there a script will direct you through the rest of the process.

B. Registration via Internet at [www.pearsonvue.com](http://www.pearsonvue.com) (Candidates must acquire a username and password before scheduling the examination):

Obtaining a Username and Password and Scheduling an Examination Appointment

1. Go to the [www.pearsonvue.com](http://www.pearsonvue.com) home page, select “Quick Start”; select “Choose Your Test”; select “Other” located under the heading
2. On the next menu, select “The American Board of Periodontology”.
3. On the next page, click on “Create a Web Account”.
4. Enter Legal Name (note all fields with \* are required). Enter email address.
5. When creating username, it is recommended to use your first initial of your first name, first initial of middle name and full last name for the username (i.e. John Edward Smith=JESmith).
6. You will be required to enter your candidate number, i.e. MRA8020070000

\*\* A examination appointment confirmation letter will be sent to the candidate via email or postal mail.

C. Bring to the Examination:

Candidates must bring the following with them on testing day:

1. Confirmation Letter from Pearson Vue.
2. Two valid forms of identification, “Both forms must be in your name as it appears on the confirmation letter, must have your signature, and one of them must have a photo of you.”

D. Computer Based Tutorial:

We encourage you to take advantage of the computer based testing tutorial available at [www.MeasurementResearch.com](http://www.MeasurementResearch.com). The tutorial will allow you to practice with the demonstration examination as much as you wish. The tutorial will be available at the testing center the day of your examination to view prior to the examination.

**SCORING AND NOTIFICATION OF ABP  
QUALIFYING EXAMINATION**

Evaluation of performance is criterion based and done in consultation with Measurement Research Associates, Inc. The Board’s Executive Director will send examination results in writing to the candidate by postal mail. Only notification of success or failure is provided to candidates; no specific grades are reported. Candidates are solely responsible for notifying the Board office of any change in mailing address, to ensure the timely delivery of results.

Candidates must not telephone the Board office for examination results. Examination results will not be provided over the phone, by facsimile, or email. Candidates who fail the exam may discuss results with the Executive

Director by calling the Board office at 410-437-3749 for an appointment. Examination questions are not released and all questions are copyrighted by The American Board of Periodontology.

**COMPLETION OF CERTIFICATION  
PROCESS**

Beginning in 2009 candidates will no longer be designated as Board Eligible on successful completion of the ABP Qualifying Examination. Candidates who pass the ABP Qualifying Examination must complete the Oral Examination within two (2) years from the year the ABP Qualifying Examination was successfully completed unless an extension is granted. Beginning in 2009 candidates who fail the oral examination in the last year of eligibility will be required to restart the process by retaking and successfully completing the ABP Qualifying Examination.

**EXTENSION OF ELIGIBILITY PERIOD**

Candidates who pass the ABP Qualifying Examination must complete the Oral Examination within two (2) years from the year the ABP Qualifying Examination was successfully completed unless an extension is granted.

1. Request for a one year extension to complete the Oral Examination may be made in writing to the Board office and must be received by October 31st of the prior year eligibility expires; i.e. Eligibility expiration of 2012; request for Eligibility extension must be received by October 31, 2011. The Executive Director will approve extensions for qualified candidates without Board action. Questionable requests will be considered by the Board.
2. Requests will be granted only when in the Board's judgment the candidate was prevented from taking the Oral Examination by extenuating circumstances.
3. A maximum of one request will be considered by the Board.

## ABP Qualifying Exam Outline

The following specifications represent the categories of the knowledge base considered by the Board to be important in the science of Periodontology and/or relevant to the proficient practice of periodontics. The items developed according to these specifications for inclusion in each examination represent a consistent sampling of Periodontology and reflect subject matter beyond the predoctoral curriculum. Basic science content will be included to the extent that it addresses the scientific basis for diagnostic and therapeutic skills required in clinical application and the future advance of the specialty.

