



Understanding Your Exam Results

Orthotic CPM Exam

If you received your test results for the Orthotic CPM exam only to learn that you did not pass the exam, the following information may help you focus your study for retaking the exam.

Your test results Score Report indicates your performance in each content domain along with the maximum possible score in each area. In the test score example below the candidate was weakest in the Lower Extremity area, achieving only 59% of the possible points. The candidate performed strongest in the AFO area by obtaining a greater percentage of the available points.

Content Domain	Maximum Possible	Your Score
AFO Management	86	77
Spinal Management	72	60
Lower Extremity	83	49

We recommend that you focus further test preparation on those content domains and corresponding practice areas where you performed the weakest. For example, if you performed the poorest in the lower extremity content domain, you either lost points in the section where you had to perform muscle testing and range of motion assessments or when you assessed a finished KAFO prior to final fitting.

The CPM exams are designed to assess your ability to perform tasks related to patient care activities. For example, in the AFO Management section, you were asked to take a cast impression for an AFO. The expectation is that you can not only appropriately apply the impression materials but also safely remove the impression. It is also expected that you will know the biomechanical rationale for the position you place the patient model's foot/ankle in while taking the impression and can articulate the treatment plan to the examiner. If you scored lower in the AFO Management section, you may not have considered the patient's diagnosis and clinical presentation when deciding how to take the impression.

Your primary exam preparation source for the CPM exam is the clinical experience gained in your residency. When you were performing an initial evaluation of a patient you were preparing for the CPM exam. Your experience fitting orthoses and providing follow-up to address the patient's concerns also prepared you to successfully complete the exam. Rely on your experience and try not to second guess yourself.