

American Board of Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology

There are currently 295 diplomates of the American Board of Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology. 15 candidates challenged the certifying exam in October, 2006 and 12 candidates were successful. The exam is now administered in the following format:

Day 1, morning session: Surgical Pathology I (35 microscopic slides for diagnosis)
Day 1, afternoon session: Clinical/Radiographic Pathology (50 cases, short answer format)

Day 2, morning session: Surgical Pathology II (35 microscopic slides for diagnosis)
Day 2, afternoon session: Written examination (150 oral pathology and 50 general pathology multiple choice questions)

The Test Construction Committee has continued working toward creation of the recertification exam. A mock-up of the exam was developed and tested and further revisions of the format are underway. While the first recertification examination is not expected to be necessary until 2011, the Directors are soliciting volunteers to “beta-test” the exam in the near future. The Board is also soliciting notification from current diplomates with lifetime certificates if they expect to challenge the recertification exam once it is finalized. Currently, one of the Directors expects to sit for the exam as soon as it is available because there is pressure from his workplace to do so. Pressure from credentials committees, insurance companies and perhaps even licensing organizations may necessitate recertification even for those who hold lifetime certificates.

The Head and Neck Pathology Case Review administered by the Board continues to be very popular with diplomates and was fully subscribed this year, necessitating the creation of a waiting list.

We are pleased to report that 43% of diplomates contributed to the Board’s endowment fund in 2006.