### I. Basic Science

#### A. Anatomy

1. Gross surgical anatomy
2. Microanatomy
3. Ultrastructural anatomy
4. Growth and pathology

#### B. Biochemistry-Physiology

1. Biochemistry
  - a. Connective tissue
  - b. Hard tissue
  - c. Cell biology
  - d. Inflammation
2. Physiology
  - a. Cardiovascular
  - b. Endocrine
  - c. Neural
  - d. Other

#### C. Immunology

1. Anatomy of the immune system
2. Humoral and complement
3. Cell mediated
4. Immune deficiencies

#### D. Microbiology

1. Biology of microorganisms
  - a) Bacteria
  - b) Viruses
2. Pathogenic mechanisms

#### E. Pharmacology

1. Antimicrobials
  - a. systemic agents
  - b. local agents
2. Narcotics and analgesics
3. Cardiovascular
4. Emergency Drugs
5. Drug interactions

#### F. Molecular Biology

#### G. Genetics

### II. Clinical

#### A. Diagnosis

1. Medical and dental history
2. Clinical findings/interpretation
3. Diagnostic techniques
  - a. Probing
  - b. Radiology/imaging
  - c. Crevicular fluid
  - d. Disease activity
  - e. Microbiologic findings
4. Pulpal-periodontal pathology

## B. Etiology

1. Plaque
2. Local factors
3. Occlusion
4. Iatrogenic factors
5. Tobacco products

## C. Prognosis

## D. Treatment Planning

## E. Therapy

1. Plaque control, behavioral modification, devices
2. Non-surgical
  - a. Root planing
  - b. Systemic/local adjuncts
3. Occlusal therapy
4. Periodontic-Orthodontic therapy
5. Surgical therapy
  - a. Gingivectomy and gingivoplasty
  - b. Gingival attachment procedures
  - c. Regeneration or replacement of periodontal supporting structures (GTR)
  - d. Osseous resection
    - 1) treating disease
    - 2) functional and esthetic crown lengthening
  - e. Mucogingival procedures and flap management
  - f. Tooth/Root resection and furcation management
  - g. Periapical surgery
6. Guided bone regeneration
  - a. Alveolar ridge augmentation
  - b. Sinus augmentation
  - c. Tooth socket preservation
7. Dental implants

## F. Maintenance

## III. Oral Pathology and Oral Medicine

### A. Ulcers and vesicular-bullous lesions

### B. Hypersensitivity reactions

### C. Discolorations and Pigmentation

### D. Neoplasms

1. Malignant
2. Non-malignant

### E. Infections

### F. Syndromes

### G. Endocrine

### H. Oral manifestations of systemic disease

### I. Laboratory tests

## IV. Periodontal Histology and Pathology

### A. Gingivitis

1. Plaque related
2. Non-plaque related

### B. Periodontitis

1. Chronic periodontitis
2. Aggressive periodontitis
3. Periodontitis associated with systemic disease

### C. Necrotizing Periodontal Diseases

1. Necrotizing ulcerative gingivitis
2. Necrotizing ulcerative periodontitis

D. Mucogingival Deformities

1. Recession
2. Ridge defects

E. Abscesses of the periodontium

1. Periodontal and Gingival abscesses

F. Occlusal trauma

G. Gingival enlargement

1. Drug related
2. Non-drug related

H. Periodontal histology-histopathology

1. Periodontal structures
2. Periodontal ultrastructure
3. Pathogenesis

I. Periodontic-Endodontic Lesions

J. Wound healing

V. Epidemiology and Statistics

VI. Systemic Implications

A. Cardiovascular

B. Pregnancy

C. Respiratory

D. Diabetes

E. Other

1. Diet/Nutrition
2. Aging
3. Stress
4. Osteoporosis

# ORAL EXAMINATION PROCESS

The candidate will be provided with a brief patient history and one or more digitized photographic slides, which demonstrate a specific problem area or areas. Candidates will demonstrate their expertise in six areas of Periodontics. Candidates may request information about the patient from Examiners in order to answer questions. Three or more protocols will be presented at each 1 ½ hour session. There will be two 1 ½ hour sessions held sequentially (back to back).

## PROCEDURES FOR ORAL EXAM APPLICATION

Applications may also be downloaded from the Board's website at [www.abperio.org](http://www.abperio.org), or obtained by calling the Board office at (410) 437-3749. Assignment of candidates to a particular session will be at the sole discretion of the Board.

