

## How to interpret your Preparatory Examination results

This document provides you with supplemental information on your performance on the Medical Council of Canada Qualifying Examination (MCCQE) Part I Preparatory Examination.

The Preparatory Examination is a full-length online practice test meant to simulate the MCCQE Part I delivery and experience. This examination provides you with a sample of the type and style of multiple-choice questions (MCQ) that may be found on the MCCQE Part I.

The Preparatory Examination assessed your performance across two broad categories, with examination questions classified on both categories:

- Dimensions of care, covering the spectrum of medical care
- Physician activities, reflecting a physician's scope of practice

Under each of these two categories, are four domains:

| Dimensions of care                      | Physician activities     |
|---|--------------------------|
| Health promotion and illness prevention | Assessment and diagnosis |
| Acute care                              | Management               |
| Chronic care                            | Communication            |
| Psychosocial aspects                    | Professional behaviours  |

The following are the definitions for the dimensions of care category:

### Dimensions of care

Reflects the focus of care for the patient, family, community, or population:

- **Health promotion and illness prevention:** The process of enabling people to increase control over their health and its determinants, and thereby improve their health. Illness prevention covers measures not only to prevent the occurrence of illness, such as risk factor reduction, but also to arrest its progress and reduce its consequences once established. This includes, but is not limited to screening, periodic health examination, health maintenance, patient education and advocacy, and community and population health.
- **Acute:** Brief episode of illness within the time span defined by initial presentation through to transition of care. This dimension includes but is not limited to urgent, emergent, and life-threatening conditions, new conditions, and exacerbation of underlying conditions.
- **Chronic:** Illness of long duration that includes but is not limited to illnesses with slow progression.
- **Psychosocial aspects:** Presentations rooted in the social and psychological determinants of health and how these can impact on well-being or illness. The determinants include, but are not limited to, life challenges, income, culture, and the impact of the patient's social and physical environment.

The following are the definitions for the physician activities category:

### Physician activities

Reflects the scope of practice and behaviours of a physician practicing in Canada:

- **Assessment and diagnosis:** Exploration of illness and disease using clinical judgment to gather, interpret, and synthesize relevant information that includes but is not limited to history taking, physical examination, and investigation.
- **Management:** Process that includes but is not limited to generating, planning, organizing safe and effective care in collaboration with patients, families, communities, populations, and other professionals (e.g., finding common ground, agreeing on problems and goals of care, time and resource management, roles to arrive at mutual decisions for treatment, working in teams).
- **Communication:** Interactions with patients, families, caregivers, other professionals, communities, and populations. Elements include, but are not limited to, relationship development, intraprofessional and interprofessional collaborative care, education, verbal communication (e.g., using the patient-centred interview and active listening), nonverbal and written communication, obtaining informed consent, and disclosure of patient safety incidents.
- **Professional behaviours:** Attitudes, knowledge, and skills relating to clinical or medical administrative competence, communication, and ethics, as well as societal and legal duties. The wise application of these behaviours demonstrates a commitment to excellence, respect, integrity, empathy, accountability, and altruism within the Canadian health care system. Professional behaviours also include, but are not limited to, self-awareness, reflection, life-long learning, leadership, scholarly habits, and physician health for sustainable practice.

### Your results

The results you received include the number of questions presented to you in the Preparatory Examination and the number of questions you answered correctly.

When comparing your scores across domains, you will be able to identify the areas that you know the most and those you know the least. This is a relative comparison across domains and your lowest scores may be an indicator of where you would benefit from additional preparation. We encourage you to review the [\*MCCQE Part I preparatory resources\*](#) and the [\*MCC Qualifying Examination Objectives\*](#) for more resources to help you prepare for the examination.

Please note that you have completed a Preparatory Examination, which is not meant to replace the MCCQE Part I or cover all the material represented in the examination. This Preparatory Examination is provided solely as a sample of the type and style of MCQs that may be found in the MCCQE Part I. This tool is intended to be a study aid to help you prepare for the MCCQE Part I.