



Examination Content Outline

Public Health Emphasis

Topics with Distribution Goals

1 History of Public Health 5-15%

1.1 Outline and summarize optometry's involvement in public health.

1.1.1 Describe the history and current status of optometry's involvement in public health.

1.2 Understand the major public health advances and challenges currently and in the past.

1.2.1 Describe the major public health advances over the past centuries.

1.2.2 Discuss significant public health controversial issues in the past and present.

2 Research Methods and Design: Epidemiology and Biostatistics 10-25%

2.1 Explain the importance of continued learning and evidence-based practice.

2.1.1 Practice life-long learning, integrating knowledge and evidence-based practice in patient care.

2.2 Understand the principles of epidemiology and biostatistics.

2.2.1 Define epidemiology and its applications to both research and clinical based care.

2.2.2 Summarize quantitative epidemiologic and biostatistical measures.

2.3 Be able to apply study design evaluation to contribute to evidence-based practice decisions.

2.3.1 Recognizes strengths and weaknesses of study design and is able to interpret the outcomes of a study.

3 Health Care Delivery 5-15%

3.1 Understand the organization of health services and delivery systems in the United States.

3.1.1 Describe and differentiate the various models of health and eye care delivery.

3.1.2 Describe the role of government in the health care delivery system.

3.1.3 Describe and differentiate the stakeholders in the health care delivery system.

3.2 Understand health care policies and reforms and their effects on the United States health care system.

3.2.1 Summarize the major health care policy reforms in the United States.

3.3 Describe the characteristics of the various existing vision care plans.

3.3.1 Understand how the various options in health care delivery affect the provision of vision care.

3.3.2 Understand the challenges that exist concerning optometry and health care delivery.

4 Health Care Finance 5-15%

4.1 Understand basic economic principles, financing, and cost control measures regarding health care.

4.1.1 Describe basic health concepts of healthcare economics.

4.1.2 Describe the role of health insurance.

4.2 Understand financing in the US health care system.

4.2.1 Describe the options for health service financing including: private pay, public funding, and third party coverage.

4.2.2 Discuss the various payment strategies, quality and cost control measures in the health care system.

5 Health Care Laws and Regulations 5-15%

5.1 Understand the laws and legal issues that affect the practice of Optometry.

5.1.1 Describe the laws pertaining to health care delivery and their significance.

5.1.2 Understand common legal issues that have impact on optometry's scope of practice.

5.1.3 Understand laws and regulations regarding scope of practice, practice procedures, billing, including the definition of unprofessional conduct and disciplinary actions.

5.2 Understand the organization and agencies that determine laws and regulations in the US.

5.2.1 Describe the roles of Federal, State, Local, and non-governmental agencies in determining health care laws and regulations.

5.2.2 Understand the concepts, importance, and requirements of credentialing, licensure, Board certification, and maintenance of competence.

5.3 Understand, comply with and promote the rules and principles that ensure protection of patient rights.

5.3.1 Describe laws regarding patient privacy and rights, their importance and history with regards to patient care and research.

5.3.2 Understand, comply with and promote the principles of patient and health care ethics.

5.4 Respect and promote the concepts of quality assurance in health care.

- 5.4.1 Practice with the patient's best interest foremost.
- 5.4.2 Understand the concept of standard of care.
- 5.4.3 Support and understand the mechanism of quality assurance measures.

6 Health Workforce 5-15%

6.1 Understand the demographics, supply, and demand of the eye and health care health workforce.

- 6.1.1 Understand the factors that determine the supply and demand of eye and health care practitioners for a given population or community.
- 6.1.2 Describe workforce studies regarding eye care practitioners.

7 Inter-Professional Relations 5-15%

7.1 Understand the role of the optometrist in inter-professional collaborative and team-based practice.

- 7.1.1 Describe individual roles and responsibilities in an inter- professional approach to health care.

7.2 Appreciate the importance of inter-professional relations in the evolution of health care.

- 7.2.1 Acknowledge the training and scope of practice of various health care providers that may participate in inter-professional patient care.
- 7.2.2 Recognize the importance of each member of an inter- professional team in delivering patient care and develop positive attitudes towards the value of collaborative teamwork in health care.
- 7.2.3 Recognize the importance of communication among team members for the benefit of the patient's health care.

8 Health Promotion 5-15%

8.1 Understand the concepts of health promotion and disease prevention and the theories involved in health behavior.

- 8.1.1 Describe the concept of health promotion and disease prevention in the field of health care.
- 8.1.2 Analyze the social determinants of health, risk factors, barriers to care, health disparities, and access to care.
- 8.1.3 Describe the different theories of health behavior.
- 8.1.4 Value the cultural dimensions of health care which includes cultural and linguistic competence.

8.2 Appreciate and promote the various programs involved in health promotion and disease prevention.

- 8.2.1 Appreciate and promote the health promotion and disease prevention such as the Healthy People initiative as well as programs unique to optometry.

9 International Eye and Vision Care 5-15%

9.1 Understand global initiatives to prevent vision loss and improve eye health in other countries.

- 9.1.1 Understand the role of global organizations with impact on eye and vision care, such as the World Health Organization, International Agency to Prevent Blindness, and the World Council of Optometry.
- 9.1.2 Understand that disparities, social determinants, sustainable development, and access to care play an important role in eye and visual health worldwide.

10 Environmental Vision 10-20%

10.1 Understand concepts of environmental health and how it affects the eye and vision.

- 10.1.1 Understand the physical, chemical, electromagnetic radiation (visible and invisible), infectious, and biological ocular hazards that the public may encounter.
- 10.1.2 Understand the leading causes of eye injuries and their prevention.
- 10.1.3 Understand the national and international standards for eye and vision care including eye safety, lasers, sports protection, occupational hazards, and ophthalmic eyewear, such as the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), and ASTM International and ISO.
- 10.1.4 Understand common environmental eye diseases and their prevention.

10.2 Be able to provide the appropriate recommendations to protect patients from occupational and environmental hazards.

- 10.2.1 Assess the vision and eye performance needs of patients of all ages in a wide variety of environments (such as home, workplace, industry, health care setting, recreation, transportation, outdoors, underwater and outer space).
- 10.2.2 Be able to design the best protection treatments for patients of all ages in a wide variety of environments (home, workplace, industry, health care setting, recreation, transportation, outdoors, underwater and outer space).

10.3 Recognize the importance of providing the best protection for the public from environmental hazards encountered in various situations.

- 10.3.1 Promote eye protection from environmental hazards for all patients.