### In order to register for the Oral Examination:

1. Complete the Oral Examination Application Form.
2. Read, date, and sign the Oral Examination Attestation Form.
3. Read, answer questions, date, and sign the Oral Examination Credentials Form.
4. Mail completed Oral Examination Application, Attestation, and Credentials Forms along with examination fee of Eight Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$800) (in U.S. Dollars, drawn on U. S. Bank) to the Board office by **October 31<sup>st</sup>** of the **prior** year you plan to take the Oral Examination, (i.e. application submitted by October 31, 2010 for May 2011 oral examination.)
5. Provide a full color passport style photo in jpg or tif file via email to [abperio@msn.com](mailto:abperio@msn.com)
6. **Candidates who request to withdraw from the oral examination must submit their request in writing to the Board office. Candidates who withdraw and whose eligibility has not expired** may transfer their oral examination fee to a subsequent examination for a reapplication fee of \$400. Candidates withdrawing with special circumstance; (i.e. illness, family death, national disaster) may submit written request to the Board that the oral examination reapplication fee be waived. The decision will be at the sole discretion of the Board and candidates will be notified in writing of the Board's decision.
7. **Candidates who fail to attend the mandatory Orientation Session prior to the Oral Examination; or who fail to show for the Oral Examination** must restart the application process by a new completed application, attestation, and credential forms and fee of \$800.00 to the Board office.

## LOCATION

Oral Examinations will be given each year at a time and place determined annually by the Board.

## ORIENTATION SESSION

A **mandatory** candidate registration/orientation session will be held the day of candidate's exam at the testing center prior to the candidate's first 1.5 hr oral examination. Candidates are required to show photo id at registration. Candidates will complete registration sign-in forms and will receive the oral exam orientation.

## LENGTH OF EXAM

The Oral Examination will consist of two 1½-hour sequential sessions conducted on the same day.

## EXAMINERS

Two Directors and/or Examiners will evaluate the candidate in session one and two different Directors and/or Examiners will examine the candidate in session two. All scoring of the candidate will be performed independently without discussion.

## SCORING OF EXAMINATION AND NOTIFICATION

Candidates will be graded in each of the six categories listed in the oral examination process section of this Guidelines document. Final scores will be computed statistically. Candidates will be notified of the results within 4-6 weeks following completion of the exam period. The Board's Executive Director will send examination results in writing to the candidate by postal mail. Candidates are solely responsible for notifying the Board office of any change in mailing address, to ensure the timely delivery of results. Candidates must not telephone the Board office for examination results. Examination results will not be provided over the phone, by facsimile, or email.

## FAILURE OF ORAL EXAMINATION

Candidates who fail the Oral Examination and whose eligibility period has not expired may apply to repeat the Oral Examination within the eligibility period by submitting a completed application and re-examination fee of \$800.00 (in U.S. Funds). The re-examination fee must be received by the Board on or before October 31st of the year prior to the year in which the Oral Examination is to be repeated (*i.e. Candidates applying for 2011 oral examination must submit application by October 31,2010*).

**Candidates who fail the Oral Examination in the last year of eligibility, (2 years without extension; 3 years if extension is granted), will be required to restart the process by retaking and successfully completing the ABP Qualifying Examination.**

## HYPOTHETICAL PROTOCOL

The following hypothetical scenario is provided as an example of what one protocol may include. Actual protocols may be more or less comprehensive than the following example:

The patient is a 41-year-old Caucasian male who presented with a chief complaint of a recently developed space between his front teeth. He reports that his general health is good, but premedicates before dental treatment with erythromycin for mitral valve prolapse. He states that he is allergic to penicillin. His gums bleed occasionally with brushing.

Candidate will usually receive charting of localized area.

Digitized photographic slides to be used throughout the questioning period for this protocol include:

1. Maxillary anterior photograph demonstrating anterior open bite, and open contact 7-8.
2. Preoperative radiograph #6-11
3. Occlusal view demonstrating excessive occlusal wear

4. Surgical site #6-11
5. One-year post-op radiographs
6. One year post-op photographs #6-11

### 1. Diagnosis

Question: Describe how you would proceed in order to generate an accurate periodontal diagnosis including any intra-oral and extra-oral pathoses.

Candidates should consider the following factors in making the diagnoses of Localized Severe Chronic Periodontitis with Occlusal Traumatism:

- Medical history
- Occlusion – anterior open bite, centric prematurities
- Plaque/calculus
- Recession
- Attachment levels/pocket depths
- Bone loss
- Mobility

### 2. Etiology

Question: What etiologic factors are pertinent in this patient?

Candidates should consider the following factors:

- Space between #7 & 8
- Open contacts
- Food impaction
- Occlusal trauma
- Plaque and calculus
- Anterior open bite
- Centric prematurity
- Habits
- Genetics

### 3. Prognosis

Question: What would you consider the prognosis to be for individual teeth and for the overall dentition both short and long term in this patient?

Candidates should be able to discuss:

- Short/long term prognosis of #'6-11, and how derived?
- Will prognosis change after treatment?
- Will prognosis change with different treatment modalities? Why? How?

### 4. Treatment Planning-

Please proceed with your treatment plan for this patient. You may request to review any information that you believe important to this task.

Candidate should be prepared to discuss:

- Which options are best for this patient and why
- Order of treatment
- Rationale for each treatment
- What is the expected outcome for each treatment?

### 5. Selected Therapy-

Discuss the rationale for the selected therapy.

Possible Questions: 1) Since you chose to extract #7,8 please provide your rationale; 2) If you chose to retain #7,8 what therapy(ies) would you consider; 3) Please provide in detail your technique for grafting #7,8. and why you chose this technique; 4) Describe the specific techniques you would use for the treatment of #'s 7 & 8 and how you would perform them; 5) Discuss implant placement in this region.

Candidate should be prepared to discuss:

- GTR – flap design, materials, steps
- Root treatment – how (manual, sonic, ultrasonic, rotary), why?

- Root conditioning
- Graft –choices
- Barrier – choices
- Suture
- Dressing placement?
- Antibiotics – localized- systemic
- Post-op management

**6. Evaluation and Maintenance of Therapy**

Question: What factors would you consider when evaluating results of therapy?

Candidate should be prepared to discuss:

- What were goals
- How to measure results
- When to measure results – why
- What is success
- What is failure

Question: What factors would you consider in developing a maintenance schedule for this patient?

Candidate should be prepared to discuss:

- How to maintain 0-3 mm pockets
- How to maintain 3-5 mm pockets
- How to maintain 5-7 mm pockets
- When to retreat-Why
- Reasons not to retreat

## PROTOCOL CONTENT AREAS

Protocols have been prepared to examine candidate's knowledge in the following areas:

- I. Non-surgical therapy
  - A. Plaque control / behavior modification
  - B. Scaling, root planing / debridement
  - C. Pharmacotherapeutics / irrigation
  - D. Stress reduction / sedation
  - E. Occlusal therapy / splints / TMJ
  - F. Interdisciplinary therapy, e.g. ortho, endo, restorative dentistry
  
- II. Surgical therapy
  - A. Crown lengthening for
    - a. restorative dentistry
    - b. cosmetic reasons
  - B. Gingival attachment procedures, e.g. Mod. Widman, open flap debridement, ENAP
  - C. Regeneration or replacement of periodontal supporting structures
    - a. Bone replacement grafting
    - b. Barrier therapy, e.g. GTR
    - c. Combination graft and barrier
    - d. Root surface conditioning
    - e. Growth Factors
  - D. Resective
    - a. Soft tissue
    - b. Hard tissue
    - c. Root resection
  - E. Periodontal plastic surgery
    - a. Soft tissue grafts
    - b. Pedicle flaps
    - c. Combination pedicle flaps, connective tissue
    - d. Connective tissue grafts
    - e. Barriers
  - F. Dental implants
    - a. Placement
    - b. Repair /removal
  - G. Site preparation, e.g. sinus elevation, GBR
  
- III. Oral/Systemic Interrelationships
  - A. Oral medicine
  - B. Oral pathology
  - C. Perio / Medicine / Systemic

Please note: Candidates will not be examined in all content areas. It is anticipated that 3 or more content areas will be covered at each 1 ½ hour session.

## EVALUATION RATING SCALE DEFINITIONS

	<b>Unsatisfactory (1)</b>	<b>Marginal (2)</b>	<b>Satisfactory (3)</b>	<b>Outstanding (4)</b>
<b>Diagnosis (intra-and extra-oral pathoses and Periodontal Dx) (1)</b>	Dx is incorrect or incomplete and potentially harmful.	Dx is incomplete but safe	Dx is correct but not outstanding	Dx is correct and is thoroughly and impressively reasoned
<b>Etiology (2)</b>	Etiology that is incorrect or incomplete and potentially harmful.	Etiology is incomplete but safe	Etiology is correct but not outstanding	Etiology is correct and is thoroughly and impressively reasoned
<b>Prognosis (3)</b>	Prognosis that is incorrect or incomplete and potentially harmful.	Prognosis is incomplete but safe	Prognosis is correct but not outstanding	Prognosis is correct and is thoroughly and impressively reasoned
<b>Treatment Planning (4)</b>	Tx plan is incorrect or incomplete and potentially harmful.	Tx plan is incomplete but safe	Tx plan is correct but not outstanding	Tx plan is correct and is thoroughly and impressively reasoned
<b>Selected Therapy (5)</b>	Selected Therapy is incorrect or incomplete and potentially harmful.	Selected Therapy is incomplete but safe	Selected Therapy is correct but not outstanding	Selected Therapy is correct and is thoroughly and impressively reasoned
<b>Evaluation and Maintenance of Therapy (6)</b>	Evaluation and Maintenance of Therapy are incorrect or incomplete and potentially harmful.	Evaluation and Maintenance of Therapy are incomplete but safe	Evaluation and Maintenance of Therapy is correct but not outstanding	Evaluation and Maintenance of Therapy are correct and is thoroughly and impressively reasoned

**THE AMERICAN BOARD OF PERIODONTOLOGY  
 SAMPLE EVALUATION FORM CONTENT**

**CANDIDATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **EXAMINER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TIME: (circle one)**                      **A.M.**                      **P.M.**

	Case #			
<b>Diagnosis</b>	1	2	3	4
<b>Etiology</b>	1	2	3	4
<b>Prognosis</b>	1	2	3	4
<b>Treatment Plan</b>	1	2	3	4
<b>Therapy</b>	1	2	3	4
<b>Evaluation and Maintenance of Therapy</b>	1	2	3	4

---

## **CERTIFICATES**

The Board shall issue each candidate who successfully completes the ABP Qualifying and Oral Examination a certificate. Duplicate certificates shall not be issued.

## **USE OF TERMS**

- The Board endorses the use of "Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology" and "Practice Limited to Periodontology" in professional letterheads and advertisements.
- The Board also endorses the statement that "The American Board of Periodontology is one of the nine recognized Dental Specialty Boards of the American Dental Association".
- The Board also endorses the use of a stamp for insurance forms stating, "Practice Limited to Periodontics, Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology."
- The Board endorses the use of the ABP Diplomate Seal. Request to acquire the Diplomate Seal should be made by contacting the Board office.

## **ABP SUPPORT FOR DIPLOMATES**

- Represents Diplomates at Specialty Board Conferences
- Maintains highest standards of excellence on Examinations and conduct of Diplomates
- Provides for comprehensive programs of continued competency (recertification), including self-study continuing education programs and recertification certificates
- Provides order forms for Announcement Cards for new Diplomates
- Provides order forms for Board Lapel Pin
- Provides CE Credit for successful completion ABP Qualifying Examination (6 Credits) and Oral Examination (12 credits)
- Publishes Brochure "Your Periodontist is a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology"
- Publication of individual listings on ABP web pages at [www.abperio.org](http://www.abperio.org)
- Acknowledgement of new Diplomates at the Sounding Board Breakfast, General Assembly, AAP Newsletter and ABP Website
- Provides for group photo to be published in AAP Newsletter
- Awards 25-50 Year Anniversary Certificates to Diplomates
- Verifies Board certification and recertification to patients, state boards, hospitals, military organizations, HMO's, and insurance companies.

- Provides ABP Seal for use on stationary and in advertisements. All Periodontist listed on stationary and in advertisements that include ABP Seal **must** be Diplomates of the ABP
- Provides certificate for completion of Recertification Requirement.

**RECERTIFICATION PROCESS**

**Evidence of continuing education and other professional activities directed toward maintaining current knowledge and competence in periodontics is required of all Diplomates every six years. 60 points of continuing education must be attained AND completion of the ABP Self-Study Recertification Program.**

1. Continuing Education Activities

- (7) Attendance at The American Academy of Periodontology Annual Meeting
- (5) Attendance at a national or international multiple day meetings that are within the scope of periodontics\*
- (2) per day Attendance at Regional Meetings either National or International devoted to topics within the scope of periodontics\*.
- (2) per day Attendance at conferences related to topics within the scope of periodontics\*, sponsored by a University or The American Academy of Periodontology
- (2) per day Courses taken applicable to topics within the scope of periodontics\*.
- (4) per day Courses given applicable to topics within the scope of periodontics\*.
- (1) Courses taken online related to topics within the scope of periodontics\*.
- (3) Publication, as primary author, in:
  - a) National and/or International Journal (those listed in Index of Dental Literature)
  - b) Book Chapter(s)
- (2) Publication, as primary author, in: State Dental Journals,
- (1) Publication, as secondary author
- (1) per day Teaching -- a maximum of fourteen points during a six-year period may be credited for teaching
- (2) Completion of ABP Self Study Recertification Program

*Scope of Periodontics: Periodontics is that specialty of dentistry which encompasses the prevention diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the supporting and surrounding tissues of the teeth or their substitutes and the maintenance of the health, function and esthetics of these structures.*

2. Completing Self-Study Recertification Program

A computerized self-study recertification program provided by the ABP on the Board’s website at [www.abperio.org](http://www.abperio.org). For information concerning the self-study recertification program go to [www.abperio.org](http://www.abperio.org) or call (410) 437-3749.

3. Diplomates **must** verify that they have maintained the qualifications for good standing, by responding to the following questions.

- |   |                              |                             |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Have any disciplinary actions been initiated against you by a state licensing board or military tribunal or other regulatory or disciplinary authority?  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 2. Has your license to practice in any state or jurisdiction been denied, relinquished, limited, suspended, reprimanded, censured, or revoked for reasons other than your moving to a different jurisdiction? Is an investigation or proceeding regarding your licensure pending? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 3. Have you been suspended, sanctioned, or otherwise restricted from participating in any private, federal, or state health insurance program for reasons relating to the practice of dentistry?  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 4. Has your DEA (narcotics) or <u>similar</u> registration certificate been relinquished, limited, suspended, revoked or challenged?  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 5. Have you been sanctioned, suspended, censured, or expelled from a professional dental or medical organization for reasons other than non-payment of dues?  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 6. Have you been convicted of, or pleaded nolo contendere to, any criminal conduct or misdemeanors other than minor traffic violations?   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 7. Has your hospital or institutional appointments or privileges been denied, reduced, limited, not renewed, suspended, diminished, revoked, or relinquished for reasons relating to the practice of dentistry?   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

If a Diplomate answers **Yes** to any of these questions, a full explanation of the answer must be provided and returned with the statement of compliance. Further, if any of your answers change you must notify the Board and provide an explanation.

Certification by the American Board of Periodontology (ABP) helps to assure the public and health professionals that they are being served by a Periodontist who has successfully completed a rigorous continuing education process and remains in good standing in their community on an on-going basis.

***Please Note: Failure to meet one of the above mentioned recertification requirements will cause the Diplomate to be placed on inactive status, Diplomates on inactive status may not claim to be Board Certified.***

**STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY**

At this time of examination candidates will be required to agree to the following confidentiality agreement:

“I understand that the Board wishes to keep all test questions confidential so that they will not become available to future examinees, who may thereby obtain an unfair advantage. Accordingly, I agree not to retain the examination and not to discuss the questions or answers with anyone other than those who have taken this examination with me. I further understand that this examination is copyrighted work of the Board and that copying of any questions in any form constitutes infringements of the Board’s copyright.”

## APPEAL PROCESS

A candidate or Diplomate who has received an adverse decision affecting certification or recertification may appeal the adverse decision by filing an ABP Qualifying appeal with the Executive Director of the Board. An “adverse decision affecting certification or recertification” may consist of:

1. Rejection of credentials for eligibility to sit for the ABP Qualifying Examination or the Oral Examination;
2. Receipt of a failing grade on the ABP Qualifying Examination or the Oral Examination;
3. Denial of a request for extension of the eligibility period; or
4. Denial or revocation of certification or recertification – or placement on inactive status for reasons other than non-payment of annual registration fee.

To be valid, the Executive Director must receive the appeal within thirty (30) days after receipt by the candidate or Diplomate of notice of the adverse decision.

An appeal must contain a statement of the specific reason or reasons that the candidate or Diplomate believes that the decision was improper. It must also include any supporting documentation that the candidate or Diplomate wishes to have considered in the appeal. Failure to provide a specific reason(s) as to why the candidate or Diplomate believes the adverse decision was improper may be grounds for refusal to hear the appeal.

An Appeals Committee consisting of three individuals who did not participate in the adverse decision will consider a valid appeal. The Appeals Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Director and shall include at least two current Directors of the Board. If possible, the Committee shall not include any Periodontist who might reasonably be regarded as being in competition with the candidate or Diplomate, who was involved in training the candidate or Diplomate, or who is a family member or associate of the candidate or Diplomate.

The Appeals Committee will review the specific grounds for appeal set forth by the candidate or Diplomate. If the Committee determines that there is no reason to alter the adverse decision, it shall affirm that decision. If the Committee determines that the adverse decision was improper, it shall reverse or modify the decision. If the Committee believes that it requires additional information from the candidate or Diplomate; it may request that information either formally or informally.

The Committee shall notify the candidate or Diplomate in writing of its decision, including reasons therefore, within thirty (30) days after reaching the decision. The Committee shall endeavor to reach its decision within sixty (60) days after receiving a valid appeal – unless it has requested additional information from the candidate or Diplomate. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be provided to the full Board as information. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall constitute the final decision of the American Board of Periodontology unless the Board determines to reconsider the decision of the Committee.

## ACCOMMODATION POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR CANDIDATES WITH DISABILITIES

Upon timely request, the American Board of Periodontology will make reasonable modifications to its examination procedures to accommodate candidates with a documented disability. A modification will be considered reasonable only if it (1) does not pose an undue financial burden on the Board and (2) does not substantially interfere with assessment of the knowledge or skills that the examination is intended to measure.

## **POLICY ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

It is the policy of The American Board of Periodontology that all Directors, consultants, examiners, and employees are responsible for assuring that the work place and examination process is free from sexual harassment. Because of the American Board of Periodontology's strong disapproval of offensive or inappropriate sexual behavior, all Board members, consultants, examiners, and employees must avoid any action or conduct which could reasonably be viewed as sexual harassment, including:

1. Unwelcome sexual advance
2. Requests for sexual acts or favors
3. Other verbal or physical conduct of a sexually harassing nature

Any complaint of sexual harassment shall be made to the Executive Director except that if the complaint is directed against the Executive Director, it shall be made to the Chairman of the Board. All complaints will be addressed promptly and with sensitivity to the privacy interests of both the complainant and the accused individual.

The American Board of Periodontology will take appropriate corrective action, including disciplinary measures when justified, to remedy all violations of this policy.

## **STANDARD OF CONDUCT POLICY**

The American Board of Periodontology's Standard of Conduct for candidate certification and Diplomate recertification is an attempt to insure that each candidate or Diplomate maintain the highest ethical and professional standards during all phases of the certification and recertification process. The final responsibility for adherence to the Standard ultimately rests with each individual who has the following obligations:

1. To maintain the highest standards of personal ethics, academic honesty, and professional integrity; and
2. To know and comply with the rules, regulations, and policies of the American Board of Periodontology and the ethical standards established by the American Dental Association and the American Academy of Periodontology.

The American Board of Periodontology reserves the right to discipline any candidate or Diplomate for unethical behavior, dishonesty, professional misconduct, or action contrary to any rule of the Board. Conduct which is subject to disciplinary action includes but is not limited to, the following:

1. Plagiarizing or in any other manner presenting the work of another as one's own;
2. Falsifying an examination application or Diplomate recertification form including falsifying the qualifications or credentials, or intentionally misstating material facts or deliberately failing to provide relevant information to the Board at any time;
3. Cheating or assisting another candidate to cheat on any Examination administered by the Board or other inappropriate behavior in connection with any such examination;
4. Copying or disclosing to others any questions or protocols used in any examination administered by the Board. In this connection, it should be noted that exam questions are copyrighted by the Board. Any unauthorized copying of such questions or recording thereof by any means, may violate the Board's copyright in those questions. Such conduct may, therefore, involve not only disciplinary action but also a lawsuit for copyright infringement;
5. Violating the Bylaws of the Board or any other adopted rule, policy, or procedure of the Board.

Disciplinary action by the Board may include, but not limited to, refusal to permit a candidate to sit for an examination, denial or revocation of certification or recertification, giving a failing grade on an examination, barring the ability to sit for an examination for such time as the Board determines, or such other action as the Board deems appropriate in the circumstances.

In applying for certification by the American Board of Periodontology, each candidate expressly agrees to hold the Board, its members, examiners, officers, and agents free from any complaint, claim, or damage arising out of any disciplinary action taken by the Board.

All information or material received or generated by the American Board of Periodontology in connection with a disciplinary matter will be kept confidential and will not be released unless release is authorized by the candidate or Diplomate required by law. However, the fact that a candidate is or is not eligible to sit for the ABP Qualifying Examination or the Oral Examination, or has or has not been certified by the Board, may be disclosed.

A candidate or Diplomate who has been the subject of a disciplinary action taken by the American Board of Periodontology, and has received an adverse decision affecting certification or recertification, may request reconsideration of the adverse decision by filing a request with the Executive Director within thirty (30) days after receipt by the candidate of notice of the adverse decision. A copy of the American Board of Periodontology's Appeal Process may be found in this Guidelines document.

**NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

It is the policy of the American Board of Periodontology to evaluate every candidate solely on the merits of the Candidate's application and performance. The Board and its examiners and employees shall not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability.

**ENGLISH AS THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE**

The official language of the American Board of Periodontology is English. Both the ABP Qualifying and Oral Examination are conducted in English and language is not a disability for testing.

**CANCELLATION POLICY**

The American Board of Periodontology will attempt to administer the Oral Examination as scheduled. Should the American Board of Periodontology cancel the Oral Examination or be prevented from appropriately administering or completing an Oral Examination at the appointed time and location, the American Board of Periodontology will not be responsible for any expense of the candidate in connection with the Oral Examination and any substitute Oral Examination.

**FUTURE EXAMINATION DATES**

Dates for ABP Qualifying and Oral Examinations are published in the AAP Newsletter and ABP Website at [www.abperio.org](http://www.abperio.org). Additional information can be obtained by calling the Board office 410-437-3749 or by e-mail [abperio@msn.com](mailto:abperio@msn.com).

**ANNUAL REGISTRATION**

In compliance with regulations of the American Dental Association, Council on Dental Education, annual registration is

required of all Diplomates. This includes an annual registration fee. The Executive Director of the Board will send notification. Failure to comply with these requirements will cause the Diplomate to be placed on inactive status. **No Periodontist may claim to be Board Certified while on inactive status.** In order for an inactive Diplomate to be returned to an active status, all past due fees must be paid in full. Diplomates in retired status (no longer involved in practice, teaching, or research) shall be exempt from the registration fee.